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SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The House met at 3:00.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

NOTICES OF MOTION:

HON. T. A. HICKMAN, MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the honourable Minister of Health, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill, "An Act To Amend The Hospitals Act, 1971."

On behalf of the Minister of Mines and Energy, a Bill, "An Act To Ratify, Confirm And Adopt An Agreement Made Between The Government And Kennco Exploration Canada Limited."

AN HON. MEMBER: The minister of Tourism?

MR. HICKMAN: K-e-n-n-c-o.

AN HON. MEMBER: Kaleidoscope.

MR. HICKMAN: Kaleidoscope

On behalf of the Minister of Tourism, a Bill, "An Act Respecting Historic Objects, Sites and Records."

On behalf of myself, a Bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Criminal Injuries Compensation Act."

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further notices of motion?

MR. WM. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, this is as good a place as any to make this motion, I move that the House when it does rise today, stand adjourned until tomorrow at 10:00 A.M., tomorrow Friday.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are we meeting tonight?

MR. MARSHALL: We are going tonight yes, but we come back tomorrow morning.

MR. SPEAKER: It is moved and second that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Friday at 10:00 A.M. Carried.

QUESTIONS:

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Social Services.

MR. A. J. MURPHY, Minister of Social Services: Mr. Speaker, I have the answer to question No. 7, on the Order Paper of February 8, 1973, in answer to a question by the honourable member for Bell Island. Also to correct an answer - the question asked actually was a schedule showing for each electoral

MR. MURPHY: district the cost to the government for social assistance during February 1972. In my department they submitted February 1973, so I have the corrected one for February 1972.

We have February 1973, already tabled in error. So February 1972 is now being tabled to correct the error made. There is a lot of difference in them, but I will not repeat it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MURPHY: No, the Bell Island one was in 1972, it was not in 1973.

MR. NEARY: St. John's South.

MR. MURPHY: St. John's South, that is the only one, North or South. If I had the question I might repeat it for the information of the House.

I hope copies do go upstairs so the press can see one and inform the people of the province.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the honourable Minister of Finance. Is the minister going to apologize to "The Daily News," for the vicious attack made on "The Daily News" in this House the day before yesterday?

HON. J. C. CROSBIE, Minister of Finance: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have this opportunity to speak on this matter and I thank the honourable gentleman for bringing it up. I thought if I waited long enough he probably would.

No, Mr. Speaker, no there will be no apology because no apology is deserved. All that happened is that "The Daily News" is blaming this improper and false story on "The Canadian Press." When "The Daily News" printed the story last Monday they did not attribute it to "The Canadian Press." There was no "Canadian Press" by-line, which there should have been had it been from "The Canadian

MR. CROSBIE: Press^{es} - they were wrong to use that story without attributing it to "Canadian Press!" But I will say that I thought their treatment of it on Tuesday, when they corrected the story, was exemplary because it had just about the same coverage as the mistaken story on Monday.

While not apologizing to "The Daily News" I will transfer my comments of last Tuesday from "The Daily News" to "The Canadian Press" and that should satisfy the honourable gentleman in question.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, will the honourable minister repeat outside the House what he said in the House? Or is he using the protection of the House?

MR. CROSBIE: I have no objection, if the honourable gentleman will assure me there will be some consequence to it.

MR. E. M. ROBERTS, Leader of the Opposition: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Manpower, etc., is he yet in a position to say anything at all about the situation in the strike in Labrador West, in Labrador City?

HON. G. DAWE, Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations: Not at this time, I have been in touch with the parties but it is a very precarious situation and I do not think I should comment on it.

MR. ROBERTS: Supplementary, the strike is still on, is it? 1800 men or whatever in the labour force are still out of work?

MR. DAWE: Right.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Labrador North.

MR. M. WOODWARD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Energy who is not in his seat today. Maybe I should direct it to the senior minister in that group of three, the Minister of Finance, regarding the headlines in "The Evening Telegram," today, "The uranium enrichment plant will not be built in Newfoundland," I wonder if the minister can tell the House if BRINCO, the people that I feel have some expertise and not necessary the Minister of Energy, Mr. MacDonald,

MR. WOODWARD: the federal minister, if the minister can tell the House if BRINCO has said that there is not sufficient power in Labrador with the development of the Upper Churchill and the Lower Churchill to support a uranium enrichment plant? Have the BRINCO people assured the province that this is the case?

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, first the Minister of Mines and Energy, or whatever the right title is, of Canada, of course, is expressing an opinion of his own in that connection and the problem is not really whether there is sufficient power available, it is the question, as I understand it, if you have a uranium enrichment plant, there is no way in which you can take a risk that it will not have power. In other words, it must always have power supplied to it. If it be in a location where there would be any chance of power failure, say transmission lines going down or power failure so that it did not have available to it alternative power, it cannot be put in that position.

Now BRINCO have not said that if there is a uranium enrichment plant it would not be built in Newfoundland and Labrador.

In fact if it were to use power from the Lower Churchill, we would certainly have something to say about that. They have not indicated that it would not be built in Labrador. No one knows whether or not there will be such a plant built. BRINCO are still working on the feasibility study on that. They cannot build a uranium enrichment plant in any event unless the Government of Canada give them the approval to do that, because it involves obtaining information from the United States Government on the technology. The Government of Canada, as far as I know, have not given them the go-ahead but BRINCO are still working on this project, still doing feasibility studies. They have not said it would not be in Newfoundland and Labrador. They have indicated that this is the problem, that it maybe that other sites would be more advantageous because you have to have

MR. CROSBIE: power coming to the plant from several different sources so you would be sure they all would not be down at the same time.

So there is no indication whether it would absolutely not be in Labrador if it ever did go ahead. In fact if it had to use our power, we would certainly have something to say about it.

MR. WOODWARD: Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, can the minister inform the House, I asked the Premier the other day, if there are any negotiations taking place

within the province and BRINCO or the federal government concerning an uranium enrichment plant for the province or in Labrador.

MR. CROSBIE: There have been - I would not call it negotiations, Mr. Speaker, between us but we discussed this project of course with BRINCO when we first assumed office and it has been discussed with them on several occasions. It is not a question of negotiations because they just do not know whether there is going to be such a project or not nor have there been any negotiations between us and the Government of Canada. It is between BRINCO and the Government of Canada that any negotiations have been. There have been discussions but not negotiations. There is nothing to negotiate yet.

MR. WOODWARD: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Maybe it is unfair. Would the government of the day encourage such a development or such a plant in the province?

MR. CROSBIE: Well on that of course we would have to decide when we had the particulars of what employment it would give, how much permanent employment there would be and what it would mean - it would depend on all those factors. We know that there will be quite a few construction jobs. We know that it takes a lot of power. So, we would have to see whether that would be more desirable than some other possible development. There is just not enough known about it at this stage. Certainly if our power were to be used and this plant should go in Labrador - we are not going to give them our power to use in some other province for a uranium enrichment plant.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs who is also responsible for the lack of housing in this province. Would the minister inform the House -

MR. SPEAKER: If the honourable member will permit. He knows full well the framing of a question is not to enter into debate nor is the question to be provocative as the frame of that particular

question was. I am sure that the honourable member will address the honourable minister in the manner to which his office is entitled.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like the honourable minister to inform the House if there is any special reason why housing starts in February of this year as compared to February of 1972 showed a substantial decrease, if there is any specific reason for this.

HON. H.A. COLLINS: (MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING): Mr. Speaker, last year the housing starts in the province were the highest around February. The reason that they were down at the beginning of this year is because there is no serviced land.

I am afraid the honourable member will have to look at someone else to find the blame for that.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. What steps is the minister taking or his department taking to provide serviced land for people especially in the St. John's area?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated to the House on several occasions, by the beginning of the construction season, looking at June, there will be adequate serviced land in the city, in the Mount Pearl and New Town area and also in the Virginia Waters and various other smaller developments and hopefully in the major urban centers across the province.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the honourable minister indicate when the serviced lots in the New Town will go on sale?

MR. COLLINS: That is difficult to say, Mr. Speaker. I would not want to set a date but as I said, hopefully by June month.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the serviced lots in the New Town be sold to contractors or to individuals?

MR. COLLINS: They will be block to block made available to contractors

and the private individual will also have an opportunity to buy them.

MR. NEARY: Another supplementary question to the honourable minister. Could the honourable minister inform the House as to the average cost of these serviced lots in the New Town area?

MR. COLLINS: That is difficult to say, Mr. Speaker, because -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Take a stab at it.

MR. COLLINS: No, I do not want to take a stab at it because I do not want to build up people's hopes. They have gone through a period of twenty-three years of that. I would want to wait until the contractors prices are in and we will see exactly what the price is on it.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Could he inform the House if tenders have been called for the connection of the water supply in Happy Valley to the base water supply, if that contract has been called or when it will be called?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the tenders have not been called. Financing has been arranged for it. Whether the Town of Happy Valley will be connected to the M.O.T. system or US&F or whatever that has not been decided yet. Just as soon as the council has made a decision as a result of their negotiations with the people in Ottawa, we will be calling tenders. Financing is ready for it.

MR. SPEAKER: Before going further, it has been brought to my attention that we have in the galleries today seventeen children from A.L. Bristol School at Argentic, with their teacher Miss Peggy Johnson.

We also have in the galleries today a long-term resident of the historic district of Port au Port, Mr. Patrick Gushue. It is not very often that we get visitors from the West Coast and I would like to welcome him and the children to the

galleries today as well as all other distinguished visitors.

I trust that your visit here will be interesting and informative.

HON. F.D. MOORES: (PREMIER): On a minor point of order, Mr. Speaker, and it is a very minor point of order. It is a matter of welcoming school children to the House, Sir. When Your Honour is welcoming them, I very respectfully suggest that he call them young people or young men and women rather than children because the age group for children seems to be lowered to such a degree that I do not think that they would be allowed in the House unless they were members. So I would suggest that for the future, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I will take the appropriate action in the future.

HON. DR. T.C. FARRELL: (MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS):

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that we have some other distinguished visitors, the mayor and three of his council from the Community of Pasadena on the West Coast. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a day for the West Coast.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable members would permit: The last day the committee stayed until approximately four minutes past six. The last thing that was done was that 620-04 was carried.

MR. F. ROWE: Was it not on Tuesday evening when we were considering this particular estimate? It was not after six o'clock at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was probably at eleven o'clock on the last day that we were involved with Committee of Supply. The last item that was carried was 620-04 and the committee sat a little longer than usual in order to accommodate one of the members.

Total subhead 620- Education.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have a go because I do not recall, Mr. Chairman, with all due respect, passing that particular subhead the other night. There must be a misunderstanding because we were debating it and there were a few other things that my colleague wanted to say on it. The minister himself I think was answering some questions that we had put to him but nevertheless we can still do it under this subhead, Sir.

HON. W.W. MARSHALL: (MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO): Mr. Chairman, I can refresh the minds of the committee itself. I cannot refresh the committee but the mind of the committee. Last Tuesday night we sat beyond eleven o'clock. We did call it eleven. The honourable Leader of the Opposition was speaking and it was not specifically called eleven, so we could pass this vote and it was passed. If memory serves me correctly, Mr. Chairman, because I always keep a fond eye on the honourable the member for Bell Island, I believe that he did skip out three minutes before eleven. I saw him at the elevator, he may not have been here. I do not think that he was here when this particular vote was passed, but it was passed.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, that is possible. After a long day I was probably bushed and wanted to catch the elevator, but now I have my batteries recharged, Sir, and I am all set, rearing to go again. Actually, Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief.

I merely wanted to endorse the idea put forward by the Minister of Education the other night to maximize the use of the College of Trades and Technology by introducing the tri-semester system. I would like to suggest to the minister that he also try this in the vocational schools.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member will permit. I do believe the ruling that was made as far as the speaking on the subhead is concerned was from the honourable the Leader of the Opposition who moved an amendment to the subhead, which moved a reduction in

the amount to be voted. There is no provision in the ruling for unlimited debate on subheads. The honourable member, while not wanting to anticipate his debate, as he and I have discussed on numerous occasions, I do believe that he is now entering into a discussion similar to subhead 620-04, and subhead 620-04 has already been carried. So the honourable member will have to deal specifically with a matter, dealing with it arithmetically or otherwise subhead 620, and not to get into matters which have already been passed upon.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, maybe we can pass this subhead and I will have a go on it under vocational training. I can say the same thing there.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, to be quite frank with you, Sir, I was not under the impression that this particular subhead 620-04 had in fact passed. I might run into the same difficulty as my colleague, the member for Bell Island here. Sir, I had to rise on this particular occasion in order to speak against the amount of this particular subhead, in view of the need for a polytechnical institute in this province. Sir, I have mentioned on a number of occasions that some of the votes in this total education vote represent a policy of retrenchment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member will permit again. The time for discussion of this matter was under 620-04. Subhead 620-04 was carried and subhead 620-07 was carried. The House will not entertain a motion for an expenditure of money. The honourable member also has the Budget Debate as well as many other ways of making his point and will not be permitted to debate subhead 620.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, am I not allowed to speak to the amount of the subhead? Is that the ruling? I am speaking against the amount of the subhead here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member's debate should have been made

under 620-04 or 620-07. The honourable member for St. Barbe North has shown extreme disrespect for the Chair with a gesture of disgust or otherwise. While it is not verbal, it is one of the most reprehensible acts that has gone on in this House in this session and the Chair certainly does not look upon it with favor. The honourable member has a right to dispute the Chair's ruling but he does not have the right to make motions which are disgusting.

MR. F. ROWE: With all due respect, I did ask the Chair if in fact I

could debate the amount of the subhead. I was told that I was not allowed to debate the amount of the subhead. That is why I was showing my disgust, Sir.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, did I hear a ruling that we could not debate - we have not debated the amount of the subhead. We have debated and the committee have carried \$3.2 million in 04 and \$80,000 in 07 but there are two other amounts, Sir, which have not been discussed at all because the total we are voting here is only \$3.19 million. Why? Because there are Appropriations-in-Aid and because there are expenses voted in other departments. That is why the subhead total is carried. Did I hear Your Honour say that it is not in order to debate the total amount that the minister proposes to spend on the College of Trades and Technology? Surely I did not hear that, Sir.

MR. CROSBIE: The amount has already been voted for the College of Trades and Technology. Grants-in-Aid, \$3,200,000.

MR. ROBERTS: No, Sir! No, Sir!

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, 620. The amounts have already been voted. Grants-in-Aid, \$3,200,000; Furnishings and Equipment, \$80,000. These amounts have already been voted. They have already been debated in detail over and over again, therefore, repetition of all that debate on the subhead is ultra vires.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, we have not - we are being asked to vote the total of subhead 620, \$3.19 million. The reason why that total is different, of course, as Your Honour would point out, is that there are Appropriations-in-Aid and there are expenses voted in other departments. Sir, I submit that we have not - that is why the total is called. His Honour the other evening recessed the committee while he consulted with his officials, took counsel and came back and concurred with the statement that in this committee traditionally over the years the subhead total has been called and has been voted upon.

