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Speaker: Honourable P.J. McNicholas

Friday

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The House met at 10:00 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER (McNicholas):
Order, please!

Statements by Ministers

MR. MATTHEWS:
Mr. Speaker,

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies.

MR. MATTHEWS:
Mr. Speaker, on February 3 of this year, I participated in a joint announcement with the Secretary of State, the hon. David Crombie, concerning a funding agreement for cost-shared projects totalling \$140,000 to reduce the illiteracy rate in our Province. This funding was only for the period from February 3 - March 31, 1988. We are pursuing additional funding through the budgetary process. I would like to make that comment, because the announcement was criticized by the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Decker) who said the funding was insignificant and not enough.

Included in the projects, approved through this funding, is the establishment of an office of literacy policy within my department. To date, we have appointed as Literacy Policy Advisor, Mr. Wayne Taylor, who will assume his position on April 4 of this year.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform hon. members that I have sent letters to various organizations around the Province inviting them to participate in a number of regional workshops, organized by my department to

develop a unified strategy for improving adult literacy in Newfoundland. The workshops will bring together representatives of groups, agencies, and government departments, in a forum of mutual consultation on literacy.

The overall goal of the workshops, Mr. Speaker, will be to affirm, enhance and link those engaged in the planning and delivery of adult literacy programmes in the Province in order to launch a collaborative effort between the public and private sectors to combat the problem of adult illiteracy.

Workshops will be held at the Central Community College, Grand Falls Campus, April 6; Avalon Community College, St. John's Campus, April 8; Western Community College, Stephenville Campus, April 13; and Labrador Community College, Happy Valley Campus, April 14.

Mr. Speaker, in order to ensure regional input, representatives from various groups and agencies in each region are being invited. Participants of the workshop will help formulate a provincial plan of action with respect to needs assessment, promotional strategies, and professional development and training, with a view toward the establishment of a communications network among interested groups, agencies, and the Department of Career Development and Advanced Studies. The role that each group will play will also be identified. Nominations for membership in a Ministerial Advisory Council on Literacy will be solicited.

A senior official of my department will be in attendance to give the background to this initiative and

the government's commitment to proactive solutions to the problem of adult illiteracy involving the public and private sectors.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first step towards the development of a provincial policy on literacy. Based on the policy recommendations resulting from these consultations, meetings will be held with teachers and tutors and with the most important group of all, users of the programmes.

Follow up with literacy students will be of prime importance and will be the major focus of the next phase of this consultative process.

Mr. Speaker, this is another indication of my Department's commitment to dealing with the problems of adult illiteracy in our Province and a very important step in helping increase the educational levels of undereducated adults.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Strait of Bell Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker, adult illiteracy is an issue which has been highlighted over the past number of months, and rightly so we all agree. Now there has been some confusion over the actual percentage but the fact is, here in Newfoundland we have the highest rate of illiteracy in Canada today. So any action which this government decides to take is by no means too early; this should have been taken quite sometime ago, before we found ourselves in this situation.

Now, back on February 3, as the Minister points out, they did issue a Ministerial Statement. In fact, I have a copy of it right here. It talks about the \$140,000, but it says nothing about a one month period. There is nothing about one month at all. This was their solution to the problem, \$140,000, and they named seven different things which they intended to do, either one of which could have eaten up the whole \$140,000. What happened is they jumped on the bandwagon without planning, Mr. Speaker. In their normal way, they reacted to crises. They jumped on the bandwagon to try to make a few political points and they were shot down for it. They have learned that \$140,000 is not enough. I told them that when they made the statement. I told them that in **The Evening Telegram** a couple of days later: 'The illiteracy grant is tokenism', says Liberal MHA.' The \$140,000 was tokenism. I stand up and I admit that, and they have learned their lesson.

Now, the Minister is going for extra money and I wish him luck, because this issue is so big it requires extra money. I wish him luck, and I will do anything I can to help him when he goes to his colleagues, who do not seem to have the same concern as he allegedly has. They have learned their lesson. I hope he gets more money so that he can address this problem.

But to the hon. Minister and to the other Minister of Education - education has been split up so much there are two, probably three - and to the party as a whole I say that an ounce of prevention is more important in this matter than having to attack the symptom

afterwards. The symptom is there, let us attack it, but let us bring in a solution so that twenty years from now we will still not have the highest illiteracy rate in this Country.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. LONG:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. LONG:

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the statement inasmuch as the minister has finally come into the House and given some indication of what his department is intending to do. It is a very critical issue, which many people in the Province are very concerned about. Sadly, I would say, the statement is not good enough and the programme that he describes is certainly not enough to address the problem.

I welcome the appointment of the policy advisor, Mr. Taylor, whom I happen to know is a very competent individual with a strong record of community education in the Community College out at Stephenville. But I am afraid that what the minister has described here today is simply a consultative process among the agencies to develop a programme. It is not until the last sentence or two of the minister's statement that there is any reference to the users of the programme, and reference to follow-up with literacy students.

What we are seeing here is another attempt, with a minimal amount of funds being made available by the government, \$140,000, to take more

time to examine the problem and discuss delivery of programmes. What the government needs is to put in place a programme to reach people in this Province who need assistance in learning to read and write, and beyond learning to read and write need a full programme of consciousness raising, awareness of the world around them.

All kinds of programmes exist in the rest of the country which people have put in place to help people address the illiteracy problem. I am sorry to say, Mr. Speaker, that what the minister has put before us today is not going to go very far, and it is going to be a long time yet before we can have some indication of a commitment from government to put in place a comprehensive programme. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. RUSSELL:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. minister of Environment and Lands.

MR. RUSSELL:

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to announce that there is a new publication of the old familiar wall map of our Province. This new map, printed at a scale of 1 - 500,000, is published by the Department of Environment and Lands. Previously, maps of this size were published by the federal government, but they have now discontinued publishing these maps.

This map is an up-to-date issue which shows the revisions of the provincial electoral boundaries and includes most forest access roads. It also depicts the provincial wilderness areas and shows the extent of recent hydro developments in the Province.

These revisions were carried out by the Department of Geography of Memorial University and are a good indication of the level of local expertise and technology that is available here. I would also like to point out that staff in the Mapping Division of my Department are considering the creation of a new map of Labrador as well, and a map which will show the Island part of the Province and Labrador at the same scale and on one sheet.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. RUSSELL:
Mr. Speaker, I have arranged to send a copy of this new map to each member of the House. Copies for anyone interested are available from the Mapping Division of the Lands Branch of the Department of Environment and Lands, Howley Building, Higgins Line.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, it is on days like this that I long for a former time, when Ed Roberts was in the House, because on an occasion like this he would say, 'There will be dancing in the streets of Northeast Crouse tonight over that great map announcement.' The map is a good idea.

MR. DINN:
Where is he now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS:
The map is a good idea. I may not convince the gentleman for Pleasantville (Mr. Dinn), but the map is a good idea I say to him. Mr. Speaker, the statement says the department is considering - listen to the wording - considering the creation of a map of Labrador. Well, bully for them! They have not made their minds up yet, but they just might do a map of the other part of this Province, the same old lip service, the same old second-class treatment you get from that crowd all the time about Labrador. And they are going to have it on one sheet, by the way, all on the same sheet; maybe on two sides, mind you, so that they do not have to look at Labrador too often.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
(Inaudible) so you can read it.

MR. SIMMONS:
The wit amazes me this morning, Mr. Speaker.

Finally, Sir, he says it is an up-to-date map. Well, I want to have a look at it first, because I have two telltale tests to determine whether it is up-to-date. If Round Pond Road is on it, as all paved roads should be -

MR. MATTHEWS:
And H and R Block, right?

MR. SIMMONS:
No, the other one, Mr. Speaker, is if that public money incinerator in Mount Pearl, which grows cucumbers as a sideline, is on it.

MR. FENWICK:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon the member for Menihek.

MR. FENWICK:

Mr. Speaker, we also welcome the update of the map of the Island portion of the Province.

Three or three and a half years ago, when I first came into the House, I put a map up on the wall. The most recent one we had was from 1975, so I think from 1975 to 1988 is probably a considerable length of time to go without an update of the map.

Mr. Speaker, I would really encourage the minister to look at the Labrador one, because the most current one we can get for Labrador is dated back in the 1950s, and, quite frankly, it did not even have the changes that occurred to Labrador after the Smallwood reservoir came in. So, rather than just thinking about a Labrador map, I would ask the minister to make a commitment to get it finished as soon as possible so that it, too, is brought up to date. I also approve heartily of the idea of having both parts of our Province on the same sheet and in proportion, so that we can finally get it through people's minds that Labrador is, in terms of geography and landmass, a part of the mainland of Canada with a small island attached to it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, I am doing this under

Statements by Ministers. I will only be three seconds. I have a kit here for the Leader of the Opposition and for the Leader of the NDP Party, pictures of them and cucumbers and tomatoes taken the other night.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

Oral Questions

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker, my question, to the dismay of the Minister of Education (Mr. Hearn), is for the hon. the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Doyle).

The minister is aware of the problem -

MR. DOYLE:

I cannot hear.

MR. DECKER:

It is not my fault, Mr. Speaker, he cannot hear.

The minister is aware of the problem with snow clearing on the tip of the Great Northern Peninsula. He has heard the horror stories about the school in Noddy Bay which has been closed for twenty-three days because of road conditions. He has heard about babies being born in the ambulance on the way to the hospital blocked in the snow banks. He has heard about the Raleigh - Ship Cove road being blocked. He has heard about Cooks

Harbour road being blocked. He has heard about L'Anse-aux-Meadows being blocked. The minister gets up and blames it on the back-to-back snowstorms as if this were a different Winter.

I ask the minister when does he plan to stop trying to justify the department's ineptitude and address the real problem on the Northern Peninsula, which is not enough equipment? The equipment which is already there is old. There is a machine up there twelve years old. And there must be two shifts in order to clear up the snow. When is the minister going to address that problem instead of trying to blame it on the weather, which is normal weather for this time of the year on the Northern Peninsula? It has been like it since the world began.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Transportation.

MR. DOYLE:

Mr. Speaker, I am glad the hon. member asked me that question, because it gives me the opportunity to explain fully what we are doing on the tip of the Northern Peninsula. The fact is the problem is that we are operating in that area this year, an area that has been plagued by back-to-back snowstorms, on the tip of the Peninsula. Our operations out of Cooks Harbour and St. Anthony have 213 kilometers of road to maintain and to clear and to keep passable. You have to understand, Mr. Speaker, that it is a very, very, extremely windy area, and on a number of occasions, over the last few weeks, we have had to take our

equipment off the road, as we had to do two or three mornings ago. Sometimes you will open up fifty feet of road down on the tip of the Peninsula and in less than half an hour it is all blown in again. So we are operating in a very extremely windy area.

Now, to get down to equipment, Mr. Speaker, we do have quite an extensive amount of equipment and employees operating in that area. We have thirty-eight employees out of the Cooks Harbour unit, and we have fifteen employees out of the St. Anthony unit. I think we have something like twenty-one or twenty-two employees. We have an extra four mechanics gone to that area. We have twenty-eight or twenty-nine, pieces of equipment. We have an additional eight or nine snowblowers gone down to the area along with the equipment that we already have at Cooks Harbour and St. Anthony.

We have the airport put on alert and they have three snowblowers down there. They have indicated to us as well that they will make that equipment available to us in emergency situations. But we do have quite amount of equipment down there, Mr. Speaker, more than any other area of the Province right now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle, a supplementary.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is showing in this House he is now becoming familiar with what is

happening up there. He is a new minister in this department, and he is finally becoming familiar. Of course, it is the windiest part of the Province. We know that. We have known that for years. Now the minister knows it. They know it, Mr. Speaker. Now I am asking the minister in light of this revelation - he is admitting that thirty-eight people in Cooks Harbour is not enough; he is admitting that there is not enough people up there, and we know that - is the minister, now that he knows the problem, aware of the problem as he was not before, is he not prepared today to accept that the tip of the Northern Peninsula must be given special consideration when it comes to snow clearing? It cannot be treated like the rest of the Province, it must be given special consideration. Especially, there must be two shifts of employees; if not three, there must at least be two. Is he prepared today to start treating the tip of the Northern Peninsula different from the rest of this Island?

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Speaker, we are very, very well aware of the problem. As a matter of fact what I have been doing over the last couple of weeks on a daily basis is contacting the Area Manager, Mr. Dwyer, getting an update on a daily basis, every single day to ensure that that everything possible is being done to alleviate the problems. As I indicated to the hon. gentleman a moment ago, we have an awful lot

of equipment in that area. As it happens you could have another fifty or hundred pieces of equipment down there and it would not make any difference at all, because we are operating under very adverse and extreme weather conditions, and very extremely windy weather conditions, which makes it impossible sometimes to keep the equipment on the road.

So, Mr. Speaker, everything possible is being done. I know it is frustrating for the people of the area, but I would ask them to be patient and to allow the work to proceed as quickly as we can get it done.

MR. BAKER:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. BAKER:
I have a question for the Premier concerning the Terra Nova Tel situation.

On three previous occasions I indicated to the Premier by letter my concern concerning protection under Term 31 of the Terms of Union.

The Premier responded, not really to me but to the Gander Town Council, with a partial explanation wherein he stated that there is really no protection under Term 31 for two things: One was the continued existence of that business as a Crown corporation and, secondly, no protection in terms of headquarters.

I ask the Premier would he would arrange a briefing or give his approval for a briefing by the Department of Justice officials

and lawyers to explain to me and to go over the reasons behind the statements that the Premier made?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, this falls into same category as the Newfoundland Railway.

