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VERBATIM REPORT (Hansard)

Speaker: Honourable Patrick McNicholas

The House met at 3:00 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER (McNicholas):
Order, please!

Before calling for Statements by Ministers, I would like to deal with the point of order raised last Friday by the hon. member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk) in regard to Parliamentary Secretaries.

To the first question: "Can a Parliamentary Secretary make a statement in the House of Assembly on behalf of a minister?" the answer is no. That was the Speaker's ruling in Hansard, March 25, 1983, page 1427.

To the second question: "Can a Parliamentary Secretary answer questions during question period on behalf of the minister?" the answer is yes. That was the Speaker's ruling in Hansard, December 11, 1975, pages 1366 and 1367.

To the third question:, "Can a Parliamentary Secretary ask a question of a minister during question period?" the answer is no. That was the Speaker's ruling in Hansard, December 11, 1975, page 2366. The authority is Beauchesne, Fifth Edition, paragraph 370, page 134.

Finally: "Can a Parliamentary Secretary table answers to questions under Answers to Questions for which Notice has been Given?" the answer is yes. The authority is Hansard, December 7, 1984, temporary page number R11.

In the ruling of December 11, the Speaker indicates there is no distinction between the status of a Parliamentary Secretary, a Parliamentary Assistant or a Special Assistant for those

purposes.

Statements by Ministers

MR. POWER:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, on Monday I met with the Federal Commission of Inquiry on Unemployment Insurance. This Commission, which was established by the Prime Minister on July 6, 1985, has been asked to review the Unemployment Insurance Programme. The Commission will submit its findings to the federal government by March 31, 1986.

Today, I am pleased to table a copy of the government's submission to the Commission of Inquiry. In our submission, Mr. Speaker, we outline the economic and social importance of unemployment insurance to many residents of this Province.

In my discussions with the Commission I pointed out that changes to the Unemployment Insurance Programme can only be accepted when employment prospects in the Province are greatly improved. Any changes to the Unemployment Insurance Programme at this stage, designed to contain the financial pressures on the programme, would be counterproductive.

The government has recommended that in order to improve employment levels in this Province, the federal government should fund regional economic development initiatives at

consistently higher levels. I outlined our government's position that any savings resulting from changes to the Unemployment Insurance Programme should be directed to regional development initiatives, until such time as employment levels in this Province reach national employment levels.

In submission, our we also assessed the financial impact of a of widely discussed programme changes to unemployment insurance. These include changing entrance requirements, and reducing benefit levels. The Newfoundland Government maintains that the federal government should remain sensitive to the needs of seasonal and part-time workers, many of whom are women, and that changes to entrance requirements and benefit levels affecting them be made employment levels in Newfoundland and Labrador reach the national level.

Speaker, on the issue of unemployment insurance and fisheries, this government recommended to the Commission that a federal/provincial task force be appointed to review establishment of an income stabilization scheme for fishermen outside of the Unemployment Insurance Programme. Any scheme development must have appropriate incentives to extend the inshore fishing season. This government believes that, until an income stabilization plan is established, federal government should change the unemployment insurance regulations to ensure that the waiting periods for the Province's fishermen are the same as for other beneficiaries, and that benefit periods be extended in certain areas of the Province where the fishing season

shorter.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that our government's review of Unemployment Insurance Programme has been very comprehensive. As a matter of fact, in the words of one of the commissioners, it is by far the most detailed written brief that they have received so far in Canada. We still await the report of our Royal Commission on Employment and Unemployment which will further explore intricacies of the unemployment insurance system as it affects our workers and our provincial economy. We also look forward, Mr. Speaker, to discussions with the federal government on programme changes resulting from recommendations to the Federal Commission of Inquiry that are of particular importance to provincial economy.

Thank you.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for the copy of his statement and copy of the submission. Obviously, I have not had time to look at the submission. listened to the general recommendations that the minister alluded to in his statement, and I might say that they approximate very closely the recommendations that I presented on behalf of the Opposition. Looking again at the minister's statement, it does not look as comprehensive or as wide-ranging as the presentation that we, ourselves, made.

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I find it rather strange, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. minister should have presented this brief in secret, that he should have presented the brief in camera, when there were public hearings. And I wonder why the minister did not appear before the commission in public hearings as everyone else did in this Province? I am just wondering whether the minister did not because, course, he knows that he is part of the unemployment problem in this Province.

But in terms of the recommendation, Mr. Speaker, that emphasis by both governments, the federal and provincial governments, must be on creating employment, if we had created employment, then I am sure we would have gotten rid of the abuses that we have with UIC and the stigma attached to being permanently on UIC. So in that respect I certainly agree with the presentation, while wondering why it was that the minister saw fit to present this submission, his brief, in camera, in secret.

As I see it here in the minister's statement, certainly we agree with the thrust of the statement, particularly his emphasis on creating employment. That certainly must be the emphasis of both levels of government over the next few months and over the next few years. We must have a massive infusion of money into this Province to create jobs for the thousands of unemployed people, as that, certainly, is the only substantial, the only real cure for UIC in this Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

I agree further with his statement that until some income distribution structure is in

place, there can be nothing done with the UIC regulations that will impact negatively on the workers of this Province.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

Oral Questions

MR. KELLAND: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. KELLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies (Mr. Power). Would the minister tell the House, in view of the reorganization of the vocational educational system and dropping of some courses in the traditional trades at some schools, how many jobs will be lost to vocational educators? And perhaps to save a little time I could perhaps secondarily ask, given that it is understood the minister has given some indication that there may be retraining for some of the vocational educators who might otherwise lose their jobs, could he inform the House of the anticipated net loss of jobs in this field? Before I sit and await the answer, I ask him if he would confine the answer to the question directly, setting aside the system itself which I am not questioning or criticizing at this point.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, some questions may be very simplistic and take a very small amount of time to present, but sometimes the answer to the question and the reasoning behind the change in government policy or philosophy is somewhat complicated. I will say to the hon. member that we have issued a White Paper on a reorganized vocational school system that will hopefully grow into a college system which will deliver more pertinent courses, more meaningful courses to many young students in Newfoundland.

The rationale behind that is very obvious to most persons who know the system and the many hundreds of briefs -

MR. BAKER:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. BAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The obvious tirade that the minister is going on with now has nothing to do with the question asked which had to do with layoffs that would result and the net loss in jobs in the system. We do not want a twenty minute explanation of why the system was changed, Mr. Speaker, so he is out of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

To that point of order, the hon. the minister did indicate that on

some occasions an answer may be rather complicated and difficult. I think that the hon. minister is answering the question. There is no point of order.

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have issued a White Paper which says that government is going to change the direction of post-secondary education in this Province. A major element identified leading up to the development of the White Paper was the fact that we had a large number of courses which many persons were studying but not getting gainful employment in. We had a large number of instructors who had not been re-trained or upgraded for many years. We had a system that was not decentralized and was delivering programmes to many parts of Newfoundland. conjunction with that, and I suppose because of that, developed the White Paper which we sent out to -

MR. KELLAND:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. KELLAND:

Just simply, Mr. Speaker, I understand the White Paper system. I am not criticizing or questioning the proposed reorganization. I simply want to know specifically what the net job loss will be, if the minister is aware of it at this time.

MR. POWER:

To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, the hon. the Minister of Career Development.

MR. POWER:

Rex may write all the questions for the opposite side but we do not have a standard form made up over here or anyone writing up answers for us. The answer is somewhat complicated. If they want the answer I will gladly give it.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, I would refer hon. members to our own Standing Orders, number 31 (a). Part of that, referring to a minister answering a question, reads: "Provided also that if in the opinion of the Minister to whom a question is addressed it requires a lengthly answer, he may require it to be placed on the Order Paper." If the answer is going to be a lengthly one, maybe that is the best way of dealing with the matter.

There is no point of order.

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, I will just finish answering the question. Obviously the member must have an awful lot of questions he wishes to ask.

I was just saying we have proposed in our White Paper that certain areas of training be reduced somewhat substantially and that where possible we will retrain some of the instructors involved. In the White Paper process we looked at a number of courses we are thinking about dropping, which comes to a little over eighty over a three year period. As far as the net loss of instructors is

concerned, we hope there will be no net loss because what we are trying to do is to take out some old courses that are no longer meaningful and to bring in courses which are more up to date, more meaningful, so that our students can have the benefit of the best possible training in all of the world. We are going to do that. So hopefully we will not have any classrooms closed down. We will have just as many instructors except they will be teaching much better, more developed and more advanced programmes.

MR. KELLAND:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Naskaupi.

MR. KELLAND:

I thank the minister, because that is what I was asking. If I understand him correctly he is saying there will be no net loss of jobs for vocational educators.

My supplementary is: Is there any hope, Mr. Minister, considering, let us say, the construction of the offshore platforms as one example, that the minister may reconsider dropping some of the courses in the traditional trades because there may be some sort of a regenerated need for them? That is one possibility.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, one of the many reactions we have had from many hundreds of individuals, groups and organizations submitting

briefs to the government in response to the White Paper has been that idea, whether we will really need as many carpenters, plumbers and electricians, the typical, traditional tradespeople, as we now have.

From our analysis leading up to the White Paper we could easily see by the unemployment statistics that there were large numbers of people in some of those job categories who were not working in area in which they were trained. There has to be a lot of retraining or upgrading of some of those persons to get them jobs in the offshore because it is a new, technical area. There have to be new courses brought in as well. Government has made no decisions about the White Paper. We are now in the process of analyzing many hundreds of briefs and submissions which have come back to Actually, the amount of course reduction, the new courses to be brought in, the places where courses will be dropped and the kind and the amount of retraining will all be decided in the next few months after we have analyzed the submission which have come in after government has made decisions as to the exact direction of the new reorganized vocational school system.

MR. KELLAND:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. the member for Naskaupi.

MR. KELLAND:

In reply to the comments the minister just made, I got some feedback from at least one of the vocational schools, quite specifically the one in my district of Naskaupi, that there

are a number, perhaps as many as five or six of the educators, who have been made aware, or feel that they have been made aware that their positions may be directly affected. Based on what the minister just said, I wonder would he clarify that? Have they been formally, informally or otherwise advised that they may be subject to layoff or retaining?

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, the only persons who have been given notice of layoff, for the year starting September, 1985 were ten or instructors whose classes did not the required number students. Obviously, you could not carry on with an instructor's position if the class did not have the required number of students to teach. I guess where the concern comes in is that if we identify a course at the Happy Valley - Goose Bay Vocational School as being one of the courses which is no longer required, then that instructor considers that as some kind of a notice of layoff. We have not developed and have not decided upon exactly what courses will be dropped. In the White Paper we suggested that there were certain of areas training no required. We tried to break it down throughout the Province so that no one school would be really adversely affected, but every single school has courses which are redundant, which are not up to date, and every single school should have those courses changed for the betterment of instructors and, of course, our

primary concern, the students. Those person in Labrador should not have received any notice of layoff, but there are going to be changes. There will be retraining programs, but whether those individuals fit in or not will not be know for some time.

MR. KELLAND:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Naskaupi.

MR. KELLAND:

That is basically the information I am seeking. To the minister that as early as possible, once those things are decided, because possible relocation the educators affected will advised. My final supplementary deals with the vocational education system. I would like to ask the minister what will happen to the prevocational programs now being made use of by high schools in certain areas at least, and what would happen to the educators are involved with these directly?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, I would not want to get involved in a lengthy answer and have the member for Gander (Mr. Baker) rise on another point of order. Certainly one of the problems in the vocational school system has been duplication and unnecessary competition between post-secondary institutes run by the government of this Province. Another area now coming into competition is the prevocational kind of training that is done by the regular school system and the

pre-employment courses that done by our post-secondary institutes. These are now causing a problem. After this White paper is analyzed and we have made decisions, one of the things we have to deal with to make sure there is not a wastage education funds in this Province is to make sure that if the post-secondary system is doing something now and doing it very well, then there is no need for a school board to duplicate laboratories and to instructors of the same type. Hopefully we will be able to work out a system with the school boards and post-secondary institutions in the Province so that there is not unnecessary duplication, that the students receive the kind of training they want, whether it is in the regular school system or afterwards, but certainly there will not be a wastage of public funds because that simply waters down programs and makes it difficult for us to directly deliver to students the best programs available. So the answer to the hon. member's question is that we are going to try and avoid duplication wherever possible. Instructors who may be laid off in our system may be hired by a school board system to teach the same kind of courses, if that is the way it is going to be done.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago I asked the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall), since he is responsible for Hydro in this Province, whether the change in the implementation of Daylight Saving Time would effect any savings on

electricity, and he agreed to get some numbers for me. I would like to ask him now if there has been any progress in that matter, because I think once we get the numbers perhaps the question will answer itself.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, I can tell the hon. that immediately upon receiving his question I was in contact with the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, and those numbers, as he calls them, are being prepared. I would hope to have them available to him in the not too distant future. And then, at that particular time, I think it might be wise to make them public as well, because the question that the hon. member raises is a very interesting one.

MR. K. AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth (Mr. Matthews).

I assume the minister is aware of the National Conference on Youth being sponsored by the Manitoba Rural Youth Organization in Winnipeg on December 4. I would like to know if the minister would inform us as to how many youth from Newfoundland and Labrador will be attending that conference.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I do not have the answer for the hon. gentleman, but I would like to take the question under advisement and report back to him at the earliest possible convenience.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Just to give you some more information, there are ten people supposedly going from 4-H Clubs in Newfoundland and Labrador, but because the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth does not have enough funding, and because of nothing but two months of hassle and no information going back and forth, these people now are not going to have the opportunity -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! Is this a new question or a supplementary?