Indeed a motion to reduce it was in order. I am quite prepared to move we can debate the subhead total because it has not been passed. We cannot under the subhead total, as Your Honour told us the other evening, talk, i.e., about the denominational/educational committee on the subhead total of the College of Trades and Technology but we can talk about the College of Trades and Technology on the subhead total which has not yet been voted. I submit that that is the correct view, Sir.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, on that point, the sub-total does not have to be voted. It is only in the estimates as a matter of convenience to show what the total is under that subhead once you had deducted any Appropriations-in-Aid that relate to it. The House in Committee of Supply vote the estimates. The estimates for the money needed on 620-04 Grants-in-Aid is \$3,200,000; 07, \$80,000 for Furnishings and Equipment. There happens to be an Appropriations-in-Aid as a convenience to show how much the cost is, net. There is a total of a subhead. The subhead does not need to be voted. If the honourable gentlemen are going to continue the attempt to debate a subhead which has already been voted on, then I submit that the committee should not deal with the sub-totals at all or call them at all.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Your Honour made a ruling on this the other evening. The hon. Minister of Finance is challenging Your ruling. As Your Honour has told us on a number of occasions, there is a procedure. I understood Your Honour's ruling to be quite clear and quite straightforward. Your Honour indeed took time to consider the ruling and Your Honour did say that in Your Honour's view it may have been a little illogical but on the precedents of this House it was well-founded. Surely we are following Your Honour's ruling. If the Minister of Finance, should wish to appeal it he has the same right as does any other member.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It would seem to me, and there are a lot of sub-totals coming up, that one of the points the Minister of Finance suggested, in his opinion, was that these sub-totals need not be called. I would suggest perhaps that the Chair could consider that particular question. If they should be called, obviously they are called and what can be debated on them or cannot obviously is a matter for the Chair to rule. What I am asking is that the Chair should perhaps consider the question raised by the Minister of Finance, whether in fact it is necessary to call them or not.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, that is an incredible suggestion. These subhead totals, Your Honour - I have been in the House now six or seven sessions and they have always been called on estimates. Your Honour has been having them called. We have been seven or eight sittings now on estimates. It would be quite out of order not to have them. They have been called for years. One cannot change the rules in that way. Did the Minister of Justice say something? I am sorry. Mr. Chairman, they have been debated. I will move that the vote be reduced by one dollar. That was in order the other night. That is a debatable motion. I move that subhead total 620 be reduced from \$3.19 million to \$3,189,999.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I move that this motion is entirely out of order. There is no need. This sub-total can neither be reduced nor increased. A sub-total is just an addition. The money has already been voted. The Leader of the Opposition's opportunity to reduce the vote under 620 has gone. The money has already been voted by the House. To suggest that he can now vote to reduce the sub-total is just ludicrous. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that this be ruled out of order. It is senseless. With respect to the rest of these arguments that sub-totals have been called in the committee before, that has just merely been a convenience to show what

the sub-total is. If it is now going to be abused and if members of the opposition are going to attempt to debate on the sub-totals as well as on all the other individual items, then this is an abuse which might as well cease now. We do not need the sub-totals. They do not need to be called. I will ask Your Honour to make a ruling on this because this is obstructionism of the worst sort.

MR. ROBERTS: His Honour ruled the other evening on that.

MR. CROSBIE: Well we need to look at it again. Will we wait for the ruling or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The ruling a couple of evenings ago was one the Chair said at that time that it was not particularly proud of. The whole matter is predicated on whether or not subheads have to be voted. That matter was not dealt with. The point of order raised by the hon. Minister of Finance is one which in effect deals with the problem of whether or not subheads have to be voted. Arithmetically it does not make sense that if the committee vote for expenditures of money which total to "x" number of dollars and for convenience sake it is totalled and a tradition has arisen, shall the subhead carry, that is in the opinion of the Chair, a tradition of convenience and should not open up all the subheads above for extended debate. If honourable members have arguments to make, they should be made on the subhead. They should be made on the subheads before the total is carried.

MR. ROBERTS: Sir, there is no other place where we can talk about Appropriations-in-Aid. This has been the tradition of this House I submit as far back as one can go but certainly six or seven years. Not only that they are called but the clerk says, "carried." Is Your Honour suggesting that we have been acting in this House improperly for the past twenty, thirty, forty, fifty or sixty years? I would submit, Mr. Chairman,

that if that be Your Honour's ruling, it is not one to be made without consultation with Your Honour's officials and reference to the books. This changes the rule of the whole game in midstream. If we do not need sub-totals why do we need totals? Why then does the Committee of Supply report to Committee of the Whole? Why then do we have appropriation bills which are debatable? There are many stages in the appropriation procedure. It is encrusted with tradition. According to the rules and our precedents, this motion was in order the other evening. I submit it is equally in order right now. If Your Honour wish to reconsider the matter, then I would suggest that we be allowed some time to research this point because it is a very significant and substantial point. One cannot, just cannot brush aside Your Honour, with all due respect, what Your Honour has done and what the gentlemen sitting before you have done, Sir. If the precedents and the practice of this House are to be cast aside like that Your Honour, then we have coming to a pretty pass indeed. If Your Honour wish to reconsider the ruling, that is perfectly in order. I would suggest it be researched and that we all be allowed to present a detailed procedural argument. It is a very significant point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is necessary to deal with this matter expeditiously. The ruling is that sub-totals are not debatable other than if there is a mistake in calculation on them.

MR. ROBERTS: Will Your Honour hold to His ruling on this; want no further argument on it? Your Honour will entertain no argument? Then, Sir, with the greatest of respect and with the greatest of regret I give notice that I must at the earliest opportunity move a motion of censure against Your Honour for violating the tradition and precedents of this House, Sir, I do so with far more regret than you will ever know.

MR. CROSBIE: This is the most unheard of piece of affront that has ever been witnessed in this House of Assembly. If the honourable

gentleman does not like Your Honour's ruling, then the procedure is to appeal the ruling. To threaten the Chairman of this committee, that the honourable gentleman is going to move a motion of censure on him, is unheard of in any parliament of the world.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I made no threats. I gave a notice of motion. It was no threat. There is no point in appealing the ruling. I think that that is just a waste of time. I am not looking forward to the debate on a censure motion. I believe it should be dealt with expeditiously. It is only the second time to my knowledge that there has ever been a censure motion. The other one was moved by the hon. gentleman from St. John's West a couple of years ago. I really feel that the traditions of this House have been violated this day and unnecessarily and I submit improperly and that is why I am driven to the expediency of giving notice of a motion of censure. I only wish that the Speaker could be back to hear it.

On motion that the committee rise report having passed some items of current expenditure under Heading VI - Education and ask leave to sit again, Mr. Speaker returned to the Chair.

On motion report received and adopted.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, in view of the proceedings I move that the House do not adjourn at eleven o'clock today.

MR. SPEAKER: It is moved that the House do not adjourn at eleven o'clock today. The motion is not debatable. Those in favour "aye." Contrary "nay." Carried.

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

Shall 621-01, carry? Carried.

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman. What do you mean carried. Are we just going to ram the estimates through the Committee? If the hon. minister of Finance does not want to debate the items of the estimates, let him go down to his office somewhere or buy earplugs, Sir. We are discussing

here \$600 million of the taxpayers' money. Go and buy a pair of ear-plugs.

Mr. Chairman, on the matter of vocational training, Sir, I would like for the Minister of Education to consider introducing the tri-semester system in the vocational and training schools across this province. We endorsed the idea, Sir, of the tri-semester system and the minister indicated the other day when we were discussing another heading, the College of Trades and Technology, that it was going to be implemented over there, I think this September coming or is it this June? Is it June or September?

MR. OTTENEHIMER: Late in June.

That is the period for the third semester.

MR. NEARY: Well we endorsed that, Mr. Chairman, and I commend the idea also to the minister to try it in the Vocational Training Schools because the trend today, Sir, is towards technical and vocational training.

I would also recommend to the minister, Sir, that it be two semesters in, and one out. That is, Mr. Chairman, that work will be organized by the schools in co-operation with Canada Manpower. I personally believe, Sir, that this would be a realistic dimension in training our young people for employment in this province. Too often, Mr. Speaker, two or three years of training in the District Vocational Schools where you just give the students straight theory is not really of great use to the graduates, Mr. Chairman, or of less use to the employer when they go to look for work. I would say that it probably takes a considerable period of time, even after the graduates find work, Sir, to adjust themselves to the job that they find whether it be in their train or not.

Mr. Chairman, as honourable members know, today students attending the vocational training schools are getting very generous assistance from Canada Manpower. Well now, Sir, if the minister accept my idea of adopting the tri-semester system in the vocational training schools - Mr. Chairman, could I have a little quiet -

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It is on your side.

MR. NEARY: If the minister accept my proposal, Sir, Mr. Chairman, I can hardly hear myself talking.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It is on your side. We do not know what it is.

MR. NEARY: Well will the House Leader call his members back to that side of the House, Sir, so we can have a little quiet over here. Now they are over here causing trouble. It is bad enough to have them over there causing trouble, Mr. Chairman, get the Sergeant-at-Arms to bring the members back where they belong, on the other side of the House.

Mr. Chairman, if the Minister of Education accept my proposal

to introduce the tri-semester system in the vocational training schools where students are already getting generous Manpower allowances, Sir, (not in all cases though because there are some students who are getting the provincial allowance, which is only \$15. a week) if my recommendation be adopted, then I think that when these students go out to work, when the instructors at the vocational training schools, working with Canada Manpower, find suitable employment or on the job training for these students, that they be paid a realistic wage, Sir, that they not be turfed out of the school one semester and just work for very low wages or work for the minimum wage. If the minister should see any merit in this then I would like to see the students get on the job training, Sir, at a realistic wage. There is a great opportunity to do that today, Mr. Chairman, because the federal government, Canada Manpower, does have a very good one on the job training programme. So I would think that most of the students could probably qualify for on the job training under the federal manpower programme, Sir.

This would not only, Mr. Chairman, give the students valuable experience and on the job training that they need but it would also Sir, provide the students with enough revenue to be able to continue their education, not only to continue their education, but they would probably have a little bit of pocket money left over. It would also, Mr. Chairman, solve the problem that the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations ran up against this year when it was discovered that there had only been a handful of applications to Canada Manpower for on the job training programmes here in Newfoundland. The minister who I presume is speaking for the government asked for an extension of the on the job training period, I think it was up to the end of February, and the Government of Canada granted an extension and I think some more applications came in but not enough, Sir. The employers in Newfoundland, in my opinion, did not take full advantage of the on

the job training programme.

So, in my opinion, Sir, this would be an excellent opportunity to really take advantage of the on the job training here in Newfoundland by having two semesters in, one out, with the students doing on the job training. This would also, Mr. Chairman, put a substantial amount of money in circulation in this province. So there are three reasons for doing it, Sir, (1) It would give the student the on the job training, the experience that he needs. (2) It would give the student revenue to be able to continue his training uninterrupted in a reasonable manner. (3) It would also put a fair amount of money in circulation in Newfoundland.

Now, Mr. Chairman, before I take my seat I want to once again plead with the Minister of Education not to allow our vocational training programme in this province, Sir, to sink into the quagmire of the unrealistic dream-world of the academics. At least, Mr. Chairman, we have in our technical college and in the vocational training setup that we have, Sir, a realistic, reasonable effort, in my opinion, to prepare our young people for employment in today's technological world. I hope, Sir -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: May I interrupt?

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, the honourable minister can speak on this anytime he wants too. I hope, Sir, that the minister will allow a common sense attitude to continue in this field. As I suggested to the honourable minister the other night, Sir, that he not allow our vocational training programme to fall into the hands of the academics but that business, industry and labour become more actively involved, Sir, and that if the minister intends to expand this programme, which I have no doubt he will in the future, and broaden the programme, Sir, then I would say that it is most essential to have the people who are directly concerned in employing the graduates of these - how many

school do we have now, fourteen or fifteen schools?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Fourteen schools, three opening in September.

MR. NEARY: Fourteen schools, three opening in September, I was going to ask the minister that.

HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: It is very annoying, it is awfully ignorant, Sir, and very annoying to have other conversations going on in the House when a member is trying to speak. It is pure, unadulterated ignorance, Sir. Your Honour should put a stop to it. Mr. Chairman, are we going to enforce the rules of the House?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I better repeat what I have said again, Sir, because -

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable the member for Bell Island has a right to be heard in silence.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Your Honour.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I was suggesting to the Minister of Finance down there that when he is expanding and broadening the vocational and technical training programmes in this province that it would be a very great mistake indeed not to include business industry and labour because after all, Mr. Chairman, when the graduates go out into the world they have to go to work somewhere and nine chances out of ten they will be joining labour unions and they will become involved in what is commonly known as the "rat race", Sir. So I think it is most important that the people who are directly concerned, that have to hire these young people and look after them while they are working, probably for the rest of their lives, Sir, be involved and that the minister take advantage of their know-how, their expertise and their experience.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I think the minister already indicated there are three new vocational training schools that have not been opened yet. Have they been partly opened? Are they open at all? Is there any activity going on at all? Well perhaps the minister can tell us, Mr. Chairman, when he stands to speak, Sir, what is happening to these vocational schools. How many do we have operating now? How

many will be operating this September coming? And what the anticipated enrollment will be in these schools? I would also like for the minister to inform the House if all the cheques have been mailed out yet to the instructors in the vocational schools, as a result of the decision of the Board of Arbitration that handed down this ruling recently that the Minister of Finance told us about in the House the other day?

MR. CROSBIE: The Department of Education informs me that they will be sent out today or tomorrow.

MR. NEARY: Haw! Haw! Mr. Chairman, I hit the nail right on the head. A good question today. But anyway I will give the Minister of Education the floor now, Sir, and see what he has to say about vocational training.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, under this vote for vocational training it included of course the fourteen presently existing and functioning, operating district vocational schools and the three which will be opening in September and they are of course at Happy Valley, Baie Verte and St. Anthony. They will be in fact opening in September. I would think that each of them should have an average of around 200 students. It may be that during the first few months that they may not reach a full complement but certainly after a few months in operation I would expect they would average 200 and it may well be that at start up they will have about 200 students.

The money being asked for here is, of course, to provide for instruction. I can give the committee some perhaps interesting figures. These students of course in the various vocational institutes are basically in two divisions, those who are Manpower students and whose instruction is done in co-operation with the federal government.

Of course, the federal financial input and provincial students who are outside of the ambit of the Manpower programme, most of those would be courses beyond a year or two or three year courses.

The total number of students, including adult work and a small number in crafts work, the vast majority in the various vocational

programmes is 4,900. That is broken down into 2,700 Manpower and 1,725 provincial students.

The honourable the member for Bell Island referred to the tri-semester system and certainly it is our intention to maximize the use of facilities. All of these schools, vocational and others, cost a lot of money, especially vocational ones, of course, because of the equipment in there and it certainly would be bad economics and bad educational policy if they are not used to the utmost of their ability. I would hope that we will be able to have all these facilities in use throughout the year, as soon as possible.

The honourable gentleman also referred to the need that these programmes and courses be as realistic and practical as possible and referred to the possibility of an academic quagmire. Certainly it is not our intention to allow that to happen. I will say that the principals at the various vocational schools, the Director of Vocational and Technical Education and with his counterpart the presidents and staff of the two colleges are in very close contact with industry and indeed with unions too on these matters.

There is a very large use now, of course, of what could be referred to as on the job training or sandwich courses where people are in for a period of months and out in industry for a period of months and there are some cases where they are in for one year and out for one year. This is done to a very large extent now where there is practical on the job training during their course of instruction. In some areas this is not used as much as it should be and of course part of the difficulty, as was referred to, is that one has to get industry to take the people in and to participate in this sandwich programme or apprenticeship training programme. But certainly this approach is used to a very great extent and

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I would certainly hope, in working with the people immediately responsible for these programmes, will do everything possible to generalize it further.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister if there is any follow-up done to see what happens to the graduates after? Do they find jobs? Are the vocational schools having a good record? Is there a good track record, Sir and do the students manage to find jobs in Newfoundland or do they have to emigrate to the Mainland to find employment? Does the minister have any statistics at all available to show us just what kind of record, how the performance is in the vocational schools?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I could certainly get a specific statistical breakdown but the evidence is very, very good for employment opportunities for people who complete courses in the vocational schools. There is a very, very good record of employment. I would rather not quote a percentage unless I am sure of it but I certainly can get it.

MR. NEARY: I appreciate that Mr. Chairman. That is very good news indeed. It just goes to show that the Liberal programme, the former Liberal Administration programme for setting up vocational schools in Newfoundland was correct. It was a correct one, no criticism of it, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: Do not refer to the past.

