PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOR THE PERIOD:

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

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

The House met at 3:00 P.M. Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

Before we begin proceedings I would like to welcome to the galleries today a small delegation from the Lewisporte Town Council, the Mayor, Glenn Snow, and the Town Engineer, Charlie Hodder—so capably represented in this House by the member for Lewisporte (Mr. Russell).

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I have a statement relating to the offshore negotiations.

Hon. members will be aware that during the week of May 10 members of our offshore negotiating team travelled to Western Canada to explain Newfoundland's proposal for settlement to interested groups in Alberta and British Columbia. During that visit they met with representatives of companies and groups who hold exploration permits in our offshore area, as well as with representatives of industry groups who have expressed interest in acquiring such permits.

Meetings were also held with editorial writers of major daily newspapers in Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver, and with officials of the provincial governments in both provinces.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that this initiative for the government has been very successful.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MARSHALL: In every meeting our representatives received a very positive response for our having taken the time to discuss Newfoundland's proposal frankly and openly, and for our willingness to be subjected to questioning on it. And I

MR. MARSHALL: glad to be able to report that our proposal was accepted as a very reasonable and workable solution of the offshore issue.

while individual companies are not inclined to take sides publicly on the issue for obvious reasons, privately cur officials received strong expressions of support. By way of illustration I would like to quote for the hon. members from a document passed to our officials by one group, and the quotation is as follows: "The Government of Newfoundland's position to establish a partnership with the federal government to manage offshore resources" - page 2, paragraph A - "that both governments enact adequate legislation and that the joint management agency work within a set of regulations agreed upon by the two governments is considered to be a positive response by the Government of Newfoundland that is identical to our concern to avoid overlapping jurisdiction and duplication of legislation".

All industry groups strongly endorse the single agency approach to

MR. MARSHALL:

resource management, which we proposed, our recognition of the need to provide a fair return to industry for their investments and our proposal to use a joint board to provide an open management regime where the rules of the game are clearly established and the opportunities for discretionary action are rendered to a minimum.

The meetings with government officials were equally successful and served to reinforce the already strong support which we have had from the governments of Alberta and British Columbia. Our purpose in meeting the editorial writers was to provide an explanation of our position and the details of the proposal made to the federal government during negotiations. I am pleased to report that our officials encountered a surprising knowledge of Newfoundland generally and an appreciation of our situation. Our proposal itself was considered fair and reasonable and one group was of the opinion that ours was a very generous proposition.

All in all this visitation by our officials met our objectives. The intiatives will be continued this week in the Province of Ontario with meetings with groups in Toronto and Ottawa. More meetings will be scheduled in other parts of Canada.

Government views, Mr. Speaker, it vitally important that all Canadians be given an opportunity of being able to assess our proposal. When they have been afforded this opportunity we feel that they will support the reasonableness of our stand and hopefully assist in arresting the present federal government's policy towards this Province in the matter of offshore resources, which policy can only be described as oppressive, hostile and manifestly unjust.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, first of all I would

like to straighten out the members of the House on the opening remarks made by the hon. gentleman, that this is a Ministerial Statement on offshore negotiations. That, Mr. Speaker, is not correct. There are no negotiations. There is a battle, there is a war going on. It may be a Ministeral Statement, a communique to update members of the House on the state of the war, just like you hear communiques about the war in the Falklands, but it is certainly not a Ministerial Statement on offshore negotiations. There are no negotiations.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Speech. You making a Speech.

MR. NEARY:

Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER:

Speech, Speech.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like for the minister to tell the House how long these visits, how long this travel by ministers and by officials is going to last? And how much it is going to cost the taxpayers of this Province? And what good will it do?

Mr. Speaker, the only sensible way to get this matter resolved is for the provincial government to withdraw their case before the Newfoundland Appeals Court -

MR. BARRETT :

MR. BARRETT:

Give it all away.

MR. NEARY:

- and have the federal government-

Give it away.

MR. NEARY:

- hold on

now, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. NEARY:

And have the federal government

withdraw their case before the Supreme Court and get back to the bargaining table.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

That is the only sensible way to resolve this matter. These companies and these governments and these politicians in other parts of Canada could not care less, Mr. Speaker. As a matter of fact, the word that is coming through from the Mainland and the United States is that they wish that the provincial government and the federal government would resolve their differences so that they can get on with the development. That is the word that we are getting, Mr. Speaker. And all these trips, they do not mean a thing, Mr. Speaker. All it is doing is making our politicians and our senior officials the best travelled people in the world. And I would like to know how long more this silly nonsense is going to keep up and how much it is going to cost the taxpayer?

Mr. Speaker, while we support
the government, and while the Liberal position is that we own
the offshore, and we supported the resolution, it does not
necessarily follow that we approve of every detail of all
the methods that are used by this administration to continue
the war. And I can only repeat again, Mr. Speaker, what
I have said so often; the only sensible way to settle this
is through negotiation and if the Minister of Energy (Mr.
Marshall), if they do not trust him to carry out negotiations,
to outmanoeuvre, outfox, the federal people, then let them send
somebody else who can do it, to get the best deal they can
for Newfoundland.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope that this waste of taxpayers' money is not going to continue indefinitely , Mr. Speaker.

MR.MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell):

Before I recognize the hon.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): President of the Council, I would like to welcome to the gallery as well today the mayor of Rushoon, Mr. Frank Murphy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, I have another

statement which I hope will elicit another positive response from the Opposition.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR.MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, this one relates

to petroleum exploration in Western Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

On land. On land.

MR.MARSHALL:

On land.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring

to the attention of the hon. members of this House that
I have today designated certain areas in Western
Newfoundland as provisionally open for petroleum exploration.
These areas are snown on the accompanying map that is
appended thereto, Mr. Speaker, a part of the map
of Newfoundland that the hon. gentlemen there opposite
would not recognize, in the general vicinity of the
community of St. George's, Deer Lake and Parson's Pond,
some 500,000 acres, 202,350 hectares ~

PREMIER PECKFORD:

We will get them.

MR. MARSHALL: - and they are involved in the designation both on the offshore and near shore areas of Western Newfoundland.

Earlier this year, a call for nominations of Crown lands was made with nominations closing on February 15th of this year. Lands nominated in this call were subjected to a review process by various departments of the provincial and federal governments.

Now, you will note the federal government, Mr. Speaker, that is in conformity with our co-operation with the federal government -

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL:

- and what I mean by that is
the Department of Fisheries and Oceans with respect to
salmon streams, and Department of Environment and all of
these things. We do not hesitate at any time to co-operate
with the federal government, but it is a one-way street,
Mr. Speaker.

Anyway, these were reviewed by these various departments of government to select the lands to be designated and to assure that no obvious impediments existed on these lands with regard to environmental protection, social impact, town planning, etc. In addition, consultation has taken place between officials of the Petroleum Directorate and interested parties and community groups on the West Coast to ensure that the designation process was taking place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Mr. Speaker, now that these lands have been designated, officials of the Petroleum Directorate will be visiting communities within the designated areas to provide information to the residents

MR. MARSHALL: and to receive their comments. This public process is designed to lead to a final determination by the government of the acreage to be offered for petroleum permits.

Following the public process described above, I will be calling for bids on the finally designated lands on the basis of work commitments. Successful bearers will be granted an exploratory permit for three years. The permit grants the company a non-exclusive right to continue reconnaissance surveys for petroleum and the exclusive right to drill for petroleum in the permit area.

Mr. Speaker, this designation of lands in Western Newfoundland is being Gazetted today in accordance with the requirements of the petroleum and natural gas regulations and it represents, Mr. Speaker, an effort by this government to attempt to see that the fullest amount of effective exploration on the West Coast of this Province has

MR. W. MARSHALL:

been done and in connection with this I would like to express the appreciation to the members for areas affected, particularly the member for St. Barbe (Mr. E. Osmond), the members for Stephenville (Mr. F. Stagg) and St. George's (Mr. R. Dawe), and the member for Humber Valley and the Deer Lake area, the Minister of Health (Mr. W. House) for their assistance in bringing this about.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. S. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Premier,

I hope he took note of the end of the statement made by the Minister of Energy (Mr. W. Marshall), which smacked of a political partisanship that the hon. gentleman does not approve of.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

He does not approve of that sort

of thing when the federal government wants to open a fish plant,

in St. Anthony. Mr. Speaker, I do hope that the areas that

are designated, that there will be success in finding oil or

gas, either onshore or offshore, in the Western part of this

Province. Since the announcement was made last year, the people

in the area have been asking questions as to when permits

would be issued and companies would actually start exploration

and drilling for oil and gas, both onshore and offshore, in the

Western part of this Province. I have had a number of requests

from my own district, especially Port aux Basques, Mr. Speaker,

where the people feel that the port of Port aux Basques is ideally

located and has all the facilities for a service base, for a

PREMIER PECKFORD:

And onshore, too.

MR. NEARY:

And onshore. And I hope that the

base to service any offshore drilling that may take place.

MR. S. NEARY:

administration will take a

good hard look at Port aux Basques.

MR. W. MARSHALL:

No problem.

MR. NEARY:

And while the hon. gentleman

says, 'No problem', I hope, Mr. Speaker, that that rules out the last part of that statement made by the -

PREMIER PECKFORD:

It includes the last part.

MR. NEARY:

It includes it. Non-patisan.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is a very

interesting development and we hope on this side of the House that there will be some success in discovering oil and gas in the Western part of this Province. Because up to now, Mr. Speaker, the people in Western Newfoundland, on the Southwest coast, in Central Newfoundland they do not know there is gas or oil around Newfoundland. I believe there is only one or two people in Western Newfoundland working on the oil rigs.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

They do not know anything about

oil, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

Order, please!

MR. NEARY:

Am I getting to him,

Mr. Speaker, or what?

MR. WARREN:

Yes.

MR. MARSHALL:

On a point of order,

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL:

I realize the hon.

gentleman is only operating on half cylinder today.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear !

MR. MARSHALL:

In Ministerial Statements,

Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is debating and entering in matters that are not relevant to the statement that was made and certainly he is entering into the realm of debate.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The procedure is, as

I understand it, a member of the Opposition replying to a
Ministerial Statement has approximately half the time the
minister has. I must admit the hon. Leader of the Opposition
(Mr. Neary) is tending to drag out his comments that probably
could be debated at some other time in this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY:

Well I do not have anything

else to say about it anyway.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Before I recognize the hon.

Minister of Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. Power), there is another delegation I would like to welcome to the gallery, a delegation from the Town Council of Bishop's Falls with Mayor Saunders, Town Manager Mr. Hancock, and Councillor Mr. Balsam.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

I welcome you to the

galleries today.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of

Forestry , Resources and Lands.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, I would

like to update the hon. House on the forest fire situation in the Province and the organizational facilities which my department has in place for fire protection. All my colleagues are aware that a rash of forest fires have occurred in recent weeks. To date some thirty-nine fires have been reported ranging in size from less than an acre to approximately 250 acres. It is mormal to have some fires early in the season, particularly before the new green ground cover has been established. This year, however, the number of fires have been abundantly large.

All of my colleagues are also aware of the devastating damage to our forest which has been caused by the spruce budworm and the potential wood supply problems which we face with respecting to the existing forest industry in this Province. The lost of the forest through the budworm has had two major implications from a forest fire perspective. First, we cannot afford to lose any further large areas of forest through fires or any other causes. We have no flexibility left with respect to wood supply for the forest industries.

Therefore it is critical that losses from forest fires be minimized. Second, the budworm has left large areas of the Province covered by

MR.POWER: dead or dying trees. These large areas of dead, dried timber present a tremendous fire hazzard and require a higher than normal degree of vigilance to ensure that fires are not started. It is therefore imperative that all people of the Province fully understand and appreciate the need to exercise extreme caution and care with fires in the forest.

I would also take this opportunity,
Mr. Speaker, to update this hon. House on my department's
organization for fire protection. The Province is divided
into four areas, East, Central, West and Labrador, for this
purpose. In the Eastern region there are eight forest fire
stations and they are located at Paddy's Pond, Salmonier,
Whitbourne, Victoria, Cape Broyle, Clarenville, Southern Bay
and Winterland. In addtion, one helicopter and one Canso
water bomber are stationed at St. John's Airport to supplement
ground crews.

Central Newfoundland is serviced by eight fire depots. These provide services from Gambo, Gander, Lewisporte, Bishop's Falls, Milltown, Millertown, Springdale and Baie Verte. Three Canso water bombers and two helicopters are based in Gander for this use, for use in this area, or as a back up for the Eastern and Western regions.

In Western Newfoundland there are six fire stations. They are strategically located at St.

George's, Pynn's Brook, Sops Arm, Woody Point, Port Saunders and Roddickton. One Canso and two helicopters are stationed in Deer Lake to serve the region.

In Labrador, the department operates three fire suppression units. They are located at Wabush, Cartwright and Goose Bay. Support is provided by one Canso water bomber, two helicopters and a float equipped Otter aircraft based in Goose Bay, and an additional water bomber can be moved from Gander to Labrador as required.

MR. POWER:

Fire control centres are located at Goose Bay, Corner Brook, Gander and St. John's, and the central fire equipment bank is located in Gander so that in the event of an emergency situation additional pumps and hoses, etc. can be moved quickly throughout the Province.

Fire weather forecast, fire starting indexes, movement of aircraft between regions and general co-ordination is provided by the control centre in St. John's.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the personnel of my department will cope with any forest fire situation that may occur. However, the best fire protection is still fire prevention. I appeal to the public

MR. POWER: to exercise care and good common sense while travelling in or near the forest. One careless match or one smouldering campfire can turn the forest into a raging inferno, and it is certainly everyone's responsibility to prevent forest fires.

Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. TULK:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. member for Fogo.

MR. TULK:

Mr. Speaker, I was not even going

to reply to the Ministerial Statement just given by the minister. The self evident worth of passing out this information is apparent to everybody. I thank him for the information and the concern that he is showing and I agree with him that prevention is the best protection. I would also like to congratulate him, and that is that he has finally come to realize and put in print something that we have been saying perhaps for two years, that we do have a serious wood supply problem in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. TULK:

We put those questions to the minister and he just went around them. So I am glad to see that today, Mr. Speaker, he is finally realizing that indeed we do have a serious wood supply problem in Newfoundland and Labrador.

MR. CALLAN:

Well said.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Social

Services.

MR. HICKEY:

Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure

in announcing to this hon. House that today marks the first day of Foster Parent Week in Newfoundland and Labrador. The week of May 31st. to June 6th. has been proclaimed by the

MR. HICKEY:

which we recognize those who are committed to helping foster children enjoy the benefits of a loving family environment.

Their ongoing dedication in the role of foster parents, those who have so willingly opened their homes and hearts, rightfully deserve this week of recognition and appreciation. All citizens are urged to volunteer their talents and energies to support this vital role of foster parents to enable foster children to become mature, responsible and productive adults.

As Minister of Social Services
I am most pleased to participate in this notable week in saying
a sincere thank you to our foster parents, The slogan for this
week is 'Caring Is Sharing,' a phrase most appropriate to these
very special people who continue to manifest the meaning of
that phrase with care and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I have some buttons here and I would ask my colleagues on both sides of the House if they would be so kind as to display those buttons and show their support for such a worthy cause and to such a wonderful group of citizens.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the member for

Torngat Mountains.

Mr. Speaker, I am surprised MR. WARREN: that the minister did not see fit to give me a copy of his release. However, Mr. Speaker, I have to go on record as saying I think it is a good move on the part of this government to recognize those parents in Newfoundland and Labrador whom every one of us should be patting on the back moreso than just one week in a year. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the foster parents in this Province not only should be recognized from today until Friday, I think they should be recognized at all times, because those are people who have done much to take young children into their homes and look after those young children and give them a home that they otherwise would not have. And, Mr. Speaker, I think that it is not the buttons that we need today but for government to give those parents more money in order to keep those children fully clothed and fully fed. So, Mr. Speaker, instead of the minister paying out money for buttons, I think each foster home in this Province should be given an extra incentive in finances to maintain the system that they are providing for these kids.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the question I have is for the Premier, and one which I have no doubt he has anticipated. He has received a telegram or a telex, whatever it is called, from the Town Council of St. Anthony

MR. ROBERTS: asking him whether the government are prepared to issue a licence to what I understand is to be a new fish company or new company set up to lease the plant at St. Anthony. I am wondering if he has made an answer to that and, if so, what is the answer?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I responded to the telegram from St. Anthony, around 2:00 or 2:30 this afternoon I think it was -I am not sure of the exact time but it was sometime this afternoon - in which I indicated to the council in St. Anthony, the people of St. Anthony that we are waiting for an answer from the federal government as it relates to our counterproposal, which is to allow Fishery Products to continue to operate the plant in St. Anthony, and that the money that the federal government is going to supply through the Fisheries Prices Support Board to this new federal company be

PREMIER PECKFORD: provided directly to Fishery

Products and that we have not received a response to our

counter proposal, and as soon as we do we will get back

to St. Anthony and the people of St. Anthony. I also

indicated in that telegram that I found it a bit unusual

that suddenly St. Anthony would be bailed out when they

were not willing to do the same thing for Great Harbour

Deep Seafoods Limited, which is in the hon. member's district,

and Flowers Cove, Sandy Cove which is in the hon. member's

district. We would like to see a more comprehensive

approach by the federal government in its approach to

helping fish companies around this Province. So we are

still waiting for the counter-proposal to be responded

to by the federal government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. member for the Strait

of Belle Isle.

