

VOL. 3

NO. 43

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1981

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, hon. members may remember that on two separate occasions on May 5th, once while being interviewed by CBC Television and again while addressing a Liberal fund raising dinner, the Prime Minister made certain remarks which have been interpreted in some quarters as indicating a willingness to negotiate with the Province and to improve upon the previous federal offer which is patently unacceptable to this Province.

Hon. members may also remember my remarks here in the House on May 13th. in which I responded positively to the Prime Minister's remarks. At that time I said; "if the federal government has a new position, fine, let them put it on the table. We have been waiting for it since last June. We have put our positions on the table and we have been waiting for a position from the federal government since last June and we are - I am prepared to sit down at any time to do it. But let us not forget what is at stake here, Mr. Speaker, and we have got to be very careful how we approach this matter."

I am aware that the substance of my remarks are known to the Prime Minister's office.

Contrary to my expectations, I have not had any reply to my positive response; a silence made all the more puzzling in that I am also aware that certain other federal initiatives, now underway, contradict any positive implication which could be drawn from the Prime Minister's remarks here in Newfoundland.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, even though I am aware of these other moves and statements that are being made, nevertheless I feel that it is proper to pursue any realistic possibility of attaining a negotiated settlement which is just and equitable and treats this Province as an equal with other provinces. Our insistence on equality is not only fair but self-evident from the Province's legal claim to the ownership of these, our offshore mineral resources.

As I have already stated, any flexibility implicit in the Prime Minister's remarks seems contradicted by other initiatives now being undertaken by the federal government. However, I continue to hope that the Prime Minister will respond positively to a letter which I table herewith.

And I have sent by Telex and in the mail the following letter to the Prime Minister:

"My Dear Prime Minister, I am writing to seek clarification of your recent remarks to the media and to a Liberal fund-raising dinner here in St. John's concerning your position on the resumption of political negotiations respecting the ownership of the mineral resources adjacent to this Province.

"Your remarks have created the impression in the Province that you have changed

PREMIER PECKFORD:

"your previous position with regard to Newfoundland's right of ownership of offshore minerals. Your comments have been interpreted to mean that a new federal proposal now exists with respect to the fundamental issues of revenue sharing and resource management. As you know, our position is that the resource should be treated as if it were located on land in respect to revenue sharing and resource management. I have responded publicly to your comments and expressed my willingness to commence negotiations towards a political settlement of the offshore question. However, to this time no response has been forthcoming. The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to formalize a response to the offer which it is understood you have made. In light of your expressed willingness to enter into negotiations, I would assume that your position with respect to the SIU case now before the Federal Court will be altered to involve only the labour relations issue. I sincerely hope that you can confirm that your recent remarks here in St. John's reflect the true position of your government, and that you have a new position which can be the subject of negotiations between us. I would like to propose that a meeting be held between us at the earliest opportunity to establish the framework within which these negotiations can be undertaken. I look forward to a positive and early reply."

I table the following, Mr. Speaker, and hope that this positive response -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - by myself and the government is an indication that we are prepared to sit down, to discuss this matter and to try to reach some reasonable way in which we can continue to develop the offshore and yet provide the people of this Province with a legitimate and rightful share both of the management and the revenue that will accrue

PREMIER PECKFORD: to this Province and to the country from these very massive developments.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. G. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for Windsor - Buchans has approximately two minutes.

MR. G. FLIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know I speak for the Opposition when I say to the Premier that we welcome the announcement today that he is attempting to open negotiations with the Prime Minister. Let it be understood, Mr. Speaker, that anything said by this Opposition over these past two or three weeks since the meeting, since the Prime Minister came to Newfoundland and made the statements he made, was said in the context of asking the Premier to take advantage of the fact that Mr. Trudeau came. He appeared to hold out an olive leaf, he appeared to try to break the stalemate that has existed

MR. FLIGHT: this past couple of years, he appeared to try to find a way out of the confrontation, - the fed bashing and the confrontation attitude that existed between this Province and Ottawa, this government and the federal government.

And Mr. Speaker, we saw, and we built our case on the fact, that the Premier should now take the initiative, the ball was in his court, the Premier should take the initiative to take the Prime Minister's message and use the comments he made as a basis to re-open negotiations. That is all we ask, Mr. Speaker. We put no interpretation on what results of the negotiations will be. I believe that the people of Newfoundland will accept - the details they will let the Premier worry about - but by and large they will accept the position laid out by Mr. Trudeau on his visit to Newfoundland. And on behalf of this Opposition I would say to the Premier that when and if the meeting happens, as I am sure it will, because I believe that the Prime Minister is acting in good faith, he has got the best wishes of this caucus to resolve, to sit down with the Prime Minister and resolve the offshore issue so that we can get on to the development, which is important in this Province, and which we will never get onto if the atmosphere that has existed this last two years continues to exist.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Further statements?

ORAL QUESTIONS:

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) and it has to do with the chaotic situation in the lobster industry as far as the price of lobster is concerned. It seems to vary from one community to the other, from one region of the Province to the other. Some

MR. NEARY: buyers - I know one on the Southwest Coast who is refusing to pay \$2.05 a pound for lobster. The fishermen are prepared to sell for less than that. I am not advocating that they should do that but there seems to be a glut on the market. The whole situation is in chaos and unless something is done immediately - the minister has built up the fishermen's hopes and expectations by threatening to cancel licences of buyers unless they pay a certain price for lobsters in this Province. They say they cannot do it. What is happening at the moment? Is there anything being done to try to -

MR. MORGAN: Are you asking a question or making a speech?

MR. NEARY: No. I have to give some background information, Mr. Speaker. The whole situation is so confusing.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: The fishermen are completely bewildered. Would the hon. gentleman tell the House if the government is examining this matter at the moment, if the government will look into the possibility of subsidizing the buyers who have to pay the price that the minister set on lobsters or have their licences cancelled? Will they subsidize the buyers who

MR. NEARY: apparently are selling their lobsters in the Boston market at a loss at the present time?

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, as usual the hon. gentleman has the facts all wrong like he did a few days ago regarding a helicopter in Bonavista.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the fact is this government did not set the lobster prices this year. The lobster prices were set by means of negotiations that took place between the Fishermen's Union of this Province and at least two major buyers from Nova Scotia that buy a substantial number of lobsters, a quantity of lobsters in this Province. And the Fishermen's Union were successful in the early part of the season in negotiating a price with Clearwater Fisheries of Nova Scotia, a major buyer, of \$2.05 per pound. Recently that company decided, based on its own information from the marketplace, not to honour that agreement with the Fishermen's Union. And our, of course, condition attached to the buyer's licenses that we have issued this year is that the buyers would pay and should pay and must pay the union negotiated price. And because the company and the union are now in dispute over whether or not there is a union negotiated price, some of the buyers around the Province seemed to take advantage of the situation and dropped their prices below the \$2.05 per pound while others are paying as high as \$2.20 per pound. So, Mr. Speaker, again to clarify it, government did not set the prices for lobsters. We are doing everything we possibly can by using the Fishing Industry Advisory Board and by working in co-ordination and co-operation with the Fishermen's Union and, in fact, lobster prices this year are a record high for fishermen.

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1679

AH-2

MR. NEARY:

A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

A supplementary. The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, that is a rather vague and evasive answer given by the minister, just stating a few facts about how the situation developed. We are all aware that it was the result of negotiations between the two major buyers and the Fishermen's Union. But the minister left the impression earlier in this House that it was the government that negotiated the price and they tried to take a bit of credit for it. The minister tried to take a bit of credit for it. But now the situation is in a chaotic condition and would the hon. gentleman tell the House what steps the government are going to take to deal with this matter immediately? Because the two major buyers that he is talking about, Mr. Speaker, I know are only in certain areas of the Province. There are other buyers in other parts of Newfoundland who are prepared to pay \$1.90 or \$1.95 per pound but they are afraid to do it, afraid the minister would cancel their shellfish license. Now would the minister indicate what steps are going to be taken to solve this problem immediately because pretty soon it will be too late, the lobster season will be over?

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the fishermen around the Province are quite aware of the steps we are taking, and we are taking every possible step in conjunction with the Fishermen's Union.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Well, would the hon. gentleman tell the House what it is because I have a situation in my own district - and I believe it is happening in other parts of the Province - where \$1.90 is being paid to fishermen, I know, by one of the major buyers in Newfoundland, and I know in another part of the Southwest Coast another buyer has stopped buying lobster - as of today he is not buying any lobster because he took a loss on the last shipment that he sent to Boston. He bought them for \$2.05, sold them for \$2.05 and had to pay to collect the lobsters and pay to have them shipped. Well, would the minister tell the House so that we can tell the people? I mean, this is not secret or confidential. We are trying to get information for the lobster fishermen of this Province and a statement should be made in this House and not the subject of just private negotiations between the minister's department and some other party.

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is obviously not understanding what is happening. We do not set prices for fish, they are set by negotiations for any seafood products. They are set by negotiations between the Fishermen's Union and the companies concerned. We do not set prices. In this case, these prices were set by the union and the company by means of a negotiated agreement and our conditions in the buyer's licences are - one major

MR. MORGAN: condition is that the buyers will have to pay the union negotiated price and that price was negotiated at \$2.05. Right now the Fishermen's Union and at least one major buyer are in dispute over that agreement. Whether or not the union takes legal action, I do not know; it is a possibility, I understand. But it is an agreement between the buyers and the Fishermen's Union. And our position is that we want to ensure that the fishermen around the Province get the best possible price they can for lobsters. And the action we took this Spring in working with the Fishermen's Union was the action that we thought would be a means of stabilizing lobster prices. But again as a recent report from the Fishing Industry Advisory Board, tabled in this House said, naturally the prices to fishermen have to be reflected by means of the prices in the marketplace, and the marketplace in this case is Boston. Boston is the major buyer of the lobsters in this Province. And anybody who wants the information, it is available to the House, it is available from the Advisory Board to all members of the House that the market in Boston in the last, approximately seven days - seven days ago - the prices dropped, mainly because of a major influx of lobsters from Nova Scotia, a heavy supply of lobsters from Nova Scotia so that it blocked the market

MR. MORGAN: and prices for the lobsters in this Province did drop, but that happened last year around the same time. We are confident, according to the information from the Advisory Board, that the prices for lobster will increase again in the Boston market and my overall objective with the Fishing Industry Advisory Board working in that regard is to ensure that if the prices do increase in Boston, that the price will be reflected in the prices paid to fishermen.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: I yield, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: He yields for the hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is shifting his ground completely now to what he did there a few weeks ago when this matter was first raised in this House. The hon. gentleman guaranteed the lobster fishermen \$2.05 a pound for their lobsters. And I do not know how -

MR. HODDER: Ministerial statement.

MR. NEARY: he may have come in with a Ministerial Statement, I do not know how the hon. gentleman could have done that but now the hon. gentleman -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: - tells us that the matter came about as a result of negotiations between two lobster buyers and the Fishermen's Union. But, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman -

AN HON. MEMBER: One major lobster buyer.

MR. NEARY: - one major lobster buyer. The hon. gentleman knows that there are no negotiations with the other buyers, and there are a number of buyers in this Province and they are prepared to buy the lobster but they are not prepared to pay \$2.05. Now is the minister prepared to subsidize these other buyers? They will pay the \$2.05 but they are not going to pay it at a loss. Will the hon. gentleman tell the House whether the Fishery Advisory Board has recommended

MR. NEARY: that the government subsidize the buyers so that they can pay \$2.05 and continue to buy lobsters because as of today some of the buyers have stopped buying lobsters?

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, again I guess you have to put it in baby talk for the hon. gentleman to understand.

AN HON. MEMBER: Baby talk.

MR. MORGAN: It has to be baby talk for him to understand.

The fact is that last week the Fishermen's Union announced that they had reached an agreement with Clearwater that the price of \$2.05 would be the average price throughout the season. So that is now a standing negotiated price between the Fishermen's Union and a major buyer. And the condition on our buyers' licences, as I mentioned earlier, is that all buyers should pay the union negotiated price and right now the union negotiated price is, as announced by the union last week, \$2.05, the average price throughout the season. And we are convinced that although the prices are down to \$1.90 in some areas of the Province, some buyers are paying \$1.90 because the market is still down in Boston. The market improved a bit the last few days and indications are it will improve further the next few days; then there is no reason why all buyers throughout the Province will not be again paying \$2.05 and above.

And, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is obviously unaware of what is happening in his own riding because over in his own district -

MR. NEARY: Oh, yes I am.

MR. MORGAN: - the buyers were paying \$2.35 a pound during a certain part of the season and now they are paying \$1.90, but the average price for the season will be far above \$2.05 a pound.

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1681

SD - 3

MR. NEARY:

Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. member for Port au Port -

MR. HODDER:

I yield, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

- yields again.

MR. NEARY: I just want to clear this up again.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: The major buyer -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: He is leading us on again today.

MR. NEARY: The major buyer in my own district, by the way, has been paying \$2.05 a pound, is prepared to pay \$1.90 a pound, but is afraid to do it, afraid the minister will cancel his licence and as of today that major buyer, who buys lobster right from Cape Ray to Burgeo, has stopped buying lobster.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

If the hon. gentleman has a supplementary question, he should put it.

MR. NEARY: So would the hon. gentleman indicate how the lobster fishermen are going to dispose of their lobsters if the buyer stops buying because they do not want to take a loss by paying \$2.05 a pound to the fishermen? How can they continue to buy the lobster from the fishermen? Will the minister undertake to subsidize these buyers?

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, if there is any buyer over on the Western part of the Province who is not willing to buy lobster at \$1.90, I would say that there are a number of other buyers who are right now and the Fishermen's Union should be notified. The hon. gentleman should, in all sincerity, if he is sincere about the problem that the fishermen are having with lobster prices, and if he is sincere about it, if he is, all he had to do this morning was talk to the Fishermen's Union and report to them that the fact is there are fishermen in the South

MR. MORGAN: Western part of the Province in his riding and there is no buyer for their lobsters. Now, that is a very simple thing to do and the Fishermen's Union could arrange for maybe Clearwater, in this case who they have an agreement with, to move into the area and buy their lobsters from them on the condition that if you pay \$1.90 now, when the market improves that they will pay a further increase in the price to the fishermen later on. That is the whole thing -

MR. NEARY: Everyone buying is prepared to do that (inaudible).