MR. NEARY: No, that is right, Mr. Chairman. I look to the future myself but once in a while you know we get provoked into referring to the past.

Sir, I think it has been four or five or six years now since the provincial allowance was implemented, I believe it is \$15 a week or is it a month? Yes, \$15 a week, that is the provincial allowance, Sir, for students who do not qualify under the Canada Manpower Training Programme.

Would the minister indicate to the committee whether his department has any intention of increasing this amount

MR. NEARY: because things have gone up substantially, Sir, in the last six or seven years? We hear so much talk about the cost of living and inflation, well the cost of books are gone up too, Sir, and the cost of everything else has gone up, pencils, pens, rulers and what have you. So would the minister be able to tell us if there is any provision in here to increase that \$15 provincial allowance or if -

AN HON. MEMBER: Item no. four.

MR. NEARY: What is item number four?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No, I am dealing with the minister's salary now, I want to ask him some questions about it.

MR. MURPHY: Oh, talking about an increase for the minister, I thought -

MR. NEARY: No, maybe we could cut the minister's salary and increase the \$15 provincial allowance.

Another question I would like to ask the minister, that is if it is included under this subhead, is the Adult Upgrading Centre at Stephenville included in this vote? Would the minister tell us if there is going to be any expansion in the field of adult training and adult upgrading, any expansion of the adult upgrading facilities?

I believe now there is one at Carbonear and one at Stephenville. Are there any others in the province? Will there be any others this year? What is going to be done in the field of adult training, Sir? Would the minister give us a run down on the progress report on the big Adult Upgrading Centre in Stephenville that we were so proud of, Sir, and if there is any intention on the part of the government to expand the facilities? I am sure Your Honour would be interested in having the answer to that question. Are any more buildings going to be renovated in Stephenville? Will there be more students this year or will more schools be opened on a regional basis? Have the adult

MR. NEARY: upgrading centres scattered throughout the province?

I am sure Your Honour would not like to hear that but would the minister just indicate what plans they have for this adult upgrading programme?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, with reference to the adult centres such as Stephenville, which now has a total number of 690 students, of course there are others - Happy Valley, Bell Island, it is our intention, and these are done in negotiations with Manpower because these are people with cost-sharing through Manpower, basic training for skilled development programme I believe it is called, and we are meeting with Manpower on this and it is our hope and indeed our expectation that there will be an agreement whereby these facilities can be available in other regions and to more Newfoundlanders.

Certainly it is a very valuable, worthwhile programme. Its major benefit is to those people who left school at an early age and who frequently want to take advantage of some technical or vocational training programme but need basic upgrading in order to be able to do that. It is a very worthwhile service. A certain amount of it is done at the College of Fisheries as well, apart from the adult centres, and it is our wish and indeed our belief that negotiations with Manpower will come to a result whereby we will be able to have these facilities in other parts of the province.

The honourable gentleman asked for the student allowances, I believe, for the provincial students. These of course are for those who are not in receipt of Canada Manpower allowances. The present scale is; a head of a family up to \$30 per week, a single person living at home \$10 per week and living away from home \$25 per week. Those are the rates presently used for the provincial students.

MR. NEARY: The minister did not indicate, Mr. Chairman, whether there was going to be any increase in these provincial allowances or not.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: There was not immediate provision for it but it is a matter where we certainly keep an open mind, On a couple of occasions, I believe two during the past three or three and a-half months, I have met with representatives of the various vocational schools and I have undertaken to meet with them again in the very near future.

Right now that is the rate and it is something which obviously we have to keep an open mind on in view of changing conditions. All I can say is that that is the rate now and it is not now government's intention to increase it but it is something on which governments obviously keep an open mind.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the minister did some pretty fancy foot work on that answer. He said, no they are not going to increase the provincial allowances this year. I am sure that all the students, and potential students, will be awfully disappointed to hear that.

Now, Sir, the minister indicated that the adult upgrading centres would be open in the foreseeable future, I presume this year he meant, on a more regional basis. I think there is a lot to be said for that, Mr. Chairman. There are arguments for and against having a large centre like you have in Stephenville, and all the students concentrated in one area, there is an argument in favour of it, I presume it would be less costly to feed and house the students maybe because the facilities are there but it is a terrible inconvenience, especially to married men, Sir, who have to leave home and attend the adult upgrading centres in Stephenville, when you have a vocational training school probably right in your own community.

So, I would think, although I do not want to put the honourable minister on the spot, Sir, but I am more or less in favour of the smaller upgrading centres myself. I do not want to put the minister on the spot, Sir, but when this does happen, when the

MR. NEARY: regional schools are open, and personally I do not see why this does happen, when the regional schools are open, personally I do not see why there should not be an adult upgrading class in every vocational school. I really do not think there is any argument against it.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: That is what we are working towards.

MR. NEARY: The minister says that is what they are working towards. Well I presume then, Mr. Chairman, without putting the minister on the spot, that that would mean that the big, huge adult upgrading centre at Stephenville would be scaled down considerably because there would not be any need to operate it at the same level that it is being operated at the present time. Would the minister care to comment on that?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right. Actually the plan is to offer this kind of upgrading in all of the vocational schools and this is what discussions are with Manpower, now going on, actually there are a fair number of them now. Just going through a list here, at Springdale there is one, at Happy Valley, of course Bell Island, as the honourable gentleman no doubt is aware -

MR. NEARY: Limited.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, these are fairly small numbers. At Placentia the total there is 50, Carbonear, quite a large one, the total there is 155; 50 at Bonavista, I think that is the limit of it. Of course there is a fair amount of upgrading work done at the College of Fisheries as well. It is our intention to get it into every vocational school and that of course will give it pretty good geographic spread.

I would imagine then the demand should relax a bit at Stephenville although it might be a year or two before that is obvious because I think that when these facilities are available on this kind of a regional basis, there will probably be a lot more people taking advantage of them who do not now, so it could be a year or two before the decline would be evident at

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Stephenville.

MR. NEARY: I would submit to the honourable minister, Sir, that he might have in a year or two the makings of a community college in Stephenville by using these facilities. It looks to me like they will be abandoned, Sir, that you may have a small adult upgrading centre in Stephenville and then the facilities could probably be used for a community college.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Finance mentioned yesterday and the day before, mentioned the fact that I was using the new maths to prove that more was less when I was suggesting that the education budget this year is a retrenchment budget. It is just in this vote alone, along with four or five others that we have already passed, that we see a cut-back on expenditures this year as compared with last year.

Last year the revised vote for vocational training was \$9,230,000 and this year it is \$7,382,000, Sir, that is an example in mind, of retrenchment when in the area of vocational education anyway because the capital expenditure this year is down quite drastically. The capital expenditure vote is - I cannot find it here now - down by an amount Well last year for construction and alterations it was \$3.5 million, this year it is only \$200,000.

Now, Sir, this would not be that significant if it were not for the fact that the vocational schools are bursting at the seams.

Sir, I would like to refer to the College of Trades and Technology for a minute, if I may, Now this trades and technology is obviously under another vote, but the reason that I am referring to it, Mr. Chairman, is to show the strain that there must be on the vocational schools in this province because the Trades and Technical College is to a predominant extent nothing more than a vocational school. Its vocational programmes could conceivably be transferred or should be transferred to a vocational school in which the programme should be integrated with the secondary schools

MR. F. ROWE: in the St. John's Area.

The College itself, Sir, could probably more likely be developed into a polytechnical institute or a true-blue trades and technical college because the situation that we have there now, there is a total population in the College of Trades and Technology of 1,712 students and the most striking feature of that college, Sir, is that it is in fact a glorified vocational school. Almost 600 of these students are enrolled in twenty-six courses that are pre-employment courses and are characteristic of vocational school courses, such as barbering, beauty culture, brick laying, carpentry, catering, clerk-accounting, clerk-hotel front office, clerk-typing, commercial art, cooking, drafting, architectural drafting, electrical, basic, and right down the line, sheet metal, shorthand-typing, stationary engineering and welding.

Sir, the very fact that approximately one half of the students enrolled in the College of Trades and Technology are in fact vocational school students is an indication of the strain that we have on the vocational schools in this province. So we need more of them. On top of that, Sir, we have fifteen vocational colleges or vocational schools in this province, with 5,000, approximately, full-time students and almost 10,000 part-time students for a total population of 15,000 students.

Then besides these vocational schools, Sir, we have craft training centres outside of the vocational schools themselves and there are eighty-five of these centres, with 4,000 students enrolled in them. Besides that, Sir, we have an adult education programme being run by the vocational education division and we have a total of something like seventy-two centres, adult training centres under the vocational system, with a total enrollment of 4,261 students.

On top of that, Sir, we have seven private trade schools offering - these are broken down into Newfoundland students enrolled, students completed. This is commercial types of schools and this type of thing. Sir, these programmes - there are a tremendous number of branches of vocational-educational centres in this province. There is the College of Trades and Technology itself which seems to be mainly a vocational school, at least to the extent of fifty per cent. Sir, this is an indication of the need that we have in the area of vocational education and in spite of that great need, in spite of the need for additional institutions, although we are going to have three open this year, in spite of this need we have a cut back of approximately \$2 million in the vote for vocational education.

Sir, in passing I am a little bit concerned about this whole business of a community college for Stephenville. From what I can understand there is an adult education centre there now, there is a vocational school there at the present time and there are a number of other extensions of the College of Fisheries I believe and extension services of the university as well as E.T.V. courses and what have you. I am wondering what are the plans of the present administration in this regard. Are they planning to put a community college up in addition to these existing educational facilities or do they intend to integrate these existing educational facilities and in fact end up calling that a community college on the West Coast? Because obviously the description that the Premier gave for a community college sounded very much to me like it was going to be another glorified vocational school. It would certainly be similar to the existing College of Trades and Technology which is at the present time one half a vocational school.

But, Sir, I would just like to make that point that in this area at least, along with the College of Trades and Technology and the College of Fisheries, we have had retrenchment on the part of this administration, in spite of what the honourable the Minister

of Finance has had to say about it. I would like the honourable Minister of Education, if he could, to clarify the situation with respect to a community college on the West Coast as it affects vocational education in the Stephenville Area, seeing we have so many institutions like that in these surrounding communities at the present time.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, first of all I should deal with the honourable gentleman's statement that there is retrenchment here and a cut back here. Now there is only a cut back in the total. That is the only place there is a cut back and that is because, if the honourable gentleman will look under 621(09)(08) - Construction and Alterations(Capital), which is \$3.5 million and that is \$200,000 and that makes up for the bulk of it. This of course is because of the expenditures basically for Happy Valley, Baie Verte and St. Anthony vocational schools and also certain bills which came due in that former fiscal year for Placentia, Bonavista and Springdale, but overall there is an increase expenditure in salaries because there are going to be more vocational teachers with three new schools, from \$4.6 million to \$5.5 million, in allowance to students, from \$1.1 million to \$1.5 million, in vocational school equipment not that large but they want an increase of \$200,000 from \$1.6 million to \$1.8 million. Well that is the apparent difference and actually there is a difference but that is because this year we do not have the capital construction of any new vocational schools.

AN HON. MEMBER: Well, that is retrenchment.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, I would not call that retrenchment. It means that for this fiscal year we are not building any new vocational schools. We have three new ones starting in September and we are planning to diversify and improve the overall programme as I mentioned previously, when the honourable member for Bell Island made the very wise suggestion of having these remedial upgrading courses on a more regional basis. That is what we are planning

to do and hoping to get them in all the vocational schools.

Now the honourable gentleman referred to the community college at Stephenville and I certainly do not mind speaking on it. It would be unfortunate if we did now and did it again and again and again. So I will certainly answer his question now. The new community college at Stephenville will be, I think one views this in terms of the services and facilities it provides. Certainly it is not the intention to go in and start constructing building. There are quite a number of educational services in Stephenville now in terms of adult education, vocational education, There is the presence of university extension services and about to start or having just started but about to start very soon will be some craft training programmes there, and we are pleased to be able to provide that. To a large extent that is in response to work done by the Port au Port Development Association who have been in touch with vocational education people and together there has been worked out a craft training programme.

What I would say would be that certainly starting this year, starting the next academic year, there should be further co-ordination and integration of all of those programmes there. I would think that not too long after that a post of director of community education for that area should be filled and that the objective is to improve and augment the educational facilities and services of the area in terms of the already existing ones and, based upon the needs of the area, whatever involvement from other sources would be necessary, increase involvement of the university extension or any other university services which would be necessary. The idea is not putting up a building and calling it a community college. If and when a specific building is necessary, that is a different matter. What is proposed is to provide an integration and an improvement and a development of various educational and social facilities. I am certainly not using the

word educational in the academic sense, social services and facilities from any and all agencies involved in it.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that I have responded to the points made by the honourable gentleman.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, maybe the honourable minister can tell the committee on the Happy Valley school, maybe he can inform the committee of the number of instructors who will be at the school. Possibly he can give us a block figure as to the amount of the salaries involved for the instructors. I would also like to know the number of students that the school will accommodate. Possibly he can elaborate a little on the curriculum, the trades that are going to be taught in the school and if students from Labrador will get preference over students on the island portion of the province and if the school will be operational and functional come September.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I am sorry.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, I have a question to be added to those asked by my honourable friend from Labrador North. The situation with regard to dormitory space for the school, there was some confusion as to whether or not that facility was actually going to be built.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: With reference to the last point there is a federal-provincial committee which has met twice, I believe. The honourable gentleman is a member on it and which has a representative of the Department of Education. One of the points that the provincial government are making is the use of residence facilities for students and perhaps to a certain extent for some of the instructors as well, on the base. Those negotiations are still going on. I think they are going very well although until it is finalized when there is any federal-provincial agreement, one part of the negotiations, we cannot say it is definite. Certainly it is my feeling this is a very real need and recognized as such by the federal authorities. I certainly feel optimistic that the residence facilities will be there.

In answer to the questions from the honourable gentleman opposite, we would think that approximately 200 students, we would envisage the school will be capable of handling, and approximately twenty instructors. Certainly priority will be given to residents from Labrador. Now if it is not filled, obviously, by applications and there are residents from other areas applying, obviously that is a different matter, but there is no doubt that priority will be given to applicants from Labrador.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, maybe the honourable minister can inform the committee as to if there is going to be sufficient classroom space in our vocational schools this year to fit in the students who are making application and if he can indicate to the committee the number of students who will be possibly turned away this year. Is that information available?

MR. OTTENTHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, it would be pretty difficult to say how many would be turned away and of course there are quite a number of people who might be refused admittance but it would not necessarily be because the place is crowded or there is no room for them. Number one, there are some who do not have the qualifications for the specific course that they want. Number two, in a number of cases they might be told that in order to take that course they have to take this for three or six months first, and they decide not to do it. Obviously there are instances where courses are filled as well but it is pretty difficult to give an anticipation of how many. I personally think that with an all-out effort to maximize the facilities we have that should not be a serious problem. That should not be a serious problem if we maximize the facilities we have.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I just have a quick question to put to the honourable minister, Sir. Will the honourable minister inform the committee if the people in Labrador West are going to get their vocational school or are they not going to get their vocational school or did the honourable Premier get carried away, as he does sometimes when he is at one of these gatherings where they serve

coffee and sandwiches beforehand? Will the honourable minister tell us whether they are going to get their school? Will it be this year or was it just a promise that was made in an off-the-cuff remark by the honourable Premier?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Certainly I would not anticipate a vocational or technical school in Labrador West this year. However, we are planning to meet with industry and unions and residents in Labrador West Area, Wabush and Labrador City, to assess specifically the needs there. I would hope that the year after a start could be made on a technical or vocational school in Labrador West. Certainly I think in general and I think the honourable gentleman opposite would agree that there is a need there. I believe that part of the problem is that some of the companies, when young men leave perhaps to go to university or go here or there, they may not come back whereas if there was a facility for post-secondary education there tied in with the employment opportunities and the industries there but not totally restricted to it, because a person does have the right to live elsewhere, but tied in with it, that would be of great assistance and I think would have the over-all effect of keeping as many Newfoundland-Labradorians, having them get the opportunities of employment rather than having to go outside.