I did have a meeting with a number of councillors representing the Gander Town Council, the Deputy Mayor and a number of others. And subsequent to that I had a meeting with representatives of the employees of Terra Nova Tel. I have communicated to them the opinion from our Justice Department that there is no constitutional protection under the Terms of Union for Terra Nova Tel. In other words, it can legally and constitutionally be sold. It comes under Term 31, I guess, and Term 33 in the same way as the railway does: At the date of union, so soon thereafter as practicable, Canada will take over.

It is not very difficult, Mr. Speaker. 'Canada will take over the following services and will, as from the date of Union, relieve the Province' - that was one of the big concerns of the government of the day because the railway was in debt at the time of Confederation and it was a big financial burden on the Province - 'of the public cost incurred in respect of each service taken over.' And, of course: 'a) the Newfoundland Railway, including steam-ship and other marine services; the Newfoundland Hotel, if requested by the government of the Province of Newfoundland within six months; postal and publicly-owned telecommunications services; civil aviation,

including Gander Airport; customs and excise; defence; protection and encouragement of fisheries and operation of bait services; lighthouses, fog alarms.' You see, Mr. Speaker, the thing that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Wells) and some members opposite do not realize; with Terra Nova Tel and the Newfoundland Railway, is that if we had all of the protection that the Leader of the Opposition says we have from the Terms of Union, how come we have not got all of these lighthouses and fog alarms and buoys, 'marine hospitals, quarantine and the care of ship-wrecked crews; public radio broadcasting systems; and other public services'.

And then, Section 33 even talks about bait depots and the motor vessel **Malakoff** and it all comes under the same thing military and naval property and so on.

I would very much like to get that legal opinion from the other side, because if the Leader of the Opposition has a legal opinion on the railway, then he also, because it comes under the same section, has a legal opinion which demonstrates that Terra Nova Tel is publicly owned by the Government of Canada and cannot be sold. It is under the same provision now.

MR. BAKER:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

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

MR. BAKER:

The Premier, Mr. Speaker, is obviously trying to kill time in Question Period. My question was

would he give his approval to my sitting down with officials in the department to discuss the background information concerning this situation and, Mr. Speaker, he has not even begun to answer my question. So I ask the Speaker if he would ask the hon. the Premier to answer my question.

MR. SIMMS:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SIMMS:
Mr. Speaker, clearly the hon. member's point of order is not a point of order. He simply got up to interrupt the Premier, who was giving a very responsible and comprehensive answer, to ask the question once again. That is not a point of order, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure that is the way Your Honour will see it.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

There is no point of order. I would like to point out, though, and I am not referring to this particular answer at all, and ask hon. ministers in answering questions if they would keep their answers as short as possible.

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:
Mr. Speaker, it is sometimes difficult, because we are involved in the Terms of Union, we are involved in a complex issue here, and I just wanted to explain to the hon member for Gander that I am coming to the core of his question but I wanted to give it in context. Even without the member for Gander going hither,

thither and you looking for some wild and legal opinions that somehow can sustain the argument that Terra Nova Tel cannot be sold, any person with Grade X111 or Grade 1X can read Term 31 where it says, 'will take over.' That is pretty clear, 'will take over...and relieve.' the debt. It says no more.

But I will take the hon. member's question under advisement and get back to him on Monday, because I think it is important and I think the hon. member, if I may be so bold as to suggest, is sincere in asking his question and trying to get a handle on whether in fact there is any legal provisions here which protect the sale from not occurring. I understand that, and I will, on Monday, give the hon. member a direct answer on his question. As I understand it there is a difference of opinion on the other side. The hon. member for Gander is opposed to the sale of Terra Nova Tel and the Leader of the Opposition, whether it has any legal or constitutional overtones, does favour the sale of Terra Nova Tel. It is something like the Meech Lake where several months ago it looked like the Liberal Party was supporting Meech Lake and now, of course, they are against it. I will get back to the member for Gander on Monday.

MR. W. CARTER:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. W. CARTER:
Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Rideout), and it concerns this year's market for lump roe. In light of reports that last year we

suffered an overproduction of lump roe, which probably will affect this year's market, can the minister confirm those reports and give some indication as to what the prospects are for the lump roe market this year in terms of prices?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Fisheries,

MR. RIDEOUT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The hon. gentleman is certainly absolutely correct. There was a significant overproduction of lump roe in Newfoundland in 1987. There was also good production in Iceland, and, consequently, the marketplace for lump roe, particularly the marketplace in West Germany, is saturated. That, of course, is going to have a depressing affect on the price in Newfoundland this year. We have no idea yet what the final price might be, but certainly there is every indication from talking to the Fishing Industry Advisory Board, from talking to importers in the European community, that because there is still a significant amount of last year's production in the market-place there will be less production bought this year, and it will be bought at a lesser price than it was purchased last year.

MR. W. CARTER:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. the member for Twillingate.

MR. W. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that Iceland, probably one of the largest producers of lump roe, was considering putting on embargo, or

at least reducing the quota this year on the production of it, does the minister see that happening in this Province? And, if so, how will that affect the many thousands of Newfoundland fishermen who, encouraged by last year's big price, are now gearing up and spending considerable sums of money gearing up for the lump roe fishery this year?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Fisheries,

MR. RIDEOUT:

Mr. Speaker, first of all let me tell the hon. gentleman and the House that last year for the first time Newfoundland became the largest producer of lump roe in the world.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT:

We outstripped the Icelandic production significantly last year. Of course, that is probably one of the problems that we are currently facing in the marketplace. Of course, it is not as easy for Newfoundland as a Province to be able to unilaterally introduce export controls as it is for Iceland, which is an independent, sovereign Nation. Iceland is also doing some weird and wonderful things with its currency, in terms of supporting its lump roe and making it more attractive in the European community than Newfoundland can do, because Newfoundland cannot manipulate the value of the Canadian currency. But we are looking at the possibility of having some kind of controls geared towards the marketplace. We are also looking at trying to break into - and I think we ought to be able to do this - the

secondary processing marketplace, particularly in the United States, and we have spent considerable time and money over the last several months with a number of Newfoundland producers, trying to develop caviar packs, final product packs, that could be competitive in the U.S. and competitive in Europe. I mean, if the market is soft and the market requires less lumpfish because of over-production last year, and if the price is down, fishermen are going to suffer in the pocketbook. There is no doubt about that. There is a lot of expectation out there, the hon. gentleman is correct. There are a lot of fishermen going to all parts of the Province and outside the Province to get lumpfish nets, and producers are bringing them in from all over the world, including Iceland. I suppose, on the other hand, the ebb and flow of the fishery is that hopefully there will be a significant improvement in the caplin fishery this year that would hopefully offset some of the decline that I think is going to occur in the lumpfish fishery. But it is going to be a problem. It is going to be a problem of income and a problem of the marketplace correcting itself, there is no doubt about that.

MR. W. CARTER:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. W. CARTER:

In my preamble, I said Iceland was one of the main producers of lump roe, not to take away from Newfoundland.

Mr. Speaker, in light of what the minister has said, in light of

reports that he has now confirmed, does he not think that, in fairness, the fishermen of the Province should be told of what could happen to head off what, obviously, is happening, that they are now spending considerable sums of money buying gear, making gear to get involved in what they think will be a lucrative lump fishery this year?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Fisheries.

MR. RIDEOUT:

Mr. Speaker, I have to take exception to that. The fishermen of the Province know. I mean, every fisherman that I have talked to - and I have talked to hundreds and hundreds so far in 1987 - have said, 'Old man, lumpfish does not look very good this year,' but he is still out buying lumpfish nets. Caplin looks pretty good, though. Cod block is on the slip. The fishermen know, Mr. Speaker; the fishermen's unions know, because they, on a daily and a weekly basis, get the reports from the FIAB. I have said publicly on numerous occasions, interviews with the **Fishermen's Broadcast** and other media, that lumpfish is on a downturn this year. On the other hand, I have said caplin looks a lot better. I am fairly confident from the conversations I have had with fishermen and the representatives of fishermen, that fishermen know exactly what is happening in terms of lump roe.

MR. MORGAN:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Bonavista South.

MR. MORGAN:

Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier.

In light of yesterday's announcement of exploration work to take place this Summer off the coast of Nova Scotia in the oil and gas industry, can the Premier inform the House what the status is now on the White Rose structure with regard to Husky Oil's plan for this year? Will there be exploration this year or not off Newfoundland? And, secondly, on a different structure, the Terra Nova structure, will Petro-Canada be doing any work this year with regard to exploration? And, what other plans, if any, are there to develop the Terra Nova structure?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

I would like to thank the hon. member for Bonavista South for his usual way of being on top of what is going on in the Province, and asking pertinent questions here in the House. Yes, I would like to answer that question that was just posed. I guess the first thing to recognize is that over the last number of years the Nova Scotia situation has not been all that promising. This year, as has been announced, Mobil intends to drill one wildcat well there.

In the Province, we have, I guess, three areas of activity. Number one, I guess we take Terra Nova first. During the winter, Petro-Canada completed, I think it is the C-09 well, which has not been tested, but looks extremely encouraging. This C-09 well was supposed to determine that they had reached the limit of the oil and gas reservoir. It did not do that. As a matter of fact, it extended the limits of that

reservoir and is now showing the Terra Nova field to be much larger than previously anticipated.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

They cannot test now, and ask the Offshore Petroleum Board for approval not to test until later on in the Summer when there was not any ice and the weather is a lot better, so they will be testing C-09.

Subsequent to C-09 and finishing it, and having to wait for tests, they have gone to another location still on what they have considered to be the Terra Nova field to see just how far now the extent of that Terra Nova field is, because it is much larger than previously anticipated, as I said. So, we can see ongoing work on the Terra Nova field and, as indicated in the Throne Speech, Petro-Canada are going out to tenders in April for pre-engineering, design and development of that field. They may be delayed in that now because of the latest information they got out of C-09 and may have to amend their tender and it might be delayed a few weeks because the field is larger than they had previously anticipated and, therefore, the kind of design that is going to be necessary for the development is going to have to change somewhat.

Number two, on Hibernia, Mr. Speaker, discussions are continuing to try to see whether we can get an agreement to go ahead with development. They are continuing at the highest level and, as was indicated in the Throne Speech, we hope to have a resolution of that by June. A very fascinating thing which is

happening, which not too many people have given much notice to, is the exploration that is going on on the White Rose structure. There had been three or four wells drilled on White Rose, they had not been that promising, and suddenly, Husky - Bow Valley with, I think, Gulf, and the other companies that were involved in that consortium penalized out and these two companies moved ahead with a \$40 million - \$45 million programme last Fall and drilled a new well on White Rose. It has not been fully drilled and has not been tested. Some logs have been ascertained to the governments, but it does look very, very promising.

Now, White Rose is only a mile or so away from Crown land, and the Offshore Petroleum Board, with the approval of both governments, are going ahead for a land sale of eighty parcels of land one mile East of where that White Rose discovery is. And the interest in that land sale is quite something.

So, if I can summarize: Petro-Canada is moving towards a developmental prospect on Terra Nova and ongoing exploration; Hibernia is in the last throws of negotiations on the whole White Rose - Crown land sale situation, Husky-Bow Valley will be going back on White Rose this Summer, finishing drilling, doing the testing and announcing results; and there will be Crown land sales in September. So we can look forward to, I would say, after September accelerated exploration activity. Between now and then there will be two or three rigs on Terra Nova, and some work on Hibernia. Mobil might be doing another wildcat. And then accelerated exploration near the end of this year and accelerating

into 1989. Because under the Crown land sale in order to qualify, the way the system works is that the Offshore Petroleum Board will take the best bid. And the best bid is based upon how many wells they will drill on that piece of land that they will get the lease to. So, therefore, we can expect an accelerated amount of exploration activity offshore, some between now and September, accelerated between September and December, and accelerated even more into 1989.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. FENWICK:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Menihek.

MR. FENWICK:

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

As we all know, the problem with youth unemployment is one that every member of this House is very much concerned with. Last year in the budget the government opposite introduced a Youth Entrepreneur Programme designed to help young people get involved in business. My question is to the minister responsible for the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, and it is: Could he give us some update on how well the Youth Entrepreneur Programme is doing in meeting its objectives?

MR. BARRETT:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Development and Tourism.

MR. BARRETT:

Mr. Speaker, the Youth

Entrepreneur Programme through NLDC is just one small element of government's initiatives in the youth employment situation in the Province. Fundamentally, most of the activity relating to youth entrepreneurship and initiative in the private sector last year was as a result of the work programme that was initiated and developed by the Department of Career Development and Advanced Studies. And that programme had an element which triggered in over \$10 million in programmes, primarily through the private sector, which my colleague will probably be able to address in significantly more detail. But a significant proportion of all jobs that were presented to government for approval had to have a significant percentage element of youth participation. So there were several thousand people involved in the youth programme that was administered through that division. The entrepreneurial programme itself, within the structure of Development and Tourism, was primarily targeted at people wishing to start their own independent initiative, not attached to some other employer.

I am personally rather discouraged at the lack of initiative that has been shown throughout some parts of the Province with respect to this kind of individual initiative. I am prepared to accept that a great deal of that lack of activity might have been the result of a programme that had never been introduced before. The kind of thing that we are trying to do is to stimulate this entrepreneurial initiative from the youth of the Province. They were always dependent upon somebody else to take that initiative. As a result of the many meetings that were held by

the Commission on Employment and Unemployment, time after time the answer to the question, Would you consider or have you considered initiating your own work programme?, was always in the negative, no matter where in the Province that question was asked.

So there is an extremely, I think, and timely educational process and information flow that has to be generated throughout the entire senior school programme to encourage the youth of the Province and make them aware that the future of this Province is in entrepreneurial, private sector initiative, and that is where our thrust is. And one would hope, and certainly would expect, that this year the continuation of that programme will see a far greater initiative and effort on behalf of the youth of the Province.

