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THE THIRD SESSION OF THE
37TH. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1978

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! The members of the press, radio and television and newspapers have asked for the unanimous consent of members for the filming, televising, broadcasting of the opening procedures. Is unanimous consent granted?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mr. Speaker, their Honours the Judges of the Supreme Court have arrived.

MR. SPEAKER: Admit their Lordships the Justices of the Supreme Court.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mr. Speaker, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has arrived.

MR. SPEAKER: Admit His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

HON. GORDON A. WINTER: (Lieutenant-Governor): Mr. Speaker and Members of the hon. House of Assembly:

I have the privilege and pleasure of welcoming you to the Third Session of the 37th. General Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland.

The year 1978 will be memorable for all residents of our beloved Province. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, together with His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, will visit our Province in July. This will be Her Majesty's third official visit to our shores, having graced us with her presence in 1951 as Princess and in 1959 as our Queen. I am sure that it is most appropriate that this visit of Her Majesty and His Royal Highness to Canada should begin in Britain's Oldest Colony and Canada's Newest Province. The Queen and Prince Philip will receive the warmest and most respectful welcome of the Newfoundland people. We also wish Her Majesty well as she continues on to Alberta to officially open the Commonwealth Games.

During the past year this Province had the pleasure of hosting the Canada Summer Games. My Government applauds the organizers and the athletes who brought honour to their sports and to their Provinces and Territories. We are pleased that Their Excellencies the Governor General and Madame Leger as well as Prime Minister Trudeau were able to be with us on this occasion.

Also during 1977 the people of Newfoundland and Labrador were highly honoured by the visit of King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola of the Belgians.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

My Government's progressive programs continue to improve the social and economic well being of the citizens of this Province. The results are gratifying. Naturally, there are certain problems that continue to challenge us. I refer specifically to the high unemployment rate, the heavy tax burden, and a growing labour force which makes it more difficult to lower the unemployment rate significantly.

My Government is very sensitive to these problems, and very active in trying to combat them. The fact that they are problems which are troubling all nations does not lessen the suffering of those out of work. My Government sees the "human face" that is unemployment, and in its efforts to strengthen our economy, the emphasis continues to be on developing the skills and the initiative of our people, in the different economic spheres.

My Government is encouraged in its efforts by the positive attitude of the people of this Province. People are taking advantage of the new

opportunities available to them, and there will be many more as the economy expands. Unemployment will not always plague us, and the people of Newfoundland and Labrador are the greatest resource we have in our battle to overcome the problem.

The austerity measures of My Government in the past two years have demonstrated its determination to maintain a responsible financial position for this Province. Unless there is a major recovery in the Canadian economy, however, My Government will be maintaining this restraint in the forthcoming budget. A more detailed report on the economy and on new measures to stimulate economic growth will be presented at that time. The final answer to present financial difficulties will be found in new and revitalized economic growth.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

My Government will be intensifying its efforts in 1978 to resolve several basic economic problems. The most outstanding of these is the Churchill Falls Power contract which now gives virtually all the benefits of this great hydro development to the Province of Quebec. This House is assured that adjustments will be vigorously pursued. The existing arrangements are manifestly unjust and inequitable to this Province.

My Government will continue its efforts in 1978 to find a new buyer for the Labrador Linerboard Mill at Stephenville. My Government is optimistic that a firm arrangement can be made in 1978, and present information suggests that the mill can be modified to produce bleached kraft pulp or newsprint. A thorough analysis of wood transportation systems and costs will be commissioned. I am optimistic about the prospects which currently exist.

My Government will be cooperating with private enterprise to establish a fish plant and attendant fish catching systems in St. Lawrence to alleviate the effects of the closure of the mine.

My Government is gratified that the Government of Canada desires to assist the Province in energy development. At the Conference of First Ministers, agreement in principle was announced on the establishment of a Lower Churchill Development Corporation. The Corporation will have initially as shareholders the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Government of Canada. The first tasks of the Corporation will be to review the technical and cost information on the Gull Island project and to investigate markets. Afterwards the Corporation will arrange financing and construct and manage such projects as may be approved.

My Government is confident that the tremendous energy resources of Labrador will be developed. Canada cannot afford to allow the energy equivalent of 140,000 barrels of oil to flow to the sea each day unharnessed. I assure this House that My Government will press forward with imagination and discretion to develop these resources to the benefit of residents of Labrador and the Island as well as to the whole Canadian nation.

During 1977 Cabinet approved the Province's first oil and gas regulations. These regulations aim at controlling the rate of exploration and development, protecting the environment, and obtaining the maximum economic benefit for the people of this Province. Exploration under these regulations can be expected during the coming year.

My Government wishes to inform this Honourable House that hearings in the Supreme Court of Canada with respect to offshore jurisdiction should begin by early 1979. We are confident that these hearings will resolve in our favour, confirming our moral and legal right to manage the resources which we brought with us into this great Confederation.

You will be asked in 1978 to approve a Mineral Holdings Impost Bill. This legislation will encourage mineral exploration by taxation of unused holdings. Speculators will no longer be able to retain unhindered possession of mineral lands. They will either invest in exploration, pay a tax, or forfeit title.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

This House is aware of the tremendous potential of our fishery resources. We have already seen benefits from the new management regime in the improved catches by our inshore fishermen in 1977. Insofar as this Honourable House has limited jurisdiction in fisheries matters, My Government will be bringing in measures in 1978 to further capitalize on the growth potential of this cornerstone of our economy. Steps will be taken to replace outdated offshore vessels and revitalize the inshore fleet. It is the intention of My Government to pursue short-term vessel chartering pending the planned replacement of the deep sea fleet. Studies are proceeding with respect to regional fisheries plans and centralized landing ports from which fish may be distributed to plants requiring additional supplies. My Government proposes to provide new freezing and storage facilities, both fixed and mobile, and to remove problems associated with the trap fishery. With respect to markets, strong representations have been made through the Government of Canada for lowering of tariffs and non-tariff barriers at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade negotiations.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

In my remarks last year, I reported the dire threat to the forests being posed by the spruce budworm. Nearly six million cords of timber are already dead or dying and future growth is being severely damaged. My Government reluctantly carried out an experimental spraying program in 1977 which proved that the insect can be controlled without serious environmental or health hazards. An independent committee confirmed these findings. My Government is committed, therefore, to a spraying program in 1978. There is no acceptable alternative. The incomes of a large segment of our population must be preserved. This spraying program will be augmented by other intensive forest management techniques.

The sawmill industry is facing problems of markets, log supplies, and outlets for pulpwood. My Government will be addressing these problems in 1978 and has recently approved a sawlog inventory financing program.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

My Government, in 1974, signed a ten year General Development Agreement with the Government of Canada. This Agreement outlines a joint strategy for social and economic development. I am pleased to inform this House, as the midpoint of this Agreement approaches, that 14 subsidiary agreements have been signed for a total spending of \$310 million, of which the Federal Government will pay \$265 million, or 86 per cent, through the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. About 70 per cent of this will have been spent by the end of the fiscal year 1977-78. These agreements have provided highways, marine service centres, fisheries facilities, forestry programs and access roads, water supplies, mineral exploration programs, and industrial parks. The Newfoundland Oceans Research and Development Corporation Limited was financed in this manner. The latest Agreement provides funding for tourist expansion programs over the next five years.

My Government emphasizes that spending under the General Development Agreement represents investment vital to the future of this Province. This is one manner in which My Government has been gradually strengthening the economic base of the Province which will eventually bring substantial improvement in employment, incomes, and the financial position of the Province.

My Government will be presenting details of its economic proposals for the next five years in conjunction with the forthcoming budget. There will be proposals in agriculture concerning land classification and land use, and for farm development through land clearing, management training, and capital assistance. A new land surveying and mapping program will be

proposed. In addition to changes mentioned earlier with respect to fisheries, My Government intends to provide fish handling facilities, storage facilities, and wharf and stage improvements. In forestry, development programs will include introduction of new harvesting and utilization technology, access roads, management programs, insect and disease protection, reforestation, and inventory assessment.

My Government has previously stated its desire to build a Polytechnical Institute to strengthen our secondary educational system. This Institute will house the existing College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering and Electronics, and will also accommodate much of the activity of the College of Trades and Technology. It will permit the addition of more and better courses. My Government views this project as vital in support of expansion in resource industries. Our labour force must be trained. At the present time, however, this project is beyond the fiscal capacity of the Province alone. In May, 1977, My Government therefore requested the Government of Canada to share in the cost. A favourable decision is expected shortly so that construction may begin in 1978.

My Government has consistently promoted the development of the rural economy in Newfoundland. As an integral part of its program for the next five years, proposals have been put forward to enhance and build upon the network of regional development associations. Local entrepreneurship will be assisted to bring small industry to fruition.

My Government will be adopting a program in 1978 to promote local preference in government purchasing.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

My Government will be devoting major attention in 1978 to transportation. Transportation improvements will be interwoven with developmental plans for the next five years. Emphasis will be given to concluding an agreement to upgrade or replace major sections of the Trans Canada Highway. My Government hopes to undertake with the Government of Canada major road improvements in Labrador, including a start on the Trans-Labrador Highway between Goose Bay and Churchill Falls.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

My Government has always been conscious of the need to make government more accessible to the people. In 1977 new programs were introduced to bring this about. A special Action Group has been established to help small businessmen and other people with developmental ideas to gain access to assistance programs of various agencies and departments of government. Policy Committees of My Government have met in various

centres across the Province. My Government has also decentralized its operations in various ways. Very significant was the placing of an Assistant Deputy Minister in Labrador, and the increasing of staff of several departments in that vast section of our Province. The Departments of Rural Development and Industrial Development have expanded their network of field offices, as has the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation. My Government will continue such endeavours in 1978 to make government work better for our people.

My Government has embarked upon a program to combat the vicious campaign against our traditional seal fishery. Already, it is showing positive results. It is the intention of My Government to sustain this program in 1978 and for as long as it is necessary.

My Government is keenly aware of its responsibilities to assist disabled persons to integrate more fully into the mainstream of society and to lead normal lives. Legislation will be introduced with respect to rehabilitative services being provided to mentally and physically handicapped persons. In addition, My Government intends to develop legislation to ensure easier access to buildings by physically disabled persons.

Great progress has been made during recent years in the provision of institutional care for senior citizens. Future efforts will be directed towards developing alternative services which will permit more of our senior citizens to remain in their homes or other community settings.

My Government will be developing measures to control the costs of health care in 1978. Lower cost alternatives, such as home care, will be expanded. Greater emphasis will be given to programs to encourage our people to alter their life styles and habits. Prevention will be emphasized rather than cure.

My Government has become concerned with the manner in which employees performing essential public services can jeopardize the minimum acceptable standard of care provided by such institutions as hospitals and homes for special care. In 1977 we witnessed the eighteen week strike at the Waterford Hospital and the rotating strikes of nurses which spanned several weeks. My Government intends to reassess the effects of strikes in the public service and to introduce legislation into this Session to alleviate some of the serious repercussions which such strikes inevitably cause.

