

PRELIMINARY

UNEDITED

TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOR THE PERIOD:

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1980

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please.

On behalf of hon. members I would like to welcome to the Gallery today a representative from the Community Council of Makkovik, Councillor James Anderson from the district of Torngat Mountains.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Justice.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I am sure all members of the hon. House will join me in expressions of condolences on the recent death of Fire Chief Cecil Sooley and indeed I would move, Mr. Speaker, that you communicate to the widow and family of the late Fire Chief the condolences of the House. As hon. members may be aware, the late Fire Chief joined the St. John's Fire Department in 1938 and rose through the ranks to finally become Chief of the force and indeed served in the force for over forty years and I know that all hon. members will wish to join me in requesting Your Honour to write the widow and family of the late Fire Chief to express our condolences on his passing and our appreciation of his service to the city and the Province.

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

MR. D. JAMIESON: Mr. Speaker, we on this side are happy to be associated with this motion and if it is the appropriate thing to do, I would be more than happy to second it.

MR. SPEAKER: You have heard the motion. Those in favor, aye. Contrary, nay. Carried. I would like to also welcome to the galleries on behalf of hon. members, the Town Manager from the town of Stephenville, Mr. John Warren.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier and it has to do with the continuing saga of the fish war that this Province has declared on the rest of Canada. The Minister of Fisheries (J. Morgan) now has said he does not have time to meet with his counterpart in Nova Scotia to discuss the philosophy, the policy of the Newfoundland government and, as a result, the fishermen in my own district of LaPoile, along the Southwest coast, and on the Burin Peninsula are very concerned that if they go over off Nova Scotia one of these days the guns may be pulled out. Would the hon. the Premier indicate to the House if he will instruct his Minister of Fisheries, if he can spare a half an hour off the television or off the radio stations, to meet with his counterpart, the Minister of Fisheries over in Nova Scotia, to discuss this matter to see if they can straighten it out to the mutual satisfaction of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I know that the hon. member for LaPoile (S. Neary) is afraid of the Minister of Fisheries, but I am sure he is quite capable of answering the question.

MR. S. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, obviously the hon. gentleman is in the same mood as the Minister of Justice (G. Ottenheimer) yesterday when he -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. S. NEARY: - when he was caught napping. I am asking the hon. gentleman in view of the serious nature of this problem that this Province has stirred up by declaring war on the other provinces of Canada, would the hon. gentleman think that it would be wise and diplomatic and tactful for him to ask his Minister of

MR. S. NEARY:

Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) to meet with his counterpart from Nova Scotia to discuss this matter before the situation deteriorates to the extent that nobody will be talking and the next thing the guns will be out?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated that the Minister of Fisheries can answer that question quite capably. And I do not see any problem that the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) supposedly preceives in this whole matter.

MR. S. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I am asking the hon. gentleman if he would ask his Minister of Fisheries because, after all, the hon. gentleman appoints members to the Cabinet. The minister has refused, the Minister of Fisheries has stated publicly that he does not have time -

MR. W. MARSHALL: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

A point of order, the hon.

President of the Council.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member in the first place is not asking a question, he is making a speech. In the other case, he quite obviously, from the few words that he is uttering, indicating that he is multiplying with a very slight variation a question already answered, which is contrary to the rules and parliamentary procedures as set forth in Beauchesne.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): With respect to the point of order, unless hon. members wish to speak to it, I will quote for the benefit of hon. members Standing Order 31 (c) which says, "In putting any oral questions, no argument or opinion is to be offered nor any facts stated except so far as may be necessary to explain same". I will ask the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) to direct his question.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I do not know how I can get at this because this is a very serious matter, very urgent. It is an urgent matter of public importance where the fishermen of this Province are concerned. Those who go over to Sydney Bight, over off the Nova Scotian coast, are wondering, Mr. Speaker, if they are going to be shot at if they go over there in view of the fish war that has been -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

But does the hon. member have a question? If he does, he should direct it.

MR. S. NEARY: I want to find out from the hon. the Premier if the government of this Province will agree to meet a representative of the Government of Nova Scotia to discuss this matter before further deterioration sets in?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated that the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) is quite capable of answering that question. And therefore if the hon. member for LaPoile wants to ask the question to the Minister of Fisheries, I am sure he is willing, prepared and capable of answering.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Leader of the
Opposition.

MR. D. JAMIESON: Mr. Speaker, I have a question
for the Premier which, I think, he might deem to be
within his responsibilities to answer. Would the Premier,
given the seriousness of this situation, consider instituting
talks with his counterpart, namely the Premier of Nova Scotia,
who must be as equally concerned as we are over some of the
utterances of his Minister of Fisheries, to find out at the
very least whether Mr. Cameron, the Minister of Fisheries,
is

MR. JAMIESON: stating government policy in Nova Scotia or whether in fact he has the backing of the Premier of that province?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. As a matter of fact the last two or three weeks I have spoken to the Premier of Nova Scotia on a number of occasions about the problems and issues that we have in common both as members of Confederation and as sister provinces, especially as it relates to the fishery. In recent days, and in the last week and a half or two weeks, I have not spoken to Premier Buchanan but obviously after consultation with the Minister of Fisheries for this Province, I would only be too happy to pursue the matter with the Premier of Nova Scotia.

MR. JAMIESON: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. JAMIESON: Given the way in which the Premier on other issues has indicated that, following standard procedure, he opens up conversations at the First Minister level and then assigns his ministers to do it, would he assign his Minister of Fisheries to talk to the Minister of Fisheries of Nova Scotia as a result of his conversations with the Premier of Nova Scotia?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I have no intention at all to do by the backdoor what I was not prepared to do by the frontdoor.

MR. JAMIESON: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. JAMIESON: I am afraid I am not quite sure that I can understand the answer the Premier gave. What I am saying to him seems to me to be perfectly in order with what he has himself described as the procedure, namely that he would talk to the Premier of Nova Scotia, one of whose ministers has made certain comments which at the very least can be described as being of concern, and if he says, "Yes, we think we should

MR. JAMIESON: get together on this, "then would the Premier not feel it was the appropriate thing for the Ministers of Fisheries of both provinces, perhaps indeed of all four Atlantic Provinces, to have a conversation on this subject?"

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: It is very hypothetical, Mr. Speaker, and I will wait and see just exactly what happens in talks that I have with the Premier of Nova Scotia, and talks that I have with the Minister of Fisheries, and then we will play it from there. But I am not going to prejudge the situation and set up certain hypothetical presuppositions which might therefore dictate some way that I want to go in the future. But obviously we will look at it and we will take a look at the seriousness of the situation, the gravity of the situation and play it from there. We are not going to make any statements based upon some hypothetical reasoning that the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Jamieson) might want to enter into.

MR. JAMIESON: It is not hypothetical, it is in the papers.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. Mary's-The Capes.

MR. HANCOCK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In the absence of the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett), I would like to address my question to the Premier. In view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that we are now headed into the 1980 construction season, would the Premier inform this House as to when we can expect contracts to be let for road construction or reconstruction and paving this season? And does the minister have a list yet prepared of what and where road construction will take place this year?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, we are in the final throes of putting that together. I would not like to put a time frame on it, but very, very shortly we will be in a position to indicate the projects that we will be undertaking in this present construction season.

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MR. HANCOCK:

A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

A supplementary, the hon. member for St. Mary's-The Capes.

MR. HANCOCK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When will letters or telegrams be sent out to town councils informing them that water and sewerage programmes will be starting in their communities this season?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Windsor) is present and therefore he can answer that question.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, we are presently again in the final stages of completing the programme for this year and within the next week, hopefully, councils will be notified.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett), I have a question for the Premier. It is in relationship to the St. Brendan's ferry service, a run that is being done by a boat that has long since outlived its usefulness in terms of its capacity to provide safe and comfortable and efficient service. The question to the Premier is I am wondering if he is aware of any representation or any correspondence that has been made to his government, namely the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett) in recent days concerning the St. Brendan's ferry service and if so if he is aware of what action has been taken re. this correspondence or whatever?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of a number of ferry operations in the Province which are having difficulties, not the least of which is the Fogo Island system, the Bell Island system, and systems in my own constituency. As the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett) has made public on a number of occasions, both in this House and outside, there is a study underway right now to try to rationalize the whole ferry system. I have on a number of occasions spoken to, I think it was the operator of the ferry service dealing with the St. Brendan's area, and I have seen some correspondence, but what we are trying to do is to deal with the whole ferry system in the Province on a provincial basis and not

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PREMIER PECKFORD:

just try to plug the hole in the dyke

in one particular area.

MR. LUSH:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

A supplementary. The hon. member for

Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, the residents of St.

Brendan's, the law-abiding citizens of St. Brendan's, the industrious and

hard-working people of St. Brendan's were forced yesterday to take a

drastic move because of government neglect in the sense that their

regular ferry service was to go in for dry dock , go in for repairs

and its annual refitting, and the backup ferry service was the one

that was going to provide far less adequate service than the present

ferry service, if that is possible. So the people occupied the ferry

to demonstrate to their government their concern over this matter in

not wanting this particular ferry to go on the service. My question to

the Premier is, what action is the government taking with respect to

providing adequate backup ferry services to those islands when

their regular ferry service has to go on dry dock for its annual

refitting?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

That is one of the problems now,

Mr. Speaker, that is being addressed by the committee that is established

to look at the whole ferry service system in the Province. One of the

great problems is that in the Spring or Fall or Summer, or whenever it

happens to be a particular primary ferry boat has to go on dry dock,

thereby bringing into service a less adequate, inferior

PREMIER PECKFORD: transportation mode to be used while the primary ship or ferry boat is on dry dock, it is a very difficult problem because you are talking about a large expense of money to have available a pool of back-up ferries that can provide a decent service while the primary ferry is being refitted as it has to under the CSI and other regulations that are operative. So we are looking at and trying to rationalize the whole ferry system in the Province provincially, and not just pick out St. Brendan's or Greenspond, or pick out Fogo or Bell Island, or pick out St. Barbe and across the Straits, or pick out Little Bay Islands and St. Patricks and the Bonne Bay service. We are trying to do it and rationalize the whole system and try to have a pool together. So we are working on the problem. It is not an easy one to solve. We are going to try to solve it. We have experts now trying to give recommendations to government as to how best to solve it. We are quite aware of the problem and we will try to do all we can to solve it.

MR. T. LUSH: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Terra Nova.

MR. T. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, the problem is temporarily solved at this moment. I mentioned that the ferry was to come in and to just go for two weeks while the regular ferry was in for annual refit and the reason that people objected in the main was that it could not carry cars. But I have said that the problem is partially solved because today, when the inspector came out from the CSI, he turned the boat down for carrying of passengers as well. But the point of the matter is that at least it is only temporary.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. T. LUSH: My question to the Premier is would the Premier undertake to see that this matter is looked into immediately and, in so doing, can he also allude to how these boats are inspected, the fact that a boat can come to an area to be okayed to carry passengers, an inspector takes a look at it and turns it down on the spot when it was supposed to go on the run today?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated that we are aware, as the hon. member well knows, of incidents of this sort that are now happening on the St. Brendan's service. They are happening all over the Province. The people in the Department of Transportation and Communications are in daily contact when these kinds of problems come up. So the government is aware of what is happening right now in the St. Brendan's system, there is no question about that. The whole question of CSI, as the hon. member knows just as well as I do - or if he does not, he should know - and I would ask him to get involved in knowing that the CSI people are very, very strict as to what is available. I have gone through the process myself on a number of occasions as it relates to the ferry system in my own area. If the hon. member is implying that for some strange reason the Government of Newfoundland has sent a boat out which looks to be okay and then suddenly is turned down - how come we would send it out knowing that it was going to be turned down? - if the hon. member knows anything about the CSI, sometimes they will turn a boat down just because you do not have a particular light on the right side of the wheelhouse. You know, it gets fairly technical and rather petty on occasions. And I have known that to happen. So that is how that kind of incident can occur even though there might have been some implicit

PREMIER PECKFORD:

blessing in the provincial government's sending the ferry out in the first instance. That becomes far more complex and a matter of really detail and not principle and therefore, one, that is not really one that can be answered in this kind of question and answer period that we have here in the House of Assembly today. Let me just go on record as reassuring the hon. member that we are doing all that we can to ensure that all the ferry systems in the Province are being handled in the most adequate manner possible to give the best service to the people of those places especially those people who are served who live on islands.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms)

The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Education (Ms. L. Verge). I understood the minister the other day to say that the rationale for putting the \$300,000 for French instruction into general revenue was the fact that other provinces in Canada do the same thing, that we would be following a trend which has been set across Canada. Are these words that I have just said correct, or do indeed all of the other provinces or some of the other provinces put these French funds into general revenue?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MS. L. VERGE:

Mr. Speaker, that is an accurate description of what I said as one of the factors taken into consideration by this government in arriving at its plans where for next year's bilingual programmes in our schools. Apparently most if not all of the other provinces in the past have put the grants from Secretary of State for bilingual programmes into their general revenue fund and at any rate have only ended up using a fraction of those grants for bilingual programmes. And, of course, for most of the other provinces, particularly Quebec and Ontario, the amounts involved are much, much larger because they are given out on a per capita basis and because of this past practice it seems that the federal government will be withdrawing from this kind of formula funding.

MR. J. HODDER:

Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Supplementary, the hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER: Yes, in response to the minister's answer, which I thought would be her answer, I checked with Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and a number of the provinces. Prince Edward Island has one account and -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. J. HODDER: - if they do not spend all of the money in one year they spend it -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HODDER: This is the preamble, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member is probably getting into the area of debate and if he has a supplementary he should put it.