MR. FENWICK:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. the member for Menihek.

MR. FENWICK:

I think that is the best example of not answering a question than I have seen, but at least the minister did admit that it has been disappointing. I think probably a more accurate word would be a total failure.

We have a situation, and I am quoting the minister's own figures for February 3, that indicate that only a little over 10 per cent of the money budgeted in the previous budget has been actually taken up, which means that 90 per cent of the funds, with only two months left in the fiscal year, have not been touched at all. There is no indication even of preliminary

proposals coming in.

My question to the minister is this: Given that the programme is a failure, can he give us some indication of what went wrong with the programme, why is it not being taken up by the young entrepreneurs of the Province, and does he have any plans in the future to put in additional programmes with the budget coming up next Tuesday.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Development and Tourism.

MR. BARRETT:

Mr. Speaker, obviously the member was not listening fully to the explanation I was giving as to the results of the initiatives that were ongoing last year. If one would like to reflect, this initiative was as a result of an announcement in the budget, I think it was April of 1987, and by the time the programme had been developed by Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation we were into June, and in order then to deliver the message across the Province as to the availability, which was done as timely as it could have been, there was no question in my mind, that a lot of people out there who might have had the intuition and the initiative to undertake some project just were not informed in time.

Now, whether the system should be criticized because of that or not I do not know, but we do have a procedure within this governmental structure whereby we do not get programmes going before we budget for them. The fact that we had a 10 or 20 per cent draw down of available funding last year is no reflection, in my view, of what

might occur this year or subsequent years. The whole purpose of our initiative is to bring to the youth of this Province an opportunity and a dedication by government to provide a forum and an opportunity for them to avail of funds to initiate their own business programmes, and this is what is happening here. I would suspect that if the member opposite wanted to look at these numbers this time next year he will see a significant improvement. One of the problems that we had is making sure that NLDC totally changed their direction in terms of their mandate to deliver programmes on behalf of government to the private sector by introducing the Venture Capital Programme, the Youth Entrepreneurial Programme, the Equity Programme, on all of these initiatives were totally different than had ever been applied before. The kinds of concepts that this administration has now put forward for private sector initiative is far greater and better, in my view, than anything across the country. It is the kind of thing that is stimulating job activity, new employment opportunities and new private sector initiatives all over this Province. Never before have we seen the diversity and the amount of activity that we are seeing today.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order please!

The time for Oral Questions has elapsed.

AN HON. MEMBER:

By leave! By leave!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

Before going on to the next item, I have great pleasure in welcoming a large group of students today. They are 100 students from St. George's High School, New Harbour, Dildo, with their teachers Boyd Badcock and George Brown.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

Presenting Reports by
Standing and Special Committees

MR. WINDSOR:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. WINDSOR:
Mr. Speaker, I have to table today three Special Warrants in an amount of \$6,887,400. The first Warrant is for the Department of Rural, Agriculture and Northern Development in the amount of \$487,400. That covers two items under the subheading Financial Assistance To Organizations; \$112,400 is required for the operational costs of the Regional Veterinary College in Prince Edward Island - this Province pays 4 per cent of the operating cost, in accordance with an agreement with the Province of Prince Edward Island - and a further \$375,000 required for the hog and poultry subsidies as a result of low market prices. That brings the total subsidy, Mr. Speaker, up to \$1,875,000 for this fiscal year.

The second Warrant is for the Department of Education. The students in the gallery will be interested. The amount is \$4.9 million. This is an overrun on teachers salaries for this year over which we have no control.

That is a variance of 1.4 per cent over the estimated total. It brings the total cost of teachers salaries for this year to \$344,300,000, Mr. Speaker.

The third Warrant is to the Department of Health in the amount of \$1.5 million which is required for cashflow requirements relevant to the Central Newfoundland Hospital. This is a second one. I tabled one last week for \$2 million, hon. gentlemen will recall. That is a result of the speed in which the contractor is proceeding with that project going ahead very well. I am sure the President of the Council (Mr. Simms) is delighted to hear that. I have great pleasure in tabling these Warrants, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. POWER:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Minister of Rural, Agriculture and Northern Development.

MR. POWER:
Mr. Speaker, I have two reports I would like to table. One is from the Newfoundland Crop Insurance Agency and the other one is from Livestock Owners Compensation Board.

Answers to Questions
for which Notice has been Given

PREMIER PECKFORD:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:
Mr. Speaker, I would just like to

table this. I have copies. As a result of the question by the member for Gander (Mr. Baker), I want to table the relevant sections for all hon. members of the Terms of Union as it deals with this whole question of telecommunications, the railway and so on. In case some hon. members do not have copies of it, I have just in the last few minutes had copies taken off for every member of the House of the Term 31 and Term 33, which deals with the telecommunications aspect as well as the railway aspect.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. BARRETT:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Minister of Development and Tourism.

MR. BARRETT:
Mr. Speaker, as a result of some discussions and questions from the member for Naskaupi (Mr. Kelland) yesterday, there was one question left unanswered which I undertook to provide to the House today, and that is with respect to the questions concerning the sale of stock from Newfoundland Hardwoods. There was some information or indication that that stock sale had taken place by Newfoundland Hardwoods and there was a significant amount involved.

I would like to inform the member, and I am sure his colleagues will inform him, that, in fact, a sale did take place of approximately \$1.8 million worth of stock. This stock's sale, however, was not initiated nor undertaken by Newfoundland Hardwoods Ltd. It was the disposal of that stock which was affected by the fire,

and the sale was undertaken by the insurance company, who carried the insurance for the corporation and disposed of this amount of stock. The disposition, by the way, although we had no jurisdiction over it, was as a result of a public tender which was initiated by the insurance company. Romar was the successful tenderer and this is where the stock flowed through. So it was not an initiative of the Development Corporation, of Hardwoods, but a response by the insurance company to dispose of damaged stock.

Petitions

MR. LONG:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. LONG:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a petition with over 5,000 names on it that I want to present. I want to read a petition which will allow me to bring this petition. My petition reads as follows:

"To the hon. House of Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"We, the undersigned, do petition the hon. House of Assembly to give its support to a petition with 5,001 names on it being presented to the government under the sponsorship of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Youth Serving Agencies with the following prayer:

"WHEREAS abuse of alcohol by teenagers is increasing and the

age at which youth are experimenting with alcohol is decreasing;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association lobby government to:

"(A) ban lifestyle advertising;

"(B) raise the drinking age back to twenty-one;

"(C) increase educational programming by the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission on alcohol and drug abuse in the schools and with various youth groups; and

"(D) apply pressure to established treatment centers in strategic locations across the Province."

Mr. Speaker, I am presenting this petition with four names on it as a means by which I can present the original petition with the original signatures. I would ask the Page if I could have these petitions presented to the government, perhaps placed on the Premier's desk. The petition I am presenting with a small number of names on it, which will enable me to present the large petition, is to the House of Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the petition which has been presented to me to bring forward to the government with 5,000 names on it, represents quite an impressive organizing effort undertaken by the Association of Youth Serving Agencies, and obviously represents an area of great concern to young people and people who are working with young people right across the Province.

I have a breakdown showing the signatures come from all over the Province, and I would like to read

that into the record. St. John's and the surrounding area had over 500 signatures; the Northern Peninsula had 450 signatures; the South Coast had 460 signatures; the East Coast had 600 signatures; the Central part of the province had 1500 signatures; the West Coast had 1,200 signatures and there were 230 signatures from Labrador.

What we can see from this petition, Mr. Speaker, is a very well organized campaign to mobilize young people of this province around an issue of very serious concern. If I may speak to the four issues that they have presented in their petition, I understand that these were issues that the agency brought to the attention of government, in fact, in a meeting that was held with the Social Policy Committee of Cabinet over a year ago, early in 1987. At that meeting, the agencies involved in providing services to young people in this province focused their attention, in particular, on the need for educational programming and treatment centers. They presented information to the government, which was, in fact, a critique of what the government in this province is spending, or indeed what the government is not spending relative to other provinces in the Atlantic.

I would like to read the list of per capita spending for comparison purposes so we can see what the government here is not doing. In the fiscal year, 1986-87, the province of New Brunswick spent per capita - \$9.08 on addiction research, education and treatment programmes. In Nova Scotia, the government spent \$7.10, and in Prince Edward Island, the government spent \$22.83 per capita

on addiction research, education and treatment programmes.

Mr. Speaker, in the Province of Newfoundland in 1986-87, this government spent \$2.97, which stands on its own as a shameful indictment of the lack of commitment by this government to deal seriously with the areas of education and treatment, in particular, but also to put in place the necessary programmes to undertake research and investigation into the problems of addiction, not only of young people, but of all citizens of this province with alcohol and drug related problems.

I would like to further bring to the attention of the government an indication that some of the agencies out there, independent organizations and business people are doing their best to fill the gap that is being left by the absence of support from this government.

There was a campaign last year initiated by the Captain Quik foodstores chain in which they launched a campaign putting posters and signs in each of their stores across the province based around an awareness campaign encouraging their staff to talk about "19 Is The Law." This was, from my understanding, a very successful public awareness and education campaign, and indeed it is exactly the kind of thing that the government of the province should be taking responsibility for. I understand -

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. LONG:

If I make take a few seconds to conclude, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
Does the hon. member have leave?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. member has leave.

MR. LONG:
The petition I presented has four areas, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say there is one of the four areas that we, in this party, have problems with. It is the suggestion from the petition to raise the drinking age to 21. That is not something that we in this party are fully in support of. We think this might require further investigation, and we do not think that that is the answer to the problem of alcohol and drug dependency.

We want to emphasis the other three areas that deserve not only the attention of the House, but some action and response on the part of the government.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:
Mr. Speaker, we support the petition on this side. We also had a copy of that petition sent to us but we did not decide to present it at the appropriate time or now. The main reason was that

it went to the Minister and we felt that we should give the Minister time enough to be able to present it himself because, as the Speaker has ruled many times, original petitions have to be presented in the originals, not xeroxed. Even though the Minister

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! Could I interrupt the hon. member for a few moments? I think we should be clear that this petition is one presented by four people and is not the attached copy. It is an original of four people only.

The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are well aware of that and our side, we could have got four signatures, twenty-four, or whatever. The main part has to do with the 5,000. It went to the Minister and we were waiting for the Minister to present it because this is where it went. The Youth of this Province want action.

MR. LONG:

Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. member for St. John's East.

MR. LONG:

My point here is that the member for Eagle River does not understand that I presented the petition of 5,001 signatures and it was the original petition with the original signatures. That was not given to the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! That is not a point of order.

MR. LONG:

A brief was given. I want to inform the member for Eagle River of that.

AN HON. MEMBER:

That is not a point of order.

MR. LONG:

It was not addressed to the House of Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! That is not a point of order.

The hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With regard to the 5,000 names, if the member for St. John's East has the original petition, then very good. I was on the assumption that it went to the Minister. We did present a xerox copy which we could do with extra names.

The point really comes down to the fact that in this Province we are only spending about \$3 per capita on alcohol related treatment. We do not have a good enough educational programme for our high schools and community colleges and we do not have the necessary treatment centres. There are women in the Province needing detoxification centres spread around the Province. Alcoholism in the Province is one of the major job-related health problems that cuts into the efficiency of the work force.

We feel that with the high cost of alcohol-related taxation going back in the government, at least government has the responsibility

to have an education or an awareness programme, treatment centres, and have a programme particularly geared towards our youth of the Province of life-style advertising on television and magazines that will let our young people - and I am glad a lot of our younger people are here in the gallery today - become aware with regard to drugs and regard to alcohol.

The Government cannot use alcohol in a way as a major fund raiser or for taxation. If they are going to continue to tax it and tax it, then at least they should have the responsibility of coming up with an education programme for our youth who can make a conscious decision at the appropriate age.

With regard to the other issues, in it, Mr. Speaker, raising the age to twenty-one, I believe that is a government decision. I personally believe that you cannot change the law of twenty-one and take away something that you have now given to people.

With regard to the future, Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the high schools, consultation with the community colleges and the other ones, then this of course, I think has to come from the youth, and from the leaders.

In the meantime, 5,000 people have supported this and that is what government has to take note of and everybody else has to take note.

Mr. Speaker, the main emphasis is that we are only spending \$3.00 per capita on alcohol research, educational needs and treatment centres and it is not enough. We are collecting in the budget something like \$160 million in taxes from liquor-related taxation

and there is not enough of that, Mr. Speaker, going back into youth programmes like sports, like educational needs, and youth travel.

What we are doing, Mr. Speaker, is telling our younger people that the life-style which is advertised on TV with regard to hockey or anything, you cannot have a clean healthy body sportswise unless it is followed by a beer or cigarette.

So, Mr. Speaker, I do hope that this government takes note of this petition of 5,000 people. I hope it will start dialogue with the Youth Advisory Committee and with other youth organizations in the Province to find out how they can set up an educational programme, and how they can use the existing youth organizations that are in the Province, like Allied Youth and other student councils and other groups around the Province.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, this side supports the petition and calls upon the government to be responsible and start allocating more money towards treatment centres, research and educational programmes.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. BUTT:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. BUTT:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to have an opportunity to make a few comments on this petition. It is regrettable that the member for St. John's East (Mr. Long) did not extend the courtesy of providing

me with at least the prayer of his petition so it could be addressed perhaps more comprehensively than I will do right now.

First of all, I will deal with some matters that were raised by the previous speaker, the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock) who, in addressing the prayer of this petition, suggested that the government and the Youth Services Division of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth in fact are not doing anything for young people. That is far from the truth, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased today that, as I respond to this petition, I have a number of young people here from Trinity - Bay de Verde district to hear my comments on this because, in fact, we have a very, very comprehensive programme, mostly programmes for youth in this Province and grants to youth organizations.