I think basically it is pretty sound. It certainly will not be there this year. I would certainly envisage that this year definite plans will be made and meetings held with the companies and unions and residents in general to define and identify the exact needs.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, in that case there is a strong case to be made also for a vocational school in Labrador South which is one of the few isolated areas left in this province. Now it is one thing to tie in a vocational school with an industry which is probably a good thing but all you are doing is on the job training that the companies should be doing themselves. If somebody said to me today, Mr. Chairman, "Where would you like to see a vocational school built, in Labrador West or in Labrador South?" Sir, without

hesitation, without thinking about it at all I think I would have to say Labrador South. I think there is more need for a vocational training school in Labrador South than there is in Labrador West or for that matter in any other part of our province. I am surprised that the member for Labrador South, Sir, is not in his seat to hear this as I am sure he would appreciate it. I just looked out and he was going down on the elevator and probably listening to my remarks as the elevator door closed.

But, Sir, these people are down there and they are the forgotten people of

Newfoundland and if we do not put a vocational school there, there must be some way, Mr. Chairman, that you can bring vocational and technical training to the people in Southern Labrador without having the people leave home. This is a tremendous inconvenience to these people, Sir. The conversations that I had down there last fall, especially with the people in the Straits Area showed that they do not want to leave home to go to a vocational school. Sir, they want to stay in Southern Labrador. I think that this is a reasonable request. I would like to suggest to the minister, despite what the honourable the Premier says - the honourable the Premier gets carried away once in a while and makes off-the-cuff remarks. Maybe if we could get him down to Southern Labrador and get him on a public gallery, Sir, where they have good, strong coffee, Nescafe? No, I think it is tea down there. I remember in West St. Modeste I had one of the best cups of tea that I have had in this province for a long time, Sir. Maybe if we could get the Premier down there in West St. Modeste, get a cup of tea into him, then he might make a commitment to the people in Labrador South where vocational training facilities are in my opinion badly needed, more so than in Labrador West. I am not denying the people of Labrador West that privilege either. I would like to see a vocational school in Labrador West and in Labrador South.

I think that it is a matter of priorities and I think that the Minister of Education will agree with me on that, that you have to do something for Labrador South. Sir, until that road is put through right from the Straits right up to Happy Valley, up to Goose Bay, these people are going to be isolated and I would suggest, Sir, that that is going to be for a long, long time. There must be some way that we can bring vocational training to these people without having them leave the area.

MR. OTTENWEIMER: And also even the presently existing ones, materials that they might need.

On motion 03-02 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: On 03-04: Maybe the minister could explain just briefly, for the benefit of the committee, the student allowances.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right. I did that before but now I have to find the files because I do not remember all of the figures. Yes. Ten dollars a week for a single student living at home. Twenty-five dollars a week for a married student living at home and thirty dollars a week for a married student not living at home.

MR. WOODWARD: This is other than what manpower pays for in the city.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This is usually in place of manpower because these are not manpower students. They do not qualify under manpower. There is no manpower programme for their specific courses. You know, it would be ideal if we could get manpower to broaden its base and keep working on that. There are certain courses where there are employment opportunities for people when they graduate but manpower does not underwrite them. These are usually two or three year ones, like a course in pharmacy, X ray technologists and in that area manpower does not participate.

On motion 03-04 carried.

MR. NEARY: On 03-09, can the minister explain that? What is it?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: That is basically and frequently there is a movement of equipment sometimes from one school to another or one school may have completed a course in the first semester and it will not be giving it in the second but another school would be. It is for inter-school loans.

On motion 03-09 carried.

MR. NEARY: Could the minister explain what this \$12,000 for the Newfoundland and Labrador Women's Institute is used for?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This is a women's organization which has been in existence for quite a number of years. They do a fair amount of work in craft training and also holding meetings and discussions and whatever.

MR. NEARY: Are they over here at the Arts and Culture Center?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, they are. I understand that their offices are there.

MR. NEARY: Okay. I know what it is all about now.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This amount we vote to them for their internal operations.

MR. WOODWARD: Is this a provincial thing or just St. John's originated?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This is provincewide. It is quite strong on the West Coast and probably in Port au Port. It used to be "Jubilee Guilds". That I think was formed under Commission of Government. It used to be "Jubilee Guilds". Now it is called "The Women's Institute" and it is provincewide in the sense that it is not restricted to any one part but obviously there are parts in the province in which they do not exist.

MR. WOODWARD: I never heard of the institute in Labrador, Mr. Chairman. I have heard of the Women's Lib in Labrador but I have not heard - maybe the minister can do a little research and tell us if there is such an organization in Labrador.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: We will try to send some of them up to organize.

On motion 03-10 carried

MR. NEARY: On 03-11. Would the minister tell us where we are renting space now under this subhead?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: In certain areas where there is craft training or adult education it is necessary to rent from school boards some of the dayroom schools. That is what that is for.

MR. WOODWARD: What are the places where you are renting facilities?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: There are seventy places around the province here.

MR. WOODWARD: Could we have a look at the names of the places and the square footage in each place and the rent per square foot?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The school board sets a rental in negotiation with the vocational training people. To the best of my knowledge the

rentals are realistic based on light and heating and janitorial cost. I do not think any school boards are making money but they are breaking even I imagine. The average would probably be five dollars per class room per night. That might go up and down but that might be the average.

MR. WOODWARD: This would not include the facilities like the Department of Public Works would rent such as upgrading schools and things of that nature?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, no. These would just be one or two classrooms or maybe three in any community where a vocational educational division will be putting on a course and they rent a classroom from the school board. The usual rate would be five dollars per evening per classroom.

On motion 03-11 carried.

MR. NEARY: On 622-04. Mr. Chairman, would the minister give us a report on the College of Fisheries. I heard a very disturbing report, I think it was a few weeks ago, on radio about the enrollment at the College of Fisheries being down somewhat this year. I think I saw Dr. Barrett on the television explaining why he thought that the enrollment was down.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Do we have a quorum in the House, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: No quorum, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. NEARY: We have a quorum? Now, Mr. Chairman, as I said I do not know what it was all about. I must confess that I really did not pay too much attention to the explanation that was given. I was rather surprised to learn that enrollment at the College of Fisheries had been down somewhat this year. I always felt myself that the College of Fisheries had a great future in this province. As far as I can see, Sir, from what little knowledge I have of the College of Fisheries and my visits there, that they are doing an excellent job over there. Would the minister tell us what future the

College of Fisheries has if in fact enrollment was down this year and why it is down and give us a sort of a progress report on just what is happening?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, I do not think, whatever report it was, that the enrollment at the College of Fisheries was down would have been an accurate one if one were to take let us say a nine or a ten month period or say a twelve month period. There is a fluctuating population because people come in for two and three month courses and certainly it could well be that at one specific point in 1973 there would be less students than at a specific point in 1972 because of the system they have where the people come and go throughout the year for various three month courses. However, I would say that certainly the totals within the twelve month periods during the past few years would show an increase each year. Next year I would expect quite an increase in the total number because very recently, within the past couple of weeks, the College of Fisheries (the government has but through the Agency of the Department of Fisheries) reached agreement with manpower for further manpower participation in their courses there. It is a relatively new approach to upgrading instruction, called IPI, Individual Prescribed Instruction. Some of these pedagogic terms leave one a bit up in the air. Certainly I would expect that there will be an increase next year because of this increased participation of manpower students.

As a matter of fact, they will be looking for eight or nine instructors, additional instructors to look after this programme. This is of course reimbursable from the federal government.

Now this year the total number of people serviced or taking courses - I want to qualify it after - through the College of Fisheries, will be 2,816. That figure can be misleading. I want to break it down. There are 1,490 who are taking diploma

technology courses in various areas, food technology, naval architecture, fish processing, navigation, etc. Of that total 2,800, 1,490 are in the various diploma technology courses. Some of the courses given of course are for accreditation by the Ministry of Transport with a lot of people getting first mates and second mates and different tickets there. There are various short courses for certificates. They might be nine month courses, a year or some might be six months. So, that is 1,490. Of course there are a small number in evening classes. This is something which pays for itself.

There are seventy-four in coastal navigation and outboard motor repair. That is basically a kind of adult education programme they put on for people who are interested in it.

Then there are 322 in the course of the year who will take various things such as fire fighting, rescue and survival. As a matter of fact it is about six or seven weeks ago I recall that I was down there when a course was put on in collaboration with the Department of Justice for fire chiefs of the volunteer fire organizations throughout the province.

Then of course is their very valuable service which is their extension service where they have schools which go into dozens of communities in the course of the year to stay for three or four or however many weeks is necessary for instruction, basically to fishermen and others involved in nets and gear, in boat building and navigation and engine repair. So, that is what brings the total up to 2,816. As I say, I would expect an increase in the total enrollment next year because of the increased participation with the Department of Manpower.

I would also envisage an excellent future for that college. Its full name, and it is rather long and cumbersome but it does indicate the scope of what work that they do, is College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering and Electronics. One could well

think of it as an institute of offshore technology although it does other things as well. Within about a month we are planning to organize a conference on offshore technology with the people from the College of Fisheries and indeed from other training institutions and from the two companies who are involved in exploration out on the Grand Banks, to involve industry, oil companies, various training institutions, to examine the whole area of training in that field. I think that it is placed with increased emphasis on the fishery.

Out of the Law of the Sea Conference you know comes an agreement of Canada's exclusive right to fish up to two hundred miles or so offshore and certainly the further opportunities for our fishermen inshore and offshore. With the exploration for oil and certainly with its discovery it would appear that this area of offshore technology is

a very important one and I think the college has a very important role to play in it.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am greatly relieved to hear that there are no plans to cut back the College of Fisheries. The College of Fisheries, I think, has a very soft spot in the minister's heart. That is the minister's old Alma Mater.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Appointed by the former Minister of Economic Development.

MR. NEARY: That is right, appointed by the previous administration. The minister is very familiar with this college.

One interesting feature about this and I wonder if the minister would touch on it briefly: This college is recognized all over the world. We get a lot of students from foreign countries coming into Newfoundland. I see them down there playing, not soccer, what is it they play down there? Is it touch ball?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Volley ball.

MR. NEARY: I see them down there at Pleasantville once in a while, down at the sports field, down there playing a little ball. Would the minister tell us how many students come to Newfoundland from foreign countries each year? What kind of courses do they take? What kind of accommodations do we have for these students? How much accommodation do we have down there at Pleasantville? I am just going to deal with one particular item that the minister mentioned when he was listing off or reeling off the list of courses there, and that is food technology. I wonder how this course at the College of Fisheries compares with the courses being run at the College of Trades and Technology. Is it the same course? Is it experimenting with food, with fish? Is this what it is? If this is so then - I remember a few years ago, Mr. Chairman, I think the Arctic Char originated over here at the College of Fisheries. Mr. Ian Strachan, I think, who was on the staff of the college at the time, was really responsible I suppose for developing the Arctic Char which is considered

a luxury item in the restaurants and dining rooms all over North America. Would the minister be able to tell us what they are experimenting with over there now in this food technology line? Are they experimenting? Two, four, six, eight, ten, twelve, no quorum, Mr. Chairman.

I am sure, Mr. Chairman, there is an honourable gentleman sitting in the galleries today who would like to know if there are any experiments being carried on with caplin? What are they doing there? Perhaps the minister could give us an explanation of what is happening there. What are they experimenting with? Probably give us a report of any success that they may have had in this field?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, first with respect to other than Newfoundland students there are sixteen from other Canadian provinces. Now I would say that they would be here either on their own resources or scholarships they may have won. There are twenty-nine foreign, non-Canadian students. The vast majority of those would be from African and Asian countries brought in with the help of the external aid programme of the federal government. They are brought in through the financial assistance of the federal government. There is no doubt that the College of Fisheries certainly does have a world-wide reputation and quite an international faculty, faculty from just about all over the world and I am very pleased to say a great number of Newfoundlanders too. It has quite an international faculty, a fairly international student body, with this year twenty-nine brought in by the federal government.

MR. NEARY: There is no quorum, Sir. They are going to go on until four or five o'clock tomorrow morning, Mr. Chairman, and they cannot even keep a quorum in the House 4:50 P.M. We are putting through \$100 million.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: That explains that. The food technology, yes it is fish technology. They do experimental work there, salmon, scallops, trout. There are some going on in the processing of caplin. Of course, they have smokers, freezers and a lot of equipment in fish processing. I think that in many cases they come up with a very good product. The thing is for industry to pick it up and develop it because the Fishery College is not an institution which really should be marketing.

MR. NEARY: Do they have a canning factory?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: They have canning and smoking. Practically any kind of fish processing for food is done there.

On motion 622-04, carried.

On motion 622-07, carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, on 622-07-01, maybe the honourable minister could explain where the equipment is going and what type of equipment, \$150,000?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This would be basically classroom furnishings with the additional manpower participation and the increased enrollment and the need for eight or nine additional instructors. The vast majority of this would be for necessary furnishings for those classrooms.

On motion 622-07-01, carried.

On motion total subhead 622, carried.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Mr. Chairman, on 623-01, I know honourable members on the other side of the House might be anxious to put that one through and I guess they anticipate some of the comments I am going to make with respect to this particular subhead. Sir, first of all there is a vast amount of money here, \$30 million approximately, going to the university, Can the minister, just before he leaves, indicate approximately how much will be coming from the federal government? Before I get into my comments, if he could indicate that.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Approximately between \$17 million and \$18 million.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): So that is a total of about \$48 million from government sources which will be going to the university.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, \$17 million or \$18 million would be for post-secondary education in general.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Right. That is from the federal government.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Besides the \$30 million here from the provincial.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No! No!

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Oh, are there some Appropriations-in-Aid?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No that \$17 million would be built in.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): So altogether from provincial and federal sources we have about \$30 million going to the university this year.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: That is adding up the Grants-in-Aid.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Right.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: And the capital costs.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Oh right, Grants-in-Aid, correct. Okay.

Mr. Chairman, the point that I was going to raise here, since there is this vast sum of money of \$30 million coming from both provincial and federal sources going to the university, I was wondering if the honourable minister, when he speaks to this particular vote, would indicate whether or not his policy has changed with respect to making the university budget public for everybody in the province to see. It seems to me, in 1968 I believe, some honourable members in the opposition of that day raised that particular question. If I remember correctly (they do not have indices for the Hansard of 1968 and I was not able to get the exact wording of the now hon. Minister of Education) it seems to me, Sir, that he was advocating very strongly the fact that the university should make its complete budget completely public to the people of Newfoundland, since such vast sums of money were coming from provincial and federal sources.

I was wondering if his mind has changed on this matter at all. I think it is a very important change of policy. Is the minister still thinking along these lines? I can think of a great many advantages and disadvantages to making a university budget public. I tend towards thinking that it should be made public in terms of the tremendous contribution that has been made by the people of this province. After all the money is coming from the government and the money that goes to the government comes from the people. I think the university should be answerable to some extent to the public of Newfoundland when they are contributing such a vast sum of money to the university itself.

Sir, I would like the minister also to indicate the status of the ten student residences for Memorial University.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: How many?

MR. ROWE (F.B.): I understand that work was supposed to begin early in the new year on these residences. This is taken from a newspaper clipping, Sir, of November, 1972: "The Provincial Government hope to be in the position to call tenders for construction of ten student residences for Memorial University at such an early date that construction can start early in the new year. Public Work's Minister, Dr. T. Farrell, said Tuesday he will meet with St. John's Mayor William Adams, next week, to make final certain arrangements concerning the construction of the residences, including availability of land and the extension of services. The residences will provide living quarters for married couples as well as single students."