MR. J. HODDER: Does the minister realize that in the Province of Ontario, if the money is not spent in one year on French education it is kept over for the next year? That in Nova Scotia there is a special account that goes directly to the school boards? Does the minister realize that in New Brunswick the money goes into general revenue but much more of it is spent on the French because they have French schools and much more than the allotted amount is spent on French? That British Columbia has a special account -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. J. HODDER: - does the minister realize now - I will get to my question, Mr. Speaker - that the majority of provinces in Canada are spending their money correctly and, my question to the minister, who is advising her in this case and does not this sort of explode the rationale for which she has withdrawn the money from the teaching of French in school?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Minister of Education.

MS. L. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, this Province in the past and for next year will be spending much more money on bilingual programs, on the teaching of French than we get from the Federal Government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MS. L. VERGE: The bulk of the cost of French instruction in our schools in the form of salaries for regular French teachers, in the form of -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh !

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MS. L. VERGE: - basic learning materials is financed directly by the Province. All that we were talking about in recent days is the grants from Secretary of State which are designed by the Federal Government for special extra programs ranging from exchange trips for students from this Province and students from French speaking areas of the country to field trips on weekends for high school students to visit St. Pierre and Miquelon, to extra learning materials, films and posters. All we are talking about that has ever been paid for by the Federal Government in this Province are these special programs, and my information from my officials who are involved in arranging these programs through the Council of Education Ministers on a national basis, is that some of the other provinces have not used these special grants for the special programs for which they are intended by the Federal Government; they are used in other areas of education or other government programs.

MR. J. HODDER: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, the hon. the Member for Port au Port, followed by the hon. the member for Torngat Mountains.

MR. J. HODDER: I might say that what I am talking about too is the special grants for special things such as the multi-media,

MR. J. HODDER:

and I

would also say in asking the question that the other provinces of Canada do use this special money for special projects whether they go into general revenue or not. But I would ask the minister another specific question. I understand now that one of the big programs, where teachers from all across the Province went to Stephenville for a month of intensive French training each Summer, that although this will go ahead this coming Summer, officials in her department have told me that they plan to close it next Summer. Would the minister comment on that, please?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MS. L. VERGE:

Mr. Speaker, I will repeat again that my information is that several of the other provinces have not been using the special formula grants from Secretary of State for the kind of special bilingual programs for which they have been intended. As for French training in Stephenville, to my knowledge that has not been paid for out of the formula grants. Now, -

MR. HODDER:

The French schools in Stephenville (inaudible).

MS. L. VERGE:

No, Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, any French school in Stephenville has not been funded out of these same formula grants from Secretary of State that we are talking about.

MR. HODDER:

What about the special schools for French teachers ?

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please.

MS. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the member for Torn-gat Mountains.

MR. G. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Health (Mr. House). On March 28th. it was announced in the Budget that there would be an emergency air ambulance programme for this Province. Could the minister advise when that emergency air ambulance programme will become effective?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. W. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I think this is two or three times I have answered that question in the House. The answer is still the same, as soon as it gets through the system and through the various government committees it will be announced. And I have advised people via the media of that and I have also told the hon. member in the House and on other occasions that I cannot say when it will be in effect. It is in process now and as soon as we get that through the system it will be announced.

MR. G. WARREN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for Torn-gat Mountains.

MR. G. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, I find it ironic that the minister - this is the third time I have asked him the question and the third time I got the same answer. So probably I will get the same answer if I ask him in October. I am surprised that it does take forty-five days for such a Programme.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!
The hon. member is debating. He should ask his question.

MR. G. WARREN: My supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is that whereas it takes forty-five days for this programme to come through the system and trying to get a flag through the system in eight days, I am just wondering if the hon. minister could advise the House if the programme will be in effect this year?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. S. NEARY: Give us a straight answer, now.

MR. W. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, one of the things I thank him for he said I gave the same answer three times. I am a very consistent person -

MR. G. WARREN: Sure you are!

MR. W. HOUSE: - and I am very accurate. I am not going to - Mr. Speaker, we announced in the Budget that there would be a programme, I would assume it will be in effect this year, but I have to wait for it to get through the system to give a definite answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Burin - Placentia West.

MR. D. HOLLETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the hon. the Premier in his capacity as Premier and also Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Premier in relation to the debate which was held in this House concerning the fisheries and the stand that we have taken as Newfoundlanders and Canadians that we should be able to catch and process the TAC annually, if he and his administration still support the synchrolift for St. John's?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: I do not understand the preamble, but I think that the hon. member's question - outside of his preamble - we have consistently supported the synchrolift and see that as not being disadvantageous to the stand as it relates to the fishery. So therefore the question is linked both to what the Province's position is on fisheries

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PREMIER PECKFORD: matters and somehow that is incompatible with our stand on the synchrolift. And so that therefore if that is implicit in the question, I would reject that kind of inconsistency.

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): The hon. member for a supplementary.

MR. HOLLETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I ask is because I understand the agreement between CN and Industry, Trade and Commerce, the whole concept of the synchrolift for St. John's is based on a very large Russian fishing fleet within our 200 mile limit and immediately adjoining. And I can only assume that if the present administration supports the synchrolift here, they also support this large Russian fishing fleet fishing within our 200 mile limit.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Inside.

MR. HOLLETT: Inside.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member is very - you know, his preamble is very erroneous. We support the synchrolift on the basis that they can attract business to them. That business, as we understand it, is not within the 200 mile limit or in the areas that we are arguing for jurisdiction, arguing for control, arguing for access, so that, therefore, there is no inconsistency in it at all as far as we can tell the situation.

There are a number of companies from around the world that are fishing within their rights and have nothing to do with our particular, specific stand on the fishery.

MR. SPEAKER: A new question, the hon. the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries as it relates to the Fisheries Loan Board and eligibility regulations therein.

Would the minister indicate what regulations are being used to process applications for fisheries loans through the Fisheries Loan Board, the applications that were sent in before May 9, and that were considered by the Fisheries Loan Board before May 9, whether it was the old regulations or the

MR. F.B. ROWE: new regulations encompassed in his Ministerial Statement on May 9?

MR. LUSH: Or were there any regulations at all.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Minister of Fisheries.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, in reply to that question, the Cabinet approved the regulations a few days before they were made known to the House of Assembly and the Loan Board's operations were guided by the new regulations effective of the approval by the provincial Cabinet. That means all applications processed from that date - I think it was the 5th. of May. It was announced in the House the 9th. of May, I think it was, last week and the 5th. of May it was approved by Cabinet - so effective from the day it was approved by the Provincial Cabinet, these regulations went back to the Loan Board and the Loan Board was then asked to be guided in accordance with the new regulations. Therefore, all applications since that date going before the Board, are now being dealt with under the new regulations and new guidelines.

MR. F.B. ROWE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that I understand there are approximately 1,000 applications still to be processed by the Fisheries Loan Board, what in effect is happening is that quite a number of fishermen have made applications based on the old regulations, whatever they were, and, therefore, are being eliminated outright now because some of them have not, in fact, had seventy-five per cent of their total earnings in the last two years in the fisheries and they had not necessarily been completely involved in the fisheries for the past couple of years, I was wondering if the minister would give some special considerations to these hundreds, well, upwards to 1,000

MR. F. ROWE: applications that went in to the Fisheries Loan Board, presumably on the basis and assuming that the old regulations were going to be used, will special consideration be given to these fishermen who made these applications prior to May 9th. and the 5th., when the regulation was passed by Cabinet, will special consideration be given to these applications and these fishermen who sent in their application prior to that date based upon really the old rules?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. MORGAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman mentioned in his preamble to the question that there was some 1,000 applications; That is no longer correct. That was information I gave the House back the early part of March.

MR. F. ROWE: I got it from your official this morning.

MR. MORGAN: And since that time the applications have been going through the Loan Board at the rate of - I do not know the exact number at the last meeting, but the Loan Board have been meeting on a regular basis, almost every week since that time, processing as many as possible of the applications with the new funds allocated in this year's budget.

As to going outside the regulations, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the House, as I assured the House when I announced the regulations, these regulations are firm. They are firm guidelines and we intend to make sure that the Board operates within these guidelines. Now if there are fishermen or people who made application before the guidelines became law, I guess you could call it, before they were approved by Cabinet, the regulations, the fishermen who applied before that time if they could not qualify now, they should not have qualified then.

MR. F. ROWE: Oh, no!

MR. MORGAN: Because what we are saying is any person who fished for the last two fishing seasons in their own respective areas of the Province, and who have earned at least seventy-five per cent of their

MR. MORGAN: income from the harvesting sector, can qualify for a loan. Anybody outside of that will not qualify until they get at least two years in the fishery, from your crewmen or sharemen or owning their own boat, cannot qualify for assistance. So if we start bending the regulations for one category of fishermen, you have to bend them for them all. And I have always said, Mr. Chairman, my policy will be not to make chaulk of one and cheese of another. The guidelines will be firm, made known to all fishermen, and the Board will operate within these guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please! The time for Oral Questions has expired.

I would like to welcome to the galleries on behalf of hon. members the Chairman of the Council from the town of Grand Le Pierre, Mr. George Fizzard, from the district of Fortune-Hermitage.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. J. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I have a number of motions.
Perhaps I can give them all at the one standing.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow move that this House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions related to the raising of loans by the Province.

I give notice that I will on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions relating to the Loan and Guarantee Act (1957).

I give notice that I will on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions related to the Local Authority Guarantee Act (1957).

I give notice that I will on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions for granting of Supplementary Supply to Her Majesty.

I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act Respecting An Increase Of Certain Pensions."

I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act To Amend Financial Administration Act (1973)."

MR. SPEAKER: Further notices?

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: In the absence of the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. L. Barry), Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act To Incorporate The Newfoundland And Labrador Petroleum Corporation."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the answer to question number thirty-four, appearing on the Order Paper number thirty-nine of Monday, May 12, 1980 in the name of the hon. the member for Eagle River (Mr. E. Hiscock).

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the member for St. Mary's - The Capes.

MR. D. HANCOCK: Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition on behalf of the 180 students of Dunne Memorial High School in the community of St. Mary's in my district.

This petition is in response to a letter or a poll that I sent out to the students just after the flag came in. I tried to get their opinion of what exactly they thought of the flag, being the younger generation coming up.

The petition is accompanied by a letter which says, "In response to your letter, you will find enclosed a petition with the signatures of 180 high school teachers and students from Dunne Memorial High School firmly" - and they have it underlined - "firmly rejecting the proposed new flag. We, as a group, hope you will present this petition in the House of Assembly."

The poll was on 180 students in the school; 88 per cent of the students rejected the new design for the flag.

The prayer of the petition is: "We, the undersigned, as students and teachers of Dunne Memorial High School, St. Mary's, strongly believe that Newfoundland should have its own unique flag. However, we do not and cannot support the present flag designed by Mr. Christopher Pratt as the flag for Newfoundland, even though we do compliment Mr. Pratt for his originality. We think the flag should display some form or design which is uniquely Newfoundland's. The only thing we like about the flag are the colours red, white and blue."

Mr. Speaker, I have to support this petition because I firmly believe from the response I got last night when I went home and the number of calls I have had and the petitions and letters that are coming in, that everybody in my district is against the flag.

MR. D. HANCOCK: I think, Sir, we, as elected members of any district around this Province, should listen to what the people in our districts have to say.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. D. HANCOCK: I think the government, rather than try to rush this through the House of Assembly, should go back to the people and find out exactly what they want.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please! The hon. member is debating the petition and that is not permitted.

MR. D. HANCOCK: That is about all I have to say, Mr. Speaker. I ask that the petition be laid on the table of the House. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition so ably presented by my colleague, the member for St. Mary's - The Capes (Mr. D. Hancock) on behalf of a large number of his constituents who are deady opposed to the design of the new provincial flag.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have heard argument from the other side of the House that this flag would grow on you, that the young people in this Province approved of the new flag, but here is concrete evidence, Mr. Speaker, that the young people do not approve of that design. And this is typical of the reaction throughout the whole Province. I would say, if the people of this Province, young and old, middle-aged, alike were polled today, the Premier and the government would discover that 98 per cent or 99 per cent of the citizens of this Province, young and old, are opposed to the design of this flag. What is happening, Mr. Speaker, is that the Premier and the government are defying the people. I have in front of me another telegram - this is the second telegram that I have received from my own district of LaPoile. It says, "On behalf of all members of Channel, Branch 11 -

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR.SPEAKER (Simms): On a point of order. The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: The hon. gentleman is already into debate. The item before the House is a petition from the students of St. Mary's and not with respect to people from LaPoile. He is obviously transgressing into the areas of debate. The Standing Order quite clearly says that a petition is not to be debated, you are to confine yourself to remarks relating to the petition itself.

MR.SPEAKER: With respect to the point or order, I would quote Standing Order 92 for the benefit of the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary). "Every member offering a petition" therefore anybody speaking to it,of course, "shall confine himself to the statement of the parties from whom it comes, the number of signatures attached to it and the material allegations it contains." In this particular case, I think the hon. member was beginning to drift into the area of debate. I would ask him to confine himself to the area.

MR. NEARY: I apologize to the Chair, Mr. Speaker, but I do again want to reiterate what I said,that the House, especially the Premier and members on the opposite side of the House,should take note that the petitioners in this case are young Newfoundlanders, they are students in a high school in St. Mary's, the future adults of this Province, the future generation and , Mr. Speaker, these petitions, these protests, these objections to this monstrosity that the Premier is trying to force down the throats of this Province,are just pouring in. Wherever you go today, Mr. Speaker, you go to the shopping mall, go down to the Avalon Mall, and people stop you; if you go to church on Sunday morning,people will stop you.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! The hon. member is again beginning to drift away from the petition.

MR. NEARY: Well, wherever you go young people, like the children that signed that petition, are against this design and when, Mr. Speaker, I ask the government, the Premier especially, when are they going to stop defying the people of this Province?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Any further petitions?