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Brand new.

MR. SPEAKER:

I would remind the hon. member, even in a new question, there should make as short a preamble as possible.

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Considering the bungling that went on over the Summer, and since every other province in Canada is going to be represented at this conference, which is on Rural Canada, a subject to which young people from Newfoundland could have great input, would the minister, when he does take it under advisement and look at it, consider funding this group to go there, since I think it would be beneficial to Newfoundland and Labrador?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say to the hon. gentleman that I do not know who is accusing the department or the division of bungling, other than himself. Now, I realize full well that the hon. gentleman is playing to the gallery this afternoon, because he has a couple of youth representatives here who, I must say, have done a masterful job on behalf of youth in the Province, but when he talks about lack of funding, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to point out to him that the Youth Services Division this year has provided some \$595,000 this year for grants and subsidies to groups and youth organizations throughout this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS:

That, Mr. Speaker, is an increase of some \$150,000 over the 1985-1985 estimates. So I think we are doing a fair job, Mr. Speaker, and I certainly will take under consideration the point the hon. member has talked about. But I would just like to say do not listen to everything he says, that because things do not work out the

way he wants that they are necessarily bungled.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

The question simply put is this is International Year of the Youth, emphasis on youth. This conference is an excellent conference. I am asking you to look into your department to fund this. I am not playing to any gallery. I am just trying to get these people to go. I have been contacted by officials of your department and youth who are involved all over Newfoundland to ask this question. So whether or not you think I am playing to the gallery, that is up to yourself. I want you to look into it. Are you going to look into it? Are you going to supply the funding? Yes or no.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I think I already answered that for the hon. gentleman. I told him that I would take his initial question under advisement and come back with an answer as soon as possible. Outside of that there is not much more I can do.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

I would like to ask the Minister

of Culture, Recreation and Youth what were the contents of discussions he held with the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development about initiating job programmes for young people? Could he tell us the results of those discussions he has had?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I spent a good part of the last session of this House trying to educate the rookie member on the mandate of the Youth Services Division of Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth. Now, while we are very, very concerned in the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth about youth employment and youth unemployment in this Province, the mandate for jobs and creating jobs rests, I would like to advise the hon. member again, with the new Department of Career Development and Advanced Studies. As I have outlined to him, Mr. Speaker, while we are very, very concerned about youth jobs, youth employment and unemployment, our main role as a Youth Services Division is to assist and promote youth groups and organizations, youth servicing agencies in this Province, which we this year will spend somewhere in the order of \$595,000.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

I would like just one question to the minister. Was the minister in Stephenville last week at the Youth Conference? Was the Minister of Youth at the conference? I would like to know if he the Minister of Youth or not. That is the question.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, that is a real loaded question. If that is the best the hon. member can do I think he should probably stay out Stephenville. The situation was, Mr. Speaker, that I was very privileged to go to Stephenville last weekend. I was invited by the organizers of the Conference to go out and speak to the group, which I did, to some 150 youth delegates from right across this Province, Mr. Speaker, from every region of the Province who went to Stephenville on the Conference.

I might also say, Mr. Speaker, that I was very pleased as minister to provide \$30,000 for the organization and hosting of the Conference which I consider to be very significant.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS:

So to answer his question, Mr. Speaker, I am the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth and I was in Stephenville because I was invited by the organizing committee and by the Secretariate. I was very delighted and pleased to be there. I met with an excellent group of young people in this Province who are concerned about their future, as I am and as this government is. Once we receive the recommendations and reports from

the Conference, I will be Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies (Mr. Power), the Minister of Education (Mr. Hearn) recommendations in that particular report.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins). This question was not prepared by Rex.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, I think that deserves a standing ovation so would you to increasing the health try it again and would you please stand?

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Speaker, in the Globe and Mail a spokesperson for Petro-Can, Carol Pressault is quoted as saying, 'Petro-Canada has always favoured dismantling the plant,' referring to the Come By Chance oil refinery. Let me ask the Minister of Finance what is he or his government doing? Is that where the Premier has been for the past few days? Has he

their obviously long-term plan to dismantle the refinery? Are Cabot Martin and Peter Lougheed both employees of this government, in Ottawa lobbying to try to dissuade and the Minister of Social Petro-Canada from carrying through Services (Mr. Brett), to name some on its long-term plan? It has of the Cabinet, to discuss what always favoured dismantling the can be done about the plant, the spokesperson says, and that a decision is expected this week on the refinery. Can the minister tell us what we can expect? Obviously tomorrow is the end of the week, so what can we expect in the way of a decision regarding the future of Come By Chance? Give us a progress report.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to answer that question without the help of Cabot Martin. In regard to one aspect of the question, the Premier's visit to Central Newfoundland, my understanding is that the Premier's visit related facilities of the Province in Central Newfoundland. I believe it also had to do with educational in facilities Central Newfoundland. It also had to do with industrial development in Newfoundland in opening a salmon hatchery in the Bay d'Espoir area. I think the Premier had a very busy visitation to Central Newfoundland in the last little while.

In regard to that lady who spoke on behalf of Petro-Canada, I am afraid I cannot answer for her remarks. All I know is that we have never been told Petro-Can not to dismantle the oil
refinery? What is this government doing to try to dissuade one way or the other. They have indicated they would use their best efforts to renovate and to rehabilitate the plant. I have never heard them say that their preference at any time was to dismantle the plant or have anyone dismantle it, but obviously when they put out their tender they did get some bids from dismantlers.

Now in regard to what we are doing about it, as I said previously, we have left it to Petro-Canada to inform us when they are getting near the time when they will make a public announcement of their decision. We have not pressured them in any undue way because it is a complicated issue. I am sure certain members opposite think it is a very simple, minor thing but, of course, I am not responsible for their naivety. It is a very complicated thing to decide what to do with a refinery in the present state of the oil situation. So we have not pressured them unduly but we have repeatedly reminded them that they undertaken, quite voluntarily, to inform us when they get near the time of making a definitive decision, and I would expect that in a matter of weeks will be coming to us discussing the whole matter.

MR. BARRY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Premier. I would like to ask the Premier, in light of the three occasions on November 8, 1982 - pages 4854, 4855 and 4859 in Hansard - where the Premier indicated that it was the intention of the Conflict of Interest Act amendment and the

Conflict of Interest Guidelines to deal with potential conflict of interest as well as actual, will the Premier now agree that this is in fact what the Conflict of Interest Guidelines are aimed at?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I have no problem with what the Leader of the Opposition has said, none whatsoever.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon, the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, in light of the Premier's quotes on the same day, at pages 4272, 4850, 4851, 4852, 4854, and 4858, six different times, Mr. Speaker, the Premier said that the Conflict of Interest Guidelines are intended to deal with the perception created, the appearance created, and the notion that justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done, will he agree and accept that this is the intent of the Conflict of Interest Act and Guidelines?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, whenever there is a potential as opposed to a real conflict of interest, I take action on it with the respective ministers and the ministers themselves do. I have said over and over again in this House in the last three or four weeks, if just a potential conflict of interest may occur, then the

relevant minister has no part in a decision in which that potential could become a reality. That is what happens.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, when a group of tenants appearing before the Landlord and Tenancy Board call in to their MHA and express concern as to whether their views are going to get adequate consideration when the Government House Leader's (Mr. Marshall) law for the landlord, and there are political friends of the side. on the Landlord and Tenancy Board, would the Premier agree that in those circumstances there is something wrong with the appearance that is created?

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

There is obviously an appearance. But as I said to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Barry) a hundred times over, the question is one of potential and what I have to do then as Premier and as leader of the government is to ensure that that potential never becomes a reality. That I have done.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the

MR. BARRY:

the Has Premier obtained opinion from law officers of the Crown with respect to interpretation or the definition of conflict of interest-

MR. MATTHEWS:

You are not at that again, are you?

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. BARRY:

- and whether or not a conflict of interest has been created by the

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I was talking while the hon. the hon. the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Barry) was asking question. Could he repeat the question?

MR. BARRY:

Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Has the Premier obtained opinions from law officers of the Crown with respect to definition of conflict of interest to be applied in interpreting The Conflict of Interest Act and The Conflict of Interest Guidelines, and whether or not a conflict has been created in situations raised before this House?

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, the leader of the government must deal with the facts. It is not a question of legal opinion on a certain interpretation that one will put on the definition of the conflict of interest or what the definition of the conflict of interest is, you have to deal with the facts. The facts are that if a member of the Cabinet becomes into a potential conflict of interest situation, then obviously that minister has to absent himself or herself from any decision making which would allow that potential conflict of interest to become a real conflict of interest. have been extremely cautious and careful to ensure, at any time this has arisen, that the decision was made without that minister with the potential being present so that that potential conflict of interest did not become a real conflict of interest.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, would the Premier consider it appropriate for the minister's law firm now to appear before any government body, board or commission against citizens of the Province who are making representation before such government appointed boards? Does the Premier condone and encourage this to continue?

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

That is all hypothetical, Mr. Speaker, and as we know, under the rules of the House, hypothetical questions are not to be asked. All I can ensure the hon. the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Barry), as I have the people of Newfoundland over and over again and will continue to do, is that where potential conflict of interests do arise I ensure that that remains a potential and does not become a real conflict of interest. I will continue to do that.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Is the Premier then saying that as long as the potential is there the Premier will permit potential conflict of interest to continue as long as he satisfies himself it is only a potential? Is that what he is saying?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Now, I mean, this is getting hairy-fairy. Where do you draw the line on when it is not a potential conflict of interest? How do you define that? Mr. Speaker, that is very difficult to define. All I can say to the Leader of the Opposition, as I have said 100 times over, is that this government operates honestly and ethically. Who can determine

when a situation is going to arise that there is a potential conflict of interest? All of the ministers are aware of the procedure that has to be followed. And if a potential conflict of interest arises, as it relates to decision that is going to be made on a particular issue that comes to Cabinet, that minister is to have absolutely no say in that That, therefore, decision. ensures that it always remains a potential and does not become a practical, real conflict of interest.

MR. BARRY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

There is just time for one quick question and answer.

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Premier is correct that ministers are supposed to know the procedures to be followed. Would the Premier indicate whether in fact the procedures have been followed, for example, with respect to supplying written letters to the Premier of disqualification? Would the Premier indicate whether he obtained any legal opinion from law officers of the Crown with respect to that matter or with respect to the definition of 'qualifying share'? Has the Premier satisfied himself as to what is meant by qualifying share? Is it a share that is needed in order to make up the third shareholder, or is it a share that is needed in order to permit a person to be a director of a corporation? Has the Premier satisfied himself by obtaining legal opinions on these points?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, that sounds like a question that the Leader of the Opposition put to the Minister of Energy yesterday as it relates to the new oil find, what was the size of the choke that the oil came through. I mean, technicalities that the Leader of the Opposition would like to get into!

All I can say to the Leader of the Opposition, and all I will continue to say, is I am not going to get any legal opinions everything. We have Conflict of Interest Guidelines in place. reponsible for following through on those guidelines for the ministers who serve in the Cabinet of Newfoundland. I can assure the Leader of the Opposition and the people Newfoundland since I have been Premier there has been no conflict of interest that has occurred. When there has been the remotest sign of conflict of interest, the appropriate minister has had to exclude himself or herself from any decision making, any Cabinet meetings on that matter, and it is done without the benefit of having that member present so that there would be no undue interference, either in presence or in what would be said, that would injure the kind of decision that would be made. And it has been made completely objectively without the benefit of that minister being present. That is the way I continue to operate, Mr. Speaker, the Cabinet of Newfoundland and I think it is a fair, reasonable, and honest way.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

The time for Oral Questions has elapsed.

Answers to Questions for which Notice has been Given

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, this relates to the question asked by the hon. member for Windsor - Buchans (Mr. Flight). Today I am tabling the government contract with Mr. Cabot Martin. It is very concise and contains information already given in the House relating to the matter. When tabling a contract, it is perhaps appropriate to make a few comments concerning the contract itself.

First of all, I should point out that Mr. Martin decided to leave his former post as Senior Policy Advisor to the Premier quite some time ago. He had indicated his intent long before he actually left and advised that it would be operative at the culmination of the offshore negotiations. He is fully qualified lawyer with a post-graduate education. His decision to leave the permanent public service was because he wanted to establish his own law practice and with his wide depth of knowledge in the oil industry, establish himself as a to consultant to the industry.

This was a perfectly natural and understandable decision and the

exercise of his right of free choice. To try to equate his rate of remuneration as Policy Advisor with the rate of professional hourly remuneration is invalid. First of all, to suggest that somehow or other we could have had Mr. Martin's services at the rate prescribed by his salary is rather silly. This is not Soviet Russia where the government can dictate a person must work for government at a dictated salary. He was exercising his undoubted choice with respect to his private life.

Secondly, the hourly rate, Mr. Speaker, is not excessive. People may not be aware of Mr. Martin's extensive qualifications. other Newfoundlanders and Canadians have his knowledge and expertise in oil and gas matters. He is held in the highest esteem nationally and internationally. He has made an invaluable contribution to the Province in that area. This knowledge includes invaluable specialized legal expertise in respect of oil and gas. The hourly rate is in line with that paid to lawyers who have represented the government in such matters as hydro and constitutional issues. It is lower than that charged by some lawyers now in general practice.