Sir, I would like for the hon. Minister of Education to indicate the status of the ten student residences that were promised late in the last year. Also, Sir, sometime last year, in August, the Premier I believe it was announced that tenders were going to be called for the construction of the Memorial University Engineering School. If I remember correctly at that time, this was in August 1, 1972, taken

from the "Western Star," Sir. At that time, it strikes me that the Premier or the Minister of Finance (I will repeat that I am not quite sure who said this) suggested that they were going to do something to enable the university to have short-term financing. The question that I raised at that time was as to who was going to be responsible for servicing the borrowing that the university was going to carry out. I was assuming that this financing would be tied in with the construction of the new engineering school. I am a little bit confused on that. I would appreciate once again the hon. Minister of Education straightening that particular matter out. In other words, what is the status of the engineering school at the present time? Who is financing it? Who is servicing the financing of that particular school? Sir, these are three questions, the budget of the university; the residences at the university and thirdly the financing of the construction of the engineering school at Memorial University.

Now, Sir, let us get back to something which I think I mentioned once or twice before, community colleges and junior colleges. Sir, supposing we have to stand here and speak around the clock for the next six months, I am not going to be satisfied at all and honourable members on this side of the House and I am sure many educators in Newfoundland will not be entirely satisfied until they hear something respecting policy as far as the construction of junior and community colleges are concerned. I should use the word regional colleges because that is the expression which has been used by the Premier

and by the Minister of Education. A regional college has been announced for Corner Brook and a community college for Stephenville. There has been no statement of definition of community colleges and regional colleges, except to suggest this, that a community college is very much like a vocational college or vocational school but will also meet the general needs of the community. The regional college has been described as a pure and simple extension of the university but also tacked onto that, I submit to make it look a little more acceptable to some people, is that that institution will also meet the general needs of the surrounding community and the surrounding region.

I submit that we have to have a greater and more detailed statement of philosophy of objects as far as these institutions are concerned before we announce the fact that these institutions are being set up. A few days ago I mentioned that one very serious consideration that has not been given is the proper and exact location for these community colleges or these regional colleges. I mentioned specifically the fact that probably putting such institutions in the towns and communities with the largest population may not necessarily be the most logical location as far as accessibility to people in the more rural areas are concerned. I also asked why people should have to drive off Fogo Island and come in on a ferry, why should they drive off Twillingate, New World Island, why should they have to drive in the Gander Road? Why should they have to drive in to, say a place like Gander?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. F.B. ROWE: No, Mr. Chairman, I do not think I went quite that far. I was suggesting that (the Premier might have been out of the province at that particular time) probably Lewisporte would be a more accessible location for the people of Grand Falls, Bishops Falls, Gander and New World Island and these communities.

If one of the main criteria for the establishment of the university is accessibility, we have to take a very serious look as

to whether or not we do in fact put such institutions in a town, the largest town. It may not make that much sense. Why should not the people of Gander drive over their paved highway to Lewisporte to attend the college in the evenings or what have you? That is what I was getting at.

The important point is that I have never heard in my life any administration announce the establishment of a regional college or a community college without first articulating a philosophy or plan of action for the whole province. This is an example on the part of this administration, of acting without planning. I thought the philosophy of this administration was the exact opposite. Plan first, articulate policy first, articulate aims first and then go ahead with their actions. This was the understanding that I had, particularly with all that has been said about planning committees, task force committees. Speaking about task force committees, Sir, the Minister of Education, the other night, gave as his reason for the fact that a polytechnical institution had not been decided upon for this year, was that he had not yet seen the report of the Committee on Education and Human Resources.

Sir, if that is the reason for not putting up a polytechnical institute, surely the same reason should be given for the establishment of community and junior colleges in this province. We still do not have the report of the Committee on Education and Human Resources, yet the Premier has announced the regional college and a community college for two communities that are very close together on the West Coast. This is something that baffles the mind, particularly in light of the comments of the Minister of Education the other night.

Another point that I might make, and I am going to reiterate this again, is that with all due respect to the gentlemen on that committee, they have an impossible job to do. Sixteen pages of terms of reference, only one man is a full-time person on that committee, all the rest are part-time people, they have very important jobs to carry out and they still have to try to get a report in by August.

I would like the Minister of Education to indicate, well personally I would like to see a more substantive committee be set up to carry out such a job. A leave of absence for several months or something for the gentlemen on the committee seems like a much more logical approach to this whole problem. Basically, what I want the minister to indicate is what his feelings are respecting making public the budget of the university. (It seems to me, Sir, that the opposition of the day did definitely state that this should be so. This was around 1968.) Indicate the status of the ten residences at the university, indicate the nature of the financing of the engineering school at the university and try, I plea with him for the nth time to define what the government policy is regarding the setting up of a regional college and a community college system in this province.

It is my feeling that this province cannot stand the expense, We cannot afford in Newfoundland, we simply cannot afford a junior or regional college and a community college system. It is as simple as that. I have mentioned on many occasions in this House, the need for a community college programme whereby we can have a component of the university or a component of that community college could take care of the needs of the university. The next thing you know, Sir, we are going to have developing on the West Coast a second university. I cannot see this province being able to afford two universities. It is simply outside the question.

On top of that I quoted from the "Financial Post" a few days ago, where there is every indication that there is going to be a drop off in univeristy enrollment anyway. It has not reached this province yet for one logical reason, we have such a low per capita attendance at the university anyway and we have a bit of catching up to do before we reach the position of many of the States of the United States and many of the Provinces of Canada.

I have a funny feeling that in the next ten or fifteen years, if this administration goes on announcing institutions here and there,

caving in to political pressures, we will have a multiplicity of post-secondary educational institutions in this province that will put a stranglehold on our financial capacity to pay for them. I think it is a big mistake, the approach that this administration is using at the present time. How they can come out and make these announcements without first articulating their plans and their programmes is beyond my comprehension.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. F.B. ROWE: I might have to repeat it once or twice again, so the next time round, if I do not get a satisfactory answer from the Minister of Education, I will be only too happy to repeat it. I knew this was what the honourable Minister of Justice was getting at. Okay, Mr. Chairman, I will be only too happy to hear the words of the honourable minister.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, before getting into my defining best to try to get the definitions - actually I should not say that, because I am not going to get too far into exercises of defining - but to deal with matters that the honourable gentleman brought up first, and that is publication of the university budget. He referred to debate in the Legislature under the previous administration. I believe that was 1967. It went on for three or four days. It was at the time rather confusing and certainly five or six years later, even more confusing.

As I recall, that debate grew out of the then administration's refusal, I presume, to grant the university what it was looking for. I suppose the process of negotiation broke down or some such thing. The then Premier, Mr. Smallwood, put forward the idea that the university budget perhaps should be made public in the same way that the civil service or any government department, whereby any person's, the deputy ministers or stenographers, any person's salary in the public service, in the civil service, in the departments of government is public knowledge. He put that forward with the idea, maybe we should do it. He checked, I think, with some places and found out that

there were a small number of universities which did in fact do it.

Nobody wants to be held back for what took place six years or something ago. As I recall, our position then was that in order for a relationship between a government and a university, which is a provincial university, a university therefore of the entire province, which is supported by public funds, in order for this relationship to be workable and sensible, that there had to be mutual confidence. The university obviously had to have confidence in an undertaking that the government gave and also the government would have to have confidence in the administration and decision-makers of the university. Without that confidence, then certainly the best interests of neither could be maintained.

We in this administration have decided as a matter of policy that the budget of the university should not be made public in the way that department of government budget is public. We feel that it, and I think that this was the conclusion the former administration came to - this debate a few years ago was I believe and as the former Premier did, brought up something to be talked on and discussed for days and days, just to feel the wind and see what kind of a reaction there was. Whatever his personal views were, certainly it was the practice of the former administration not to make public the budget of the university.

It is this government's policy not to make it public. We feel that...

MR. ROBERTS: It is the same policy.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, it is the same policy with regard to publication of the university budget. A lot of arguments can be put up for making it public. There are public funds and there should be the strict accountability that there is for a government department, because it is the same public money, it is the same taxpayers' money. A strong argument can be put up for it. If, however, we were to jeopardize the proper functioning of the university, if we were to make it if not impossible, very, very difficult, and it is already

pretty difficult sometimes for Newfoundland to compete for top-notch people. If that difficulty were to be increased manifold, if the university community, the people we depend upon, that one has to have at a university, the teachers would not come, or those whose excellence would give them the possibility of being hired at any number of universities, immediately said; "No, the heck with that, I will go somewhere else," then we would not have performed any service to the students, to the young men and women of the province. After all, they are the prime concern, not the administration nor faculty of the university. It is the thousands of Newfoundlanders who avail themselves of the opportunities at the university

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This administration feels that the grant-in-aid, the operating grant, if you wish, to the university, should be based upon agreement or negotiation, negotiating hopefully culminating in an agreement, but on the factor of an allocation for each full-time student equipment. That is the area in which the negotiations should take place and it is with that in mind that the operation grant should be made.

If government be convinced that the full-time student equivalent appropriation that the university is asking for is a fair one, a legitimate one, an economic one, one that makes sense when compared with similar formula for other universities, then we have the right to ask the Legislature for appropriation of that amount.

MR. F. ROWE: Does not the university in fact have full disclosure of all of its expenditures to the government when they - this is the question you see, if the government is not aware of where the money is going in the university, it can hardly be said that the government is protecting the interest of the people, if this is not so. This is the crucial point. Does the government know where every cent of the university's expenditure is going before it approves of it?

I agree with the honourable gentleman wholeheartedly that the government should be trusted in this regard but if they do not know the information they can hardly be accountable in this regard.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The answer to that is yes.

MR. F. ROWE: Complete.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Not every sense, a quite complete breakdown by let us say faculty and department. We do not have nor have never asked for individual salaries.

I will say this, that never in my own personal experience, never have I asked for any information that I was not immediately given. Never have I asked for any clarification which I was not

MR. OTTENHEIMER: immediately given. So I can say that when government does make a request to the Legislature for the voting of a certain amount for the operating grants of the university, government does it with knowledge.

What we are going by and what has been gone by for the past number of years is a grant for full-time student equivalent, and that in 1971-1972 was \$2,003, in 1972-1973 was \$2,192, 1973-1974 - \$2,309.

To the best of the government's knowledge, as a matter of fact we are quite sure that this is among the lowest full-time student equivalent amounts in Canadian universities. Now since each university uses something of a different formula, these are approximations but certainly approximations which are very realistic.

In other words, government is convinced that with the grant based on that full-time student equivalency formula and the request of approximately \$2,300, the operating grant per full-time student equivalent, that the university is budgeting and planning and spending and using maximum use of the money and facilities involved.

MR. NEARY: Do they have the same situations in other universities across Canada where there are non-government universities and they have large capital expenditure? Now here the government would provide the buildings but on the Mainland and in the other universities they have to put up the buildings themselves and amortize the cost over a period say of twenty years.

So you are talking about apples and oranges, two different situations altogether.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well when you get into a private university, of course, which is funded from endowments and private sources and obviously they have a -

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The amount that I am speaking about here, of course, and the formula is for the current account, it is not for the capital account. It does not have anything to do with the construction.

AN HON. MEMBER: \$2,300 is operating.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right, that is for the operating grant, the operating expenses of the university.

MR. NEARY: Ours must be higher than in the rest of Canada because -

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, our knowledge is that we are lowest or certainly among the lowest in terms of what it costs for a full-time student equivalent for the operation of the university.

MR. NEARY: Well would they have to include capital expenditure?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, that is different. There are \$ 8 million odd dollars for capital expense at the university in this year's budget, in the Department of Public Works. This amount does not include any capital expenditure. This is the regular operating cost, no capital expenditure. There are \$8 million odd in public works for capital expenditure but that is not included in this \$21.25 million.

MR. NEARY: The comparison I am making, Mr. Chairman, if the minister will allow me, that on the Mainland, in the private universities, the \$2,000 or the \$2,200, whatever it is, includes operating costs and capital, where here it does not because the capital is in the Minister of Public Works -

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No I do not think that that is the case but I am not intimately familiar with the system with other universities but universities that operate on getting public funds based upon a full-time student equivalent or a student equivalent formula or a per capita formula, with the universities with which one would make comparisons, that would be for operating grants only. That would be for operating grants only.

Now there may be universities whereby the operating and

MR. OTTENHEIMER: the capital are lumped together and obviously a completely different amount would have to be given then, but I think that would be very difficult to do.

Certainly with this administration and I am quite sure with the previous one, the capital budget was one thing and one series of - well, maybe the same series, but that was a different matter completely in negotiations.

AN HON. MEMBER: One obviously affected the other.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, the more facilities, the more students you get but this amount here per student is based only for the operating cost of the university. We are convinced that this is a realistic figure, that it is an economic figure and it compares most favourably with other grants to other universities across the country and we are told by responsible people at the university, that it is the lowest or among the lowest. The reason one can make an unequivocal statement that it is the lowest is because these formulas are worked out in slightly different ways in different provinces.

It is certainly among the lowest in Canada.

MR. NEARY: Do not let the Extension Department over there hear you say that.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well I presume they will hear me. They are included under this too.

If you do not go by this kind of a formula, what is the alternative? If we are going to say how much, if government is going to say or this Legislature is going to say how much should be spent within the different faculties, you are getting in the area then, if we are going to have a university then obviously we have to have people in whom we have confidence and as long as the total amount is fair and reasonable then I do not think a government or a Legislature should get into that area of allocating how much should go for the education faculty and how much for extension and how much to teach

MR. OTTENHEIMER: foreign languages and this and that.

MR. NEARY: Yes but they should be brought to task for waste and extravagance though.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The honourable gentleman mentions waste and extravagance and I do not suppose there is any organization with an operating budget of \$21.25 million where if you did not - where if you went through all their operations you would not find any waste and extravagance. That is human nature. That is the law of institutional nature. I have no doubt that there must be some waste there. I have no doubt that there is some waste in just about every department of government and every department of the former government or any other government and private enterprise or anybody else.

Wherever you get large organizations and institutions, I do not think there is one that a cost analysis could not go through and come out and find instances, you know some instances of some waste.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Snowden is the expert.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I do not want to get into that. It was the Extension Department and presumably every department there has satisfied the university administration and of course they have their internal bargaining and negotiating and revamping procedures as well. But no doubt the various departments have satisfied the university administration of the validity of their claims. The university has convinced the government that the grants, based on the formula, full-time student equivalency, is fair and realistic. If we are going to ask to examine department by department or faculty by faculty or project by project, then certainly I do not think that that is the way that the university can best operate and serve the people of the province.

MR. NEARY: Well Snowden could teach us all a lesson in empire building, easily.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: That does not have a great deal to do with

MR. OTTENHEIMER: government's request for \$21.25 million for the current account of the university. Any number of individuals could say, "He only teaches this much," or "What is he doing, he is not doing research here or this or that?" Any large organization one can go through on that, but I think that you will have to take the approach that you have confidence in the university administration and then you assess the data they give you and you debate around something like a formula, so much per student for the operating grant. The only alternative is to get into the internal examination and debate and judgement of what the university should be spending in this area and what in that area and that is a task I sincerely believe the university is better qualified to do than we are as a Legislature and that we are as a Department of Education and that we are as a government.

Now there are those who think differently, obviously, but I think as long as your student equivalency formula is a realistic one, and as long as you have confidence in the administration of the university, I think that the government is entirely justified in asking for this expenditure on that basis.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister permit a question, Mr. Chairman?

What is the difference in the budget presented by the university and the budget presented say by the College of Trades and Technology? The College of Trades and Technology, are they expected to give more details than the university? What would be the difference and why would there be a difference if there is any difference?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well one would have to examine the acts setting them up minutely to see the difference, There is a College of Trades and Technology Act and a College of Fisheries Act and of course Memorial University of Newfoundland Act. The relationship let us say between the Department of Education and those two other colleges is that between the Department of Education and the university.