MR.ROBERTS: The Premier is mistaken if he thinks Great Harbour Deep is in my district. I wish it was, it is a grand community, but it is in Rain Verte-White Bay, And, of course in listing Sandy Cove, the Sandy Cove plant, as he ought to know, is operational. The problems there have nothing to do with money. He might pay some concern to Anchor Point and Flowers Cove, both of which 'have been told are not operating this year, and that is another company altogether.

Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is whether the Premier has any indication from Fishery Products Limited that they are prepared to operate the plant at St. Anthony if subsidized, and if so when he got that indication?

MR.SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I regret that Great Harbour

Deep - I made a mistake there; geographically it is in

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PREMIER PECKFORD: the other district.

MR. NEARY: I am sure you know where

Newfoundland is.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: We all found out where Newfoundland

was on April 6th.

SOME HON . MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: The Opposition found out where

it was too. If they would like to go back to the electorate again, we will go back again and do it all over again.

MR. NEARY: Yes, let us have another round.

SOME HON .MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: But who wants to lose a little

bit of Opposition, Mr. Speaker. However, I do believe that the community of Sandy Cove is in the hon.member's district.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh,oh!

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Is the community of Sandy Cove

in the hon.member's district?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, Sandy Cove is, Yes.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Yes, I think it received a

\$200,000 guarantee from this Province, which the federal government would not supply, and which now sees another community in that same constituency getting special treatment from the federal government.

We have no indication at all that the Fishery Products would not be prepared, as other companies have been, to actively manage the plant in St.

Anthony if the proper financing was made available as is now being made available to - who would not operate a plant in Newfoundland, Mr. Speaker, if they were going to be bankrolled by the federal government?

MR.ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker.

MR.SPEAKER: The hon. member for the Strait

of Belld Isle.

ah-3

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the Premier in his usual smart alec way has declined to answer the question straightforwardly, but he has answered it; obviously there is no such proposal. Can the Premier now tell us, Sir,

whether he or

MR.ROBERTS:

his colleague, the Minister

of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), to his knowledge, has approached or ever had approached Fishery Products to offer them the same subsidies for St. Anthony, or the same type of subsidies for St. Anthony, that they offerred for Fishery Products at Harbour Breton?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, the situation

is simply this that the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) can describe my actions as Smart Alecky all he likes. For my perspective the people being Smart Alecky here is the federal government

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- who has been asked

through the Task Force to get involved in supporting the fishing industry of Newfoundland, and who have refused -

MR. ROBERTS:

and have,

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- a number of proposals

which can be extremely viable and are now prepared to go into St. Anthony on a six month basis. What we want from the federal government, unlike the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle and the Minister for National Revenue (Mr. Rompkey), the member for Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador, we are not interested in St. Anthony from June to December 1982; we are interested in the people of St. Anthony beyond December 1982.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

We want something permanent

in St. Anthony. And we are going to stand up for the people of St. Anthony, Mr. Speaker, in spite of the provincial member, in spite of the federal member, to try to get something more permanent for

PREMIER PECKFORD:

the people of that

area. We are willing to and have entertained proposals. The problem in St. Anthony is far more complex than Harbour Breton and some of the other areas. But we want to continue to entertain proposals which are not going to keep St. Anthony alive for six months with no guarantee of anything beyond that. We want to look at that whole complex situation of accessing more fish and to get into St. Anthony in a way in which we can see some viability there in the future. A six month Band-Aid treatment is not good enough for the

people of St. Anthony, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS:

A supplementary, Mr.

Speaker, or a new question -

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

A supplementary, the

hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS:

- whatever pleases Your

Honour. The Premier has described it as a Band-Aid treatment. It is of course a Band-Aid treatment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS:

"When the patient is

dying of hemorrhage you treat the hemorrhage and then you worry about the cancer, as we have done at St. Anthony.

But, you know, we will

let the people of St. Anthony judge this. They are perfectly capable of judging. We will let them judge for themselves and we will let them see the Premier for what he truly is, because he has been revealed on this or he has revealed himself on this as being something that I never believed any Premier of Newfoundland would ever be.

MR. TULK:

A petulant child.

MR. ROBERTS:

My question, Mr. Speaker,

is simply this. Would the Premier be good enough to tell the House what, if any, permanent solutions he or his colleagues have put forward for the problems of St. Anthony in the four or five months since we were notified by Fishery Products? And I will tell him the answer; the answer is not one.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Thank you very much,

Mr. Speaker.

MR. ROBERTS:

Hear, hear! Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Leader of the Opposition,

a supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS:

Those whom the gods would

destroy they first make mad.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, only a week or so ago the hon. gentleman was shouting and bawling in this House about the Kirby Task Force getting involved in St. Anthony.

The hon. gentleman indicated to the House that they refused to get involved and so forth, and this was the big problem, that St. Anthony was not going to operate this year. Now would the hon. gentleman tell the House if this is the first time, the first occasion when the Kirby Task Force became involved in the fish plant operations in communities where the fish plants were closing down or had closed down? Is this the first time the Kirby Task Force has been involved?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The proposals put before,

Mr. Speaker, the Kirby Task Force, which they have dispensed with and said they are not interested in the short term, we understand what is going on with the Kirby Task Force, Mr. Speaker.

Let us not have these sort of coy little questions coming from members of the Opposition now as if they do not know the difference. We know. We do not mind saying so that members of the task force have told us.

I mean the whole question of St. Anthony is a lot of plants.

We have put \$20 million forward from our coffers, and we are least able to do it, to keep plants going in the Province this year and hopefully the fish will come in and they will be viable next year and the year after.

The long and short of this was that the Kirby Task Force was interferred with. There is political interference. Mr. Kirby and his people want to get on with trying to deal with the structural problems of the fishery of Newfoundland, inshore, offshore, and so on. But they are being prevented from doing so because there is some political interference, because the hon. member for the Straits of Bell Isle (Mr. Roberts), and his colleague, Mr. Rompkey, are trying to bail themselves out of a short term problem. While we say to the people of St. Anthony - MR. ROBERTS:

of St. Anthony, hemorrhage notwithstanding, is that we have a real serious problem in St. Anthony, now let us deal with it head on. Let us not hide our heads in the sand, Mr. Speaker, let us deal with it head on. The people of St. Anthony have to work next year and the next year, and they have got to work in the fishery for the most part, so now let us sit down and try to work out accessing sufficient fish to get the plant in St. Anthony working at a fairly high level. They might not be able to employ 700 or 800 people, but if you can get a fish plant in St. Anthony employing 300 or 400 people permanently

MR. ROBERTS:

That is the idea.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- then I think you have got a solution to the problem. But you need fish, and the only people who can decide upon how much fish St. Anthony is going to get age guess who, Mr. Speaker?

MR. ROBERTS:

The problem of St. Anthony

is not fish, it is fish quality.

MR. NEARY:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

A supplementary, the hon. Leader

of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, would the hon.

gentleman not agree that there is not a province in Canada that would not give their right arm to have the federal government

MR. NEARY:

become involved in an industry, or a fish plant, that is defunct, it is on the brink of bankruptcy, and bail it out? And is it not true that if the federal government did not come to the rescue of the St. Anthony fish plant, Fishery Products, that the plant would not open this year, that the provincial government had no plans or no proposals on the table to get this fish plant open this year?

MR. ROBERTS:

None at all. Not one.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, you know, that has

been the Liberal philosophy for a long while in this Province, that is why they are over there and we are over here, Mr.

Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

We are not interested in short PREMIER PECKFORD: term, band aid solutions; we want something permanent for St. Anthony as we do for a lot of places in this Province. And if we are supposed to get on our hands and knees when somebody bails us out for six months , well, that is not the philosophy that this government goes along with, Mr. Speaker. We are not interested in it, we are not interested in it at all. Now if the federal government wants to come along with a proposal, a decent, reasonable proposal to deal on a long term basis with not only St. Anthony but the rest of the problems we have in the fishery in Newfoundland, well, we are prepared to listen to it. Now, Mr. Speaker, the situation today is simply this, is that we want to see the people of St. Anthony go to work as well in the fish plant in St. Anthony but we have to protect the people of St. Anthony and the people of this Province and to ensure that this is more than just short term. We have gone back, number one, to the federal government and said to them, 'Look, federal government, you know, this might be initiative, you have got

to do something quick and all the PREMIER PECKFORD: rest of it, and the Task Force is not really mandated to do this. We belive that the private sector still has the chief role to play in the delivery of fish processing facilities in the Province. We would rather continue to see the private sector being the vehicle. Now if government from time to time, provincial or federal, has to underpin financially some of those operations that is the way to do it, but allow the private sector to actually be the vehicle.' That is number one and that is a very important consideration. I do not know if hon. members are concerned or not but I am, I do not want to see a Fish-Can suddenly in Newfoundland. We have a Petro-Canada now trying to take over the oil industry, we might soon have an Indo-Can trying to take over Canadian industry, and we are going to have a Fish-Can take over the fishery. Well I do not think, as one Canadian, that I want to see the fishing industry being dominated by a federal company or a federal Crown corporation. That is number one and that is a big point.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Number two, Mr. Speaker, we have gone back to the federal government and indicated our concern on that philosophical point, if one wants to consider it that, and said to them, 'Okay, you have now admitted that you should have some say or at least have some influence financially into difficulties that fish processors are having in the Province. Thank God you finally decided that you are going to get involved. We have been involved to the tune of \$20 million now for three or four months when you said you were not going to get involved. Okay, so you are in, You made a mistake, you came to the party

late, better late than never. PREMIER PECKFORD: But we still would ask you to reconsider establishing a federal company called St. Anthony Fisheries Company Limited, or something, which is going to get money from the fisheries - What a convoluted way of trying to solve a problem for a fish processing plant in Newfoundland! - going to provide money from the Treasury Board of Canada through the Fisheries Prices Support Board to St. Anthony Fisheries, which is a federal company, and it is going to be managed by somebody seconded from the Canadian Saltfish Corporation, and here we have already in place in St. Anthony lishery Products Limited who have been there and know the problems and all the rest of it, know how to manage the fish business. So we have gone back to them with a counter-proposal. So we have to wait to see now what the federal government are going to say about our counter-proposal. We want to see everybody in St. Anthony working, but we do not want them working for six months and then off for twelve and back for two and then off for eighteen; we want to see them working permanently. And we want the federal government to focus in on the real problems that the St. Anthony plant has and the company has there, and let us deal with them and try to resolve them so we have a permanent solution to this problem, and not this kind of quick bail-out that a Task Force that was not set up even to look at it is now trying to do.

MR. NEARY:

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

A supplementary, the hon. the

Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: You have not done a thing towards a long term solution. Not a thing!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Would the hon. gentleman indicate

if the Kirby Task Force was involved in Grand Bank?

MR. NEARY: Indeed, that is the reason that Grand Bank was re-opened, the only reason it was opened? The Kirby Task Force was involved in Gaultois, the only reason that plant is open. So it is not the first time the Kirby Task Force or the federal government became involved -

MR. ROBERTS: There is only one reason this government did not bail out St. Anthony too, only one reason.

Right on!

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, would the hon.

gentleman please tell the House - and I ask this question, Mr. Speaker, in all sincerity - what long-term proposals, what proposals have been made to either Fishery Products or to the Government of Canada by this administration for a long-term or permanent solution to the Fishery Products plant at St. Anthony? Mr. Speaker, also I would like to ask the hon. gentleman to tell us what evidence - he mentioned earlier that there was political interference. He was told, he said, the hon. the Premier was told by somebody on the Task Force that there was political interference with regard to the St. Anthony plant. I think the hon. gentleman should either apologize for making that rash statement, off-the-cuff statement that he is so used to making, or put his money where his mouth is and lay the cards on the table and elaborate on that question. But I am more interested in whether or not this administration have made any long-term proposals to either Fishery Products or to the Government of Canada as a solution to the permanent problems at St. Anthony. MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the Premier. PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, we have indicated

in meetings with the federal government that you need more

PREMIER PECKFORD: fish in St. Anthony, that is number one, and we do not have any say over how much fish comes into St. Anthony. Under the Terms of Union that matter is a matter for the federal government. We wish we had some say in it. We have been

PREMIER PECKFORD:

arguing for the last several years that there should be joint management in the fishery like we are arguing for on the offshore oil and gas. We do not have it, perhaps some day we will. But there is a problem of fish supply in St. Anthony. There may also need to be some rationalization to the numbers of people that can be there to have a viable operation. You cannot just allow just volumes and volumes to come in without any limit to the number of people who are going to be working. There could be some arguement on that. So, we had looked at accessing additional turbot and other species of fish in the St. Anthony fish plant to make it a viable operation. That is one of the things that we proposed to the federal government that has to be done to try to rationalize the St. Anthony situation.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, in response to the Leader of the Opposition's, inside the House Mr.

S. Neary), question as it relates to where did I get my information about political interference, I do not intend to tell the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. The Leader of the Opposition is one of the individuals in this House, Mr. Speaker, who is most expert on using sources which he will not disclose and now he got a little bit of his own medicine.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear !

MR.E. ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the member for Strait

of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS:

If my colleague would allow ,

another question, since we are enabling the Premier to expose himself to the electorate on this situation at St. Anthony.

I wonder if he would care to tell us -he mentioned the turbot proposal, which the truth is came from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries in this administration, Mr. Andrews, a very fine and helpful public servant - would the Premier care to tell

MR. E. ROBERTS: the House what response there was made to that (a) by the Government of Canada and (b) by Fishery Products?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. the member for Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) wants that kind of detailed, specific answer that was given at that time, I will be glad to provide it for him at another time. All I am indicating to the member for the Strait of Belle Isle, to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. S. Neary) and to this hon. House is that the problems of St. Anthony are not going to go away with a little Band-Aid like the federal government are trying to do to try to bail out the hon. member. And there is no political reason why we are kicking up a fuss on St. Anthony.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: We have already helped fish plants

in many Liberal districts in the Province and would do it in St. Anthony just as quick, just as quick because it has

special -

MR. ROBERTS:

St.Anthony's the only plant you

did not do it with.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

No, it is not the only one. There

is three or four. You are wrong, you are wrong. There are three or four that we turned down.

MR. ROBERTS:

Where else? Where else did you turn down the

Turbot. Fishery products.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I am getting under the skin of the

PREMIER PECKFORD: member of the Strait of Belle Isle
(Mr. E. Roberts), I think that is it, the normally absent member

for the Strait of Belle Isle -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - who come to the House now

when his district is in trouble. Ho, ho, ho to the member

for the Strait of Belle Isle. He has been found out on this one,

Mr. Speaker.

MR. E. ROBERTS: That from the most expensive Premier in the country.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Oh, now the dirt, now the dirt.

Now, Mr. Speaker, now we see the dirt. You notice that, Mr.

Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell)

Order, please! Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, first of all it had

to do with St. Anthony fish plant, then it had to do with the business of it being a Liberal riding and we did not support any other fish plants in Liberal ridings, and we answered that. Now what is he on now, Mr. Speaker? He wants to personally attack me now for being the most expensive Premier in Canada. Well, I

PREMIER PECKFORD:

will tell you right now, shame on the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts), shame that he does not attend the House of Assembly more often. He is too busy downtown, Mr. Speaker, to defend his constituents. He is away most of the time, and when something comes up on the Strait of Belle Isle then he turns up. Oh, I tell the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts), that is too bad, Mr. Speaker. But I will tell the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr.Roberts) or the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) or any of the members opposite that we want a permanent solution to St. Anthony and that only can be done when both governments attend meetings, not one level of government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR.ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): A supplementary. The hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR.ROBERTS:

A supplementary for the Premier.

Of course he is annoying me.Whenever he tells me the untruths that he is has been telling here in the House today that does annoy me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS: And they may say, "Oh", and they may say "Ah", but the record, of course, will speak for itself. Now I would say to the Premier is he awarehe refused to answer the question so I will have to put it another way -is he aware that the turbot proposal was (a) approved by the Government of Canada and secondly, turned down by Fishery Products? And if he is aware of that - if he is not it does not matter -and the second question grows out of it in any event, could he tell the House what other permanent solutions he has put forward?

MR.ROBERTS:

For all the words in rhetoric about St. Anthony where apparently the policy of his administration is at best, Mr. Speaker, to doom it to be a short-term seasonal plant with significantly less employment than it now has, that is what the Premier has been saying throughout this speech, could be tell us what other proposals if any he has put forward for all the plethora of words and balderdash he has given us here this afternoon?