MR. MORGAN: Look, if the hon. gentleman wants to twist around the facts like he normally tries to do, unsuccessfully, in the eyes of the fishermen in particular, if he is sincere about the problems of the fishermen having this year a lobster price of \$1.90, which is a record price anyway for this Province - not saying it is enough, but right now the market price in Boston is down, as I mentioned earlier. And the fact is that all indications are that the price will increase. When the price increases, the fishermen will get an increase in price here and the agreement with the Fishermen's Union is that the fishermen will receive a price of \$2.05 average throughout the lobster fishing season this year, a stabilized price, in other words.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker.

MR. MORGAN: That is simple baby talk.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. J. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), I mean, in his Ministerial Statement which he put before the House - and I have spoken to the Fishermen's Union - in his Ministerial Statement he said \$2.05 which was negotiated by the Fishermen's Union and made the conditions of those shellfish licences conditional. The condition was conditional on the price negotiated by the Fishermen's Union. Now he is telling us that it is now \$1.90, that it is averaged over the season. Now that is not what he said earlier this year in this House of Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister is how can he determine what will be the average price since National Sea Products, which was one of the major offshore buyers in this Province, has been paying \$1.90 a pound for two and a half weeks. Is the minister going to tell this House at this particular time that National Sea or any other buyer that has been paying \$1.90 a pound will have to pay \$2.25 and they will lose their license if they do not pay \$2.25 when the market comes up, or what kind of a system are we running here?

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

MR. J. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman tried to play politics with lobster prices a few weeks ago and failed and failed badly in his riding in the Port au Port area, according to calls from fishermen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. J. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, our condition on a buyers' license is that all buyers - because the Fishermen's Union, because fishermen are not really organized with regard to dealing with the buyers, all the buyers, and we have many buyers who are in so many cases agents of other companies outside of Newfoundland, outside of

MR. J. MORGAN: the Province that our condition that we set is the wish of the Fishermen's Union on behalf of the fishermen, on behalf of the membership around the Province, that we establish a condition, and that condition is clearly spelled out on the buyer's license. "Mr. Buyer, you must pay the union negotiated price when you buy lobsters from fishermen." Now that union negotiated price as announced last week by the Fishermen's Union, is a \$2.05 average throughout the fishing season. In my Ministerial Statement there was no mention of the details of how the price would work. The Ministerial Statement clearly spelled out that we would establish in our buyer's license a condition, and that condition would be that all the buyers throughout the Province would pay the union negotiated price, and the union negotiated -

MR. J. HODDER: No, no, no! You know better.

MR. J. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the buyers' licenses, the buyers know what is on the condition, and they are obviously more intelligent and understand better than the members of the Opposition. It is spelled out for them. It reads out, in fact it reads - I can remember the actual wording of it - that you must pay to fishermen the union negotiated price. Now the buyers know they have to pay that. The Fishermen's Union announced last week through the media and through the Fishermen's Broadcast in particular that that union negotiated price is \$2.05, an average price to all fishermen throughout the fishing season. The average will be \$2.05.

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1684

NM - 1

MR. MORGAN: It was \$3.35 -

MR. HODDER: Your statement said minimum.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I do not care what - I am talking about what the Fishermen's Union has negotiated and they have announced that.

MR. WARREN: Your statement is no good.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, and I have to say it over and over and over again, we do not set lobster prices and we do not set fish prices but I will tell you, we are going to work with the Fishermen's Union to make sure that the fishermen get a good deal, a good deal and a fair price for lobsters.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. HODDER: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the minister, when one of the largest buyers in the Province decided to drop their price to \$1.90 a pound, did they have any idea of the - did they come to the minister, did they go to the Fishermen's Union or did they do it arbitrarily? And I will ask the minister again, will the minister ensure that they do average out over the season? How is he going to ensure that? And I would ask the minister something else, does he not think that this little system, this little house of cards that he has built up where he will negotiate a price and hope everybody will come in with no regard to the market conditions, does he not think that perhaps we should have a better system here in the Province?

MR. WARREN: Terrible!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman two weeks ago made a statement publicly saying that the Fishermen's Union and the Newfoundland Government were powerless

MR. MORGAN: in dealing with the buyers and that of course gave all kind of ammunition to those companies outside of Newfoundland in buying lobsters from Newfoundland fishermen, taking advantage of the situation -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame! Shame!

MR. MORGAN: - led to believe that the Newfoundland Government had no power to deal with them. They could walk over the fishermen, just walk over them and deal as they wish with them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: Cut their prices down. That was the impression left by the Opposition statement last week and again today, again today. The fact is that we are not going to allow any buyer in the Province to take advantage of fishermen because they do not have, all of them have union negotiated deals between the fishermen and the buyers, not all of them. We are not going to allow the buyers to take advantage of the situation and we are going to ensure, and I will say again, we are going to ensure that the fishermen get a good price reflected from the price in the marketplace and reflected on the deal made between the Fishermen's Union and a major buyer.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask the minister, you know in light of the statements that he made about - I did not realize I had so much power, Mr. Speaker, that my statements caused the market to crumble. But, Mr. Speaker, in light of the minister's latest last statement, what happens, how does the minister deal with a situation whereby the Boston market, say, goes down to \$1 a pound for unforeseen reasons? Is the minister - you know, I am attacking the system here, I am saying we should have a better system - is the minister then going to

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1684

NM - 3

MR. HODDER: be able to maintain \$1.90 a pound,
\$2.00 a pound, or \$2.05 a pound, or whatever they -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER: I mean, he has said, he has told the
fishermen of this Province in no uncertain terms in a Ministerial
Statement they are going to get \$2.05 a pound. How can he control
the Boston market? That is what I would like to know.

MR. WARREN: He does not know himself.

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I wish I could control the Boston market. I wish I could, I would ensure that the fishermen would get a good price for the lobsters.

MR. NEARY: Subsidized by (Inaudible).

MR. MORGAN: In fact, a few days ago lobsters were selling, I think, it was in Alberta, lobsters were selling at \$7.90 per pound.

MR. NEARY: Send them off there.

MR. MORGAN: And, you know, it leads me to believe that maybe fishermen should be getting more than what they are getting in Newfoundland. But the fact is that most of our lobsters are going into Boston. And one thing we will be doing, I have already talked to at least two major Newfoundland buyers, a Newfoundland company, one of them up, in fact, in Notre Dame Bay, a well-known buyer, and I have no hesitation in using his name, the Eveleigh family up there in Comfort Cove and I talked to him at our initiative, the Newfoundland Government, I talked to him along the lines of putting in place some kind of an experimental, at least next year pound for the holding of lobsters.

MR. HODDER: Where is this?

MR. MORGAN: We have good cold water here and there is no reason why we could not hold the lobsters, hold them until shortly after the season is closed and then take these lobsters not into the Boston market -

MR. HODDER: Are you taking credit for that?

MR. MORGAN: - which is primarily
being supplied by -

MR. HODDER: Are you taking credit for that?

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, could I have some kind of order here?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. MORGAN: So, Mr. Speaker, we are going to be working with a couple of major Newfoundland buyers and we are going to have the Fishermen's Union involved as well.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: And maybe we are going to have to put forward some up-front money, Newfoundland taxpayers' money, but it would be a good investment, in my view, merely to carry the inventory of holding these lobsters rather than having these buyers placed in some jeopardy if something happens and the lobsters are - or something happens with regards to the lobsters after they are pounded.

So I cannot see from the advice and information that I have received to date why it cannot work in Newfoundland. We can hold the lobsters, pound them here, and then rather than go to the U.S. market, shortly after the season closes or around the end of the lobster season, we would take them into the European market and we can almost guarantee better prices back to the fishermen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: I will yield to hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. SPEAKER: Yields to the hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. HOLLETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A supplementary to the Minister of Fisheries. Mr. Speaker, in response to the original question from my colleague for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), the minister stated that the prices were negotiated by the Fishermen's Union and with two major buyers. He named one, Clearwater. I would like

MR. HOLLETT: for him to tell us who the other one was

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

MR. MORGAN: The other company was, I do not know if we can call it a major buyer, but -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: - they are a major buyer in Halifax, but they are not a major Newfoundland buyer; they have been buying here on the Great Northern Peninsula, they have been buying in the Port au Port area, they have been buying in St. George's area, .

MR. HOLLETT: What is the name?

MR. MORGAN: The company is James Moog Limited from Nova Scotia, the other was Clearwater.

MR. NEARY: You would not sell very many lobsters if you had to depend on that.

MR. MORGAN: Last year Mr. Moog collected, I think, around 200,000 to 300,000 pounds of lobster, in that area, and looking at the other buyers in that general area he was a major buyer in that area, but he is not a major buyer looking at the overall perspective in Newfoundland because we have local buyers buying more than that.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question to the Premier is with regards to Bill 25, An Act To Provide For The Repeal Of The Churchill Falls Act, better known as the Water Reversion Act. Would the Premier indicate to us at this point in time if he has any indication as to who will be intervening it or who will be proposing, what groups or parties or vested interests will be opposing the proclamation of that act? Would the Premier indicate to us now whether or not he has that information?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: I am not sure if I understand the hon. member's question, Who will be intervening at the court hearings?

MR. FLIGHT: Opposing at court.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Well, the court date has not finally been set on it yet. The matter is before the courts and the court has to - the appeal court, that appeal court has to decide on a date when they will hear, and then when they do, I imagine at that point in time you will be able to ascertain what groups or organizations or governments or individuals will be taking what side on the act or what groups will be intervening against the act or opposing what it is that the legislation sets out, that the Government of Newfoundland or the various companies involved under the act

PREMIER PECKFORD: would want to do. So I suppose one could presume that there are a number of obvious organizations or governments that might oppose or intervene against the import and substance of the act and I think they are obvious to everybody. But until such time as the court has established a time in which they are going to hear argument concerning the constitutionality, the validity of the act, I do not imagine there would be any notice given to the court from these various organizations or groups who might want to intervene. They would have to have some vehicle through which to intervene and that vehicle is not there, I do not suppose, until such time as the court has set down an actual time on which they are going to hear it. But undoubtedly it is clear to everybody the groups who would be so inclined.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): A supplementary. The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, there has been one indication that CFLCo, a company that we own, a company that costs us hundreds of millions of dollars, a Crown corporation in most people's minds, has indicated its intention of opposing our case in court. They intend to intervene and oppose Newfoundland's case, oppose our right to proclaim the Water Reversion Act, and they are going to oppose our rights to the benefits that would come if that act was proclaimed.

MR. FLIGHT: Now, Mr. Speaker, CFLCo has indicated publicly their intention to intervene, and I would like to hear the Premier comment on that, that a company like CFLCo, a Crown corporation, is going to oppose legislation passed in this House of Assembly.

MR. NEARY: Owned by the Newfoundland Government.

MR. FLIGHT: Owned by the Newfoundland Government.

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: First, it is rather strange. CFLCo is not a wholly-owned Crown corporation of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the reason why it is substantially controlled by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador now is because of an action that was taken a number of years ago, to which hon. members on the other side have objected -

MR. FLIGHT: Yes, \$200 million or \$300 million later.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - up until a couple of days ago. So I find it rather strange to start with that the Opposition would suddenly start claiming ownership of CFLCo at a time when the Opposition themselves have been opposing that kind of move a number of years ago. You cannot have your cake and eat it too. You are either for it or you are against it. When it is convenient, the Opposition uses CFLCo as being owned by the Government of Newfoundland; when it is inconvenient and perhaps more politically convenient for them to say otherwise, they oppose the takeover whereby we got back our water and got back some of the things that belong to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. So I cannot let the moment pass, Mr. Speaker, without commenting upon the various circumstances under which the Opposition finds it convenient to say one thing and at another time

PREMIER PECKFORD: say something else.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: It shows once again the inconsistency of the Opposition in the way they approach public policy issues dealing with CFLCo, dealing with Northern cod, dealing with offshore, dealing with transmission of hydro power through Quebec.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: So, I must say, it comes as a great surprise to me that the energy critic for the Opposition (Mr. Flight) would suddenly want to espouse a cause to which his own colleagues have been opposed for so long.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. FLIGHT: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, anybody listening - the House of Assembly, the press or anybody - would recognize that the Premier did not answer the question. I asked the Premier if, number one, he had been notified, if he was aware that CFLCo was indeed going to intervene and intended to oppose in courts our right to proclaim that legislation and how he squares that with everything he just said, that we own that corporation, how he squares the fact that a company owned by the Newfoundland Government, that cost hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayers' money in order to own it, is now going to oppose in court - in court, Mr. Speaker, we are going to oppose it ourselves; CFLCo is going to oppose in court legislation that would give us the rights to the benefits, or so he says, to the benefits of having the legislation proclaimed? How is it that he is going to permit CFLCo a company that we own, to intervene and oppose

May 21, 1981

Tape 1687

EC - 3

MR. FLIGHT: in court our right to proclaim
that legislation and our right to the benefits that would
flow from that legislation if it were proclaimed?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I apologize and I am extremely sorry that I might not have answered the question to the hon. member's benefit but I just got agitated. I got completely carried away. I just got completely carried away and very seldom, Mr. Speaker, do I -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- and very seldom, Mr. Speaker, do I get carried away. I hardly ever get carried away.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

And what really gets me carried away is when somebody tends to be illogical, tends to be inconsistent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I lose my rationality.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I lose my whole reason for being and I then start to question the whole -

MR. FLIGHT:

He did not answer the question.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- motivation, especially in the beginning.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! .

PREMIER PECKFORD:

So, these are the reasons, Mr. Speaker -

MR. FLIGHT:

He did not know -

MR. NEARY:

He does not know the answers.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The time for Oral Questions has expired.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Oh, I am very sorry, Mr. Speaker. Tomorrow we will try to respond.