MR. NEARY: Well why should we tread lightly in one area and not in the other? They are equally as important, as the minister noted.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes they are equally as important.

MR. NEARY: Why are we scared of the university?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It is not a matter of being scared. Is the honourable gentleman saying that he wishes to have the salaries of the various professors and the breakdown by faculty and by department?

MR. NEARY: Yes, bring it into this House.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The honourable gentleman is saying that?

MR. NEARY: I am saying it and I believe it.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Is that the official opposition view?

MR. NEARY: I do not know. It is my own personal view.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well I am asking.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, could I just interject if the minister would allow? I certainly would not want to give the impression that I was advocating, I said clearly and squarely at the beginning that I can see advantages and disadvantages in publicizing the university budget. What I was trying to get at was this: Will the minister explain who it was that brought in this feeler in 1967, He suggested that the former Premier did bring this in as sort of a feeler, "Probably we should make it public, the university budget."

What I was trying to find out was what the honourable minister's stand was on that particular policy at the time.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: As I recall it, it was to the effect that a government should have confidence in the university administration or the university and then, if they did, there was obviously no need for this internal data to be made public in the Legislature. If a government did not have confidence in a university administration, it would have an obligation probably, I think it would, it would have an obligation to have that detailed information available in the Legislature, but we have

confidence in the administration of the university. If we did not, it would be an entirely different picture. We do. The former administration quite apparently did as well. My position at that time, as I recall it, was that if a government had confidence in the administration of a university then this internal matter should not be debated in the legislature. If it did not have confidence in the administration of the university, that was a completely different matter. We do have confidence in the administration of the university. We have examined the formula and we are convinced that it is a realistic and fair one and therefore we do not think that it is in the best interests, not of the university administration nor the university faculty nor the university senate but in the best interests of the people of Newfoundland for whom that university exists. We do not think that it is in their best interest.

MR. F. ROWE: Was that the official position of the whole opposition at the time?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right.

MR. F. ROWE: You know, I just want to get the records straight.

MR. MOORES: I would like to try to get one point clear. The member from St. Barbe North and the member from Bell Island were suggesting - I think that the member from St. Barbe North recommended possibly it would have merit to bring in the university budget for debate in the House as such, possibly yes, possibly no, whatever it was, but in a general sense to scrutinize it in some way or another. It may have its advantages or disadvantages; I think was the answer. What confused me was the member from Bell Island, as usual. He said that he had believed that each faculty member's salary should be discussed here, each professor's salary should be discussed here. It should be tabled in the House. I am just wondering exactly what the official opposition's viewpoint

is on this because there seems to be a great deal of difference between the official opposition's education critic and the member for Bell Island being a critic.

MR. NEARY: The honourable Premier and the member for St. John's South, you know there is a vast difference there. It is the same thing. And the Minister of Finance on the Shaheen deal, it is the same thing.

MR. MOORES: I am just wondering what you are talking about now. Is there an official position on this?

MR. NEARY: Well, I do not know. You will have to ask the Leader of the Opposition that. I can tell you what my own personal feelings are.

MR. MOORES: Oh, I thought that you talked to each other. I just wondered.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, I was afraid that this would happen. I will be quite candid about it. As spokesman for education in the official opposition, I personally nor my colleagues have not formulated a policy with respect to the publication of the university budget. I can state that quite clearly. The present administration is doing exactly what the previous administration did in this regard.

What has been reported to me, Sir, and I have not been able to find it in Hansard because I cannot find an index for Hansard for 1967, is that the honourable Minister of Education, when he was in opposition and his colleagues were stating a case for the publication of the university budget. This is simply what I am asking and the minister has answered quite clearly. He has said that he did not advocate any such thing. I think that the minister had better check the record on this.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It was a three-day debate and it was quite confusing at the time, even more confusing in recollection. You know I could have advocated this, that or the other thing then. I am now speaking as Minister of Education. As I recall it, the basic position at that time was as I outlined it, a very

lengthly debate. I hope that the honourable gentleman finds it in Hansard. He will obviously read it in context and not any one sentence because the thing was dragged out for about three days. As far as I can see, the government's position has been stated, what our policy is with respect to this. The opposition say that they do not have a policy yet and that is fair enough as well because they are not obliged to have a policy, they are not in government. It is a good way to be. Obviously the government cannot afford to have the luxury of no policy in such an important matter. I think that I have made clear what in fact this government's policy in fact is, before going on to the other matters.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a word. There have been several references to me. First of all the details of the debate, I think if the truth were known any of us would have trouble recalling within any accuracy the details of the debate the day before last, because that is the way the House of Assembly is. I know we all when we read our Hansards we all take them home of an evening and sit up late reading them and I am sure the Premier has memorized largely, I hope, my speeches. I commend them to him. The important point is that the administration now, no matter what the minister may or may not have said when he stood in the position that I occupy, I shall never stand in a position which he now occupies but he once stood in a position which I now occupy.

The policy of the administration is exactly the same as the one which the former administration arrived at, namely discussions with the university, bilaterally. As I recall it, we were supplied with certain information. We used to get it almost broken down by departments in the university. The Faculty of Arts would have 'x' millions or 'x' hundred thousand dollars and so forth.

I appreciate what my friend from Bell Island is saying. He is being consistent. He raised it time and time again when he was in the administration. I do not know the answer to the problem,

I really do not. I have a certain responsibility for the present formula. It was a committee, I believe of myself and I think Mr. Victor Young, who worked it out three or four years ago. It is not satisfactory but it is the best compromise that anybody could find, if the problem still remains. I think my friend from Bell Island has two points. The first is that we are as a House or the government as a government responsible for the university, not just for finding the twenty odd millions that are going into it this year and the increasing large sums that will be going into it in the years to come but also because the university is one of the major social, call it what you want, agencies in this province today. It is a major example of the policy of the government no matter whether it is the present administration or some future administration, simply because it has a central role in the life of this province. So, that gives the government a responsible over and beyond the mere financial responsibility.

The question that was always in my mind, supposing this \$2,300 is as low as there is in Canada - I am prepared to believe that. I think that we started at \$2,000 and it has been escalating roughly five to ten per cent a year. The university complain that they cannot live within it. Mr. Morgan was in Corner Brook last week making a statement in which he said that they could not live within it, but they do manage somehow to live within it. What would happen if the university took that money and then decided, for arguments sake, to lash it all into a Department of Nuclear Medicine? That is when the crunch would come because at that point I submit the government would have to say, "No, no!" Academic freedom or no academic freedom! I have never accepted the argument that academic freedom is involved in this business of money. Academic freedom in my view is where a professor is told that he shall not teach the Marxist Doctrine because society happens not to accept the Marxist Doctrine or you shall not teach the Darwinian theory of evolution because society does not - you know the Scopes case in Tennessee

fifty years ago with Mr. Brien and Mr. Darrell. Academic freedom or no academic freedom, the argument would be raised at that point. The government would have a duty to step in and say that we do not care what you say, we have the over-all responsibility for the development of the university. So, I think that my friend from Bell Island has a point. I think also there is a further point. If there is something happening that we as members of the House, people who are interested in public affairs, people with a responsibility for public affairs, see happening in any other public agency (by public agency I mean funded with public funds) then we could ask questions about it.

If for example in the Power Commission there are some allocations made, we can discuss them when the minister deals with them. They are going to find out what happens at the university. I know of no such examples but I have made no effort to find out. They may or may not be. I just do not know. What do we do? It is a very neat question. The minister could - I did when I was a minister - raise with the university a sort of, you know, "Look, I hear this. I pass it on to you for whatever action you think is appropriate."

The university had a major internal scandal a couple of years ago, the Oxen Pond thing, with Doctor Ling and Doctor Laird. I think that the gentleman from St. John's South was involved as a counselor, in some professional capacity, if memory serves me correctly. They set up a committee and Mr. O'Dea, the honourable Fabian O'Dea, was chairman. Eventually it brought in its report. The report was made public. I think that they called it "The Oxen Pond Enquiry". I do not know the answer. Both problems are there. The debate in this House four or five years ago was a very useful one. It was like so many matters that come in this

House. It is not a matter of anything being decided or not being decided. It is a matter, Mr. Chairman, of there being opinions expressed and then the matter could rest quite there. I cannot refer to debates on-going in the House. This is a debate that we have had on the motion, made by my friend from White Bay South, for a Royal Commission on Highway Safety. It has been most enlightening whatever the outcome of it may be when the question is put in due course.

I do not have any answers on the university. What the minister is doing now is precisely the position which we arrived at and I have no doubt that when he looks forward - I do hope that he will say a few words about this two or three year budgeting because this is of interest to me. I would like to know the escalation factors, how they are to be calculated and indeed what they are to be. I would also like to know, I suppose with the per student factor, what happens if the enrollment does not rise to the projections. This is what has happened particularly in Ontario. I think Ryerson has run into a real bind on it. York University - one of the major reasons why Dr. Slatter resigned recently was over this question because the university had estimated 'x' people would be coming and that led, under the Ontario formula which is different than ours - it is weighted and graduate in various professional faculties - that led to a calculation that York would have so many hundred thousand or so many million dollars in income in a year. They did not get the students or they did not get the income but they had made the commitments. Staff have to be hired. Faculty have to be hired, research programmes authorized and what have you. There was quite a cuff-huffle. So, if the minister could perhaps tell us a little about, you know, what he envisages here. There have to be in effect guarantees both ways.

Certainly on the overall question I say quite calmly that I have no easy answers. We looked at it when we were the administration. We looked at it in the light of the arguments in the House. We

looked at in long discussions with Mr. Morgan and Mr. Selby and other officials of the university. We came to exactly the conclusion that the present administration have adopted. I think that in all my friend from Bell Island still has two points. I do not know how to resolve them. I am not sure the administration of which he was a part were never convinced that the answer was to bring the budget of the university in and debate it. If we had really been convinced of that we would have done it just as if the present government believed that they will do it. I mean that follows. We were never convinced and at the same time we were never very happy or entirely happy because of those two questions, What happens if you do get an abuse?

The university is spending a lot of public money. They are very competent people. Mr. Morgan and Dr. Harris and the various people heading up the university are as competent and as knowledgeable and as dedicated as any man who could ever be obtained for that post or for those positions. What does one do if there is an abuse in the Power Commission or in the College of Trades or in any other agency funded with public money? It can be raised in this committee or in the House at the appropriate time and it can be discussed and debated and the ministers answer. I do not know the answer. I really do not. Nor do I know what would happen if the university ever were, metaphorically speaking, to lose its head and to decide that instead of offering roughly the programme which they have - it may be the precedents are clear because before the engineering school was established, before the medical school was established, when the university had completed their feasibility studies in each case they then approached the government and said we wish to go into this. We recommend this but before we do so we would like commitments. There are commitments, letters signed by Mr. Smallwood, as the Premier of the Province in each case.

I assume if the university were now to propose entering upon a major new programme, perhaps a school of law or a school of business administration or a wide expansion of graduate activities or whatever it might be, they would follow a similar course. My friend from Bell Island has a point, a very good point. He does not know what the answer is. I do not think that I am knocking him when I say that. I do not know what the answer is and I would submit that I should - the minister does not know what the answer is. I would be very surprised if he has an answer. We all go on hoping that it will never happen. When we did have a problem such as the Oxen Pond business, were there was definitely the conclusive report that there were improprieties, not financial but there were people dealt with severely, as I recall. I have not read the report for a couple of years. Maybe the gentleman from St. John's South could correct me if I am wrong.

There the university took their own action and of course they do take disciplinary action I suppose when it is warranted from time to time. How do the public get involved? The regents are appointed by the government. I assume that will not be changed although I could make an excellent case for a complete revision of the University Act and for abolishing the senate and regents as such and replacing them with one committee, call it what you want, call it a board. That seems to be the pattern the University of Toronto have now adopted and I understand other universities across Canada have adopted it.

Saskatchewan is going a step further in imposing a new board of regents over the senate and the board of governor.

Another solution for a couple of years, Mr. Chairman, the Saskatchewan budget was debated in the - whatever they call their legislature, their House of Assembly, I do not know what name they put on it.

I have no answers. I do not think anybody does but to me the interesting thing is that the minister and his colleagues have come to precisely the conclusion that we came to. But I would like to hear him touch on these other points particularly the on-going formula. I assume it will come into the House each year, I mean there is no thought of telling the university you will have "X" millions and there will not be an annual vote. I mean that would be improper, probably unlawful as well I suspect. Well it would need statutory authority. I mean bond issues are not voted each year they are authorized by statute.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: But also these discussions of the escalation factor and what happens if enrollment starts dropping off, because at some point we are going to reach that. It has happened all across Canada and of course it will happen in Newfoundland.

Also is there any thought being given to drawing up a new university Act? I have reason to believe that the university authorities on the academic side would welcome it. I think our present act has served us well but it is now twenty-four or twenty-five years old. It was one of the first acts adopted by this House following Confederation. Probably the time has come for a thorough look at it. It could take one year, two or three, then have a new act come in. But across Canada there has been a move in the last two years, Mr. Chairman, to change this type of university government. There are a number of patterns evolving, Ours was based on what was traditional and common twenty-five years ago. I think ours may now be getting outdated and it may well be that the minister should initiate discussions with the senate and with the regions and with the

administration and I would suggest with the student body of the university.

One other question, Mr. Chairman, the news recently, and I am afraid I do not have it in front of me, The news recently in an article quoted the Premier. Now I am not saying they quoted him correctly or incorrectly but they did quote him to the effect that the administration were prepared to authorize or were prepared to say that they would get a number of millions of dollars for the student union building, this recurring -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh, well all I want to know what it is because as I say it was in the news. That does not make it correct. That does not make it incorrect. I do not know if the Premier saw the statements or not, If not, his swollen staff would drag it out for him because it is always upsetting when such an influential publication has such an incorrect statement. But I would like to hear from the minister or the Premier whether there are any plans for the student union building. I see the students, willingly or not, have voted to reinstitute this \$15. per student per year levy, There has been so much controversy over that in the last three or four years, first it was in and then it was out, and apparently it is now back again.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, before the minister answers at least some of the questions put to him by my colleague, the honourable Leader of the Opposition, I want to say this, Sir: The honourable the Premier sprung to his feet a few moments ago, thought he had detected a disagreement in policy, a disagreement in philosophy, "She is cracking. She sprung a leak."

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Here we are, they are falling apart over there. Well, Mr. Chairman, we are not falling apart. I happen to be and we have

complete freedom within our rank, Sir. We can speak our minds.

AN HON. MEMBER: What a change! What a privilege!

MR. NEARY: Ah! it was ever thus, Sir. If the honourable minister only knew ; it was ever thus. One thing that I have managed to do, Sir, since I came in this House twelve years ago was to speak my mind, sometimes maybe, Sir, it was to my own detriment. I will continue to do that, Sir, as long as I am in this honourable House. But, Sir, I want to say this, that even when I was a part of the previous administration I was against - how shall I put this - now I have to be careful of how I say this or I will have the Premier on his feet again.

AN HON. MEMBER: I know you were against education.

MR. NEARY: No, I was not against education.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: But I thought, Sir, that more information on the university budget should have been made available. I think the Minister of Education, although he was namby-pamby, wishy-washy their in his explanation, he does not know what to do, he is tormented, he is losing sleep at nights, Sir, I think the minister, if he were to tell the truth, if he did not want to offend anybody over at the university, if he were to come right out and level with the people of this province, he would say, yes, more information on the university's budget should be made available. This is what I suggested, Sir.