I want to make it quite plain, Mr. Speaker, that when Mr. Martin took his decision to leave the public service, I was extremely concerned. His counsel and advise was invaluable in negotiations leading to the Atlantic Accord. It would be equally valuable in implementing the Accord and in negotiations leading to Hibernia's development.

I, therefore, approached him and, with the government's concurrence,

retained his services. I am very glad I was able to secure the services of this knowledgeable person. Mr. Speaker, I happen to be proud that we can find a person of his capacity amongst our own in Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL:

The amount is not high. Let us remember, Mr. Speaker, he has overheads. The expenses specified do not included office rental, staff and other outgoings he must now meet to maintain his office. The circumstances are different and you cannot compare it to a salaried position.

It is also ridiculous to claim that this may result in hundreds of thousands of dollars being paid annually. In the first place, the engagement relates to implementation of the Accord and the Hibernia negotiations, which we hope to see concluded in less than a year. On the other hand, Mr. Martin itemizes every last minute of his time spent. He is not full time so it is just impossible for payments under the contract to reach such high sums.

I really doubt whether Mr. Martin would net much more from government than when on salary. I do his rate is fair for a person of his qualifications. In effect he has agreed to continue to render his valued knowledge and advise to government in his specialized field. He merely doing it on a different basis. We cannot force him to remain on as an employee.

MR. BARRY:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

We will permit the minister to continue on, on this matter, but to avoid a precedent, the minister engaging in debate. The minister is not supplying information. The minister engaging in debate in an attempt to justify the salary paid. minister is not supplying facts in response to the request for information, the minister is debating. This is not proper in Answers to Questions for which Notice has been Given.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, the hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

This is in answer to question. The hon. gentleman asked me to table circumstances and the contract with respect to Mr. Martin. I am tabling the contract and I am just giving some of the facts with respect to the services that were rendered. It is perfectly appropriate, Mr. Speaker. I do not know whether you would want to make a ruling or not. I have only a few more word to conclude.

MR. BARRY:

No, finish that, but as a matter of precedent -

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, it appears to the Chair that the hon. minister is making a statement and I am satisfied with that. There is no point of order.

The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

I will bring it, Mr. Speaker, to an end. I count ourselves fortunate to have Mr. Martin as counsel, and thankful he has, in effect, partially postponed his plans for a full private practice in the consultancy business so as to continue rendering such a valuable service to his Province.

Speaker, I can once again emphasize. I can only say that if we had consultant services from the Mainland - it is a sad thing in this Province - paying large amounts more per hour, nobody would blink an eye at it. But because we happen to have a Newfoundlander in our midst, who is internationally acclaimed, as well as nationally, we beat our breasts and say how high it is. We should be glad we have a Newfoundlander there, Mr. Speaker. We are engaged in a \$5 billion transaction.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL:

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I table the answer to the question and I would think that the hon. gentlemen should be a little more judicious in their remarks in the future when they criticize consultants who have been retained by the government for such an important matter as the offshore.

MR. BARRY:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

The full question dealt with the arrangement for pay on the visitation to Japan. The minister did not indicate that there was any information on that. Is the minister putting this forward as a full response or is he only going to answer part of it and not answer the full question.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, the hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS:

I am subject, of course, to Your Honour's review of Hansard, but my memory is that the hon. member for Windsor-Buchans (Mr. Flight) went into that matter and I answered the question he asked. He subsequently followed on with a remark which did not in actual fact end up as a total request to me, nor did I respond to that latter half remark.

MR. FUREY:

To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, the hon. the member for St. Barbe.

MR. FUREY:

The member for Windsor-Buchans clearly asked how much the trip to Japan cost the government - to have Mr. Martin fly to Japan and China with the Minister of Finance - how much did it cost in expenses, and how much did it cost in salaries?

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, the member for Windsor-Buchans, when he returns to the House, is quite capable of defining what questions he asked.

The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans asked me a question which I have responded to and if the hon. gentleman, when he comes in the House, wants to direct any questions on that to the Minister of Finance, he can. In the meantime, the hon. gentleman need not think he is going to take this House on his back.

MR. SPEAKER:

To that point of order, I would like to refresh my own memory and just check the questions. I will report on it at a later time.

Orders of the Day

On motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Greening):
Order! Shall the resolution carry?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Carried.

MR. DECKER:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Chairman, I have to keep coming back to what someone dreamed up and called the Atlantic Accord. For the life of me, I do not know how they can use the word 'Accord'. Maybe the word 'discord' would be more appropriate when referring to that document. Or maybe the title the big giveaway might have been more appropriate, or the final solution, or the ultimate sellout,

or the big scam, Mr. Chairman. There are a lot more appropriate titles they could have put on that document. Would to goodness we had had the services of someone when it was drawn up, even if it did cost us \$150 an hour. Would to goodness we had had the services of someone who could have prevented Clause 54 from creeping into that document, Mr. Chairman.

When I think about that document I am reminded of Scrooge when he said to the Third Spirit, 'Are you showing me things that might have been, or is this what shall be?'

Mr. Chairman, let me talk about what might have been. Just after we discovered oil on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland exploration, by the way, something which was started in 1966 under the Smallwood Government, seems to have been swept away. It was under the Liberal Administration that exploration was started on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. and it was the Liberal Administration in Ottawa, with PIP, which made it possible for exploration to continue. But that is beside the point. The thing is we have discovered oil. And what might have been, Mr. Chairman, is full employment in Newfoundland. When the refinery in Come By Chance was in production, we could have seen the raw crude being brought ashore and taken to Come By Chance and refined. And we could have seen ships coming in from all over the world taking the refined oil and carrying it across the Atlantic, across to Europe, carrying it down to the United States. This is what could have been. Chairman.

In addition to Come By Chance, Mr. Chairman, there could have been other refineries all over

Newfoundland because we had the oil and it could have been our right, it could have been our choice where and when it was to be refined. This is what could have been, Mr. Chairman, if it had not been for Clause 54, the clause in this big giveaway, the final solution, the ultimate scam. What might have been, Mr. Chairman, Newfoundland could have been known as the great part of Canada where oil is taken from the wells on the Grand Banks and refined right here in this Province.

If there is anything, Chairman, Newfoundlanders that should have learned from history it should have been this, the real wealth, the real profit is not in taking our raw materials and selling them in an unprocessed state. That is not where the wealth is. We have been doing this with our fish for generations. We are famous for the fish block, the frozen fish block which is basically pulling the skin off fish and freezing it and shipping it away unprocessed.

We have the Corner Brook paper mill. You know, the Corner Brook paper mill is not creating, is not manufacturing a finished product. If you were starting a newsprint mill in Newfoundland today - I am not sure about today, but a few years ago - you could not have gotten a DREE grant because you were not making a finished product. I think that is probably true today, as well.

It has been the same with every single resource that we have had. Wabana, Bell Island, we took the ore and we sent it off somewhere else to be processed. In Labrador City today we are taking the iron ore out of the ground and we are sending it somewhere else to be

processed. We have seen the Churchill Falls, where two members from the other side of the House helped make the decision to sign that contract. There is nobody on this side of the Houes who was present when the Churchill Falls deal was signed, which has been referred to as a giveaway.

We are not getting the benefit of our natural resources. What might have been, Chairman, cannot be because of the ultimate sell-out in the Atlantic Accord, as it is called. shudder when I use the word 'Accord' when I talk about such a terrible document. Scrooge said to the Spirit, "Are these things that shall be be?" Mr. Chairman, let me tell you what shall be. I do not know why all this silliness and all the talk is going on about the Come By Chance oil refinery. The Come By Chance oil refinery will be dismantled and will be sold for scrap.

MR. PATTERSON:

It should never have been built.

MR. DECKER:

Clause 54 made sure of that, Mr. Chairman. Now, why all political nonsense, why all the silliness? Why are members opposite trying to brainwash our Newfoundland people? If there were 1000 companies in the world today who wanted to refine oil at Come By Chance, they could not refine oil at Come By Chance, Mr. Chairman, because of Clause 54. So why are we wasting people's time? Why are we going on with such silliness? We can get 5 million companies who want to put million oil refineries Newfoundland and they cannot do it, Mr. Chairman, because of Clause 54.

MR. PATTERSON: Not so.

MR. DECKER:

It is so, Mr. Chairman, and the member opposite knows full well that it is so. The ultimate sellout in Newfoundland, Mr. Chairman, was not the Upper Churchill, and the Lord knows that bad enough, the ultimate sellout was not Bell Island, where we took the raw material and carried it to North Sydney to be refined, and goodness knows that was bad enough, the ultimate sellout is not sending away frozen cod blocks, and goodness know that is bad enough, the ultimate sellout, the ultimate raping of generations yet unborn, Mr. Chairman, is Clause 54.

The last chance that this Province had to be prosperous, the last chance that this Province had to be a 'have' Province, members oppossite with their political foolishness and nonsense, trying to score political points, carrying on with political points when they should have been governing this Province, Mr. Chairman, they took the last opportunity that we had to become a 'have' Province and they sold it down the drain.

What shall be? Mr. Chairman, I will tell you what shall be. Oil tankers will go out on the Grand Banks and the oil will be pumped on board these tankers and it will be carried in its raw state, unrefined, Mr. Chairman, to Quebec, it will be carried to New Brunswick, it will be carried to Nova Scotia, it will be carried to Ontario. It will be carried to Ontario. It will be carried raw, completely unrefined, and every time a load of this oil is carried away unrefined, Newfoundlanders will be losing jobs and

Newfoundland will still be going to Ottawa for equalization grants, if the Tories do not cut that off, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Order, please!

The hon. member's time is up.

MR. DECKER:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. J. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER:

Mr. Chairman, now that righteous member for the Straits of Belle Isle (Mr. Decker) has taken his seat, it might be worthwhile trying to refute some of this awful nonsense. The only thing crude and unrefined here is the hon. member who just sat down. What he does not realize, of course, is that the refinery at Come By Chance, in one sense, was never meant to work, but in another sense it was meant to work and work very well, it transferred something like \$60 million into Shaheen's own private bank accounts. I had occasion to tour that facility when it was -

MR. DECKER:

What a charade!

MR. J. CARTER:

It was a \$60 million charade.

MR. DECKER:

What a charade now!

MR. J. CARTER:

A charade well worth playing. It brought him in \$60 million.

I remember when Homer White showed me around the refinery. He said, "You know, this refinery would work very well but the cost of oil has skyrocketed." I thought to myself, the cost of oil has not changed one bit because you did not pay a cent for it - you did not pay a cent for it before and you did not pay a cent for it since - you got it for nothing and just high-graded it. And if the hon. member cared to look in the tanks out there, he would find there were no beaters put in the tanks, or if they were they were connected. The tanks are filled with wax. All he did was high-grade the higher fractions off.

The whole thing is a scandal. And to suggest the Come By Chance is a proper working refinery foolishness, absolute foolishness! What is worthwhile out there is the wharf. It is quite an expensive, well-constructed, deepwater wharf that is capable of handling enormous oil tankers. Anyway, enough of that nonsense.

The member for the Straits of Belle Isle (Mr. Decker) - I might as well clear up a small point while I am at it. A strait would be the water between the two shores, if the member wants to represent the water. I know he is all wet, but he does not represent the water, he represents the land and the land is the Straits of Belle Isle. So let him get that straight once and for all. Because you do not talk about the harbour as the narrow. The only thing you would call narrow is the hon. gentleman's mind. You would talk of the Narrows. So let us get that straight once and for all and no more of this nonsense. I wish the hon. gentleman were capable of straight talk, because then we might get some sense out of all this.

But to suggest that the Atlantic Accord was a sellout, especially from the self-righteous so-called minister from the opposite side who poses as the guardian of morality, he should sit down and consider who he is sat amongst. I think if he were to think it through he might make some effort to come over on this side. I understand, as I say, that two members are trying to come over, but we cannot talk too much about it. They should not expect to get paid for it, they will have to come over of their own free will. There is no price. We are not going to negotiate with them. are not about to bid for them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No!

MR. J. CARTER:

The bidding would have to start at zero and it would probably stay at zero.

MR. PATTERSON:

We could put them on public tender.

MR. J. CARTER:

We could put them on public tender, that is true. With our commitment to public tender, we would perhaps call for public tenders.

Anyway, I think it is shameful and wrong and wrong-headed for hon. members to be suggesting that the Atlantic Accord is anything but a very, very wonderful break in the sad relationship that Newfoundland had with the Liberal government in Ottawa. And the court case did not do it for us, it took a political settlement, and our political counterparts in Ottawa

have finally come through and come through in grand style. To suggest otherwise is treasonable, traitorous and rotten. I will let the Minister of Finance continue.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Naskaupi.

MR. KELLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. education in itself to be present! I sort of like the term 'rookie' which is used occasionally. I use it myself and other members opposite sometimes use it to describe us poor chaps on the backbenches over on this However, it has pleasing aspects to it, in that we can learn an awful lot from members opposite. You know, in Question Period, when we look for a little information, we would have to pretty well say that the ministers appear to have a little as anybody and, consequently, Question Periods do not always result in the answers that we are looking for. In what everyone has referred to as a wide-ranging aspect of debate on a supply bill, it was interesting to note that the - and it is unfortunate he is not here right now because I prefer, if I am going to talk about or at a particular minister or individual, that he be present. There is nothing wrong with that, I would rather do it that way, but, taking a leaf from the book the Minister of Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. Simms), I would think that everybody is somewhere in the building with their ears tuned, if that is their bent.

was interested in the wide-ranging aspect of debate, and when I saw the President of Treasury Board (Mr. Windsor) rise in his place the other day on what

you could only call a spurious point of order - I have known the gentleman for quite a long time, when he was in some of his previous Cabinet posts, and I developed a level of respect for in Municipal Affairs, Development and Tourism - I felt a form of pity for the hon. gentleman. Because, as I said, I had developed a level of respect for him over the years, and I felt a form of pity, in that what he was doing was rising in his place and complaining that no one was paying any attention to him, that he was not getting questions, that he had not gotten any questions. I must confess that that was probably the first or second time I had seen him speak since this Assembly opened, but it seemed to me to be a sort of a personal thing.