May 21, 1981

Tape NO. 1688

EL - 2

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

Sit down.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

But this is just terrible, Mr.

Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. member for St. John's

North.

MR. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Social Services Committee on the Estimates, I would like to report that the Committee has passed head XII, Environment; head XIII, Education; head XIV, Social Services; head XV, Health; head XVIII, Culture Recreation and Youth; and head XIX, Justice, without amendment. I would like to report that a total of thirty hours were spent on consideration of these estimates and that they were passed without amendment and I would ask that that report be put on the Order Paper.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS:

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 relating to the raising of loans by the Province.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Forest Resources and Lands.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give an answer to a question of which I received notice the other day about the water bomber allocations throughout the Province. We do have six water bombers. There will be one in St. Johns, one in Deer Lake, one in Goose Bay, two in Gander and the sixth water

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1688

EL - 3

MR. POWER: bomber will be positioned throughout the Province depending on the fire hazard at the beginning of each week. One in Labrador, and one positioned depending on the fire hazards.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Further answers.
The hon. the Minister of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I have answers to three questions. The first one, a question raised by the member for St. Barbe (T. Bennett) relating to a grant of \$67,030 to the Newfoundland and Labrador

MR. GOUDIE:

Rural Development Council to conduct a study entitled: 'World Development in the '80s'.

On October 9th, 1979, the council received a cheque and deposited it in a working account. The first withdrawal was made November 14th, 1979. I think the hon. member suggested it was in there for two year accruing interest or something to that effect. The grant was used mainly to pay salaries of a consultant, two researchers and legal advice. A small balance remains in the account and there are still some outstanding bills. A report of the completed study will be in the hands of the department no later than June 17th. So that is the answer to one question, Mr. Speaker.

A question raised by the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) last week, I believe, to which I gave an incomplete answer. I have some additional information which I would like to pass on relating to deletions from what is referred to as the land freeze for agricultural purposes.

On October 31, 1973, the freeze was established under the Land Development Act. June 23, 1978, a zone established under the Development Area Lands Act, several amendments to the zone were made at this time. As a result of the department's planning studies, 51,000 acres were involved in the zone. December 7, 1979, an amendment to the Seal Cove - Foxtrap area agriculture zone, based on the department's planning studies, totally deleted 177 hectares or 464 acres. May, 1980, an amendment to the St. Philip's - Torbay - Shoe Cove area based on the department's planning studies, total deleted thirty-five hectares or eighty-seven acres. June, 1980, an amendment to the St. Philip's - Torbay - Shoe Cove area total deleted was 1.5 acres. So from June 1978 to June 1981 the total areas deleted, 552.5 acres.

MR. GOUDIE: And I might add, Mr. Speaker, that these were done in conjunction with various municipal governments involved as well.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. GOUDIE: I just outlined them.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

Further answers to questions?

MR. GOUDIE: The other answer, Mr. Speaker, I cannot remember the date of the Order Paper now but the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) raised the question about a list of loans and grants and so on that were made under my department. I will not read them all out obviously but there is a list of - the number and amount approved, jobs created and jobs maintained by industry classification, the RDA loans programme.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. GOUDIE: The information was asked for, Mr. Speaker, and I am providing it. There were a number of approvals and amounts approved by the provincial electoral district federal/provincial Craft Marketing Programme and the federal/provincial Industrial Incentives Programme and another figure here as well, the projected losses - the RDA programme 1972 to date. So there is the information, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Any further Answers to Questions?

000

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

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

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I raise the point of order merely to jog Your Honour's memory and to remind Your Honour that Your Honour was going to give a ruling, after consulting with Hansard, reading Hansard in connection with an unparliamentary remark that was made a few days ago by the member for Placentia (Mr. Patterson). I do not know if Your Honour has had time to take a look at Hansard. The hon. gentleman called a member on this side of the House a liar.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order, it is not a point of order. But I can tell the hon. member, first of all, that I was not in the Chair at the time. I believe the Deputy Speaker (Mr. Butt) was in the Chair at the time, and I am sure he will give a ruling when he is ready to give a ruling.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Motion, the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy to introduce a bill, "An Act To Ratify, Confirm And Adiot An Amending Agreement Entered Into Between Government And Lower Churchill Development Corporation Limited". (Bill No. 69)

On motion, Bill No. 69 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

Motion, the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland And Labrador Hydro Act, 1975". (Bill No.74)

On motion, Bill No. 74 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

Motion, the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Labrador Lands (Reservation) Act". (Bill No. 63)

On motion, Bill No. 63 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

Motion, second reading of a bill, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation Act For The Purpose Of Integrating The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation And The St. John's Housing Corporation". (Bill No. 19)

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. President of the Council.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Development (Mr. Windsor), who is responsible for housing, I rise to introduce this bill. This bill, Mr. Speaker, carries through the intention as enunciated

MR. MARSHALL:

by the government some time ago to combine the St. John's Housing Corporation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.

The most important parts of the bill which give effect to this can be found in clause 4 where section 43 of the act is repealed, and I might say that that section 43 is repealed because as it reads in the present act of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation it provides that any actions of that corporation shall not be in conflict with the actions of the St. John's Housing Corporation. The rest of sections 43, 44, and 45, what they do, as I say the operative part of the act, Mr. Speaker, transfers the assets of the St. John's Housing Corporation to the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation. Other parts of the bill make provisions with respect to the membership on the board of directors of the corporation, making them not less than five or more than ten; there is a slight increase, I think, of three members, in order to accommodate the additional work that will be involved.

Generally speaking, Mr. Speaker, this is a bill then which will carry into effect the announced intentions of government to amalgamate these two corporations. It is provided at the end of it that it will come into effect when proclaimed, so this is the next advanced step towards realizing this particular attention.

Now I will not keep the House for any length of time in introducing it, Mr. Speaker. I would rather just sit down now; when I close the debate I will respond and be quite ready to respond to any questions that may arise.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, we see no reason, as a matter of fact we are all for merging the various housing corporations in

MR. NEARY: this Province, putting them all under one umbrella - if that indeed is what the act does; it is very vague on that particular point. But we think this would be a good move if it will eliminate the bureaucratic empire that has been established in the Corner Brook Housing Corporation, the St. John's Housing Corporation, and the St. John's Housing Corporation Lands Act, and put them all under the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, that it would indeed be a good move.

But, Mr. Speaker, there is one aspect of this act that I am not quite clear on and I was hoping that the minister would clarify it when he introduced the bill and that has to do with the 999 year leases. As hon. members know, there are a number of properties around the city of St. John's - as a matter of fact I lived on one for six and a half years myself where the St. John's Housing Corporation leases the land for \$1 a year to the person who owns the house that is built on that land.

Now under this new bill, and the explanatory note, Sir, is very vague on this, does that mean that the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation will now have the right to increase the rent for this land or will it still be at the same rate of \$1.00 a year? I think that point has to be made, Mr. Speaker. It would be very unfair indeed if the government brought in a bill to impose rent on land upon which houses were built a number of years ago, ten, twelve, fifteen years ago, and now start charging rent for that land.

I am almost certain that is not the intent of the bill but I would like for the minister to tell us whether or not there is any fear that the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, when they take over the St. John's Housing Corporation, will be able to charge these people rent.

I was hoping also, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. gentleman who introduced the bill would give us some

MR. NEARY: idea of what was planned in the way of housing development in this Province. It is a golden opportunity for the minister to make a statement of policy, to tell the House what kind of a housing programme we can expect in this Province, especially in the St. John's area, in the next year or so. We heard the other day about the housing boom in Gander. But we hear of other parts of Newfoundland, especially in the city of St. John's and in the larger centres, where there is a desperate need of accommodations, desperate; it is absolutely astounding, Mr. Speaker, the number of requests.

MR. NEARY: that we get from constituents and indeed, I get them from all over the Province, of people who are looking for housing accommodations.

Now, in the city of St. John's, as hon. members know, because of the land speculators and because of the NIP programme and because of the Heritage Foundation and so forth, a lot of the land speculators have gone into downtown St. John's and they have gutted out the old houses downtown; the lawyers, some of the lawyers - not all of them, but some of them - and some of the construction people, some of the people who provide building material, manage to get themselves elected to these Heritage Foundations, or whatever they call them, and they have gone downtown and they buy the land and then they tear the houses down, and in the process they have created a desperate housing shortage in the city of St. John's. At least people on social assistance and in the lower income bracket always manage to get a roof over their heads. It may not have been the best accommodations in the world but it was the best that they could find in the city at the time, but now, because they are gutting out these houses, ripping them down, tearing them down, there is a housing shortage and people on social assistance and in the lower income bracket no longer have recourse to these houses.

And another thing that I might say, Mr. Speaker, that seems to have developed into quite a racket is the Neighbourhood Improvement Programme. That has developed into quite a racket. Hon. gentlemen know that that is a federal programme administered by the Province, I believe. Well, what has happened in that particular instance, Mr. Speaker, is that some of the slum landlords, some of the lawyers downtown, bought the old houses, got the federal funds, upgraded the houses and then decided to sell them, or sold the land and tore the houses down.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, are there no strings attached to the funds that are paid out by the taxpayers of this Province to upgrade old houses in St. John's? Turn it into a bit of a racket, collect the rent, in some instances, abandon the house, sell the house for exorbitant profits and make a killing - they have turned it into a real racket. Are there no strings attached to this sort of funding? Mr. Speaker, I would like for the hon. gentleman to address himself to that question. It has developed into a racket, not so much in recent months, but in the earlier years of the Neighbourhood Improvement Programme and the federal grants, the Heritage Fund was turned into a real racket by building material people, people who sell supplies for houses, and by some of the lawyers, who found a milch cow; they found another source of handouts from both the provincial and federal governments. And, Mr. Speaker, now they are downtown, the land grabbers, the moneybags are downtown now buying all the land they can buy downtown. But they are in for a rude awakening, I might say, Mr. Speaker, because the Royal Trust, a few days ago, made a policy decision that they would make no further loans for high rise office buildings or for big commercial establishments while the interest rates are as high as they are. I believe it was the Royal Trust did that and then, I believe, Montreal Trust is following their example, and I would assume that that will set a trend and that all the trust companies and the banks will refrain, will not loan any more money for these big high rise office buildings and these commercial establishments that the money grabbers and the land speculators thought they were going to make

MR. NEARY: a killing of it, now they are going to be left flat on their fannies, Mr. Speaker. But the damage is done now. They have created a housing shortage in this city. They have gone down right in the heart of Tory St. John's and they have gutted it out. They have brought in the bulldozers and levelled everything down in my hon. friend's area, down in the Gower Street area, Water Street West, in the centre of the Province, in the heart of the Province, they have gone down and they have gutted it out, and in the process they have left large numbers of people marooned as far as housing is concerned.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if the present high interest rate continues, and there is every indication that this trend is not going to stop, then it is going to be increasingly difficult for families, especially young couples just getting married, to be able to build or purchase a home of their own in this Province in the foreseeable future. It will be virtually impossible - it is impossible now. The housing industry in this Province has slowed down to a snail's pace, and I was surprised to hear that statement from Gander the other day that there is a housing boom in Gander. I do not know what is causing it, it may be the armed forces, maybe it is because of the federal money that is being spent there. I really do not know what the cause of it is, Mr. Speaker, but I think -

MR. BARRY: The ground work was laid by the member for Gander (Mrs. Newhook).

MR. NEARY: No, it is certainly not the ground work - the member for Gander had nothing at all to do with it. If there is a housing boom there there is some peculiar reason for it, but I -

MR. BARRY: Her planning.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

MR. BARRY: Her planning when she was mayor.

MR. NEARY: What is causing the housing boom in Gander at the present time?

MRS. NEWHOOK: People are moving in.

MR. NEARY: But why are they moving in? Why are they gravitating towards Gander?

MR. BARRY: They want to have the best member as their MHA.

MRS. NEWHOOK: It is a good place to live.

MR. NEARY: Well, I know it is a good place to live, I have a sister who lives there, but what is causing the boom now? Is it the armed forces who are beefing up their operation in Gander? Are they hiring on any more people? Is there a boom at the airport? What is the reason?

MR. BARRY: It is not a Liberal district.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: The Department of Transport are -

MRS. NEWHOOK: Terra Nova Tel.

MR. NEARY: Oh, Terra Nova Tel. Are they building houses in Gander now?

MRS. NEWHOOK: They are buying houses.

MR. NEARY: Terra Nova Tel ; they are consolidating their operation in Newfoundland and the headquarters is in Gander, and Terra Nova Tel are buying houses. Well, there you go, federal funds again.

MRS. NEWHOOK: (Inaudible) employees.

MR. NEARY: Well, they are buying the houses for the employees or the employees are buying the houses themselves. I knew there was an unusual reason for it, Mr. Speaker. Now I found out what it is. But as hon. members know, in most parts of the Province that is not so, that the housing industry in this Province had practically ground to a halt, especially on the

MR. NEARY: Avalon Peninsula. And I would like for the minister to tell us what steps are being taken to undertake a big housing development in this Province. People are not going to be able to buy their own houses. Tell us what kind of programmes and incentives are being provided for people to get their own accommodations, whether they be rental accommodations or whether they be homes purchased from the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Housing Corporation.

This whole thing here, as good as it is, consolidating all the housing corporations and putting them under one roof, as good as that is, Mr. Speaker, that is not going to solve the problems of the people in this Province who are desperate for a place to live. I get calls myself every day from people who want apartments, low rental apartments in the city of St. John's. I call up the St. John's Housing Corporation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation and I am told that there are over 1,000 applications, over 1,000 people on the waiting list. A lot of them are emergencies, Mr. Speaker, and that is not good enough.

MR. NEARY: I think now that we are on this bill that it is a good opportunity for the government through some minister, I do not think the minister responsible for housing - oh, yes, the minister responsible for housing is here, but I do not know why the President of the council (Mr. Marshall) introduced the bill when the minister responsible for housing was in the House or within the precincts of the House.

MR. WINDSOR: I was not in the House.