You know, Mr. Chairman, we come into this House, we show the salaries of the staff down at the Lieutenant-Governor's residence. We showed the salaries, and I might say some pretty high one, that are down in the Premier's office. All the various government departments we can have the salaries if we want; from the Power Commission,

AN HON. MEMBER: From the Opposition office?

MR. NEARY: The Opposition office, yes. We can have salaries from the

Power Commission, we can have salaries from any other crown corporation that we may ask to have them tabled in the House. P.A.D. does the Workmen's Compensation Board. P.A.D. did the Power Commission. P.A.D. did not do the university, Sir. What is the minister shaking his head for?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Marvelous, I know I am. That is right. My God, Mr. Bren Walsh will be proud of me. I do not know if he is in the gallery today or not but he would be proud of me.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: He did "Person to Person" at noon today. I do not know if the honourable the Premier was looking in or not.

But, Sir, the university budget is continuously under suspicion. I am not exaggerating, Mr. Chairman, right across this province people say, well they talk about extravagance and waste at the university. They say we are wasting too much money on the university. I have been told, Sir, myself by university professors, not my colleague, not my brother because he is not on the staff of the university over here but he is on the staff of Western University in London, Ontario. I have been told, Sir, that over here at this university when we are getting near to the end of the fiscal year that somebody will go around and say, "How much is left in your vote? How much have you left in your estimates? Oh, I have \$50,000 or \$60,000 left over. Well get rid of it quick. We are getting near to the end of the fiscal year." So jaunts all over the world, delegations here, delegations there. This is a fact, Mr. Chairman. I have been told that by members of the faculty of that university, Sir. This is the taxpayers money they are using for joy-riding around, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: Prove it.

MR. NEARY: Prove it? Prove that it is the taxpayers money?

AN HON. MEMBER: It should be brought to the House of Assembly.

MR. NEARY: Well this is precisely what I said in the beginning.

The honourable minister is agreeing with me. So there is dissension in the ranks on the other side too.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Ninety per cent agree with me. Then the Premier gets up and says; "you know this is the policy."

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No I am not against the university. Hold on, Mr. Chairman, I am not against the university any more than I am against motherhood. But, Sir, I do not think that we in this province have anything to hide. Why should we? Why should we not level with the people, lay our cards on the table? Why? Are we interfering with academic freedom, Sir? No, we are not. We are not and, Sir, we have in this House an Audit and Revenue Committee that is set up each year, I do not think it has been appointed yet this year, Sir, does not that committee have the right to send for the information on the university budget if they want it? Remember, Mr. Chairman, the Premier went around this province in two provincial elections talking about all the reforms he was going to have in this House. We were going to work on the committee system, the Premier told us. But we are not yet. What happens when we have a committee appointed on ways and means in this House? I am not talking about this committee now.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: But when we have that, will that committee have access to the university budget? Will it? Will the honourable the Premier answer that?

MR. MOORES: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: If the committee did not have that information, Sir, it would only be a farce. Oh, well that is right. So as my honourable colleague said, Sir, I do not know what the answer is but I do know this, that we want more information on the budget of that university,

we want to lay our cards on the table. We want to let the people of Newfoundland know exactly how their money is being spent at that university. That is all I am asking, Sir. And what is wrong with that? And if that causes dissension in the ranks of the opposite, then I will say God help us!

AN HON. MEMBER: You should make a motion.

MR. NEARY: That is, maybe I should move my seat down there close to the honourable member for Labrador South.

HON. MEMBERS: No. No. No.

MR. NEARY: No. Well we would have to push them all up a bit because you could not jam another seat in there between us.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, I do not think, Sir, I will have to move my seat because I am asking for more information on the university.

AN HON. MEMBER: Set up a chair.

MR. NEARY: Set up a chair where?

AN HON. MEMBER: At the university.

MR. NEARY: At the university? Well, Sir, I do not think I will have to leave my spot right here that I am enjoying so much, the Opposition whip. I do not think they are going to call an emergency caucus during a lunch hour, throw me out for asking for more information on the university budget. Do you think, Mr. Chairman, that I will? The honourable the Premier is trying to be smart, saying, "Well is there a division? You know the member for Bell Island disagrees with his colleagues." The honourable the Premier knows what it is like to have a member on his side of the House disagree with him. The honourable the Premier knows that he is very sensitive to it.

MR. MOORES: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the honourable Premier says he is very thankful. I remember one day down behind the curtain there he said; "Look, why do you not get rid of that crowd over there, come on over on my side of the House? I have a spot for you."

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what the Premier has against me but, Sir, seriously, Mr. Chairman, I appreciated that, Sir. But, Mr. Chairman, if you lose your sense of humour in this House you have lost everything, you may as well quit and go home and bury your head.

But, Sir, seriously, I do wish that we could get more information on the university's budget. I think the people of Newfoundland are beginning to ask questions, Sir, and rightly so. That is all I am saying, Mr. Chairman, I am not advocating that we interfere with the academic freedom of that university.

AN HON. MEMBER: If you get the information, will you show it to me?

MR. NEARY: If I get the information will I show it to the honourable minister? If I get the information I think I will charge admission. It will take in more revenue than a stag movie; but I doubt if we are going to get it this session, Sir.

MR. JITTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, there is a question which I did not get an chance to answer. The government's policy on this has been stated of course and it is quite clear, the position referred to by the Leader of the Opposition, if something were to happen where it could appear that the university were putting funds here and there, just what would be the position then? I think that is hypothetical, but all of this is related to does the government have confidence in the administration or does it not? We do have confidence in the administration and therefore we are willing to go by the formula system.

On a few of the other matters; The Leader of the Opposition asked about the three-year development plan. Obviously that will be based on projected enrollment and obviously there will have to be an element of flexibility because enrollment projections are estimates, they are not mathematically facts and obviously there will have to be a flexibility if there is an increase or a decrease there.

With respect to residences, tenders were called a couple of weeks ago, to the best of my memory, for a students' residence which is supposed to house 500 students.

With respect to the question on short-term borrowing for the engineering school, there was in fact no short-term borrowing. It was envisioned at some period that there might be but there was in fact no short-term borrowing for the engineering building. When we get to public works, I think there is a vote there of \$2.5 million for the engineering building.

In respect to regional colleges and community colleges, I think it is pretty clear what the regional college is. The honourable gentleman's desire for definitions probably refers to a community college. The regional college at Corner Brook will be or is intended to give the first two years of university. It will probably also and I think it should and I think it will give an associateship for those who do two years and may not wish to do more. There will be provision for that. It will also provide a broad range of extension in general adult courses, some academic, some non-academic, some for credit, some not for credit and to fulfill various educational and by that I mean not exclusively academic, various educational and social needs.

The community college, I think I said what needs to be said on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It now being 6:00 P.M. I do leave the Chair until 8:00 P.M. this evening.



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VERBATIM REPORT

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SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The Committee resumed at 8:00 P.M.

On motion 623-01 carried.

On motion 624 carried.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, 625-03-01, this grant to Dalhousie University, of this amount approximately \$220,000 is based on an estimated enrollment from twenty-five to thirty Newfoundland medical and dental students. That is \$7,500 each. The balance of \$52,000 is required for the adjustment of prior years payments. There will be a decrease, of course. I would presume that all these entering medical students will now be at Memorial University. I would presume that this will go down each year although obviously the dental students are still going to Dalhousie.

MR. NEARY: I would assume, Mr. Chairman, that our own medical school is now swinging into high gear and there will not be any need for the students to go over to Dalhousie.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I do not expect any medical students will be going, only dental students.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Mr. Chairman, is there any amount included in this amount for other professional schools?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Law school or anything like that?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, this is exclusively medical and dental.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Well do we pay anything to Dalhousie as a result of - for example, we have no law school in the province, therefore our students go to Dalhousie and other law schools as well, just as some of our medical students may go to other medical schools - do we pay anything to Dalhousie by way of a subsidy for students?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: No, there is no subsidy to Dalhousie or any other university for law students.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): How did this medical subsidy come about or this medical school subsidy?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I think the original reason for it, of course, was the great shortage of medical practitioners in the province and no doubt there is still a shortage on a per capita basis. That was the reason it was introduced a number of years ago, to do everything possible or reasonably possible to increase the number of medical and dental practitioners. Now with regard to lawyers, I suppose we have the smallest number per capita of lawyers, perhaps of any province in Canada, as well. It would be somewhat wrong to say that it is not an essential service. I think the hon. member for Bell Island would probably agree that it is not the vital kind of service of medical. I mean it is not a question of life or death.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Well did this amount, Mr. Chairman, in effect guarantee us as a province a certain number of places in medical school and dental school? In other words do we have a certain quota that we could depend on irrespective of the fact that the people going from the province might not have had say as high grades as people coming from Nova Scotia? Is this the idea, guaranteed placement of a certain number of seats?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: There was a certain assessment to the province for a number of places that the province would, let us say, reserve. If we had the qualified number of people, then that would look after it, I would think. If there were less, then there would be a rebate.

On motion 03-01, carried.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, on 03-02, this is a grant which has gone on for a number of years to the Moravian Missions to assist them in general in their educational work in Labrador. I think this part is especially used for their education in handicraft.

On motion 03-02, carried.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, on 03-03, could we have a list of these miscellaneous associations?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, I have that here. These are organizations toward which the province makes a yearly payment. We participate in their work and benefit presumably from their research and studies and services. I should say before giving the list that if we were not to write a couple of times every week telling some organization that unfortunately we could not make a grant to them, this would be almost exhausted. There seems to be hundreds of associations, no doubt all doing fine work but we have to be somewhat selective. The largest would be the Canadian Council of Ministers, \$13,000, which an organization with a permanent office and secretariate which represents the ministers of education throughout Canada, The ministers of education meet around four times a year. They disseminate information and undertake research on behalf of the various provincial governments. I would say that certainly in a country like Canada where there is no federal department of education that this kind of organization is very necessary.

MR. NEARY: Is that the one which sent the minister's predecessor to Russia?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: They are the same people. Then there is the Canadian Education Association, another nationwide group of educationalists. Every province is a member there. Our vote for them there is \$6,650. There are a number of smaller ones, the Canadian Council for Research in Education; Atlantic Region Management Training Centre; the Board of Directors of University Administration; the Maritime Art Association get \$250; Canadian Library Association and the World University Service of Canada. The major ones there, of course, are the Council of Ministers and the Canadian Education Association and the Atlantic Region Management Training Centre.

On motion 03-03, carried.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: On 03-04, this is an annual grant to the International Grenfell Association to assist them, in general their work in education. This too is especially designed for work in arts and handicrafts and quite

a lot of work in handicraft training has been done at St. Anthony. There is a commercial outlet. I understand their products are in quite some demand. I would hope too that with the vocational school in St. Anthony that this work which the I.C.A. has done in handicrafts should be facilitated a lot with the vocational school there.

On motion 03-04, carried.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, 03-05, could the minister explain this one?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This is somewhat similar to the Dalhousie grant, the Nova Scotia Technical College. This is the amount that we have been assessed by the Nova Scotia Technical College for Newfoundlanders there. There are thirty-six students currently there.

MR. NEARY: Engineering students.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right. The vote there of \$25,000 is somewhat less than \$1,000 each as their assessment of the province.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Once the engineering school gets underway, in gear, in full swing, presumably this will be wiped out. I mean there is no continuing obligation to Nova Scotia Technical. When is this likely to happen?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This is on a year-to-year basis. There is no continuing obligation. I would think certainly within - of course this is hazarding something of a guess - three years there will not be any need there.

On motion 03-05, carried.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that there is \$500,000 voted in other departments for construction and alterations, as capital programmes, and there is an increase here for Indian and Eskimo education, from \$90,000 up to \$120,000, can the minister indicate exactly what is going on. Is there something new going on, a new programme or a new building?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: This amount here is for Eskimo and Indian education. It is used to pay the operating expenses and parts of the salaries of teachers in Indian and Eskimo schools, at Northwest River, David's Inlet, Hopedale, Nain, Rigolet and Makkovik. Most of this is recoverable from the federal government. There is an increase there because of additional teachers and we are making more funds available to them.

MR. NEARY: Why would teachers be treated differently who teach in Northern Labrador communities? Why must we have a heading for Eskimo and Indian education, if it is teachers, as the honourable minister explained? Would this be to house the children in the new dormitory in Northwest River, Mr. Chairman? I am inclined to agree that it is not for teachers at all. I presume the teachers' salaries would be shown wherever teachers' salaries are under this vote. Why single out the teachers in Northern Labrador?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: It is the whole educational service, teachers, residence facilities, material and equipment in schools. The reason that it is in a separate subhead is because this is largely recoverable from the federal government. One will see later, on Less Appropriations-in-aid, that this is recoverable. According to the federal government formula ninety per cent of the expenses, Indian education and sixty-six per cent Eskimo education are recoverable. This would include not only salaries but also services concerned with the schools in general, including residences.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): There is an amount down below in Appropriations-in-Aid covering capital and then there is another amount there. Just "Eskimo and Indian" it is called. Does this relate directly to the subhead we are now discussing? If so, why would there be more Appropriation-in-Aid than there is actual estimated expenditure for the year coming?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: One reason I can think of for that is that there was an underpayment last year. Frequently payments which

are due in one year come another year. There is frequently a year's lag, sometimes because either the provincial data does not get to Ottawa or it is slowed up in Ottawa. But frequently there is an overpayment one year, sometimes it is less and sometimes there is an underpayment. In other words the total amount for which the federal government will reimburse us, that total amount may not be reimbursed in the actual year in which it was spent and it is carried over to the next year. This happens from time to time.

MR. NEARY: Mr Chairman, I do not know whether the dormitory at Northwest River comes under the Minister of Education or under the Minister of Rehabilitation and Recreation. Does it come under the minister? Is the dormitory finished, Mr. Chairman? Have students been actually living in it yet or will they be living in it this September coming? I know the dormitory was built by the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation because when I was minister there we called the tender and awarded the contract. I might say that it went to the lowest tender. That was one project by the way that I was very proud of. I did not get a chance to go down to officially open the place because we got kicked out before the dormitory was completed. I can say one thing, that I do not know if the minister has seen the school down there or not. It is a circular school, located in a very scenic part of Northwest River. It is one of the most beautiful schools I suppose that we have in this province today. From what I saw of the dormitory that was constructed when I was thrown out, from the plans it looked like it was going to be a very beautiful place. I am wondering if it is finished. If so, have there been students living in it so far or will it be open this September coming?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The dormitory is open. It is in use. I would think that there would probably be between eighty and one hundred students in it now. It is administered, of course, by the school board. It is open and in use with approximately eighty students who have been making use of it.

MR. NEARY: If the minister is going to have an official opening, would he invite me down. I take it,

it is out of the question.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, a couple of questions have occurred to me here. First of all I would like the honourable minister to clear up one point that might have some bearing on the rest of them. He mentioned a number of communities which are located in Northern Labrador and I would like to know under what criteria and who decides that the money allocated here is going to be spent only in these communities mentioned.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Here we are in the area of federal criteria and the federal government participate on a certain basis for educational facilities and related facilities for Indian and Eskimo population and not for Labrador population or rural population or anything like that. Obviously we would be very pleased if they did, but we have no control over that. Their regulations and these cost-share programmes are specifically related to Indian and Eskimo people. We take advantage and make the best use we can of the finances available but we can only do it for the Indian and Eskimo population. We cannot transfer those funds to any other part of Labrador.

MR. MARTIN: I assumed that that was the case, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me that it is incumbent upon the provincial government then to inform the people in Ottawa exactly where these native populations are located. We are into a rather hazy area here of again trying to decide who is or who is not an Indian or an Eskimo.