The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK: I rise, Mr. Speaker, to present a petition on behalf of the residents of Forteau, Labrador. This is regarding the transportation of children by way of school bus to the school and is directed to the Minister of Education (Ms Verge). Basically the prayer of the petition asks that these children enjoy the same right as children in other parts of the Province, the right to receive busing if you live more than a mile from the school. Whereas now the bus does not go beyond the stage in Forteau, because the Department of Transportation has said that it is not suitable for the bus to travel over this road, we now have to pay \$12 per month extra over and above our school fees. The contract ended up with the school board and the school board ended up giving the contract to this bus company. The bus company contacted the Department of Transportation, which said that the road was not suitable for busing. As a result, this company basically refused to do any further busing and the school board revoked the contract, but the Department of Education overruled the school board and gave the contract back to this contractor. As a result the people in that area had to go and get a private bus from another company, over and above, pay school tax and end up having to pay \$12 extra over and above what they are paying normally. So I would like to present this petition on behalf of these people and hopefully this problem will be rectified and the money will be given back to these people who have had to spend it unnecessarily.

MR. WARREN: Who overruled the school board?

MR. HISCOCK: The Department of Education.

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AH-3

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Further petitions? The hon. member

for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER:

I did not want to present a petition,

I just wanted to add a few words to the petition from the member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock).

MR. SPEAKER:

Certainly.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, this is a strange situation indeed where the school board contracts with a school bus driver and then the school bus driver is told by the Department of Transportation and Communications not to drive over a certain road, the school board then withdraws the fellow's contract and then the residents of the area have to pay \$12, pay out of their own pockets to get their children to school. Now, Mr. Speaker, it draws attention to a couple of things. One, I suppose it shows the kind of liaison that the Department of Education has with the school boards in this Province, but more important it points out the conditions, how bad the conditions of the roads in that particular area. Now, I would say, Mr. Speaker, that if I were a parent

MR. J. HODDER: in Forteau, I would be demanding from the government that they pay me all back monies which had to be expended to get their children to school. But, Mr. Speaker, more important than that, I think if we look at school busing in this Province, the students who have to travel over unpaved roads, and there are many areas in the Province where they have to travel twelve to fifteen miles each day back and forth to school, Mr. Speaker, we have asked the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. C. Brett) to come up with some priorities in this Province on roads and I believe, Mr. Speaker, that if there are priorities, if we ever do get around to prioritizing what roads should be reconstructed and paved first, I think this should be one of the prime conditions, the areas where school children are bused for long distances.

But, Mr. Speaker, this to me, if I hear my hon. colleague from Eagle River (Mr. E. Hiscock), seems to be an untenable situation where the Department of Education would reinstate the bus driver who will not drive over those roads, and now the children are exposed to the same type of damage. So, Mr. Speaker, I suppose the onus is not only on the Minister of Education (Ms. L. Verge) but on the Minister of Transportation and Communications, and I would urge both of those hon. ministers to look into this problem as quickly as possible to try to reach a solution for the people of Forteau.

MR. G. FLIGHT: Hear, hear! Let us hear the minister.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. L. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, I accept the petition on behalf of the government and the Department of Education. My officials are aware of this problem and I will be working on it.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms)

Motion 4.

The hon. the member for Bay of Islands.

MR. L. WOODROW:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to have some words to say on the motion presented by my hon. colleague from Stephenville (Mr. F. Stagg) and may I say that I would rather see the caribou herd in the Bay of Islands increase so we would have more stags and less budworms out there.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. L. WOODROW:

Mr. Speaker, representing a district where the general population is so heavily dependent on the forest industry for direct and indirect employment, the spruce budworm infestation has been the cause of real concern. With budworm infestation now in Central and Eastern regions, the problem is certainly a growing provincial issue affecting thousands of acres of forests with the threat of severe losses to the pulp and paper industry. The spruce budworm, Mr. Speaker, has inhabited the softwood forests of Eastern Canada for many years. Its range stretches across the whole boreal forest region, North to the sixty-seventh parallel and in the subalpine and Montagnais forest of the West. Just, Mr. Speaker, coming closer to home and let us say to the district of the Bay of Islands, I would like to say that in 1978 I travelled by helicopter with some of our own colleagues and also some colleagues from the Opposition over the Western part of the Province from Corner Brook, around Serpentine Lake, on out to Stephenville and at that particular time it was frightening to see the devastation that the spruce budworm had caused. And with my hon. colleagues from Humber West (Mr. R. Baird) and from Humber East (Mr. L. Verge) early in January we attended a meeting at the Bowater offices in Corner Brook and they outlined to us in no

MR. WOODROW: monitoring spruce budworm spray programme carried out by the Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment stated, "On the basis of results from medium term one year post spray monitoring of environment impact of spraying with matcail, there is no evidence of major disruption of terrestrial ecosystems attributable to spraying."

The report went on to say that there is however potential concern raised in the study. "There were lower rates of production of juvenile birds in sprayed areas relative to unsprayed. However, this may be due indirectly to spraying to reduce levels of budworm that are otherwise used by the birds as food. Further monitoring is necessary to determine whether this discrepancy is due to spraying or due merely to inherent differences along the sites themselves."

"The study concluded that -

MR. NEARY: Not allowed to read.

MR. WOODROW: The results of - it is of such importance that it is dangerous, I would say, to speak off the cuff. I suppose the hon. member always does. I do not know what he is saying half the time.

AN HON. MEMBER: What? What? What?

MR. WOODROW: "The study concluded that the results of environmental studies up to one year post spraying do not indicate significant negative impact on any of the biotic communities studied. From an environmental standpoint therefore we cannot put forward any reasonable argument against the continued use of matacil

MR. WOODROW: as a short-term management strategy provided that both short-term and adequate long-term environmental monitoring is carried out."

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible) long-term.

MR. WOODROW: Well, we would say to the hon. gentleman that perhaps that is one of the reasons why we would have the royal commission set up; we are trying to study every angle of it. And perhaps it may never, you know.

"Similarly there appears to be no reason to consider the use of Bt environmentally harmful." We must keep in mind, however, Mr. Speaker, that this is only one side of a very involved and complicated problem. There still remains a very critical question as to the long-term accumulative effects of these chemicals and the possible detrimental effects on the human population of prolonged chemical spraying.

Indeed, we have witnessed the continued stream of briefs and reports from medical, environmental, industrial, biological and governmental officials, each presenting a particular point of view on the methods of controlling the spruce budworm infestation. So in view of all these, Mr. Speaker, I feel that the government certainly made the right decision not to go jump in head first and continue to spray this year.

Despite this involvement, we still lack sufficient research and information on chemical spray programmes and the general public and, indeed, the forestry officials, continue to assess the success and possible effects of forest pesticides.

Evidence from a long-term spray programme in New Brunswick seems to indicate that the budworm has not depleted and has, in fact, become more prevalent over a wider area. And I believe the State of

MR. WOODROW: Maine has also experienced similar frustrations. I understand that over the past quarter century spraying has been going on in New Brunswick and they have not killed the budworm completely, they have only controlled it.

Given these various experiences regarding the effectiveness of a chemical spray programme, and the controversy from a number of groups on the possible known and unknown hazards from long-term chemical use, I certainly congratulate the government on its decision to establish a royal commission to fully examine and analyze the present situation.

I welcome and support the establishment of a royal commission as it will provide up-to-date information and recommendations aimed at developing long-term initiatives for a productive forest industry in a number of areas, including the viability of an extended chemical spray programme.

While we have, Mr. Speaker, the responsibility to protect our forests from the spruce budworm infestation, we, along with the federal government and the forest industry also have a responsibility to develop sound forest management techniques to maintain and improve forest productivity. Greater emphasis must be placed on salvage operations, stand conversion, bogland forestation, continued forest inventory and pre-chemical thinning if we are to have a stable and healthy forest resource.

Mr. Speaker, the challenge posed by the spruce budworm infestation is indeed a serious one. We must, however, examine fully all details, environmental and medical, before making a definitive decision on whether or not to carry out a full-scale chemical spray programme.

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, to conclude my remarks I would like to congratulate -

AN HON. MEMBER: (inaudible) sit down.

MR. WOODROW: That shows the interest the hon. member has. That is the hon. member who really spoke so much,

MR. L. WOODROW: raised his hands and his arms and now he does not want to hear the facts.

MR. S. NEARY: Why do you not go back to the Our Father.

MR. L. WOODROW: He has been here rambling and roaring about Price and everything else -

MR. G. FLIGHT: 1978 spray programme (inaudible)

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please!

MR. L. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, the past has gone. Let us forget it, the past has gone. That is what is wrong, you are living in the past. Well, then let us forget the past and look to the future. I would like to conclude my brief remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate my colleague for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) for his very responsible motion. In fact, he is really always bringing up something of interest and something with substance in the House, wherever he is, which I endorse and support without equivocation.

I look forward to meaningful recommendations for the future protection of our forest resources at the conclusion of the Royal Commission findings. So, Mr. Speaker, it is nice to know that this administration is proceeding, not with emotion, not really from the heart but from the head, really thinking out every programme that they come up with. And I feel sure that when this Royal Commission has been established, it is established, really but when it has done its work it will certainly be very beneficial to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and we will be able to continue our three great paper mills, two on the West Coast and one in Grand Falls. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): The hon. member for Bonavista North.

MR. L. STIRLING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to congratulate the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) for bringing in this resolution and, as he said in his opening comments, 'The government has set up the Royal Commission'.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I represent the great and historic district of Bonavista North, a district that has been severely hit by forest fire and last year was hit again by forest fire and definitely needs the attention of the government. Now, let us look at the question that we are really dealing with. The question we are really dealing with is how has this government, which has been in power for the last eight years - they have put in a different captain, a different leader but many of the same people are in the Cabinet. And in the Throne Speech this year we talked in terms of the accountability, the desire of the government to become accountable for their actions, the desire of the government to be counted. And what do we have here in this whole question of the spruce budworm and the impact on the forest? When did the government set up the Royal Commission? Was it seven years ago when they first found out that they had a problem, when there was a serious problem affecting the forest - 1972 or 1973 or 1975 or 1977 or 1978? How many reports did they have? What were the recommendations of their officials?

Mr. Speaker, if it were parliamentary to say that this House has been misled I would be inclined to use that expression, but since it is not parliamentary to use it and I would be ruled out of order if I used it, I therefore would not use the expression. And if I

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MR. L. STIRLING: had other colleagues who could
find a better way of saying it, we would try to find a way
to say that the people of Newfoundland, certainly those
living in St. John's and on the Avalon Peninsula, the

MR. L. STIRLING: people who have year-round jobs not dependant directly on the forests, have absolutely no idea, they do not have the foggiest notion that there are parts of Newfoundland in Western and Central Newfoundland and moving towards this part of Newfoundland where we have as much as eighty to ninety per cent of the forests dead. It is dead not because of the forest fires that everybody can see but it is dead because of the damage done by the spruce budworm.

When the minister was in committee, we asked him what was the effect, what was the affect of this one year delay, because this government decided to spray. My colleague from Windsor-Buchans (G. Flight) has already brought up these points many times. This government - different captain, different leader, essentially the same cabinet-were into a spray program. They have been advised by every forestry official, they have been advised by their senior people to go ahead with a spray program this year, that the Province was in deperate straits and the previous minister, by the admission of the present minister was ready to proceed with a spray program when it was suddenly stopped.

MR. F. WHITE: So was the (inaudible)

MR. STIRLING: It was stopped suddenly, maybe using a ploy that the Minister of Justice (G. Ottenheimer) referred to. You remember when my colleague from Grand Bank (L. Thoms) asked for a Royal Commission into justice in this Province, the Minister of Justice said, "Oh, no, you do not set up a Royal Commission on something as broad as that. You set up a Royal Commission-many times Royal Commissions have been set up to get rid of a problem, to delay taking action, to defuse a problem, and maybe that is what this was all about. Maybe that is what this was all about.

The minister, in committee, would not, under questioning again and again and again, would not tell us what the

MR. L. STIRLING: effect was of the delay in the spray program this year, would not tell us what the delay was. He said, "Well, it is available if you want to look it up." Well, it is available by a study done for his department and the minister provided me with a copy. What he did not want to say in committee is what is said in that report, that this one year delay- now, they do not have a solution to the problem, they just delayed the problem for a year,- and this one year delay will have the effect, in one year, of destroying a six to eight year supply of wood. The minister would not answer that question in the committee. He used in committee an answer that "oh, thirty years down the road instead of being twenty-eight per cent we will be thirty-two per cent deficient.

But he would not face up and answer directly the question, and it relates to the question that the Premier put to this House when we first met, that this government wants to become accountable. Well, this government has been in force, has been in power for eight years- different heads, different people- and the time to set up the Royal Commission was eight years ago. The time to have the responsibility for what are they going to do about the management, when are they going to do something about the problem? There are not, obviously, easy answers but it is no good just burying your head in the sand and going on and on and on pretending the problem is going to go away.

The member for Bay of Islands (L. Woodrow) just gave us some factual information based on some visits that he made - he almost was my colleague. He was the first declared Liberal in 1975 and then he went to the next.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. L. STIRLING:

But he provided us with some good information,

MR. L. STIRLING: solid information, based on the fact that he went to the people - the new enemy, the new enemy that the government now has. You remember that the minister mentioned and the previous minister, we will not be forced by the paper companies. They have a new villain, somebody else to fight with, somebody else to set up another confrontation with, that the hundreds of employees from the Bay of Islands and Humber West and Stephenville and Grand Falls and Buchans, all of the people who are dependent on the woods industry, the minister treats those as if they are the villains again. They are trying to mislead the people of Newfoundland. All of the employees, all of the union workers, all the woods

MR. L. STIRLING:

workers, all the loggers, they are all the villains, a new group to fight with - not to accomplish very much, just to fight with.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell this House about one specific problem, and if every member had this problem in his district, he might be aware of the very desperate situation that this Province is in as a result of mismanagement. The desperate problem is the close down of a sawmill in the Gambo area. And in the committee meeting, I complimented the minister for the co-operation of his officials. They all worked very hard in trying to get that mill reactivated. But do you know why it could not be reactivated, those 100 jobs that could have been provided? Do you know why it could not be reactivated from public and private funds? It is because when it got right down to it, when there were hundreds of thousands of dollars of federal money or private money to be put into that mill, when it got right down to it, the Department of Forestry, the officials, had to say, 'As a result of our latest estimates, 80 per cent to 90 per cent of that wood is dead - killed by the spruce budworm,' and that there is not a six to eight years supply of wood that can be guaranteed without going to Bowaters and asking for the timber rights thirty or forty miles away. And the conclusion was that that mill could not be reactivated, not because of money, not because of management - although it got into trouble in the first place because of management - but it could not be reactivated because there was not a wood supply that could last.