MR.SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, let me deal with -

first of all, the hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr.Roberts) has made a very serious accusation and that is that I have been saying things which are untrue.

SOME HON.MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Now, I guess one of those

things which I have been saying is untrue

is that we have not helped fish PREMIER PECKFORD: plants in Liberal ridings, I would take it from the way the hon. the member for the Straits of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) spoke

Oh, oh.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Now we have helped the fish plant PREMIER PECKFORD: in Salvage. I do not think that is in one of the districts on this side of the House, I think that is the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush), that is in a Liberal riding, Mr. Speaker. We have helped it. So that is not untrue. We have helped the Lake Group by \$5 million equity long before the federal government, which embarrassed the federal government before Christmas, to come in and help the Lake Group. That is why the federal government came in and helped the Lake Group because we had them embarrassed . And Main Brook happens to be one of the areas in which they are involved that is in a Liberal riding, and at the time we helped them, Grand Bank and Marystown - or Grand Bank was also a Liberal riding at the time we helped them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Look what we did, Mr. Speaker.

That is why, of course, now Grand Bank is on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, no question about that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

How about Burnt Island, Mr. Speaker?

Is Burnt Island - I think it is in the Leader of the Opposition's (Mr. Neary), inside the House, district, Burnt Island.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Inhouse.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The inhouse Leader as opposed

to the - and anyway, Mr. Speaker, and then we have Sandy Cove -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh.

MR. SIMMS:

Watch your image now.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- which is in a Liberal riding,

and then we have Chance Cove, which is in a Liberal riding.

So, Mr. Speaker, to say that I am standing up here in this

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PREMIER PECKFORD: hon. House giving untruths, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) better put up or shut up because I am not going to allow him to accuse me of saying untruths when I can prove him wrong, when he is in the House, and even when he is not in the House we will get the information to him.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the situation on St. Anthony is this: As the hon. member knows, and as I know .the situation in St. Anthony is a difficult one to solve for a permanent, viable operation. Now that is number one. As I have said all along in this Question Period, it is a very difficult one and is not going to be solved, Mr. Speaker, if the federal government through the Task Force suddenly sits down with the operator in that community without the provincial government -

Did the **Province** not know about it? MR. ROBERTS:

- without the provincial -PREMIER PECKFORD:

Did the government not know about it? MR. ROBERTS:

PREMIER PECKFORD: We found out through the back

door, Mr. Speaker -

The Province knew about it. MR. ROBERTS:

Oh, no! You cannot get off the PREMIER PECKFORD:

hook on that one, Mr. Speaker. A meeting was held by the federal government with Fishery Products Limited, we were not invited to that meeting.

MR. ROBERTS: The deputy minister of Fisheries was there.

He was there to early meetings PREMIER PECKFORD: but the final meeting, he was not there when the decision -

I was not there either. MR. ROBERTS:

PREMIER PECKFORD: Oh, I see. You are a minister too,

are you?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh. PREMIER PECKFORD: You are a minister too? Because you are not there somebody from the Government of Newfoundland has not got to be there ,is that it? You do not speak for Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Right on. Right on.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

So, Mr. Speaker, if the Task Force

is going to deal with the problems of St. Anthony, the federal government are, they have to deal through the provincial government.

MR. ROBERTS:

No, they do not.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Yes, they do.

MR. ROBERTS .

It is the Government of Canada as

much as anything. We are part of Canada, are we not?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Yes, the federal government and

the provincial government -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

- the federal government and the

provincial government.And it will not be done otherwise, Mr. Speaker. We will stand up and be counted that we have a say in the fishery too.

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SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Why is the Town Council of

St. Anthony wiring us today?

MR. ROBERTS: Because the Premier threatened

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to stop federal assistance.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Because we have a processor's

licence

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Because we have a processor's

licence, Mr. Speaker, which we are not going to issue unless and until we can see some way to see that St. Anthony remains viable beyond December 1982.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. member for the

Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS: Now we are getting there.

Now the bile is coming out of the Premier, Sir. Now we are seeing it. Would the Premier confirm to the House, because he was speaking in the heat of emotion -

MR. TULK: As he usually does.

MR. ROBERTS: - and I want him to bring

the light of reason to bear on it for once, would be confirm to the House the policy of his administration was that which he just enunicated, which, I believe I quote him correctly, was "We will not issue a processor's licence to St. Anthony until we are convinced that a permanent solution is in place"? Now I may have misquoted him.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear:

AN HON. MEMBER: You did.

MR. ROBERTS: I did. Who says, I did?

Who says, I did?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS: Now I believe that I

quoted him correctly. I may have misquoted him. It is sometimes

MR. ROBERTS:

very hard to follow the Premier,

because I can only understand English. I cannot understand the Premier at times.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker, it is no good

his giving you the goggle-eyed look. Mr.Speaker, would

he confirm -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. BARRETT:

Showing your own ignorance.

MR. ROBERTS:

The hon. gentleman for St.

John's west (Mr. Barrett) has greased his way into be a parliamentary secretary. I wish him well in greasing his way

all the way in.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL):

Order, please! Order, please!

MR ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman

opposite would not interrupt me, I would finish my question,

if I may.

MR. SPEAKER:

I feel that the hon. member

for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) in the heat of the moment may have used a phrase which may be a little unparliamentary and attributes motives to the hon. member for St. John's West.

MR. ROBERTS:

If I have said something unparliam-

entary of course I withdraw.

MR. NEARY:

That is true. He greased his way.

MR. ROBERTS:

Is 'greased'! was that the

offending word?

AN HON. MEMBER:

It does not matter if it was.

MR. ROBERTS:

I know the speaker does not

have to answer. But, I mean, are we going to be condemned -

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SOME HON. MEMBERS:

oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS:

How do I know what my

offence is?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS:

The Speaker can tell us what

is unparliamentary.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please;

I would ask the hon. member

for the Strait of Belle Isle to get on with his question.

MR. ROBERTS:

All right, Mr. Speaker, We

are not to know now what we are condemned for.

MR. BARRETT:

(Inaudible) any longer,

you know.

MR. ROBERTS:

I will withdraw whatever I

have been condemned for, All I want to know is what any peasant down in the Magistrate's Court gets to know, why I have been condemned before I am taken out and shot. Now would the Premier confirm - this was the question, Mr. Speaker, before the hon. gentleman for St. John's West (Mr. Barrett) slithered his way into the discretion here - would the hon. Premier please confirm whether his statement is the policy or not?

MR. BARRETT:

(Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS:

My name tag.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, when decent

questions are asked, decent answers will be given.

MR. BAIRD:

Right on.

MR. ROBERTS:

When we have a decent Premier

there will be decent questions.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS:

Any indecency the Premier is

guilty of.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. member for Bellevue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, I think I have

about thirty seconds. I wanted to ask the Minister of Health (Mr. House), Mr. Speaker, relating to last week's budget, I wanted to ask the Minister of Health a question regarding the future of the cottage hospital at Markland. Could the minister inform the House how many jobs will be lost in the transition from the status of a cottage hospital to a clinic at Markland, how many jobs will be lost? And will alternate employment be found for these people?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. HOUSE:

Mr. Speaker, the announcement

was made that the cottage hospital at Markland would be phased down, I think in September, as an in-patient facility. The facility right now has only about forty per cent occupancy and that is basically for reasons that should be treated in chronic care rather than in an acute care hospital. There are fifty-five people working there and as far as I can gather about forty will be out of a job, but we are working right now on a process, of course the regular process, with the collective bargaining process, and the redundancy clause in government policy and trying to ease whatever pain will come out of that.

MR. CALLAN:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. member

for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, let me ask the

minister then will the clinic that we are talking about, this out-patient clinic, will that be a new facility or will the cottage hospital at Markland be renovated to produce the out-patient clinic, or will it be a new structure?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. NEARY:

He does not know.

MR. HOUSE:

Mr. Speaker, the tentative

plans - incidentally, Mr. Speaker, we want to bear in mind, the members should bear in mind, and the public in that area, that this has been talked about for a long period of time. One of the first meetings I had in 1979 -

MR. NEARY:

That is not what you told the

committee during the election.

MR. HOUSE:

- in 1979 we met with the

committee, as a matter of fact the same committee chairman I think is there now, on two occasions with myself and a number of times with officials, pointing out that our objective was to phase down the hospital to a clinic status, and the

MR. HOUSE:

objective was to construct a new clinic something similar to the kind that we have on some of the Labrador Coast and, of course, in Flower's Cove, that nature. That is the objective.

MR. CALLAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): A supplementary, the hon.

the member for Bellevue.

Mr. Speaker, the minister has MR. CALLAN: just finished saying that this decision has been ongoing for awhile. The members of the Markland Cottage Hospital Improvement Committee informed me that last Spring, on April 6th, as a matter of fact, four days before a byelection in that area, the Premier told the committee out there that his government is opposed to closing or downgrading cottage hospitals, including the Markland hospital, and the Premier also gave a commitment at that time to that committee that his officials would research and introduce proposals regarding a new outpatient clinic in addition to maintaining the cottage hospital at Markland. Let me ask the minister, then, is the minister suggesting that the Hospital Improvement Committee at Markland are telling lies to me or is the Premier telling lies?

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I will respond to that question.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: In meeting that I held with

the hospital people at that time, I indicated to them that there would not be both a hostel and a clinic at Markland but that we were going to phase down the hostel and replace it over time with a new clinic. There was not to be both a separate building called

premier Peckford: a clinic and an ongoing cottage hostel. So I think the hon. member has his facts sort of muddled. The situation that we debated at length with the people from Markland and the area was that over time the cottage hospital would be phased out, that it was quite unreasonable to expect that over any length of time you could continue to have a clinic operating in

PREMIER PECKFORD:

that old building

and that a new clinic would have to be built to have the kind of medical facilities there that were still needed, but that the hospital would be phased down and a new building for a clinic would be built.

That is what I told the people at the hospital at Markland at the time, that is what they understood.

And I have had meetings with them since that time, and discussions with them since that time, and there was never any indication that there would be both, but that the hospital as it now existed would be phased down, that that building may be unsuitable for a clinic ongoing for any length of time, and that a new building would have to be built for a clinic for the people of that area.

MR. CALLAN:

A supplementary, Mr.

Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER(Russell):

One final supplementary

and the time will have elapsed for the Question Period.

The hon. the member

for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, I just

referred to a meeting that was held with the Premier last April 6th. Now, on March 30th. of this year, six days before the provincial election, the Premier attended a public meeting in Norman's Cove, and following that public meeting the Premier met with the Improvement Committee again, the Hospital Improvement Committee, and the Premier told the Committee at that time - the Premier stated emphatically that the outpatients clinic will be constructed during this term of his office, his administration. He further stated that the clinic would be constructed adjoining the Markland Hospital - adjoining, in addition to.

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MR. CALLAN:

So is the Premier

saying then that the Committee are telling lies?

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I can

answer that. I do not remember meeting formally with the Committee. There might have been a few members of the Committee present at that rally, but the situation was simply that I indicated to the people there that it was the government's intention if we were re-elected that the cottage hospital would be phased down, there would be no longer a cottage hospital there, and a new building next to where and that is where they want it, by the way, that is where the people wanted it. They wanted the new building to be next to where the old building is now and that it would be a clinic.

Now, I do not know how the hon. member interprets adjoining, but it was clear to everybody that the cottage hospital was to be downgraded or phased out and there would be a new building built which would be the building for the clinic at Markland, to serve that area. That is clearly understood by everybody out there and it is only the hon. member who is confused, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister

of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

MR. GOUDIE:

Mr. Speaker, I give

notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Natural Products Marketing Act, 1973".

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PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I give

notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Provide For The Appointment Of Parliamentary Secretaries To Ministers Of The Crown".

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear'

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, a

questions asked by the hon. the member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock), to ask the

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PREMIER PECKFORD:

Minister of

Governmental Affairs to lay upon the Table of the House the following information: The number of appointments made in 1979, '80 and '81 covering executive assistants, parliamentary assistants and public relations specialists.

Answer: None.

Second question

from the member for Eagle River: To ask the hon. the Minister for Governmental Affairs to lay upon the Table of the House the following information: The cost of renovations to the minister's office in 1979, '80, '81.

Answer: None.

I table those

answers, Mr. Speaker.

MS. VERGE:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. the Minister

of Education.

MS. VERGE:

This is in reply to

question No. 52, Order Paper dated May 13, a question of the hon. the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush) asking the cost of renovations to the minister's offices in the fiscal year 1979, '80 and '81.

The reply is that

there were no such renovations and the cost was none.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

On motion, the

following bills were read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow:

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Department Of Labour And Manpower Act". (Bill No. 20).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Livestock (Community Sales) Act". (Bill No. 30).

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A bill, "An Act To Repeal

The Fur Farms Act". (Bill No. 31).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Development Areas(Lands) Act". (Bill No. 11).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Newfoundland Geographical Names Board Act, 1974". (Bill No. 12).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Deferred Pensions Act". (Bill No. 33).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Department Of Finance Act". (Bill No. 9).

May 31, 1982, Tape 699, Page 1 -- apb

On motion, the following bills were read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow:

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Wild Life Act". (Bill No. 4).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Grand Falls Hospital (Management) Act, 1961". (Bill No. 13).

A bill, "An Act To Amend
The Cancer And Research Foundation Act, 1971".

(Bill No. 6).

A bill, "An Act To Amend
The Provincial Court Act, 1974". (Bill No. 19).
A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Law Scoiety Act, 1977". (Bill No. 41).

A bill, "An Act To Remove

Anomalies And Errors In The Statute Law". (Bill No.38).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Jury Act". (Bill No. 34).

A bill, "An Act To Amend
The Parliamentary Commissioner (Ombudsman) Act".

(Bill No. 39).

A bill, "An Act To Amend
The Automobile Insurance Act And The Highway Traffic
Act To Increase The Minimum Liability Under Motor
Vehicle Liability Policies". (Bill No. 40).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Registration Of Deeds Act". (Bill No. 32).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Contributory Negligence Act, The Married Women's Property Act And The Automobile Insurance Act".

(Bill No. 17).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Conveyancing Act". (Bill No. 16).

May 31, 1982, Tape 700, Page 1 -- apb

On motion, the following bills were read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow:

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Prisons Act". (Bill No. 14).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The United Church Of Canada Act". (Bill No. 3).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Urban And Rural Planning Act". (Bill No. 42).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The St. John's Assessment Act". (Bill No. 24).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Municipalities Act". (Bill No. 25).

A bill, "An Act To Repeal

The St. John's Memorial Stadium Act, 1974". (Bill No.35).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The City Of Corner Brook Act". (Bill No. 23).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Gander Development Corporation Act, 1975" (Bill No. 5).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

The Bay St. George Community College Act". (Bill No.8).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Department Of Education Act". (Bill No. 37).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

The Memorial University (Pensions) Act". (Bill No.7).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Mineral Act, 1976". (Bill No. 22).

On motion, the following bills were read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow:

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Schedule To The Government - British Newfoundland Corporation Limited - N.M.Rothschild & Sons (Confirmation Of Agreement) Act, 1953". (Bill No. 21).

A bill, "An Act Respecting

Certain Powers Of Appointment". (Bill No. 29).

A bill, "An Act To Amend

Certain Acts Respecting Government Departments To

Provide The Fower For Ministers To Enter Into

Agreements Subject To Specified Terms And Conditions".

(Bill No. 28).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Conflict Of Interest Act, 1973". (Bill No. 15).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Status Of Women Advisory Council Act". (Bill No. 27).

A bill, "An Act To Repeal

The Newfoundland Fisheries Development Authority Act". (Bill No. 10).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The
Day Care And Homemaker Services Act, 1975". (Bill No.36).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Livestock (Health) Act". (Bill No. 26).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Automobile Insurance Act". (Bill No. 44).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Unified Family Court Act". (Bill No. 43).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The

Newfoundland Industrial Development Act". (Bill No. 18).

On motion, that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means to consider the raising of supply granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder), who is going to speak,

I would like to welcome to the galleries the Mayor of Triton,

Mr. Wilbur Windsor, and Councillor Mr. Wilson Fudge, from the

Premier's district. I welcome you to the galleries today.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. member for Port au Port.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great

pleasure to lead off on the Budget Speech. Mr. Speaker, the budget is cleverly done but a deceptive budget. The full impact of this budget will not be felt by Newfoundlanders until some months have passed. It does not stimulate the economy. The stimulative measures in the budget have mostly been announced during the election campaign and most of the stimulation is through the Federal/Provincial Highways Agreement and the Forestry Agreement, cleverly included in the budget as if this government were doing something on their own.