MR. NEARY: Well, the hon. gentleman was not in the House but now perhaps the hon. gentleman can take over because we had no information supplied to the House by the hon. gentleman who introduced the bill. And Mr. Speaker, we want to know what is happening in this particular situation. We also want to know what is happening down in the town of Trepassey where as hon. gentlemen know the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation has a number of housing units in that community. This was a letter that was written recently from the town of Trepassey, by the mayor, to the minister responsible for housing, and perhaps I will read the letter just to give the - it would be alright to read it, would it not? - to give the hon. House an insight on what is happening in Trepassey. It says, "Dear Mr. Windsor." This is dated May 11, 1981, just a few days ago, "The rental units of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation here in Trepassey have been a problem for council for many years. The units have not been adequately maintained or repaired and are continually in a deplorable state of disrepair. This condition in a town where most residents take pride in their property is one that we cannot tolerate any longer. In addition to the deplorable conditions, several

MR. NEARY: houses are left completely open to the public thereby posing a serious fire and safety hazard to curious children. Other older children simply go inside and vandalize the buildings. All previous requests, complaints and even threats to the corporation have been all but ignored." Let me read that again, just for the sake of the Premier, and see if he is riding herd on his ministers on this one. "All previous requests, complaints and even threats to the corporation have been all but ignored. We now intend to take whatever action is necessary to rectify this problem. In your capacity as Minister of Housing we are asking you to look into this matter for us and maybe further action might be avoided. By copy of this letter, we are informing the provincial Fire Commissioner and others of this unsafe, deplorable condition. If further information is required, please advise the Trepassey Town Council."

Now, Mr. Speaker, that raises another problem as far as housing is concerned in this Province, houses that are owned by the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation. We all remember what happened at the Ebsary Estate a number of years ago. These houses had been vandalized and had been repaired two and three times over and over again and they deteriorated to the extent where a lot of them had to be torn down. But can the minister tell us if this is a real problem with the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation and the St. John's Housing Corporation? We all know of families, of individuals, who have moved in and out of two and three and four apartments and wrecked them as they went.

MR. HANCOCK: And nothing done with them after they moved out.

MR. NEARY: And nothing done with the apartments after the people moved out. As in the case

MR. NEARY: of Trepassey they are left open for little children, curious children to wander in and out.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bit of a problem. I do not know how you can deal with people. I would say fortunately they are not large in numbers but there are people who are wreckers, they are just natural born wreckers. They wreck one apartment and one house after the other. It is unfortunate because they make it bad for other people. The minister might be able to tell us how serious this problem is, how the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation carry out their inspections, how they cope with this kind of a situation. In some cases some of these wreckers have cost the taxpayers of this Province a small fortune, one after the other.

MR. NEARY: What kind of inspections do the St. John's Housing Corporation carry out and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation to keep tabs on these people?

Mr. Speaker, I have seen some developments, especially in the St. John's area, of row housing, of beautiful apartment buildings like we see over at Buckmaster's Circle- they are beautiful; I have been in a lot of these apartments over there, they are beautiful, fit for a queen - but, Mr. Speaker, some people, fortunately not too many -

AN HON. MEMBER: A minority.

MR. NEARY: - a minority, but when they do get in there, some of these people, they wreck these apartments. Now surely there must be some way that that can be stopped, surely the inspectors, if they go about their business in the right way and they see that the people are getting sloppy towards their apartments, that the apartment is deteriorating, they can deal with it immediately and not wait until it is wrecked. And I would be interested in finding out what they are going to do with these apartments in Trepassey, built out of taxpayers' money, just laying there, the doors wide open, windows smashed out, an eye-sore in the community, children wandering in and out, adults in there probably doing all kinds of things -

MR. WOODROW: Carousing and drinking.

MR. NEARY: - carousing and probably drinking, as the hon. gentleman says.

MR. HANCOCK: Everybody's property is being devalued.

MR. NEARY: Public property, paid for out of the taxpayers' money, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation elects to turn a blind eye to it.

MR. WOODROW: They are not allowed to keep dogs.

MR. NEARY: No, that is right.

MR. HANCOCK: A dog would not go into some of them.

MR. NEARY: And so, Mr. Speaker, these are some of the matters that I would like for the hon. gentleman to deal with. But I would like for the hon. gentleman to tell us what kind of a housing programme we can expect in this Province in the next year, the next two years, the next three years? And not only in the city of St. John's, Mr. Speaker. What kind of a housing development is going to take place in other parts of Newfoundland? I know in my own district of LaPoile - hon. members know that Port aux Basques is the largest community in LaPoile district - you would never believe, Mr. Speaker, the desperate housing shortage in Port aux Basques.

A couple of years ago the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing decided to build fourteen subsidized rental apartments in Port aux Basques - I believe because of the lay-out of the land or the expense involved or something they eventually reduced it down to twelve or thirteen apartments. Very good as far as it went, but it did not go far enough. Apart from that development, the construction of these apartment buildings, low rental units, apart from that there has never been any impact by the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation in my district. Their presence is practically nil, Mr. Speaker. Newfoundland and Labrador Housing seem to concentrate all their efforts mainly in St. John's. Well, they have to remember that there are other places in Newfoundland besides St. John's or one or two of the other urban centres. And when they do put them there, they just put them there as if they were an unwanted godchild; they ignore them, they just do not want them, it is a nuisance to them. Inspectors and representatives of the St. John's Housing Corporation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation have to leave home and go and visit these sites and have to visit these buildings and that is a bit of a nuisance to them. They would like to be able to jump in their car and drive down around and have a look around

MR. NEARY: and not have to stay overnight in Port aux Basques or in St. George's or in Port au Port or on the Great Northern Peninsula or on the Southwest Coast of this Province. Everything seems to be St. John's oriented.

MR. HANCOCK: It is a wonder if they are not going to do anything with them, they do not auction them off and get them out of the way

MR. NEARY: That is right.

Well, the hon. gentleman is referring to the Trepassey problem. The hon. gentleman says, 'auction them off and get them out of the way.' How many of these apartments are vacant, by the way?

MR. HANCOCK: Thirty.

MR. NEARY: Thirty apartments vacant?

MR. HANCOCK: They are not apartments, they are houses.

MR. NEARY: Thirty houses, rather, vacant. Thirty. I did not realize there was that many.

MR. HANCOCK: Over forty.

MR. NEARY: Between twenty and thirty houses vacant in Trepassey. I presume these were plant workers and crews on the draggers that moved in there a few years ago, have since moved out or since bought their own houses or built houses in Trepassey.

And unless something is done with them to upgrade them, and I doubt if they can be upgraded now, they will have to be torn down. Call public tenders and tear them down and get rid of them.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would like to get some more information. Merely consolidating the operation of the various housing authorities in this Province is not going to solve housing problems.

MR. NEARY: And not only that, Mr. Speaker, not only do we need houses to put a roof over the families who are desperate for accommodations in this Province, but it also creates employment. As hon. members know, the housing industry is labour intensive. It creates a lot of work, a lot of jobs, and I do not think we could do a better thing at the moment than to embark upon a massive housing programme in this Province to try to solve the problems of accommodations throughout various parts of the Province.

I am sure that the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation have identified the areas where there is a shortage of accommodations. If they have not identified the areas, then they should. They should know where they are. I just named one, Port aux Basques.

MR. HANCOCK: What about if you had something with the Rural RRAP programme? Only in Tory areas, I imagine.

MR. NEARY: Well, I know. I am not talking about Tory areas. I am talking about all over Newfoundland. But it is very hard, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult indeed to get this government to think about rural Newfoundland. When it is convenient for them they will play up to rural Newfoundland, but when you have eleven districts in the city of St. John's, eleven districts, eleven Tories elected in the city of St. John's, more members elected than in a thousand miles of coastline stretching from Cape Bonavista to Cape Chidley in the North and the whole of Labrador, that huge territory of Labrador, between Labrador and between Cape Chidley and Cape Bonavista, the Green Bay area, the Great Northern Peninsula elects ten members. St. John's elects eleven. Eleven.

AN HON. MEMBER: You do not like that.

MR. NEARY: I certainly do not like it. It is not fair. It is not just. It is unfair, Mr. Speaker. Very unfair. That is why everything is concentrated in St. John's.

MR. HANCOCK: How many phone calls do you get a year?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, there was a time in this Province, and I heard the hon. Mr. Smallwood when he was here refer to the government as Her Majesty's outport government. -jokingly, of course, but he was proud of that. But today, what do you have? You have seven out of eleven St. John's members in the Cabinet, seven. They elect eleven members in St. John's, seven of them are in the Cabinet. Well, they may be good men but I would think it kind of loads the dice in favour of St. John's. It stacks the cards against rural Newfoundland.

The member himself represents St. John's.

MR. WINDSOR: No, he does not.

MR. NEARY: Oh, yes he does. He is one of the eleven. One of the eleven.

MR. WINDSOR: Mount Pearl is St. John's?

MR. NEARY: No, the hon. gentleman is not. But there are eleven members elected, seven of whom are in the Cabinet and that is unfair. Rural Newfoundland is not getting a fair shake and never will as long as we have that balance in this Province. You have seventeen or eighteen Cabinet Ministers and seven of them represent St. John's districts.

MR. WINDSOR: How many calls do you get a year?

MR. NEARY: What chance does the fellow in the rural area have? That is why you can get your synchrolifts financed by the Province, why they come to the rescue of a federal Crown corporation, one of the wealthiest in Canada.

MR. HANCOCK: Which area downtown (inaudible)?

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

MR. HANCOCK: Fourteen hundred voters.

MR. NEARY: It was not done because of the feds, it was done because the eleven Tory St. John's members, seven of whom are in the Cabinet, were trying to save their political scalps, that is why it was done.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: I guarantee you they would not come to the rescue of Marystown in the same way as they did to Tory St. John's. Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that even if St. John's only had one member in the Cabinet their presence would still be felt, they would still have a big impact on the government, because all the media are concentrated in St. John's, the government offices are here. So if they only had one member, St. John's would still get its fair share. And I am not trying to take anything away from St. John's. I am not trying to fan that old controversy of St. John's versus the outports, I am not doing that at all, Mr. Speaker. St. John's, God bless them, let them get whatever they can get, but do not get it at the expense of the rest of the Province.

MR. HANCOCK: Hear, hear! That is right.

I do not hear the Premier guaranteeing St. Mary's - The Capes or any other district with \$22 million for a synchrolift.

MR. NEARY: No, I guarantee you, and you will not either, as long as you have that balance. There is the real problem in this Province. It is a real problem. The representation in this House and in the Cabinet is

MR. NEARY: unfair. And I can stand here until I get blue in the face and argue for a housing programme for rural Newfoundland, and the hon. gentleman, who is St. John's oriented, will get up and find some little flimsy excuse to weasel his way out of it, to skirt around it, to skate around it, and say, 'Oh, no. We built a few houses in Gander and we built a few in Corner Brook -

MR. TULK: But they do not have the funds.

MR. NEARY: That is right. Built a few in Corner Brook, built a few in Gander, built a few in Stephenville, but that is it, that is the extent of it. Rural Newfoundland, no. You know, Mr. Speaker, rural Newfoundland keeps this Province afloat.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Right!

MR. NEARY: It is the primary producers, the fellows who produce the new dollars in Newfoundland, the fellows who are the ones who pay the bills.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: In St. John's, all you have is in-breeding, all you have are people who are feeding at the public trough, people who are getting their incomes, federal and provincial money, public servants and so forth. I would say you could take the whole Crosbie empire, they do not generate one new dollar in this Province, not a new dollar - unless they get DAC off the ground, and that is highly improbable. They do not generate one new dollar. I have heard it argued, Mr. Speaker, how Crosbies are a great employer and Crosbies employ a lot of people. Well, I say, more power to them, but what do they produce? They are merely providing services, they are merely involved in the service industry and they are not producing anything to produce new dollars.

MR. HANCOCK: They are raping the grapes.

MR. MOORES: They are parasites.

MR. NEARY: No, I would not go as far as to say that. But the point I am making, Mr. Speaker, is that the primary producers, the miners, the fishermen, the loggers, the fish plant workers -

MR. TULK: Places like Fogo Island are another thing.

MR. NEARY: That is right. When was the last time Fogo Island got a housing development? The primary producers are the people who keep her going, who keep the wheels turning, the primary producers, Mr. Speaker, mostly rural area fishermen. But hon. gentlemen hold their noses when you talk about the fishery, turn up their noses, and as a result, the fishermen, the loggers, the miners, the fish plant workers, are left

MR. S. NEARY: to paddle their own canoe. They do not get much help from this government to build homes. And hon. gentlemen can go down in my district of LaPoile between Port aux Basques and Rose Blanche and I would defy them, I would challenge them to point to one other community where they have such beautiful homes, new modern homes. But they have to do it on their own, they do not get any help from this government.

Urban, the urban centres, that is all they can think about, St. John's and the urban centres. And I say the reason for it is because of the balance of power in this House and in the Cabinet. What were you going to say there?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. S. NEARY: If we were talking about the fisheries they would be awake.

Mr. Speaker, these are just a few of the matters that I raised. And I hope that in the transfer of power again that there will be no legal fees involved for the individuals, that they transfer of power will be made -

MR. MARSHALL: It will be done for free.

MR. S. NEARY: Well, maybe it will be done for free. I could tell the hon. gentleman about a few items that have been farmed out to some of the legal firms in this Province that are not free and far from it!

MR. THOMS: \$250,000 last year.

MR. S. NEARY: For what, for legal fees? For who?

MR. THOMS: Farmed out.

MR. S. NEARY: More than that, that is only one department.

MR. THOMS: Yes, that was only one.