We have one of the best 4H programmes in this country, Duke of Edinburgh awards, youth travel exchange, youth advisory councils, all established by this administration. We have under special projects, administrative grants, leadership grants to community youth organizations, camping administrative grants, special projects, just to mention a few.

Mr. Speaker, I was left with the clear impression after hearing from the hon. member for Eagle River that we are not doing anything for youth here. Well, just let me tell you this, the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Youth Serving Agencies receive each year a sustaining grant of \$50,000 from my department, Youth Services Division; Girl Guides and so on

receive \$29,000; Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Clubs of Newfoundland and Labrador receive \$26,500 a year; Allied Youth Advisory Board \$26,000 and so on.

MR. HISCOCK:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order please!

A point of order, the hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Mr. Speaker, we are addressing a petition where youth are asking that this government allocate more money for educational research and treatment centres with regard to youth related problems of alcoholism. I ask that the minister address the petition.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

There is no point of order.

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

MR. BUTT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just let me continue on very briefly for a minute to highlight a few other things we are doing. With religious denomination youth camps, we are funding all of them in the Province. Every single, legitimate youth camp in the Province is being funded by the Youth Services Division of my department. We are encouraging young people to get involved in the Youth Parliament, we are funding that. In debating activities, we have a number of camps set up in Newfoundland named after well known Newfoundlanders that are supported by the

department. The Boys and Girls Clubs around this Province are supported by the Youth Services Division of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

Mr. Speaker, to address specifically some of the issues raised by the hon. member for St. John's East, he, like me, as the minister responsible, has problems with changing the age right now from nineteen to twenty-one. I understand it is the position of the official Opposition, as well, or the member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock) at least. There are a number of initiatives taken from within. It is under consideration now in the Department of Education, as well as in the Youth Services Division of my department, this whole business of alcohol and drug addiction. There are a number of initiatives taken by service clubs in the Province, like Kinsmen and the Lions Clubs, who are out right now, today, on a voluntary basis, I might add, which is most commendable of those people, addressing this problem. It is a substantial problem, it is a big problem, and we recognize it. The whole matter of alcohol and drug addiction as it pertains to young people is right now actively being pursued today with the Department of Education and the Youth Services Division of my department.

Now, there were a couple of other matters raised in that petition, and as I said previously, I was not given the courtesy of a copy. I think I have perhaps ran out of time, but I will take those matters under advisement and respond to the member who presented the petition.

It is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker - I will say this - that I just

recently met with the executive of the Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Serving Agencies and I was not afforded a copy of that petition at that time, because I certainly could have responded in a more comprehensive way, and perhaps, if it was their wish that the socialist gentleman from St. John's East present the petition, then I could have certainly given a lot more information to the House.

MR. LONG:

Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order, the hon. the member for St. John's East.

MR. LONG:

Mr. Speaker, I have to say that everyone knows the rule in presenting a petition is that it is tabled immediately. Upon reading my prayer, I presented it to the Page and it is gone to the Table. The minister can sit there and hear the petition being read, and he can also get a copy of the petition from the Table. So I think he doth protest too much and he is finding excuses for not addressing the issue.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

I think the hon. member took an opportunity to make a statement. It was not the time to make such a statement, and it certainly was not a point of order.

Orders of the Day

MR. SIMMS:

Mr. Speaker, if I could, first of all, address the last page of the Order Paper, page 14. Motion No.

3 still appears on the Order Paper. I want to make it clear, having checked it out with the Clerk this morning, that it is through no fault of the Clerk or her office. That motion was given first reading yesterday. I think instructions were sent down to the Queen's Printer to have it appear as a second reading, but an error was made and it will show on Monday's Order Paper.

Before we proceed with Interim Supply, Mr. Speaker, I would like to do first reading of Motion No. 4, Bill No. 27.

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Labour to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland Teacher (Collective) Bargaining Act, 1973," carried. (Bill No. 27)

On motion, Bill No. (27) read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. SIMMS:
Order 2. Committee of Supply.

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

Committee of the Whole
on Interim Supply

MR. CHAIRMAN (Greening):
Order, please!

MR. BAKER:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member for Gander.

MR. BAKER:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me say, first of all, that I am very pleased we are on Interim Supply today. One of the complaints that we had earlier in terms of Interim Supply was the shortness of time allotted, and I thank the minister and the Government House Leader for allowing this little bit of extra time to see if we can get over our problems concerning Interim Supply.

First of all, I would like to set the record straight on a point raised a couple of times in this House, in our last Committee debate, and that was that the Opposition has not really been asking any questions. I would like to just very briefly summarize some of the instances where questions have been asked, very specific questions.

Very early in the Supply debate I did ask a number of questions concerning the priorities in individual departments, and the listing of priorities in individual departments. I asked for a breakdown in terms of some of the departments: For instance, Social Services, the percentage of the budget that Interim Supply represented, and there were a number of other questions there.

A little further on the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir asked very pointed and specific questions concerning highways, specifically, a detailed breakdown of the close to \$125 million allocated to the Department of Transportation. There were a number of speakers who mentioned this particular item. The member for Fortune - Hermitage, I believe, on two separate occasions specifically asked for a list of the road projects that were included in the \$125 million. The hon. member got around to that twice, I believe.

I interjected a second time in the debate and asked two very specific questions concerning the current account deficit, and a question related to how much overexpenditure was, in fact, being incurred, and, again, a question concerning a detailed list of priorities from the Department of Transportation.

The Leader of the Opposition obviously asked a number of specific questions on various departments: The Department of Public Works and Services, for instance, the Department of Development and Tourism, The Department of Forest Resources, and so on; he went through a list of departments and asked specific questions about the amount supply for these departments.

So far, I would like to point out to the hon. House, we have had answers to some questions. The Minister of Finance dealt with one of the questions I asked in my last interjection, but he did not answer the other one. That is his right and that is fine. It was not a big point at the time, anyway.

The Minister of Fisheries answered the concerns about the amount of Interim Supply for the Department of Fisheries. He gave complete answers and we are very pleased with that. However, a number of questions remain outstanding outstanding, and in the two days, today and Monday, hopefully the other ministers will be as forthcoming as the Minister of Fisheries has been.

I would like to say that we wish the Interim Supply debate to be centered around Interim Supply. I am trying to say this without becoming too controversial, as the

Government House Leader knows exactly what I am talking about. I would wish the debate to concentrate on Interim Supply; questions being asked by this side, and, of course, we will explain reasons for our questions, and then answers from the specific ministers.

MR. SIMMS:

Mr. Chairman, would the hon. member permit a question?

MR. BAKER:

Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. SIMMS:

Just a comment, Mr. Chairman, as I do not to take away from the hon. member's time. However, I do want to tell him that ministers on this side are quite prepared to answer specific questions. That is not a difficulty. However, I also have to make it clear that the control of the debate is in the hands of the Chair. As we all know, debate on Interim Supply is very wide-ranging. That is the practice and a longstanding parliamentary tradition. So, to say that it must specifically be on questions and answers, I mean, that is up to the Chair to decide. But, from my experience, it is not out of order to talk about just anything if one wishes. It is only a ten minute debate, and that is fair ball I believe.

MR. BAKER:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Gander.

MR. BAKER:

I would like to thank the Government House Leader. I agree with him entirely. What I did say was that we on this side wished the debate to be on the Interim Supply situation. I understand, and I appreciate the fact that tradition is that it is a wide-ranging debate, and if members opposite wish to go off into the periphery and ignore The Interim Supply Bill, then that is their right, but I am sure the Chairman will rule if they stray beyond reasonable bounds. However, I am just expressing what we hope to accomplish. And if, I would say to the Government House Leader, we start getting these answers, who is to say the Interim Supply Bill cannot be finished with today - who is to say? -

MR. DOYLE:
(Inaudible).

MR. BAKER:
- so that we are not into a confrontation situation all the time.

Finally, I would to say to the Government House Leader and to the Minister of Transportation who interjected - I do not know if it was picked up by Hansard - that he is ready to give all answers, I would say to him, as a sign of good faith, start now and give us the list the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir has asked for, and the member for Fortune - Hermitage and the member for Gander and many other members have asked for, the list of road projects that are being financed under this Interim Supply Bill, and have already have been decided on, this Interim Supply Bill that we need urgently before the Budget so that these projects can be proceeded with. Would he give us a list of the road projects that he intends to

undertake with this money?

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
Before recognizing the hon. Minister of Transportation I would like to welcome to the gallery thirteen Grade VII students from St. Pat's Junior High School with their teacher, Gary Rumbolt.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the Minister of Transportation.

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Chairman, I will be only too happy to respond to any specific questions put forward by the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir, the member for Gander, or any member opposite, as a matter of fact. First of all, with respect to a detailed breakdown, or a detailed listing of capital roads projects, Mr. Chairman, I cannot make that information available to the hon. gentlemen because no decisions have been made yet on specific projects, or what projects are going to be funded by the Province. That will be made at a later date. Of course, everybody knows what the procedure is; it is done collectively by Cabinet and announcements are made. The announcements will be made in due course, Mr. Chairman.

MR. BAKER:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member for Gander.

MR. BAKER:
If then, Mr. Minister, you have no decisions made on your road

priorities, for heaven's sake what do you need \$125 million for? Are you telling us that none of that is for road work?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the Minister of Transportation.

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Chairman, I just told the hon. gentleman that I would provide all that information for him in due course. First of all, I was just about to tell him that I cannot provide him with a listing of the specific projects to be approved, because those decisions have not been made yet. When they are made, you will be given the information.

With respect to the money needed in Interim Supply for the Department of Transportation, I have most of the information here. The hon. gentleman will understand if I do not give him information related to specific grants which may very well be announced afterwards, but I will give him as much information as I can related to the \$100 plus million that we are looking for in the Department of Transportation. That covers such things, Mr. Chairman, as Administrative Support, \$448,000, which is to cover the ongoing requirements of the administrative section, with the amounts required for specific grants, vehicle transportation subsidies, and what have you. Executive Support \$126,000, covering ongoing requirements of salaries and that type of thing within the Department of Transportation. Policy development and planning \$108,000 covers ongoing requirements of the

Policy Development and Planning Division, \$35,000 of that amount being provided during this period for a grant to the Atlantic Provinces Transportation Commission, which is quite normal. That happens every single year; it is our portion of a grant that we make available to them for ongoing transportation studies across Canada, which we are involved in, for national highways and everything else. That is quite normal, \$108,000 there, in that particular part of the department, Policy Development and Planning.

Administration again, \$2.31 million. That provides for the ongoing operation within the administrative division for grants, too. RTAC fees \$7,200. Provincial share of the study into weights and measures which we did and made some announcements on recently, money to go there. Funding the local road boards, as well.

We still have responsibility for a certain number of local road boards in the province, and they have to be funded on an ongoing basis. Support services, \$1,100,000, could involve anything, I suppose. When you are talking about support services it could be maintenance or anything at all. I do not have the breakdown that detailed here as to what each little division would require, but it is support services, generally, \$1,100,000, for ongoing maintenance and what have you.

Traffic engineering \$78,500. Provision is made for the ongoing operation of this division during the period concerned, with some allowance being made for early purchases within the traffic engineering division; they have to

go to early tender sometimes to get the best possible prices.

Services to other departments and agencies \$1,761,000. Anticipated expenditure for work done for other departments and agencies during the periods concerned. It is noted that the full amount of funding for salt and sand purchased for town councils is provided in Interim Supply. That is an ongoing thing that has to be done year after year after year. We have to get early ordering done on a lot of that stuff for the town councils we help out, and order their salt and sand for them every year. So that is \$1,761,000 there.

Maintenance and repairs, \$8,731,000. The salary budget under that activity is to cover six pay periods. The amount requested for supplies is to cover asphalt order, gravel, paint, etc., for the painting programmes that will be done as early as possible and all of these supplies have to be ordered well in advance. Road paint, painting lines on the road, very mundane stuff, \$8,731,900. Snow and ice control, \$8,312,000, allows for the salary expenditure for the first pay period in April, plus ordering of salt, sand and other miscellaneous supplies here in the initial Interim Supply period. Again, very, very routine stuff that has to be done every single year to ensure that we do not have any gaps between the time we order and the time we are taking delivery of it. We have a very short construction season, as everybody knows, so we have to order these materials early and get them in so that we can start out the work as quickly as possible, on the first of June if possible.

Other maintenance, \$214,000, allows for ongoing requirements as well as encumbrances of the contract for road maintenance work for Labrador West. That is, I would imagine, a carryover from last year of a contract that was not finished because there was not the necessary amount of money to finish it. So that is a carryover of a contract already awarded last year.

Road maintenance work for Labrador West: Signs \$259,000. Provides for the ongoing requirements plus allows for supplies to be ordered early, again, paint and materials, and what have you, very old, routine, mundane stuff.

Salt requirements again. Salt storage sheds: Material for these sheds will have to be ordered for their construction. That is \$50,000 right there.

Equipment administration, \$410,000: Provisions are being made for the ongoing operations of those areas, \$410,000. Shop service, \$304,000: Salaries and what have you in the various shops to cover that initial period, and early purchases again for the various depots that we have around the Province, which could be anything; tires, batteries, parts for machinery, and what have you. Again, very routine. Equipment administration, \$410,000.

Maintenance of equipment, \$12,125,000. That is a big one.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Changing over for the Winter, I guess.

MR. DOYLE:

Yes. As the hon. gentleman says, this is changeovers and, in some cases, ordering some new capital

equipment just to update our supply we have each year.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
Order, please!

The hon. minister's time is up.

MR. DOYLE:
Do you want further information? I could go for two or three more minutes and give you what I have here.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
By leave.