I do not know if the Premier is aware of it.

I do not know if the message has gotten through from the officials through the various ministers, but there are many areas in Newfoundland today - and it is somewhat like the fisheries situation, it is somewhat like the situation in the fisheries where it was going to be the new answer. All the economic problems, all the employment problems of the Province, all of those problems, the answer over the last eight or nine years was the fishery. Thank God, we got the 200 mile limit. And everybody was encouraged to go into the fishery to the point where there was a flood of applications,

MR. L. STIRLING: millions of dollars worth of applications - a thousand, as I understand it. The regulations now have been changed so that most of that thousand will not qualify - but an unreal expectation built up. People really thought that there was going to be a great future for them in the fisheries. And now the rules have been changed so that in fact the Fisheries Loan Board has said, 'Unless you have already been established in the fisheries for two or three years there is no money for you.' That information could have been given three years, five years ago. There is nothing new that has not been predicted by the scientists.

And in the logging industry and the sawmill industry, people have been given loans. They are going into debt head over heels. I was talking to two people who are up over their heads, but they really have no other choice. And they have not been told the truth. The truth is that in many of the areas there is a very limited supply of wood - three years, five years, six years. Some of these sawmill operations have not been told the full story. And the people who are living on the Avalon and the people who are employed in this building and the people who have jobs, regardless of what the government does - one of the real problems that we have in many places in Newfoundland is that everything that the government does in forestry and fishery, social services, everything that the government does, has an immediate effect. Whereas here in St. John's because there is no mill, there are no forests, they cannot see the absolute desperate straits, and it is because they are not aware of the problem, the absolute desperate problem.

Now, this government have said, 'Give us more responsibility. We want more responsibility.' The Premier threw up his hands the other day and said, 'Give us more! Give us more!' And the responsibility he wants in the offshore is, 'Give us the same rights as what we have over the trees.'

MR. STIRLING: Is there anybody living near the woods in Newfoundland who is happy with what this government has done with the trees? Is there anybody? Can you find one person out there of all the loggers and the logger unions and the companies and the company employees, is there anybody out there who says, "Yes, we would be quite happy to turn over the fisheries, to turn over the offshore to this government, to have them do exactly to those industries what they have done to the forest industry." Is there anybody out there who is really excited about the forest programme? And you cannot blame the officials because the officials have been trying to get the attention of the politicians for years. This government has made a political decision in order to get into a royal commission.

Now what is the royal commission going to recommend? The royal commission is either going to recommend to spray, or they will recommend not to spray. Now what is the government going to do about it? Where in its management programme of our forests, which is the resolution which we are debating, where in its entire management programme has there been any consistency, any believability? Where has the government set out - now we are asking this royal commission to look into this and I believe at the insistence of my colleague from Windsor-Buchans (Mr. Flight) that they expanded the terms of reference so that they now get off the very specific area of spruce budworm, to the whole forest area.

Mr. Speaker, in this whole question of the use of our land, the use of our forests, the education of our children, the provision of opportunity, young people cannot see any plan that the government has. We are going to see a five year plan. I do not know if the five year plan is going to start after the royal commission, and if that is the next step. Royal commissions in everything and then five year plans following the royal commissions. In an area related to the forestry, in an area in - we are so close - in an area, for example, like my area, Bonavista North, we have possibly the best fishing, the best hunting, the best potential use of land, but it is under no control. We asked for a provincial park to be set up there. The report comes in from

MR. STIRLING: Tourism, and the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Power) says, "That is not my responsibility." The report comes in from Tourism that says, "We cannot get a nickel, we cannot get a nickel to spend on parks. We cannot get a nickel to spend on the expansion of the park." Newfoundlanders all over the Province have bought trailers, and bought tents, the high cost of gas—they do not want to go off the Island, there is nowhere they can go. And last year there was some thought of saying, "You cannot use any of the gravel pits," going to force them off the road.

There is a lack, a complete lack of a coherent overall policy of the use of our forests, of the management of what we now have, of the preservation. The statistics in this last report, the report is available, absolutely frightening statistics. In just one year, in one year, Mr. Speaker, and I am not sure that all members of the House are aware of this, or that the government is aware of it, in one year, 1979, the dead and dying wood in 1979 increased by seventy-one per cent. Seventy-one per cent is not a minor, little increase. Four or five years down the road, Mr. Speaker -

MR. HANCOCK: The forests are gone, boy.

MR. STIRLING: - four or five years down the road it will be the next national disgrace, the next Newfie problem. And it is going to be a desperate situation.

But here is a government, and we challenge them on the basis of what they said which is, "We want to be accountable." Take this government and show us what this government has done over the last eight years. They are proud of their record, proud of what they have done with the offshore regulations. Well, let us see what they are so proud of about something over which they did have control, the lands and the forests.

MR. HANCOCK: The past eleven months (inaudible).

MR. STIRLING: My colleague says in eleven months, name one thing that they have done. I do not want to be that specific. I want to talk about it in the context of their total management programme. Because

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MR. STIRLING: you are not going to be able to save
the forests, Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY: That is the whole problem.

MR. STIRLING: - when the royal commission brings in
its report a year, two years down the road.

MR. STIRLING: We have an environmental bill. We are now talking about the offshore and right now, Mr. Speaker, is when we should have a royal commission looking into the problems of the offshore. We cannot even get a select committee to look into the problems of the offshore.

There was a pipeline investigation on the West coast that took three years to complete. All of the information that has been brought to our attention now indicates that in three years they are going to be pumping oil out there and at that stage, maybe, we will then appoint a royal commission, when it is too late.

MR. NEARY: He wants his own flag.

MR. STIRLING: It sounds too good.

MR. NEARY: He is too busy trying to get his own flag.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY: King 'Brian' and his Knights.

MR. SPEAKER(Butt): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, we are going to hold this government accountable. In keeping with what they brought out in the Throne Speech, we do intend to let the people of Newfoundland know what this government is doing or not doing or has not done in the past. But it is no good hiding away behind the skirts of a royal commission. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: M'. Speaker, I would like to have a few words to say on this very important resolution that has been placed on the Order Paper by the hon. the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg), a very appropriate geographic location as it relates to the forest industry and the expansion that is happening over there right now.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Let me first say, Mr. Speaker, I am - I should say, I suppose, I am shocked and surprised and startled and astounded, but I am not really, on second reflection, on the speaker who just preceded me in this debate because it seems as if in the last year or so - ten or eleven months - that the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) has realized that there is some place and some activity outside the overpass which hitherto he was not aware of until he went to Bonavista North, not being able to get elected in Mount Scio district -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and that he has suddenly found out that there are trees in the Province that warrant some kind of economic future for the Province.

And to go further than that, Mr. Speaker, the comments that the hon. member for Bonavista North made, as they relate to the forest industry, shows he knows absolutely nothing about the forest industry. The hon. member is - he is not at zero, he is at about minus 10 when it comes to knowing anything about the forest industry. I would welcome the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, of taking the hon. the member for Bonavista North with me some week and coming out with me and visiting with a woods contractor and a number of sawmill operators, not only in Green Bay district but in the whole Central Newfoundland area, and showing him a little bit about what happens in the forest industry. He never even scratched the surface when it came to talking about it, and when he tried to indicate that he had some knowledge related to the sawmill at Gambo, he once again showed that he had a tiny bit of information, about three or four pieces of information out of ten, which left him pretty abysmal.

And I am not criticizing him,

PREMIER PECKFORD: we all do not have knowledge in ever single field, but I would just say to the hon. member that it is one thing to acknowledge that he does not have the knowledge and it is another thing to say that he then become opinionated and wants to give all the answers to the forest industry in Newfoundland.

Let me remind the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) that it was in 1974 when the management plan was instituted for the first time in the history of this Province as it relates to the forest industry.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: There was legislation passed. But it is only since 1974. Mr. Speaker, I would love to be heard in silence.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: I listened to the hon. member for Bonavista North in silence and I would ask him to do me the same courtesy.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. the Premier wishes to be heard in silence.

PREMIER PECKFORD: In 1974, that was after 1949, that was after 1950, that was after 1955, that was after 1960, 1965, 1970, that was after about twenty-three years of Liberal administration in this Province, after Liberal years, when they had all this time to put in place these great management plans, and it took a P.C. administration in 1974 to actually implement that kind of legislation, that kind of management programme.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: And now, Mr. Speaker, for the first time in the history of the forest industry of this Province the companies have to submit management plans for their various management units.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Who set up the management units,
Mr. Speaker? It was the government who set them up and
said to the companies, 'In future you must submit to us -
before you are able to harvest or have any future
harvesting techniques placed on this management area
you must submit to us a plan

PREMIER PECKFORD: for the future of what you intend, what the total allowable cut will be, how you intend to keep this particular forest block into production forever - infinity. That happened since 1974 and to this date now we have just about all the management plans and units in place where management plans must now be submitted to the government, and these are inspected and scrutinized and then are put into place.

So when we talk about the management,
Mr. Speaker,

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible). it means nothing.

PREMIER PECKFORD: I want to be heard in silence because I have a few things that I want to say and I would like to say them without any interruption. So could I have the protection of the Chair, please?

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please! The hon. the Premier wishes to be heard in silence. This is becoming a continuing problem here in the House, the level of debate is being lowered and every member has that -

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is lowering it?

MR. J. HODDER: It is the Speaker's fault if the level of debate is lowered

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! I consider this a very serious matter and I can assure you that I will not mind taking drastic measures if I have to on either side.

The hon. the Premier.

MR. L. STIRLING: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. member for Bonavista North.

MR. L. STIRLING: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the give and take across the floor has been asked for by the kind of provocative remarks that the Premier made in his opening comment, and he encourages you by suggesting something that you just can not sit in your seat about. And when the thing gets too hot and heavy - it is alright for the colleagues when we are speaking - and, Mr. Speaker, I had numerous interruptions and did not complain; it may not have been from the Premier but from some of his colleagues. But when it gets too hot and heavy it is they who say

MR. L. STIRLING: "Well, we want to be heard in silence."

I have no objection either way, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to suggest to the Speaker that it is a two-way street.

PREMIER PECKFORD: To the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): To the point of order, the hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The hon. member for Bonavista North (Mr. L. Stirling) knowledge of the rules equals only his lack of knowledge in the forest industry.

AN HON. MEMBER: There he goes again.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The whole question is, Mr. Speaker, there is no point of order. If the hon. the member for Bonavista North does not like the heat, will he please get out of the kitchen?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! To the point of order, I would rule there is no point of order. But I would like to point out when an hon. member is speaking, if he does not ask for the protection of the Chair then the Chair allows a degree of tit-for-tat back and forth. However, when a member, such as the hon. the Premier now, or the hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. F. Rowe) yesterday, ask for the protection of the Chair, then I consider it my responsibility to do that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. S. NEARY: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Premier has been speaking now on a resolution dealing with a Royal Commission to be established to examine the effects of a chemical spray programme, called matacil, to control the spruce budworm. The hon. the Premier, Mr. Speaker, has not made one reference, not a reference so far, in his speech to the resolution. I would submit to Your Honour that the hon. the Premier is completely out of order, irrelevant and that Your Honour should enforce

MR. S. NEARY: the rules of this House and see to it that the speakers speak to the resolution which has to do with the spray programme and a Royal Commission and not with the overall forest policy of this government.

PREMIER PECKFORD: To the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): To the point of order, the hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out to the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. S. Neary) if he cares to look at page 4 of today's House of Assembly, Newfoundland, Wednesday, May 14th, 1980, Orders of the Day, over into the Motion section, page 4 if the hon. member for LaPoile will follow me, there is "Mr. Stagg (Stepherville) - To Move: WHEREAS the health of the forest and the people of this Province is of concern to the Government; AND WHEREAS serious questions have been raised as to the danger of human health of chemical spray programs to control the spruce budworm; AND WHEREAS sufficient research and public debate has not taken place with regard to the resolution of this critical issue; BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House supports the establishment by the Government of a Royal Commission to analyse and make recommendations as to the course of action to follow in the protection of our forest industry - ." We are talking about, Mr. Speaker, the forest industry and one of the components in this resolution, only one, has to deal with the chemical spray. I am talking about the forest industry, how it can be managed and in the course of my remarks, if I am allowed to continue, will get into the forest spray programme as it relates to chemical spray but I will point out that in the preamble to the resolution it talks about the forest industry in general as has all the members of the House of Assembly to now have been dealing with and not just specifically with one chemical or another.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please! To the point of order I would like to read 299, page 98 of Beauchesne which states that "Relevancy is not easy to define. In borderline cases the member should be given the benefit of the doubt." In this particular case I would say that there is possibly a borderline case but certainly the hon. the Premier should be given the benefit of the doubt.