MR. S. NEARY: That is only one department. The hon. gentleman should go through the Estimates and look at all the legal fees and see where it is all buried.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I presume we are going to - I have not heard from all my colleagues - but I would assume we are going to support this bill. We do not see anything wrong with it. I doubt very much if it will eliminate the bureaucracy. The bottleneck will still be there. I think they need to do a little P.R., a little Public Relations at the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and at the St. John's Housing Corporations. They need to give people more information. They have to give up this idea of slamming doors in people's faces because they are tormenting the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and the St. John's Housing looking for apartments and looking for houses. They become a bit of a pain in the neck, day in and day out you see the same old faces, so what do they do? They get belligerent and obnoxious with the people who are paying their salaries and practically order them out of the office. They have to get over that, they have to remember that they are public servants in every sense of the word. I have seen it happen. The arrogance of some of that crowd, Mr. Speaker! The empires they have built up! And then again the hon. gentleman might tell us a few things about the public tendering practices of the St. John's Housing Corporation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation. From what I can hear there is a lot there that leaves a lot to be desired. They have built up a system of patronage that would even make the government itself look like babies, look like pikers. How strong now is the government on making the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation and the St. John's Housing Corporation, how adamant are they that they follow the Public Tendering Act to the

MR. S. NEARY:

letter of the law?

According to some of the stories that I hear, Mr. Speaker, that is not happening. I hope that soon, very soon, when the Public Accounts Committee disposes of the routine items that are reported this year in the Auditor General's report - and there are quite a few to be dealt with - that when we start our public hearings again that somewhere down the road before the end of this year in the not too distant future that the Public Accounts Committee will be able to send for witnesses and send for documents of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation,

MR. NEARY: send for their balance sheet, and, having examined the balance sheet, then delve a little more closely into the affairs, the operations, of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, the Corner Brook Housing Corporation and the St. John's Housing Corporation. I believe the Public Accounts Committee have the right to investigate Crown corporations. I think one of the Crown corporations that should be looked at as soon as possible is the housing corporation. And then I would put high on the list of priorities for the Public Accounts Committee Memorial University, And I can hear the screams and the yells now about - what is it they call that down there, the protection they have, about imposing on their - what is it they call it?

AN HON. MEMBER: What?

MR. NEARY: At the University when they argue that you cannot go in there to investigate them?

MR. F. ROWE: Academic freedom.

MR. NEARY: Academic freedom. Their academic freedom; I can hear them now yelling, "Foul", crying "Foul, this is going to encroach on academic freedom." I believe the Public Accounts Committee should, once they get all the other items off their plate, off the agenda, should look into, investigate every Crown corporation in this Province: Newfoundland Farm Products, Memorial University, Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, and that includes all the other housing corporations, Newfoundland Liquor Corporation - what other ones do we have? Oh, and cousin Vic's Newfoundland Hydro, we should certainly take a look at that, Mr. Speaker, to see what kind of a haven that has become for people who have failed in business and in industry, for political appointees, see what kind of a haven that has become.

MR. BARRY: What political appointed appointees?

MR. NEARY: Political appointees, Newfoundland Hydro.

Mr. Speaker, I put a question on the Order Paper and I asked the hon. gentleman, the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) to provide me with a list of all those who were receiving \$25,000 or more in wages and salaries at Newfoundland Hydro. I have not got the answer yet. But it will be interesting if I ever do get the answer, and I doubt very much if I will ever get it.

MR. BARRY: Public knowledge.

MR. NEARY: It is not public knowledge. The hon. gentleman refuses to give the House the information -

MR. BARRY: He cannot refuse.

MR. NEARY: - the same as other ministers. I put the same question to some other ministers.

I do not know if hon. members are aware of it or not, but I would say it goes pretty close to being unlawful for ministers to withhold information from this House.

MR. BARRY: What an imagination.

MR. NEARY: And so, Mr. Speaker, the Public Accounts Committee, I would think, if they do their job, and as long as I stay on it, I do not know how long I will stay on, but as long as I stay on the Public Accounts Committee I can see that we have our work cut out for us, that we should examine into the operations and proceedings of all Crown corporations. And I believe in order to help the Public Accounts Committee do this I believe they should be given sufficient staff, research people, and sufficient office space and secretaries and the like, to be able to do their job in the way in which it should be done.

So, Mr. Speaker, what took me on that line of thought was my statements about the bureaucracy, the contempt that they have for their tenants, the contempt they have for their tenants -

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1699

NM - 3

MR. THOMS: The contempt they have for everybody.

MR. NEARY: - the lack of consideration they have for human beings, the lack of respect they have for people who pay their salaries.

MR. THOMS: The Chairman is the worst offender.

MR. NEARY: Who is the Chairman, by the way?

MR. WINDSOR: What is the relevance of this?

MR. NEARY: The relevance of it is, Mr. Speaker, as hon. members know, when we are debating a bill of this magnitude to merge or consolidate the operations of all the housing authorities in this Province, it develops into a very wide-ranging debate.

MR. CARTER: How did Hydro get into it?

MR. NEARY:

I beg your pardon?

MR. CARTER:

How did Hydro get into it?

MR. NEARY:

Well, if the hon. gentleman had been listening to what I said, how I tied Hydro into it, I said the Public Accounts Committee should - I do not know if the hon. gentleman is serious, - if he is baiting me or not - but the Public Accounts Committee should examine into the operations of all Crown corporations and then a list of them, not only the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing, the St. John's Housing but also Newfoundland Hydro Corporation, the Newfoundland Liquor Corporation, the Farm Products, the Rural Development Authority, the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Loan Corporation.

You know, Mr. Speaker, it is simply amazing - Newfoundland Hydro would be a big one. I would say the two big ones would be Memorial University and Newfoundland Hydro. But I believe the Public Accounts Committee, in which the hon. gentleman is a member, would be providing a very great service to the people of this Province if it were to go in and go through the Newfoundland Hydro Corporation with a fine tooth comb. I would say if they hear my remarks down there today, they would be shaking in their shoes. Cousin Vic would be going through files like you would not believe, throwing stuff out. The trucks would be headed for Robin Hood Bay as they were headed for Robin Hood Bay after we started to look at Confederation Trust. And all the records were put in the back trunk of a car down at Omega Apartments and transported down to Robin Hood Bay and burnt or buried.

AN HON. MEMBER:

(Inaudible) or get burnt.

MR. NEARY:

The Confederation Trust and the Stanfield Trust.

And so, Mr. Speaker, that takes care of my few remarks. I am sure other members would like to have a few words on this particular matter.

MR. NEARY: What about the legal fees? The hon. gentleman is making notes there. Tell us about the legal fees and who gets the legal work for the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation? Is there a list of Tory lawyers? Is there a list of lawyers, period? If so, would the hon. gentleman give us the list?

MR. THOMS: I do not get any.

MR. NEARY: My hon. colleague here tells me, the member for Grand Bank (L. Thoms) that he does not get any legal work from the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing. I understand on the West Coast, Mr. Speaker - I just reminded myself of something when I brought this up - out on the West Coast, in the Bay St. George area only one lawyer handles all the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing legal work.

AN HON. MEMBER: How many lawyers in Stephenville?

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: How many lawyers in Stephenville?

MR. NEARY: Did I say it was Stephenville? There is probably about, I would say, one tenth of a lawyer in Stephenville. But I did not mention Stephenville. The hon. minister somehow or another related my remarks to Stephenville but what I said was that there is no public tender. Why do they not call public tenders for legal fees? Why not?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: They have their own little closed shop, they have their own little racket going. But in the Bay St. George area, one lawyer does all the work.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is it?

MR. NEARY: I do not know, but somebody told me that he sits on the opposite side of this House.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is that not a conflict of interest?

MR. NEARY: Well, I do not know if it is conflict of interest or not. But is that fair, Mr. Speaker? Is that just? A few miles away you have a good lawyer down in

MR. NEARY: Port aux Basques who would not mind doing some of that work in the Bay St. George area.

And there are lawyers in Stephenville who would not mind having it. How many lawyers are in Stephenville, by the way?

AN HON. MEMBER: Three.

MR. NEARY: Three. Well, there you go. There are two law firms, and the hon. minister tried to leave the impression that there is only one law firm there. The other firm gets nothing. Well, I mean, what is the reason for it? I mean, Mr. Speaker, is there a bit of patronage here? Is the government handing out a few goodies to their backbenchers to keep them in line, Mr. Speaker, is that the reason for it?

MR. WINDSOR: It would not be the first time.

MR. NEARY: Oh, I see. Now, will that fall under the Premier's new code of ethics?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. NEARY: Will it? Will that gentleman be told now you either participate in politics or you leave Newfoundland and Labrador Housing alone, one thing or the other?

MR. HANCOCK: He can bid on it.

MR. NEARY: No, he cannot bid on it. There is no bidding, there is no tenders, no bidding.

MR. HANCOCK: Do they not call tenders for it?

MR. NEARY: No, it is dealt out just like you deal out cards in a card game to the lawyers, that is the way they do it over there. Is this fellow Tory? Look at the list? Tory, Liberal, Tory, Liberal, Tory, that is the way it is done, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: The minister just ticks them off.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: I remember once I was arguing about Central Mortgage and Housing. Central Mortgage and Housing has a list of lawyers, they have had it there for years. I do not agree with it. I am sorry to say that is one policy of the Government of Canada that I violently disagree with. They keep a list of lawyers, and if the government changes, the list is changed the next day. And, you know, Mr. Speaker, I once saw a great Tory, he used to be a member of this House, Tory member, he got his name added to the list and I remember the gentleman who was responsible for getting that Tory lawyer on the list of CMHC, I remember him saying to me, "Boy, is that not great. Now the Tories cannot criticize us because we put one of their own on the list!"

Mr. Speaker, what kind of a system are we working under? What kind of a system is that when you

MR. NEARY: have to take the lawyer that they tell you to take? You cannot get a lawyer of your own choice. You have to take some quack who is foisted on you.

MR. WINDSOR: They are all quacks,

MR. NEARY: No, they are not all quacks; I am not saying they are all quacks.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are all Liberals.

MR. NEARY: No, they are not all Liberals; one is a big Tory and there may be several big Tories. But the fact of the matter is that the list should be abolished, there should be no list at all.

MR. THOMS: They effectively do that when they raise mortgage rates 20 per cent; there is nothing going across the desk now.

MR. NEARY: Well that is precisely the thrust of my earlier remarks about the housing industry.

MR. HANCOCK: And they think that Nova Scotia (inaudible),

MR. NEARY: Yes. The housing industry in this Province is practically grounded to a halt. It is down to a snail's pace. But, Mr. Speaker, getting back to this again, that list should be abolished. Why should they go around and pick out this lawyer and that lawyer and then call up his neighbors or his buddies or his friends to see if he is a Liberal? How did he vote the last time? You get to work for CMHC and Newfoundland and Labrador Housing on the way you voted the last time. And who pays the bill? The individual who is buying a house or arranging a mortgage pays the bill. He does not care how the lawyer voted as long as he is a good lawyer, that is all they care.

MR. THOMS: (Inaudible) market cornered.

MR. NEARY: Who has the market cornered?

MR. THOMS: The hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts).

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is right.

And they are not only on that side of the House, they are on this side of the House too who got the market cornered.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: They get their goodies from Ottawa and their goodies from the Province, play both ends against the middle. Is it any wonder, you know, Mr. Speaker, if they gave me the goodies I do not know but I would go to a Tory roast, a Tory fund raising banquet and roast Senator Doody, I do not know but I would go myself.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. THOMS: I went and (inaudible)

MR. NEARY: First time in the history, I suppose, of politics in this Province.

AN HON. MEMBER: A rattlesnake.

MR. NEARY: Well if there is a rattlesnake in there then the hon. gentleman can have him.

MR. THOMS: The guest of honour.

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman will be the guest of honour is right.

Mr. Speaker, it is not right; why should the lawyers have that little privilege, why should they?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: It is far from little but it is a privilege.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are all jealous.

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: You are all jealous.

MR. NEARY: Why should they have it, Mr. Speaker?

Can Your Honour give me any good reason why the lawyers should have that advantage? And I am not only criticizing the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and the provincial government, Mr. Speaker, I am not criticizing just one government; I am

May 21, 1981

Tape No. 1701

SD - 4

MR. NEARY: criticizing both governments. It
is the system; it is wrong, it is unfair.

MR. THOMS: With the exception of one, they
are all Tories on the CMHC list anyway.

MR. NEARY: Well, that would not surprise me. I have not seen the list lately. I would like to see it.

So, Mr. Speaker, having made these few remarks I hope that the minister now when he stands to close the debate - and I am not sure which minister is going to close the debate - that he has made note of all of the questions that I raised. And these are valid questions, Mr. Speaker, that deserve answers, and they are not deserving of the minister getting up and scolding the Opposition or scolding me or saying, "We do not know what you are talking about. This is rubbish, and that is garbage." That is not answering the questions. These are hard questions, penetrating questions put to the minister. And the minister should not get up and attempt to make a political speech. The minister should get up and answer the questions head on, answer the questions, give us information; never mind scolding us, never mind attacking us, never mind the confrontation policies that we have seen for the last couple of years in this Province, forget that. We are trying to get roofs over the heads of families in this Province who cannot find a place to live. And we are trying to get a fair deal and a square deal for people, especially in the rural parts of this Province. And I hope the minister will answer the questions and not just get up and give us a lecture like a school teacher or scold us.

MR. TULK: They cannot define rural.

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

MR. TULK: They cannot define rural.

MR. NEARY: They cannot define rural. No, of course not. One of my colleagues was going to ask a question one day - I do not know if he ever got around to it, I have only been out of the House one day - he was going to ask if the government could define the difference between rural and urban. And I do believe he did ask it in Committee, but I do not think he got the answer.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the hon. gentleman will participate in the debate on this bill on second reading because a lot of the housing shortage, a lot of the problems are in the hon. gentleman's district.

DR. MCNICHOLAS: What problem?

MR. NEARY: You have not got the problem?

Well, the member for St. John's Centre (Dr. McNicholas) has the problem, the member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry) has the problem, the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter), the member for St. John's West (Mr. Barrett), St. John's -

DR. MCNICHOLAS: If you would only sit down, I will get up.

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

DR. MCNICHOLAS: If you would only sit down, I will get up.

MR. NEARY: Well if the hon. gentleman is going to get up and speak, I will gladly sit down, Mr. Speaker, and give him an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): The hon. member for St. John's Centre.