My Government has just completed a four-year housing program which was announced in the 1974-75 Budget. Accomplishments under this program

include the successful achievement of the land banking and land assembly components, and the construction of an additional 1500 subsidized rental family housing units in the Province. The need to improve the quality of housing for our people is recognized by My Government, and this important matter will continue to receive attention in the coming year. The Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation is currently undertaking a further multi-year review of housing needs in the Province.

During this Session you will be asked to approve the Northeast Avalon/Urban Region Bill which will provide for the incorporation of the region and the establishment of a Regional Council. You will be asked to consider a new Capital Values Bill which will make the basis for real property taxes in the City of St. John's the same as for all other municipalities in the Province.

Legislation will be presented in the area of Consumer Affairs and Environment. Changes will be proposed to the Mortgage Brokers Act. As a result of the rapid increase in the number of wells being drilled for water supplies, My Government will seek your approval for a Well Drilling Act. This Act will regulate companies providing this service and give a measure of protection to consumers.

Occupational health and safety remains a dominant concern of My Government, and a consolidation of the existing Act will be presented.

My Government intends to replace the existing Judicature Act with several specific statutes, including a Supreme Court Act, an Arbitration Act, and a Jury Act. The Summary Jurisdiction Act is likewise being studied for replacement by two new statutes defining the jurisdiction of magistrates.

An amendment will be made to the Conveyancing Act to provide for the earlier release of mortgages.

The Public Accounts for the period ending March 31, 1977 and the estimates for the coming fiscal year will be placed before you, for your usual close scrutiny and serious consideration.

You will be asked to grant supply to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

I hold once more before the people of this Province the challenge to build a stronger Newfoundland. The economic ingredients are at hand. We must seize the moment by individual hard work and by collective restraint in the demand for social services. Let us be wary of the dangers of building our economic house on the sands of transfer payments, unemployment insurance and other government assistance programs. They offer only temporary benefits. They must not be allowed to replace our self-reliance, dedication,

or ingenuity, or to quench the independent spirit that has marked Newfoundlanders for centuries.

My Government will continue to give strong leadership in economic development, and is confident that the private sector will also respond to the opportunities. We know our people have the will to build, and, My Government will provide the necessary training and environment. We will be making maximum use of our abundant renewable resources in fisheries and hydro-electricity. We shall extract every possible job in fishing, fish processing, and associated activities. We shall seek the earliest possible construction of energy projects in Labrador. In the long term we can be optimistic about development of offshore oil and gas, but for the next five years we have planned a systematic attack on the evils of unemployment on the basis of our proven resources. My Government is confident that we shall succeed in our endeavours and that our people will respond to the challenge.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

I invoke God's blessing upon you as you commence your labours in this Third Session of the Thirty-Seventh General Assembly. May Divine Providence guide you in your deliberations.

MR. SPEAKER: As hon. members are aware, since the House last sat a new member has been elected to the Legislature, and I wish on behalf of hon. members on both sides of the House to welcome the newly elected member from Twillingate (Mr. W.N. Rowe), who sits as Leader of the Opposition.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICMAN: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Mortgage Brokers Act."

Motion, the hon. Minister of Justice to introduce a Bill, "An Act To Amend The Mortgage Brokers Act." Carried.

On motion, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Mortgage Brokers Act", read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: His Honour The Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to make a speech to the members of the general assembly and for purposes of greater accuracy I have obtained a copy thereof.

The hon. member for Ferryland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. C. POWER: Mr. Speaker, it reminds me of one of Tennyson's, "Home is the sailor, home from the sea, / And the hunter home from the hill."

It is my honour and privilege, Mr. Speaker, today to move that a committee of this hon. House be appointed to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech from the Throne. However, before doing so, as it is the first time that I have had an opportunity to speak in this hon. House since my election or re-election, whichever is the case, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to all the people of Ferryland district who have given me such great support over the last three years, and I feel that my election to this House as a government member was certainly a vote of confidence for the present administration.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Liberal member of the House who filled in for me during 1976. He did a commendable job under difficult circumstances.

Mr. Power: Mr. Speaker, I have listened with great interest to the gracious Speech from the Throne, and I am enthused about our future and proud of our past. Great thought and energy have gone into the composition of this gracious speech. Certainly it is evident to all that our government has done much to solve our problems. However, much is also needed to be done. It is these two factions that I will address myself both on a provincial and a district nature. An old proverb says that it is more difficult to remember the good, much easier to remember the bad. Such is a common problem of our society.

Our government has greatly improved many aspects of our Newfoundland life over the past few months; for example, the vast improvement in our water and sewer systems in this Province. In the present fiscal year this government, we have spent in excess of \$22 million on water and sewer and paving projects within our municipalities to give to many of our citizens the basic services of a civilized community. In Petty Harbour, a very successful fishing community in my district, our government alone have spent in excess of \$1 million to provide water and sewer services.

Mr. Speaker and members of the hon. House of Assembly, in the areas of the fisheries, our government has done a great deal in the past few years to guarantee for our citizens their right to our most stable resource. More has been done in the past three years than in the preceding three hundred to encourage our people to get involved in this fundamental industry of our Province. The Fisheries Loan Board is a prime example. During the past year 850 people have obtained loans to build or buy boats and engines at a cost in excess of \$9 million, and on a ratio of approximately four persons per boat this allows for greater security to 3,200 more jobs in Newfoundland. In many parts of my district where the fishery had died, this year we will be having fishermen because the Fisheries Loan Board works, and works very successfully. Our Department of Fisheries last year spent in excess of \$42 million both direct and indirectly through subsidies. We as a government intend to continue

Mr. Power: to place this emphasis on our fishery. We as a government will do everything in our power to encourage young men of Newfoundland to enter this harvest of the sea.

What of the future? There are many problems that are to be solved. I sincerely believe, Mr. Speaker and members of this hon. House, that in order to proceed we must first of all return to the past. Why did our ancestors stay in Newfoundland? Why did they not abandon this rock within the sea for the far greener pastures of America and Canada? Only when we understand the answers to these questions will we move ahead to a more prosperous and happy future. The answer, Mr. Speaker, lies within each of us. Our ancestors did not leave Newfoundland simply because it was a rugged place, for they were rugged people. They stayed in Newfoundland where they liked the small harbours and inlets where a man and woman could rear their families with dignity and without unnecessary interference. They stayed to fish, to live with and from the land and the sea. Our ancestors were not concerned primarily with the accumulation of wealth. That was not their reason for being. The typical Newfoundland is quite content to live out his life in modesty as long as he has a chance to earn a decent and fair living, as long as he has a choice of where and for whom he works. These are steady values which have always been a part of Newfoundland.

Mr. Speaker, we tend to forget this in some of our past industrial ventures, to chase after the almighty dollar at all costs. Such is not the case now. I commend

MR. POWER: My government on the establishment of the Action Group thus confirming this government's belief that the basic philosophy of Newfoundland business is that small business ventures are extremely worthwhile and in essence are the very foundation of our business community. I might also add that the fishing district of Ferryland is quite pleased and honoured to be represented on the Action Group. Mr. Carl Sullivan of Calvert, an extremely capable son of an honest and hard working fisherman, is now assisting other citizens of this Province to get involved in small business. The Action Group confirms that development approach of this government, government help but to private enterprise.

The future of our Province, Mr. Speaker, with all its vast hydro producing ability, all its oil and gas potential, all its fish catching ability is naught without our people, especially our young people. We must begin to instill in our youth a pride for our heritage that is so deep and complete that no power in this universe will dislodge it. Mr. Speaker, if any member of this hon. House is losing his faith in our Province, then he or she should simply sit and talk with our young students and young citizens. They are most invigorating, enlightening and enthusiastic. Our Province is assured of a sound future. However, we must not lose our youth through ideas that are foreign to our nature, ideas of negativism and the idea of something for nothing, for in this world you can not get something for nothing. If someone gives you welfare you pay for it with your loss of pride and independence. If someone encourages you not to work, you pay for it by giving up your self-respect and dignity. Something for nothing is an expensive bargain.

Mr. Speaker, and members of the hon. House of Assembly, I would be remiss in my duty if I did not take this opportunity to familiarize you with my native district, the historic

Mr. Power: district of Ferryland. Settlement goes back in my district to 1621, and in Renew's even a hundred years previous to that the Basque fishermen were using it as a fishing base. Our history in Ferryland district is long and proud and we value our heritage dearly.

During the past year our government helped some local businessmen solve one of the most pressing problems in the lower section of our shore. Our government has shown it has a deep and sincere concern in the health of the people of Ferryland district. In April we will officially open a new, modern, medical clinic in Ferryland valued in several hundreds of thousands of dollars - local people working with government to solve local problems. Our shore has always done well in the field of recreation. Only last week \$5,000 was approved to assist Calvert in upgrading its softball field - not much money but a great boost to recreation in Calvert. Similar grants have been made available to Renew's to complete a public meeting place, to Mobile to begin a new small recreation area and swimming pool, to Witless Bay to begin a new softball diamond. The list is endless and all much appreciated. Our government does care.

In the field of recreation we have one problem that is gnawing at the hearts of our young people: The lack of an arena on our shore is leaving a great gap to be filled. I for one do not want our young people to fill this gap with socially regressive behaviour of over-drinking, vandalism and the like. The monies for an arena were approved in 1975. However, through a technicality of government the monies can only be used by an incorporated municipality. We have no large municipality so we are lost. Our government must and will reconsider this policy. An arena is more than a place to play hockey. It is a place for our youth to learn to compete, to learn to respect and admire their teammates and opponents, a place to learn

MR. POWER: that nothing comes easy, a place to learn that hard work is the key to success. Some people say that arenas are not paying propositions. This may be true if you count only in dollars and cents, but if you count on a higher scale, count the number of improved citizens we can produce, count the number of young persons who have developed a positive attitude towards our Province, then the monies invested in an arena are only a trifle compared to the results. I look forward to working with the most recently appointed

MR. POWER:

Minister of Recreation in solving this problem. Fire-fighting facilities and equipment will also be a major thrust in development on our shore and we are already formulating plans to alleviate this problem. One major road is the key to a more sound economic future for our shore, the Witless Bay Line, a fourteen mile segment of road connecting our main highway to the Trans-Canada Highway. Why is it so important to us? One reason is our fish plants located in Witless Bay, Tor's Cove and Bay Bulls. They must truck in a large portion of their product and much of it comes from Placentia, Trinity and Conception Bays. The increased cost of driving an extra forty-five miles is almost crippling. We need something done with this road.

Our tourist industry suffers tremendously because we do not have a decent access from the Trans-Canada Highway. With the possible completion of the Chance Cove park in the very near future combined with our historic value, our scenery, our many ponds, our bird sanctuaries, the tourist industry will undoubtedly flourish.

The oil refinery in Holyrood trucks in excess of one million gallons of gasoline to our shore each year, having to pass the Witless Bay Line because of its condition, resulting in a great waste of a most expensive energy source. I will do everything that is possible to help solve this unfortunate problem.