I pay absolutely no attention, Mr. Chairman, to the rumour that the President of Treasury Board has salted away a sizeable war chest for a fight for the leadership if and when that occasion occurs. If, indeed, he ever did, or if he has that kind of a war chest - I have heard figures getting close to the \$250,000 mark. I cannot credit that - he should be able to aspire to the leadership if he so wishes. I see nothing wrong with If the occasion ever that. presents itself for a leadership convention of some sort in the party the government represents, there might very well be the President of Treasury Board (Mr. Windsor), there might be Minister of Forest Resources Lands (Mr. Simms), and Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe). I will not go so far as to say the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Doyle), that would be pushing it, but there may be others over there. And, you know,

all these gentlemen can aspire to the leadership. The member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Warren) certainly could. He was possible aspirant. The ministers I have mentioned, and others, I classify them as all having equal leadership abilities. There is no question about that. They are all in the same boat and they are certainly all equally qualified to fill the Premier's chair, there is no doubt in my mind.

If the President of Treasury Board does have a war chest, so what? If he does have it and he wants to go for the leadership when the opportunity presents itself, let him go ahead. But I think he would be a damn fool, Mr. Chairman, if he told anyone about it.

Now, I think he would be a damn fool if he told anyone about the fact that he may have a large war chest to fight the leadership battle when it comes up, and I defended the minister in that regard and I said, I do not think he told anybody actually, and he would be unwise to do so. It was a pitiful pose for the man to take who is, I thought, a respected member of the House of Assembly for his district and a respected minister in the portfolios he held when I had some dealings with him in earlier years. And I would not want to couple the feeling of pity that I felt at the time to see him rise up and literally beg the House for questions so people would give him back his previously high profile.

Does he not recognize the fact that he has been set up as the Minister of Forest Resources and Lands has been set up? He has been set up. He has been demoted in Cabinet simply because the word

is out that he has aspirations towards the leadership. But good heavens, is that a reason to demote the man, to politically Is that a castrate the man? reason to do that to him? I mean, I think he was poorly served. even if all that is true, that he has a war chest, that he wants the leadership, that he was demoted, is that not something for the caucus of the government? Is that not a personal concern, a personal request, a personal pleading for questions - "Please give me back my profile?" Should that not be brought up in the government caucus meetings? Why should it ever be brought to the floor of the House of Assembly, a personal matter like that? That is the way it came across to me. I think that is unfortunate. I do feel quite a level of pity and perhaps someday he will be elevated to another portfolio, if the hon. Premier sees fit. At that time, perhaps someone will pay attention to him again, ask him meaningful questions so that he can get his profile back and then, perhaps, convince the outside of his district of Mount Pearl that, yes, indeed he has potential.

As I said before, he potential, Minister of Development and Advanced Studies (Mr. Power), Minister of Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. Simms). Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe), perhaps even the Minister of Development and Tourism (Mr. Barrett) and the member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Warren), in my mind all have equal leadership qualities. No question about that. Oh yes, they are all there, Mr. Chairman. That is enough about that. I do respect the man and I would not want to couple my pity for him with a loss of that respect. He has developed that over the years and he deserves better than he has been served.

I could not help also, in the wide-ranging topics that we see involved ourselves in, pay particular attention to the Cabot Martin situation. I would like to approach that perhaps with little more gut level than has been done previous to this in that \$150 an hour is an astounding figure. I am not questioning whether the man is qualified or has the capability of earning that kind of money. I mean, if he has the qualities and the government sees fit to pay him \$150 an hour, fine. It is unbelieveable to me that somebody is worth that much money, but let us say he is. The gut level feeling in the Province from the people who are on unemployment insurance assistance or perhaps who have run out of that benefit and are on social services, or those who have neither of the two, you could simply equate it this way: and a half weeks work, based on eight hour days, five days a week, by Cabot Martin totals about \$15,000. Now, if you want to equate that with something, equate it to the fact that that is equal to ten weeks work for ten other individuals on our current minimum wage.

Try to explain that fact about this gentleman, qualifications notwithstanding, to the people out there who are on unemployment, who have lost their unemployment assistance and are on social assistance, or perhaps have nothing at all, even those who have given up trying to look for jobs, as was mentioned by a number of members before. I think that is the gut issue: Is the guy worth in a two-and-a-half week

period the self-sufficiency of ten fellow citizens of this Province for a ten week period, which would qualify them for continuing assistance? That is the way it has to be, and under the present administration it appears that that is the best they can hope for.

Those are some of the bracketings, I suppose, of the wide-ranging debate that has occurred here and of it SOME is totally unbelieveable. I am sure that when full coverage is given and all the details are discussed amongst the citizens of Province, they simply will not understand why the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Windsor) is so concerned over trivial, petty, personal matters when he should be more concerned with the business of the House. So he runs for the leadership, so what? that any reason to chastise and publically demote the man belittle him? I do not agree with that. He was very poorly served by the administration and, by the same token, justify in the eyes of people \$150 an hour for any Newfoundlander, come on, let us face it. It is potentially up around three hundred thousand dollars a year bracket. Mind you, it might never reach that, but it makes sense when the President of the Council was saying that he had reason to leave his government employment and get out into private enterprise. So would I if I could get \$62,000 as a public servant and potentially \$300,000 otherwise, by leaving, but still being retained. I will make a little comment, Chairman, if I may say so. I do try to respect the fact that while members are standing and speaking, I try to be quiet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

The hon. member's time is up.

R. MARSHALL:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

A point of order, the hon, the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

The hon. gentleman is not being fair again. He says that in referring to Mr. Martin, I do not know what it is. It is endemic in Newfoundlanders. You get somebody come from away, God, we will pay him hundreds of thousands of dollars!

AN HON. MEMBER: Peter Lougheed.

MR. MARSHALL:

Yes, the hon. gentleman mentions Mr. Lougheed. Let me tell you about Mr. Lougheed, as well. We are very, very fortunate that we have these two gentleman to advise us with respect to the offshore. And what you hear in the Province when you get these people? I mean, throughout Canada people are congratulating us for getting a person of the stature of Mr. Lougheed, but all you seem to hear down here is how much you are paying for him. It is all a matter of a different perspective.

I would like to tell the hon. gentlemen that in Calgary last week, while I was in a taxicab and I do not have the cultured voice of a Westerner - the cab driver detected my rather flat, Irish accent; so he asked me where I came from and I said I come from Newfoundland. 'Oh,' he said, 'boy, you fellows did a great job in getting Lougheed down as your advisor!' I asked, 'What do the people around here think about it?' And do you know what he said? - 'They think it is great but they do not think you are paying him enough.' Now, there is a difference in perspective. Western Canada is progressing and all we seem to do in this Province is beat ourselves and denigrate ourselves. We have here in Cabot Martin, a person who is able to give us advice. We should be proud and bursting our buttons that we have someone of his capacity, instead of just denigrating the thing.

We have potential. The hon. gentlemen, oh, God! They hate to hear this, Mr. Chairman! But we do have a potential out there on the offshore. Hibernia itself is going to be a gigantic development of \$5 billion. It is a new development and we want to approach it carefully for the benefit of all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. So we hire and engage the best advice that we can. We think that the hon. gentlemen there opposite should be a little bit careful of what they are doing, instead of continuing in their small-minded way of attack. They do not have any perception at all. They cannot see beyond the money that is being paid. If they continue in that you know, we are going to have to have a lot of consultants - but you are going to maybe have not too many consultants wanting to come in and give advice if they have to be subjected to the small-mindedness of the small people there opposite.

Those hon. gentlemen opposite cringe - I mean, their leader does not cringe, their leader just sinks and sinks and

sinks and is sunken - but the hon. gentlemen there opposite cringe every time the offshore mentioned. When it first came they were trying to push us into a bad agreement. So they were getting it around, 'Boy, look, it is all in Halifax!' And, 'It is just as well to sign up because all the business is going to Halifax. You are not going to get an agreement anyway.' So what did we do? The next thing we got an agreement. Then they said, 'Aw, boy, it does not matter anyway.' You know, typical of them, trying to tell Newfoundlanders - this beating their own backs - 'It does not matter anyway; there will be no development out there because the oil prices are too low.' So we patiently explained to them about the reserves of Hibernia. We patiently explained to them the world situation. We patiently explained to them it is the best development in world the offshore. Of course, they do not believe it, a lot of people here do not. But when somebody comes from away, say from Alberta, appears on CBC and says exactly the same thing, then everybody believes it.

So we go from there and then what happens? 'Aw, boy, it does not matter. There might be a development out there but it really does not matter because it is going to be by floating platforms; and there are going to be no jobs, they are going to be all over in Korea and Japan. No point, no sense at all with it!' So we prove that wrong and then what happens after that? They say, 'Aw, boy, I wonder what -

MR. FUREY:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the member for St. Barbe.

MR. FUREY:

Mr. Chairman, we all know what a wonderful elocutionist the hon. the President of the Council is but let him stand in his place today now and extend his logic. We have been asking about Come By Chance. The hon. member Bellevue (Mr. Callan) has been asking, time and time and time and time again, about Come By Chance. If everything was so negative and it is all coming up positive on your side, stand in your place today and tell us about how positive Come By Chance is.

MR. MARSHALL:

That is not a point of order now, Mr. Chairman. He is interrupting my time.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, to that point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

There is no point of order.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, perhaps while the minister is on his feet, he will also like to tell us about the reports in the media.

MR. MARSHALL:

It this Question Period now, Mr. Chairman? Is this an abuse of the process?

MR. CALLAN:

Not little reports but reports in the media that Petro-Canada are going to be using floating platforms. What effect is that going to have on Argentia and Adam's Head? Go ahead and explain that.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To the point of order, there is no point of order.

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Chairman, they are abusing the privileges of the House.

I will respond to those but let me just finish. I have not gotten to the stage where 'aw, boy, there is going to be no agreement, boy, sign it, no development, boy, sign it.' On floating platforms rather than concrete platforms, they say, 'I wonder how they got them. They must have given it all away, all the royalties and we have not even started.' So the nihilists and the nay-sayers, you know, you are going to get some surprise in about six months time.

We will get back to what the hon. gentleman said. The hon. gentleman, I will not say he represents Come By Chance, he misrepresents Come By Chance. That is what the hon. gentleman does, Mr. Chairman. The hon. gentleman should be proud of the fact -

MR. CALLAN:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, what the President of the Council has done here, he is attributing motives to me. Everybody heard him say it. He said that I am misrepresenting Come By Chance. The minister knows that any speeches that I have made and any questions that I have put to the administration

regarding Come By Chance, whether it is the future of their hospital or the future of their refinery, it has been looking for information, information that this government has not been giving.

Mr. Chairman, the minister is attributing motives to me. I think he should withdraw it.

MR. MARSHALL:

To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, the hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Chairman, I really do not want to hurt the hon. member's feelings. If he is out of sorts because of that, I withdraw and apologize and retract and do everything else. Okay?

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

I want to get back to the hon. gentleman. If the hon. gentleman wants to talk about Come Chance, why does he not get up and talk buoyantly about the prospects down in the Come By Chance area with the gravity-based system, the same gravity-based system that the hon. gentlemen there opposite said we would never get and hoped we would not get because they want to construct their future upon a lack of any kind of future in this Province. The more unemployment there is, the happier they are.

I have to tell the hon. gentleman that in his own district there is going to be a considerable amount of spinoff as a result of that very gravity-based system that the hon. gentleman said we would never get, that they worked against us for getting, that they hoped we would not get because, Mr. Chairman, it would have served their purposes if, in fact, there had been development by a floating platform and all the jobs were away.

To get back to the other thing, what about the floating platform? Now they are turning absolutely green with envy over the other discoveries that are out there. It has to be yet determined about Terra Nova. It has to be yet determined about North Ben Nevis. am going to tell the hon. gentleman, under the Atlantic Accord that choice of production system is in the Province. whatever development occurs out in Terra Nova, whatever occurs in North Ben Nevis, whatever occurs in Hebron or Naulilus and all the other development there, as a result of the Atlantic Accord, is going to be determined by this government here, by the government and the people of Newfoundland and by the hon. not gentleman's who are sitting in Opposition in Ottawa today, where they should be.

The beauty of the gravity-based system as well is that it will set us up now in the offshore industry so that when the floating platforms come - and there may be some fields that are small economically - we will, thus, be in a position where our people will be trained and we will be able to get jobs from the floating platform which otherwise we would not get.

All that has occurred, Mr. Chairman, incredibly, despite the act of opposition of each and every hon. member across the

House. For the member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan), who is going to be one of the districts that is really going to benefit, to get up on his feet in this House and ask the questions he has asked is -

MR. DECKER:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

A point of order, the hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Before the hon. gentleman sits down, I would like for him to explain what the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) meant when he said that Come By Chance was not meant to work? Why is there a charade going on now as if it is going to work? I cannot understand that.