Mr. Speaker, as a preliminary comment I would say that the budget is not fair, it is not a fair budget to Newfoundlanders in that it hits the low income earners worst. Because outside of the two per cent personal income tax, which is a fair tax I suppose in that it hits the lower income earners of the Province in a lessor way than those who earn high incomes, the budget follows the line which this administration has been following for the past two or three budgets, and that is that it raises fees. Now in the Premier's first election in 1979 he promised that there would be no raise in taxes. Mr. Speaker, there is a thin line between raising fees in every conceivable way from taxes, but the

MR. HODDER:

point about why I say that
this budget is unfair to the low-income earners in
this Province is because a fee hurts those who can
least afford to pay for it moreso than those who can
pay for it, and the raising of fees for every conceivable
thing in the Province over the past few years penalizes
people with small incomes in exactly the same way as it
hits the millionnaire.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this government to realize that they cannot sneak away from their responsibilities by raising every type of licence. I do not know, Mr. Speaker, if there is a licence in this Province that has not been raised over the past three years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say something about the budget, or what happened prior to the budget being brought down. I want for a minute to put something straight.

We in the Opposition have been accused of projecting substantial tax hikes in the budget. And even though the - and I congratulate the Evening Telegram on its coverage of the budget. It was much clearer - I think it was in Friday's Telegram - than certainly was the Budget Speech itself. But,

Mr. Speaker, the editorial said, "The most noticeable first reaction to the provincial budget brought down in the House of Assembly yesterday by Finance Minister

Dr. John Collins was one of surprise, even slight shock, at least it should be for the Opposition Party. Their spokesman and some in other fields had been ominously projecting substantial tax hikes mainly because of the Province's difficult economic circumstances."

MR. HODDER:

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I, myself, who am the spokesman for financial affairs, and a new one, I might add, for this party, and my colleagues, have in no way - we have actually, Mr. Speaker, predicted this budget. And, Mr. Speaker, I am on record as saying in the public media on a number of

MR. HODDER:

occasions in the public media that I thought that the type of Budget that would come down this time would be one with little spending, little to stimulate the economy but I did not predict all the horror stories that we were hearing.

MR. NEARY:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

But, Mr. Speaker, I refer to another editorial that was previously in the Evening

Telegram which said: The Budget is coming down next week amid apprehension and reports that are more than rumours - so the Evening Telegram itself were predicting a hard Budget - that some taxes may be increased, particularly the eleven per cent sales tax, still the highest in Canada.

MR. NEARY: He said it was going to be

a hard Budget. I was only quoting him.

MR.HODDER: So, Mr. Speaker, I could not

let that pass because in our deliberations in caucus every member of this side accurately predicted what the Premier would do in this Budget.

MR.NEARY: Right on. He was trying to

psyche people out.

MR. HODDER:

And, Mr. Speaker, what really happened, and the reason I referred to those editorials was because I have no doubt in my mind that the wild rumours that were eminating from the Civil Service and coming from the Confederation Building were deliberate attempts by the government, Mr. Speaker, deliberate attempts by the government -

MR. NEARY: To psyche people out.

MR.HODDER: - to psyche people out, to

let them feel the worst before the Budget came down.

And the only reason, Mr. Speaker, that this Budget was

MR.HODDER: even halfway accepted by the media, by the people in the Province-although I saw a poll which showed that by far the majority of the people who were polled by the CBC said that they did not like the Budget - but Mr. Speaker, people were built up for a bad Budget, and maybe it is a shrewd move on the part of this government, but this is not a good Budget, Mr. Speaker.

MR.NEARY:

Thirty-five to one were

against it.

MR. TOBIN:

(Inaudible)

CBC, the Poll

MR. NEARY:

Why what have you got against

the CBC? What have you got against them?

MR. TOBIN:

Nothing against them.

MR.NEARY:

Well, okay, leave them alone.

MR.HODDER:

Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY:

You fellows would not agree

in your caucus and let them come in and televise the daily sessions of the House.

MR.HODDER:

-Mr. Speaker, what we have here
is a Budget with little spending and very little stimulative
effect. But I know of no one here who said that we would
have increases on sales tax or a tax on clothing. The
major effect of this Budget, Mr. Speaker, is to hurt
the fishermen, farmers, the poor, the middle income
earners, civil servants, vocational students, the children,
the sick and the dying, drivers -

MR. NEARY:

Right on.

MR. HODDER:

- waiters, those who work

in the forest industry, gardeners, those who are trying to supplement their incomes by growing a few vegetables and tourists. That is just to name a few, Mr. Speaker.

MR. TULK:

They talk about developing

natural resources.

MR. HODDER:

And overall this budget

does not provide money for many badly needed problems in this Province.

MR. NEARY:

But lots of jails. We

are going to have lots of jails in Newfoundland.

MR. HODDER:

Overall, Mr. Speaker, the

budget does not provide money for many badly needed programmes in this Province.

MR. NEARY:

Close hospitals and built jails.

MR. HODDER:

And where there is some

lip service where we have problems, there has not been enough but just Band-Aid treatment.

The tourism budget has been cut in a number of significant places. New road building in unincorporated areas is at a minimum. There are no new initiatives to help the fishery — to help our troubled fishery, I might add. There is no major development thrust. There are no new initiatives to help small business.

If you go through the budget carefully you realize that the inflation rate this year, I think, it is 10.5 to 11 per cent. Services have been cut to a minimum in the budget. And the implied wage restraints will not work in light of our own actions.

So, Mr. Speaker, perhaps we should look in detail at some of the parts of this budget which was brought down in this House on Thursday.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, one that strikes me as being one of a number of blows to Newfoundlanders and blows to the ordinary people of this Province, the increased tuition fees which were announced for vocational schools. Now, Mr. Speaker, any member for this assembly who represents a rural area, and particularly any member of this House, and there are a lot of members on both sides of this House who represent high unemployment areas of this Province, where people are either on unemployment insurance or on the verge of social assistance, any member that represents districts such as that will realize, particularly if the standards of education are low - and they are, Mr. Speaker; a study done not too long ago said that Newfoundlanders had the highest rate of illiteracy in

MR. HODDER:

Canada-will realize that the increased tuition fees to vocational students which the Budget - the Budget has a funny language, Mr. Speaker, because the Budget only tells half of the story. There is an attempt to be deceptive even in the language of the Budget.

MR. NEARY:

Funny and false.

MR. HODDER:

They are raising the tuition fees by \$100 for a semester. They do not mention that there are normally two semesters in a lot of the colleges in the Province, so it is a \$200 raise, not a \$100 raise. And they have done away with the \$100 a month fee paid to provincial students. And when we look at a usual nine month term for many of those courses that is \$900 that has been taken away. Then on the other hand they have said that students at those colleges can get up to \$2,000 to \$2,500 in student loans.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about that for a little while because there was a federal Task Force that went throughout the Province some time ago and I saw some of the submissions. I put a submission to that Task Force myself, I was there when a number of submissions were placed in the Corner Brook and Stephenville-West Coast area, and I have had access to some of the and they are all up for public consumption - to some of the briefs that were put in in other parts of the Province. And one of the things, Mr. Speaker, that that Task Force found when they went through the Province was that there was a trememdous pressure, and it came up right across the Province, to increase that \$100 fee which had not been changed for twelve years. When I first taught at what was then known as the Adult Centre, which is now the Bay St. George Community College, in Stephenville in 1968 , students were getting \$100 at that particular time, provincial students, Manpower students get another amount. But what has happened, Mr. Speaker, is that students are now being told they have to pay an extra

MR. HODDER: \$1,100 in order to attend those courses, but they can get student loans. I want to talk about that for a while because, you know, Mr. Speaker, one of the problems with our vocational schools, and I have said this in the House on many occasions - there are many aspects I want to talk about today but this is the one that sort of

struck me the most-but there MR. J. HODDER: are many courses which we are teaching in our vocational schools at the present time, particularly with the type of economy we have in this Province today and the type of economy we have across Canada, for which once the person does those courses there are no jobs afterwards, or there are very few jobs. So that anybody that goes into a travel counselling course, and I know one has been run on the West coast of the Province where they have had a great success rate and had a successful course, any student going into fine arts or into power engineering or into carpentry with the construction trade down, they are going in to upgrade themselves but they are looking and they know that there is a very good chance when they get out that there will not be work for them. Also, Mr. Speaker, students who are encouraged - people, adults, not students, adults who are encouraged to go into various schools across the Province, the vocational type schools where there is upgrading, very often they have a low level of education and in that year they have one year in order to try and get to a position where they can then get into a course in vocational schools.so sometimes people go in at grade seven and they make it to grade ten or grade eleven, and then they can do a course that will allow them into the vocational schools. These are people, Mr. Speaker, who would be horrified and will be horrified to know that they have to go out and borrow a couple of thousand dollars to try and upgrade themselves. It is the psychology, Mr. Speaker, and it is a psychology that will mean decreased seats in the vocational schools of this Province and it will mean decreased seats in the Bay St. George College.

MR. S. NEARY:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

It will mean decresed enrollment

MR. J. HODDER:

next year. Now, Mr. Speaker,

if we are going to try and bring this Province to a point where we are able to get jobs.

caribou.

where we are able to get jobs, MR. HODDER: where we have a highly skilled work force and are going to be able to get jobs across this country, and across this Province, I think, Mr. Speaker, that it is despicable and deplorable that the government would take action to make it more difficultand it will make it more difficult, Mr. Speaker- for students to get into vocational schools. I know, Mr. Speaker, many, many students who are in vocational schools now who come from families, who have been encouraged to go to vocational schools and where they have to travel and stay in residence, where that \$100 a month, even though inadequate, was the only reason why they went in. It was the way, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, we are very short of skilled trades in this Province, and this has been a blow to the heart of vocational education. They are completely Right on! MR. NEARY: insensitive to the needs of the young people of this Province. Mr. Speaker, I would like for a MR. HODDER: - Mr. Speaker, another point that moment as well to talk about I would like to talk about at this moment, and I suppose it was one of the things in the budget where we went after the tourists, and while most Newfoundlanders will breathe a sigh of relief that their moose licence did not increase, the big game licence fees were boosted; Canadian non-residents, which was \$250 for moose and \$400 for caribou - or was \$150 rather for moose and \$300 for caribou has been boosted \$250 for a moose licence and \$400 for a caribou, and other non-residents the fee was boosted, from what I do not know but to \$350 for moose and \$500 for

Now, Mr. Speaker, the more I look at this budget the more I wonder what we are trying to do. You know, one of the main attractions of the central part of this Province, and particularly on the West Coast of this Province, there are many people who gain their livelihood both in the transportation business, those who fly small planes,

MR. HODDER: those outfitters who provide accommodations for outside tourists, now I do not believe,
Mr. Speaker, we should allow outsiders, but if they are coming in at prices like this what we are doing is we are discouraging these people, from whom the West Coast for years and years and years have made a good dollar in the Fall, where hotels, motels have been booked on the West Coast of this Province and in the Central part of this Province.

MR. TULK:

The Premier is going to replace them.

MR. HODDER:

And the outfitters have made a

good dollar because usually when these residents come in they do spend money. They spend money more than most tourists.

MR. STAGG:

Are you sure it is going to

discourage them?

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member feels that by increasing these fees it will not discourage them, with the economy as it is now and with business in a total hold back, when the economy of the whole country is in a state of collapse and the economy of the Province is in a worse state of collapse that we will encourage people by raising non-resident fees, then I think the hon. member should have another think about that.

Mr. Speaker, we were not giving it away in the beginning, and I think if the hon. member will check with outfitters across this Province, and check with the hotel and motel association and various other interested people in this Province, he will find that his comments are frivolous and ill thought out.

MR. TULK:

What a minister! What a

minister!

MR. NEARY: Are they giving away everything on the Harmon Corporation or what? Is that what you are talking about? I hear they have a great give-away programme going out there.

MR. STAGG:

Do you want to get it away?

MR. NEARY: Giving it away to themselves for trips around the world.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, another point in this budget - I am just hitting the high points now - is the children's -

MR. STAGG: Your leader is hitting the low ones.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, if the parliamentary secret from Stephenville could restrain himself, 1 would get on with my speech.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, the children's

dental programme has been cut from two treatments to

one treatment, the Minister of Finance (Pr. Collins)

said, on the basis of expert advice which his department
had received. Mr. Speaker, the fact is that this

Province has less dentists per capita -

MR. STAGG:

Fewer.

MR. HODDER:

- fewer -

MR. CALLAN:

And more cavities.

MR. HODDER:

- fewer dentists per capita

than any other Province in Canada. And, Mr. Speaker,

I am told - I do not know where the minister's advice

came from - but I have been told by reputable dentists

in this Province that this is not so. And what we have

done here, Mr. Speaker, is we have robbed the children

in order to balance the budget -

MR. NEARY:

That is right, and the sick

and the dying.

MR. HODDER:

- Mr. Speaker, with a

Province with less dentists per capita than any other

Province in Canada. This, Mr. Speaker, I have been

told by dentists, is a bad move and I think that that

probably typifies the thinking of this government more

than anything else that we witnessed in the Budget Speech.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, we could always talk about the hospital beds, where ward fees have gone from \$3 to \$5. I wonder who that hurts,
Mr. Speaker. Who does that hurt? Does that hurt the millionnaire? The maximum fee for a stay in a hospital has gone from \$45 to \$75. Who does that hurt?

MR. NEARY:

Shame.

MR. TULK:

What?

MR. HODDER:

The maximum fee

for the period of time you are in used to be \$45. It has now

gone to \$75.

MR. TULK:

What is the difference in

fees for rooms?

MR. HODDER:

Well it depends on what

type of room you are in.

MR. NEARY:

\$50.00.

MR. HODDER:

If you are in a cheaper

room your maximum - but if you are in a more expensive room you would have less days before you got to the maximum.

MR. TULK

Oh!

MR. HODDER:

Where they are semi-

private rooms, there are many people who go into hospitals, Mr. Speaker, who need semi-private rooms.

MR. NEARY:

That is right.

MR. HODDER:

They have gone from \$12 to

\$20 , and private rooms to \$30 per day from \$18 per day.

MR. TULK:

Take it off the poor.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, that to me -

MR. TULK: Hit the poor and the sick. That is the Tory philosophy.

MR. NEARY:

Criminal.

MR. HODDER:

- when I made my opening

remarks, when I started the budget speech, is where this government has to stop. You cannot raise fees without hurting the low income people in this Province. And everybody one time or another will find themselves in a hospital. And again we are not doing it on a graduated scale.

Mr. Speaker, there was

\$70 million for transportation projects. This was the major

MR. HODDER:

stimulative part of this

budget. Now this \$70 million for transportation projects,
Mr. Speaker, is probably the most used piece of information
I have ever seen in my life.

MR. TULK:

And they probably will not

use it anyway.

MR. HODDER:

First of all, Mr. Speaker,

the government fought with the federal government for years on the transportation agreement. This was the famous agreement, Mr. Speaker, which the two parties could not get together to sign. Then, Mr. Speaker, during the election campaign, the Premier came out with-or prior to the election campaign, the Premier came out with his stimulation of the economy. He was going to get everything going again, But lo and behold, Mr. Speaker, when he had his press conference the money that he announced, 75 per cent of the money came from Ottawa. So he was using Ottawa money —

MR. TULK:

The great pretender.

MR. HODDER:

- prior to an election

campaign to get things going. He was going to tender early.

Then, Mr. Speaker, after

hearing all of that again for the second time -

MR. NEARY:

Pretender.

MR. TULK:

Good old PP, Pretender Peckford.

MR. HODDER:

- we found that lo and behold

in the budget the major stimulative effect of the budget-and

I heard Dr. May on television from the University saying it was
a stimulative budget. And, you know, he mentioned the money
for transportation projects. Mr. Speaker,

MR. J. HODDER:

it may have been stimulative but it certainly had nothing to do with this government. That particular \$70 million has stimulated the economy over and over again. And this is the third time we have been told that this \$70 million is going to stimulate the economy.

MR. S. NEARY:

The Throne Speech and the election.

MR. TULK:

We will see how much stimulation

is there next fall when the unemployment rate is about 25 per cent.

MR. HODDER:

We also see, Mr. Speaker, the

forestry projects.

MR. TULK:

The member for Twillingate

(Mrs. I. Reid) will turn down her Canada Works Programs next year.

MR. HODDER:

\$14 million, Mr. Speaker, for

forestry projects. This is another part of this stimulative budget. This is supposed to be forest access roads, silviculture. Mr. Speaker, again, the DREE agreement on forestry which was signed last year, which has all been announced and reannounced again to make this government look good, that they have a budget that stimulates the economy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. TULK:

They will probably spend it next

year.

MR. NEARY:

Shame.

MR. HODDER:

And, Mr. Speaker, in addition to

all that the government received an additional \$115 million from Ottawa this year.

MR. NEARY:

In what kind of projects?