Ferryland district is basically a fishing district having in excess of 600 full-time fishermen and 1,200 to 1,400 plant workers in season. Last year was an extremely good year and we hope and pray that 1978 is just as good or better.

We have problems in our district; however, we have people willing to extend great efforts to overcome them. This year alone we will see new wharf constructions in Tor's Cove, where our Department of Rural Development has spent \$37,000, a new wharf in Port Kirwan, a slipway and wharf in Aquaforte. The times they are a-changing, and for the better.

MR. POWER: We do have a severe problem with fish processing during the glut season, and I will be working very closely with the Minister of Fisheries to see if a refrigeration unit can be built in the area to alleviate this problem.

Mr. Speaker, my district from Petty Harbour to Cappahayden is so typical of Newfoundland, land that is rugged but still beautiful, people that are humble and yet proud. We intend to contribute fully to this Province.

Mr. Speaker, I have taken the valuable time of this hon. House to mention many things from the revitalization of the fishery to individual recreation grants; however, I would like to leave one more thought with you. I can remember in high school trying to derive some appreciation from Plato's 'Know thyself', much to no avail at that stage in my life; however, I have since realized that it is the basis for happiness and prosperity.

We as a province have lost track of ourselves for the last twenty-five years or so; not that we took the wrong road in 1949, but when we left on our Confederation voyage we left behind some basic supplies. Two essential requirements that were left by our Province when we began our Confederation adventure were our sense of independence and natural pride developed over a 400 year span.

In this Third Session of the Thirty-Seventh General Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland, if we prove nothing else we will prove that this government is determined to rekindle, rejuvenate and re-establish our independence and pride. We as a government have served notice to our Province, our Country and our World that we will be masters of our destiny. In oil and gas exploration, we decide - not somebody in Ottawa. In the development of Labrador hydro, we decide - not someone in Quebec. In the seal fishery, we decide - not someone in France. The road not taken may always seem to be most desirable to some - such is not the case with this government. We took the right road in 1949; however, we have allowed ourselves to be merely passengers in the Confederation vehicle.

MR. POWER: We as a government have now decided to spend some time in the driver's seat. We have taken the words of Shakespeare: 'Master your wits, stand in your own defense, or hide your heads like cowards.'

Mr. Speaker, as a member for the historic district of Ferryland, I have the distinguished honour of moving that a committee of this Hon. House be appointed to draft a reply to the most gracious Speech from the Throne.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Naskaupi.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and privilege today to second the motion so ably proposed by the hon. member for Ferryland (Mr. Power). There are many examples of perseverance and persistence in this hon. House today, Mr. Speaker, and I consider the hon. member for Ferryland to be one of them.

I believe it appropriate also, Mr. Speaker, that I congratulate the new Leader of the Opposition on his past victories and welcome him to the hon. House of Assembly, the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. G.W. Rowe).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the gracious Speech from the Throne and if I remember correctly there appears to be more and more mention being made of Labrador and its potential with each outline of government policy in respect to development of Newfoundland and Labrador.

There are many aspects to that potential, one of the most exciting developments facing this Province today is the effort being made to bring to fruition the tremendous hydro potential of Labrador, and I think specifically of the Gull Island, or as it is otherwise known, the Lower Churchill project.

The Churchill River dissects the district of Naskaupí, which I have the honour to represent in this Legislature. It is encouraging in terms of such developments when conferences such as the recent First Ministers Conference in Ottawa support such development. I am sure Your Honour, and all hon. members, can appreciate how I feel when I watch the efforts being made to set in motion the mechanism to harness and bring on stream the potential of the river, which will one day be the source of the largest single producer of hydro power in the free world, I believe. Being fully aware of the history of that river sometimes makes me feel regret at the prospect of that mighty river being harnessed for the good of our Dominion. It is not very long ago that the trappers of Northwest River, Mud Lake and other communities in the Lake Melville area

MR. GOUDIE: of Labrador, drew their livelihood from the rich furs of the animals they took from the banks and the headwaters of what was then known as the Grand River. That river produced a noble heritage in our people, Mr. Speaker, and hopefully with the combined efforts of this government and the Government of Canada we will soon see the project begin and receive the just benefits from the sale of the hydro power.

Mr. Speaker, I wish God speed to this government in its efforts to find a buyer in 1978 for the Labrador Linerboard mill at Stephenville. My district was hard hit by the closure of the mill and I can appreciate the concern of the people and the elected representatives of that West Coast region.

It is my opinion, however, that the failure of that mill to become a paying proposition in its initial years of operation is not a reflexion on the true potential of a prosperous wood harvesting and processing industry in Labrador. The inherent problems associated with harvesting wood in Labrador for shipment to a processing plant hundreds of miles away by water is a very costly lesson for this Province. It points out that in order to properly utilize our wood resource in Labrador we must work on the premise that a finishing plant must be located near the source of supply, and then with the combination of sound planning, proper market studies, and a ready availability of trained personnel to put in place, a wood harvesting operation can be initiated in the Lake Melville area which will be a paying proposition.

Tied in with that, Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the spraying programme proposed by the Department of Forestry and Agriculture will be a success in combating the spruce budworm and other species of insects which are heavily infesting our forests. I also hope that environmental damage from the programme will be minimal and will not endanger any other part of our environment.

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I congratulate government on its efforts in assisting the rebuilding of its oldest industry, the fishery. This Province has been a major producer in the past and hopefully with such improvements as the imposition of the 200 mile limit it will once again be a world leader in terms of harvesting and processing the fishery resources of its waters.

Tied in with that of course is the possibility of undersea resources and the potential for development of oil and natural gas. We obviously must never forget the importance of both these resources and the possibility of untold damage to the one if we improperly develop the other. We must exercise extreme care in offshore drilling ventures and it will only be with proper care in regard for the marine environment, reflected I believe in our provincial regulations, will we be justified in finally tapping those offshore oil and gas resources.

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member for Ferryland (Mr. Power) mentioned - as a matter of fact, I will use his exact words - 'I would be remiss in my duty' and responsibility as the elected member for Naskaupi district if I did not avail of this opportunity to express some of the concerns of the people I have been elected to represent.

The overriding concern of the majority of my district is that of our unemployment situation. Now I realize that the problem is not unique to Labrador but rather is a concern to many parts of this Province. It is my earnest hope that 1978 will mark the beginning of the clearing of wood from the Churchill River Valley to provide not only much needed jobs, but it would mean that effort has been renewed in the attempt to bring Gull Island on stream.

It is also my hope that this government will not be foiled in dealings with Quebec in establishing a corridor across that province to reach markets for our power. Realizing that we must receive just benefits from our resources, we must also realize that Naskaupi district and the Province at large needs that wood cutting project this year.

Mr. Speaker, the signing of general development agreements between this Province and the Government of Canada has provided much needed funds through cost sharing arrangements with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. This is the type of effort which I trust will soon lead to the beginning of construction of a Trans-Labrador Highway which will not only link communities within Labrador, but will eventually connect with the highway systems of Canada.

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, we all know that any given area will be stunted in its growth if adequate transportation systems do not exist. I believe that Labrador has been stunted in its growth long enough. Not only do we need to tie into the highway system we just mentioned, but we need better communication systems with the Island part of the Province. Whether that happens via a tunnel under the Strait or through better and improved ferry systems remains to be seen.

A new ferry on the Labrador run with improved docking facilities at ports of call along the way will lend itself to better transportation and communication between the two parts of the Province, and within Labrador itself.

Mr. Speaker, there are many challenges awaiting us in the future, and I believe we all realize that much of the future of this Province lies in that vast and unspoiled land in the North. All we are asking in Labrador is that we be consulted as much as possible when development is about to take place. It is to the credit of this government that funding is extended to groups like the Labrador Resources Advisory Council to enable us to have our say. As a matter of fact, I believe the Council made some very worthwhile contributions to our regulations which govern the development of our off-shore resources. It was the lack of consultation in the past which led to many misunderstandings and hard feelings on the part of people in Labrador. I believe that has changed somewhat, but there remains more to be done.

It is time to put an end to the idea of development of resources in the North whereby the harvest takes place in Labrador but the processing

MR. GOUDIE: and finishing takes place somewhere in the South. We must not allow that to happen as much in the future as we have in the past. It brings to mind the comments of a radio announcer at Goose Bay in an editorial one day. He was discussing changing attitudes in Labrador and he was thinking specifically of the Innuite and the Indian when he said, "He will stop singing the swan song of his ancestors, the trapper and the hunter, stand upon the highest peak of the Torngat Mountains and tell the world that he exists, he is here, he is coming out and he is not smiling."

The Department of Tourism has stated that government, through that department, supports and encourages the Indian people of Labrador in their attempt to return as much as possible to their traditional way of life and have adjusted existing hunting regulations to accommodate that effort. The larger question of land claims from both the Innuite and the Indian will have to be dealt with in the near future as well.

Now there are many aspects with which we will have to deal in developing the North, one of them being the tourist potential. Later this month the ski trials of the Provincial Winter Games will be taking place at the Snow Goose Ski Mountain at Goose Bay. It is my opinion that we must concentrate more on the aspect of Winter tourism in Labrador, and we will have to look more to Europe for tourist trade, I believe. I believe there are many Europeans who would jump at the chance to holiday in Labrador providing the infrastructure is in place to accommodate that trade.

Mr. Speaker, I share with

MR. GOUDIE: government a faith in the people of this Province, that we will soon become a stable, economically secure society and I feel great pride in representing a people and a district which will contribute a great deal to that conviction becoming a reality. If we handle it properly we will soon be able to stand on that peak in the Torngats I just mentioned, and tell the world that we exist, we are here, we are coming out, and we are smiling. I take great pleasure in seconding the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, let my first words be words of congratulations to the mover and the seconder of this resolution to draft an Address in Reply to the hon. Speech from the Throne, and let me congratulate them on the good job they did in bringing forward the needs of their district as well as touching on some general needs of this Province.

Let me go on, Sir, to bid a word of welcome on behalf of myself and my colleagues on this side of the House, and the Liberal caucus, to the dignitaries of Church and State who are seated here today, and the visitors in the galleries who have taken time from their busy schedule, I am sure, to come here and witness these proceedings,

MR. W.N. ROWE: and to the people of the Province whom I hope today are witnessing this by the television medium, witnessing these proceedings, I think it is important that the people have access to their House of Assembly where vital decisions effecting their welfare, their well-being, are being made on a daily basis when the House is open.

Let me say, Sir, on a personal note that it is a pleasure to be back in this hon. House. I sat here continuously for eight unbrokan years as the member for White Bay South, and it was a pleasure and an honour to do so. And it is a great honour to be back here once more and I thank the hon. members of the House, on both sides of the House, Sir, and Your Honour yourself, for the very kind and generous welcome which was made to me upon entering the House and taking my seat.

I want to thank most sincerely the people of Twillingate district, to whom I owe the privilege and honour of being here at all today, Mr. Speaker. Having become the Leader of the Liberal Party, it is owing to the people of Twillingate district now that I do have the honour and the privilege to be here representing and heading up the Legislative wing of our great and historic Party in this Province and I thank the people of Twillingate district. And later on in the session I will certainly be making more detailed reference to the needs and the problems of that district.