MR. J. CARTER:

To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, the hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER:

I should explain. If I might say, the refinery at Come By Chance was run by a bunch of rogues, one of whom has since gone to his well deserved reward. It did work in the sense that it transferred a great deal of Japanese money, washed it through a number currencies and ended up in the hon. gentleman's - well he was not an hon. gentleman, anything but honourable - it ended up in his bank accounts, as the record will show.

MR. DECKER: Who?

MR. J. CARTER:

In that sense the refinery works beautifully, worked like a charm. But it worked so badly, he was complaining of it losing money that the hon. John Crosbie suggested, well, since this oil refinery takes in crude oil and processes it into some kind of finished oil, and then loses money, why do they not do it in reverse? Why do not buy oil on the market and turn it into crude oil?

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, it is a matter of clarification to a question asked by asked by the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

I will not use up any more time of the House. I hope the -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: By leave! By leave!

MR. MARSHALL:

- hon. gentlemen there opposite are suitably pushed to the wall. I hope the hon. the gentlemen there opposite now feel in advance of the time with all these jobs and opportunities coming, they still got time to get out to the people of Newfoundland, and in their own district, apologize. Apologize for the fact that what really the hon. gentlemen's entire policy-

MR. FUREY:

Tell that to the 30 per cent of our youth who are unemployed, the 19,000 young Newfoundlanders out of work.

MR. MARSHALL:

Yes, the hon. gentleman would love to keep it that way. The hon. gentleman's policy was to keep it that way. That is just the whole point. They had hoped that all of this would not succeed because we are going to take care of a lot of all that unemployment as a result of the policies of the Peckford Administration.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Order, please! The hon. member's time is up.

MR. MARSHALL:

It is really unfortunate what the hon. gentleman has done. You owe an apology to the people of the Province of Newfoundland.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, in making a few comments on this particular piece of legislation, I want to respond to some of the things that the minister who just took his seat was saying.

Chairman, Mr. what We see happening in this Province I was onto yesterday. Let me expound on it a little bit further today.

MR. J. CARTER: By leave?

MR. CALLAN:

No, I do not need leave. I have it by right. The voters in the district of Bellevue gave me the right to come in here and speak without leave of the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) or anywhere else.

Yesterday you see, Mr. Chairman,

what I was saying is look around the Province, what is happening? What has happened in this Province, Mr. Chairman, in the last fourteen years or fifteen years since this government, two administrations, the same Tory Government took power? What is happening? Yesterday I referred to the former Minister of Development and how for fourteen years it went on, well not fourteen, it ended last year actually, the people in this Province were told, well, there is a study ongoing regarding setting up an aluminum smelter in Labrador. The Lower Churchill would be developed in conjunction with that because it uses large amounts of electricity. This government made money available to a company down in the United States, rather than saying to them, 'if you think you can set up an aluminum smelter in Labrador, go ahead and do your own studies.' But, no, this government gave that company, that private entrepreneur down in the States, taxpayers' money to help them do a study. What resulted, Mr. Chairman?

When was an aluminum smelter first talked about? It was talked about in the Smallwood days, the days that the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) hates with a passion and the leader of the government with more of a passion.

So what happened? What happened in that respect? Nothing, Mr. Chairman, nothing and the aluminum smelter ended up in Quebec because they developed their hydro power. They built their aluminum smelter and of course took away any chance or any opportunity that this Province would have, all because of foot dragging and procrastination on the part of

this government, Mr. Chairman. For thirteen years it went on.

What else was talked about in the Smallwood days? Offshore oil, Mr. Chairman, as I said yesterday, exploration for offshore started when Mr. Smallwood was Premier and what do we see after fourteen years of Toryism in this Province? All we still see is hollow talk. We still hear the minister, who is responsible for energy, talking about the bright day that lies ahead. Now he says it will be here - I assume he was talking about something offshore when he talked about, "We are going to be surprised in six months." I hope it is an another election because we cannot wait to get over there, Mr. Chairman. I do not think he was talking about an election. I think he was talking about that there will be something bright and positive happening regarding the offshore. But if it does it is something that the Liberal Government started fifteen years ago, back before the pre-1972 days and the pre-Toryism days.

What else is happening, Chairman, in this Province? Where is the fishery? It has been here for 500 years, what has been done with it under the Tories over the last fifteen years? It is in a worse mess, Mr. Chairman. fishery in this Province, number one industry, after fifteen years of Toryism is in the same mess that it was when the other Cabot - not Cabot Martin, John Cabot - came here in 1497. We are no further advanced. So here we have three potential industries that could mean full employment for this Province, an aluminum smelter in Labrador, and, course, the construction development of the Lower Churchill

- an aluminum smelter, the Lower Churchill, thousands of jobs; the fishery, thousands of jobs; and offshore oil; thousands of jobs. But after fourteen and a half years of Toryism, Mr. Chairman, we are still back at square one.

I could go on and talk about other things that were talked about. Let us talk about the ERCO plant at Long Harbour, employing about 500 people. John Crosbie, whose district the ERCO plant is located in, St. John's West, said in this House, I heard him, he said that the Province would be better off if the plant were closed down and all the 400 to 500 employees were put on welfare. What happened to John Crosbie when he ran in the next election and toured the ERCO plant at Long Harbour? Somebody working upstairs threw a shovel of dust down on his coat collar. Where is the ERCO plant today? If John Crosbie and a few like him had their way it would have been shut down long ago. And member for Burin Placentia West (Mr. Tobin) is an example of people like him. But what happened? What happened? Who announced to this Province the first oil strike? 'Answers to Your Most Frequent Questions,' it was the Leader of the Opposition. That is who announced it.

Mr. Chairman, what about the ERCO plant? All we heard John Crosbie and a few like him talk about was how they should close it down. But what did the Leader of the Opposition do when he was Minister of Mines and Energy? Here is the answer to the question. These are 'Answers to Your Most Frequent Questions,' from this most famous brochure that I referred to yesterday.

Question number six, 'Who

renegotiated the ERCO contract saving the taxpayers, including, of course, the ERCO employees, \$168 million over the life of that contract?' Who renegotiated that? Was it John Crosbie? Was it the present Premier? Who was it? Was it John Cabot? It was the hon. gentleman who is now leader of the Liberal Party. Could we have a standing ovation on that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, look around Province. Where is the forestry industry today? How much better off is it today than it was fourteen years ago? You see, Mr. Chairman, the few things that we do have, it has been housekeeping, that is all it has been, no new initiatives, no increase employment, just housekeeping, knee-jerk reactions, that what this government has been doing for fourteen years. They have a knee jerk reaction. Bowater pulls out of Corner Brook, we will go and force somebody else in. It will cost us money and it will cost us jobs, but we will keep it going. No thought given to expanding the forest industry and the pulp and paper industry, just knee-jerk reactions.

Mr. Chairman, before I sit down I want to mention the four stages that this government has gone through in the fourteen years that it has been in power.

The first stage that it went through, Mr. Chairman, was the witch hunt stage. Mr. Clean, who talks about his two daughters who are embarrassed about the questions that are asked in the House of Assembly, he was the

chairman of the witch hunt brigade. It is a fact. The same hon. gentleman who had a member cross the house and poke him in the face because he accused his mother of being a slum landlord. Talk about dirt, Mr. Chairman.

MR. TOBIN:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. TOBIN:

Mr. Chairman, during the past couple of minutes we have seen the member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) stoop to the low that his leader has been involved in during the past two or three weeks.

MR. CALLAN:

No, no. I have been giving you facts.

MR. TOBIN:

I believe that in this House we are all politicians and those of us who are here, I guess, are all fair game in the sense of the realities of politics, but I think when you go involving people's families and other things it is time for you to sit down and take it easy. Forget the example that has been set forth by the Leader of the Opposition. If he is your idol in this life, I suggest to you that you had better get out of politics right away.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, there is no point of order.

The hon. the member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, we went through the witch hunt stage, that was stage one. It was the minister who

talked about his daughters. I did not do it. It was the minister who did it in the media.

MR. FUREY:

He is quoting your minister.

MR. CALLAN:

That is all I am doing my friend.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Order, please!

The hon. member's time is up.

MR. CALLAN:

By leave?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

No, no.

MR. CALLAN:

I wanted to talk about the other three stages. The last stage is the brazen stage, brazen it out.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Chairman, it is hard to know how to respond. I was hoping to sit silently because I thought this bill would finally get through, but now I do not know if it will or not. After a while, you are forced to respond because there are so many ridiculous statements made across the way. It is not difficult to answer them. It is like shooting fish in a barrel.

For instance, the hon. member who just spoke went on at great length about our doing unnecessary studies, unnecessary in his view, and then in the same breath, he said 'they are foot-dragging.' You cannot have it both ways. You

cannot say that we are engaging in studies to bring new industries into the Province and then at the same time say 'you are foot-dragging.'

At the same time he said the offshore was begun by Mr. Smallwood. This is a body blow. Can you imagine if circumstances had permitted the offshore to be developed in the Smallwood days? Can you imagine what would have happened? It would have probably been owned by some Arab by now and we probably would not have been able to even fish around it. It would have been another Churchill Falls at the very least.

The hon. member says the fishery is a mess. Has he ever heard of FPI, which is now a respected international fish corporation erected out of bankrupt companies? Most of the bankrupt companies, by the way, were funded during the Liberal days. I am talking about the Lake Group and the Monroe Group when they had Fishery Products and so on. He thinks there is no improvement in the fishery. Has he heard of the quality program in place now. Anyone with any knowledge of the fishery, now I do not want to accuse the member of having any knowledge in the fishery, I do not want to be unfair to him - like the member for Twillingate (Mr. W. Carter) who has some passing familiarity with the fish business, will say that the quality of the product from this Province now is immeasurably higher than it was previously, and that was done under the aegis of this administration. In the same way he forgets the Fisheries Loan Board, which was in a mess a few years ago, was a total disgrace, but now you hardly hear a word about the Fisheries Loan Board

because it is working efficiently and so effectively and reacting so rapidly to the needs the fishermen. The members bring up points that are hardly worth while arguing about. Now I just want to get back to my good friend for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Decker), to his comments about Clause 54, because I am not going to let him get away with that. The reason why I am not going to let him get away with it is because there has been absolutely no coverage in the press to date, on the position taken by the members opposite, that is that Clause 54 everything that is detrimental to There is the Province. no coverage on that. They whistling Dixie, they are shouting in the dark when they are trying to get that message through. However , I am afraid that if they keep at it and we do not keep countering their argument, may be some journalists who would say, "Hey, there must be a bit of fire here," and then distortion of the fact will be spread around the Province. cannot let that happen. What is the hon. member saying? The hon. member says, "We will not see any of the oil from the Grand Banks." There are many, many possibilities on the Grand Banks. We tend to think only of Hibernia, but I think we are gradually learning that Hibernia is only one aspect of the Grand Banks in terms of oil resources. The hon, member is saying that we will never see any of that oil come ashore here to our benefit because of Clause 54. Lets just read Clause 54 and see what it says, because even with all of this hot air coming across the floor from the members opposite, nobody has actually read out Clause 54. Clause "Hydrocarbons produced from the

offshore area will be made available to Newfoundland and Labrador on commercial terms" -it is not going to be given away, we do not want anything more than that- "to meet both total end use consumption and the feedstock requirements of industrial facilities in place on the day that legislation implementing this Accord is proclaimed." Now, does that sound as though oil is not going to be made available?

MR. DECKER: Read on!

DR. COLLINS:

Oh, I am going to read on I am not going to let you get away with my not reading on. I am going to read on because I want to read on. But that first clause, does that sound as though it was a giveaway? "Hydrocarbons produced will be made available for industrial facilities in place on the day." Now there is certainly no giveaway there. As a matter of fact, it is an assurance that if we have facilities here and, of course, the implication is if we want to have the hydrocarbons, obviously we will not take them if we do not want them - obviously, we will not take them is we do not want them - but if we have facilities here and we want them, they would be made available to Now, let us on. "Similarly, feedstock availability shall be ensured, on commercial terms, for new industrial facilities in Newfoundland and Labrador, provided such feedstock is excess to feedstock required to meet the demand of presently existing industrial capacity in eastern Canada."

Now, let us understand what that means. I am going to give the interpretation of this government

on that remark. "The feedstock shall be ensured provided such feedstock is excess to feedstock required." In other words, in a new industrial plant put in this Province we can have feedstocks provided we do not have to break contracts already entered into with mainland plants those feedstocks. In other words, all it is saying there is that we are ensured of the availability of those provided, of course, that assurance does not require the suppliers of the feedsstocks to break contracts already in place for the plants in Eastern Canada. Now that is our interpretation.

Now, let me add something to that. That is also the federal government's interpretation. If the members opposite, and indeed all members will recall what Mrs. Pat Carney said in the House of Commons, that was her interpretation also. Now, who else is going to make an interpretation?

MR. DECKER:

Why was that not written in there .

DR. COLLINS:

It is written in there. That is the interpretation. Now if the hon. members opposite wish to make another screwy interpretation, we cannot help that. We governments. The Newfoundland Government and the federal government, that is their interpretation. Now if members opposite want a screwy interpretation, that is problem and This is a democratic country and they can have their screwy interpretation. But that is the interpretation both of the federal government, publicly in the House of Commons and it is out interpretation stated publicly here today and any number of other times. I would

ask hon. members to save their own faces, not to get too far out on a limb. Wait until the legislation comes down, arising out of that clause, and you will see what the legalities of the wording mean. So I would warn hon. members not to go out too far on a limb.