MR. DOYLE:
Maintenance of Equipment, \$12 million. Again that covers a whole, wide range - ordering of tires, paint for painting, salting machines and what have you.

Vehicles and Equipment, \$5 million. Again, as I mentioned a moment ago, we update our equipment list every year.

MR. DINN:
How much? \$5 million?

MR. DOYLE:
Vehicles, \$5 million. As you know, each year we take some of the vehicles that we have out there in the various depots and we put them up on tender for the various town councils around the Province. They will have the first crack at getting dump trucks and maybe pickup trucks that have outlived their usefulness and, in some cases, they will take these, or two of them, for a nominal fee, a couple of hundred dollars, and make a vehicle out of them that can be used around the various town council yards and what have you. So we have to replace that equipment then and re-purchase it, and it could be a half a dozen dump trucks, or a few graders, or

a snowblower here and there. That is \$5 million.

Administrative support, \$1,658,000. Again that provides for ongoing operations, but with allowance for certain increased salary costs that we have each year, early in the fiscal year, because of early tendering.

Planning and Research, \$93,200, provides for the ongoing operation of that division.

AN HON. MEMBER:
What was that again, Mr. Minister?

MR. DOYLE:
Planning and Research \$93,200. Administrative support, \$1,658,000.

Soils and Paving, \$341,000. That is the soils lab that we have. It provides for the ongoing operation of that division, testing asphalt and what have you.

Highway design, \$345,000. We have to have all this design work done before going to early tendering. There is no point in tendering something unless you have the design work associated with it all completed.

So we have to have that. Pre-engineering \$68,000. Various Improvements \$18 million. Now that will cover the order of calcium chloride \$1,150,000; carryovers \$20,000. We have some specific projects listed there which will be announced in the budgetary process, so I cannot give that information right now, and I am sure you will appreciate that. You will know that by Tuesday. Some of the improvements and construction projects that I have listed here will be announced at budget time on Tuesday.

There is also a grant in there to the Town of Conception Bay South \$1,250,000, but that was announced about a year or so ago. The road work that had to be done in association with the annexation of the communities of Foxtrap and Seal Cove, that was announced sometime ago.

I can give him that information, because I think we have already said that some of the new projects we will have on the go for early tendering will cost about \$15 million. So that is part of it there.

And then we have our road and bridge rehabilitation programme this year, which is going to be announced shortly in the budget, and bridges and causeways. Transport Canada: This would be some of the stuff that we have already announced under the ERDA Agreement, back about two months ago, some of the projects that are going to be taking place there.

New Roads In Unincorporated Areas: \$50,000 allows for the continuation of that programme at 1987-1988 budget level.

Land Acquisition: We have a land acquisition programme on the go within the Department of Transportation to allow for the purchase of private land in areas that we have-

MR. TULK:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member for Fogo.

MR. TULK:
The Minister mentioned \$50,000 for roads in unincorporated areas. I would like to ask him if he has yet made any commitments at all

under that \$50,000 for this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the Minister of Transportation.

MR. DOYLE:
No. That would be for local road boards. Unincorporated areas that do not have any Council, they still have the local road board in place. That is a small amount of money in there to take care of those few boards that we might provide an operating grant of \$7,000 or \$8,000 to every year. There is no great amount of money in there.

MR. TULK:
The department of Transportation also does (inaudible) out of that same fund, right?

MR. DOYLE:
Not under that, no. We have a half dozen or so local road boards operating around the Province. I do not know how many we have. I guess we have between a half dozen and a dozen, anyway, and there are very small amounts of money that go to these every year, \$5,000 to \$6,000. That \$50,000 in Unincorporated Areas allows for the continuation of that programme under the 1987-1988 budget level.

I was talking about land acquisition. We have a \$1 million set aside there.

The total approved budget for land acquisition - and we already made an announcement on that a few days back - is \$2.5 million, which allows for the purchase of private land in the various areas of the Province where we have corridors set aside for by-pass roads: Conception Bay North, the Outer Ring Road, Conception Bay South, the Penetanguishene by-pass and a

couple of other areas of the Province. If we have to go through a person's private land, then we feel it an obligation and a duty to at least be able to offer to purchase the property from these people. So we set aside \$2.5 million, over a four-year period, for that reason.

Pedestrian crosswalks: \$40,000 allows for the ongoing requirements in that area. Guardrails, \$71,500. We have to order all of this stuff in from the mainland, in some cases.

Motor Registration: We have \$272,000 to provide for ongoing operations, and we have to provide for the ongoing operations of the Newfoundland Safety Council, as well.

Driver Examination and Vehicle Inspection, \$240,000: That provides for the ongoing requirements of that division. Licence and Registration Processing, \$795,000, ongoing operations - to have licence plates printed early, or to have them manufactured early, and to order the material that goes along with it.

As members know, we will be adopting the National Safety Code and the ongoing operation of that, which will be funded by the federal government. But we have to put some money up front for the operation of the National Safety Code, for inspections and what have you; that is \$270,000. Air Subsidies, \$594,000, the anticipated monthly payments that we have to make on the air subsidies to LabAir, I guess, and these people who provide subsidies for people flying out of the Labrador area. Airstrip Maintenance, \$417,000:

Airstrips: A few were announced a couple of days ago, \$3,000,649. We have to put the money up front for the federal government, and they reimburse us afterwards.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Does that include the one they announced today in Bishop's Falls?

MR. DOYLE:

I do not know. I did not know there was one being announced today in Bishop's Falls.

MR. DINN:

There is neither one in Bishop's Falls, no.

MR. DOYLE:

That is \$3,000,649 there. Marine Administration, \$25,000, ongoing operations for that division. Ferry Operations, \$3,000,794. In that particular area, allowances are made to normal operations in the Salary and Travel account.

\$300,794,000: that is supplies, fuel, refit expenses during the period in question. Maintenance of ferry terminals - 86,000. We have some modifications to make to one of the ferry terminals - again, I am not going to say which one; you will know it in a few days from now - which is going to cost about \$400,000-odd.

Ferry vessels, this is for the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir: \$460,000 allowing for major modification to that vessel, plus the debt expenses for the Fogo, Burgeo and Ramea ferries. That is the annual debt charges on those boats that we are paying off.

Air Services administration, \$47,300. Hangar facilities, a couple of hundred thousand dollars. All of the government owned aircraft, the water bombers,

the air ambulance and all of that, \$2,370,000-odd. That covers the operation of those for fuel and various supplies that have to be ordered. So, I think that pretty well covers most of it. That might not add up to the full amount that we have there, because there was a couple of things, like I said, which would be budget announcements that I did not give the hon. gentleman, but I do not want to pre-empt my colleague, the Minister of Finance, who will be making some announcements, and the Minister of Forestry had some things in there as well.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Before recognizing the hon. member for Gander, I would like to welcome to this hon. House 13 Grade XII students from Lumsden, and their teachers, Lloyd Matthews and Andy Gibbons.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member from Gander.

MR. BAKER:

I am going to be very, very brief. I would just like to thank the minister for a list that we can now go to work on. It amounted to approximately \$73.5 million. That leaves another \$50 million unaccounted for, and I am certain my colleagues, especially the critic for transportation, will have specific questions concerning that \$50 million. But so far it looks as if we may be prepared to give interim supply to the Department of Transportation up to about \$70 million, and that is a long way from \$125 million.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the minister of Finance.

MR. WINDSOR:

Last day the Leader of the Opposition put forward what I thought was a good question. He said in his remarks that we had requested nearly \$35 million this year for the Department of Public Works Interim Supply, and the total last year for the Department of Public Works was \$43,975,000. So, why the obvious difference? If we are looking for supplies for three months of the year, why are we asking for more than 75 per cent of what we had in total for last year? That is a good question, Mr. Chairman.

So, I have gone back, and I think the simple answer is that you have to look at the Department of Public Works and what they are responsible for. And they are responsible for all government buildings and various contracts and so forth, relating to that.

The short answer is that there are so many contracts that have to be entered into which are annual contracts, and they have to be entered into at the beginning of the year. I will give some examples of that. First of all, some small items; early travel related to training of regional staff in the use of terminals, a financial management information system, which is new, and a new budget monitoring system. We have to get out early in the year and do that. That is done during the first two or three months of the year, so there is several thousand dollars in for that sort of thing. It is a fairly small item.

The Insurance bill: 100 per cent of the insurance bill has to be paid on 1 July. Probably the budget would be done, but we must have that there and be able to, I

guess, call tenders and so forth on that.

Replacement of some vehicles has got to be done early in the year. Again you are calling tenders for things, for a small amount of furniture, \$2500. I can give specific numbers if you want them, but I do not know if there is much to be gained.

What I am talking about here amounts to about \$20 million of the \$34 million that has been requested and the rest is smaller items.

There is a \$4 million item which is required to encumber contracts presently in place for garbage removal, snow removal around public buildings, cleaning of public buildings, security of public buildings, maintenance of elevators in public buildings, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, and fire protection. That is a \$4 million item and these are annual contracts that have to be entered into at the beginning of the year. Obviously \$1 million would be required for the first three months, but because we have to enter into a contract then you are require the full \$4 million.

There is a salary item of \$126,000 approximately to allow for early hiring of temporary staff for various projects to be undertaken early in the fiscal year. These are some of the early maintenance contracts that are required.

Again, here is a larger item of \$2.5 million required to cover the early start of the maintenance programme. There is no sense waiting until later on in the year, you need to start that, and in some cases, tenders are

required. As you know, under The Financial Administration Act we cannot enter into a contract without having supply granted by the House.

Then, in the area of rentals, there is a big ticket item, \$6.5 million approximately, required to encumber leases for the year. These are buildings that are leased by the Department of Public Works for various government offices and other purposes, so that has to be entered into again up-front.

Early registration of conferences and courses: Some of these things are taking place during these first three months. That is probably the only conference involved, and travel to that conference and all of that would be done up-front. In fact, that case there is an item of \$8500, the total would be around \$11,000 or \$12,000 for the year, but because the conference is taking place during the first three months, then you need that funding in the first three months.

Extra funding required to accommodate early purchases and carryover encumbrances. This is in the area of office supplies and there is an amount in here of \$700,000, which is well over 25 per cent, obviously, of the amount for the year. Again, these items have to be ordered and purchased up-front, so these are supplies that will last over the year.

Trade shows and training seminars, several of those are taking place early in the year. Replacement of a van, again, to be done up-front.

More training seminars, rental of equipment, contracts on rental equipment, which is \$235,000: some

equipment, perhaps office equipment, typewriters that are out on a rental agreement; maintenance agreements of some \$96,000; and \$900,000 to encumber orders relating to outside printing, printing that is not done by the Printing Services Division downstairs, that I guess we do not have the equipment or the capability to do. There was \$900,000 provided there, so that certainly distorts the numbers in that area.

Micrographic services: \$40,000 required to encumber rental agreements and maintenance contracts. Some \$2000 for early travel to training seminars. So that is a rough list, Mr. Chairman. And about \$15,000 to be paid to the Royal Canadian Legion in Port aux Basques for some purpose, I am not sure what it is, but it has to be paid in early June, apparently. And \$60,000 required to encumber the contract for news wire services, so that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition can send out notices of his Liberal meetings in Arnold's Cove.

These are the sorts of things. I can go into more detail, but I think that generally explains why this is so much out of proportion. It is a very valid question and I hope I have answered it.

MR. WELLS:
Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. WELLS:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

He has made a contribution to the

answer and I thank the hon. the minister for it. But just let me point out - I quickly made a list and it is possible I may have skipped, may have overlooked something that he read, and I apologize if that is the case - but my quick tally on what he read out totals about \$15 million or \$16 million. But the minister has asked for \$35 million out of \$46 million. So you see what we are asking for? Where is the rest? We need to know. You are asking for spending authority. We do not have any basic objection, we understand the need for interim supply. It is the normal practice and something to be expected every year, and the fact that government comes and asks for interim supply is no justification for criticism of the government.

MR. WINDSOR:

If we gave you all the details, all the headings, you would have exactly what you have there.

MR. WELLS:

If the hon. minister would provide us with a written list, that is fine.

MR. WINDSOR:

Do you want everything?

MR. WELLS:

No, no. You can just extract the secrets you want to keep secret and provide the kind of headings that you did with the amounts. That will do us just fine.

MR. EFFORD:

Fine, by Monday.

MR. WELLS:

Well, if it ready by Monday. We have no intention of holding up the government on appropriate interim supply. But we cannot abandon our responsibilities to

the people of the Province to require the government to account publicly through this House for what they propose to do with funds.

I will just give the minister the list of the other departments, to which I referred the other day when I spoke, where there is notable differences. Development and Tourism, I mentioned, had \$14 million, that is more than 25 per cent; Fisheries had \$16 million compared with about \$31 million last year. So that is more than 50 per cent. Forestry had nearly \$13 million out of \$36 million for last year. That is another one that I mentioned. Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development has over \$20 million as compared with \$39 million last year. Transportation, the one the hon. minister just mentioned, was the other one that I mentioned specifically. Education has \$131.6 million compared with \$457.5 million last year, so you are getting up to a third. We would like to know what you propose to do, and if you table a list there will probably be no problem, or if you give it to us this way. But giving it to us this way is more time consuming. That is what we want.

MR. CALLAN:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member of Bellevue.

MR. WINDSOR:
The hon. the Minister of Forestry (Mr. Aylward) is next.

MR. CALLAN:
Is he there? I yield, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the Minister of Forestry.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

I am sorry about that little confusion. During the last day of debate on interim supply there were questions raised. The member for Bonavista South (Mr. Morgan) asked some questions on Forestry. And I did hear the hon. Leader of the Opposition mention Forestry at that time, wondering how the expenditures we are looking for in interim supply were broken down. I would just like to give that information to the House right now.