And finally on this personal note, Sir, let me say how proud I feel, how very proud I feel to be here today representing the Liberal Party as its Leader among my colleagues in this caucus, each one of whom I have the profoundest respect for, and who I will work with in order to try to better the problems, to improve the conditions in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Now, Sir, having cleared the decks so to speak of the personal obligations, let me say a word or two about this Speech from the Throne which was delivered by His Honour today, and I believe, Sir, that this Speech from the Throne can only be looked at in its

MR. W.N. SCHE: context. It can only be looked at in the light of previous speeches which have been made in this House since 1972, since March 1, 1972. Yesterday evening, Sir, after the ecumenical service in the harbour to send off the sealers to the Front. when I returned to my home I did something, which I do not recommend to the people of this Province, by the way, I did something, namely, I read through, word by word, every single one of the seven speeches made in this House of Assembly by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor representing the policies and promises and commitments made by his ministers, this government, this administration. I say I do not recommend it, Sir, unless you want to loose your fundamental faith in mankind, certainly your faith in politics and government in this Province.

Now today, Sir, we have heard the eighth Speech from the Throne being read, the policies and commitments of this government once more. And the feeling I got then, Sir, as I did last night reading the other speeches, was a mixture of outrage and pity. Outrage because so many commitments and promises, so many expectations which were raised have not been fulfilled. And pity, Sir, because it is pathetic the contrast between what was promised from year to year in this Province, to the people over television, and what in fact delivered by this House and by the government particularly. It was pathetic, Sir, I thought, the great expectations which were raised and nearly always resulting in great disappointments for the people of the Province generally. The splendid promises, Sir, followed, I would submit humbly, by feeble performance or no performance at all. Lofty predictions, and we have had them again this time, although in smaller number, lofty predictions as to where this Province is going, almost invariably, Mr. Speaker, falsified by events subsequently, mainly by lack of action and lack of activity, the puffed up words, Sir, and the very feeble and weak action which has followed these words in practice.

I am not going to go into any detail; there will be plenty of time, Mr. Speaker, to do that when this House of Assembly sits

MR. W.N. SOWE: over the next three or four months and goes into the Speech from the Throne in detail and looks at some of the legislation brought down. But I do have to mention one or two things.

The fishery, mentioned again in this Speech from the Throne today, has been mentioned in Speeches from the Throne, the seven since this administration took office. In March of 1972, for example, Sir, they promised a new approach to financing to provide a supply of fish necessary for existing fish plants to be used as near full capacity as possible, new financing to bring up the capacity, to utilize the capacity of existing fish plants. Nothing, Sir, has transpired on that general commitment.

A corporation

MR. W. N. ROWE: was promised, by way of legislation, to be set up and by this government, a corporation to own or lease a new fleet of trawlers to add to the production of fish plants. That was six years ago, Mr. Speaker, and again we see it trotted out in the Speech from the Throne today that there is going to be a new fleet of trawlers to add to the production of our fish plants. And all I can say, Sir, is what faith can the people in the Province, after six years of nothing happening on this particular matter, what faith can they have in it ever going ahead? There was a promise, Sir, in the same Speech six years ago to set up an inexpensive shared-cost insurance programme covering the loss of fishing gear which, as any member on the Northeast coast knows, or any part of this Province - on the Northwest coast, South coast - knows is one of the banes of a fisherman's existence, the fact that fishing gear is lost through no fault of his own by contingencies of weather and tide and flood. And again, Sir, six years ago a promise made - six years later nothing done about it, and in fact, no mention even made in the Speech from the Throne.

There was a promise, Sir, in 1972 again to immediately embark on a programme of advanced processing facilities for fish within this Province; and again, Sir, six years later we have reached the stage where we are sending out basically a raw material for further processing elsewhere with little done in the interim. There were some pious words in this Speech about making approaches to the federal government with regard to tariffs, and then the matter is dismissed once more.

Moving to the position of the question of offshore oil, Mr. Speaker, offshore oil and gas and minerals generally, another very highly important issue facing this Province over the next five to ten years, there is a mention made in the Speech from the Throne that there will be hearings. Hearings are to start by 1979 in order to resolve this question of ownership

MR. W. N. ROWE: of the offshore resources. In 1972, Mr. Speaker, this promise was made, 'Newfoundland's unique and indisputable right to these offshore resources must be established with the federal government'- six years ago. And in 1974 in that Throne Speech this statement is made, 'The government will not hesitate to refer the issue of ownership of offshore resources for decision by an independent tribunal, the courts of this land.' 'The government will not hesitate!' Now we have a promise that in 1979, Sir, some seven or eight years after this administration came to office and made a general commitment to clear up this very important question of ownership and control, seven years later, and we may see something done. And I make mention of these things, Sir, not to be carping or critical, but simply to point out that these matters of great importance to the people of this Province must be settled so that companies who wish to drill off this Province's shores know where they stand with regard to offshore oil and gas. So far this year we have one company, unless some recent developments have taken place, one company which is willing to come in here and drill off our shores, Shell Oil. And I say to the Minister of Energy now if he is within my hearing that I hope he will do the House the service of tabling the agreement which he has entered into with Shell Oil Company so that we know what concessions were made and what inducements were made by him in order to get Shell Oil into this Province, drilling offshore.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROWE: And I say that, Sir, because we on the Opposition side of the House, myself outside the House and my colleagues inside, have supported nearly to the 'T' this minister's efforts to make sure that there are strict regulations drafted up to protect our interests in this Province and the interests of the people of this Province, and that there be no relenting on the necessity to protect the best interests and the advantages of the people of this Province.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROWE: So the minister owes it to us and to the people of this Province to table that agreement, and I do hope he does so, so that we will know what in fact was given away. I hope his words are borne out in reality; I hope that only minor changes were made. I am afraid that perhaps in order to save political embarrassment, in order to save face, more may have been given away than should have been in the circumstances. I hope that is not the case, and I hope that we will get an opportunity to see this agreement when the time comes, when the minister can table it in the House of Assembly.

There are so many things, Sir, but I will touch on education, for example. Again in 1972 there was a promise by the government to begin consultations with the school boards and the MTA and the University authorities to work out a satisfactory long-term plan for our education needs in this Province. And the government again later that year in the Throne Speech dedicated itself to education and training opportunities designed to meet the needs for varied skills and employment opportunities throughout this Province, to tailor education to the employment opportunities in this Province. And there was mention made in 1973 of the need to have curriculum in our schools diversified to meet modern everyday needs today, and the reality, Sir, six years later again is that we now have the spectacle in this Province of several hundreds of teachers either about to be laid off from our school system or several hundred teachers presently who are about to graduate from university not able to find positions, not able to find jobs within our own Province,

MR. N. ROWE: and there has been no indication at all given, although my hon. colleague has been calling for it for two or three years, no indication at all given to the teachers of this Province that there may be a surplus or a redundancy growing. In fact I have an impression that every encouragement has been given over the same period of time practically to get people to go into teacher training and become teachers.

This is the long term planning, Mr. Speaker, referred to in seven Speeches from the Throne. Lineups in our trade schools, young people not able to get into trade schools to do trades and courses from year to year, having to wait from year to year. And then of course very little correlation or co-ordination between the needs in this Province for jobs and the trades necessary and what in fact they are taught, which is a prime responsibility of the Minister of Education and the government of this Province. Nothing at all, Sir, as I understand it from my educational colleagues, has been done of any significance in the need for curriculum advances with archaic, sometimes archaic and certainly not modern or up-to-date things being taught in many of our schools, and a change being needed there, changes called for by the NTA and in the profession itself.

And the continuance, Sir, of perhaps the worst type of taxation, the regressive school tax in this Province which this party stands foursquare against -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROWE: - and wishes to see abolished in this Province and substituted, and a substitution made by taking the cost of education out of the general revenues of this Province, and if more money needs to be raised -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. ROWE: if more money, Sir, needs to be raised for that purpose then let it be shared in an equitable method to allow people who can pay for the cost of education and let us stop what has been going on now, an indiscriminate regressive tax system which falls on the shoulders of the impoverished and the rich alike. Let us get rid of that in a progressive society.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. ROWE: And last year, Sir, a promise was made for a polytechnical institution to be brought in by legislation, and we see the same thing dragged out again this year. I do hope that this year it does go ahead.

In the field of health, Mr. Speaker, in March of 1972 a commitment was made by

MR. W.N. ROWE:

this government that areas for hospitals to be constructed included the Clarenville to Whitbourne area, the Bonavista Peninsula, the Burin Peninsula, the North West Coast of this Province and that statement was followed by these words in the Speech from the Throne, "It will be done"

MR. NEARY: And Channel-Port aux Basques.

MR. W.N. ROWE: And Channel-Port aux Basques as well, Although that came in a subsequent Throne Speech, as it happened.

MR. NEARY: One of the top three -

MR. W.N. ROWE: But, Mr. Speaker, nothing has been done in the subsequent intervening seven years, or six years or seven Throne Speeches about that particular problem. And it is ironic, Sir, and again somewhat pathetic that the cost of these much needed hospital facilities is between \$70 and \$80 million which by pure coincidence happens to correspond with the \$79 million which was prematurely spent, with most of it apparently down the drain, on the premature start up of the Lower Churchill project in 1975 just prior to the Provincial election of that year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are so many other things, notes I have made concerning the things that were committed by the various Throne Speeches, YOU could be here all day talking about them and the lack of performance, the lack of follow-up on these commitments. I will just mention for the sake of my friend, the seconder of the motion, that in 1972 there was an outright commitment made for a Trans-Labrador Highway to be constructed from the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area on through to Western Labrador at that time. And again six years later we see this once more brought into a Throne Speech in an apparent attempt to fill up the Throne Speech as best they could.

Mr. Speaker, on this whole question of Lower Churchill which we will be getting into, this too has been mentioned

MR. W.N. ROWE: in several Speeches from the Throne. In 1975, February of that year, there was a promise made to take the steps which were necessary to complete the Lower Churchill River project. Now as I read that, Sir, that appears to me by a reasonable reading, or from men who you can put your faith in, to be a commitment to get that project going. And then in that same year the people of this Province, Sir, I believe were grossly misled by the fact that dynamite was set off on both sides of the Strait - it could have been firecrackers for the good that these sticks of dynamite did, firecrackers were set off on both sides of the Strait of Belle Isle to indicate that a tunnel was going to be built under the Strait to bring electricity of this Province. This flurry of activity went on before the election and during the election. After the election was over, Mr. Speaker - I remember because I was sitting outside the House in those days and could see the forest in those days rather than being perhaps a little bit dazzled by being too close to the trees - at that time, Sir, all activity ceased on the Lower Churchill project. And now some two and one half years later we find, much to my delight and much to the delight of my colleagues and the people of this Province, that an agreement has been entered into between the Government of Newfoundland and the Government of Canada to determine the feasibility of going ahead with that project. And mention is made in the Speech from the Throne again, Sir, that first of all there would be technical feasibility and construction feasibility and then they would go on to market feasibility. And I say, Sir, that it is a dreadful shame, speaking as a Newfoundlander here today, that great quantities of public money were spent on that project at that time, at a time when the government knew or should have known - I am not imputing any unworthy motives to them - at least they should have known that it was impossible for it to go ahead without further work and

MR. W.N. ROWE: further feasibility studies.