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, the public debt is at

MR. J. HODDER: \$3.3 billion, up from a billion dollars in 1972, and that is something that we should reflect on soberly, Mr. Speaker. I think it is something like \$6,000, is it, per Newfoudlander?

MR. S. NEARY: That is right. \$6,000 for every man, woman and child in the Province.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: And how much are they going to drive the debt up this year for every man, woman and child?

MR. HODDER:

Now most people I think in the Province predicted that there would be raises in the liquor prices and on the cigarette tax. These are favorite whipping dogs and I suppose we as a society, no more than other Province in Canada, but we could always, and it is best to give up smoking and we can all of us, across the Province the per capita consumption of alcohol certainly does nothing for the productivity of the Province. Mr. Speaker, on that matter I would like ask just a couple of questions. And perhaps when one of the hon. members on the other side answers or speaks again to this budget

MR. HODDER:

that they will perhaps give me some facts. At what point do we get diminishing returns from increases? Because it happens year after year on beer and liquor And at what point, Mr. Speaker, and the government might take this at heart: I am told that in Prince Edward Island that they have come to a point with the price of liquor where there has been an outbreak of not smuggling, Mr. Speaker, I am talking about alcohol - they are making moonshine up there, I am told-or at least an article I saw in one of the Atlantic Canada magazines once said. So I think, Mr. Speaker, that this House has to be cognizant of that. But that is not the most important point, Mr. Speaker. Cigarettes have now reached - and I can tell this House that it is true - that cigarettes have now reached the price in this Province whereby it is very, very profitable to bring cigarettes in from other Provinces. And, Mr. Speaker, I would ask again, and perhaps I will get a reply to this, or we on this side of the House will get a reply to this, but what moves has this government taken to stop cigarette smuggling into the Province? With this new hike, Mr. Speaker, I am not against the hike, I smoke myself and I wish I did not and I am hoping that this further increase will lead me to get back to my non-smoking self as I was several months ago. But, Mr. Speaker, there is a great deal of cigarette smuggling coming into this Province both on a personal basis for people who travel outside the Province and through businesses. And it is very hard to detect, Mr. Speaker. And I think that what we have to address ourselves to is, you know, when you push it too far, then you better make sure that there are controls to stop the smuggling, and if there are no controls, then the further we push it the less revenues we will receive. Now that is a warning to the government.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I cannot help but, while saying a few words, to talk about the Social Services payments.

They were effective April 1st. It has been said here in the House before but I would be of the feeling from some of the news reports that emanated from the Budget that perhaps

Social Assistance recipients across this Province may feel that they have a further 10 per cent increase because, Mr. Speaker, this particular increase, the regular and special foster homes rates which were

MR. HODDER:

increased 10 per cent, social assistance rates and mortgage allowance rates increased 10 per cent. These particular increases, if ever you could use the words 'election bait', were election bait. Now, Mr. Speaker, social assistance recipients in this Province need the 10 per cent, they need more than the 10 per cent. Mr. Speaker, they have been dropping behind over and over again. Now, there are many people on social assistance in this Province who through various circumstances can supplement their income, but there are people, widows and particularly the handicapped, and there are a lot of people on social assistance because they are handicapped, people who have worked all their lives and then because of the types of skills they had, had a heart attack or found themselves in unfortunate circumstances and had to go on social assistance. And, Mr. Speaker, there is no sadder sight than a person who was always used to paying his own way. But, Mr. Speaker, the cost of living has been increasing faster than social assistance payments have been paid, so this 10 per cent is not a goodie, Mr. Speaker, this 10 per cent was a must. And I think if you talk to any of the social workers across this Province they will say that the people on social assistance need more. When you walk into a house, Mr. Speaker, and the gentleman there has a heart condition and a problem with his kidney and one cannot be operated on because of the other, and he is sitting there and cannot even get his own wood or walk outside the house, and he has a couple of children in high school, and he takes out his pencil

MR. HODDER: and he says, 'This is what I have,' you start to realize, Mr. Speaker, just what kind of financial circumstances a person can find himself in.

I still say, Mr. Speaker, there should be two rates for social assistance, for those people who are disabled and for those people who are able to catch a few fish or grow something in their gardens.

MR. STAGG:

And what about the widows?

MR. HODDER: And the widows, Mr. Speaker. I think I told the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Hickey) of a case this year where a widow had been in such a poor home that Newfoundland and Labrador Housing had built her a new one but put an oil furnace in there.

Mr. Speaker, she could not fill the tank with her monthly payment.

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And that is the sort of MR. HODDER: problems that we find people on social assistance in. But what happened, Mr. Speaker, in the past election? These payments have been made. These payments have been in the hands of social assistant recipients for some time because during the election, Mr. Speaker, a little blue slip came out which said, 'You have now'just prior to the election, 'you have now had your social assistance payments raised by 10 per cent. It was not the first time it happened, Mr. Speaker, it happened in the 1979 election as well. It may have happened in the 1975 election. And, Mr. Speaker, I say that this is an insult to the intelligence of the people and it smacks of the worst political patronage that one could imagine. Because, Mr. Speaker, if you do have social assistance recipients in this Province and they are in need, and there are some in need and there are some that are not, but there are many in need, if you have social assistance recipients my goodness let us have enough respect for them that we give them their raises in the same manner that we would give any other public servant a raise when a particular time comes around. Right on. Not while there is an MR. NEARY: election on.

MR. HODDER:

I am glad to see, Mr. Speaker,
in this budget, as well, that increases for pensioners drawing

benefits under the Public Service Pension Plan is up 10 per cent. Mr. Speaker, that 10 per cent does not mean an awful lot for an awful lot of people. Mr. Speaker, I know of one gentleman who taught for 30 years, perhaps some hon. members in this House know of whom I speak, he taught for 30 years but he stopped teaching somewhere in the early sixties. And, Mr. Speaker, his teachers pension was thirty years of teaching along with -

MR. NEARY:

'62 to be exact.

MR. HODDER:

What?

MR. NEARY:

62.

MR. HODDER: 1962. His teachers' pension, for teaching for thirty years along the South Coast of this Province as a dedicated person, is somewhere around \$250.00 per month. Now, Mr. Speaker, that is the wonderful NTA, who really have been looking after their pensioners. And, Mr. Speaker, that 10 per cent increase is not going to mean very much. A 10 per cent increase will mean an awful lot for certain brackets in the public service, but a 10 per cent increase in situations like that, I think, Mr. Speaker, it is nothing. It will mean nothing, and I think that system - and I condem the NTA for the way that they have treated some of the retired teachers who have spent

MR. HODDER: years and years and years in the public service in this Province; lay readers, buried the dead, walked from community to community in the days when the Province had no roads, and now, Mr. Speaker, they are living on a paltry sum of \$250 to \$300 a month. And they were educated people in their time, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when we see a 10 per cent increase for people such as this, then I think, Mr. Speaker, that we should stop and think that there are some anomalies in the way that we have been treating some of our retired people who built this Province, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the new hospital beds, of course-here we go again, the language of the budget which is always deceptive, I understand. And I say this, Mr. Speaker, is a good thing but not far enough by any means. But we see that St. Patrick's Mercy Home — we did not find out how many beds were actually increased, but they are increased to 200. So one would not know if it were five beds, it could have been 195. You know, the budget sort of always gives the best side.

MR. NEARY: Fuzzy.

MR. HODDER:

Fuzzy, a fuzzy budget, Mr.

Speaker. Mr. Speaker, thirty-five extra beds in

Carbonear, ten in Springfield, six in Grand Bank, fifty
in licenced boarding homes throughout the Province, and
twenty-five beds in homes for ex- psychiatric care.

Now, Mr. Speaker, one of the problems - and I commend
the government on this. The only thing I will warn the
government about is that it is not going to go nearly
far enough. Because I will tell you what is happening
in the Province's hospitals. Any member of this House
can go to the nearest hospital, wherever, in their district,
or to the hospitals in their districts, and they will find
that a great number of the patients in those hospitals should
not be in the hospitals but there is nowhere to put them.

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can go to the nearest hospital, wherever, in their district.

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that a great number of the patients in those hospitals should

not be in the hospitals but there is nowhere to put them.

As well, in every district in this MR. HODDER: Province you have people who are living with their families who should no longer be there. I have had a number of cases myself, and I know other members have had the same number of cases. A hospital bed, I am told, is \$200 a day or more. That is what it costs. And we have people in those hospital beds who should be in homes. And, Mr. Speaker, even though this looks very, very generous, and I am glad that the government has recognized that something must be done about this problem because the government is losing revenues, they are losing revenues because they have patients who should be treated in other ways and who do not really need hopsital accommodations and the type of accommodations the hospital requires, who should be in specialized facilities. These patients are costing the taxpayers of this Province millions and millions of dollars every year. And I am told that this is not unique to any one hospital, that it is a

MR. HODDER: problem, and I am sure that the member for Exploits (Dr. Twomey) would quite agree, that this is a problem which is right throughout this Province, from St. John's to Port aux Basques, and from St. Anthony down to Stephenville -

MR. NEARY:

Right on!

MR. HODDER: - and I am sure on the coast of Labrador, or in the Labrador area. We are paying millions of dollars a year for people in hospitals because there is no where else to put them. And while I say, Mr. Speaker, good for the government, they have done this, Mr. Speaker, it is certainly not enough yet. And I will warn the government of something else, too, those licensed boarding homes. Get on the ball, and make sure that they are properly inspected and that when a person has applied for a licensed boarding home - and I know of a case of this happening in the province, where a person has applied for a licensed boarding home, renemovated the home, spent a great deal of funds, and then, Mr. Speaker, even though, you had cases in the hospitals that should not have been there, people who could have been living in that particular home he has not received anybody yet. 'I have spent the money, I made an outlay of \$10,000 for this home, you asked me to do it, and now there is no one coming.' And yet, you talk to the social workers at the hospitals, you talk to the social workers in the area, and you find that there are people who should be in that particular home. Now, I do not know what is happening, Mr. Speaker, but someone in the Department of Health - and the minister is not here - has to get their act together on this,

MR. NEARY:

Right on!

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, the 25 beds and homes for ex-psychiatric care: One of the saddest things I suppose,

that I have witnessed, is a family MR. HODDER: where - and I knew the gentlemen, he had a brain hemmorage and became violent and that sort of thing. I have written letters to everywhere in the world. He had to come back and I spoke to the psychiatrist at the Western Memorial Hospital, he came back to his home and was such a threat to his family that the children left, they stayed away from home, they would go to neighbours homes, they would do anything rather than stay there. Yet, Mr. Speaker, after repeated letters and phone calls, and solicitation on my part, they have not been able to get that person in a proper place, where he can be properly looked after. Mr. Speaker, 25 beds will not even start to touch the problem. Mr. Speaker, I will give you this - or will give the minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) this, it is a start, but a very small start. Mr. Speaker, I will speak for a moment about the salary freeze on senior public servants. Mr. Speaker, it is very easy for the government to put

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MR. J. HODDER

a 5 per cent salary

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freeze on senior civil servants. I am sure senior civil servants have the wherewithall and they have— I do not know if they have more expenses, they have more priviliges than most members of the public service. They certainly have more priviliges, expense accounts etc. than do . the support workers in the various parts of government.

MR. S. NEARY Look at Cabot Martin's job there now and see how much he is going to be affected.

MR. HODDER

But, Mr. Speaker, if this 5

per cent freeze is meant to try and limit those groups in the

public service who have been falling behind the cost of living,

then I think Mr. Speaker, that we are in for a long hot year.

Not a long hot Summer, Mr. Speaker, but I predict that this will

be a very, very, very troublesome time ahead.

MR. NEARY

Right on.

MR. HODDER

Because, Mr. Speaker, you cannot

expect those who have very, very high salaries and have been getting very

very high increases - perhaps they are not as well off as they

were before the inflationary spiral started, but most of them are

as protty well cff, Mr. Speaker, and they certainly have a lot

of disposable income. And, Mr. Speaker, if we start to try

those quidelines or anything close to them on the support staff,

the maintenance workers, the liquor store workers, the police,

the firemen, the wardens and all the other people that are part

of our public service, then, Mr. Speaker, I feel that perhaps

this Province might be disrupted for sometime to come.

Government must, government must with those people, be fair and compassionate. No longer, Mr. Speaker, can we see the sight that we saw over here at the College of Trades and Technology last year, no longer can we see these people being

MR. HODDER

denied a reasonable income.

Mr. Speaker, this must be done with compassion. We, of all people here in this House of Assembly, should certainly understand

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MR. HODDER:

that these people

need money as well. Perhaps the hallmark of this budget is what the government has done to the fishermen and the farmers -

MR. NEARY:

Right on!

MR. HODDER:

- in this Province. Maybe

that is what I should have started with Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY:

Horrible, horrible!

MR. HODDER:

- the fishermen and

the farmers. This a negative, Mr. Speaker. I saw nothing in this budget to be to be positive about. Even the goodies, Mr. Speaker, were either federal money, federal money or it was not enough, or it was money that had already been committed before. I will get to the school boards later, but , Mr. Speaker, the increase in tax for the fishermen and farmers is a blow to the primary and the most important producers that we have in this Province. Now I know that our farming industry is small, but I would say, Mr. Speaker, that the farmers in the minister's district from St. Georges (Mr. Dawe), which is a big farming district, and the farmers in the Humber Valley and the farmers on the Avalon Peninsula are not too happy with this government today. Because, Mr. Speaker, the economy of this Province has crucified the fishermen and the farmers. It has crucified them. And any member in this House of Assembly, and there are a few of us, too, who have fishermen in their districts, or who have farmers in their districts, and I have one, one farmer - a lot of part-time farmers, Mr. Speaker, but one full-time farmer and his family, and I know, Mr. Speaker, the type of struggle that family goes through. And Mr. Speaker -

PREMIER PECKFORD:

What kind of farming is there

in your district?

MR. HODDER:

In my district?

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I want to know what section

of farming you are talking about.

MR. NEARY:

Agricultural.

MR. HODDER:

Agricultural, vegetables,

dairy farming, sheep, cows, you name it. Romaine,

Charlie Romaine -

MR. TULK:

What kind of farm do

you want?

MR. HODDER:

- full-time farmer, keeps

his family wich no other income than what he yets

from the soil.

MR. NEARY:

They do not know any-

thing about that, boy, they do not understand that.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker,

MR. NEARY:

There are no farmers

down in the Codroy.

MR. HODDER:

There are many farmers

in my district but most of them cannot make enough of a living from their farming to be able to pursue it full-time and they have to have part-time jobs elsewhere. But, Mr. Speaker, this budget, if it should have done anything, it should have encouraged people to get into sheep farming, it should have encouraged people to grow more vegetables, it should have encouraged people to take out loans to do things. And what has it done, Mr. Speaker? It has made it more difficult.

MR. NEARY:

That is right.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, a fisherman,

a small-boat fisherman - we have small-boatfishermen, all across this province - a small-boat fisherman who is now having his wages garnisheed by the Department of National Revenue, who is suffering from the rising cost of gas prices, and, Mr. Speaker, you do not realize - hon. members I am sure, because

. .

MR HODDER: I do not see very many fishermen

over on the other side of the House, and hon. members -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER: Salmon fisherman, yes, and trout

fishermen no doubt. Pleasure, sports fishermen, that is what is over on that side of the House, Mr. Speaker. And Mr.

Speaker, -

MR. STAGG:

How much fishing have you done?

MR. HODDER:

I will tell the hon. member how much

fishing I have done. Every single Summer I go out in the boats in my district, and I go out to the trap fishery and I go out jigging -

AN. HON. MEMBER:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

- and if there is anybody in ths

House who knows about the fishery on my part of the coast,

it is me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

Because I make a point every single summer, to get out with the fishermen. And I jig, Mr. Speaker, just like the Premier. But I go out and I haul the cod traps too, Mr. Speaker, just like the premier. The only thing, Mr. Speaker, I am not paid as much as the Premier.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

No, and you do not do your fishing

in Florida.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I have fished out of

Blue Beach. I have been on longliners.

MR. TULK:

Your tan is different!

MR. NEARY:

The only place the Premier fishes

is Miami Beach or St. Petersburg.

MR. HODDER:

- I have been out on a scallop boat,

Mr. Speaker. We have scallops, some of the best scallops in Newfoundland, over on the West coast. I invite hon. members over sometime for a feed of scallops. MR. HODDER: And the hon. member for Stephenville

(Mr. Stagg) can guarantee it, I put off a good meal around scallop season.

MR. NEARY:

I would love it.

MR. HODDER: Perhaps, if hon. members would

like to come over and see a district that is surrounded by unemployment, fishermen who do not have harbours and can not get out to pursue the fishery that we have, scallop, lobster, Mr. Speaker,

MR. TULK: I am coming out tomorrow, is that

too soon?

MR. HODDER: Too soon, Mr. Speaker, too soon.

MR. TULK: Plenty of resources, but yet

unemployment.