Now, I want to make that point, not that I have any great fear that the hon. members opposite are gaining any credence with this screwy interpretation they putting out because there has not been a peep in the press about it, has been totally ignored. However, if we ignore their screwy interpretations it may be picked up at some point in time and then, of course, we will have the battle of trying to get a pre-conception out of the public mind.

MR. J. CARTER:

Would the minister permit a question?

DR. COLLINS: Of course.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER:

I think this analogy is a good one. In other words, let us say you have a family of half a dozen children, one boy and, say, five girls, and the boy eats his fill, all he can eat. Then you say as a sensible parent, now, the rest of the family can eat their fill but the boy cannot have a third or fourth helping until the rest of the family have eaten their fill. That is what Clause 54 says. Is that not correct?

MR. BAKER:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. BAKER:

What was your question?

MR. J. CARTER:

I asked him to confirm my analogy.

DR. COLLINS:

It was a rhetorical question.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

There is no point of order.

DR. COLLINS:

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, it is quite clear that there is a puppet master opposite and the puppet master is saying, "Strait of Belle Isle, you will keep harping on this Clause 54. It does not matter whether there is any sense in what you are saying, you have to keep harping on it."

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Order, please!

The hon. the member's time is up.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Chairman, this has to be the sanctimonious, the most self-righteous government that we ever heard of in this Province, Mr. Chairman. They can do no wrong. Now, why is it they can do no wrong? Why is it they can do no wrong, they can do nothing irregular? Everything they do is right according to the law. Mr. Chairman, ministers can statements and retract them, and reverse positions. There

nothing wrong with that. The Cabinet can make decisions and ministers can go out into the highways and byways and tell people that they disagreed with the Cabinet position. The ministers can disagree publicly and that is all fine. The Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) can blame the brewery strike on the union and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Blanchard) can say, 'No, no, it is not the union.' Everything goes with this government, Mr. Chairman. Everything and anything goes with this government.

MR. W. CARTER: All things to all people.

MR. LUSH:

The Auditor General can name the laws that they are breaking, say that they are spending monies that are not appropriated properly, and they can say no, there is no wrong. The Auditor General can say they are spending monies that are not voted in the Legislature, and, Mr. Chairman, they can say that is not wrong. They can justify just about anything. They can flaunt their own conflict of interest laws, they can flaunt all of these laws, and still it is right. They can flaunt their own tendering laws, as the Auditor General has indicated in the past year with respect to the acquisition of ferries, and still, Mr. Chairman, everything is right. Anything they do, there is no way they can go wrong. Why is that, Mr. Chairman? Why is it that they can act so self-righteous and so sanctimoniously? Mr. Chairman, it relates to arrogance.

They have forgotten, Mr. Chairman, that they have been elected, they think they have been anointed. We

have to remind them from time to time, Mr. Chairman, that they have been elected and are responsible to the people of this Province through this Legislature. They are not permitted to flaunt their own laws; to flaunt the conflict of interest laws and to flaunt The Public Tendering Act of this Province. They can do all of that.

They are supposed to act in accordance with British Government and with the rules and laws established with parliamentary Cabinet that has grown out of the British system. But no, Mr. Chairman, there is no such thing as solidarity and collective responsibility, they can go off in every which way and still justify their own actions.

Ministers can make contradictory statements. The Premier can say that say that ILO is a left wing organization and we are not going to be governed by them, and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Blanchard) can say 'No, we are going to look at it. If somebody says there is something wrong with the labour laws in this Province, we are going to look at. What contradiction, Mr. Chairman! There has been no government that has existed like this one before. They have become arrogant and they have become inebriated with power, Mr. Chairman. And we can remind them of this but it still does not help. Because once you become obsessed with this disease, once you have become so arrogant, there is no way to correct it. It is only the elector who will correct this government, Mr. Chairman, and I am sure that will be done.

Mr. Chairman, as I say, they allocate funds when they are not allowed to do it. We were dealing with a situation just recently in

the Public Accounts Committee with respect to the allocation of funds municipality Province, over \$200,000 of funds granted against the laws of this Legislature. But they will justify that, Mr. Chairman, because this Legislature means nothing to them, it means nothing to them at all.

Mr. Chairman, it is a government that is adrift, a government without any direction. They have no plans. They are in the same boat with Christopher Columbus. Remember Christopher Columbus? When Christopher Columbus got in his boat to sail West, his yacht, schooner, barge or whatever it was he was in, he did not know where he was going, when he got there he did not know where he was, and when he sailed back home, he did know where he had been.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is the same position of this government. They are in a state of confusion. They are caught up day after day contradictions and irregularities - Cabinet ministers not knowing how where they stand, not knowing how to deal with the problems that they are facing, not able to stand up to the decisions that they made collectively. So they go out, Mr. Chairman, with the electorate and try to duck out from under this collective responsibility and try to get excused by saying, 'Oh, disagreed with that in Cabinet, but that is the way it went. You know, I disagree with it, I support your stand.' And with ministers contradicting each other publicly, it is no wonder, Mr.Chairman, that the people have lost confidence in this government since the election. It is no wonder they have no respect for this government, Mr. Chairman, no

confidence! How can they have confidence when the Premier asked for a mandate to create jobs? How can they have respect for and confidence in this government when the Premier asked for a mandate to create jobs? Where are the jobs? Has the unemployment rate changed substantially? Ask the people where the jobs are! Ask them! The people who call me day after looking for jobs, Chairman, they do not know where they are. And people call my office day after day asking what time the programmes are going to be approved, the Canada Strategy Jobs Development programme, what time that is going to approved. That is the only thing they have to look forward to. minister beats his breast about 5,000 jobs! How much did the labour force grow? He neglected to tell us that, Mr. Chairman.

Now, I wonder what the Premier is going to be doing next week at the First Ministers' Conference? heard about the other Premiers. We heard about the Maritime Premiers. And I can assure you, if this were а different government we would have been hearing about what the Premier is going to be doing. If this were a couple of years ago we would have been hearing what the Premier is doing. He would have been on the news media sabre-rattling prattling and prating condemning this policy and that policy. He would be telling the people what his presentation would be at the First Ministers' Conference. We have not heard a We have heard that the word. Maritime Premiers are going to form a united front to fight and condemn federal cutbacks in their provinces. They are saying there any cutbacks are that Maritime Canadians are not going

to be afforded the same kinds of services or the same kinds of living standards as other Canadians.

How about this Province? Is the Premier going to join in with the Maritime coalition, with the Maritime Premiers, and make it an Atlantic coalition? Does the Premier not believe that there is strength in numbers? So is the Premier going to strengthen his position and the position of the people of this Province by joining in with his colleagues, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Lee, and make it truly an Atlantic coalition, or is the Premier going to go it alone as he has been doing?

MR. CHAIRMAN (Greening): Order, please!

The hon. member's time is up.

MR. KELLAND:

By leave!

MR. LUSH:

Just to finish, Mr. Chairman. If the Premier is going to go it alone as he has been going, I remind him of the old adage about the banana. When the banana got removed from the bunch it got skinned.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

I would like to remind all hon. members that we have three questions for the Late Show, one to the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth (Mr. Matthews) by the hon. the member for Stephenville (Mr. K. Aylward), one to the Premier by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, and one to the President of the Executive Council (Mr. Marshall) by the hon. the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter).

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Shall the resolution carry?

MR. FUREY:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for St. Barbe.

MR. FUREY:

My speech is to allow the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Lush) to continue on.

MR. MATTHEWS:

He spoke.

MR. FUREY:

A new speech! A new speech!

MR. J. CARTER:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

On a point of order, the hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. FUREY:

A point of order?

MR. J. CARTER:

Yes, on a point of order. It does not matter if nobody rose on this side. The point is that the person cannot succeed himself. The hon. gentleman did not say anything, so, therefore, having not begun his speech, he could not finish it.

MR. FUREY:

Mr. Chairman, to that point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, the hon. the member for St. Barbe.

MR. FUREY:

My speech was to allow the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Lush) to get up on a new speech. So I ended my speech.

MR. J. CARTER:

That is not a speech, Mr. Chairman, that is a contempt of Parliament, an attempt to blindfold the devil in the dark. That cannot be allowed to stand.

MR. FUREY:

Rule on that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. J. CARTER:

If the Chairman would like to recess the House for few minutes before he rules on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Greening):

To that point of order, I do not have to recess the House. The ruling is that the hon. the member for St. Barbe is correct.

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

That was another attempt by the member for St. John's North to try muzzle and stymie Opposition. Whenever we are here, Mr. Chairman, and we are coming out with some substantive points, when we are getting at information and ideas and concepts to promote the economy of this Province, the hon. member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) does not like it. He cringes at that, Mr. Chairman. He does not want to question this government. He does not want to question them because he believes, too, that they can do no wrong. He is one of those members who believes that this government can do no wrong. He believes that there is no hon. member on the other side who can break the conflict of interest regulations of this Province.

Does he believe, I wonder, that the behavior of his Cabinet

Ministers over recent months fits into that established by British Paliamentary procedure? Does he believe that? The points I have alluded to today, contradictory statements made by ministers in the last little while, now apparent contradictory statements but contradictions, ministers publically contradicting each other as recently as this weekend in respect to the ILO when the Premier discounted completely. This International Labour Organization, which is the watchdog and the protector of worker's rights throughout the industrialized world, the Premier says they are a leftist outfit and he is not going to be concerned about them, he was going to make laws for the benefit of this Province. This reminds one of the lady who was watching the military parade going by, and looking at her son she observed that he was the only one in step.

To be marked throughout industrialized world, to be identified as a Province which has unfair and unjust laws, and the Premier has the audacity and the afrontery to stand up and still say, 'I am still right.' What a sanctimonious and self-righteous and arrogant approach, Chairman: There can be no wrong! The truth of the matter is, Mr. Chairman, this government, as I said, has no sense of direction. They have lost all perspective as to what their responsibilities and obligations are to the people of this Province.

Mr. Chairman, I certainly hope that some of the words that we have said over here, that some of the ideas and some of the suggestions that we have made will certainly stick with hon.

gentlemen and that they will take them seriously and will immediately amend their ways. And with respect to unemployment, that they will immediately bring in some corrective measures.

Mr. Chairman, again I wonder why the minister presented this in secret. Was it not to get caught up in the presentation of other groups? Was it that he did not have the nerve to show up with other groups knowing that this government is the major problem with respect to the lack of employment in this Province? Imagine a minister having the nerve to go before a public hearing, appear before commission and say the problem in our Province is unemployment when they are the people who are supposed to be taking care of it. They were just given a mandate to create jobs. Mr. Chairman, a most unusual mandate to ask for, to create jobs. I mean, people take automatically as responsibility and an obligation of government. But they have said now for eight or nine years, we have been here governing you, we not what know our responsibilities are, we do not know what we should have been doing, but, somehow, we believe we should now create jobs. There was such a hullabaloo created throughout our Province with respect to the outrageous and dispicable high levels of unemployment that finally government realized, 'We believe we have got to do something about this. You know, the people out there are blaming us. They think this is our responsibility. Well, we will go to them and ask them if we can create jobs; we will go to them and ask for the them permission.' Well, the people have given it. The people of this

Province gave their vote willingly to the Tory Party, now it is up to this party to measure up to the expectations of the people of this Province. But, Mr. Chairman, to this date they have done absolutely nothing, they have not made a dent with respect reducing the levels unemployment in this Province. will say again, because hon. ministers love to get up and talk about plans for the future, plans for three years down the road, and all the jobs that the offshore is going to create and they get up, Mr. Chairman, and wallow in these vagaries and generalities. I say to them now, if they have a plan, they have a systematic, methodical plan of a job strategy in this Province, they can tell the people they have it announcing to the people this plan and telling them how they plan to systematically drop the levels of unemployment in this Province over the next one year or two years. They can tell the people this. They can say, 'We have employment strategy and over the next few years we plan diminish, we plan to reduce the rate of unemployment by these percentage points. In October of 1986, instead of the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate being 20 per cent, ladies and gentlemen, people of Newfoundland, workers of Newfoundland, next October, 1986, we will reduce that by 5 per cent and it will be 15 per cent. the following October, 1987, we plan to reduce that by a further 4 per cent or 5 per cent and it will be ten per cent. We plan to do this until we have arrived at our target, until we have arrived at our goal of what we believe is an acceptable rate of unemployment for this Province.' What is their acceptable rate? Have they said? It would appear that it is 20 per

cent. The Premier beats his chest at 18 per cent. Last month he was beating his chest. The Minister of Development (Mr. Barrett) -

MR. J. CARTER: (Inaudible).

MR. LUSH:

I do not know what the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) is prating about over there, Mr. Chairman, but he is not going to interfere with me. I am going to carry on. It is getting to him, because he knows, he is aware that his government, that his party is doing nothing. All they are doing, Mr. Chairman, is trying to bluff the people of this Province. Well, let them do what I have said and then clearly the people of this Province will believe that this government has an employment strategy.

MR. J. CARTER:

His time is up, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Greening): Order, please! The hon. member's

time is up.

MR. LUSH:

Give them some hope, give them some optimism, Mr. Chairman.

By leave?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Yes, By leave.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

No. No.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Leave is granted.