In the field of finances, Mr. Speaker: In 1973 the government promised that government expenditures must not be allowed to out-distance responsible borrowing. 'My government,' said the Lieutenant-Governor, 'is now completing a five year financial plan which will allow for longterm orderly spending.' That was four and one half years ago and the result of that particular commitment now, Sir, is that the public debt of our Province has gone up from less than \$1 billion in 1971 to about \$2.5 billion perhaps now with very little, I would submit, Sir, to any one who has looked around the Province, to show for that kind of expenditure. And there is even an indication, Mr. Speaker, and we will get into this when the House of Assembly meets continuously in the days to come, there is even an indication, Sir, that this government's fiscal and financial policy has been lost control of to the extent that we are now taking orders from Wall Street down in New York and an admission by one of our ministers, and certainly speculation, that the closing of the Linerboard mill itself was dictated by the brokers in Wall Street

Mr. W. ROWE: and reports and rumours flying around throughout this Province now, Mr. Speaker, which I do hope the government can supply information to squelch, unless some very drastic cuts and very drastic measures are taken there is a chance that this Province could lose its present bond rating, which happens to be the lowest in Canada, and we could go down a point. I hope the government can assure this hon. House on that score, and that this rumour or these reports cannot be substantiated and are not founded in fact. Although there is this uneasy, queasy suspicious on the part of people interested in our public welfare that because of financial mismanagement expenditures of large sums of money with very little return to show for it that our brokers are looking at this Province in a very, very uncharitable way.

Mr. Speaker, finally on this area in the field of economic development, again in March of 1972 we heard the brave words, we heard that the government was determined to insure that every benefit possible accrues to this Province from the Linerboard mill and the oil refinery. Since then, Sir, what have we seen happen in this Province? And I state it as a matter of history and fact for the memory of the people of the Province. Since then we have seen the oil refinery closed, and I do not think, Sir, unless I misread it, I only got the Speech five minutes before the House started, I do not think there was a mention of the oil refinery in this Speech from the Throne, if there was it was a very cursory one, the government has apparently abandoned it to its faith.

The Linerboard mill, Sir, mentioned again in a very cursory way, that was also forced to close after this government took over. The steel mill at Donovans, Mr. Speaker, closed down under this government's tenure of office, the St. Lawrence mine closed under this government's tenure of office, the Buchans mine, Sir, threatens to close down within a year or a year and a half, and no mention made - as I read the Speech and listened to it, my hon. colleague can correct me - no mention made of any efforts to be undertaken by this government to mitigate, to alleviate, to get rid of the bad effects that are going

MR. W. ROWE: to accrue to the people of Buchans as a result of that mine close down. Was there any mention made?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. W. ROWE: No mention, Sir, of the Buchans Task Force at all. One of the most important things going on in this Province today. No mention, as I read it, Sir, about the layoffs of several hundred men in Western Labrador, in Labrador City, by IOC.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame.

MR. W. ROWE: I am not saying, Sir, that the government is to blame for all of these conditions or situations; every government is plagued with problems like these.

But two or three things do stand out like a sore thumb, Mr. Speaker. One is that in the six years or so that have gone by since this administration took over office, no industry of any kind has been set up in this Province with the exception, perhaps it might be argued, of the zinc mine in Daniel's Harbour which was set up when the appropriate market conditions came along; but even assuming that, no industry, with that exception, has been set up in this Province in the last six years. And, Sir, there seems to be a feeling of despair, a feeling of impotence, a feeling of uselessness by the government that they cannot do anything about our economic situation, either the close-downs or the lack of new activity coming along.

We all remember, Sir, King Midas and his touch; everything he touched turned to gold. When I was reading the Throne Speech last night I could not help but have the image flash through my mind that this government has the reverse Midas touch; everything they touch, Mr. Speaker, does not turn to gold, everything turns to something else, muck, in their hands.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mothballs.

MR. W. ROWE: The reverse Midas touch, what is Midas spelled backwards, the Sadim touch, Mr. Speaker, is what this government seems to possess.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sadim! Sadim!

MR. W. ROWE: And I think it has nothing to do with talent or the basic problems of the Province, I think it has to do with a feeling of despair, that this government apparently has given up, this government appears to be wringing its hands or throwing its hands up because they cannot do anything about it. A government which sees further problems facing it, and again very little mention made to it in the Throne Speech. No mention made about the hydro electrical increases which are likely to confront this Province in the next couple of months if the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Corporation gets its way with its 40 per cent increase. Maybe so much as a 20 per cent increase! No mention made, Mr. Speaker, no mention made as to whether the government is going to take measures to try to subsidize further the electricity in the Province. No mention made as to how efforts can be made to offset this economic blow to industry, commerce and domestic users alike.

Unemployment, Sir, mentioned in highfaluting tones, but no real remedy suggested, no cures suggested by the government as to how this big, basic problem of our society can be coped with. The response, Sir, of the government has been basically a telephone number to fight these problems. And as somebody mentioned to me, Sir, government by what appears to be paid political telecasts,

MR. W.N. BOWE: not very well concocted by some ad agency and paid for out of public funds. That is the impression one gets looking at what is going on in this Province.

The sole source of comfort to Her Majesty's ministers, Mr. Speaker, appears to be lashing out continuously at the federal government, kicking at the federal government every day of the week that passes. The security blanket of this government, Mr. Speaker, seems to be a constant attack on the federal government in a vane endeavour I think to make a few political brownie points in the Province, rather than getting down to the hard-nosed bargaining, negotiation, the hard-nosed planning with Ottawa that is required if we are to succeed as a Province within Canada's Confederation. Nobody is suggesting - and certainly we will not be, given the privilege to form the government - no one is suggesting that they be the handmaidens of the Ottawa Government, Mr. Speaker, but within our spheres of interest and our spheres of activity and control and jurisdiction we should have co-operation between this government and the government in Ottawa, regardless of political stripe or political colour. Because otherwise it is the well-being of the people that suffers from this constant attack and lashing out.

It may be, Sir, that the co-operation that is required is too hard for a tired government. It may be that the hard-nosed bargaining and the hard work that is required to really get your point across to the federal government and try to negotiate something sensible for this Province, maybe that is too hard work, maybe that is just beyond the capacity of a government which appears to be tired in office. Perhaps it is simply easier to pick up the telephone, call the radio stations, Sir, and lash out.

Now, Sir, there are many other things which I will be saying during the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, on this debate and on the Budget Debate and during the estimates. Let me say, Sir, before the Premier gets up to have his few

MR. W.N. ROWE: remarks - and undoubtedly he will say, "There he goes. He is being negative and he is being critical" - let me say to that anticipated reply that I and we on this side of the House and the members on that side of the House have a duty, Sir, to tell the truth as we see it and if in the telling of the truth the feelings of people happen to be hurt, if it appears to be critical or negative, Sir, then I say here now to this House of Assembly that that is too bad. We will not back off from the need to make sure that the people of this Province have the true situation as we perceive it honestly and honourably in this House of Assembly.

But, Sir, so that the Premier will not think that it is all negativity from this side of the House, let me say, Sir, that we will here, this caucus, my colleagues, during this session will be putting forward our own positive and constructive policies for the development of this Province. We have already stated some of these on various occasions in this House and outside and we will have some new ones as well regarding, for example, Labrador development, which I believe to be the single most important matter of public policy confronting this Province today. We will be talking about fishery. We will be talking about social policies that need to come in this Province.

On the fishery, Sir, now that we have the 200 mile limit in Newfoundland and Labrador and we have, as the member for Ferryland District has stated, as we have stated a hundred times, as I have stated a hundred times, now with the 200 mile limit we do have our own destiny in our own hands. And let us not, Mr. Speaker, I urge this government and this House of Assembly, not to throw away the chance which we have been waiting in this Province for for four hundred or five hundred years. Let us not sell out an opportunity to develop our primary resource, the fishery, let us not throw away that opportunity for the sake of an easier way out, throw it away or sell it out to foreign ownership and foreign control.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: I say, Sir, that this government or the next government, the Provincial Government, the Federal Government working together, the union working with the governments, the industry, the processors and the fishermen all working together can, Sir, develop something which has never been done in our history and that is an overall, comprehensive plan for the full development of all aspects of the fishery of this Province, inshore, near shore and offshore fishery in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador with hard-nosed again and very strict requirements and laws and regulations regarding conservation measures, regarding quality, regarding marketing, technology, equipment, financing, a comprehensive overall plan. And we, Sir, if there is a continued default by this government, we, Sir, will be putting forward during this session of the House our views and how that can be done. And we believe fervently and sincerely that we can in Newfoundland do it ourselves.

MR. W. N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, the Upper Churchill power which is worth at least \$800 million and which was mentioned in the Throne Speech as nearly all going to Quebec as far as the value is concerned, I agree with the government; we must get back our fair share of the value of the Upper Churchill power. And I say, Sir, I stand here in this House today and I say that if all else fails, if negotiations do not produce the desired result, then this government should have no hesitation in taking the last drastic move that may be necessary in order to beat sense, or sense of fair play or equality or equity into the Quebec Government. It should take that last drastic measure of turning off the switch, because we do have the power, we do have the control and authority to do that. I hope, Sir, it never comes to that. But I say that we should not allow ourselves any longer to have the Upper Churchill power continuously going to the value and the advantage of Quebec without our reaping any benefit whatever for all practical purposes.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROWE: And I hope, Sir, that it does not come to what I just said. But we do have that power position, we do have that position of strength to negotiate from - something we have never had before the last two or three years, certainly not when the first contract was developed with Quebec when Quebec played the dog in the manger attitude. And, Sir, as far as Labrador development generally is concerned - and as I mentioned, it is one of the most important policies facing our Province today - a resolution will be presented by myself a little later on regarding the development of Labrador. And I was happy to see, Sir, that at a recent national convention our policy for an overall integrated and interlocking development of the resources of Labrador was passed unanimously by the national convention of the Liberal Party of Canada and will have the support of the Government of Canada for it.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROME:

I will not get into some of the other matters, Sir. Let me simply finish my few remarks by saying this, that I, personally, and my colleagues, whom I have talked to at length on these matters, are desperately anxious to have a government and have a Province which is interested in the pride and dignity and prosperity of the people of this Province. I am sure that all or most, in any event, of the members on that side of the House and this side of the House want the same ends, have the same aim in view. We want pride and dignity, the pride and dignity which can come from economic prosperity. You can have pride and dignity without economic prosperity but economic prosperity adds a certain independence, a certain pride and dignity which does not exist unless you have the wherewithal.