MR. MARSHALL: We are beginning to get the feeling -

MR. HODDER: He did not know that the hon, member

for Port au Port was a bit of a fisherman. Well, not only the Premier, Mr. Speaker, goes out jigging cod, Mr. Speaker, not only the Premier. I doubt, Mr. Speaker, if the Premier ever shouked a scallop.

MR. STAGG: The hon. member is a washout as

a fisherman.

MR. HODDER: He may be a washout as a fisherman, but, Mr. Speaker, he sure tries. And he certainly knows

MR. NEARY: What their needs are.

what the fishermen of his district go through.

MR. HODDER: And what their needs are. Much more than the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) did when he

represented the district of Port au Port.

MR. TULK: He got booted out of Port au Port,

booted out.

MR. HODDER: But, Mr. Speaker, this has been a blow, this has been a blow to the primary producers of this Province.

MR. NEARY:

Right on, sir.

MR. HODDER:

A blow to the primary producers

of this province.

MR. NEARY:

Say it again.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, rising gas prices!

Do hon. members realize that in a poor fishery such as we had last year, and last year was a poor fishery. There were some parts of the Province where the fishery was not bad.

MR. NEARY:

Very few.

MR. HODDER:

Very few. But the gulf area

of this Province - the fish all came in in Quebec last year This year the fish will come

and there is no market for them.

MR. HODDER

MR. TULK:

This year the fish has come

back. However, the weather has been so bad they cannot get out.

MR. TULK:

No market, no market, they

have to dump them.

MR. HODDER:

But, Mr. Speaker, we have a

person who has to go out and sail around looking for fish. You know, Mr. Speaker, they give up early. Because when they start to get diminished returns for their fish they do not get enough in a small-boat fishery at certain times of the year,

MR. HODDER: particularly last year, to pay for their gas. Now, Mr. Speaker, when you realize how much gas that some of those small boats with double outboard 90 horsepower engines, and they have to have two, burn when they are out on the fishing grounds, Mr. Speaker, it does not take very much to have a losing day. And these people cannot afford a losing day. Mr. Speaker, the fishermen have also been hit with low fish prices. The herring price this year was down from other years, the codfish is not as good as it was last year.

MR. NEARY: The member for Twillingate (Mrs.Reid) is in favour of that. She is in favour of socking it to the fishermen.

MR. HODDER: And, Mr. Speaker, these fishermen who have suffered the slings and arrows of the Department of National Revenue, many of them have annual incomes of \$5,000 to \$7,000 a year.

MR. NEARY: Do away with Canada works.

MR. HODDER:

And I would like to say something else,

Mr. Speaker, and I am sorry the Minister of Fisheries is not

MR. NEARY: Do away with Canada works .-

here.

MR. HODDER: But, you know, Mr. Speaker,-

MR. NEARY: - (inaudible) get rid of our allowance.

MR. HODDER: - we have been talking about how

terrible it was that Revenue Canada garnisheed incomes, you know, came down and took the catch, more or less, of the fisherman because of his -

MR. NEARY: The people in Twillingate will get the message.

MR. HODDER: - garnisheed incomes because of income tax problems. Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the House realizes that if a fisherman has a bad year and cannot make

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MR. HODDER:

it, or he is not making enough money
to keep his family, the Minister of Fisheries

(Mr.Morgan), if a fisherman has a loan from the
Fishermen's Loan Board, can garnished up to 15 per cent
of his catch, I understand-

MR. NEARY: They are taking 20 per cent now.

MR. HODDER: They are taking 20 per cent, are they?

MR. TULK: It is more like 25 per cent.

MR. HODDER: This government is doing

the very same thing as the federal government has been doing - $\,$

MR. NEARY: Right on! Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER: -that the federal government has been

doing , that Revenue Canada -

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear! Right on! That is right.

MR. HODDER:

- and I do not think either one of them, Mr. Speaker, should be acting without compassion. I am not saying that a man who made a lot of money should not pay his taxes, but I am saying, Mr. Speaker, when you look at the traditional fishermen in this Province -

MR. STAGG: Voluntary assignments.

MR. NEARY: 'Jim' he calles it voluntary

assignments. It is 25 per cent of his gross.

MR. HODDER: Voluntary assignment! Mr. Speaker, when a fisherman gets a loan now he has to sign his name, and then

MR. HODDER:

that is the way it goes.

Just as cruel! It does not matter what happens.

MR. WARREN:

At 12 per cent now, too,

by the way.

MR. HODDER:

Does not matter what happens,

if the fishery is good or it is bad or his boat broke down or it sank or whatever else, and we have had it all.

MR. TULK:

Out it comes, out of his wages.

MR. HODDER:

Out it comes, Mr. Speaker, out

it comes.

MR. NEARY:

Twenty-five per cent of the

gross.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I do not agree

with what the federal government have been doing through Revenue Canada. I agree that fishermen should pay their taxes, but, Mr. Speaker, fishermen in this Province have traditionally been the most independent people in the world. And they went out fishing and they came back. They are not particularly bookkeepers, and suddenly the federal government walks down in this particular way. But, Mr. Speaker, now we have the Province doing the very same thing.

MR. NEARY:

That is right, sir, you are right.

Now you are talking.

MR. HODDER:

We have the Province doing the

very same thing.

MR. NEARY:

Twenty-five per cent of their gross.

MR. HODDER:

Yes.

MR. TULK:

And he calls it voluntary

assignment.

MR. NEARY:

That is right. Voluntary, how

are you! Sign or else!

MR. TULK:

Twist their arms.

MR. NEARY:

That is right.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker -

MR. CARTER:

The fishing authority.

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MR. NEARY: Of course he is. That is

why he is our spokesman.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, this was not a

stimulative budget. I think, Mr. Speaker -

MR. CARTER: No, and you are not a stimulative speaker.

MR. HODDER: Well, Mr. Speaker, if the

hon. member opposite does not like what I am saying, that is too bad. I would be just as glad if he left the Chamber. Because, Mr. Speaker, anything I say to that hon. member, he is not going to understand anyhow, because he is from St. John's, Mr. Speaker, and he lives up there in Mount Scio and all he knows is about his savoury patch and he knows nothing about the problems of the fishermen of this Province or he knows nothing about the problems of the farmers of this Province. And that is why, Mr. Speaker, we have a budget like this. That is why we have a budget like this, Mr. Speaker, because the people in this administration do not understand the mentality of Newfoundlanders, that in the rural parts of this Province people are not going to go and borrow \$2,000. They are going to say, no, that we are educators and the vocational schools have been trying to get people. You know, Mr. Speaker, when a person who is unemployed comes to me, the first thing I ask them is 'What is your educational level?'. If it is low I say, "Why are you not in an upgrading course in one of the vocational schools or in the Bay St. George Community College?". And I try to convince them, Mr. Speaker, to go down and try to get a manpower seat. If he cannot get that, then to go in as a provincial student. And I tell them, 'Look, you can get \$900, \$100 a month'. Now I have to tell them, 'You get nothing and you have to pay \$200 to get in'. Now, Mr. Speaker, there are going to be an awful lot of people in this Province who are not going to be in vocational schools in the foreseeable future. They will not be there, Mr. Speaker.

Tape No. 721 IB-3

May 31, 1982

MR. HISCOCK:

There is a life skill

programme too.

MR. TULK:

What they want is a leak proof

system so that. they -

MR. WARREN:

High and mighty.

MR. HODDER:

You know, you get a certain group

of people saying that this was not a bad budget. Not a bad budget because they did not raise the sales tax. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure it would not have been better to raise the sales tax than to drive the people out of the vocational schools, to drive the fishermen out of the fishery, to make it difficult for the farmer, to expand -Burn your boats. MR. NEARY:

Burn your boats, that is the MR. J. HODDER policy they have over there, Mr. Speaker,

MR. S. NEARY

That is right.

MR. HODDER

There will be people,

MR. TULK: At least there are boats here.

MR. HODDER

You can make it as hard as you

can.

MR. NEARY

The minister of energy

Mr. Marshall) says if we do not get the oil we are through in Newfoundland, everything is - we are all through, that is what he said up in Alberta the other day.

MR. HODDER

Mr. Speaker, I would like to

ask a question -

MR. NEARY

We are through, he said.

MR. HODDER

- I would like to ask, a nuestion

that could be answered afterwards, Mr. Speaker, if the jackanapes on the other side would keep their mouths and gobs shut.

Mr. Speaker, could I be heard in silence, please.

MR. NEARY

Oil on the brain.

MR. SPEAKER (Alyward)

Order, please!

MR. TULK:

Oil in his socks.

MR. HODDER

I would like to ask this

government one thing

MR. NEARY

We are all through, he told

Alberta the other day.

MR. HODDER

What, what is the government

going to do ?What will the government do if the oil is not there or cannot come in, or somebody invents a new something that for some reason or another the oil just does not come in ?

MR. NEARY

According to the minister of

energy (Mr. Marshall) we are finished.

MR. HODDER

What is this government going to

do with the problems of this Province?

MR. NEARY

We are through. We are

through.

MR. HODDER

Because the only thing we have

heard, - what would the government have done - just think - if there were no oil there? What would we have done? What would have been the policies of this government?

MR. TULK:

They figure that is all there is.

MR. HODDER

Because, Mr. Speaker, when I

see the fishing industry, and when I see the forest industry, and when I see the type of budget that comes down here, a budget that hurts the low income, Mr. Speaker- and let it not be forgotten, a raise of 50 per cent, or \$2 or \$3 to a waiter may not seem very much to a person who makes, himself, \$60,000 dollars or whatever as a Cabinet Minister, who is sitting there making these decisions -

MR.F. STAGG: Who raised the wages on topless waitresses?

MR. HODDER —but it means something to
that waiter who is the lowest paid person in this Province,
waiters, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY

Put her out of a job because she

is topless.

MR. WARREN:

There is more interest in topless

waitresses.

MR. HODDER

Mr. Speaker, there was no-

MR. NEARY Ignore a petition against Toronto

Dominion Bank, several hundred names, but recognize one with forty-three names.

MR. HODDER

Mr. Speaker, there is no

imagination shown by anybody. You know, some of the ministers

MR. HODDER who allowed, the Minister of
Fisheries (Mr. J. Morgan) who allowed Cabinet to steamroll
him into raising the cost of loans, raising the interest rates
on loans, the Minister who deals with Agriculture (Mr. J. Goudie)
who allowed the Cabinet to raise the cost, particularly, Mr. Speaker,
in light of what has happened in the fishery in the past year
and a half and particularly in light of the problems that the
fishermen have, Mr. Speaker, it cannot be a government that
thinks very much about the common people of this Province.
And the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) who is absent, Dr.
No, —

MR. WARREN:

Dr. No, is it ?

MR. HODDER Mr. Speaker, the 'Minister of Finance said this is a people's budget, a people's budget, Mr. Speaker, when all the tax, when all of the -

SOME HON. MEMBERS

Hear, hear!

May 31, 1982, Tape 723, Page 1 -- apb

MR. HODDER: Hev, hev, try to get it going.

get them going. Yes. Good!

MR. TULK: That is the cheer leader over

there.

MR. HODDER: Yes, the cheer leader. The

Premier's buddy.

MR. YOUNG: Sit down, boy. Sit down.

MR. NEARY: The last one to let you down.

MR. YOUNG: How much of a majority? A

clear majority, was it?

MR. TULK: He kisses the picture twenty

times.

MR. NEARY: He only kisses it ten times a

day.

MR. YOUNG: You know what to kiss!

MR. WARREN: If we squandered as much as

you fellows did, we would get it too.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, another thing

about this budget: The budget showed absolutely no

imagination whatsoever.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. HODDER: No imagination, not one

programme. Now, I will tell you where it did show imagination, in some ways. It showed some imagination in how to suck taxes out of the lowest income

Newfoundlanders that there are.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER: That was the imaginative part

of this budget. But it did not show imagination, Mr. Speaker, in trying to stimulate the economy of this Province, to try to help small business, to try to

help the fishermen.

Mr. Speaker, when this government talks about all the money it has spent, and all the jobs it has saved by guaranteeing loans for the fish companies,

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, many of

these fish companies would not have the problems they have if this government had, say, five years ago, eight years ago, then - and remember they have been in power for ten years, Mr. Speaker - developed proper marketing procedures and insisted on good quality control in these plants. If we had bitten the bullet six or seven years ago we would not have the problems that we have in the fishery today, and we would not have the fish plants closing.

So, now, Mr. Speaker -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

What about the super-

port in Harbour Grace?

MR. HODDER:

What is this, they

burned their boats, eh? They burned their boats.

How many people here -

MR. NEARY:

Do not forget Port

Atlantis.

MR. YOUNG:

The superport: ves, a good move.

MR. NEARY:

Port Atlantis is

superports.

MR. HODDER:

They have a refrain.

They have a second one now. They used to have a refrain, or the constant refrain was they sold out.

They sold out. Well, Mr. Speaker, now they have a new one, 'They burned their boats'. I mean, how many times have you heard that? This hon. government has been in power for ten years, ten years, Mr. Speaker, and they are still harping back. And after ten years there has not been a good programme by this government to try and stimulate the economy of this Province.

MR. NEARY:

Right on!

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MR. HODDER:

Not one, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY:

Not one new industry,

not one new job.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, they are

very, very good at closing down. And I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, it is a shrewd government. They got rid of Come By Chance, they sort of pushed it off. Now it is no longer theirs, it is dirty old Canada's now.

MR. TULK:

They wiggled out of

that.

MR. HODDER:

They wiggled out of

that. But they are very, very good, when they have an obligation, at wiggling out of it.

MR. YOUNG:

It is time Joey -

MR. HODDER:

Yes, Mr. Speaker,

with a public debt of \$3.3 million.

MR. TULK:

Professional wigglers.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I feel that this government might have considered dropping the sales tax on building materials. Mr. Speaker, I think that this government might have considered that. Because, Mr. Speaker, there is no home building in this Province. And I am going to tell you, that if we do have because of the lack of construction that we have seen across this Province, if anything happens in the Province that brings an influx of people into the Province, particularly in the area in which I stand, in this immediate part of the Province, if the offshore oil develops, Mr. Speaker, and with the lack of building that has been going on, property prices in this city will be somewhere in two or three years, I will tell you that, Mr. Speaker. Because, Mr. Speaker, there has been nothing to stimulate home construction. And, Mr. Speaker, people prefer not to live in apartments. People will prefer to live in homes. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we should try to stimulate the building industry. And one way to stimulate the building industry and provide jobs would be to drop the sales tax, a small measure, Mr. Speaker, but to drop the sales tax on building materials. It has been asked for over and over again.

Mr. Speaker, somewhere in this pile of notes that I have here I have got some statistics on small business <code>:bankruptcies</code>. I am not quite sure where they are at the moment, but I have some statistics on small business bankruptcies. Probably when I get down through this a little further I will refer to them. But they are increasing, Mr. Speaker, not only are they increasing but personal bankruptcies in this Province are up about three times, I believe, three times what they were three years ago.

MR. TULK:

By how much?

MR. HODDER: I have the figures here, and I will get the specific figures in a moment, as I work down through my notes here.

MR. TULK: There are three times as many this year as there were last year.

MR. HODDER: But, Mr. Speaker, personal bankruptcies are up by a tremendous amount.

 $\underline{\text{MR. TULK:}}$ Three times as many this year as there were last year.

MR. HODDER:

No, I think it is three times as

many as it was three years ago. But, I have the figures

here, I will get them for the hon. members and I will do

it before I sit in my seat. I think I have the notes here.

MR. NEARY: Take your time.

MR. WARREN: You have all evening, you have all

evening.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, but small business
bankruptcies are all at the same rate. Now, Mr. Speaker,
I am aware that the government can not bail out every small
business, can not bail out every small business that is in
trouble. Nor should they, Mr. Speaker. But I do not
think, Mr. Speaker, that government can hid its head in
the sand. I think that government must look carefully
at every business that is in financial difficulty, if
they care. I have seen a hands-off approach whenever a
business gete in trouble in this province. A hands-off
approach.

MR. TOBIN: High Interest Rates and the Federal Government.

MR. HODDER: Not even a look, No, Mr. Speaker, not high interest rates - a poor business climate. I spoke to a gentlemen -

MR. TULK: created by this government.

MR. HODDER: and I do not think he cares whether

MR. HODDER:

I refer it to this in the House of
Assembly or not, but a gentlemen who is in charge of
Atlantic Design Homes. Atlantic Design Homes was a very
properous business in this Province. Members on the other
side, as I know my honorauble friend from Stephenville
(Mr. Stagg) feels as concerned as I do, and is trying to
do something about it, but I would appeal to members on
the other side of this House to save that industry.
Because, Mr. Speaker,

MR. NEARY:

Which one?

MR. HODDER:

That is Atlantic Design Homes.

MR. NEARY:

Oh yes.