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the forest industry and how it can be managed. This is what the hon. member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) was talking about. I am pursuing the debate the way in which the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) pursued it and I wish to continue on that score. Now, what I was saying, Mr. Speaker, is that when talking about chemical spraying, when talking about protecting the forests we have to put in place to have that protection a management plan and in concert with what the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) has said, it has only been since 1974 that a determined, organized, legislative onslaught - if you want to use that word, or regime has been put in place to try to manage the trees of this Province. Before that time it was not there. May I also say to the hon. member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling), while I am at it, that he is off on a very strange and weird tangent and I hope he is not speaking for all the members on the other side of the House when he talks about the forest industry and then talks about the offshore. Because it just so happens, Mr. Speaker, that we do not have ownership of the trees in this Province and in Labrador the way we are asking for, and therefore, no control, in the same way as we are looking for it now on the offshore. That is the problem. The hon. member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) should remember that it is because of Liberal policies which dictated concessions being given away to large companies over one hundred and one hundred and twenty years that the best trees of the Province are not under our control, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and that we had to bring in special legislation to make it so.

MR. NEARY: A point of order.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): To the point of order. The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: I do not think this time, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. gentleman is borderline. The hon. gentleman is completely irrelevant and I have to, in order to substantiate my point of order, read the last part of the resolution that we are debating which states, "Be it therefore resolved that this Honourable House supports the establishment by the government of a Royal Commission to analyze and make recommendations as to the course of action to follow in the protection of our forest industry and the health of our people so far as it relates to measures to be taken to control the spruce budworm." Mr. Speaker, the statements that the hon. gentleman is making are completely irrelevant, have no bearing at all on this resolution and I would submit to the Chair that the Premier is abusing the private member's resolution, abusing the privileges of the House and Your Honour should bring him to task.

PREMIER PECKFORD: I would like to address myself to the point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am trying to compare the way management of the forests could be handled in the same way as we are now -

MR. NEARY: Irrelevant.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - articulating the way management of our offshore can be handled. And this is what we are talking about in the substantive part of the resolution, protection of our forest industry and the health of our people so far as it relates to measures to be taken to control the spruce budworm. If we could manage our forest resources in the same way as we are looking for management over our offshore oil and gas, then we would be able to control the spruce budworm and would not have given away a lot of the trees. And therefore it is extremely relevant and very much in line with the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird) Order, please! To the point of order. There is no point of order. I would like to remind the hon. members

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird)

of Beaufort, number 299.

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you very much. So when we talk about the management of the forest resource, Mr. Speaker, when we talk about the management of the forest resource we have got to understand whether in fact we have constitutionally and legislatively the power so to do. And one of the problems that the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) very aptly pointed out indirectly, in a way to try to service his own ends which turned out to service our ends on this side of the House, is the fact that we do not have the kind of legislative jurisdiction, the kind of legislative authority that we would like to have. The Bowaters company, Price (Nfld), Anglo Newfoundland beforehand, were given large tracks of trees under a concession arrangement back a long time ago, in the 20s and 30s and before that point in time. And what I am saying is that if you really want to manage a resource, what this government is saying, then you must own the resource, you must not concede it to a corporation or to some other body because in so doing, in giving away that kind of legislative competence you are therefore giving away a lot of your right and power to control. And that is what we are saying on the offshore. So that therefore the hon. member is right on, Mr. Speaker,

PREMIER PECKFORD: no question about it, completely on, as long as we have control over the resource. And that is what we are saying on the offshore.

MR. STIRLING: Would the Premier permit a question?

PREMIER PECKFORD: Not right now, Mr. Speaker, because I have been interrupted quite often and I would like to get on with my address.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please! The Premier would like to be heard in silence.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, the main reason that the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Power) and the government have given over the last number of weeks and months, when we made the decision on the spruce budworm, centred around three particular issues, three very important issues. One, the whole question of public input into public policy making, especially public policy making as it relates to a very substantial resource and a very substantial number of people, and the employment opportunities thereby generated or not generated. And we felt, as a government, that we needed a lot more public input into this decision and that led us to two other very important points because, number one, you were not making a decision for a year, and you were not making a decision on a small or very insignificant part of the population or a very insignificant resource, you were making a major policy decision which was going to effect people for a long period of time. Because everybody knows it is not good to chemically spray the forests for one year, you will extend the life of the tree for one year but you must continue on and on and on.

Secondly, the Newfoundland Medical Association said in their recommendations, which I note that nobody has really quoted yet, that in their opinion short-term chemical spraying did not seem to be injurious to human health, Short-term chemical spraying did not seem to be injurious to human health. Well, when you are going into this kind of decision, Mr. Speaker, we are not talking about - we have to look at the worst

PREMIER PECKFORD: case - we are not talking about short-term spraying. It could very well last for five or ten years and what did the Medical Association mean by short-term? Was it one year? Was it two years? Was it even a year and a half? Was it six months? Was it five years? How long was it? They were not willing to clearly and unmistakably come out with a definitive statement, obviously, because the research relating to chemical spraying in the state of Maine, in the state of Oregon, in the state of Washington, in some of the mid-western states where there is some forest industry, and in other places, was not conclusive. And the New Brunswick experience is not a good one, it is first of all alone, by itself, and secondly, they have varied the chemicals and have not used consistently one chemical spray. So it was not.

So I refer hon. members to the fact that even the Medical Association itself of this Province was not clear cut, and couched their words vaguely.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) been spraying (inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: And it was in that context, one that we needed more public input into what was to be quite potentially a long-term policy decision affecting a lot of people. Secondly, we had no conclusive and definitive recommendations from the Newfoundland Medical Association. And thirdly -

AN HON. MEMBER: Resign.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - because of this long-term thing, we wanted to ensure that a decision was one that we were all familiar with and that had the advantage of major public debate through some kind of forum. That forum, of course, was decided to be the royal commission route, to have the royal commission hold hearings in a whole bunch of places around the Province, which they will do, and then bring in recommendations. Because we are not dealing - besides which, Mr. Speaker, as we all understand I am sure, that the answer, albeit we have a spruce budworm problem, we also have

PREMIER PECKFORD: another problem, and that is the larger problem of managing the forest resources of the Province, of any of the natural resources. We had to take, as we had to do in the mineral resources because a Liberal government and a Liberal policy gave away those minerals, we had to bring in special legislation -

MR. STIRLING: Point of order (inaudible).

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and we had to bring in special legislation as it related to the forest resource.

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird) Point of order, the hon. member for Bonavista North.

MR. STIRLING: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible) no reply, you are only arguing with yourself.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, I have been advised that although you are Chairman, you are Speaker today.

On that point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Premier -

MR. TULK: What point of order?

MR. STIRLING: I brought up a point of order, and he is now hearing my point of order.

MR. TULK: Good.

MR. SPEAKER: If you have a point of order, would you state it, please?

MR. STIRLING: The Premier can state any opinions that he wishes, but when he again starts ranging and damning everybody on this side who may not have been here ten years ago or twenty years ago, he is completely out of order and he is misleading in giving this kind of impression to the public which is not true.

PREMIER PECKFORD: To this point of order, Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order, the hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

all I am doing is giving my opinion of the way public policy was handled in the past and the way it is handled now. And I will reiterate that in my point of view the forest resources and the mineral resources of this Province were given away by the Liberal administrations of the day and now we are trying to take them back.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): Order, please!

To the point of order, There is no point of order, there is a difference of opinion between two hon. members. The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And just to clue up then. In summary what we are saying on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, is simply that we want to continue the process of consulting the citizens of this Province when it comes down to major issues of public policy dealing with the resources of this Province. And we will continue to do that -

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and we are being consistent therefore, Mr. Speaker, in doing this because we are doing it on all, a whole wide range of issues and this one is not to be excluded. Secondly, we are very concerned about the health of the citizens of this Province and, therefore, we need more conclusive evidence so that the Medical Association, which represents the medical fraternity in this Province, can give us something more substantial in the way of recommendations rather than that kind of short-term thing. And we need additional information on that. Thirdly, because of the long-term repercussions that this can have upon our people and our society, we believe that this kind of process of a Royal Commission is very, very important.

PREMIER PECKFORD: And we will do this, Mr. Speaker, may I say, on many, many other issues that come up from time to time either through a Select Committee route or through a Royal Commission route as long as there is public hearings involved so that the public of the Province in all the regions which are affected directly and those affected indirectly can have that kind of input. Because it is only in that way that you are going to get a very, very good, high quality kind of decision which can stand the light of day five or six years after its made and not just be a momentary kind of flirtation, always remembering that even when we talk about the chemical spraying, that will not answer all the problems in the forest industry. It is much, much larger and deals with the whole question of managing the resource properly, reforestation, salvaging and the whole issue, some of which, which was brought up by the member for the Bay of Islands (Mr. Woodrow). We will continue to be responsible, consult with the citizenry before bringing in major policy decisions and that is why we are doing it here now, not the least of which is that the Medical Association also are a fraternity which we respect and which we want to have on our side before we make major public pronouncements which are going to affect the lives and health of our people over the long-term.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird): The hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. E. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker, I hope you will permit me also to have as much latitude as you have permitted the speaker before me. When I read this resolution, basically the setting up of the Royal Commission, I could not help but look at number four part of 'Whereas sufficient research and public debate has not taken place with regard to the resolution of this critical matter'.

MR. E. HISCOCK: Here it is now seven years since the present P.C. quasi Liberal association has been in place that we have had seven years, if I may say, Mr. Speaker -

MR. G. WARREN: Seven long years.

MR. E. HISCOCK: - of decision to have this Royal Commission and have debate with forest management and also with harvesting the forest. We are now finding ourselves in a situation because it is a political hot potato and there is no question if we were the government on that side it would be a very hot potato for ourselves too, but it has to be dealt with. And now the new Premier, Premier Peckford is presented with the problem and has to deal with it and because he is riding so high on public opinion what does he do?

AN HON. MEMBER: Half the time he thinks (inaudible)

MR. E. HISCOCK: He turns around and basically ducks any issue that you have to have intestinal fortitude to go and stand up and take a stand that will put his mark in history. What does he do with it? He submits it like all governments in the past and I would assume in the future, to a Royal Commission. But I will ask the question why did this not have a public debate? Why did we not have sufficient research with regard to this problem? Because we knew this problem before 1979 and in 1978. So why is it not done? I find it a little bit ludicrous at times that each time the Premier gets up and gets on an issue that he loves to go back to the old days when the Liberals sold us down the drain with 120 year contracts -

MR. S. NEARY: When he has to jump over seven years of Tory corruption to get to that.

MR. E. HISCOCK: 120 years of contracts and sixty years of contracts. And then he basically says, 'Well, I am going to do this and I am going to do that'. I must say he likes the personal pronoun 'I' quite a lot -

MR. WARREN: Oh, yes.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. I.

MR. WARREN: He want to be silent all the time.

MR. E. HISCOCK: But the question I am going to basically point out in this debate,

MR. E. HISCOCK: if it was not for Liberal policy of bringing in the pulp and paper mills, of bringing in linerboard and being sabotaged, as we may say, by the former Minister of Finance, Mr. John Crosbie, in the Canadian Government, who - which I say, I find it rather ludicrous again that the member who brought in this motion, Mr. Stagg, ended up supporting him in the leadership for the Liberal Party.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. E. HISCOCK: The Premier also supported Mr. Crosbie for the leadership of the Liberal Party. We talk about Liberal policy. It is very, very good for the government to turn around and say all the things about the past Liberal administration, but what they forget is that they are also part and parcel of the Liberal philosophy.

MR. G. WARREN: Right on!

MR. E. HISCOCK: And what they also forget and what has been perpetrated on the people of Newfoundland and Labrador in this Province now is that the only ones who can have a Liberal philosophy are quasi-Conservatives or basically neo-Liberalism or whatever, by the way, and that is that the Premier was a former Liberal. The Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. L. Barry) was President of Dalhousie Liberal Association.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. E. HISCOCK: I believe also, 'Dr. McNicholas' who was going to run for the Liberals in St. John's Centre -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. E. HISCOCK: - figured, Mr. Speaker, that public opinion of him would run -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): Order, please! The Chair is having great difficulty to understand what the gentleman is saying.

MR. E. HISCOCK: - also the Minister of Public Works, 'Mr. Haig Young', a former one. Then -

MR. F. STAGG: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. E. HISCOCK:

Mr. Speaker, if I may say -

MR. SPEAKER (Baird):

Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the member
for Stephenville.

MR. E. HISCOCK:

A point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

I was speaking the other day in this
House on a point of order and the member for Stephenville (Mr. F. Stagg)
would not give me my point of order. So, Mr. Speaker, I rise on that,
that it is a point of privilege and that the member for Stephenville has
no point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Stephenville has
a point of order. We will deal with that first, please.

MR. F. STAGG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

AN HON. MEMBER:

The point of privilege supercedes the
point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. F. STAGG:

Mr. Speaker, a point of privilege has to
have some substance. All I did was say, 'A point of order.' If my raising
a point of order automatically means there has to be a point of privilege
on the part of the other hon. member, it is reducing the rules to absurdity.

Now, my point of order is that the hon.
member is referring to other hon. members by their names - referring to me
by my name, referring to other hon. members by their names. That is not
permissible under the rules of the House. It has also become evident this
afternoon that they are referring to the hon. the Premier by his name. Hon.
members are referred to by their districts in this House, Mr. Speaker, and
that is a tradition that is falling by the wayside. I would suggest that
the Chair might take notice of that and I think it is a legitimate point
of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

To the point of order.

All hon. members in the House, I think, are
aware that we refer to hon. members by their districts and not their names.

The hon. the member for Eagle River
has the floor.

MR. E. HISCOCK: Again, Mr. Speaker, if I may say, being so rudely interrupted, the member for Stephenville says that one should address the hon. members in the House. I believe this basically came from the government side: 'Wanted by a local radio Open Line programme, gossip, rabble-rousers, bigots, ignoramus, maw mouth, oafs, loafers, loud mouth, slieveens, phonies, sluggards, toadys, knaves, bums, rottars, husseys, hags, rogues, liars, thugs, dolts, fools

MR. F. STAGG: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird) A point of order, the hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. E. HISCOCK: mopes, finks, nits, scofflaws, villains and nuts

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. F. STAGG: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has been speaking for some ten minutes or so now and has yet to address himself to the resolution. He is up now reading some sort of triviality into the record. He has nothing to say, Mr. Speaker, This resolution has some substance, it has a considerable amount of substance and some hon. members have been making some good debate on it. This hon. member is only concerned with his decibel level. I think that he should be brought to order.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order. There is no point of order. I would ask the hon. member again to remember paragraph 299 of Beauchesne.