DR. MCNICHOLAS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to endorse some of the remarks made by my friend for Lapoile (Mr. Neary), in particular regarding the housing shortage in St. John's Centre. I am well aware of that. I have been trying to get people into

DR. MCNICHOLAS: subsidized housing since I became a member here. And I must say I completely disagree with the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) when he criticizes St. John's Housing. I have had to deal with two members there and I think they are very loyal public servants and I do not mind naming them, Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Kelly. They have gone out of their way to help the people that I have phoned them about, and I give them every credit. I know that there are about 700 on the waiting list there, and they deal with them on a point system, and they certainly do not brush off anybody, they are ready at any time to see these people and deal with them in a very fair and honest way.

I mentioned before, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to bring it up again, there is an area in St. John's Centre directly West of City Hall, and that was an area, if you like, gouged out of the owner who was there twenty years ago, when they were paid a mere pittance for their houses and it has been left empty ever since. My information recently is that City Hall is now going to lease or sell

McNICHOLAS: that property for expensive high-rise apartments. If that is true I do not think the mayor and councillors should be re-elected next November. I think that is land that should be made available for the average citizen in St. John's Centre and personally I hate to see the way the housing in my district is being bought up for high-rise office buildings. I realize that the people who own the houses are perfectly entitled to sell them but I certainly do not like it and I do not think it is a healthy thing for downtown St. John's.

Finally, I remember sometime last year there was a meeting. I think it was with the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and I brought up the thing about some empty houses on Cashin Avenue. That is in the West End there. I drove by there only a few days ago and these houses are still boarded up. I do not see why that should be with people just dying to get some type of housing. They are there with boards over the doors and over the windows and I would like to see something done about that.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): If the minister speaks he will then close the debate.

The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I will try to respond to some of the points that have been made. The hon. gentlemen opposite can make all kinds of statements and claims and fabricate what he wants but he certainly cannot make them facts. The converse of that is also true. Some of the facts that exist he cannot change those either. We have heard a great tirade of all the things that are not being done but the hon. gentleman neglected to talk about things that the Housing Corporation is doing

MR. WINDSOR: in rural Newfoundland. The hon. gentleman,who,by the way, let me point out, has lived all his life in St. John's yet proposes or professes to be the great protector of rural Newfoundland and Labrador, he never has lived in rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

MR. NEARY: A point of order.

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): A point of order. The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to point out that the hon. gentleman has just made an incorrect statement. Most of my life I lived on Bell Island and would not have anything to do with St. John's. I would not touch it with a barge pole. And the hon. gentleman should know the hostile feeling between outport Newfoundland, Bell Islanders and St. John's, and if he does not he should know now.

MR. MARSHALL: To the point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order.The hon. House Leader.

MR. MARSHALL: There is another example of the hon. member abusing the rules of the House for the purpose of interrupting a minister who is making a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order. There is no point of order and the hon. member took the opportunity to comment.

The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, you are quite correct,there is no point of order any more than there was a point of order if I had stood a few moments ago and objected when the hon. gentleman said I was a member from St. Jonn's, which I am not. I am the member for Mount Pearl and very

MR. WINDSOR: proud of it. The facts remain, Mr. Speaker, and -

MR. HODDER: A point of order.

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

MR. HODDER: I had intended to rise on this point of order but the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) rose. But the minister in speaking a few minutes ago accused the member for LaPoile of fabrication. And Beauchesne, page 106, says that fabrication or fabricating a statement is unparliamentary.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, to that point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order Mr. Marshall.

MR. MARSHALL: A point of order has to be brought up at the earliest possible opportunity.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: Just a second, the point of order had to be brought up - maybe the hon. gentleman opposite would like to go in the Hansards over the last five or six years and raise these things. I mean it is really ridiculous. I suppose if a minister wishes to he will do whatever has to be done to stop the spurious interruptions to which he has been subject.

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

MR. HODDER: I did try to bring it up at the earliest possible opportunity except for the fact that another member just happened to beat me to the floor on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order. I will have to check out Hansard so I will reserve judgement on it.

The hon. Minister
of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: To that point of order, let me withdraw, Mr. Speaker, and get on to something important and not waste our time on these foolish points of order. If that is unparliamentary I withdraw it.

The point I want to make, Mr. Speaker, is very simply this, that the Housing Corporation is certainly not neglecting rural Newfoundland and Labrador. And the facts speak for themselves. The hon. gentleman may choose to try to ignore them but he cannot ignore the facts. He says, 'The Housing Corporation has done nothing for rural Newfoundland'. Well, we have had three new programmes over the past number of years, Mr. Speaker, and what were they? Were they aimed at St. John's or were they aimed at rural Newfoundland? How about the provincial housing programme, Mr. Speaker, provincial Assisted Homeownership Programme? Let us have a look at a couple of facts.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not.

MR. WINDSOR: The hon. gentleman probably has not heard of it or he chooses to ignore it, for the does not want to recognize the fact that it has been a fairly effective programme and that it has benefited rural Newfoundland.

The facts of the matter are, Mr. Speaker, that out of the number of grants paid under that programme-237 of them by the way have been paid to date over the past three years - better than 80 per cent of them came from rural Newfoundland. And when I say rural Newfoundland, I am talking all except the eleven districts hon. gentlemen listed a few moments ago, Anything in the metro area I am considering as St. John's. Everything else the hon. gentleman chooses to call rural Newfoundland. Forty-one out of a total of 237 have been in

MR. WINDSOR:

those eleven districts. All the rest, almost 200 of them, 196 of them, came from rural Newfoundland. If hon. gentlemen want to tell me how many are in their districts, or want me to tell them how many there are in their districts, I can tell the hon. gentleman from Carbonear (Mr. Moores) that he had twelve approved and seventeen more under consideration. I can tell the hon. gentleman from Terra Nova (Mr. Lush) that he had eight and there are eleven more under consideration; that is twenty from Terra Nova, that is half as many as in all of these eleven districts in St. John's. So that does not appear to me, Mr. Speaker, to be a programme that is aimed at St. John's. In fact, just the reverse is true. It is very much a programme that benefits rural Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WINDSOR: Fact number two, Mr. Speaker, we initiated last year -

MR. STIRLING: Will you table that?

MR. WINDSOR: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will table that gladly if the Clerk will agree to give me -
I will table the two pages of statistics that I quoted.

MR. STIRLING: Thank you very much.

MR. WINDSOR: Last year, Mr. Speaker, this government announced a new programme called the Rural Mortgage Lending programme. Now, I am not sure what that has to do with St. John's, but it is a rural mortgage lending programme, because we identified a vacancy, a hole that existed, where people in rural Newfoundland were unable to get mortgage fundings from normal commercial channels.

MR. STIRLING: Why not?

MR. WINDSOR: Simply because it was not available, because the banks or finance companies or mortgage companies did not operate in those areas, and unless you made less than

MR. WINDSOR: \$15,000 a year, then there was
no way -

AN HON. MEMBER: Federal funds.

MR. WINDSOR: No, that is totally provincial.
The Rural Mortgage Lending programme is totally provincial,
there is no federal component to it. The hon. gentleman
cannot change that fact either, Mr. Speaker. The fact is
that we have put that programme in place so that it is now
possible for somebody in rural Newfoundland who is making
more than \$15,000 a year - and it only applies in communities
that have populations of less than 5,000. So that is hardly
going to be classified, Mr. Speaker, as a programme that is
aimed at urban Newfoundland or at St. John's. Hon. gentlemen
like to try to separate St. John's from the rest of the
Province.

We also last year, Mr. Speaker,
announced a Lot Subsidy programme. Now, Mr. Speaker, where
are those building lots? They are not in St. John's.
In fact, we said building lots in St. John's would not be
eligible because they will sell at market rates. They are
not even in Corner Brook. We did not include Corner Brook,
the second city of the Province, because we said, 'The market
can stand it there.' But they are in rural Newfoundland.
They were in Glovertown, Mr. Speaker, in the district of
the hon. the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush). They were
up on the Northern Peninsula in Daniel's Harbour.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WINDSOR: I beg your pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WINDSOR: How many?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WINDSOR: I cannot answer that question.
I do not know how many have gone.

The point is, Mr. Speaker, that
we did make very sizeable reductions in the price of those

MR. WINDSOR: building lots in order to stimulate housing in rural Newfoundland and to try to stimulate housing construction generally.

So, Mr. Speaker, when the hon. gentleman says that the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation is not putting any emphasis on rural Newfoundland, that is totally untrue. In fact, this whole bill, Mr. Speaker, emphasizes that it is not true. What we are doing is simply saying that there is no longer any justification to have a separate St. John's Housing Corporation. There was indeed when it was established back in 1944 by an act of the Legislature. There was indeed a need at that time to create housing by merely, of course, saying that those who were returning from the Second World War. And the Housing Corporation has fulfilled an extremely good mandate, has created thousands of homes and thousands of building lots in the city of St. John's and has fulfilled a need. And there will still be a need, and that need will now be fulfilled by the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, which will include all housing policies and programmes of the Province so that we have a more unified approach. And although we have had a great deal of emphasis, Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation is in primarily rural Newfoundland, it will now cover everything and it will not be a separate housing corporation for St. John's any more than there is now a separate housing corporation for Corner Brook, since that has been (inaudible).

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible) Department of Justice -

MR. WINDSOR: I beg your pardon?

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible) the minister explain (inaudible).

MR. WINDSOR: Would the hon. gentleman like to explain why industrial parks should be anywhere else but in

MR. WINDSOR: the Department of Development?

Because that too is very much a part.

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible).

MR. WINDSOR: Well, it is all part of the housing corporation mandate, Mr. Speaker, and the rationale for making the Department of Development or combining Industrial Development with Housing and with Tourism was simply because housing is very much an industry; it is a very important industry, and it is important that the department that has the responsibility for developing industry in the Province also has the wherewithal

MR. N. WINDSOR:

to provide the residential and commercial and industrial infrastructure that might be required in order to put in that. We now can because we have a Department of Development all under one roof, we have the mandate, the wherewithal and the expertise to put together a total development package.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us talk about some of the housing programmes that we do not have. The hon. gentlemen are concerned about housing in St. John's. We do not have a land banking programme anymore, Mr. Speaker. That was one of the federal programmes that has been cancelled. I would like to have a land banking programme. We had one until two years ago. And under that programme, with funds provided partly by the federal government, we were in a position to purchase land for future developments. Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER (Baird): I would like to interrupt the hon. member just for one minute for the Late Show. It being five o'clock, I can inform the House that I have no notices for any motions for debate at five thirty when a motion to adjourn will be deemed to be before the House. The hon. Minister of Development.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. N. WINDSOR: As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, we no longer have a land banking programme and I wish we did because I can honestly say to hon. gentlemen here if we did not have that land banking programme several years ago, if we had not bought the lands on which we are now presently developing the Cowan Heights development, some 1,700 housing units plus facilities that go with that, schools and churches and recreation facilities, institutional areas and all the rest,

MR. N. WINDSOR: we would be in a sorry state, Mr. Speaker, in St. John's today because we would not have any land on which to do these developments. And consequently there is very little doubt that the price of land in this area would be at a much higher sale price than it is today.

But that programme is gone, Mr. Speaker, and I can predict that if we do not replace that land banking programme, that five years from now we will have a very serious problem as it relates to the price of land in the St. John's area. That programme, of course, applied in all of Newfoundland and gave us the opportunity to purchase land in other parts of Newfoundland to do developments as well.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman mentioned the high cost of interest and there is no question that the high rate of interest - and I just heard on the radio a few moments ago it is now today gone past 19 per cent, 19.06 per cent is the current Royal Bank of Canada rate as of today. Another high! - Now, Mr. Speaker, there is no question that this has to be the most serious critical problem in housing today. All provincial ministers have expressed that, we agreed on that here in St. John's back in February when all the colleagues of mine from across Canada came here and sat at a meeting of provincial housing ministers. We all agreed at that time that the high cost of interest is the matter of greatest concern to Canadians everywhere as it relates to building homes, not only homes but businesses as well. We are proposing to address that and we have conveyed to the federal government, the federal minister, Mr. Cosgrove, who is responsible for Canada mortgage - our concerns there. And we will be meeting with him on June 1st. in Ottawa finally, for the long-awaited

MR. WINDSOR: Federal-Provincial Housing Ministers' Conference. I am also advised by a telephone call just a few moments ago, in fact, that the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada, the local branch, will be having a press conference tomorrow morning, and I understand that they will be addressing as well the problem of high interest rates and expressing some of the views that they have on the problems it is creating and, perhaps, some ways and means of combatting it. I could point out that the former government in Ottawa did have a proposal to combat the high cost of interest and alleviate somewhat the burden that it has on the homeowner and the salary earner and, of course, that program went by the way.

Hon. gentlemen mentioned, as well, the shortage of public housing units. Mr. Speaker, there is nobody more acutely aware of the need for more public housing in Newfoundland and particularly in St. John's than I am. We had proposed this year two hundred units of public housing to the Federal Government for financing under the federal-provincial subsidized housing program. Unfortunately, we only received approval from the Federal Government of 160, so we are not going to be able to build all of the public housing units that we need, and that 160, Mr. Speaker, is for all of Newfoundland. Undoubtedly, as a result of our market studies and our need studies, we will be locating most of them in St. John's because that is where the need is greatest. Nevertheless, we have made efforts in the past, many efforts in fact, to locate these in rural Newfoundland where they are required and where we are assured that there is a sufficient number of families who would require this particular type of housing.

MR. NEARY: Who is responsible for those units in Trepassey?

MR. WINDSOR: Those units in Trepassey, Mr. Sepaker, are the responsibility of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation. There are twenty units there, by the way, not thirty vacant units with doors and windows flapping, as the hon. gentleman would have us believe. There are seven vacant, seven are vacant. They have been placed for sale. To this point in time, there has been nobody expressing an interest in buying them. We are very aware, by the way, that the hon. gentleman was correct when he said there is some vandalism down there. That is being looked into and being referred to the police and we are taking whatever normal action is required there.

MR. FLIGHT: What about the ninety-one lots in Windsor?