MR. HODDER:

Because, Mr. Speaker,

MR. HODDER:

Atlantic design homes was so
efficient that they were selling their expertise to other
parts of the country. They were going and setting up plants
and training the work force.

MR. TULK: Keep it simple now so they can understand us.

MR. HODDER. And just before Christmas, they announced they would close. Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the government is taking any action now. They still have a contract. And they are still in operation.

MR. TULK: Do not talk over their heads.

And, Mr. Speaker, when I spoke MR. HODDER: to the manager of that operation, one of the most efficient operations that this Province has ever seen, with the most skilled work force that this Province has ever seen, that turned out an excellent product, the first question I asked him, I said 'Was it high interest rates'? 'No', he said, there is just nothing happening this side of the Gulf of St. Lawrence'. Not high interest rates. 'And', he said we made the mistake of selling homes to Newfoundland And', he said, 'Newfoundland and and Labrador Housing. Labrador Housing. They want everything. They want your skill, they want your product, they want your expertise, and they want something else, they also want your profit'. Mr. Speaker, that is the sort of situation, and I would appeal at the moment - I did not mean to get of on this particular industry - but I would appeal to

MR. HODDER:

members, I would anneal to the Government House Leader

(Mr. Marshall in the absence of the Premier, I appeal to
the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) - the Minister
of Transportation (Mr. Dawe), by the way is the Bav St.

George's minister and I may have something to sav about that
yet - but, Mr. Speaker, I would appeal to the members of
the Cabinet, that that can be a viable industry and -

MR. NEARY: And in return we will

put the Premier's picture up in the lobby.

MR. HODDER:

off policy on that particular industry as you did with

Labatts, the Labatts plant in Stephenville. When I

rose in this House and asked a couple of questions to

the Premier on the Labatts closing, he said " I will drink

to that." That is what he said. " I will drink to that."

MR. NEARY:

Put the Premier's

picture up in the front porch and he will keep it open.

MR.WARREN:

Yes, he is right

proud of it.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, the Liquor

Act, the liquor laws in this Province are totally within

the jurisdiction of this Province. Labatts was there, I

suppose, from the first time they made a product

in that particular brewery called -

MR. NEARYH: Bison.

MR. HODDER: No, it was not Bison, it

was Atlantic lager and Atlantic ..

MR. STACG: Draft.

MR. HODDER: Atlantic Draft - me, not being

a consumer of beverages, would have trouble remembering but, Mr. Speaker, later it was Bison. The brewery was
vacant for some time. And at that time, I will tell you,
Mr. Speaker, the government stepped in. They did control
what was happening and they had an awful lot of control over
what happened to Bison. But, Mr. Speaker, low and behold

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MR. HODDER: this state of the art, as the Member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) calls it, this state of the art plant was taken over by Labatts and for years -

MR. STACC:

They did a callous thing.

MR. HODDER:

Yes, they did a callous

thing Nr. Speaker. But for years they turned out a high quality product and they supplied most of Newfoundland and nobody knew, they expanded the plant. Why I would have state that it was the most viable industry in Stephen-ville. And they pulled out, Mr. Speaker, when they decided that they - now, Mr. Speaker, I am not saying that Labatts did the right wing. I do not even like the way they closed that particular plant, Mr. Speaker. And I am off the topic, but I think it has something to do with financial management of this government. But, Mr. Speaker, I do not think that this government could have tipped Labatts there. It is a private enterprise, as the Premier told me, it is a private enterprise. But, Mr. Speaker, this government had the power to keep

MR. HODDER: the plant intact. And all

I asked for at that time in this House of Assembly,

Mr. Speaker - and I asked the Premier - and all \underline{I} asked for was that we appoint a commissioner.

MR. STAGG: It went to court, did it not?

MR. HODDER: It went to court on the lease.

MR. TULK: And that is all.

MR. HODDER: But, Mr. Speaker, the Province

has the authority, has under the Liquor Control Act, the Province has complete and utter, if there is anything that this Province has control over it is the liquor industry.

And, Mr. Speaker, that plant should never have been dismantled, it should have been kept in waiting. And it would have taken some gumption on the part of the Premier -

MR. WARREN: More than he has.

MR. HODDER: More than he has, Mr. Speaker,

because that was the hands-off period.

But, Mr. Speaker, to get back to the budget now that I have that off my chest, and I have been waiting to get that off - I should say.too, Mr. Speaker -

MR. TULK: What was his answer to you

when you brought that up?

MR. HODDER: Oh, he drank to that, he said.

MR. HISCOCK: Ile what?

MR. HODDER: He would drink to that. 'That

was part of his answer.

MR. NEARY: The arrogance.

MR. HODDER: The arrogance, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, you know, a similar - before I get off that particular topic I might as well say it all - a similar experience happened in Ontario, and I told the House of Assembly this before. And what did the Ontario government do?

MR. WARREN: Did they drink to it?

MR. HODDER: No, Mr. Speaker, they did not drink to it. Mr. Speaker, they appointed the Wishart Commission and the Wishart Commission went and spoke to the concerned four breweries in Timmins. They went and spoke and did a study and then recommended to the government what they should do. And the government stepped in and said, 'No, you cannot buy these breweries', and eventually the breweries went into the hands of the employees and they were privately owned breweries. They were being bought out by Canadian Breweries. They walked in - just like the government House Leader (Mr. Marshall), just like he closed down Sir Humphrey's, they did it the same way they walked right in and did it. That is the way they did it. That is the kind of stuff I would like to see from this government, to walk in and say, 'We are going to save this industry'.

MR. WARREN: That is right.

MR. HODDER: Well, they are good at closing

pubs.

MR. TULK: No, they do not close the pubs

they just make sure you have an act.

MR. NEARY: They have not closed them, by

the way, now she is a hostess.

MR. HODDF: Oh, she is a hostess now.

MR. NEARY: All they did was they changed

her classification.

MR. WARREN: We are going to have legislation

now opposing hostesses.

MR. NEARY: Now they have to change the

regulation again.

MR. HODDER: As I say, Mr. Speaker, now that

I have that off my chest - and I have been wanting to say that for some time -

MR. HODDER: now that I have that off my chest I will move on to the budget. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that could have been considered by this government was some way for a fund for small business development, to allow some of the small businesses who would qualify, - not a giveaway, Mr. Speaker, but would help people avail of perhaps lower interest rates, something like the Fishermen's Loan Board used to be.

MR. WARREN:

Used to be yes, used to be.

MR. TULK:

You keep this up and you will

get my vote in a minute.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. TULK:

A magnificent speech.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues

would allow me to get on with this speech, which I am struggling so hard to get through.

MR. TULK:

No, you are not. You are doing

a good job.

MR. STAGG:

(Inaudible) finished, boy.

MR. HODDER:

Well, I will tell you, any time

the hon. member wants to leave - because like I told an hon. member who said before, I am quite sure the hon. member does not understand a word I am saying.

MR. TULK:

No, he does not.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I would say if hon.

members on that side of the House would understand what I was saying I think they would probably have a good administration.

MR. NEARY:

Go out and kiss his picture.

MR. HODDER:

Speaking of the stimulation of the

economy, Mr. Speaker, I think it is hypocritical for the government to list out in the budget the number of jobs that were saved through bailing out fish plants.

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Tape No. 728

RA - 2

MR. TULK: They did not save a job in the last fish plant.

MR. HODDER:

I think, in the

long run, that we will find that we have lost a lot of

money in this exercise. I will not say that it did not

have to be done, but I will say this, Mr. Speaker, and

I will say it again, that if the government had ten years

ago, and they have been here ten years, if the government

had taken the initiatives in marketing, and they have not

taken the initiatives in marketing, the Minister of

Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) is playing lip service service

to it now.

SOME HON. MEMBFRS: Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER:

He is playing lip service. I think

he went to Nassau one time - did he not? - or went down to

Jamaica some time this year.

MR. NEARY: Porto Rico.

MR. HODDER: Porto Rico.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Peckford paid for his holiday

for him.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I had a fisherman from the West Coast of Newfoundland come to me one time last year-or,no, three years ago, Mr. Speaker, three years ago this fisherman came to me and said, 'I can catch all the smelt I want, but I have not got a market for them'. So I wrote the ministers' department and said, 'Dear minister, do you have a department etc, etc. which handles this sort of thing?Because here is an industry that would keep three fishermen fully employed if they had a market for-What do you call them? - smelts, things that go up the river.

MR. TULK: Oh yes, smelts.

MR. HODDER: And, Mr. Speaker, I did not get an answer for a long, long time, not from the minister.

May 31, 1982

Tape No. 728

RA - 3

MR. HODDER: Finally I got something from somewhere down lower in his department.

MR. TULK:

He did not have any answers.

MR. HODDER: And he said, we think you might be helped by Fishery Products. Here is the address. They had put the - that was the marketing strategy of the government. You write them a letter and they tell you where to go. We may be able to help you but there was no - it was at that time and ask any person in the fisheries department, ask any official

mr. J. NODDER any member can ask any Official, there was no marketing percedure's at all. Mr. Speaker, we have not outlawed the pitchfork yet, we have not outlawed the pitchfork and we talk about quality fish and we try to compete, we try to compete with Norway and Sweden and particulary Iceland where quality control is very, very high. And where does quality control, Mr. Speaker, where does that who has jurdisdiction for quality control? Who licenses the plants?

MR. NEARY:

Our little Brian.

MR. HODDER

Mr. Speaker, the problems that

we have today have been caused by the administration of the fisheries by this government. And it is not enough to say, oh, the federal government do not do this Root, Mr. Speaker, quality control:Let us get tough, let us make sure that the fish that are coming out of our fish plants are fresh instead of being caught on Fox Island River and being shipped to Port Aux Basque in a tanker. Let us make sure that we have the best quality fish that this Province can have, that is the only way. And that is the problem, Mr. Speaker, the fish companies have not been doing their jobs and this government has aided and abetted them and just went along with them and now we are reaping, Mr. Speaker, what we sowed, as the member for the Strait of Belle Isle(Mr. Roberts) pointed out the other day.

MR. NEARY Well thanks to Port Aux Basque. At least you got a market for your fish, anyway.

MR. HODDER Yes. Well, I did not mean to infringe on my colleague's -

MR. NEARY No, boy, I understand,

MR. HODDER But when you see jobs being shipped

out, even though it is to your fellow district -

MR. TULK: Political children. (Inaudible)

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, another aspect of the budget that I would like to talk about is the uncollectable atxes, hte uncollectable taxes in the budget. Government is owed millions in back taxes.

MR. STAGG:

Not that much.

MR. HODDER:

No, no. \$13 million would sure do some

road work out in my area.

MR. NEARY:

It would be nice if you had it in

your back pocket for a week.

MR. HODDER:

I could get a few roads paved for that

Sir, in the minister of Health's district.

MR. NEARY:

It could have kept the brewery out in

Stephenville open.

MR. HODDER:

I am quite sure that in the Minister

Health's district we could have kept the people off the

roads, we would not have had to put them in jail down there.

MR. WARREN:

And the Premier (inaudible) including

his house.

There are also unpaid mineral MR. HODDER: taxes of \$6 million. Unpaid mineral taxes of \$6 million. Now, Mr. Speaker, surely particularly in the retail sales tax that we can not collect, are we going to set up a system as was suggested by the Auditor General? When are we going to set up a system where, by when those taxes are collected, they are remitted immediately to the government or put is a special bank account, under law, which that person can not touch? Because Mr. Speaker, some of the examples that were laid out for this House of Assembly by the Auditor General were enough to make your hair stand on end, Mr. Speaker. People, not only once, not only once can they get away with a quick bankruptcy and a non-payment of taxes, not only once, but they can do it twice, Mr. Speaker. And when that sort of a system is allowed to go on year after year after year without proper legislative controls on the payment of S.S.A. tax, Mr. Speaker, we deserve what we get. And I would suggest, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, very strongly, that this government, in this session of the Legislature, bring in legislation to stop this wasted money. If the people of this province pay their sales tax, if they pay their S.S.A. tax, then they should - if they have to pay it. It should not go into the pockets of other people, it should go into the coffens of this government. It should not be deverted because of the lack of legislative ability of this government to try and collect those S.S.A. taxes. Mr. Speaker, as I - yes, Mr. Speaker, earlier I had said that I would just give - one of the members asked me -

MR. NEARY: We are not that silly. We are not childish.

MR. HODDER:

- one of the members had mentioned to me about the personal bankruptcies and what they were.

MR. HODDER:

In 1979, Mr. Speaker, the

personal bankruptcies were 167. In 1980, 186 personal

bankruptcies and in 1981, 210. So in three years, Mr.

Speaker, we have come from 167 personal bankruptcies in the

province to 210. I just give this for hon. members.

But in business bankruptcies in 1979 - 16, in 1980 - 37

and in 1981 - 47 bankruptice's, Mr. Speaker, which means it

has tripled since 1979.

MR. TULK:

(Inaudible)

MR. HODDER:

No, Mr. Speaker, No, Mr. Speaker.

Any business that is viable

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MR. HODDER:

can work with high interest rates, and many businesses are prospering now. It is the economic climate, Mr. Speaker.

MR. STAGG:

A lot of businesses

are viable at 8 per cent or 9 per cent, but are not viable at 21 per cent or 22 per cent.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I

wanted to talk about some of the cutbacks which, as I perused the budget last night, I noticed.

MR. STAGG:

How much is

(Inaudible).

MR. HODDER:

Now, if the hon. the

member for Stephenville(Mr. Stagg) would just let me get on with this, I might even say something nice about him.

Mr. Speaker, one of

the cutbacks which I thought was very significant in the Budget Speech was the cutback in the Department of Tourism, where Tourism was cut back by - there were cutbacks of practically \$5 million in the Tourism cutbacks. And, Mr. Speaker, as you look through the Fisheries estimates, you realize that there are not enough increases, that the majority of the money that is being spent in all those departments is on salaries, that there are no - and I invite any hon. member to read through and come up with any imaginative programmes whereby money is being spent. But Tourism, Mr. Speaker, Tourism is a pet peeve of mine, because this Province has given up on the tourist industry. It has given up on the tourist industry.

Mr. Speaker, we have never had a suitable ad campaign, but that is not so

important. We cannot have a suitable ad campaign unless we have reasons for people to come to the Province.

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MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, there

have been a number of things going on in this Province in recent times which, I might add, government members, even though they get invitations, do not attend. But, Mr. Speaker, there has been a bit of a rebirth in the Newfoundland culture, and I think in terms of the folk festivals and various festivals across

MR. HODDER:

the Province such as the Stephenville Festival of the Arts. Mr. Speaker, if we are going to bring people to the Province we will not bring them here - now, I know, Mr. Speaker, we have salmon fishermen who come to the Province. It is a wonder we did not raise their fees this time to try to keep them out. They come in and they spend all sorts of tourist dollars. We have moose hunters who come to the Province to hunt for moose and caribou. They bring in dollars. But, Mr. Speaker, we also have, and I have seen in this Province, that the biggest influx of people - I speak for the West Coast of the Province now, because that is where I am from and it was significant to me - the biggest influx of people that I have seen - I will first take my district and then I will move out - was for the French Folk Festival at Cape St. George. We had people from St. Pierre. We had the Mayor of St. Pierre there. We had people from the Magdalen Islands. And not only performers, Mr. Speaker. We had people from New Brunswick. We had people from Nova Scotia. We had people from Prince Edward Island. We had people from Montreal. We had people from Toronto. We had people from New York. And not only that, Mr. Speaker, but for that folk festival, the French folk festival in Port au Port, for that folk festival every second person I saw was either from Port au Choix or from Springdale. There were people from all over the Province. Widely successful! Half the people there could not speak French, Mr. Speaker, even though the entertainment was in French. Mr. Speaker, the Port au Port area has something unique. There are more musicians. If you find ten people in Port au Port nine of them can play something, whether it be the accordian, the fiddle, the mouth organ, the jews'-harp, Whatever it might be, they can play it.

MR. NEARY: They are all Emile Benoits, the whole lot of them.

MR. NEARY:

MR. HODDER:

All Emile Benoits. I might

tell hon. members, I believe that the new record by Emile

Benoit has a cut on it known as the Jim Hodder Reel and

I am very proud of that, Mr. Speaker, because he knows how

much I support - if anybody has heard the Jim Hodder Reel

in this House, he knows how much I support the French Folk

Festival, he knows how much I support the musicians in

Port au Port. So I would tell all hon. members in this

House that when that new record comes out that they should

all buy it and they should all particularly listen to the Jim

Hodder Reel, because here he is in person. Not very many

people, Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY: The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) used to be a singer. He was a folk singer or a country and western singer.

MR. HODDER: Not very many people, Mr. Speaker, can stand in this House and say that they have a reel.

You are going to go a long way,

boy, because the Minister of Fisheries is a good singer.

MR. HODDER: A very good reel too, I might say,

Mr. Speaker, the best he has ever composed.

MR. SIMMS:
reeling ever since April 6th. too.