MR. E. HISCOCK: The applicant need have no education qualified whatsoever, knowledge of subject under discussion. Ability

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. E. HISCOCK: to talk at length would be useful. If I may say, Mr. Speaker that again was submitted by the member from Stephenville who turns around and says that we should in this House address each other by the hon. member for so-and-so. So I find it a little bit ludicrous. But as I was saying in regard to this resolution with the Royal Commission again it is shelving the responsibility of this government to take a hard look at our Province and a hard look at the things that need to be done.

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Tape 1544

EC - 4

MR. L. THOMS:
administration of Justice.

(inaudible) Royal Commission into the

MR. E. HISCOCK:
by the member

The management today - basically it was said

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Tape No. 1545

EL - 1

MR. E. HISCOCK: from St. Barbe (T.Bennett) management today keeps people hungry and unemployed while the trees rot on the stem. We import 50 per cent of our building timber and this should come from our own Province. We do need management. Agreed, maybe in the past we never got into that as much but basically, now, we cannot turn around and blame the Liberal administration of the past and skip over seven years and say that they did not have a part in building up the foundation of our present system.

MR. S. NEARY: Hear, hear.

MR. E. HISCOCK: We have now basically on our lots around the Province 15 million cords of dead or dying timber in this Province, 15 million and we only need a million to keep -

MR. L. THOMS: Appoint a royal commission on the administration of Justice. That is what we need.

MR. E. HISCOCK: - our plants going, our pulp and paper mills going. 15-million cords.

MR. L. THOMS: Do not be afraid to (inaudible)

MR. E. HISCOCK: Instead of having the Royal Commission, why is the government not going out and cutting this dead wood and this dying wood, instead we are going and cutting green wood.

MR. L. THOMS: There is no trouble for this government to cut dead wood.

MR. E. HISCOCK: So, I basically ask this question, that we can talk about Royal Commissions but in the meantime we are losing a valuable resource. But I have to go back and because the Premier had such wide latitude in talking about policies of the past administration and with management, I would like to talk about the policies of the present administration. We need the Royal Commission so that we can find out and have proper management. I would say that if we had to depend on this

MR. E. HISCOCK: government for proper management—we do not have it in the Department of Health, of the situations we have seen down in St. Mary's the Capes. Also, our nurses throughout the Province, we do not have proper management in that with our hospital program.

AN HON. MEMBER: Or in Education.

MR. E. HISCOCK: In transportation, we definitely do not have it in transportation. We will see more people going to jail this Summer and picket lines than we have ever seen before.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please. The hon. member might wish to be relevant.

MR. E. HISCOCK: I was only, again, saying to the former Speaker—

MR. S. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. E. HISCOCK: - the Deputy Speaker that I had hoped to get the range that the Premier had by saying that he was pointing out the policies of the fact so I want to point out this, that when it comes to management of the forest we have to have proper management in government and I am pointing out to the Premier that -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. E. HISCOCK: - it is very wise for him, very wise for the Premier to be travelling and making speeches but I think he should also look into his department, what is going on with the management of our other resources and I will go into that by the way of our fisheries. The management of our fisheries, the Loan Board, the management of our Department of Finance -

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. the Minister of Justice.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I do feel that your having some affinity with the Chair as an institution that your ruling does

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: have to be observed and that is the point of relevance. The hon. member said that the former Speaker had spoken about, you know, government policy previously but it has to be related to government policy in the area of forestry., I mean, not in areas that really have nothing to do with it. And I do not think the hon. member wished -

MR. L. THOMS: (inaudible)

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: If the hon. member from Grand Bank (L Thoms) would allow - I do not think the hon. member for Eagle River (E. Hiscock) wished to go contrary to the ruling of the Chair and I am sure he does not wish to. What I wish to point out is not that the latitude is such - not that the relevance is such a stricture on an hon. member but certainly it has to be related to forest management not management, let us say, of fisheries or transportation or that because that is clearly off the subject of the resolution.

MR. J. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, to that point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order, the hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER: Yes, to that point of order, Mr. Speaker, I sat here and listened to the -

MR. THOMS: (inaudible)

MR. SPEAKER (Butt) Order, please!

MR. J. HODDER: I sat here and listened to the Premier's remarks in the House. I heard the Premier get - if we talk about relevance I think it is a two-sided street. I heard the Premier talk about the member for Bonavista North's (L. Stirling) running in a particular election, he spent some time in doing that sort of thing. Since I sat in this House, Mr. Speaker, I have always found that in debate you are allowed to stray slightly. But I find that the Chair has been ruling one way and certainly the decision that I heard made here by the previous Speaker in relation to the Premier when he ruled on relevance is quite different than the one I see being made right here now and I just wonder what is happening.

MR. SPEAKER: (Butt) Well, to the point of order, First of all, I think I have heard enough to make a ruling at this particular time. First of all, I do not believe it is quite proper to debate the ruling of the Chair. I believe the hon. member, being a veteran of the House certainly knows what procedures one should follow. In this particular matter I do not know what the ruling was by the previous person occupying the Chair but

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): I am in the Chair at this particular time. I have already asked the hon. member to be relevant to the resolution which was quite clearly stated, 'That this hon. House supports the establishment by the government of a royal commission to analyze and make recommendations as to the course of action to follow in the protection of our forest industry and the health of our people so far as it relates to measures to be taken to control the spruce budworm'.

I would submit to the hon. the member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock) that discussions about transportation -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: I am not quite finished, if the hon. member would like to take his seat.

Conversation or comments related to the Department of Transportation, the Department of Fisheries and things of that nature would hardly be considered to be relevant. I would ask the hon. member to be relevant.

The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order. The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, there is no question, absolutely no question on this side that we think that Your Honour is very fair. I would only ask Your Honour if he would refer to the tapes - and you can understand why you may think that some of us have strayed in debating with the Speaker. There was no intention for anyone to debate with the Speaker but if you refer to the tapes you will see the latitude granted. The Premier covered the whole range of past services of

MR. STIRLING: the government, of past approaches and the whole new approach covering the whole range of what this government was doing. So, therefore, the next speaker, I am sure -

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): What is the hon. member's point of order?

MR. STIRLING: Simply to ask the Speaker if he would refer to the tapes so that we can get some consistency and we can understand what is required when we debate a particular resolution, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: With respect to the point of order -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!

With respect to the point of order I would rule there is no point of order and ask the hon. member for Eagle River to continue his speech of which he has about three minutes remaining.

MR. HISCOCK: I thank the Speaker and I also will try to keep my points relevant. I would hope that the Premier will also take note of the ruling of the Chair.

With regard to management I think it is very, very important. When I was over travelling in Europe, in Germany going through the Black Forest, one of the things I was amazed at all through Europe was on the hillsides you would see various levels of trees. Some were twenty years old, some were eighteen, some were seventeen, and twelve and all the way. And each year they would go up like a lawnmower and cut so many acres and then the next year they would plant that and go on. We do not have any forest management in this Province.

You talk about getting things back from our companies and that. It is great

MR. HISCOCK: Publicity but again it is a camouflage by basically saying, "No, we are the liberators". Liberators of what, 15 million cords dying or almost dead? So I would say, when it comes to management the administration itself cannot turn around and manage one resource when they cannot turn around and manage the other one. So I think it is only logical, and I may be accused of wandering, but I would go as far as to say that if we have this royal commission I hope the royal commission will also look into the possibility of how we can turn around and administer our programmes because basically it is not coming forth in this programme.

Now, I will give an example of Port Hope Simpson which was set up in the 1930s as a logging area. They have had a fire down there in the past fifteen years that wiped everything out and through natural reforestation nothing grew. Is there any re-planting down in that area to give the people some livelihood again? No. Do we have any reforestation situation down in Labrador? No, just a little bit in Goose Bay. If we have a forest fire down in Labrador is there enough equipment? No.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Let her burn. Let her go.

MR. HISCOCK: Let her burn. Let her burn is basically what happened and may be true for it. So I submit that when it comes to this, as the royal commission, I would say this is only a camouflage, this is only a hot potato that is being passed by on the shelves and it will go like all royal commissions in the past and that basically will be done to get rid of the political steam that wants to come up. And I regret that the new Premier, who wants to go into the 1980s with the young people of this Province, has not got the intestinal fortitude to turn around and make a decision on this.

MR. HISCOCK:

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER(Simms):

The hon.the member for

Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. ANDREWS:

Mr. Speaker, for once, in my short term sitting in this House, I have to agree with the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) that this issue of spraying our forest is a very serious and complicated, complex problem.

MR. H. ANDREWS:

And to that point it is a very difficult decision for anyone to make because there are no cut and dry answers. However, I find myself in very much of a dilemma, when you read reports like this by very reputable people, the third report of the Spruce Budworm Review Committee and they say things such as, 'The severely infected stands cover an area of 1.28 million acres and contain a total volume of live, dying and dead wood of 15.9 million cords. And thus it is clear that for the main users of the forest output of the Province there is no way that any salvage programme can make use of more than a small fraction of the wood in the budworm infested areas because of the cost and even the coming on stream the Stephenville mill will have very little effect on it.'

These are the negative things that I worry about, Mr. Speaker, and the very difficult task of the government, even after a Royal Commission report of deciding what we should do. This report also goes on to say, "That in our present setting there is a major mortality in the forest and the cost comparison is between protection costs of about \$1.50 an acre and the restocking cost after mortality of about \$250 million an acre." So the cost factor of the spraying, as referred to by the hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. L. Thoms), is not the important issue here I do not think. You are talking a cost after destruction of about 200 times as much as if you sprayed and to maintain a forest capable of providing the wood that we need for our paper mills and sawmills in Newfoundland I think, within the wisdom of any accountant, we would certainly go ahead and spray.

The forests in New Brunswick have been sprayed now for some twenty-odd years, I believe, Mr. Speaker, and if we are to assume that we should follow what New Brunswick has done to protect our forests I would like to ask this question - and I do not think they really know in New Brunswick. They have not killed the budworm in twenty years in New Brunswick, they have tried just about everything at tremendous cost, I will also say, but the cost once again is relatively minor compared to the cost of the forest dying. However, I would like to ask this one question which I do not seem to get an

MR. H. ANDREWS:

answer to and I am not a scientist.

Some scientists do say that the forest spraying in New Brunswick has been effective to the point that the trees are still alive. They may be sick, they may have some limbs falling off of them but they are still alive and they are harvestable and merchantable. I think that is one plus for the whole business of spraying but we are not here to debate the problem of whether we should spray or not at this point. We are supporting or not supporting the resolution establishing a Royal Commission and I believe that we must have this Royal Commission because there are so many questions that are yet to be answered. Maybe we will not get all of the answers even with this Royal Commission and I suspect that we will not but I think this is the best approach to get more answers.

This last report by the Spruce Budworm Committee lacks many things. In the terms of the medical advice that it submits it says, "The Newfoundland Medical Association in 1978 established an independent committee of Newfoundland physicians which reviewed the medical aspects of the spruce budworm epidemic and control programme. Its report which was released in June 1979 concluded that the social economic consequences of a major loss of forest would be a greater hazard to the health of the Newfoundland population than the postulated health hazard from the current short-term spray programme." And I refer back again to what the Premier just mentioned, 'short-term'. There has been no definition by the Newfoundland Medical Association as to what short-term is. Is it one year, two years or is it twenty years as they are now doing in New Brunswick? And eminent scientists on the mainland are very positive that the spraying in New Brunswick is the cause of Reye's syndrome and several case of Reye's syndrome that have taken place in New Brunswick. I certainly would not like to be put in a position of having to argue either way.

On another level, we talk about forest management and this is a key element. I think we are

MR. ANDREWS: coming to, probably since the '60's, the late '50's and '60's, the realization in Newfoundland that we do not have unlimited resources in our forests, as we came to realize in the 1960's and early 1970's that we do not have unlimited resources with our fish stocks. When we realized that our fish populations could be over-harvested, we had to bring in fisheries management procedures that would protect the fish. Once again, I think, on an overview we have to also do that with our forests. Whether management by spraying is the proper thing or to let nature take its course in many aspects of disease or do we need better silviculture practices? I submit that we also need better silviculture practices. We have a very difficult situation with our forests in Newfoundland. As foresters tell me, a rule of thumb in North America, the farther East you are the smaller the trees and the farther West you go the larger the trees become, and we certainly know how big the trees are in California and British Columbia. This, of course, makes it even more difficult for our paper mills and our sawmill operators in particular to turn a profit.

Getting back to the Newfoundland Medical Association and the Canadian Medical Association, in closing, Mr. Speaker, I would make one more reference to a resolution, resolution number two, approved at the Canadian Medical Association's general meeting in 1979. 'The CMA recommends that the Federal Government, with the co-operation of the provincial governments of Canada, must continue to have a major role in initiating and continuing an urgent, comprehensive research program related to pesticide use and environmental monitoring, including health hazards to humans, ecology studies and forest management.' I think the key word here in this resolution is that they want an urgent and comprehensive research program. If the Canadian Medical Association is so concerned that they want an urgent study, I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we should delay our spray program and I will support the idea of a royal commission.

MR. SPEAKER: (Butt)

The hon. the member for Lapoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the resolution that we have before us today is a resolution after the fact. Listening to the members, the spokesmen on the government side of the House, you would swear, Mr. Speaker, that we never ever had a matacil spray program in this Province. In 1977 this government, of which the present Premier was a senior minister, took a decision to carry out an experimentation in spraying against the spruce budworm in 1977, using matacil. In 1978 the Moores' administration, of which the present Premier was a senior minister, took another great decision, and that decision was to spray, go ahead, spray. Now, Mr. Speaker, this same gentleman who was a senior minister in the Moores' administration is admitting that they were wrong, that there could have, indeed, been a serious health hazard in the use of matacil.