MR. WINDSOR: Those ninety-one lots, Mr. Speaker, some of the ones I referred to a moment ago when we reduced the price of the lots in Windsor by, I think, a thousand dollars per lot, or something in that order, which is an attempt at writing off \$91,000 of taxpayers money from other taxpayers of the Province, perhaps in St. John's. That is \$91,000 going in to the hon. gentleman's district, by the way.

There has not been a great take-up, as I understand it, of these lots anywhere in Newfoundland. That is not because of the price of the lot. Our market studies indicated that by applying this kind of a reduction to the lot - the hon. gentleman is well aware that in Labrador City or in Wabush we did the same thing - very few lots, in fact, I am not sure that any have sold up there.

Now, I am not sure what more we can do. We could give the lots away.

MR. FLIGHT: Why not?

MR. WINDSOR: Where there is a market demand, then obviously the lots will sell. But at least we have shown, Mr. Speaker, that by even applying these reductions to the price of lots that that is not the problem, although people previously had been saying that houses are not going to be built there

MR. WINDSOR: because of the price of the lots. We have removed that. I think we can pinpoint it to other factors, such as the high cost of interest.

We are not getting any rental housing built, Mr. Speaker, very little, for a number of reasons: Interest, of course, was one of the reasons. Another one is the lack of the capital cost allowance that was once in effect, the Federal Government removed and last year now has partially implemented, I think, to a level of 5 per cent which is at least a token move in the right direction but nevertheless does not have any significant effect on attracting investors to put money into the construction of rental accommodations.

The hon. gentleman claims that the Housing Corporation needs a public relations programme. I agree entirely. We started two years ago doing that. We have been moving the Housing Corporation. He talked about not paying any attention to rural Newfoundland. The board of directors, two years ago, for the first time in the history of the Housing Corporation, held a board meeting outside the city of St. John's. We have had meetings in Clarenville, in Stephenville, in Happy Valley, in Labrador City and last week, just as late as last week, in Marystown. So the board is moving around the Province, is attempting as a board, as a complete board to look firsthand at the problems being experienced in the various areas of the Province where we have an activity, where we have housing units, going there meeting with the councils concerned, meeting with some of the individuals concerned, the community leaders, listening to their problems and spending some time there trying to sort out the problems and make the proper decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I could talk all day on housing. I could talk all day on the need for programmes. I could talk all day about the rural remote housing -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (BAIRD):

Order, please!

MR. WINDSOR:

- the rural RRAP housing programmes and everything else. Hon. gentlemen are anxious to move on, Mr. Speaker. I think I have made the points that I want to make in that housing is a very serious problem and, in fact, unless we come up with additional federal funding, unless we have a reversal of the trend that the federal government is very clearly trying to get out of the housing field. Unless we find out next week in Ottawa just exactly what the federal government's position is, whether or not they accept their responsibility for housing in Canada, then we will have a very, very serious problem.

I move second reading .

On motion, a bill, "An

Act To Amend The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation Act For The Purpose Of Integrating The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation And The St. John's Housing Corporation," read a second time, ordered referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow. (Bill No. 19)

On motion, second reading of

a bill, "An Act To Amend And Consolidate The Law Respecting Boilers, Pressure Vessels And Compressed Gas." (Bill No. 28)

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. President

of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, this is an act that I would say would be of great interest to the Opposition. It certainly should because it deals with compressed grass, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

AN HON. MEMBER:

Gas.

MR. MARSHALL:

Gas not grass. I am slurring.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. FLIGHT: Nobody in the gallery is laughing at you, 'Bill'.

MR. MARSHALL: No, I know. The thing is, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. CARTER: (Inaudible) Opposition (inaudible).

MR. MARSHALL: - nobody in the galleries - they are laughing at the hon. gentlemen there opposite -

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: - but they are laughing.

But, Mr. Speaker, this is a momentous piece of legislation that is necessary, apparently it is necessary to bring in 'An Act For The Purpose Of Regulating The Use Of Liquid Petroleum Gases And Also The Use Of Medical Gases. It provides that contractors must obtain permits in order to be able to operate. It generally is a bill then for the enhancement of the safety of people. It sets up an advisory board and it gives the ministry the power to make regulations which are necessary for the safety and well-being of people.

So, Mr. Speaker, that is the gist of the bill; if there are any comments I will close the debate after.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Simms): Is it the pleasure of the House that the said bill be now read a second time?

AN HON. MEMBER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, there is just one question that I want to ask the hon. gentleman. There was a controversy arose this Winter over the construction or the safety of sealing, longliners that were involved in sealing off the Coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. Will this clause here or are there already regulations in place to take care of that particular situation, the hon. gentleman might remember there a couple of months ago this came up? Will this particular amendment take care of that situation?

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. President speaks now he will close the debate.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Simms): The hon. President of the Council

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, this amendment does not relate to that particular situation. There were questions with respect to that, but I know that the relevant division of the department is looking into it. But this relates, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman would look at it, it relates to the commercial use of liquid petroleum gases and also the use of medical gases. I presume, I suppose, it includes things like laughing gas for instance, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. gentleman would be interested in. But I move second reading.

On motion, a bill, "An Act To Amend And Consolidate The Law Respecting Boilers, Pressure Vessels and Compressed Gas", read a second time, ordered referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow. (Bill No.28).

Motion, second reading, "An Act Respecting Amusement Rides". (Bill No. 29).

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that is standing in the name of the hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn); he unfortunately is not able to be here today. It is a bill that has been on the Order Paper for a long period of time. It is a necessary bill. It is one which will provide the government with the authority to inspect and certify amusement rides throughout the Province thereby reducing the possibly of accidents. An amusement ride is, of course, any structure or machinery designated to entertain or amuse people.

AN HON. MEMBER: Stay off them.

MR. MARSHALL: And it sets up a board and it provides for an inspector and it provides for a director under the act and it provides most importantly for an inspector. People in the future operating these will be required to get a licence

MR. MARSHALL: and before they can get a licence they will have to comply with normal and reasonable requirements with respect to safety.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Simms): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see a bill, "An Act Respecting Amusement Rides" to be brought before the House. The government have been on an amusement ride now in this Province for ten years. Mr. Speaker, perhaps the minister when he is closing the debate can tell us whether or not this covers circuses like we see over here at the parking lots of shopping centres, if it covers these little go-carts that we see down there on Topsail Road?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Yes. And I think the main point that I want to ask is, will they be inspected after they are established or before they are allowed to set up? Will they have to make an application? I believe it should be compulsory because I have always been concerned about the safety of these amusement rides, Mr. Speaker, and I have four young kids who every time they see one of these Ferris wheels or a whip, they go out of their skull, they want to get on the merry-go-round or on the ride, and I have tried to discourage it because I knew they were not being inspected and anybody who looks at the equipment would know full well that it was not safe, and very little supervision. They come in and they hire almost child labour, they hire cheap labour, and there is really no supervision over these companies that operate these

MR. NEARY:

amusement rides, and I am glad to see this legislation but I do not know how the one inspector is going to enforce the regulations all over the Province. They should have a number of people in various parts of the Province who are responsible. I mean the Department of Manpower has more than one office; they have offices in Grand Falls and Corner Brook - the elevator inspectors, possibly or the -

MR. THOMS: The Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) is distracting everybody.

MR. NEARY: I know, the minister has something very important to say to his colleague.

MR. WHITE: He wants to try to find (inaudible).

MR. NEARY: He wants to try to find out if he is going to call his bill today or not. Well, could we have order?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): There is nothing in the Standing Orders that says you cannot stand up and talk to another member.

MR. NEARY: So, Mr. Speaker, I am asking the hon. gentleman to find out if the authority, if the responsibility for inspecting these amusement rides-because they will be in places other than St. John's. They will be in Marystown, Grand Falls, Corner Brook, I have seen them in Port aux Basques, I have seen them in Stephenville - I mean, how will the inspector carry out his duties if he has to travel all over the Province? Is it possible to delegate the responsibility and the authority to the boiler inspectors, to the elevator inspectors or the manpower people in other parts of the Province? It is going to be a very difficult chore or are we just thinking again, are we just thinking

MR. NEARY: about St. John's only and not the other centres throughout the Province? Are we again St. John's oriented and just forgetting about the other parts of Newfoundland? But it is a good bill. I am glad to see it. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that it will encourage the owners of these amusement rides to become more safety conscious. I have seen a lot of near-misses myself at some of these parking lots, I can guarantee you that, and my heart comes up in my mouth every time I see one of my kids get aboard of one of these rides. The maintenance on them leaves a lot to be desired. And so, Mr. Speaker, I support the bill, but I would like for the minister to tell us if these companies will now have to make an application. I think they should, I think it should be compulsory to apply for a permit before you are allowed to establish anywhere in Newfoundland, then, the department would know where the amusement rides are, what centres they are in and they could govern themselves accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): If the hon. President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) speaks now he will close the debate.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would read the act he would get the answer to the question. The answer is there. The government is always, it is so far ahead of the Opposition that this has been on the Order Paper for months and months and months, Mr. Speaker, and it is here for all to see and answers the question of the hon. gentleman, 'Will there be supervision?' Yes.

MR. THOMS: In that case you can move second reading.

MR. MARSHALL: No, because you see the point is that the hon. gentleman allows, you know - the deputy, deputy, deputy, deputy, deputy Leader of the Opposition gets up and he makes all these points all the time, then gentlemen there opposite say, 'Now we can sit down and close the debate', but, Mr. Speaker, apart from Hansards there are other journals that we are concerned about as well, because the hon. gentleman gets up and makes a statement and as it is answered, people do not realize that the hon. gentleman is being inaccurate again. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, yes, there is supervision. This is the purpose of the act. There is going to be supervision by the inspector. Is there going to be supervision prior to their being given a permit? Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is easy to see, all one has to do is look at page three, Clause 7, and have the ability to read the English language, and it is here, Mr. Speaker, 'No person shall operate for profit or reward or for charitable purposes an amusement ride unless he holds a valid certificate under this act', and lo and behold, Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible).

MR. MARSHALL: - oh, no, lo and behold. The hon. gentleman would be -

MR. NEARY: A certificate is a certificate that the thing is safe.

MR. MARSHALL: Just a second now, the hon. gentleman should possess his soul in patience. He said section nine, in order to apply for a certificate in respect of an amusement ride, a person must: (a) notify the director in writing at least five days before the operation. Then the director has to go out and he has to examine it or he sends the inspector out. Section eleven says that an inspector shall

MR. MARSHALL: issue to the owner a certificate for an amusement ride if, under this act, the inspector (a) has inspected the amusement rides, and lo and behold (b) is satisfied that the amusement ride complies with the prescribed standards. Now, those standards, Mr. Speaker, will be safety standards as well. Now, of course, the government cannot ensure that no accidents will occur, but this bill is a bill which is put forth for the purpose of putting legislation, putting it as a matter of law that people have to apply for certificates. When they get a certificate, they will only get it if they meet certain prescribed safety standards. You cannot, Mr. Speaker, guarantee there will be no accidents, we hope there will not be. We know this bill will minimize the possibility but, in the event that there are accidents, there is also a provision in this bill that the director has to be sure that the operator of these amusement rides has sufficient insurance through private companies to guard against damages.

MR. MARSHALL: I hope, Mr. Speaker, I have answered the questions adequately. All of the items mentioned by the hon. member are included in the bill. They are there crystal clear. As a matter of fact, that is the purpose of the bill, Mr. Speaker, and I now move that this purpose be adopted and that it be read a second time.

On motion, a bill, "An Act Respecting Amusement Rides", read a second time, ordered referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow. (Bill No. 29)

Motion second reading of a bill, "An Act Respecting The Drilling Of Water Wells And Conservation And Use Of Ground-Water". (Bill No. 6).

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. the minister is busy tending to public matters.

AN HON. MEMBER: Having a (inaudible).

MR. MARSHALL: No. That is a comment for the Opposition not from a colleague.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bill again - we are licensing people galore this year - the bill will provide - true Tory legislation - will provide for the licensing of commercial well drillers, not grave diggers now, commercial well drillers and the setting of minimum standards of well drilling in the Province. The bill will provide that the well drillers collect and submit to the government specific information regarding the wells drilled by them. That is so the government can have all the necessary information as to the water tables in the Province.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well, well, well!

MR. MARSHALL: That is - 'Well, well, well', says the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer). The bill will provide further for the conservation development and use of ground-water resources and the prevention of pollution and contamination of ground-water. Now, Mr. Speaker, the note on the bill really explains the purpose of the bill. I would urge hon. members to, you know, pass the purpose of the bill. I do not see any point - and I know hon. members will be motivated now to get up and talk about artesian wells that they have or they have not got, that they will talk about St. John's, what St. John's gets and what St. John's does not get. The member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) will get up and say that St. John's gets everything and forgets, Mr. Speaker, that his own town of Port aux Basques is getting a brand-new hospital this year. And yet even with the brand-new hospital coming in, Mr. Speaker, he does not want it. He gets up and he proposes a vote of non-confidence in the budget. So, Mr. Speaker, let it be known that the member for LaPoile does not want the hospital in Channel Port aux Basques. But in spite of him the good people of Port aux Basques are going to have their hospital.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL: Now I am talking, Mr. Speaker, I know, about irrelevancies.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

MR. MARSHALL: I realize that, Mr. Speaker. But I am just doing it to give an example to the House of what they should not be on in this bill. This bill is a very progressive bill, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the licensing of well drillers and I move that it be its purpose be adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the bill but there are a couple of questions I want to raise in connection with it. And the hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker, is up to his usual little nastiness again. And I will guarantee you this, it will take something to cure him. Expiry of license - I want to deal with the matter, refusal of license. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think or in my opinion, this particular part of the act gives the minister a little bit too much authority and no room for the individual who has been refused a license, to make an appeal. He can appeal all right. There is an appeal procedure but hon. gentlemen should read the appeal procedure. Let me read the section that concerns me. 'The minister may refuse to issue a license to any person or may suspend or cancel any license for any reason that appears to him to be proper.' Now that is pretty broad, Mr. Speaker, that is a pretty broad statement in that particular clause, pretty broad. The minister could very easily turn down somebody for political reasons. He does not have to give any reasons at all. Just say, 'No, I am sorry. You are not getting your license. You are not a Tory so you are not getting your license.' 'Or you are not this or you do not belong to that.' Mr. Speaker, that clause is wide open.