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Chairman, let the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins), let the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies (Mr. Power), or the minister of whatever, I do not care which minister does it, let that minister stand in his place tomorrow morning, Friday, a great time to make Ministerial Statements because they are played all over the weekend, let the Minister of Finance, let the Premier, let the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies, it does not matter which minister, let him stand here in his place tomorrow and announce that employment strategy for this Province with its specifics.

MR. MATTHEWS:

You are putting on weight.

MR. LUSH:

Losing weight as a matter of fact, I am down eight pounds.

I will tell you, Mr. Chairman, if I were on that side I would not be overweight, because I would lose weight from staying up at night biting my fingernails and scratching my head and searching for ideas to try and do something for the people of this Province.

God knows I am up late enough now, Mr. Chairman, but I have little influence. That is one of the strange things about democracy, the Opposition can be a frustrating place to be, particularly when you have an arrogant government. Now, if you do not have an arrogant government and Parliament operates the way that Parliament is supposed to operate, and government operates the way it is supposed to operate, then it is not too bad. But when you have an arrogant government, a government that is sanctimonious

and self-righteous, they think that anything they do is right, they take no guidance, no direction, no suggestions, well, Mr. Chairman, your job is very complex and complicated, indeed.

But, Mr. Chairman, this is the most important issue that we are going to be dealing with. It is the most important issue for any namely, parliament, creating employment for its people. this government, they do not want to hear about employment, because they know they have strategies. So the minister comes in and reads the statistics. He only reads them when they are good.

AN HON. MEMBER:

If they were not good he would not read them.

MR. LUSH:

Oh, no. They are so desperate now they have no perspective, they do not know what is good or what is bad. If it moves up half a point it is good, to them. So they come in and they read out, 'There are 1,000 jobs more in the labour force, there are 5,000 more', when we have got to talk about 30,000 just to bring the levels of employment up to tolerable and acceptable proportions.

does, What the minister no prescription, no cure - he reminds me of a doctor when he is seeing a sick patient. A patient goes to the doctor sick and wants to be cured. All the doctor does is take the patient's temperature and say, 'Yes, your temperature is high. home and see what will happen.' That is analogous to the situation of the minister bringing in these statistics. And they are always going to change, Mr. Chairman, from month to month, nothing to do with the minister, nothing to do with him at all. There are some companies out there taking on a few people, logging contractors taking on a few people and a few other contractors taking on a few people, nothing related to the initiative of this government, nothing. When the government takes initiative we will see employment going to the five-figures situation.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Tell us the Liberal plan.

MR. LUSH:

The Liberal plan? If the member wants to hear something about the Liberal plan, this is the way it will go, Mr. Chairman. We will develop to the maximum all of the resources of this Province. will bring in more effective and efficient policies with respect to the fisheries of this Province. We will ensure that fish plants are kept open and fishermen and fish plant workers are working. We will bring in a forest management programme that will employ thousands of people throughout this Province. We will work in the area, Mr. Chairman, of tourism. We have the plans, Mr. Chairman - full development of the natural resources of this Province.

How about agriculture? When was that mentioned in this Province?

MR. PATTERSON:

How about the resettlement?

MR. LUSH:

The resettlement programme that this party had was to bring people to this Island. The resettlement programme that the members opposite had is to relocate them to Alberta.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:

The member asked the right question. Did he not hear young people last night asking for a ticket? Did he not hear them asking for a ticket? They wanted money for a ticket to get out of Newfoundland, to go to mainland. That is the resettlement programme. At least the resettlement programme of the Liberal government had heart, it had sensitivity. We did not want them to move away from this Island. The resettlement programme now in existence is to take them away from this Island, resettle them on the mainland of Canada or in places in Europe and the United States.

MR. PATTERSON:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. PATTERSON:

Chairman, the type resettlement the hon. member of is a voluntary resettlement, people leaving A and going to B, leaving Newfoundland and going to Alberta. For hundreds years Newfoundlanders Newfoundland and went to Boston. They went to New Bedford and they built up the state there. type of resettlement I referred to was the forced resettlement, where people were robbed and plundered and pillaged by the Liberal government, where they were forced out of their homes with a carrot and a stick and given a couple of thousand dollars to move from one part of Bonavista Bay to another. And they were financed. How were they financed? By the heartless banks and the faceless finance companies. That is how it was done. They were robbed, pillaged and plundered by the Liberals, and that is the type of thing you are supporting.

MR. HISCOCK:

To that point of order, Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, the hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chairman, with regard to resettlement being voluntary, the member for Placentia (Mr. Patterson) said, when you live in a community where there is 80 per cent or 90 per cent unemployment and there are no prospects of getting employment, you have to get out. Not only that, we have forced resettlement in Province. In my own district in particular, in Pinsents Arm and Norman Bay, the communities do not even have electricity, the schools do not even have lights, you are closing down clinics, closing down senior citizens home, and opening up the fish plants, getting into rural development; This is what this government has done.

not going to support resettlement in any way, but one of the things that resettlement did is bring people into growth areas. Marystown is an example, Arnold's Cove is another example, St. Anthony was another Placentia was another. Even to this day we hear the Premier and we hear minister after minister after minister getting up saying, "We cannot give our people all the things that they need in this Province because we are too spread out." I will say to the member for Burin - Placentia West (Mr. Tobin), when it comes to

resettlement, at least the Smallwood administration was up front and took the knocks about it. Whereas this government is deceptive and cruel by letting the people stay where there are and not giving them services and forcing them away so they have got to move away to the Mainland or they have got to settle for reading their books by oil lamps, or drive fifty or sixty miles to the nearest clinic. That is the difference, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order, there was no point of order.

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Chairman, I just again want to comment. There was illustration again of what I have been saying, 'we can do no wrong. We can force the people out of this Province, we can force them in the most insidious and blatant way and it is still right - force the people out of this Province to Alberta and to other parts of Canada.' Mr. Chairman, there is one thing I am proud of as a Newfoundlander is that we have a Canada for them to go. That is one thing I am proud of as a Newfoundlander, that they can go to Alberta, that they can go to Saskatchewan.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

The hon. members time is up, the leave is withdrawn.

Shall the resolution carry?

MR. BAKER:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Gander.

MR. BAKER:

I just have a few brief comments to make. There is not much time left. Actually what happened is one of the hon. members sitting in this House indicated to me a little earlier that before we were to conclude anything on this Bill, if we were, in fact, going to conclude, he wanted to get a few words in. So I will yeild to the member for Twillingate. You did not want to speak? Okay, I know both of you wanted to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Shall the resolution carry then?

MR. GILBERT:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir.

MR. GILBERT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I was so taken up and interested in the speech by my colleague for Bonavista North (Mr. Lush) that I did not realize that I was going to have to speak this afternoon because I thought that he was doing such a wonderful job and I thought that everybody here would have been enlightened by remarks. I am only sorry that he did not continue on because I can assure that it was something that we needed to hear here in this House. A speech like that we do not usually get a chance to hear this late in the day. It is usually earlier in the day when the press are around that you get this sort of thing.

Anyhow, as we spoke on this today we had an interesting little thing that happen here when we heard the hon. President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) get up and answer a question from my colleague for Windsor - Buchans (Mr Flight) concerning the appointment Cabot Martin. As he went on to enlarge on his qualifications and stuff like that I was thinking at the time that the only other Cabot that I had ever heard that had the qualifications was the fellow by the name of John Cabot who gets credit for discovering Newfoundland. I do not know if that is the case with him, that he has a lot of those qualities, but it seems to me that when I first used to heard about him he was an expert on fisheries, they were telling us. He was the person who was brought in to be the expert on fisheries for Newfoundland. Now we find that he is an expert on oil. So a man with qualifications and characteristics, as the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) says, we should be proud to have him. He went on so far as to say that if he was not from Newfoundland, we would not have questioned his appointment. seemed to me that only a week or so ago we were questioning the appointment of another expert on oil, only this time he was coming from a place called Alberta, a man by the name of Lougheed.

I am sure we are seeing people appointed and hired on retainers and all that sort of thing like this other or another expert on oil. It seems to me that we have heard the salary that they were going to pay Mr. Lougheed, they are going to pay him \$40,000 a year, I think, as a retainer. The hon. members opposite we did not get the details as to whether

there were expenses included in this \$40,000 or was he going to pay for his own expenses. wonder if the party that was held over at the Arts and Culture Centre, if that was paid for out of his expenses or again is that something that was picked up by the taxpayers' of Newfoundland? It seems to me when we appoint those experts and we take them on retainers,-

AN HON. MEMBER:

It seems to go a little deeper.

MR. GILBERT:

Yes, it seems to go a little deeper then. What it starts out at first, when we say first that it is \$40,000, it grows to \$80,000 or \$100,000 or \$200,000 when you take into consideration expenses.

I suppose the only really good thing that we can say about this as far as members opposite are concerned is we realize now that patronage is alive and well and flourishing. We were aware that, we heard all about it and with those appointments and people resigning from salary jobs so they can be hired back as employees or as contract people at exorbitantly hourly fees and trips to Japan and places like that, it is sort of I know a lot interesting. people whom I know who unemployed in Newfoundland would be only too happy to have a job. They would not want the perks like the trips to Japan and things like that thrown in.

I think in this House or in this government we have seen patronage sink to a new low. We hear the government departments, for their Summertime relief jobs, do not go through Canada Manpower Centres that are situated in places like

Burgeo and all those places. They have one of the backbencher's phone a Tory supporter in Burgeo and say he is calling on behalf of the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) and there is going to be a job done on a park in Burgeo. They tell him instead of going through Manpower to tell this good Tory supporter there to go out and hire three of his relatives or go out and hire someone of his choice, instead of using Manpower.

I know that there is a certain amount of patronage associated with politics, but when it reaches the level of the students this is where -

AN HON. MEMBER: Kiddy patronage.

MR. GILBERT:

Kiddy patronage. This is where we have some questions about it. I think the members opposite should have a look at that. Maybe next year instead of hiring, when you have thirty or forty kids in a community like Burgeo who want jobs so that they can go on to higher or post-secondary education that they be given a chance fairly through Manpower, instead of saying if there father was a Tory, they do not get a job. This seems to me to be -

DR. COLLINS:

Would the hon. member permit a question?

MR. GILBERT:

Are we going to vote? No. I think we have reached a new low in patronage and I feel it is something that we should have a look at. As my colleague for Bonavista North (Mr. Lush) when he started off in his great speech today, he talked about the

arrogance of members there and they are ruling by divine rights instead of realizing that they are elected. I feel quite sure that this is something the people of Newfoundland will call upon them to answer the next time we go to the polls.

I move the Committee stand as it is five-thirty.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN:
Shall the resolution carry?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

MR. BARRY:

We have not got any indication as to some long term - meaning three or four bills ahead - plan of what we are going to be talking about.

On motion, that the Committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again. Mr. Speaker returned to the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. the member for Terra Nova.

MR. GREENING:

Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has considered the matters to them referred and has directed me to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

On motion, report received and adopted. Committee ordered to sit again on tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER:

It now being five-thirty, a motion to adjourn is deemed to be before the House. There are three questions for debate. The first is from the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. A. Aylward) to the hon. Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth (Mr. Matthews) about the Manitoba Conference on Youth Employment.

The second is from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Barry) who is not satisfied with the reply of the Premier on the Conflict of Interest.

The third is from the hon. the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) to the hon. the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) on Daylight Saving.

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I refer the back to three or four questions I asked the minister earlier today. In my questions to him about his meetings with Rural Development and asking whether or they could look at some development ideas for employment creation, he answered with the mandate of his department as related to youth. I have to ask him again, I would like to know what the mandate is. From what I have read and watched, and I take the estimates here, the statement in the estimates says, as part of their mandate, 'development of the potential for the Province youth is the responsibility of this department.'

So I would only assume from that that the Minister responsible for youth (Mr. Matthews) would be asking questions and trying to promote youth in many different ways. Since unemployment is a major problem I would only assume again - I am sure he is going to give me a positive answer on it -

that he would represent youth in the Cabinet, bringing forward good ideas for job creation, etc. I am sure that when he answers the question he is going to deal with that problem of the mandate. conference last weekend, which was a very good conference I must say - it talked about a number of problems with youth and ideas that they have - he was there as the Minister of Youth. As far as I am concerned if you are going to be there speaking to youth about those problems you must have some good positive suggestions to make. I am sure that you have brought it back to the Cabinet and brought forward some good suggestions.

My question relates the Manitoba Conference. That Conference is going to be held December 4. I have been informed by people who have been trying to get something worked out to go that they have had very, very little to do with the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth in the matter of trying to get something done. I was notified of this by a number of individuals. I think that the minister should be more fully aware of what is going on in his department.

This conference here, which being run by the Manitoba rural youth, is a good conference and, not only that, it is about rural Canada, which is excellent also. think the 4-H members Newfoundland would love to have the opportunity to go. They have asked and I think that they should get the opportunity to go since it is the International Year of the Youth. I am sure the minister is going to take it under consideration and try to something about it. It should have come to his attention before this late date.

Every time I ask a question, half the time, it is like I have to look into the matter or try to find some information. I just wish that maybe you would do more reading on your own, especially on the youth part because that, right now, is probably the biggest major problem we have. If you do not consider your mandate as dealing with youth or having to promote their interests, then I am sorry. I think that is your mandate and you should do the job.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if that was a question or if I just received a lecture from the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. K. Aylward). I just want reiterate a few points I made to him earlier. As I said, I, as Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth, am very, very concerned about employment and unemployed among the youth in our Province. We are involved with supporting financially, and otherwise, youth serving agencies in this Province to the tune of some \$595,000 this fiscal year.