In the expenditures are broken down for interim supply, we are looking for roughly \$12.9 million in our interim supply request. That is comprised of about \$10.1 million in current account, and roughly about \$2.8 million in capital account.

Some of the projects, I guess, or some of the reasons why we want money, in current account research and development will be over \$234,000. We have silviculture requests in the current part of our budget for \$3.3 million, roughly. Insect and disease surveys, we need \$139,000 for that. Insect control, which would be a part of our spray programme to make sure we get the necessary planning done as soon as we can, would be about \$1.6 million.

Protection and suppression, which will be some of the equipment for our firefighting season, in interim supply we want about \$850,000, in that area.

Roads and maintenance for forest access roads will be in the range of \$270,000. Administration for our road activities will be about \$171,000. Forest utilization, about \$184,000. Industry development is about \$44,500. Forest product development, about

\$118,000.

MR. WELLS:

What was that figure again?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

It is \$118,000 in forest product development. These are rough figures. There is \$100 here and there in this. I can give him figures exactly, if necessary.

For Policy and Planning Division in our Corner Brook headquarters, for updating of our forest management mapping, we will require some \$344,000. Management planning, which is in the same division, in our Corner Brook office, is roughly \$1 million. Inventory control is about \$864,000. The administration for forest management, mostly salaries and the like, is \$144,000. General administration, \$405,000. Executive support, \$145,000. And the Minister's Office is \$69,700. That is our current account expenditures. The total, around \$10.1 million.

In the capital area we want to get our planning done and some approvals ready for the resource road construction programmes for this year. We want to get as much planning done as we can. There is \$2 million for resource roads construction. The exact areas are not identified yet, or I have not seen the list. Our staff is working on that now. Construction salaries will be about \$40,000. Forest protection equipment, \$35,000.

The nurseries: We want to do some construction in our Wooddale Nursery, some upgrading in Wooddale. We want to do some work in Goose Bay on the nurseries. We want to replace the old nurseries that we have in the Happy Valley -

Goose Bay area right now. That will cost \$200,000. For our water bomber fleet, for getting some of our required materials, will be about \$15,000. That will come to a total of about \$2.3 million.

These are some of the reasons. There are more details here. I cannot table this list because there are other things in here pertaining to the main budget which I will not be able to table. But this is a list of pretty well the exact figures of the money we will be requiring in Interim Supply.

When you look at our total budget and the amount we are requesting, it is a bit more than one-quarter of our budget, to cover the three months. The reason that it is a bit more is because we need some upfront money so we can get some contracts on the spray programme, and we can get some forest protection equipment in place. We need to do that and start as soon as possible the contracts on resource roads, forest access roads. We need to complete that planning and get some of the contracts out so that the roads can be built in the time required by the people working in the forest industry.

If there are any other questions that anyone might have on this, I will try to get the information for them. This is pretty well the information that I have here now. Any details that you might like I can certainly dig up the information, and there will be more detailed explanations coming during the Committee process when the budget is finalized.

MR. GILBERT:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. GILBERT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My colleague from Gander pretty well covered the spectrum as far as transportation is concerned, although there is some money left under the headings that we have not received an explanation as to where it is going. I asked the question the first day I got up, if the minister would break down under headings the \$124,958,000 that he wanted to spend, because it was 75 per cent of last year's estimates for the department. So, maybe if he could do that, as the hon. the Leader of the Opposition just asked the Minister of Finance, if he could break it down under the headings without giving away any secrets, we would then be able to have a look at it. We realize he is not going to do that.

So if you took the capital expenditure and you broke that down under your headings, and then you took your current account spending and you broke that down, and then, if there were any extraordinary expenses, just list them that way, under the various headings that we are going to be debating once the budget comes down on Tuesday.

As my colleague from Gander said, we find it extremely difficult to believe that here you are, you have those amounts put aside for highway funding, either maintenance, or upgrading of the Trans-Canada Highway, you are about ready to go to tender, and yet you do not seem to know that you can release the list of where those projects are. It would seem to me strange that here you are

asking for the money for it and yet you do not know where you are going to spend it. Now, it would seem to me that if this is the case it would possibly bear out what was said in the Auditor General's Report, that there is not proper planning, for guidelines and procedures, or a proper priority list for highway funding in the Province.

Now, this is a parochial interest, I guess, from the fact that the \$50,000 that you talk about for funding is for local roads boards. I have a particular interest in this one because some of the communities that are involved in that are in my district. I refer to McCallum where we have had some correspondence back and forth with the minister. The terrible conditions of the footpath around McCallum were pointed out even in a report that was made by the Integrated School Board, which said that the road was too bad to use a wheelbarrow around the community to bring oil to the school. It had to be brought in buckets.

So that is why I asked for the extraordinary expenses. This is why I asked that that be listed. Is there anything in there to take care of the needs of this community which has contributed to the economy of the Province by putting 3.5 million pounds of fish into the plant in Hermitage last year and creating employment for 100 people for another three months?

So basically that is what I would like to see from the Department of Transportation. I think if we got the breakdown under capital expense, current account and extraordinary expenses, then we

would be in a position to be able to look at what the minister is asking. As I have said, we want to co-operate to make sure that the business or the Province is gotten on with. We feel that we have a responsibility to the people we represent to find out exactly what is in this \$124 million.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Windsor) referred to the Department of Public Works, and as I wear that other hat as well, I ask him if he could possibly do the same thing in the Department of Public Works, as the Leader just did, again, under the extraordinary expenses. I wonder if any of the extraordinary expenses that is required there is taken up in the renovations to the offices for the new Cabinet minister and the change from where the Minister of Finance went, from the President of Treasury Board to his office and the renovations there. Are they included in that? It is the same way for the House Leader (Mr. Simms). Are those expenses included in there?

So it might be an idea if you just give us that, with the headings, and we will be happy to have a look at it and I am sure that we will be only too happy to pass it for you.

MR. CALLAN:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member for Bellevue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN:
Mr. Chairman, I thought perhaps one of the ministers might want to respond, but obviously not.

MR. PATTERSON:
There is nothing to respond to.

MR. CALLAN:
Not really, it is petty and foolish nonsense. People in Newfoundland do not really care about these things. They are ongoing things. Ministers must have offices. The people who I run into at least, and I am not talking in recent days, I am talking about months and months and years ago, they say, 'Well, if the Liberals were in there they would be doing the same things. They would have big expense accounts, and they would have big elaborate offices.' So the people out there do not really care.

Mr. Chairman, what I want to do this morning, I want to embellish on a press release that I sent upstairs earlier. Perhaps I will get time to get into it and perhaps I will not. If I do not, there will be lots of time between now and June. I might say as I got into my car this morning, my '83 Monte Carlo in Norman's Cove this morning, a car that my daughter gave me, and usually it is the other way around, but any way, a car that my daughter gave me so that I would be able to come back and forth to St. John's. She gave me the car several months ago. As I got in my car just before seven thirty in Norman's Cove this morning Randy Travis was on **Country 99** FM station, and he was singing the song about digging up bones and exhuming things that probably should be left alone.

So I thought about the song and wondered how many bones I should dig up in responding to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Wells) and two or three other members of the Opposition, especially as it pertains to what the Leader of the

Opposition said in Arnold's Cove last Saturday night. It was on the front page of **The Packet**, and I will respond to that, of course, in **The Packet** in due course.

So I was wondering as I listened to the song. So what I decided to do is I would go easy because I have lots of time between now and June.

MR. PATTERSON:

You have twenty years to do it, boy.

MR. CALLAN:

Of course, perhaps longer than that. Obviously out in my district I will do it on a personal basis and so on.

Mr. Chairman, as I drove on, when I got as far as Roaches Line I turned on the **VOCM** quarter to eight news, and, of course, I heard some positive stories there on the **VOCM** news.

I was interested to listen to the Leader of the Opposition. I had to turn my radio up. Everybody has to do it, of course, you turn your radio or your television up a bit higher than it is for everybody else because he is grunting something or other out and you can hardly hear him. Well, that is great. The longer he continues that, the better. I heard him talking and being on the defensive. He was on the defensive, disagreeing with the Premier about the railway in the Constitution and, of course, the Premier was saying it is not really there.

But the Leader of the Opposition is always on the defensive. Ordinarily, it is the other way around. You would think that the

government and cabinet ministers would be on the defensive and the Opposition, of course, on the offensive. But, not with this Leader. He is always on the defensive, defending his position as it relates to the negative thoughts that he has about the Sprung greenhouse project, as an example. Of course, now he on again negatively talking about something that other lawyers, who are just as smart perhaps as the Leader of the Opposition is, have looked at. The Premier mentioned that, of course, on Opening Day when he talked about the legal opinions that had been received on various issues that had confronted this Province over the last ten, nine years or so.

Mr. Chairman, as I drove on, then at eight o'clock I was around Butterpot Park somewhere so I turned over to **CBC Radio** to get the eight o'clock news and of course, on the eight o'clock news on **CBC** I heard Ed Roberts, one of the backroom boys, Ed Roberts, lawyer for **The Sunday Express**, that infamous **Sunday Express** -

MR. PATTERSON:

A rag.

MR. CALLAN:

A rag - so you can see what is going on, Mr. Chairman. You can see what is happening.

I am prepared to stand here today and say, Mr. Chairman, that there is a vendetta going on. Harry Steele, of course, who owns **The Sunday Express** and all of the weekly Robinson-Blackmore papers, and, of course, Ed Roberts, lawyer, he decides what is permissible to be printed and what could get somebody in a court of law. So the paper verges on, you know, it is close to charges being

laid almost with every story being printed there.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot help be mention, I think it was Monday, when we came into this legislature, and the Leader of the Opposition got up in Question Period, the scanticmonious, he was a prosecuting lawyer and he was the jury and the judge all in one. He stood on his feet, as everybody in the galleries, the press, and everybody else in this legislature noted and he said: "In view of what was said, on W5 last night, and in view of the story in The Sunday Express will the Premier now", he had made up his mind without hearing any facts; without letting things have a chance. He has been criticizing the Sprung greenhouse project and he had not even been in there for a visit. Of course, he had been given all the information, but, you know, you forget that.

During Monday's question period, Mr. Chairman, I sat there and I thought to myself that is so indicative of the way the Leader of the Opposition treated me when I was a Opposition member and treated ninety percent of the caucus, Mr. Chairman. I can embellish and I can go on and I can give example after example and I will do it, but I want to say this, Mr. Chairman, that the length that I will go in digging up bones and exhuming things that are better left alone, the extent to which I will do that depends on the extent to which the leader of the Opposition will go.

Now, the Leader of the Opposition, or somebody in his party, in the press or in this legislature may say, "Oh, you sent the Leader of the Opposition a letter on March 7th where you said you were going

to take the high road and you hoped that the Leader of the Opposition would do the same."

Barbara Yaffe, that hurricane that I ran into, is one of two hurricanes. They are called after ladies and it is not difficult to say why when you have ladies like Barbara Yaffe, and of course, the lady with CBC, Anne Budgell. These are two hurricanes I ran into as I tried to swim from the sinking ship with the rats on it that I talked about last week, the Titanic that was going down and will go aground in the very near future, with the new captain at the helm. He will go down with his ship.

But as I tried to swim from that sinking ship, the Titanic, on March 7, I ran into a couple of hurricanes, and of course, I am still swimming, but perhaps before the Summer is out, Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to swim towards another ship, by the way. It is not a ship that I am headed for, it is going to be one of the floating concrete platforms that will develop Terra Nova -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN:
- and perhaps some of the other lesser wells, the floating concrete platform that can be moved from one well to another as they dry out, and I will spend a while there Mr. Chairman, but it will only be for a rest. I will probably run into other hurricanes, but where I am headed, Mr. Chairman, is for the concrete platform. The concrete platform that will be built at Adam's Head at Come By Chance will be towed out to Hibernia where it will not be moved from one well to the

other. It will stay there, because there is so much oil there and, of course, concrete platforms, you do not move them from one well to the other as you do with the floating one. So, that is where I am headed.

Anyway, let me mention the hurricane. The hurricane in **The Sunday Express** said that Mr. Callan said these things after saying that he was going to take the high road. What the lady, the hurricane, was forgetting was - and I use lady loosely - and anybody who read my letter to **The Sunday Express** of last week, of course, will make up their own minds, what the lady forgot was that I wrote that letter on the morning of March 7 and the interview that I did with her was done on Thursday morning following the byelection, which I think was March 10. At that time, it was between March 7 and March 10, when she interviewed me, it was between these two dates, Mr. Chairman, that the Leader of the Opposition had not taken the high road. He had taken the low road.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
Order, please!

The hon. member's time is up.

MR. CALLAN:
By leave? I will have lots of time between now and the last of June.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
No, no!

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS:
As my colleague from Gander indicated earlier in the debate today, we want to stay with the Interim Supply and get some answers. So, for that reason, I will not take the time to respond to the gentleman from Bellevue. His remarks will be addressed elsewhere, particularly his sexist remarks, I am sure will be taken care of adequately. But also, Mr. Chairman, and more to the point as I said the other day in this Chamber, I regard the gentleman as being quite distraught and deserves more of our compassion and our pity than our attack.

Mr. Chairman, I want to come back to Interim Supply. I want to get the attention of the Minister of Transportation for a moment. If the minister is concerned about my unusually laid back style this morning, I have a very bad cold, but I believe he will hear what I want to say to him.

Just now I understood the minister was giving some figures off the top of his head about transportation. Were these just approximations?

MR. DOYLE:
No, they were exact.

MR. SIMMONS:
They were rounded off, but you are reading from the list of expenditures.

MR. DOYLE:
Yes.