And then let us see the review, see what happens if you are dissatisfied with a decision made by the minister. Who do you appeal to? Well, here is who you appeal to and I am talking about section (7) of the act. "Where the minister has refused to issue a license to a person or has suspending or cancelled the license of a person the person may appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council." Well, who is the Lieutenant-Governor in Council?

MR. NEARY:

The Lieutenant Governor-in-Council is one of the gentlemen who made the decision in the first place. That is no appeal procedure, Mr. Speaker, that is like asking my brother if I am a liar? It is the same thing.

The fact of the matter is there is no real appeal. There should be an independent source through which this appeal could be processed. It goes on then, it says that the "Lieutenant Governor-in-Council may after such investigation or hearing as it deems expedient confirm the decision of the minister or may direct that a licence be issued or reinstated." Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, this is the crowd that brought democracy to Newfoundland, put her back on the rail, brought democracy, brought in this great appeals procedure. A minister is a part of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council says, 'No you are not getting your licence. No reason, just that we do not feel like giving you a licence.' And then the owner of the water drilling company can come back and appeal it to the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council, of which that same minister is a part.

Mr. Speaker, surely they can do better than that. Surely the crowd that brought democracy to Newfoundland can do better than that. Surely they can put in a proper appeals procedure. You would not know but the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council, which is the Cabinet, the Premier and the Cabinet, had nothing to do - they have nothing to do, maybe they have not got anything to do, we have not seen any result of anything, decisions that they have made in this Province. But now a poor old well driller, who is turned down by the minister, has to come in and have a hearing before the Cabinet. Well the Cabinet has really come to something in this Province now, they have really come to something. They really have sunk pretty low now when

MR. NEARY: they are spending their time at appeals, people who are turned down for a well drilling permit.

Does the hon. gentleman have something on his mind?

MR. MARSHALL: I will answer it.

MR. NEARY: It is unanswerable. It is unanswerable, Mr. Speaker. It is indefensible. There is the appeal procedure.

AN HON. MEMBER: Will it not be on the Late Show tonight?

MR. NEARY: No.

MR. FLIGHT: There is no Late Show , boy.

MR. NEARY: We are all getting tired, boy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Simms): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: So, Mr. Speaker, that part of the act is wrong. There should never be a bill brought into this House -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is at 5:30 though. It is getting brief.

MR. NEARY: Well do you want me to move the adjournment , Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is up to the hon. members. We have three minutes yet.

MR. NEARY: I move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: You move the adjournment of the debate ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MOORES: Yes or no?

MR. FIGHT: Yes, move the adjournment of the debate.

AN HON. MEMBER: Debate at 5:30?

MR. NEARY: There is no Late Show.

MR. MARSHALL: If the hon. member wishes I can finish quickly, you know, very quickly.

MR. NEARY: No there are a couple of other matters I want to raise.

MR. MARSHALL: I see.

MR. SPEAKER: (Mr. Simms): Well, we have two minutes, it is up to the House if it wants to -

MR. MARSHALL: Well we have two minutes, Mr. Speaker, it is just as well to hear some of the other stuff, we have the business of the people to do.

MR. NEARY: I do not think I can say what I have to say about this in two minutes.

MR. MARSHALL: Well I mean, I know you cannot -

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman said a minute ago that in another bill that his heart was in his mouth, and obviously when he is talking about this his heart was not very big because he had plenty of (inaudible).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: His foot was in his mouth says the hon. member. But I guess, Mr. Speaker, since he has adjourned the debate we will -

MR. SPEAKER: Agree to call it 5:30?

MR. MARSHALL: Yes. We cannot do much.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: It being therefore 5:30, a motion to adjourn is deemed to be before the House.

The motion is that this House do now adjourn.

This House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, at 10:00 A.M.

I N D E X

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TABLED

MAY 21, 1981

FILE "B"

PROVINCIAL HOME OWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Tabled by Hon. Minister for Social during debate on 2nd reading

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS PAID & IN PROCESS BY ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Bill 19, Inc 21/81

DISTRICT	NUMBER PAID	NUMBER IN PROCESS
Torngat Mountains	0	0
Eagle River	0	2
Menihék	0	0
Naskaupi	0	0
Strait of Belle Isle	6	28
St. Barbe	10	25
Bay of Islands	10	13
Port au Port	2	4
St. Georges	11	12
LaPoile	3	8
Humber Valley	4	15
Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir	7	8
Fortune-Hermitage	2	6
Grand Bank-Burin	4	8
Burin-Placentia West	4	6
Bellevue	5	9
St. Mary's-The Capes	7	16
Ferryland	5	10
Harbour Main-Bell Island	7	12
Port de Grave	5	13
Harbour Grace	8	25
Carbonear	12	17
Trinity-Bay de Verde	10	10
Trinity North	8	9
Placentia	1	4
Bonavista South	2	8
Terra Nova	8	11
Bonavista North	6	20
Fogo	8	25
Gander	2	2
Lewisporte	7	13
Twillingate	7	10
Green Bay	6	10
Baie Verte-White Bay	1	13
Exploits	2	2

DISTRICT	NUMBER PAID	NUMBER IN PROCESS
Grand Falls	0	0
Windsor-Buchans	1	3
Conception Bay South	14	15
St. John's Centre	0	0
St. John's South	1	0
St. John's North	1	0
St. John's East	1	2
Pleasantville	0	1
Waterford-Kenmount	3	0
St. John's East Extern	12	14
Mount Scio	2	1
Mount Pearl	9	0
Kilbride	3	5
Humber East	3	3
Humber West	2	2
Stephenville	5	4
TOTALS:	<u>237</u>	<u>424</u>

41
~~33~~

33

41/237 ≈ 17%

33/424 ≈ 8%

*Added by Hon. Mem
of Rural, Agric. & Northern
Development, 21 May '8*

AGRICULTURE ZONE ST. JOHN'S URBAN REGION

Deletions

October 31, 1973	Freeze established under the Land Development Act.
June 23, 1978	Zone established under the Development Areas (Lands) Act. Several amendments to the zone were made at this time as a result of the Department's planning studies, 51,000 acres in the zone.
December 7, 1979	Amendment to the Seal Cove - Foxtrap Area of the Agriculture Zone based on the Department's planning studies. Total deleted 177 hectares (464 acres).
May, 1980	Amendment to the St. Phillips - Torbay - Shoe Cove Area, based on the Department's planning studies. Total deleted - 35 hectares (87 acres).
June, 1980	Amendment to the St. Phillips - Torbay - Shoe Cove Area. Total deleted - 1.5 acres.
June 1978 to June 1981	Total area deleted - 552.5 acres (224 hectares).

Tabled 21 May '81



File No. _____

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL, AGRICULTURAL
AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

ST. JOHN'S

May 19, 1981

Honourable Joe Goudie,
Minister.

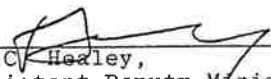
RE: Grant of \$67,030 to NLRDC to
conduct a study entitled:
Rural Development in the 80's

On October 9, 1979 the Council received the cheque and deposited it in a working account. The first withdrawal was made November 14, 1979.

The grant was used mainly to pay salaries of a consultant, two researchers and legal advice.

A small balance remains in the account and there is still some outstanding bills.

A report of the completed study will be in the hands of the Department no later than June 17.


T. C. Healey,
Assistant Deputy Minister.

TCH/bc

Table 213

NUMBER OF APPROVALS AND AMOUNT APPROVED
BY PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL CRAFT MARKETING PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 1980/81

Provincial Electoral District	Number of Approvals	Amount Approved (\$)
Bay of Islands	2	893
Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir	2	1,547
Burin-Placentia West	4	1,354
Eagle River	1	812
Fortune Hermitage	2	2,601
Harbour Main-Bell Island	1	261
Menihek	2	604
Naskaupi	1	1,000
Port de Grave	1	51
Stephenville	2	864
Strait of Belle Isle	6	4,852
St. Barbe	4	1,030
St. George's	1	68
St. John's East	8	4,540
St. John's South	2	417
St. Mary's The Capes	3	1,171
Trinity North	1	949
Twillingate	1	225
TOTAL	44	23,239

Talled 21 May '81

NUMBER OF APPROVALS AND AMOUNT APPROVED
BY PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LOANS PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 1980/81

PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF APPROVALS	AMOUNT APPROVED (\$)
Baie Verte-White Bay	1	8,525
Bay of Islands	4	52,289
Bellevue	3	30,500
Bonavista North	4	35,386
Bonavista South	7	75,388
Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir	3	25,000
Burin-Placentia West	1	500
Conception Bay South	6	42,621
Exploits	5	54,279
Ferryland	7	88,400
Fortune-Hermitage	3	29,280
Gander	8	80,122
Grand Bank	2	13,382
Grand Falls	1	1,332
Green Bay	7	103,862
Harbour Grace	4	56,500
Harbour Main-Bell Island	1	15,000
Humber East	1	20,000
Humber Valley	13	155,124
Humber West	1	9,993
Kilbride	2	38,000
LaPoile	1	20,000
Lewisporte	6	49,108
Mount Pearl	1	2,494
Mount Scio	2	24,791
Naskaupi	5	37,251
Placentia	1	8,000
Pleasantville	2	7,922
Port de Grave	3	31,939
Port au Port	1	19,270
Stephenville	1	10,000
Strait of Bell Isle	5	38,519
St. Barbe	7	63,088
St. George's	9	125,655
St. John's East Extern	9	83,241
St. John's Centre	2	15,747
St. John's East	1	3,882
St. Mary's the Capes	1	7,325
Terra Nova	26	362,293
Trinity-Bay de Verde	3	48,952
Trinity North	13	101,017
Twillingate	2	21,500
Waterford-Kenmount	1	9,926
Windsor-Buchans	1	9,680
TOTAL	187	2,037,083

Tabled 21 May 1981

NUMBER, AMOUNT APPROVED, JOBS CREATED
AND JOBS MAINTAINED
BY INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION, R.D.A. LOANS PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 80/81

Industry Classification	Number	Amount Approved	Jobs Created		Jobs Maintained	
			Full	Part	Full	Part
Boat Building	1	1,068	-	-	1	1
Fish Processing	10	119,781	16	55	73	372
Food Processing	11	79,197	19	5	36	7
Handcrafts	2	4,672	1	1	2	-
Metal Production Mfg.	6	63,545	8	5	19	-
Sawmilling	27	190,209	29	37	39	50
Woodworking	10	57,347	17	4	12	-
Other Mfg. & Processing	19	138,295	30	7	37	14
All Mfg. & Processing	86	654,114	120	114	219	444
Agricultural Projects	20	277,269	17	30	17	37
Forestry	16	196,432	74	68	60	7
Tourist Based Projects	2	36,268	2	1	10	-
TOTAL	124	1,164,083	213	213	306	488
Special Sawmill Assistance	52	743,500	-	-	-	-
Spec. Assistance to Swine Breeders	11	129,500	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	187	2,037,083	213	213	306	488

NOTES:

- Not Applicable

Tabled 21 May '81

NUMBER OF APPROVALS AND AMOUNT APPROVED
BY PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 1980/81

PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT	NUMBER OF APPROVALS	AMOUNT APPROVED (\$)
Bay of Islands	2	14,269
Bellevue	2	10,385
Bonavista North	3	28,238
Bonavista South	2	16,839
Burgeo-Bay D'Espoir	2	22,325
Conception Bay South	8	72,611
Eagle River	1	3,227
Exploit's	2	14,599
Ferryland	2	17,000
Fortune-Hermitage	2	12,100
Gander	3	39,092
Grand Bank	2	16,102
Grand Falls	2	9,165
Green Bay	6	93,277
Harbour Grace	3	30,408
Humber East	1	12,493
Humber Valley	3	20,250
LaPoile	1	1,725
Lewisporte	3	20,573
Mount Pearl	3	32,201
Naskaupi	1	7,500
Placentia	1	10,808
Pleasantville	1	3,067
Port de Grave	3	36,448
Port au Port	1	15,000
Stephenville	5	53,093
Strait of Belle Isle	3	23,750
St. Barbe	3	22,800
St. George's	5	56,268
St. John's East Extern	2	4,416
St. John's Centre	1	8,482
St. John's East	3	21,098
St. John's North	3	44,360
Terra Nova	6	42,183
Trinity-Bay de Verde	2	18,679
Trinity North	3	25,828
Twillingate	1	11,000
Waterford-Kenmount	2	23,067
Windsor-Buchans	1	12,100
TOTAL	100	926,826

Talled 21 May '81

PROJECTED LOSSES R.D.A. PROGRAM 1972 TO DATE

Total of loans to date (1972 - 1980)
1650 (executed) - 15,071,921 (dispersed)
Projected write off - 2,991,274 or 19.8%.

Tabled 21 Mar

NUMBER OF APPROVALS, CAPITAL COSTS, AMOUNT OF GRANT
AND JOBS CREATED BY INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 1980/81

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER	CAPITAL COSTS (\$)	AMOUNT OF GRANT (\$)	JOBS CRE	
				FULL	P
Fish Processing	19	391,531	195,763	35	3
Food Processing	11	198,876	99,437	37	1
Handicrafts	1	5,870	2,935	1	
Metal Production Mfg.	3	59,965	29,982	8	
Sawmilling	16	171,101	87,894	18	4
Woodworking	1	35,370	17,685	5	
Other Manufacturing	26	459,321	236,854	92	4
All Manufacturing & Processing	77	1,322,034	670,550	190	4
Forestry	13	429,849	175,860	55	7
Agricultural Projects	2	20,130	10,065	10	1
Mining	1	79,300	30,000	-	1
TOTAL	93	1,851,313	886,475	261	5
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	7	73,046	40,351
GRAND TOTAL	100	1,924,359	926,826	261	5

.. Not Applicable