MR. HODDER:

I would also invite, to get back to a serious note, I

would also invite members on the other side of the House
to visit the Port au Port folk festival, Mr. Speaker, because

MR. J. HODDER

they have sent invitations. Now they have sent them in french, they are trying to promote the french culture, but nobody responds. They invite the Premier, they have invited ministers, the members in the Cabinet, but nobody has responded .But yet, you know, Mr. Speaker, if this Province really wants to get the tourist industry going, then let us see some provincial funds. Let us see some provincial funds, substantial provincial funds to -I am not saying, Mr. Speaker, because there is one thing about this folk festival, they are struggling, they are doing it through federal funds, but they are struggling to get to a point where they depend on no funds. Now that is a worthy ambition, to get to a point where they need no outside infusion of money. But at the present time they do, and I would suggest to this government that projects of that sort, which bring people from all over the country, that this is the sort of thing that the government should be sponsoring. And I welcome all members to come to the Port Au Port Folk Festival.

This year, Mr. Speaker, I am going to be in the North West Territories and I am going to regret not being there. But unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I-

MR. S. NEARY

I will go out and fill in for you.

MR. HODDER

I have to- but the hon. Leader

of the Opposition will be there to fill in for me and I am sure

that he will have a good time. Because that is one thing about the

people of Port Au Port, Mr. Speaker, and the people of Cape St.

George, they certainly know how to show their guests -

MR. NEARY I guarantee you that I will dance to the Jim Hodder reel too.

MR. HODDER And not only that, Mr. Speaker, but they, whatever political persuasion they are, they respect and like the fact that people come to visit them, and I am sure that the hon. members would certainly enjoy it.

there.

MR. HODDER Mr. Speaker, another thing that has been happening in the Province is that there have been a number of Come Home Years. There was one on the South Coast, perhaps one of the hon. members can tell me what the name was?

MR. NEARY: Merasheen Island.

MR. HODDER Was it Merasheen Island. T believe there was another one as well . Was there one in Grole?

MR. NEARY You know the Premier was going to resettle Merasheen Island again, going to send them all back

MR. HODDER And there was also a Come Home

the reason I mentioned this, a Come Home in Point Au Mall,

and, Mr. Speaker, it drew people from all over the country, from

Texas, from all through the United States, across Canada, and

across the

MR. HODDER:

world. We had people from just about every country you can imagine at that Come Home Year. Plus again, Mr. Speaker, it was a happy time where people could get together. But, Mr. Speaker, there were two or three of these and they came about through the local communities themselves. You know, Mr. Speaker, they came to me and they said, 'Look, we have got all these people coming from all over the world, you know, Uncle John and Uncle Joe and all these people are coming in from Texas and everywhere and we are really ashamed of our road, our dirt road'. And they said, 'Would you see the Minister of Transportation and see if we can get some calcium chloride on the road before they get here?'. Oh, no, Mr. Speaker, that road did not have calcium chloride on it during that particular time to keep the dust down. Even though it was in July. MR. TULK:

MR. HODDER: No, Sir, Mr. Speaker.

this time. I have to give him praise. I have got to give the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) praise this time. He got the calcium chloride down a couple of weeks ago. He got it down in time. After five years we finally got the calcium chloride before. But, Mr. Speaker, what a thing! Here was a community that had put off a very successful Come Home Year without help from the government in any way, shape or form. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Department of Tourism should immediately take steps to make sure that this type of activity is encouraged throughout the Province and to give the assistance, Mr. Speaker, where it is needed. Because these are small ways.

Mr. Speaker, the Stephenville
Festival of the Arts. Mr. Speaker, it is just amazing.
The Premier was there last year and he totally enjoyed it.
And I believe the Minister of Transportation was there last
year. He was not there the first year I do not think, but he

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MR. HODDER:

was there last year.

MR. DAWE:

Both years.

MR. HODDER:

Both years. Well, good for the

minister. One of the few things he attended.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, anyone who attended those would realize that this is a small community group that is trying to develop there. They have done a very ambitious programme. There are jealousies, Mr. Speaker, from some of the larger centers who would like that festival taken out lock, stock and barrel and put elsewhere. There is some of that, Mr. Speaker. But there is no real provincial help. And, Mr. Speaker, that festival could become one of the largest festivals in Canada. It has the potential of becoming one of the largest festivals in Canada. But, Mr. Speaker, there is not a cent of provincial help going into that particular budget.

AN HON. MEMBER:

What about the Arts and Culture

Center?

MR. HODDER:
Oh, the Arts and Culture Center charges the group for its use. They did not even get it free.

I mean every stop should be pulled out in this Province to make sure that that particular festival gets every help possible because they are travelling across Canada, Mr. Speaker.

They are travelling across Canada trying to get funds in Calgary and Toronto, everywhere, knocking on doors, and with the economy like it is getting nothing.

Now, Mr. Speaker, they want to put that on a firm basis but it has to reach a certain point. What funding they get is Tederal and what they collect themselves. Some federal funding.

MR. HODDER:

But, Mr. Speaker, this government

does not lift a hand. Now where is our tourist industry?

Where is our Minister of Tourism? We do not have one, it

is lumped in like Consumer Affairs, with another department.

And when you look at the tourism budget, Mr. Speaker, it

makes one's stomach lurch. Take a look through the estimates.

Look at the imaginative programs we have this year in tourism.

It makes one's stomach lurch.

MR. CALLAN: It makes one's stomach reel.

MR. ROBERTS: As the stomach turns.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, this government has a theme. The theme is that it is 'full of splendid ideas, full of splendid ideas, without the money to carry them out.'

MR. NEARY: It is full of more than that.

MR. HODDER: They have got splendid ideas. But

they do not have the money to carry them out:

MR. NEARY: They are full of something all right.

MR. HODDER: They link declining economic activity in the Province with declining federal commitments, in such things as, highway, spending and DREE agreements. They do everything in their power, to try and prove - and I have a graph here, or somewhere, Mr. Speaker, which I will show in due course, a graph which shows federal spendings.

MR. CALLAN: Did you say graft? There is lots of graft on the other side.

MR. HODDER: No. A graph, Mr. Speaker, which shows federal spendings up until 1987 and, if Hon. members can see on the other side, that federal spendings growing by leaps and bounds each year, certainly keeping up with the rate of inflation coming to this Province. But the truth is, Mr. Speaker, that the government is taking an hands-off approach to the economy, becoming involved only when it must, and then only in half-hearted manner. Only in a half-hearted manner. Let it qo. If we stay away from the

husiness, if we keep our hands of policy, nobody would be able to blame us for anything. Thats what they think. And so far, Mr. Speaker, they have been able to get away with it successfully. But, they will not always be able to get away with it.

MR. ROBERTS:

Intellectually bankrupt.

MR. HODDER:

Last year, Mr. Speaker, the Newfoundland economy was estimated to have grown less than three per cent, as the result of the fisheries crisis - and that was one where the government kept the hands-off policy through the whole crisis - and a modest

MR. HODDER: growth in the service sector. Unemployment has risen from about 13 per cent to over 15 per cent in 1981 and continues to rise. And housing starts were down - I spoke at some length on housing

Mr. Speaker, mining

and manufacturing growth has also slowed down in growth for this year and I am told that next year it will be in the range of 2 per cent growth again. Now, Mr. Speaker,

earlier today - 22 per cent in 1981.

MR. NEARY:

Another zero or minus.

MR. HODDER:

and so far the Premier

has been able to convince Newfoundlanders " Oh yes, we have splendid ideas." We have not seen the splendid ideas. We saw the task force report on - what? - the plan for tomorrow here in Newfoundland. I forget the name of that particular document which came out last year which we heard nothing about since. The development plan, the governments development plan funded by -

MR. NEARY:

The Five Year Plan.

MR. HODDER:

The Five Year Plan, that is

what I am thinking of, Mr. Speaker. It has disappeared. It was hidden as quickly as it came. And, Mr. Speaker, a development plan by the Province which depends on federal money. But yet again, Mr. Speaker, somehow or other the government continues with its propaganda campaign. And let everyone realize, Mr. Speaker, that this is a government that depends more on public relations than on any substantial running of the economy of this Province.

MR. NEARY:

They have got good script

writers. Ghost writers.

MR. HODDER:

Ghost writers, Mr. Speaker.

The Premier's office is nothing but a place to turn out statements and press releases.

MR. NEARY:

And propaganda.

MR. HODDER:

And propaganda, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HODDER:

And the government has successfully convinced, with their propaganda campaign, the people of this Province that they are full of splendid ideas without the money to carry them out, and Ottawa must continue to give us more and more and more. Mr. Speaker, sometimes I wonder about the advisability of that, when I

see what the government does with the money that they

presently have.

MR. NEARY:

Build jails. Close hospitals

and build jails.

MR. HODDER:

They close hospitals, yes,

Mr. Speaker, and they build jails. That is one of the earmarks of this administration. There has never been an administration in the Province's history who has opened so many jails.

MR. NEARY:

That is right!

MR. HODDER:

Jails in Stephenville.

What did we do, Mr. Speaker, before? The population of the Province has not increased as fast as the jails.

MR. NEARY:

They are going to put the

whole population in jail.

MR. HODDER:

Could it be, Mr. Speaker, that the economy is such that - is this why the government has embarked on this program of building jails? Mr. Speaker, there are more jails in this Province now than there are schools, I think.

MR. NEARY:

That is right.

MR HODDER: Mr. Speaker, we are getting a new one in Happy Valley/Goose Bay, another one in Clarenville, we have two in Stephenville, two in Stephenville, a ladies and a mens. Every year it is ongoing. They are renovating the penitentiaries.

MR. NEARY:

Right.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I think that if there is any hallmark to this government - when history looks back at the accomplishments of this government. They will say, they will say a number of things, it was a government without imagination.

MR. NEARY:

That is right.

MR. HODDER:

But cortainly, Mr. Speaker, they will

certainly praise this government for its building of jails.

MR. NEARY:

Close down hospitals and build

jails.

MR.HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, as I was saying,

the mining and manufacturing growth in the Province has slowed

down. Growth for this year, I am told, will be between 2 and

3 per cent, if we are lucky. The Minister of Finance (Dr.

Collins) in his budget, suggested an upturn in the economy.

Mr. Speaker, that goes against, that goes against

MR. HODDER: anything that I have heard from economists. The business community is in shambles. There is chaos in the fishery. The processing plants are shut down.

Bankruptcies. Panic in the street. Service cutbacks.

Cutbacks in the service industry. Mr. Speaker, the future of this government rests with its ability to grapple with the economy in the short-term. It rests with -

MR. NEARY:

Stick your finger in the dyke.

MR HODDER:

-the power of this government

to grapple with the economy in the short-term.

MR. NEARY:

Stick your finger in the

Dyke government.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, the government will no longer be able to keep a high profile by criticizing the federal government. That day is over. You may as well stop it now.

MR. NEARY:

MR. HODDER:

That is right.

the people of newfoundland are going to be looking for results.

Mr. Speaker, the covernment, must show that it is capable of
grappling with the problems in its own jurisdiction. In its
own jurisdiction. Mr. Speaker, I come back to the question

which I asked earlier, what will happen or what would have

happened if we had no offshore oil? Think!

MR. NEARY:

We are all through, according

Because you have your majority,

to the minister.

MR. HODDER:

Maybe the government should

take a new course.

MR. NEARY: Minister of Energy said in Alberta,

we are through.

MR. HODDER: May be the Minister of Energy

(Mr. Marshall) should take a new course. Maybe he should start

developing what we have. Mr. Speaker, I have this
afternoon, I have this afternoon come to a point where I

suppose I am about one-third through my speech. Mr. Speaker,
I have not really gotten into the meat of the budget.

I have not rearry gotten they the most the

MR. NEARY:

Take your time, take your time

boy.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say again, I would like to say again the budget is a clever and deceptive document, a clever and deceptive document.

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MR. NEARY: Good script writers.

MR. HODDER: Not only deceptive in the way it takes federal money and looks, Mr. Speaker, it is even deceptive in its language.

MR. NEARY: Right on!

MR. HODDER: The budget will not be felt -

MR. ROBERTS: Cleverly deceptive, not clever.

MR. HODDER: Cleverly deceptive. Yes, the hon.

member says right, it is cleverly deceptive.

MR. ROBERTS: Cleverly deceptive - It is not

a clever document, it is a cleverly deceptive document.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, the budget -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) compliment.

MR. ROBERTS: It is a half (inaudible) budget

too, so it deserves a half compliment.

MR. HODDER:

- will be felt more by Newfoundlanders, the people of this Province, in the months to
come than it will be immediately. Mr. Speaker, when the
people of the Province realize the shortcomings in the
budget, the lack of spending in the budget - when
people in the Province realize the shortcomings in
this budget it will be a continuous thing.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. HODDER: It does not stimulate the economy,

Mr. Speaker. The budget does not stimulate the economy.

MR. NEARY: No, that is for sure.

MR. HODDER: The stimulated measures in this

budget had mostly been announced during the election

campaign and they are federal funds.

MR. NEARY: Constipates the economy.

MR. HODDER: Most of the stimulation is

through federal programmes. If you look at the

MR. HODDER: budget, and when you add up the federal funds and you look the provincial funds, by far the great majority of anything that comes close to stimulating the economy, the government has pretended it is their is

MR. NEARY:

The great pretenders.

MR. HODDER:

It is not a fair budget to Newfound-

landers , Mr. Speaker

MR. NEARY: Do away with Canada works and the rural (inaudible) according to the member for twillingate.

MR. HODDER: it is that hits the low income earners first. Because outside, Mr. Speaker, the 2 per cent personal income tax, the budget, as has been the habit of this administration and they must stop it, the habit of raising fees which affect the ordinary Newfoundlanders more so than the high income earmer They have continued to raise fees in budget after budget. And, Mr. Speaker, there are certain types of taxation which hurt some people more than others. And when you raise fees for everybody fees for Crown land, Mr. Speaker, I have not gotten into half of this yet. Wees for Crown land. Wait until we start talking about the stumpage fees. Mr. Speaker, the raising of fees for every conceivable thing in the Province over the past few years penalizes the people with small incomes, because the people with small incomes get hit with these fees in exactly the same way as does the people with the higher income, the millionaires and the very high income people in this Province.

MR. NEARY: No. They are going into the pay cheques of the ordinary Newfoundlanders.

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MR. HODDER:

And, Mr. Speaker,

even the way the budget was brought in, when the government decided they would leak to the Province all sorts of bad stories. And it worked, Mr. Speaker. We are gullible.

MR. NEARY:

Psyche them out.

MR. HODDER:

Psyche them out.

Leak out that food is going up. Every where I went I used to go around saying, 'No, that is not going to happen'.

MR. NEARY:

Do you know what the

Premier said? First of all he said it was not going to be a harsh budget, and then two or three days before the budget came down he said it was going to be a bleak budget.

MR. HODDER:

Oh, yes. Oh, yes.

And the rumor mill was pounding, but it was not pounding from this side of the House, I want to make that -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER:

No, Mr. Speaker. No,

Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER:

No, Mr. Speaker. No,

Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY:

I praised the Premier

for saying it was not going to be a harsh budget.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I am on

record as having said, 'No, the Premier will do his usual sleazy trick.

MR. NEARY:

We said, 'No, we can

trust the Premier', that is what we said.

MR. HODDER:

I am on record. 'He

will cut spending to the bone'-

MR. NEARY:

And we found that we

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MR. NEARY:

could not trust him.

MR. HODDER:

- and he will find

ways of raising and levying fees across the Province, and the budget will be an unfair one and it will not stimulate the economy'. And I am on record across the Province as saying that.

But, Mr. Speaker,

the major effect of this budget is to hurt the fishermen, the farmers, the poor, the sick, the middle-income earners, civil servants, vocational school students, children, the children, Mr. Speaker, the sick and the dying, drivers, waiters, those who work in the forest industry, Mr. Speaker, and they even took it out on the tourists, and on the home gardeners, people who try to grow something in their back yards in order to keep up. Does that mean now, Mr. Speaker, that a person who is on social assistance, if he has a home garden he gets -

MR. NEARY:

On that note, 'Jim',

move the adjournment.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Speaker, I see

that I have come to the end of this protion of the Budget Speech and I hereby adjourn the debate.

AN HON. MEMBER:

You never really got

into the food -

MR. HODDER:

No, not yet.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

It has been noted that

the hon. the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) adjourned the debate.

The hon. the President

of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, before

we adjourn I would like to inform the House of the

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MR. MARSHALL:

next meetings of

the Estimates Committees. Tomorrow, June 1, the Government Services Committee will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Colonial Building, and the Head of expenditure, the Department of Public Works and Services. The Resource Committee, at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, will meet here in the House of Assembly and the topic will be the Department of Forest Resources and Lands.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, at 3:00 p.m. and that this House do now adjourn.

On motion, the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 1, 1982, at 3:00 p.m.