With regard to his comments about the Manitoba Youth Conference, that conference was being organized by a group in Manitoba. They had applied to the Secretary of State and some other federal agencies for funding. They made contact initially with Rural Development asking for the names of ten people from Newfoundland to the conference. Rural Development turned their request

over to the Youth Services Division of my department and we co-operated on the matter. Then we find out that not only were we expected to provide ten names of youth delegates to go to Manitoba, but now we are expected to fund the ten youth delegates to the tune of \$800 per delegate for a total cost of \$8,000.

Now, the situation is, Mr. Speaker, when the hon. gentleman asked his question he made it sound like, as he said, we had bumbled. Now, I just want to say to him that when you are dealing with a department, you have subheads and budget allocations. If you get something as unexpected as this request, it is very difficult to find \$8,000 within three or four days notice.

I just want to say to him that while I consider the conference to be a very worthwhile one, I have been in touch with my department and officials since this request, of course, to get the information I have now relayed to this House, and to the process that has been involved and why the problem has occurred. The problem occurred, Mr. Speaker, because there was a short fall in the federal funds which the organizing group thought would be sufficient to cover the cost of transporting the people from throughout the country to Manitoba. Such is not the case and now the Newfoundland delegates are expecting us to fund them at \$800 per individual to a total cost of \$8,000.

I have asked the officials to have a look at it, Mr. Speaker. I do not want to be dishonest or to mislead anyone here but for me to find \$8,000 today is going to be very, very difficult. The time of the year with regard to fiscal

responsibilities and fiscal allocations it is going to be very difficult.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, the Premier has apparently changed the policy of his administration and lowered the standards with respect to conflict interest by changing the definition of conflict of interest which is supposed to apply. I have tabled in this House the following definition, "Conflict of interest may be defined as a situation in which politicians and public servants have an actual or potential interest (usually financial) that may influence or appear to influence the conduct of their official duties." Now, on November 8, 1982 the Premier was in agreement with this definition.

He said, "It is one thing to be just. It is another thing to be perceived to be just and here we are taking tangible concrete action to insure that potential conflict of interest situations which come up for ministers daily and weekly, and for public service daily and weekly, are covered by some kind of guideline."

Mr. Speaker, the Premier thereby confirmed, as any reading of the Conflict of Interest Act and regulations will confirm, that the potential for a clash between private and public interests is every bit as much a conflict of interest as is actual wrongdoing.

Mr. Speaker, we have laid upon the table of this House, and we will continue to do so, a number of

incidents which set out clearly that there are three issues here. Number one, has there wrongdoing? Has there been an actual conflict? There has been actual conflict, Mr. Speaker, acknowledged by the minister himself when it comes to his supporting a review of the Bell Island ferry rates, when he is acting for the company. There is an actual conflict, Mr. Speaker, when the minister's law firm is appearing before the landlord and tenants board and the minister is in Cabinet, Mr. Speaker. There is an actual conflict, Mr. Speaker, with respect to Petro-Canada when the minister has admitted that his firm is acting while he negotiating on matters that relate to Petro-Canada or to a related company, and we have both, Mr. Speaker. The Premier does answer it by saying it is only a small transaction or it is only a single transaction or it only relates to gas stations. minister is obtaining legal fees while Petro-Canada will affected by decisions which he may take in Cabinet. Now there we have actual conflict.

In terms, Mr. Speaker, of potential conflict, we have whenever the minister is in Cabinet and taking decisions, and the Premier said as long as he does not know what his law firm is doing, there can be no conflict.

I have to bring the Premier back to his earlier definition in 1982 with respect to the appearance. Is the Premier going to stand up and say that things look right if decisions are taken in Cabinet with the minister participating, relating to transactions that affect the minister's law firm's clients just because the minister does not know that his partners

are out there obtaining legal fees from those individuals and those clients?

The third issue, Mr. Speaker, has to do with effectiveness. Is the minister fulfilling his duty and regardless, Mr. Speaker, if he is being paid full salary or half salary, is he fulfilling his duty, Mr. Speaker, if he has to continuously absent himself?

[FIRE ALARM SOUNDED]

MR. BARRY:

We will agree with that, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, I think I have pretty well covered everything, if I just could finalize. I would like to ask the Premier to give us his definition of Conflict of Interest and to show how his statements today, and in previous days, can be consistent with the position that he took in November, 1982, and have him state clearly whether or not he has now embarked upon a procedure of lowering the standards to be applied with respect to conflict of interest in this Province.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, over the last number of weeks we have heard from the Leader of the Opposition on this matter. Mr. Speaker, we have noticed on this side of the House and a lot of people whom I have talked to from Catalina to Bay

d'Espoir to Grand Falls in the last four or five days have noticed that the Leader of the Opposition has suddenly moved off this business of actual conflict of interest and is now getting into potential conflict of interest and is starting to split hairs over this whole question of potential versus actual. He has had to move back. I have listened and heard what the Leader of the Opposition has tried to do, as well as the Opposition, as it relates to various conflicts of interests. Mr. Speaker, I have tried to run a very honest and efficient administration and the Leader of the Opposition knows that from the days when he was a member of my Cabinet. He knows that only too well.

If the Leader of the Opposition wants to start splitting hairs and talking about potentials, when the Leader of the Opposition was a Minister of the Crown, his law firm acted for the Eastern Tenancies Board in 1973 and Mr. Fred Bishop -

MR. BARRY:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

The reason I rise on a point is because the Premier threw that across the House earlier today and I pointed out to the Premier that I was not practicing, Mr. Speaker.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Your name was on the door so there is a potential conflict of interest.

MR. BARRY:
Oh, come on!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

And you were in Cabinet at the time.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, if the Premier is saying that there is no difference between a Cabinet Minister retaining an active practice, participating in the fees that are made by a law firm and a minister who has removed himself from practice and does not participate in those fees, let him say so clearly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

To that point of order, the hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The idea that the Leader of the Opposition is trying to get across because he cannot prove actual conflict of interest now relates to perception. Here was the Leader of the Opposition, a Member of Cabinet, and one of the members of his law firm had his name on the door in Marystown at the time. His name was on the door, and people were coming to his law

firm because his name was on the door.

Another person who worked on his campaign, Leo Walsh, was a member of that board too and the Leader of the Opposition was a member of Cabinet in 1973. If that is not a perception of a conflict of interest - potential Mr. Speaker, not actual, potential perception out there in the marketplace - then I would like to know what is.

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MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

To that point of order, there is no point of order. It is a difference of opinion between two hon. members.

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Leader of the Opposition can get up and talk about potential. The hon. Leader of the Opposition wrote a letter to the Ocean Ranger families on House of Assembly stationary and put the law firm's phone number on it. Is that conflict of interest, Mr. Speaker?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. BARRY:

On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

On a point of order, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, the Premier knows that that matter was dealt with by

the Law Society.

AN HON. MEMBER:

But not by the people of Newfoundland.

MR. BARRY:

Yes and dealt with by the people of Newfoundland because after the Premier's friends tried to smear me with that during an election campaign, I went out and got re-elected, Mr. Speaker. Let the Premier deal with all the facts, including that the Law Society of this Province dealt with this issue.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. BARRY:

Yes, where is the potential, Mr. Speaker? I was not a Cabinet Minister, Mr. Speaker! Mr. Speaker, we have heard the Premier talk about this letter and he did not have the guts before to stand up. He is now, Mr. Speaker, in a fit of savage desperation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker. My time is being taken. I never interrupoted the hon. member.

MR. BARRY:

I will make it a point of personal privilege if you want to.

Mr. Speaker, what we have here is the lashing out of the rat that is cornered.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. BARRY:

That is what we have here now 'Brian'.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Name him, name him!

MR. FUREY:

Ask your Minister of Justice about the Law Society?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I have not finished.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I would ask that we have silence by other members. The hon. member has not quite finished.

MR. BARRY:

No, I have not quite finished. What we see here, Mr. Speaker, is a typical tactic of desperation. When the Premier leaves the Government House Leader to defend himself, Mr. Speaker, stays out of the House for three days and tries to have the Government House Leader clear the air and realizes that has not been done, then we see the tactics of desperation that the clean Premier of this Province will resort to.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I am just trying to let the hon. the Leader of the Opposition speak at length a bit because I was trying to get the point of order he was making. To my mind, there is no point of order.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Speaker, it is just a tempestuous personality of a jealous man. That is what it is, Mr. Speaker. If the Leader of the Opposition wants to talk about potential conflict of interest, let him clean up his own house first before he starts making allegations at this side of the House.

Then the hon. member has got the nerve and the audacity, led by the Leader of the Opposition, to talk about Cabot Martin and the money that he is getting, the high salary that he is getting. The Leader of the Opposition did not do too bad.

MR. BARRY:

We will talk about (inaudible) tomorrow.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The Leader of the Opposition did not do too bad when he was hired by the Department of Justice in 1976 to advise on the Companies Act, one piece of legislation, and he received \$50,000 from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The Companies Act had to go to Select Committee afterwards because it was only a copy of the Ontario Act and he got \$50,000 for it. I am afraid the Leader of the Opposition should make before he starts throwing stones, that his own house is in order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I did rule that there was no point of order but then I acknowledged the hon, the Premier who speak. So I think it is only right that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition should further.

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Premier would care to inform the House whether or not it was not a fact, Mr. Speaker, that there was over two years work that went into that piece of legislation. Would the Premier care to table for information of this House the number of hours that went into it, Mr. Speaker, the amount of time that went into it and we will see then whether that compares with a potential, what is it, \$300,000 a year we are talking about for Mr. Martin.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. BARRY:

You have a meeting alright Brian. especially when you are wiped out.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The hon. the member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker, now for something completely different.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. J. CARTER:

It is not that I am dissatisfied with the answer I got this afternoon; in fact, I am more dissatisfied with the question. I should have made the question more broad and I want the topic to be discussed in its widest possible aspects. I do not think there is any conflict of interest here.

If, for instance, shops were open twenty-four hours a day and if we were all self-employed, I suppose the time the clock read would not make any difference. But that is not the case, of course, and neither should it be. So I feel the clocks should be adjusted so that everyone gets his fair share of daylight. Daylight in the Summertime comes at something like 3:30 in the morning, and nothing but the most inveterate night owls are up at 3:30 in the morning. And yet, it appears that because of our habits, a lot of us are up at 10:00 at night certainly, in the Summer, and yet it is pitch dark. So I think it behooves us. perhaps to even alter Newfoundland Standard Time because they say the world will come to an end at 9:00, 9:30 in Newfoundland. Perhaps we should go the extra half hour and make ourselves a full hour different from the mainland of Canada.

On the other hand, the main point that I wish to make is that the introduction of Daylight Savings a couple of months earlier in the year would save us a great deal in electrical power, I believe. And, of course, the minister has pointed out that his department is already trying to put some numbers in place there.

I would add two points: one is that it is possible, quite likely, in fact, that the United States is going to embark upon Daylight Savings two months ahead of the usual time, that is, sometime in February or early March; and also I would point out that it is very, very easy, if we have made a mistake, to just put the clocks back again. It is something that

is very easily done and it should not cost anyone anything. I invite the minister to comment on those points.

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

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment on the fact that the hon. gentleman is dissatisfied with his question and dissatisfied obviously, with himself. You know, I cannot really help that. All I can say is that it is a matter that the hon. gentleman has brought before the House. It is a matter of energy, and I can only quote the immortal words that were spoken before by the former, Premier, who is a great friend of the hon. gentleman, in quoting that great statesman, Sir Winston Churchill, when he talked about the Upper Churchill. I think he said it was a great imperial concept. It is a great imperial concept. It will bring us closer to Britain in time, and I think, Mr. Speaker, that it probably merits some investigation.

I do not want to treat lightly. I mean, the gentleman has brought up a matter that has been mentioned from time to time by people on this side of the House and when we were in Opposition, most notably, I think, by Mr. Ank Murphy, a former minister in this House. tell the hon. gentleman that when he asked the question we looked into it and we are in the process of doing it now through Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. I look forward to a dialogue with him and then, if we can come up with something that merits public notice or public debate of it, we will be quite happy to bring it to

the public. So it is in embryo, as it were. If it comes about, Mr. Speaker, it will be another great imperial concept but, as with all things with this government, when we embrace great imperial concepts, we are not taking it lightly and we do not give it all away.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

On motion, the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 22, 1985 at 10:00 a.m.

L3490 November 21, 1985 Vol XL Index

Answers to Questions

tabled

November 21, 1985

Tubled by the Hon. The President of the Council Nov. 21/8.

CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND REPRESENTED BY THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM MARSHALL, MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PETROLEUM DIRECTORATE, AND MR. CABOT MARTIN, BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR, OF ST. JOHN'S.

- It is agreed that Mr. Cabot Martin will render such legal and other advice to the Minister Responsible for the Petroleum Directorate as requested from time to time on the implementation of the Atlantic Accord and the development of the Hibernia Oil Field at a rate of \$150.00 per hour.
- 2. It is further agreed that all reasonable expenses for travel, long distance calls or similar expenses incurred by Mr. Martin in the course of the preparation and rendering of such advice shall be reimbursed by the Province.

DATED this 23 day of September, A.D., 1985 at St. John's, Province of Newfoundland.

CABOT MARTIN

Barrister and Solicitor

WILLIAM MARSHALL, Q.C. Minister Responsible for the Petroleum Directorate