MR. SIMMONS:

Can I get the attention of the Minister of Forestry for a moment?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Here I am, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SIMMONS:

I just wanted to make sure he was with us in spirit.

I jotted down the figures he gave us. They were rounded off figures which the gentleman read from a document, I gather?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

I have, yes.

MR. SIMMONS:

Yes. Maybe I would have the attention of the Minister of Finance for a moment, if I could.

I assume the figures that he gave the House were also not off the top of his head, I say to the Government House Leader.

MR. SIMMS:

(Inaudible).

MR. SIMMONS:

Yes, alright.

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to have that particular confirmation, because on the basis of that -

MR. J. CARTER:

A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. J. CARTER:

I respect the hon. member's right to speak, and he has every right to be heard. But I think that even in our Standing Orders - I have not the exact quotation - if a member is up and saying nothing, he should be invited to sit down.

Now, the member has been up for five minutes, has said absolutely nothing - a check of Hansard will verify this - and I think, Mr. Chairman, you should invite him to sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

There is no point of order.

The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

There is now a point of order, because I want to raise one myself, based on the information that the gentleman, the Minister of Transportation just gave the Committee, the information the Minister of Forestry just gave the Committee, and the information that the gentleman from Grand Falls just gave the Committee, on behalf of the Minister of Finance.

I refer you, Mr. Chairman, to Beauchesne, Paragraph 327, subparagraph (1). This is on page 115 of the Fifth Edition. Beauchesne is very clear on this issue on the bottom of page 115, the last paragraph.

The ministers, Mr. Chairman, made the point this morning of reading from the document and then saying that, because there were certain secrets, they could not be tabled. Well, that is their problem, Mr. Chairman. They ought to know the rules when they come into this House.

The rule is very clear under 327 (1). "A minister of the Crown is not at liberty to read or quote from a despatch or other state paper not before the House, unless he be prepared to lay it upon the Table. This restraint is similar

to the rule of evidence in courts of law, which prevent counsel from citing documents which have not been produced in evidence. The principle," Mr. Chairman, continuing to quote from Beauchesne, "is so reasonable that it has not been contested; and when the objection has been made in time, it has been generally acquiesced in."

Mr. Chairman, what could be clearer than that? The ministers, who have read into the record figures this morning, have an obligation under the rules of this House, the Minister of Forestry, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Transportation, to table the documents that they have read from.

Not to do so, Mr. Chairman, is a breach of the orders of this House, and that is my point of order. Until the ministers table those documents, as I would assume they have every intention of doing right now, they are in violation of 327 (1) of Beauchesne. I ask you to so rule.

MR. SIMMS:

Mr. Chairman, to that point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. SIMMS:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Fortune - Hermitage is again trying to indicate to us his prowess as a parliamentarian, and everything he learned in the House of Commons is often referred to in his arguments.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member's citation is an accurate one,

obviously, but there are other citations on the following page, which the hon. member conveniently forgot which clarify and make it a little more explicit.

"It has been admitted", you will see Section 2 on the top of page 16, "that a document which has been cited ought to be laid upon the table." What the hon. ministers were referring to were notes prepared for them by their officials and they clearly indicated that, and I clearly indicated it, when the hon. member asked me across the House when I was seated in my seat. Were these quotations from documents? I do not know what his words were, but I clearly said they were from notes and Hansard may even have picked it up.

So, the reference the hon member uses has nothing to do with the information that the hon. ministers were providing.

On the one hand they want information and we have been trying to co-operate as best we can and provide answers to questions. As a matter of fact it has been acknowledged on the other side that we have been providing some answers but, Mr. Chairman, it is not appropriate nor necessary, in connection with the citation that the hon. member refers to, to table notes that the hon. ministers are using, and that is specifically what they are using.

In fact it goes on to say the rule cannot be held to apply to private letters or memoranda. In that same subsection two on the top of page 116, "A document which has been cited ought to be laid upon the table...The same rule, however, cannot be held to apply to private letter or memoranda."

The hon. ministers were using memoranda or notes provided to them by their officials, so it is clearly not a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

To that point of order I must rule there is no point of order and I refer to Beauchesne 327, Section No. 2.

The hon. the Minister of Development and Tourism.

MR. BARRETT:

Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to continue with the precedent that has been established and set by my colleagues before and that is to provide some information to the hon. House and to the members opposite respecting some of the information regarding the Interim Supply requested for my department, the Department of Development and Tourism.

Now, I do have to refer to notes if you want accurate numbers and if I can presume that that can be allowed to happen, then I will do that. Assuming that is in order, Mr. Chairman, on the basis of your recent comments, the amount of money that has been requested under Interim Supply is \$14,311,600 of which amount \$11,066,600 is current account requirement, and \$3,245,000 capital account requirement.

Mr. Speaker, I think the issues that are probably most - and this is presupposing and maybe I should not do that - of interest to our colleagues on the other side would be those matters making up current account projects. I say that not to skim over the fact that there was \$11 million in current account, but the current account

figures in their entirety relate to the ongoing programme delivery of the department. Whether that be in the Division relating to marine and offshore, the promotional activities that are ongoing within that, as it relates to the administrative structure, as it relates to their interaction with the private sector, whether it be in the Tourism Division or whether it be in the Science and Technology and Small Business Division, or whether it be in the International Trade and Investment Division of the department. These are large numbers, but they pertain specifically to the administrative costs of operating the department for that period of time.

There is also provision, because of the way the department functions in the first quarter of our financial period, for a heavier demand on resources. We hire into our system to provide assistance - we are participants in the co-op student initiatives of government in conjunction with the university. Our greatest demand for co-op students from the engineering faculty and from the business administration faculty usually occurs in this first quarter. The demands for people from the senior levels of school, which we hire in on an annual basis, for the most part, when it comes to the 1-800 lines, which is the delivery mechanism for telephone inquiries into the department respecting tourism initiatives, as an example, the training programme for the people who are going into the field to work on ferries, to disseminate information on behalf of the Province at the tourist establishments throughout the Province, and things of this nature, do require a greater

percentage or proportion of the total budget in that first quarter.

But to get on with the Capital Account, under our Ocean Industries and Development Programme we have a requirement in the first quarter of \$250,000. On a continuation of our Pulp and Paper Modernization Programme which is ongoing at two locations, both at the Abitibi Price location in Grand Falls and at the Kruger facility in Corner Brook, \$1.2 million. Under the Burin Peninsula Development Fund, which is a fund, as you know, that has been put in place and has done admirably well in providing much needed resources to allow such things as the St. Lawrence mine to be reactivated; the establishment of the major facility at Cow Head for the ability to tie on to a wharfhead the semi-submersible supply vessels, to extend our capability, and to provide that kind of capability into the Province; the introduction of secondary processing in a very significant way in the Province by the establishment and the refurbishing of the Burin Plant; all of these programmes need continued support and to accommodate that in the first quarter, we have budgeted \$125,000.

There has been a lot of publicity, I think, of late concerning the establishment of a helicopter simulator in the Province. We have entered into a significant agreement to allow that technology to take place in this Province. There is no other simulator anywhere that will have the total capability that this particular one will have.

A part of the whole function is a training element which guarantees access to that flight simulator by

any technical group or organization or institution within the Province. That is a significant component of it. But in order to attract that here, it does take a level of public sector support. We estimate that in the first quarter the cash requirement from government will be \$1 million.

Under the Offshore Development Fund we have committed to totally facilitate the overall capacity of the Institute of Marine Dynamics on the university campus the wave generating equipment component of the major wave tank. That was one component that was omitted for budgetary reasons when the project was first put together and first built. But to complement all of the capability and the expertise and the potential for research and for real development in all of the elements that are housed in that fine facility that is co-ordinated through the University but involves directly Canada's commitment to research in ice and cold oceans research, to allow us to complete that programme the Province has agreed to cost-share the cost of putting in this wave generator equipment and for the first quarter there will be a cash requirement of \$150,000 to complete that.

With respect to our Tourism Subsidiary Agreement, we have in place applications, as we do in all of these programme, which have gone through the approval process with the combined offices of my department and the federal department responsible, and this management committee has already seen, under the accommodations part of this tourism agreement, a requirement for provincial participation of some \$260,000.

Under Tourist Facilities, another

component of the agreement, is a requirement to meet the present commitments of \$100,000. And under Travel Generators, another \$160,000. So if we total all these number up we will come to \$3,245,000 of money that is required in the first quarter, legitimately, no strings attached, nothing hidden away, nothing buried here in terms of requirement to government to fulfil these obligations.

Now in addition to that, but included in current account, because it is not a tangible that you can actually see where you have invested or a private sector initiative, of that \$11 million current account, \$1.8 million of that is required to fulfil our marketing initiatives, as an example, under the tourism initiatives of the Province.

And I do not think anybody can argue the value that that has provided to the Province over the past couple of years. Because of the determination of government to continue with this marketing initiative, we have agreed that we will commit \$1.8 million to that programme this year. But because all or 95 per cent of the marketing initiatives related to tourism takes place during this April - May - June period, then obviously you cannot accommodate a quarterly draw from that amount of money. There is a requirement for 100 per cent draw to accommodate the prepurchasing, the precommitments to advertising space, to media space, television, radio and so on.

If there are some specific areas that any members opposite want to direct questions to, I will be more than happy to accommodate them. I hope they are content

with what I said concerning the other amount as it relates to the elements pertaining to administrative ability to respond to various elements of the department's overall responsibilities to perform these functions, which really are not subjective kinds of funding. There are things which are inherent in the cost of travel. The fact of the matter is that most of the national and international activities, in terms of promotion - the fish shows, the tourism initiatives for Rendez-vous Canada, things of that nature - take place at this time of the year, so government does not have any control over saying, when it can spend the money. So we must be prepared, if we are going to show the province's capability in its marketing initiative, and its capability to deliver certain products, then we must be prepared to attend the various international and national exhibitions to present the province in that light and, leading up to that, the staff commitment within the department to be able to travel to these places, to be mobilized and put in place, to do the necessary technical work, to put the exhibition space in place, to hire the space for it. All of these elements, for the most part, are triggered in the first quarter of the year rather than being able to distribute it on a proportionate basis throughout the year.

So, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity, and if there are any answers I can give either publicly or privately to any of your colleagues, I would be more than happy to do that.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions for one of the education ministers, the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies, to be a little more specific. While the hon. minister is taking his place, maybe I should say members on this side owe a great debt to the Minister of Fisheries for the frankness and candour which he showed a few days ago. He set off a round of explanations from the other ministers, which is basically what we have been looking for, and I have to give a lot of that credit to the Minister of Fisheries because he was the first one we were ever able to break down. The Minister of Development is also doing an excellent job. Now, I will also say, as an aside, that we do have the odd incidence of comic relief, but even the most serious of tragedies would show a place for comic relief so I sort of sympathize with the Government House Leader who cannot control his members, who allow those silly interjections to take place. But that is quite an aside, Mr. Chairman.

For the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies, I see his department is asking for about \$65 million. Now, I would like for the minister to break down that \$65 million. I am sure he has been watching what his other colleagues have been doing, and essentially that is the same thing we are looking for: How much is for current, how much is for capital? The minister this morning made an announcement about some new money to combat illiteracy in this Province.

MR. MATTHEWS:

No.

MR. DECKER:

He said in a statement and now he is denying it all of a sudden. If it is not new money, then it is the same \$340,000 you were talking about this morning. Mr. Chairman, what I am trying to find out is this. In the Ministerial Statement this morning, the minister refers to the fact that he is going to go back looking for more money. That is my understanding of the thing. He made a big deal of the \$140,000 was only for about a month. This statement gave the impression that now he is going to be looking for extra money.

Here is what I want for the Minister of Career Development and Advanced Studies to explain, when he gets up. Is this extra money to combat illiteracy included in the \$65 million. Is there some money included in this \$65 million as extra money to combat illiteracy? Now, if it is included, then I want to know how much is included, and I want to know when it will be seen. Now, on the other hand, if it is not included, I rather suspect that it is not, then the minister is saying that at least another three months are about to pass before we can see any more money going into this office which has been established, this board which has been established, and he named the people on it.

Now, they have spent the \$140,000. I mean, that is obvious. So what does the minister plan to do with this fancy board which he has put in place, these people I congratulated? Where does he plan to get the money? The minister

will have time to answer those questions when he gets up, Mr. Chairman. He will have ten minutes. And if that is not enough, we will come back to it again.

I want him to clarify for this House where that money for his attack on adult illiteracy in this Province is at the present time in relation to this \$65 million. Is it already money which is there? If it is there, get up and tell us how much, and how it is going to be spent. No problem! But if it is not there, I am going to expect him to get up and explain why it is not there and why the haste in making the announcement on a Friday three months before the money turns up. There are a whole lot of questions which I would like the minister to address, specifically as they relate to his Ministerial Statement this morning.

As I said, I want some of his current expenses, and some of his capital costs. I would like to have as many of the headings as he can give us. I would like for him to table his document. I guess they have already found a loophole where they can now report from documents without tabling them. The minister, after all, he is dealing with the intellectual wing or our Province. If he does not accept the reason for not tabling the document I would not be surprised, because dealing with the intellectual wing he would probably understand things a little better than the other minister did. So maybe he would want to table the documents he has there.

I would also ask the minister specifically in this \$65 million is the minister allowing for any extra travel other than the normal

travel which would take place in any other quarter? Are there any trips being planned for Norway? Sometimes in the past this government has been known, when new members join their ranks from this side of the House, to reward them with a trip to Norway or Copenhagen. I would just like for the minister to be specific and let us know whether or not there will be any new matters.