Mr. Speaker, we will co-operate with the government of this Province in all sound and sane, reasonable and rational measures brought forward for the good of this Province. We will fight savagely against, Mr. Speaker, any proposals which we perceive are not in the best interests of this Province. And as I said, our guide in that regard will be the overall view, the overall aim, of establishing a sense of independence, pride, dignity and prosperity in the people of this Province. That is why I am in politics and for no other reason. Thank you very much.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the Opposition leaders change but the litany lingers on. I certainly am not going to make any comments about the Leader of the Opposition being negative, Sir; I think he does that better himself. I welcome the opportunity for a positive approach and a constructive approach to government and I am sure that will be the case, and I certainly look forward to that being the case because we have many important issues before us in this province. I would like just to correct a few things, Sir, before becoming personal and welcoming the people here to the house today. First of all, the school tax is not certainly the child of this government. I think if the Leader of the Opposition would check with some of the distinguished educators of the past Liberal Administration he would find out exactly when the school tax was born.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, Hear !

PREMIER MOORES: Equally, Sir, I would like to say that I think comments in the Speech from the Throne were favourable to the federal government. I think in the main our relationships with the federal government are fairly good right now. But before going further, Sir, I would like to as well add my welcome to the heads of church and state who are here. I would also like to do something else, Sir, which gives me great pleasure to be able to do because I thought I would be just agreeing, and that is pay tribute to the gentleman who was Leader of the Opposition for many years in this House -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, Hear !

PREMIER MOORES: - a man who I know that I and people on this side of the House, and probably on the other side on occasion, disagreed with many times, but the member from the Strait, Sir, when he was Leader of the Opposition was rarely personal except when it was in the heat of debate, I suggest. I can say that I always found him honorable in any dealings that we had. The man was obviously intelligent and in the end analysis was an asset to this House and to our province. I would like that to be on the record today, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, Hear !

PREMIER MOORES: I would also Sir like to congratulate the Leader of the Opposition on his election in Twillingate and on his election to the very responsible position of leader of the Liberal Party. The job is important and there are many important issues before us. I sincerely, Sir, look forward to working with the Leader of the Opposition on behalf of the Province and not just the partisan politics which I know we can both be guilty of on occasion. I would also like to welcome my guests for the second time or third time or fourth time or how ever many times the member for St. John's West and the member for Ferryland came in here on a sporadic basis. but I do hope - they are here and I know they will be on a more permanent one at least until the next election and hopefully after that. I would like to also congratulate the mover and the seconder today, particularly the new member for Ferryland who excelled himself. But, Sir, this Session of the House of Assembly is important. I call on all members of this House for serious debate particularly on the important issues which are going to be facing us as a province, as opposed to engaging in personalities or innuendo, which we have had in past Sessions. But this Session opens, Sir, at a time

PREMIER MOORES: when not just Newfoundland - and I am not taking the onus off this government; I will talk about that in a moment - but when we are at a time and place in our world history where there are a great many economic difficulties, certainly in the Western World as we know it, Inflation has not been licked, I would suggest, in any country. There is extremely high unemployment in virtually every country. The environment for investment or whatever is uncertain. I think that can be demonstrated by not just the performance of the Canadian dollar in relation to the U.S. dollar, but in turn the U.S. dollar against the stronger currencies of Europe.

And when this happens, Sir, that your financial credibility, so to speak, is in question, then it is a problem that just does not affect our nation or our Province but our whole society. Mr. Trudeau has said, and I think probably accurately, that we have never been better off in this country. I think that is true. But some would say, I suggest, that we could be better off with the riches we have in Canada. But either way, whether the Prime Minister's statement is absolute or whether we could be better off than we are, the fact is the challenge we have in the years ahead is great for us a nation and certainly for us as a Province. In this Province we will be still facing stringent restraints in the year ahead. government spending and borrowing must and will be curtailed.

PREMIER MOORES: The budget in a few weeks will spell that out. Ironically, this province of Newfoundland and Labrador potentially is in better shape than most provinces in Canada because we have a resource base that - I suppose unfortunately - the Maritime Provinces, as an example, do not have. They do not have the vast area of Labrador or even the Island part of our province with the resources that are beginning to come into their own. They do not have the same opportunity to do in the future what we have the opportunity to do here. I think for the first time the people in our Province - the first time in several years - are becoming more optimistic, are becoming more confident that this Province does have a future and that they are going to be beneficiaries of it .

There have been steps made in the past few years, I think, which have helped. For example, Sir, in the field of mineral exploration this Province is no longer in the hands of two or three developers or promoters or whatever as far as mineral development is concerned and exploration. And instead of the two or three who were there at one time, last year forty-nine companies explored for minerals in this Province twenty-seven major companies and twenty-two smaller ones. The mining tax that has been put in, we have been advised by many people in the mining industry, is the best in Canada for development. The forest management program that has been installed for the first time is taking back timber from the larger corporations which they could not use and making it available to saw mills, but there is a great deal more that needs to be done in that area. And we as a government nor the people of this province should be happy until the total timber resource is developed whereby all of the

PREMIER MOORES: tree or all of the log is used, or whatever have you is used. The Labrador Linerboard mill is in the wrong location, a wrong product, and certainly cost too much money. And in order to get it back on the track it had to be shut, washed out, if you would, and a divestiture committee set up, including management personnel the unions and other people involved have gotten together and have done what I consider certainly to be a first class job. And as the Speech from the Throne said, Sir, I and this government look forward to positive results regarding linerboard during this year.

A few examples, I suppose of many that can allow us to be optimistic regarding our resource development in the future: In all areas of resource development this province will move ahead, whether it be tourism, or mining, or forestry, or agriculture or what have you but the brightest prospects I think as everyone knows in the short, medium or long-term are the fisheries and the field of energy.

So I would like to take just a very few moments, and I do not want to be too long today, but to talk about the hydro development in Labrador and the fisheries in particular.

PREMIER MOORES: We bought back the rights, the water rights, if you like, of Churchill Falls, and we bought out the shareholding. Sir, it has been suggested that we made a mistake. It has been suggested that we did it too early. The fact is, Sir, that today the plans and studies have been completed as far as the Province is concerned; certainly not as far as the Federal Government is concerned. We have our figures updated which they will review. But, the fact is, Sir, that I do not consider buying back the water rights in Labrador to be a mistake. I do not consider buying back the Upper Churchill to be a mistake because I do not, for one minute, believe that buying back our heritage is a mistake.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: Any development, Sir, in Labrador or on the Island or anywhere else, in the future will mean that the people of this Province will get the full economic return from any of that development. I think the proof of that, Sir, is the Offshore Oil and Gas regulations. For the sake of the Leader of the Opposition we will gladly table the agreement because, Sir, the agreement was tabled last year when the regulations were tabled, and the only reason Shell/Texaco are in here is because they abided by the regulations.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: Regarding negotiating and putting up a scrap, Sir, to get jurisdiction of the offshore oil and gas, I might remind my friends across the way that that is only necessary from the present Government in Ottawa; the other Party has said that, if elected, it is automatically Provincial jurisdiction.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORE: I just wanted to say, Sir, that in the future the full benefits will come to this Province. There will be no more giveaways. I want to make a point here for all members of the House - and it is not partisan what I want to say now - and that is the business of the Upper

PREMIER MOORES: Churchill and what we had to do with negotiating with Mr. Levesque or whomever else. I think the people in this Province should know exactly what the Upper Churchill agreement means for this Province. The Upper Churchill power development has a capacity of 5200 megawatts. This is the equivalent, Mr. Speaker, of 150,000 barrels of oil a day, or 55,000,000 barrels of oil a year. The current world price for oil is fifteen dollars a barrel. As we know, Alberta got their price from the wellhead up from three dollars to fifteen dollars with Federal subsidization. So the value of the Churchill Falls in oil equivalent is \$825,000,000 per year. If we were receiving fifteen dollars per barrel for our electricity, the price we would receive is twenty-five mils. At the present time, Sir, we are getting three mils, reducing to two mils during the last twenty-five years of the sixty-five year contract. So, from twenty-five mils - to be the equivalent today - we are presently getting three mils, reducing to two mils.

At three mils, Sir, it is the oil equivalent of one dollar and eighty cents a barrel. This Province is selling the equivalent of 150,000 barrels of oil to the Province of Quebec for one dollar and eighty cents a barrel when we pay the OPEC countries and we pay Alberta fifteen dollars a barrel for the oil we have to use in this Province. That reduces to one dollar and twenty cents when it goes to two mils. In other words, Sir, the value of Churchill Falls in terms of oil equivalent is \$825,000,000 a year. Quebec is paying the Corporation \$100,000,000 a year, which means in effect they have access to \$725,000,000 more than the world energy equivalent today. The royalties paid to this Province - Quebec getting \$725,000,000 - the royalties we will get this year approximate \$5,000,000 less the equalization, and the royalties compared with Quebec's \$725,000,000 - put it in perspective, Sir. When you consider our total tax basis is \$500,000,000, and when you consider that Quebec has the benefit of \$725,000,000, I am sure the Leader of the Opposition will agree with me, and members of the Opposition will agree, that something has to be done about any agreement that is so wrong as that particular agreement is.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES:

Mr. Speaker, we have got some hard decisions to make as a House of Assembly, not just a government. But I can assure the House and the members opposite that we will be having a full debate on this subject. Mr. Levesque is here on Friday. I look forward to meeting him and I look forward to telling him our position on it, because there are other hydro projects in Labrador which we have got to consider. There is Gull Island. There is Muskrat. There is Romaine Diversion and many others.

I think, Sir, with Quebec in order to be fair we have got to get the economic package out together which Mr. Levesque talks about and I think with some justification. And any economic package we talk about obviously has to deal with other river development. It has to deal with the renegotiation of the Upper Churchill, and it also, in all fairness, has to deal with the head waters of the rivers flowing into Quebec. Because that is one bargaining lever we do have, that those head waters cannot be used for flooding unless it has the concurrence of the people of this Province.

The latest Gull option, Sir, for the information of the House, we have one option of federal participation that was mentioned at the First Ministers' Conference. This will ensure the financing and the access to market for our power. But the mechanism of how that is done is another thing because in the end analysis, no matter what arrangement we could or could not have with the federal government, the fact remains is that the equity, that the future profits of that great development has to be for the full and total benefit of our people. If we are talking about equity based on preferent shares, encouragement to get the job done, fine! But if we are talking about the equity to share in the profits, we have had too much of that in this Province and any equity will be on behalf of the people of this Province and no one else.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: The other option we have, Mr. Speaker, is to have an agreement with Quebec and do project financing. With the proper agreement that could be done. And the other option of course is to use the power here at home if an industrial customer could be found who could pay the proper rates. But either way, Sir, as I said, it has to be for the maximum benefit or for ourselves.

The other area I wanted to mention briefly was the fisheries. The funny thing is, you know, the Leader of the Opposition has been right, that the fishery was mentioned in every Speech From the Throne since we have been in power and, I would suggest, every Speech From the Throne, that has ever been given in this Province, I would suggest the fisheries has been mentioned. If it has not someone should have been kicked out way before now. But the fact is that there is much disagreement on the fisheries and how we should develop it. But the ironic thing is, Mr. Speaker, that in the end analysis, it is only going to matter to a very small degree what will eventually happen because the fishery is going to be developed anyway. With the 200 mile limit, with the proper conservation and with the proper approach there is no question in my mind that the future of the fishery is bright.