DR. COLLINS: Not on one spray.

MR. NEARY: Not on one spray. Mr. Speaker, I would submit that the Medical Association, when they made their comments to the government and they have been quoted by the Premier this afternoon and quoted by the member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Andrews), I would submit, Mr. Speaker, from reading the report, that they were riding the razor's edge, that they were tipping the scales towards economic factors rather than towards health factors. And I would suspect, Mr. Speaker, that there was a little bit of internal politicking going on. The Medical Association, the Newfoundland Medical Association were used by the Tories, by the Tory administration, they were used. All you have to do is read their recommendations,

MR. NEARY:

their report and you will see how they were used. They were used to try to prop up the administration because they had made a grave error in judgement in going ahead with the spray programme when they did.

AN HON. MEMBER: The minister (inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: The minister (inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, listening to the various arguments from the other side of the House you would swear that this government had not spent literally millions of dollars. I am surprised hon. gentlemen up over my head have not picked up the fact that out in Stephenville at the present time you have 500 barrels of matacil—excuse me, 460 barrels of matacil.

MR. HODDER: Six hundred and forty.

MR. NEARY: Six hundred and forty. Forty barrels of fuel and twenty to forty barrels of Bt valued at \$500,000 plus the cost of rebarrelling it, as my hon. friend stated, every couple of years. So, Mr. Speaker, after all of this, after endangering the lives of literally thousands of our fellow Newfoundlanders by spraying twice in 1977 and 1978, they have now admitted their blunder, their mistake.

MR. THOMS: They are not responsible for that because that was under the Moores' Administration see. They are not responsible.

MR. POWER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: The only danger - listen to the expert now from Ferryland (Mr. Power) - the only danger lies in short term spraying. Mr. Speaker, the experts, the scientists, and I am inclined to take their word more than the hon. member for Bay Of Island's (Mr. Woodrow) or the hon. member for Ferryland (Mr. Power) or the hon. member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Andrews), say that they do not know the danger of matacil.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are trying to find out.

MR. NEARY: Ah, Mr. Speaker, we hear Your Honour rule in this House time and time again, day in and day out that where there is a borderline case the Speaker will rule in favour of the gentleman on his feet speaking. Well, I would submit in this case, where there was a

MR. NEARY:

borderline case, it was ruled in favour of the paper companies and not the protection of the health of this Province.

It has been pretty well established in New Brunswick that a couple of cases of Reye's Syndrome have resulted from their spray programme.

MR. POWER: This Reye's Syndrome broke out in New Brunswick, and in Ontario (inaudible) spray (inaudible) New York State (inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I do not mind the hon. gentleman, I do not mind him at all. I will repeat what I said, Sir, and if the hon. gentleman wants to add something to it to confirm what I am saying—the hon. gentleman is verifying what I am saying -

MR. POWER: No, I am saying just the opposite.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, it has been established beyond practically any doubt that matacil causes Reye's Syndrome and this has been borne out by the spray programme in New Brunswick that has been going on now for almost twenty years and all they have managed to accomplish in New Brunswick, Mr. Speaker, is that they have established a super budworm. The budworms have become immune.

MR. THOMS: We have one super budworm over here, look.

MR. NEARY: No, that is a maggot. I do not know how you would spray maggots. The hon. gentleman when he was out rooting in his savoury patch must have gotten the wire worm or maggots under his fingernails and they seem to have affected his thinking.

Mr. Speaker, all they have managed to do in New Brunswick is create a super budworm because the worm has become immune to matacil, to spraying with matacil and they have spent literally millions piled upon millions of dollars for matacil. They have had all kinds of accidents. They have had people literally killed in carrying out the spray

MR. S. NEARY:

programme because of low flying aircraft and the like and the programme has been a failure. And despite all the arguments, Mr. Speaker, despite all the arguments that were put forward in this House in 1977 and again in 1978, the government stubbornly, foolhardily, rushed ahead with the spray programme. And, you know, I said the other day in the House that you would swear in this House that you were back in 1965. Well, when you hear the debate going on today you would swear you were back to 1977, when we were trying to persuade hon. gentlemen, the hon. the Premier, who was a senior minister in the government and the gentleman who sits to his right, when we were trying to persuade these hon. gentlemen to do a little fact finding, to appoint a Royal Commission to look into the spray programme, using matacil to control the spruce budworm. We were scoffed at, practically laughed at by hon. gentlemen who now think it is important enough to have a Royal Commission. Now, why have they decided now, Mr. Speaker, after the fact to have a Royal Commission? And that is something else I might mention at this stage. The Royal Commission has already been established. The hon. member for Stephenville, who introduced this resolution, should have had enough common sense, rather than waste two private members' sittings of this House, should have sense enough to withdraw it. It is a fait accompli. It is done, already done. It is there, it is done.

MR. J. CARTER:

Then why are you talking? Do you like

your own sound, like your own voice? Sit down!

MR. S. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, somebody has to point out,

somebody has to point out the politics of it. Somebody has to point out the stupidity of it. Somebody has to point out the hypocrisy of it. And that is what I am attempting to do. The resolution could have very easily been taken off the Order Paper because the government already decided -

MR. L. THOMS:

Drop it to the bottom of the barrel.

MR. HANCOCK: Substitute it with Workers' Compensation.

MR. S. NEARY: The government already decided and named the members of the Royal Commission so, why are we wasting our time, two Private Member's Days, just going through the motions? Just to prop the government up, just to praise them for it, just to say they did the right thing?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) Workers' Compensation.

MR. S. NEARY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would gladly, I would gladly forgo this resolution -

MR. HANCOCK: Sit down because they are going to bring it in 'Steve:

MR. S. NEARY: Yes, if the hon. gentleman wants to bring in a resolution next Wednesday dealing with Workers' Compensation, he will have no problem from me.

MR. CARTER: It will be the first time.

MR. S. NEARY: So, Mr. Speaker, it is enough -

MR. HANCOCK: Bring it in right now.

MR. THOMS: I would meet tonight on that.

MR. S. NEARY: I would gladly meet tonight too on it.

But, Mr. Speaker, if it was not so sad, so pathetic, it would be funny. Is it any wonder that people out there in the various parts of this Province are so confused and bewildered about what goes on in this House? It is hard to keep track of it. This whole matter of the spray programme should be fed into a university somewhere, and let some group of professors, who deal in logic take a look at the logic of this. Spray in 1977, spray in 1978, store matacil in Stephenville to the value of \$500,000, listen to argument in the House that we should not have gone ahead with the spray programme because it endangered the health of our people, especially in the areas that were being sprayed, and now we end up, we end up three years later with a Royal Commission. The government announces the Royal Commission and then one of their backbenchers, one of the members who supports the government brings in a resolution asking for a Royal Commission. Where is

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MR. S. NEARY: the logic, Mr. Speaker? It is enough to baffle you. Where is the logic in it? Let us just look at the scenario: Here is the sequence of events - 1977 the hon. gentleman who is now Premier said, 'Spray, experiment with it'. In 1978 the hon.

MR. NEARY:

gentleman said, "The experiment has been a success. Let us spray everybody in Newfoundland now."

MR. FLIGHT:

A massive spray program.

MR. NEARY:

A massive spray program they called it, "Let us endanger their health". Then the government announces, when the hon. gentleman becomes Premier, the hon. gentleman announces that we are going to have a royal commission to investigate the spray program, and then the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) comes in with a resolution asking the government to appoint a royal commission. It is enough -

MR. THOMS:

It is a good job his constituents are not in the House now.

MR. NEARY:

It really should be turned over to a group of university professors to sort out the logic. They would go crazy, they would go insane in the process, trying to figure it all out. And the hon. the Premier in his rebuttal stoops again, lowers himself again to the level of a few cheap political shots at the Smallwood administration, jumps over seven years of Tory neglect and mismanagement and corruption, jumps over that, blots that out all the time, and hops back to the Smallwood administration. You know, it is simply amazing, Mr. Speaker, but I do not think it is washing, as they say in the United States, it is not washing. The people of this Province are not buying it, they are not accepting these arguments anymore. They want to know now, Mr. Speaker, they want to know what the record of this administration is, they want to know what the record is. They are now starting to ask questions about the record. They are saying, "Look, forget this nonsense about going after poor old 'Joey'", who will be eighty years old this Christmas Eve, who is retired and writing his books, become an author, they are saying, "Forget about him, forget about him and show us your track record for the last seven years".

MR. HODDER:

Ten years.

MR. NEARY:

1972, eight years, going on eight years. "Show us your record" they are saying, "show us what you are doing to clean up the mess left by the spruce budworm. Show us your program for

MR. NEARY: cutting the wood, show us your program like they have in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick cost-shared by the Government of Canada. Show us what you have done here in this Province." That is what they are asking and, "Show us what you are doing about reforestation". You know, the irony of it, Mr. Speaker, is that the spruce budworm came to Newfoundland the same year the government changed. The spruce budworm came to Newfoundland in 1972, the same year the government changed. The same year the Tories took over we had a major outbreak of the spruce budworm. It is almost too much of a coincidence, but I will give the government the benefit of the doubt. Any hon. gentleman can go, if they do their homework, do their research, they will discover that the spruce budworm started down in the Codroy Valley back in 1972 and kept working its way towards the East Coast, until just about every part of Newfoundland was affected by the budworm. Then, Mr. Speaker, it started in 1972 and the government did not lift a finger, did not do anything about it, until 1977, five years after the budworm arrived, and the scientists think that it blew across the Gulf from New Brunswick or Nova Scotia. Five years after they decided to carry out a trial experimental spray program using matacil.

So, Mr. Speaker, there is not much else I can say about this, my time is almost up anyway, except that I wish somebody would explain the logic of it all. I wish somebody would explain the sense of it all. I do not think I am exactly dumb or stupid, but what kind of a House and what kind of an attitude are the people going to have towards members of this House, members who will say in 1977 spray on an experimental basis, 1978 a massive spray program, and in 1980 the government announces a royal commission to look at the spraying using matacil to see how much it will affect people's health? Then a member on the government side, supporting the government, comes in with a resolution asking that a royal commission be set up that has already been announced by the government and members put on that royal commission. That is Peckfordian logic for you.

MR. S. NEARY:

That is the new government, that is the 'Stepping into the eighties with Peckford', Perfordian logic, that is what it is, Mr. Speaker. And I am sure by now the people of this Province are beginning to wise up to this kind of political trickery and this kind of political manœuvring because all the government are trying to do, really, is to get themselves off the hook with a hot political potato.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): The hon. member for Stephenville. If the hon. member speaks now he closes the debate.

MR. F. STAGG: Are there any other hon. members who wish to speak on this matter? I will gladly yield?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. F. STAGG: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think under the rules the mover of the motion must be given the floor at twenty minutes to six and I got the floor ten minutes early. It must be in anticipation of one of my better efforts. So I have decided I will not let hon. members down and I will speak to this motion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am going to deal to some extent with Royal Commissions in general. And I must say, before I begin, I welcome interventions from hon. members opposite. The more the better and the more the merrier and I will not ask for the protection of the Chair unless hon. members get too obnoxious. Royal Commissions; how many Royal Commissions have we had in this Province? Well, I have a list of some of them and I am going to read into the record some of them. This is entirely relevant, Mr. Speaker, because, since we are talking about the wisdom of having a Royal Commission, I think we should know some of the Royal Commissions that we have had in this Province over the past twenty years or so. The Royal Commission on the St. John's arterial road, we had a Royal Commission on that. We had

MR. F. STAGG: a Royal Commission on the Holiday Inn land, That was an interesting one. We had a Royal Commission on the Magistracy that was introduced, I believe, shortly after this government took office. I think Mr. Justice Steele was the gentleman who did that one, it was an excellent Royal Commission. We had a Royal Commission on the Blackhead Road Urban Renewal Scheme which I think is an ongoing one, the Blackhead Road is something that crops up time and time again. The Royal Commission on Nursing Education. I do not know too much about that one but maybe the Minister of Health someday will tell us some more about it. Here is a good one; a Royal Commission on Leases of Premises for the Newfoundland Liquor Commission and that was a very good one. I remember the day that was tabled here in the House and it was revealing of certain nefarious activities of certain people who were once in politics in this Province. A Royal Commission on Labour Legislation by Dr. Cohen and that really, I believe, has formed the basis of much of our Labour Legislation we have now. Here is one that hon. members will all recall and maybe it should be brought around to all hon. members. It is the Royal Commission on Bell Island, it is a Welfare Inquiry.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. STAGG: That is an interesting one that maybe we should all refresh our -

MR. S. NEARY: That one backfired.

MR. F. STAGG: I believe that Mr. Justice Mifflin was the gentleman who was involved in that one. The Royal Commission on Local Government back in 1972, commissioned and the commissioner was -

MR. L. STIRLING: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): A point of order, the hon. member for Bonavista North.

MR. F. STAGG: I was hoping I would have a few points of order, Mr. Speaker, so I could use up the time.

MR. L. STIRLING: We have had many points of order this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, on the question of relevance and when the last Speaker was in the Chair he was very tight on his interpretation of relevance. We now have the spectacle of the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) reading out a list of Royal Commissions and how that is relevant to the motion I would ask Your Honour to rule.

MR. W. MARSHALL: To the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): To the point of order, the hon. the President of the Council.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, it is quite obvious how this relevant. I mean, the motion, if the hon. member has eyes to read, will show that the hon. member for Stephenville is advocating that a Royal Commission be established to analyze and make recommendations to this House and he is recounting the Royal Commissions that have been in recent times been held and obviously inquiring as to the effectiveness and the efficacy of Royal Commissions.