It is not necessary to take up my full ten minutes, Mr. Chairman. I will allow the minister to answer those questions in the candor in which they were asked.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

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

MR. MATTHEWS:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Just a few brief comments, for the hon. member's information. The request of \$64,640,000, that is broken down, of course, into current and capital account expenditures, and \$44,900,000, in round figures, is for current account, and \$19,740,000 for capital account.

So basically all we are doing is asking for enough money in Interim Supply to get us through the next couple of months. I think if you look at last year's budget and take a relative proportion, then we need that particular amount of money that we are requesting in Interim Supply to get us through that period.

The hon. gentleman talks about the illiteracy policy office and the illiteracy advisor who is now in position and the money spent. I think I said in a statement this morning that we had a joint

statement on February 3 between the hon. David Crombie and myself announcing \$140,000 to get this office and advisor in place and get on with some programmes to hopefully address the really serious problem of illiteracy amongst undereducated adults in Newfoundland, which I think is a very honourable goal. I think, as the hon. gentleman said, it is something that maybe should have been started before, but at least it is a start now. I guess we really have to try and do both: We have to encourage our young people to stay in school longer and to become better educated and, at the same time, we have to try and educate our undereducated adults so that we do bring that illiteracy rate down. That is what we are attempting to do. So the statement this morning told the hon. gentleman that it was for the period ending 31 March, and the hon. gentleman said at the time of the statement, I remember hearing him say publicly, that he thought there was not enough money, which I agree with, and that is what I wanted to highlight this morning, that it was for that period of time.

Of course, the budget is not yet down, and we cannot get into specifics of the budget. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Windsor) is bringing it down on Tuesday. We are looking, in our own budgetary process, to access some dollars, but the big component of this particular programme from a financial point of view is the federal government, the Secretary of State, and we do have discussions ongoing with them to try and access some more dollars to put into this programme. If we are successful, hopefully we will be able to spend somewhere in the vicinity of another \$225,000 to

\$250,000 over the next year or so to go on further with the programme. What I announced this morning was not a board, it was really a series of four workshops, to be held at St. John's, Grand Falls, Stephenville and Happy Valley - Goose Bay, where we are going to engage agencies, organizations, people of the community in the various regions to help us adopt a provincial policy or provincial strategy to deal with this very serious problem of illiteracy. That was what I announced this morning, those four workshops. We are going to work very closely with our community colleges, the newly structured community college system of the Province because they are out in the regions and in the communities and best know what should be done in the various regions of our Province and communities. That is why we set in place the presidents and the Boards of Governors. So that in essence is what we announced this morning, Mr. Chairamn. I do not know if the hon. gentleman wants me to go into the specifics of each subhead and all that stuff it would take a fair bit of time to do that, but in essence all we are asking for is a proportion of the money to keep us going for the next two or three months.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Port de Grave.

MR. EFFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a number of questions and I am glad to see the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Tobin) is in his seat. I thought that he had left for the day and I am glad I will have the opportunity to ask a few questions before this hon. House closes.

He has asked for the approval of \$53,161,000 by this side of the House in order for the Interim Supply Bill to pass.

I must say to the Minister of Social Services, on the questions I have been asking in the past and the answers that have been given, I have some concerns before I will even agree to be a part of voting and passing this particular bill, in view of the fact that I read in a recent copy of **The Globe and Mail** - it was bad enough for me to read in **The Evening Telegram** - that they were calling for tenders for a consulting group to tell him how to run his department, but now I see we are going to other parts of Canada and Ontario asking for the same tender to be called. I can just imagine some firm in some other part of Canada, let us use Ontario for an example, making millions and millions of dollars to come down here to Newfoundland and tell the Department of Social Services how the people depending on Social Services should be living and what they should be receiving around this Province, for somebody who is earning probably \$100,000 or \$150,000 a year salary to tell somebody who has to live on \$400 a month how they should be maintaining a decent lifestyle. For that reason, Mr. Chairman, I have a lot of questions that the Minister of Social Services is going to have to answer before I am going to be willing to be a part of approving this bill.

A total of \$53 million is asked for. I know there is naturally a lot of that is going to be in current account and wages and we have no arguments with that. But I have to ask the minister if there is anything in that particular amount, or if anything

has been provided by his department to pay the cost of hiring these consultants? Can give he us some idea how much this group is going to cost the taxpayers of this Province? Because if you look at the estimates for last year, you will see that \$56,359,600 was approved by this House last year, plus salaries, for the Department of Social Services.

When you look at the Minister's Office and the staff around him, deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, executive staff and administration, you will see that a lot this money is being paid out in wages. A great portion of that \$56 million was approved last year. And now we see ads in **The Evening Telegram** and other local papers, and in **The and Mail**, seeking consultants to come in and tell these people how to run the department. When the minister was interviewed after receiving his recent appointment, he talked about looking forward to new ventures in the Department of Social Services, his past experience as a social worker, and how enthusiastic he was about the new people he was bringing on staff. How can he now justify being part of a plan to have a consulting firm come in from some other part of Canada to tell them how to raise money?

AN HON. MEMBER:

Ask your question?

MR. EFFORD:

My question has already been put to the Minister of Social Services. How much is it going to cost? How does he justify it? Last Summer they started cutting back in the Department of Social Services. Number one, cutting back on social workers. And the

minister knows very well that I have at no time in this House accused any social worker in this Province of not being capable of doing their job. What I have very clearly said, Mr. Chairman, is that social workers in the regional and district offices are overworked, and there is a big difference in being overworked and not being capable of doing a job. And why are they overworked? They are overworked because of the cutbacks in the Department of Social Services during 1987.

Now, further to that, we have to ask how this money is going to be spent. Are there going to be any increases in the amounts of money that social services recipients are going to receive this year? Because numerous people have been coming to us and saying that they have had cutbacks in their cheques; cutbacks in the amount of money they received for clothing for their children. There have been cutbacks in heating bills. I approached the Social Services Office in my own area and they say there is no money available for heating bills. The minister stood on his feet here last week and he said that money for heating is included in the monthly cheque. A family of five receives \$510 a month, which includes the feeding of two children a man and his wife.

AN HON. MEMBER:
A family of four.

MR. EFFORD:
A family of four, you are right.

That also includes clothing and whatever essentials they need for school, such as lunches, and it is supposed to include their heat bill. Anybody with an average size home of 1,000 square feet will pay at least \$200 a month, if

they do not have a woodstove, for their electrical bill. Take \$200 from the \$500 and you have \$300. Now, we are not arguing the fact that there is only so much money available, but how do we justify \$56 million in wages to people working in the Department of Social Services while expecting a family of four to live on \$510? I mean, there has to be an increase. There has to be an increase for those people in that \$53 million the minister is asking us to approve. A 4 per cent increase, twenty dollars a month, is absolutely disgraceful! The minister could not go out and buy a fish and chips lunch for twenty dollars. And that is the total increase they get, 4 per cent. Absolutely unbelievable!

The other question, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister has to do with the problems at the Boys' Home. Now, we are going to argue back and forth, and they can make all the accusations they like, that I am dramatizing or whatever, but there are problems.

AN HON. MEMBER:
Sensationalizing.

MR. EFFORD:
Sensationalizing, or whatever. There is no question, I will agree, that things do get out of hand in the heat of debate, but the fact remains that there are problems at the Boys' Home. Those young offenders need guidance from the Department of Social Services: They need counselling, they need proper facilities, and, at the very, very least, they need a decent bed to sleep in and a decent meal. Now, that is the very least we can provide them with.

The Minister of Social Services,

like the former minister, knows full well that it is no good, it is only throwing good money after bad, to ask Public Works to go down there to patch up and try to make everything look good. What we are hoping the Minister of Social Services will do with this amount of money that has been allocated, and has to be approved, is construct a new facility, hopefully in Port de Grave district, so we can house the boys and girls. Surely, goodness, he is not going to put it in St. John's. Hopefully, we can get it outside of St. John's so that the boys and girls can be properly housed.

This is another very important issue I want the minister to address. To further emphasize the need for a new facility, right now we have boys and girls in the one institution and both have to use the one washroom facility, which is totally disgraceful.

The other thing I would like to ask the minister is, out of the \$53 million, what community job development programmes are being initiated? Other than the fact that these programmes are getting people on unemployment insurance and saving the department money, are they really of any benefit to the people who are working on those programmes? Are they getting any training? Are they being trained to go into the work force? My experience, Mr. Chairman, with those particular programmes is people are put to work cleaning out ditches, or painting graveyard fences, etc. There is absolutely no training to prepare them for a full-time job, it is just a process whereby they get ten weeks work, enough to get them on UIC so that they are off the back of the Social Services

Department, which further deteriorates their standard of living. Because what is happening is once they get on those job development programmes, and then on UIC, their rent is cut off, their drug card is taken from them, their heat subsidy, if any was required, is taken from them; they get into a situation where they cannot even afford to pay their mortgages.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. EFFORD:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. the Minister of Social Services.

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Chairman, I will just touch briefly on some of the comments that were made by the hon. member for Port de Grave.

I guess I will start where he started in his statement as it relates to the department. Mr. Chairman, there is one very interesting thing he stated there, and that is as it relates to our community development programmes. Yes, our community development programmes have indeed been extremely successful over the years. It was only the other day, Mr. Chairman, when I was going through a file that I came across a letter that was written on February 9, 1976, and it is addressed to Mike Pickett, District Manager, Department of Social Services, Marystown.

It says, "I note from your quarterly report for the period ending December 31, that Mr. Glen

Tobin, Employment Opportunities Worker and Social Worker attached to your office, placed nine social assistance recipients to permanent employment. Social worker Tobin is to be congratulated on his efforts and success.

"Would you please convey thanks from the Department of Social Services to Mr. Tobin for his very excellent work in the field of Employment Opportunities." That is signed by the Director.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. TOBIN:

Mr. Chairman, I happen to have this letter because it was addressed to me. There are an awful lot of social workers out there who I am sure have received exactly the same letter, because their Employment Opportunities Division, or the community development projects, have indeed been extremely successful in this Province.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, it was only the other day that I approved several projects for his own district. I do not think that the hon. member is suggesting that we should cancel them in his district. I do not think he does.

MR. EFFORD:

No.

MR. TOBIN:

Mr. Chairman, he is not suggesting that we cancel the ones in Port de Grave. So as it relates to community development, it is doing extremely well.

MR. EFFORD:

Did you get any more letters like that?

MR. TOBIN:

Yes. I got lot of letters like that, as a matter of fact. It was letters like this that caused me to end up as Minister of Social Services.

MR. SIMMONS:

We need a breakdown of the \$53 million. (Inaudible).

MR. TOBIN:

Basically a lot of it has to do with Current Account.

Mr. Chairman, as it relates to the other questions that were raised by the member, I think he mentioned the young offenders down in Pleasantville and other areas. We are doing what we can do. The hon. gentleman must realize that there was a fire which took place and that the building was down there and all that. We are trying to address the issue, Mr. Chairman, as it relates to that section.

Cutbacks in rent and heat: No, Mr. Chairman, in my department there have not been any cutbacks. As a matter of fact, the budget, and I have said so often before, in nine years it increased by 146 per cent and it will continue, hopefully, Mr. Chairman, with that same trend of development.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Carry! Carry!

MR. TOBIN:

Mr. Chairman, they want me to clue up.

MR. SIMMS:

Is the House now ready for the question?

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 considerable progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

MR. SIMMS:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SIMMS:
I move that the House adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, at 3:00 p.m. I hope members have an enjoyable pre-Easter weekend and we will be back here on Monday. I move that the House now adjourn.

On motion the House at its rising adjourn until tomorrow, Monday 28, at 3:00 p.m.

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**Answers to Questions
tabled**

March 25, 1988

PUBLIC SERVICES, WORKS AND PROPERTY.

31. At the date of Union, or as soon thereafter as practicable, Canada will take over the following services and will as from the date of Union relieve the Province of Newfoundland of the public costs incurred in respect of each service taken over, namely.

- (a) the Newfoundland Railway, including steamship and other marine services;
- (b) the Newfoundland Hotel if requested by the Government of the Province of Newfoundland within six months from the date of Union;
- (c) postal and publicly-owned telecommunication services;
- (d) civil aviation, including Gander Airport;
- (e) customs and excise;
- (f) defence;
- (g) protection and encouragement of fisheries and operation of bait services;
- (h) geological, topographical, geodetic, and hydrographic surveys;
- (i) lighthouses, fog alarms, buoys, beacons, and other public works and services in aid of navigation and shipping;
- (j) marine hospitals, quarantine, and the care of shipwrecked crews;
- (k) the public radio broadcasting system; and
- (l) other public services similar in kind to those provided at the date of Union for the people of Canada generally.

33. The following public works and property of Newfoundland shall become the property of Canada when the services concerned is taken over by Canada, subject to any trusts existing in respect thereof, and to any interest other than that of Newfoundland in the same, namely,

- (a) the Newfoundland Railway, including rights of way, wharves, dry docks, and other real property, rolling stock, equipment, ships, and other personal property;
- (b) the Newfoundland Airport at Gander, including buildings and equipment, together with any other property used for the operation of the Airport;
- (c) the Newfoundland Hotel and equipment;
- (d) public harbours, wharves, break-waters, and aids to navigation;
- (e) bait depots and the motor vessel Malakoff;
- (f) military and naval property, stores, and equipment;
- (g) public dredges and vessels except those used for services that remain the responsibility of Newfoundland and except the nine motor vessels known as the Clarenville boats;
- (h) the public telecommunication system, including rights of way, land lines, cables, telephones, radio stations, and other real and personal property;
- (i) real and personal property of the Broadcasting Corporation of Newfoundland; and
- (j) subject to the provisions of Term thirty-four, customs houses, and post-offices and generally all public works and property, real and personal, used primarily for services taken over by Canada.

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