I think if today, the federal government, ourselves, the Fisheries Union and the trade, they sat down in one room and we decided what the state should be in 1985, I doubt that there would be very little if any disagreement. The fact is, I think, that the area for some disagreement is on the method of how we go ahead at this time because the objectives, Sir, we have to have are complex and they are many.

First of all on the harvesting side we obviously have to build ships. We obviously have to catch all that fish that is available to us and not put off catching what the Europeans are allowed to catch now and which we have the right to catch. We must build a fleet that can maximize its use to catch

PREMIER MOORES:

all the fish available. The inshore fishery must be expanded and modernized because that is the best economic return that you can get in any fishing enterprise. Our traditional offshore fleet must be rebuilt and modernized so that the people, particularly on the South Coast and the other areas where there are trawlers fishing can have the full access to the stocks that will be available. We will obviously need new offshore capacity to fish non-traditional areas and certainly to fish non-traditional species, and these we must catch and learn how to process as well.

For this, onshore and offshore, we have to have training for young men and women for the future, in food technology, in catching, in electronics and in many areas where we do not have expertise today. In the area of processing we must have some efficiencies because no longer, Mr. Speaker, are we competing from harbour to harbour or cove to cove. We are competing against the international community in a world where competition is rough and where every efficiency and bit of knowledge that we can obtain we must get. We must have a regulated supply for our inshore plants, so-called now, where there will be an industrial setting so that the workers know that they have a forty hour week or whatever the case may be, but where there is some stability where there has been none in the past.

We must have a marketing philosophy, I would suggest, Sir, that is different from the past whereby the housewife in Europe or in America or wherever the case may be dictates what package is produced here because the end buyer always dictates that in any marketing philosophy. We obviously have to open up markets in Europe, where we sell very little of our fish now, because with the removal of the European fleet and with the tremendous consumption of fish in Europe that is obviously where most of the action is going to be. One of the staggering statistics to me was the fact that 5.6 million tons of fish is eaten in Europe as opposed

PREMIER MOOPES:

to just over 3 million tons in the U.S. So we have to talk about re-processing. One of the problems has been, of course - and this is not any government's fault, I do not think - when the Leader of the Opposition said, "Why do we not have more re-processing into cooked fish or into processed fish or canned fish or bottled fish?", the reason of course is tariffs. That is the reason it has not been done before, because the tariffs on these items, particularly with the value added, in the United States is higher than on traditional commodity products which has been our wont in the past. And equally in Europe once you have the value added, of course, the fifteen per cent tariff, it makes a tremendous difference in the importation of the commodity itself. That is why we have had a commodity philosophy which has to change. And with the leverage of the 200 mile limit I think, Sir, that can be brought about.

It is a very complex but a very challenging issue, and as I said, this House will have to debate it thoroughly. We will have to debate, for instance, whether it is private enterprise or whether we want private investment or how much involvement should there be by the state or by the government, and to what degree should we be involved, how much should be encouragement and how much should be encouraging capital to do it, Canadian or otherwise.

PREMIER MOORES: We have to talk about the validity or otherwise of a central distributing port so that the under-utilized plants can be fed supplies to keep operational in the most efficient manner. We have to talk about strategically located cold storages and freezing facilities. We have to talk about is it worthwhile for us to go ahead with the Crown Corporation as a co-ordinator for catching, processing or marketing. There are many, many areas which have to be debated and many decisions that will have to be made. All in all, Sir, it is probably the greatest challenge because the result will be greater than anything we have done in this House.

There are many other issues to debate, Sir. Small business is something that we believe in. The Leader of the Opposition mentioned that we have not opened up many businesses. No, Sir, we have not opened up many oil refineries, we have not opened up many Linerboard mills, we have not opened up any businesses of that ilk. We do not even have a tannery yet, although that may be a good idea after listening to the member for LaPoile this morning - it has validity. But the fact is, Sir, that there has been some 2,000 small businesses opened, people who can help themselves to get established. And even I suggest, Sir, - no, I will not suggest it; the reaction across the floor would not be worth it, Sir. But the fact is that small businesses are the backbone of any economy irrespective of what anyone says. Sir, in closing I want to say just one thing and once again I think I talk for all members of the house. Anything we do in this Province or any decisions we make whilst we are talking about the benefit for our people, and whilst we are talking about what can be the most good for us, we have to bear in mind one thing first and foremost and that is the quality of life of our people and something I suggest that most people in this country do not have, they do not have the same traditions, they do not have the same lifestyle, they do not have the same heritage.

PREMIER MOORES: I think we can learn a great deal from the traditions and values of the past as we try to make our decisions for the future. I think an example of that was yesterday, and I know I speak for every person in the House, when those who were on the waterfront, those who have witnessed it - I think seeing the men go to the seal hunt with all the adversity they have had, not of their own making, seeing those boats going through the narrows yesterday, I know certainly I can speak personally, Sir, I stood a little taller being a Newfoundlander. And on behalf of the House I would like right now to wish the sealing fleet and the men aboard, wish them well and a bumper trip.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the Province we have is a special place. I think many times all of us in this Hon. House forget our obligations and our responsibilities, just how great they are when one considers the everyday life of our people are affected by our actions here. I look forward, Sir, to constructive debate. I would ask all members of the House to always put our Province first and our partisan politics and personalities second. And I mean that, Mr. Speaker.

In closing, I would like to once again congratulate the various people who spoke today and particularly to welcome the new Leader of the Opposition.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: It has been moved and seconded that an address of thanks be presented to His Honour in reply to the gracious speech with which he has been pleased to open the present session of the legislature and that a select committee be appointed to draft such an Address in Reply.

Is the House ready for the question?

MR. SPEAKER: Those in favour "Aye", Contrary "Nay",
Carried.

The members of the select committee to draft the Address in Reply will be the hon. member for Ferryland (Mr. Power), the hon. member for Naskaupi (Mr. Goudia), and the hon. member for St. Joan's West (Dr. Kitchen).

NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolutions:

WHEREAS the Labrador portion of our Province contains vast hydro-electrical resources together with an immense treasure house of other natural resources;

AND WHEREAS at a recent National Convention of the Liberal Party, from which the Federal Government of Canada is now formed, there was unanimous support for a resolution, presented by the Newfoundland and Labrador delegation, advancing the idea of developing and processing within Labrador of its hydro energy and other natural resources for the benefit of Labrador and the rest of the Province, rather than exporting the hydro power and other resources as raw materials for the use of industries elsewhere;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House urges the Provincial Government to commence immediate negotiations with the Federal Government designed to bring about the bold, creative economic strategy of developing and processing within Labrador its natural resources and raw materials; this strategy to include:

(a) Developing Labrador's hydro resources primarily as a source of power for the industrial development of the Province, particularly Labrador, and for the Province's domestic and commercial use, with any surplus power being made available to other Provinces of Canada on a short-term, recallable basis only;

MR. W.N. ROWE: (b) Developing a fully-serviced, fully-fledged port - Port Labrador - on the Labrador coast, and constructing a railway and road from Port Labrador to Happy Valley-Goose Bay, on to Labrador City - Wabush and on to central Canada;

(c) Processing within Labrador of Labrador raw materials, including minerals, fish, forests, and offshore oil and gas as discovered in commercial quantities;

(d) Assurances that these developments will proceed only after full consideration of methods to protect the environment and after full consultation with the various peoples living in all parts of Labrador.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Harbour Grace.

MR. H. D. YOUNG: I give notice that on tomorrow I will ask leave to introduce the following motion:

WHEREAS the Nordsee Company of West Germany has applied to the Foreign Investment Review Agency of the Federal Government for permission to acquire a 51 per cent interest in Ocean Harvesters Limited in Harbour Grace;

AND WHEREAS the proposed association of Nordsee with Ocean Harvesters under conditions suggested by the Government of this Province will result in a large number of additional full time jobs, increased harvesting and processing technology and significant long term benefits for the entire Province;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House support the proposal of the Nordsee Company to purchase the 51 per cent interest in Ocean Harvesters Limited subject to the conditions set down by the Government of this Province and communicated to the Foreign Investment Review Agency and this Honourable House further support the application of Ocean Harvesters Limited to the Government of Canada for five deep-sea trawler fishing licences necessary for the implementation of the Nordsee-Ocean Harvesters proposal.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. S.A. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the growing number of unemployed in our Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has been totally ignored by this House over the past five years; and

WHEREAS individual Members of the House have publicly deplored the status of our province as the perennial leader in the rate of unemployment across the Nation; and

WHEREAS the latest data available on unemployment show the worst figure yet; and

WHEREAS lay-offs and prospective lay-offs in various parts of Newfoundland and Labrador indicate even worse prospects for the future;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Mr. Speaker, that this House of Assembly in session treat as a number one priority debate on the whole matter of employment and unemployment records of this province, with a view to producing a plan for joint Federal-Provincial co-operation aimed at creating employment for our people on long term projects that will lend some real stability to all Newfoundlanders, and especially, to the young men and women who comprise over 50 per cent of our jobless. Let the emphasis, Mr. Speaker, be on employment assurance rather than Unemployment Insurance.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. John's North.

MR. J.A. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS electrical costs have escalated rapidly in recent years, casting an intolerable burden upon the people of this province,

AND WHEREAS indications suggest that efforts will be made to raise electrical rates further,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this House indicate its deep concern about the level of electrical rates and inquire into measures which may be taken to ease and alleviate this heavy burden cast upon this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trinity-Bay de Verde.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on tomorrow I wish to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the two hundred mile economic fishing zone has been established in Canada;

MR. F. B. ROWE: AND WHEREAS there is a need for compatability amongst the small boat -- inshore fishery, the longliner -- near shore fishery, and the dragger and trawler -- offshore fishery;

AND WHEREAS some fish plants suffer glut situations at certain times and slack situations at other times;

AND WHEREAS there is fish plant over-capacity in some locations and fish plant under-capacity in other locations;

AND WHEREAS there is a need for improved catching capacity, processing procedures, and marketing methods;

AND WHEREAS the Hamilton Banks is the spawning ground for cod fish and if over fished would be detrimental to the inshore, near shore, and offshore fisheries;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador supports the concept of foreign ownership and control of at least one fish plant, namely the Ocean Harvesters -- Nordsee merger;

AND WHEREAS a number of foreign countries have a surplus of trawlers and processing facilities because of the implementation of the two hundred mile limit;

AND WHEREAS there is pressure from foreign countries who want to fish within our two hundred mile limit;

AND WHEREAS there is an indication of available Canadian capital for investment in our fisheries;

AND WHEREAS the fishery represents one of our last remaining renewable resources in this Province;

AND WHEREAS the proper development of the fishery is of primary importance to the economy of this Province;

AND WHEREAS there is no educational program at the elementary and secondary levels educating our youth as to the advantages of the fishery and promoting the fishery;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House directs the Government to co-operate with the Government of Canada to:

- (a) Define a clear policy and strategy in order to maintain and improve the inshore, near shore and offshore fishery to the maximum benefit of all.
- (b) To take all necessary action to utilize existing under-utilized fish

MR. F. B. ROWE: plants to their maximum, and establish additional fish plants in any areas with inadequate facilities.