MR. MARSHALL:

It is quite obvious he does not even have to go on with his point to let anyone know what he is getting at.

MR. SPEAKER (BUTT):

To the point of order, I would rule there is no point of order but would point out once again that rules of relevancy are very difficult to define and when there is a borderline case the hon. gentleman speaking is given the benefit of the doubt. Now, I would assume at the present time that the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) is prefacing a few of his remarks making some references to royal commissions. However, I am sure he will get to the royal commission that is pertinent to this particular motion.

The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A very wise ruling! Yes, Mr. Speaker, you see the difficulty here is that I was prepared for twenty minutes of debate because that is the time that is allotted to me but I have been given half an hour to debate. So my preamble to my cogent and incisive closing remarks will be approximately ten minutes in duration. And during that time I have taken the opportunity to read a little bit about royal commissions because I think it is useful information, what are royal commissions and what sort of things have they dealt with in the past? I was just dealing with the royal commission on Bell Island, the Mifflin Report, the welfare enquiry and that sparked a certain amount of hilarity within the community. Now, I am dealing with the royal commission on local government -

MR. STIRLING:

On a point of order.

MR. STAGG:

- and what was the wisdom -

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS):

Order, please! Order, please!

A point of order has been raised

by the hon. member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling).

MR. STIRLING:

Mr. Speaker, we are the same debate that this afternoon caused Your Honour to rule on the question of relevance. The member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) has already indicated that in an effort to spend his time he intends to read a list of royal commissions. I would ask the Speaker to rule, using the same standard,

MR. STIRLING:

of course, that was used earlier this afternoon.

MR. MARSHALL:

To that point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

To the point of order, the hon.

the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, there are two points.

First of all, the hon. gentleman rose a moment ago on this same point of order and by raising on a point of order, on spurious points of order such as this, particularly ones that have already been considered by the House, he is infringing on the rights of the hon. member to speak. That is number one. And number two, any remarks, Mr. Speaker, such as to show the same degree of latitude to one side as the other are really gross and grave affronts to the authority of the Chair of this House and cannot be tolerated in themselves. It is quite obvious, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the hon. member, that he just does not appreciate that a ruling has been made. A ruling was made by the Speaker a moment ago before Your Honour took the Chair. It is quite obvious that the issue before this House right now is royal commissions. The hon. gentleman is talking about royal commissions and, obviously, is entitled so to do to compare his proposed commission with previous ones.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

To the point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

To the point of order, the hon.

member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, if I heard correctly

the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) was reading out a list of royal commissions going back - I do not know if they were all the royal commissions - but going back to a certain date. And, Mr. Speaker, if that logic is carried through, if that is relevancy, then that would mean that if I were speaking on a bill, say, for election legislation I could stand here for twenty minutes and read out all the legislation that has been passed in the last five years. Mr. Speaker, there is no

MR. HODDER:

relevancy in what the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) is saying.

MR. LUSH:

And certainly no logic.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS):

To be quite frank I find difficulty

in finding whether there is relevancy to much of the debate here in the last few moments. I would rule that there is no point of order but a difference of opinion with respect to the hon. member's time. I would ask him to continue his speech.

The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG:

Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have a

resolution before this House the final paragraph of which is:

"BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this hon. House supports the establishment by the Government of a Royal Commission to analyze and make recommendations as to the course of action to follow in the protection of our forest industry and the health of our people so far as it relates to measures to be taken to control the spruce budworm".

Now, I have already addressed myself

in my opening remarks to the pith and substance of the -

MR. THOMS:

The pith?

MR. STAGG:

Yes, I can spell it for you if you

cannot spell it yourself or you have not heard the word before. The substance of the issue as it relates to the spruce budworm and the health problems and so on, I thought I did an excellent job of that last week. So I was dealing now with the wisdom of having a royal commission dealing with the whole issue of royal commissions. Is the royal commission route a good route? And in doing so I am referring to some royal commissions that have been carried on in the past and I am getting now to one here, the Royal Commission on Local Government. Now the Royal Commission on Local Government basically is the document that came before the Municipalities Act. The Royal Commission on Labrador did excellent work. And here is an interesting one, the Royal Commission on Mrs. Ruth Thompson. I am not too familiar with that one. I am not sure if there were pictures or what. That one was graphically displayed or whatever.

May 14, 1980

Tape No. 1554

RA - 1

MR. F. STAGG: The Royal Commission on Illegal Works Stoppages, the Royal Commission on Municipal Government, the Royal Commission on Mineral Reserves, the Royal Commission on Pensions, on minimum wages, on education and youth, the Royal Commission on Forestry 1955 and 1970.

MR. THOMS: (inaudible) Waterford Hospital.

MR. F. STAGG: So, Mr. Speaker, I am quite taken with this. I am sure that the Royal Commission route that we are about to follow is the right route. Now, I will say something else about Royal Commissions. When I was following the affairs of the previous, previous administration from 1955, I suppose, until 1972, one of the things that I found that usually was spoken about with some derision and there was some criticism of the system, was that if there was anything that was going to be embarrassing to the government

MR. F. STAGG: a royal commission was established to look into it. And the Royal Commission was established to look into it and the royal commission reported to the government but the royal commissions were never made public. So the policy of this administration, and I checked this out carefully before I made this statement, the policy of this administration -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. F. STAGG: - well, I have to check this things out, I would not want to indiscreet.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. F. STAGG: The policy of this administration is that all royal commissions that are established by this government these royal commission will be made public..

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. F. STAGG: And the purpose of these royal Commissions is to right a wrong or get information about a situation whereby a reasonable decision can be made.

Now, what about the spruce budworm?
The spruce budworm has been a topic of considerable debate and acrimony. I suppose it has turned brothers against brothers and families, fathers and sons and so on, especially in the paper towns. There is the dialogue between ecologist youth and the pragmatic father, one saying spray and the other saying do not spray. and you can get no further apart than that. So this sort of dilemma should be resolved as soon as possible.

Now, the terms of reference of this Royal Commission indicates that we should have the Commission finishing its work by December 31st, 1980. This will enable government to make a reasonable decision, taking into account the various and copious, presumably, research of the commissioners. Now, I was indicating last week the names of the commissioners, I must say that the fact that Dr. A. T. Rowe - Dr. Gus Rowe - who was once Minister of Health in this House is on that Commission gives me considerable reassurance that there will be no cursory look at this problem. The man has been a professional,

MR. F. STAGG: I think he was probably one of the least political men ever elected to this House of Assembly. Certainly, I put myself in the same category as him, as a matter of fact, and yet with all

MR. J. DINN: What modesty!

MR. F. STAGG: And yes with all the modesty I can muster.

I think the sort of thing the royal commission is going to have to contend with is the minority report, things like the minority report of Dr. William Thurlow who is in the Newfoundland Medical Association. Well, he submitted a minority report which is an interesting way of making a point. I think I might be using that myself in some committees that I am part of if need be. Dr. William Thurlow said, "While I agree that a major loss of forest would have major socio-economic and consequently health related effects on Newfoundland, I do not believe that a spruce budworm epidemic is capable of crippling Newfoundland's forest industry to such an extent. However, the currently available chemical pesticide controls could present unacceptable risks to human health as well as to salmon fishing, related employment and other areas also." Evidently Dr. Thurlow must be particularly interested in salmon fishing because it is the only vertebrate that he mentioned

This conclusion is based on the same information as the majority conclusion but a different interpretation and degree of philosophy derived from it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Call it six o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. F. STAGG: Now, Mr. Speaker, did I hear hon. members asking me to call it 6:00?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. F. STAGG: Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe this matter has been debated thoroughly, it has been a good debate -

MR. J. HODDER: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that in the House of Assembly if a member reads from a document he is required to table it and I have not seen that particular document

MR. J. HODDER:
table that document?

so I would ask if the member would

MR. F. STAGG:

I was paraphrasing from that document.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh.

MR. F. STAGG:

They are my copious notes anyway. Here.

I do not mind tabling it, I am finished with it now.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Order, please! To the point of order,

an hon. member who reads something should table it but if the hon. member says he has been paraphrasing it, well, I will have to accept that.

MR. F. STAGG:

But in any event, Mr. Speaker, I am

willing to table the document. I have absorbed everything that is in it, it is only about fifty pages. I pretty well got it all under control now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. F. STAGG:

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that it is

the general consensus here that we vote on this motion now and that it be called 6:00. Thank you very much.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER(Simms):

Order, please!

Is it the pleasure of
the House to adopt the motion? Those in favour 'aye',
contrary 'nay', motion carried.

Is it agreed to call it

six o'clock?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER:

Agreed.

It being six o'clock
this House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday
May 15, 1980, at 3:00 p.m.

I N D E X

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TABLED

MAY 14, 1980

Answer to Question #34

Appearing on Order Paper #39 of Monday, May 12th, 1980

Asked by The Honourable The Member Mr. Hiscock for Eagle River

- (1) QUESTION: How much money does the Province receive in revenue from Lotto Canada, Provincial Lotto and Atlantic Lotto?

ANSWER: Provision has been made in the 1980/81 Estimates for revenues in the order of \$1,800,000, as summarized below:

i) A-1 Lottery	\$1,350,000
ii) Provincial Lottery	\$ 225,000
iii) Super-Loto	\$ 225,000
	<u>\$1,800,000</u>

- (2) QUESTION: Does this money go into the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Culture of General Treasury?

ANSWER: Receipts are not reflected in any Department as such, but rather are deposited to the general treasury, or the Exchequer Account. The projection of \$1,800,000 appears in Exhibit II on page 32 of the Budget Speech and is also included in "Provincial and Federal Revenues ... \$1,206,278,000" appearing on Statement I, page i of the Estimates.

- (3) QUESTION: What were the terms of reference for the Federal Government in turning Lotto Canada over to the Provinces?

ANSWER: The terms agreed to by the Federal Government in turning Lotto Canada over to the Provinces are contained in the attached copy of the agreement between the Federal and ten (10) provincial governments, which summarizes the principal terms. You will note that Clause #3 in the attached memo stipulates that the Provinces will jointly make certain payments to the Federal Government. The above-noted \$1,800,000 estimate is net of this Province's contribution towards those payments.

August 23, 1979

My Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Government of Canada, we are pleased to confirm the agreement reached at the August 21st meeting in Ottawa, the principal terms of which are as follows:

- 1) The Government of Canada, through its agent Loto Canada Inc., will
✓ withdraw from the sale of lottery tickets, effective December 31, 1979.
- 2) The Government of Canada will cause Loto Canada Inc. to be wound up after December 31, 1979, under the Canada Business Corporations Act, as quickly as legal, financial and administrative requirements permit.
- 3) On and after January 1, 1980, the Provinces will jointly remit annually to the Government of Canada the sum of twenty-four (24) million dollars payable in quarterly instalments of six (6) million dollars and adjustments, commencing April 1st, 1980. The Provinces shall agree among themselves as to the proportion to be paid by each province. Each quarterly instalment shall be adjusted as to reflect the effects of inflation, utilizing the consumer price index as the standard of measurement and 1979 as the base year.

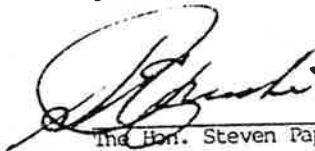
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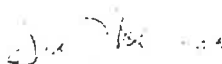
- 4) In view of the fact that this agreement is expected to result in increased earnings for provincial lotteries:
 - a) the Provinces of Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec will assume responsibility for any Government of Canada share (estimated to be thirteen and one-half (13.5) million dollars) of the costs relating to the expansion, upgrading and renovation of the NHL arenas in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Quebec City. These provinces agree to joint press releases between themselves and the Government of Canada reflecting the foregoing.
 - b) The Province of Ontario agrees not to request financial assistance from the Government of Canada in respect of the Royal Ontario Museum.
- 5) On or before October 1, 1979, the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec will each remit the sum of \$2,595,675.85 owed to Loto Canada Inc. under the Loto Select memorandum of understanding dated October 5th, 1978.
- 6) This agreement may only be terminated with the unanimous consent of the Provinces and the Government of Canada.


Would you kindly sign this letter to indicate your agreement and return it, not later than August 30, 1979, to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur

Sport and Multiculturalism, Room 230, Confederation Building, House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

On behalf of Her Majesty in Right of Canada



The Hon. Steven Paproski
Minister of State for
Fitness and Amateur Sport
and Multiculturalism



The Hon. D. MacDonald
Secretary of State of
Canada and Minister of
Communications



The Hon. Wm. Jarvis
Minister of State for
Federal-Provincial
Relations

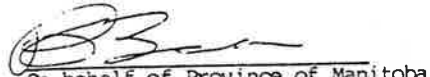
Accepted and Agreed



On behalf of Province of Alberta
Minister of Culture

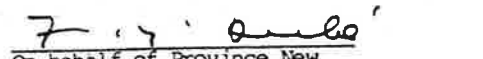

On behalf of Province of Nova
Scotia Minister of Tourism, Culture
Fitness and Recreation

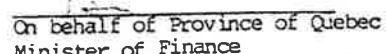

On behalf of Province of
British Columbia Minister of
Government Services and Provincial
Secretary

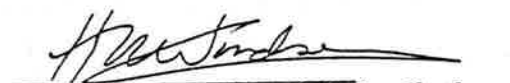

On behalf of Province of
Prince-Edward-Island Minister of
Finance

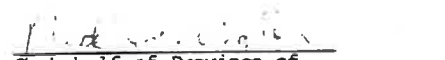

On behalf of Province of Manitoba
Minister responsible for the
Administration of the Manitoba
Lotteries Act


On behalf of Province of Ontario
Minister of Culture and Recreation


On behalf of Province New
Brunswick Minister of Finance, Minister
Responsible for Energy


On behalf of Province of Quebec
Minister of Finance


On behalf of Province of Newfoundland
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing


On behalf of Province of
Saskatchewan Minister of Culture and
Youth