(c) To take all necessary measures to improve catching capacity, processing procedures and marketing methods.

(d) To take all necessary steps to halt over fishing of the Hamilton Banks.

(e) To halt the concept of foreign ownership or control over any aspect of our fishery.

(f) To take all necessary steps to attract Provincial and Canadian investment in our fishery.

(g) To take all necessary steps to attract Foreign investment but not foreign ownership and control.

(h) To institute educational programs promoting the advantages of and the importance of the fishing industry and the fishery to the economy of our Province.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House reaffirm its commitment to the principle that the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador should be the world capital of the fishery and that we should be the masters of our own destiny in all matters pertaining to the fishery.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for Naskaupi.

MR. J. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

Whereas the House of Assembly Act 1974 established new electoral boundaries within the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador:

And Whereas experience has demonstrated the new district boundaries of Labrador are unwieldy in terms of representation by the elected representatives;

Be It Therefore Resolved that the hon. House of Assembly indicate to Government that consideration be given to introducing an Amendment to the House of Assembly Act (1974) to establish a broader and more equitable representation in Labrador.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for Baie Verte-White Bay.

MR. T. RIDEOUT: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

Whereas Occupational Health and Safety is the concern of every worker in this Province;

And Whereas it is recognized that many thousands of workers in this Province work in environments that are potentially hazardous to health;

Be It Therefore Resolved

- a) That this House urges the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to immediately constitute an Occupational Health and Safety Authority within the Department of Labour and Manpower;
- b) That this Occupational Health and Safety Authority assume total responsibility for the health and safety of workers;
- c) That existing legislation and all agencies related to worker health and safety be consolidated under this Occupational Health and Safety Authority;
- d) That the government, in structuring this new Occupational Health and Safety Authority, at the same time set by statute

- (i) strict new standards of operation to apply to all work-places in this Province,

(ii) Threshold Limit Values that reflect medically acceptable tolerance levels, and

(iii) ensure that all such regulations will be constantly reviewed in light of new information and technology.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. John's South.

DR. J. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on tomorrow I will beg leave to introduce the following relatively short resolution:

WHEREAS the present C.N. Dockyard was conceived and developed as a major industrial venture by the people of Newfoundland over 50 years ago; and

WHEREAS the Dock has continued ever since to be the largest employer of the industrial work-force in Eastern Newfoundland; and

WHEREAS changing economic and developmental circumstances since the mid-1960's have placed the future of the Dock in serious jeopardy with

most serious consequences for employment in the St. John's area,

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly urge the Government of this Province to indicate to the Federal Government the urgency of up-grading facilities at the C. N. Dockyard primarily by the acquisition of a syncrolift in the immediate future.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. John's West.

MR. H. KITCHEN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS some senior citizens and chronic invalids including diabetics, have monthly bills for medically prescribed drugs of \$50.00 to \$100.00 and up;

AND WHEREAS such persons living on old age pensions trying to maintain a home are often forced to choose between drugs and other necessities such as food and heat;

AND WHEREAS existing social welfare legislation and regulations are, on this point, inadequate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House direct the Government to introduce a program to ensure that no senior citizen or chronic invalid be deprived through lack of funds of necessary medically prescribed drugs.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Placentia.

MR. W. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution;

WHEREAS the Canadian and foreign fishing trawlers are encroaching on some of the fishing grounds used by the inshore fishermen thereby causing the inshore fishery great harm;

AND WHEREAS a Federal-Provincial - Industry Advisory Committee has been established by the Federal Minister of Fisheries to examine this matter and report to the Minister;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the Federal Minister of Fisheries to quickly convene this Advisory Committee to examine the need for "buffer zones" in various areas of the Province;

AND THAT this House urge the Committee to quickly make a report on the establishment of such "buffer zones";

AND THAT this House urge the Federal Minister of Fisheries to take all such measures to establish such "buffer zones" as appropriate in order to protect the inshore fishing grounds throughout the Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow introduce the following resolution;

WHEREAS there is a need for a clear statement as to what are acceptable levels of elementary and secondary education in this Province:

AND WHEREAS many students in this Province now face loss of programs because of teacher layoffs;

AND WHEREAS in a time of restraint in government spending it is all the more critical to know what our priorities are, and what our directions must be;

BE IT RESOLVED that a select committee of the House be appointed to recommend a definite policy as to the overall goals for education in the Province and to determine what constitutes acceptable levels of schooling in Newfoundland and Labrador.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for the Bay of Islands.

MR. L. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that

MR. WOODROW: I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS many parts of our Province have experienced severe damage from flooding over the past few months;

AND WHEREAS individuals who are not receiving social assistance have no recourse from Government regarding financial compensation for personal losses in such emergency circumstances;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House urge Government to establish a policy to help alleviate the financial burden resulting from unexpected and costly damage to property resulting from storms and flooding.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the House of Assembly represents the people: its business is the Province's business; and one of its prime responsibilities is to inform the people;

WHEREAS elected representatives face a situation where critics assert that the House of Assembly is archaic and remote from the people;

WHEREAS there is a general agreement that increased public exposure would enable the House of Assembly to extend its influence and prestige; at a time when the complaint is so frequently heard that the powers of government are becoming increasingly concentrated in the hands of the executive;

WHEREAS the House of Commons and several Provincial Legislatures have successfully introduced live radio and television coverage of their debates;

MR. WHITE: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED
that this House approve the radio and television
broadcasting of its proceedings and of the proceedings
of its Committees on the basis of principles similar
to those that govern the publication of the printed
official reports of debates; and

That a special committee
be appointed to supervise implementation of this
resolution, and in particular:

(1) to examine the existing
cost and technical studies of building, equipment,
personnel and other requirements consequent upon the
introduction of radio and television broadcasting of
the House of Assembly and its committees;

(2) to examine the possible
effect of broadcasting on the rights and immunities
of members of the House and the rights and protections
due to the public; and

(3) to consider whether a
period of trial broadcasting, or the broadcasting of
special proceedings and debates of the House, would
assist in the development of permanent facilities and
procedures; and

That the committee be
authorized to issue such reports on the above as will,
in its opinion, facilitate the implementation of this
resolution.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Mount
Pearl.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I give notice
that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the
following resolution:

WHEREAS the Government of
Canada has attempted to create employment through the

MR. N. WINDSOR: funding of the Canada Works and Young Canada Works Programme; AND WHEREAS projects undertaken under these programmes have provided a less than optimum return for the funds expended;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House request the Government of Canada to redefine these programmes to provide a means whereby the identification and administration of these programmes will be in concert with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and that emphasis will be placed on projects which will provide for the greatest long-term benefits to this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has in its employ the largest block of employees in the Province; AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government should assume a leadership role in providing good labour-management relations; AND WHEREAS effective labour-management relations are severely inhibited because of impending labour legislation; BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Provincial Government improve considerably public service bargaining and labour-management relations ensuring that mechanisms are established to allow timely discussion, negotiation, and if necessary, mediation before contracts expire; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Provincial Government establish a consultation body drawn from labour, the

MR. LUSH: business community, the public and the government in a determined effort to bring labour and management together on an industry-wide basis in order to discuss labour problems and with a realistic view towards improving, modifying and initiating more favourable and more progressive labour legislation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. MCNEIL: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on tomorrow I ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Bay St. George area of this Province is suffering extreme economic hardship because of the closure of Labrador Linerboard Limited; and

WHEREAS unemployment is at an all time high in this area; and

WHEREAS skilled workers are leaving Bay St. George to find jobs outside the Province resulting in a serious loss to Newfoundland and Labrador; and

WHEREAS the closing of Labrador Linerboard has cost the government a great deal more than originally announced by government (resulting in a greater cost to the government and its people;)

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that a Select Committee of the House be set up immediately to ascertain all the facts surrounding the Mill operations and the efforts of the government for the re-opening of the Stephenville Mill.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Come By Chance area of this Province is suffering extreme economic hardship because of the closure of the Come By Chance Oil Refinery; and

WHEREAS unemployment is at an all time high in this area; and

WHEREAS skilled workers are leaving this area of our Province to find jobs outside the Province resulting in a great loss to the Province; and

WHEREAS the closure of the Come By Chance Refinery has left the government and the taxpayers of this Province holding the bag for some forty (40) million dollars;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that a Select Committee of the House be set up immediately to ascertain all the facts pertaining to the Come

MR. CALLAN:

By Chance operation and the efforts of the government to get the Come By Chance Refinery re-opened and re-activated.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. George's.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. MCISAAC: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a motion;

WHEREAS there is no firm policy for Agricultural Development in the Province; and

WHEREAS the agriculture industry does not at the present time make a large contribution to the overall provincial economy; and

WHEREAS the agriculture industry is making a very significant contribution to areas of this Province where farming is viable; and

WHEREAS agriculture in this Province is lacking technology, sadly neglected, and overshadowed by the Forestry Division of the Department of Forestry and Agriculture; and

WHEREAS there is need for a government controlled purchasing and marketing agency for agricultural products, to offset the unfair marketing competition that our farmers are now subject to;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Department of Agriculture set up a firm agricultural policy to stimulate agricultural production in Newfoundland, not only for our present generation of farmers, but for generations to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a government controlled marketing agency be established for the protection of farmers against unfair competition from outside agencies, and to allow, and encourage future expansion of this industry in areas that are contributing to the economy of our Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further Notices of Motions?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Finance.

MR. HICEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills:

A bill, "An Act Respecting The Execution Of Releases Of Mortgage By Persons Who Are Not Resident In The Province."

A bill, "An Act Respecting The Holding Of Property In The Province By The Newfoundland And Labrador Command And Branches Of The Royal Canadian Legion."

A bill, "An Act To Empower The St. John's Municipal Council To Raise A Loan For Municipal Purposes By The Issue Of Bonds."

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Provincial Court Act To Make Use Of The Services Of Retired Magistrates."

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Companies Act."

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Commissioners For Oaths Act."

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Industrial Standards Act."

A bill, "An Act To Authorize The Input Upon Certain Mineral Holdings In The Province."

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs and the Environment.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting Unfair And Unconscionable Trade Practices."

MR. NEARY: What about the trouble up in Paradise?

MR. MURPHY: And also the member for LaPoile afterwards if he wants to cover that.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister for Municipal Affairs.

MR. DINN:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The St. John's Housing Corporation Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I move that the remaining Orders of the Day do stand deferred and that this House on its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, at three of the clock, and that this House now stand adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: Before putting the motion, I would remind hon. members that there is a reception in the foyer of the Confederation Building to which they and their guests are invited.

It has been moved and seconded that this House now adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday at 3:00 P.M. Those in favour, "Aye". Those contrary, "Nay". Carried.

This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 3:00 P.M.