I can assure you, Sir, that there are Indians and Eskimos or people with Indian and Eskimo blood living in many, many other areas, not only in Labrador but also here on the island. I could think of one, right off the bat, down in Gray River. Now I think the provincial government should take upon itself to decide who is an Indian and who is an Eskimo, for the purposes of deciding where the money is going to be spent and how much. In my own district, in particular in the northern part of that district, we have people with Indian and Eskimo blood mixed in with other blood

lines. I am wondering exactly how we are going to come to some kind of a decision on how much Eskimo blood you have to have before you are an Eskimo and where exactly is it that we are going to put this money. There seems to be a great deal of discrimination here.

Secondly and this harkens back to another subhead which we dealt with but I think I can tie in relevancy here in that certain money is allocated to these groups. In the matter of technical training, at the College of Trades and Technology and at the Fisheries College in particular, we find that not too many of the native people are being able to take advantage of these courses for three reasons. First of all, there is a language problem of course, with no instructions being carried under native languages, and many of these people do not speak English. Secondly, there is not enough information regarding the courses available at these colleges being made available to the people in these areas. Even if they did know what was going on up there and that certain courses were available to them, I am afraid they could not take advantage of them anyway because in many cases the academic standards are not quite high enough. Now that would be more applicable I think in the central part of the Labrador Coast rather than the north because there is a higher standard of education in the north.

So I would like to make three recommendations, Mr. Chairman: Firstly, that the provincial government get on with trying to decide for the federal government exactly where this money should be spent. Secondly, to institute an information programme to allow people, not only in Coastal Labrador but in all rural areas, to inform them of what precisely is available at these various institutions and then to make it possible for people in those communities to be upgraded to the point where they can come in and take advantage of these courses. I would like to suggest too that while the upgrading school at Stephenville is a great thing, maybe we could get better use out of that particular system if we took the teachers to the

students rather than taking the students to the teachers. We would get much more effect out of that.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Education will be referring to this particular subject in some depth, but I would like to say at this time that the point the honourable member for Labrador South raises regarding the Indian-Eskimo mixed breed, if you like, or whatever it happens to be, in that particular area, but the native population such as they may be in whatever part of Labrador is of very real concern. The federal policy has been one directed particularly to the Indian and it has to be pretty well a total Indian community and almost a thoroughbred Indian, for want of a better expression. It is certainly not the way I want to express it, but this is their attitude in applying programmes. The Eskimo is much further down the scale. He does not get the same consideration as the Indian, and the people who have intermarried and so on are in exactly the same boat.

The provincial government, the previous government and this government, have not been any better in treating this problem than the federal government. The federal government, through the Department of Northern Affairs, took on this responsibility. They are the people who have taken on this particular project, if you like - that once again is a bad word when you are talking about people, but this happens to be the case. I can assure the honourable member for Labrador South, and as I said his specific questions will be answered by the Minister of Education, but I can assure him that the equal treatment for native people, and native people being all the people who live in these particular isolated areas, with all the hardships and handicaps they have, is of considerable concern. Talks have gone on with Ottawa regarding it and in some areas they have been sympathetic and in some areas they have not, but they will continue to go on until all the people on the coast of Labrador, and this is what we are talking about here, all these

people are given equal rights with anyone else in the province.

I wanted to make that assurance to the member before the minister replied to the question.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend here from Labrador South has an excellent point. While he was speaking there it suddenly dawned on me, Sir, that what he is saying is so true, that the Indians and Eskimos, the native people of Labrador do not have equal rights.

MR. MOORES: Do not have equal rights with each other.

MR. NEARY: They do not have equal rights among one another. That is quite true. The reason for that I believe, Mr. Chairman, is a few years ago when this unique agreement was negotiated with the Government of Canada whereby the Government of Canada would pay ninety per cent of the cost.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: No, no, the agreement with Newfoundland for looking after the native population of Newfoundland is unique. It does not apply anywhere else in Canada. Where the mistake was made, Mr. Chairman, was this, that in order for the federal government to pay the cost of operating certain facilities in a community it had to be ninety per cent Indian or sixty-six and two-thirds per cent Eskimo.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I am talking about population. The population had to be sixty-six and two-thirds per cent Eskimo, or they would pay one hundred per cent of the cost in a community that was ninety per cent Indian. Now so what happened was that the agreement was negotiated for a community. It reminds me of the resettlement agreement, Mr. Chairman, if two-thirds of the population wanted to move, everybody had to move, and it discriminated against the minority groups. Well, this is what has happened in Labrador. There are no individual rights. The individuals are not recognized under this special agreement and this is where it is wrong.

I quite agree with the member for Labrador South. If I were the Minister of Rehabilitation and Recreation, even before the current agreement expires and I think it could run for three years, even before it expires I think that the government would be well advised to enter into negotiations with the Minister of Northern Affairs, the Federal Minister of Northern Affairs, to either try to reopen the agreement or -

DR. FARRELL: Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

MR. NEARY: Indian Affairs and Northern Development, that is right.

I thank my honourable Irish friend for reminding me of that. The honourable minister is not being discriminated against. But I think it is a very important point, Mr. Chairman, and one worth looking into because I can see now that there is discrimination in Labrador on an individual basis. If you do not reside in one of these communities that is recognized by the Government of Canada and by the province, that is sixty-six and two-thirds per cent Eskimo or ninety per cent Indian, then there are no individual rights. Right in the community that my honourable friend was born in there is Eskimo blood but I do not know if there is any Indian blood or not. But you will find all throughout Southern Labrador you will find an Eskimo family here, you will find eight or ten families here, in Cartwright you will probably find fifty or sixty families and they are not treated the same as their blood brothers in Northern Labrador. That is what it amounts to and this sort of, to my way of thinking, smacks of discrimination.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, it is a very tricky question this one of blood lines and it is one that has bothered the bureaucrats in Ottawa for many, many years and they have never been able to come up with a suitable formula. I would suggest that the people who should decide on who is an Indian or who is an Eskimo are the people themselves who belong to these races. There are two groups currently operative in this province. One is called the Inuit,

Tapirisat, the Eskimo brotherhood originating out of Northwestern Canada and now coming into Labrador. They can tell you exactly who is and who is not an Eskimo. The other is the native council of Canada who represents the non-status Indians, those Indians who have not been recognized under treaty, and those people too have worked out a formula. I suggest that before you go to Ottawa that we must go to these groups and find out what their representation is.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, on that point and I will be very brief, I am sure the member for Labrador North is probably more involved than anybody here. The only one thing I want to say as far as the governments' point of view is concerned is that whether a person is an Eskimo or an Indian or a white liver on the coast or whoever, what we have to be concerned about are the people of the district and not the blood lines.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, if I may and I am sorry I missed the first part of the debate but in this particular piece here I do not agree with the honourable member for Labrador South. I have to disagree on the fact that I think that the formula that has been applied to the coastal communities does not discriminate against the whites or the Eskimos or the Indians. We have a blanket policy for a number of communities where the federal government is sharing ninety per cent of the cost of the development of a particular community. I may cite an Indian community such as David's Inlet, with a total Indian population, where they pay ninety per cent of the cost under the Labrador services division of providing community development and education for that particular community.

MR. MOORES: Would the member for Labrador North permit a question?

MR. WOODWARD: Sure.

MR. MOORES: I agree that the federal government are paying ninety per cent of the cost at David's Inlet for these services. What I

have tried to say from the government's position and the question is that I hope that the member agrees that the treatment should be the same whether it is in David's Inlet or whether it is in Hopedale and that people are people living in the same environment and irrespective of what colour or race they are, surely one policy is what we want and not discriminatory policies.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Premier in this respect but the point I am trying to make is the fact that if we are going to define ethnic groups of different cultures such as Indians and Eskimos then the white settlers who have integrated with those groups in those particular communities will not get the benefits that they are already getting by this participation. I am sure that the honourable member for Labrador South must agree that we have communities in my district, five communities in Coastal Labrador, where we have people who are not Eskimos, who are not Indians but when the agreement was drawn up, because of the mere fact that they were integrated in a community with the Eskimos and the Indians that the whole community got the

benefit of the ninety percent participation. In the Eskimo communities such as Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik and Postville which is purely and almost a white settlement, because of the mere fact that they were living under this particular environment and in this type of isolation, they were treated the same as the ethnic groups. I would dare the honourable member for Labrador South to go into Postville or Makkovik, where we have settlers that originated from England, going back a hundred years, and refer to those people as Eskimos. This is not the case.

The total blanket policy and the agreement that was drawn up was that sixty-six and two-thirds percent of the development of the community, which included education, the government stores, participation in the fishery and the participation of the cultures and arts that were developed in the community, were to be shared by NLSD, which is the Northern Labrador Services Division, which is now, (and I am sure that it is unfortunate that the member for Labrador South and the Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation are not in their seats) but if we are going to define the groups, then I am very much afraid that those people will not be included in this particular programme.

I agree with the honourable member for Labrador South that the people who have resettled from those communities into Happy Valley should get some of those benefits. Then again, we should not in turn confine it to the ethnic groups such as the Eskimos and the Indians and deprive the white settlers of those benefits in the community. I think if you want to define the ethnic groups and I am very familiar with it, I know the particular people that were involved in defining native groups in Labrador when this particular agreement was drawn up and at one point it was concluded that we should include the whole of Labrador so we could get the benefit of federal participation.

In this respect I disagree with the minister. We have moved into the community of Black Tickle (I am sure the honourable member

for Labrador South will agree that the people there are neither Eskimo nor Indian) because of the mere fact that the community needs some uplifting. NISD and the federal authorities saw fit to go in there with this particular programme. I feel, that if we are going to have ethnic associations, whether it is the Inuit or the Indian Association determining who are Indians or who are Eskimos, then a large portion of the population are going to be left without this participation. I strongly object to this particular move, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to have the honourable Minister of Education tell us what the \$140,000 is going to be spent on under this particular subhead. I feel that this is not only of great benefit to the people in that community, it also takes an additional burden off this province. The federal government is participating by building schools under this particular programme, by building teachers' residences under this particular programme and by sharing other costs in the communities in Labrador North which have been moved into two communities in Labrador South, Rigolet and Black Tickle.

We hope to expand this particular programme into the south and to take advantage of this, if they can negotiate this particular deal. I feel that if you have to confine it to the native groups then there are a lot of people who are going to be discriminated against and will not in turn get this benefit.

MR. M. MARTIN: One point there, Mr. Chairman, for my honourable friend from Labrador North. I think he would agree if he had heard my statements in the beginning, that we are really both arguing the same point on the same side. I certainly was not suggesting that we should exclude certain groups because they were not of that particular ethnic race. What I am simply saying is that there are other pockets of Indians and Eskimos or people with Indian and Eskimo blood living outside those particular communities and they should not be excluded.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, in answer, first of all, to the question from the honourable gentleman from Labrador North as to on what services these expenses are actually spent, they are spent on things such as heat and light for example and also residences and a large amount of it is spent on teaching supplies, films, texts.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes it covers that and in general, upon the comments of both the honourable members from Labrador, opposite, certainly I think the concern of both honourable gentlemen and government is identical here and that is to get as much benefit as possible from federal participation for as many people as possible. Certainly we shall continue, if at all possible, to get the federal government to broaden its terms of reference, to do everything reasonable whereby as many people as possible can benefit from these programmes.

I think there is a very strong case to be made for the ninety percent and the sixty-six percent. It should certainly be ninety percent throughout. Obviously, this is not a decision which we can make. It is something that we can continue to work for. I think that the real question apart from that is getting parity there between the sixty-six and ninety percent in that the programme should be developed and implemented in such a way as to benefit as many people as possible.

On motion, 62503-06, carried.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Before we go on, Mr. Chairman, why are there three separate things for Indian and Eskimo, capital expenditure? Expenses voted in other, Eskimos and Indian, capital, then down below again, less appropriations-in-aid Indian and Eskimo, capital. What is the reason for that?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: The Heading 07 is for a school at Northwest River which —

MR. W.N. ROWE: A specific project?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right and which was for budgetary purposes under

the Department of Education rather than public works. I think the vote was left there when the estimates were originally done, in case all of the bills had not been paid. I believe they have but that was a token vote there in case bills came due during this fiscal year.

MR. W.N. ROWE: So that will be gone next year?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Right.

MR. WOODWARD: If I may, Mr. Chairman, maybe the minister can explain if the dormitory at Northwest River would be included in some of this capital cost as well. I understand that the capital cost of the dormitory at Northwest River, serving the communities both north and south in Labrador, has been paid for out of this particular fund which is a federal participated fund.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Any expenses left over from the dormitory would be in the next Heading down, 09, expenses voted in other departments.

On motion, 03-07, carried.

On motion, Head VI, Education, without amendment, carried.

HEADING VII, JUSTICE:

MR. W.N. ROWE: There is nothing apparently new or of any great additional consequence this year, Mr. Chairman, over any other year in the Department of Justice. There is only one question I would like to ask the minister on the minister's salary estimates and that concerns the possibility of getting into the province (as I mentioned to the minister outside the House) a court of appeal. I am afraid to leave it until later in the Supreme Court vote because I might be ruled out of order since there is now no vote for a court of appeal. I will merely ask the minister now if he could give us the benefit of his comments on what negotiations have taken place with Ottawa in the past year or so by this present administration, leading towards getting a court of appeal in the province. We are now the only province, outside of Prince Edward Island, without this very necessary institution, and we should have it.

The other question, Sir, would relate to the District Court Judges, the additional District Court Judges which were applied for and negotiations were entered into with Ottawa about a year and a-half ago. He might have some ideas on that.

Thirdly, and I know this is of great importance to the honourable member for Placentia East as well, this Heading as well as the others I have mentioned. What has happened to the Law Society brief to government which was forwarded on to Ottawa concerning the possibility of getting a fifth Supreme Court Judge in Corner Brook? Perhaps the minister could deal with those few questions.

HON. T.A. HICIMAN (MINISTER OF JUSTICE): Mr. Chairman, I am not at all at odds with the honourable member for White Bay South so far as a separate court of appeal for the province is concerned. The position is that in December of 1971, the previous administration, just before they left office, made a submission to the government of Canada asking that the Government of Canada would consider amending the Judges' Act in order to provide for (1) a separate court of appeal, (2) a fifth trial judge of the Supreme Court who would be stationed in Corner Brook and two additional District Court Judges, one for Burin-Burgeo, to be stationed at Grand Bank, and the other for Gander-Twillingate, who would be stationed at Gander.

As honourable members are aware, in order to bring about a change in our judicial system or a change in our system of the judiciary, it requires amending legislation by this honourable House with respect to our Judicature Act, because we and we only have the jurisdiction to create the necessary court but the Government of Canada or the Governor General in Council has the exclusive responsibility for the appointment of District and Superior Court Judges. They must also amend their Judges' Act to give them the necessary authority to appoint and pay the judges.

Immediately this administration assumed office, I advised the then Minister of Justice, Mr. Turner, that this administration supported

the position that had been put by the previous administration with respect to the restructuring of our courts. The then Minister of Justice advised, in 1972, that the request was before him; I think it would be sort of improper for me to give details of correspondence or that sort of thing but the matter was before him and he noted that this was a request for a very substantial addition to the judiciary in Newfoundland, all coming at one time, that in due course he would instruct his officials, his deputy minister, to consult with my deputy minister to see what in particular we could work out.

Mr. Turner was not too long thereafter removed from that portfolio, which I must confess as an Attorney General I thought was most unfortunate. We heard nothing from the present Minister of Justice. Last year I went to Ottawa and once again renewed our position to Mr. Laing. There was no indication from the present Minister of Justice as to whether he was at all in sympathy with our position. I understand and very properly so, that the Canadian Bar Association at their recent meeting drew to the attention of the present Minister of Justice that Newfoundland and

Prince Edward Island are the only two provinces in Canada without separate courts of appeal. The time had arrived when this inequity should be cured. Since then there has been some communication between my deputy minister and Mr. Laing's deputy minister. I am not in a position, because no definite position has been indicated to me, to sort of give what I am sure Ottawa regards as confidential, their discussions. But I think I can say right now with some degree of certainty that whatever chance we have of persuading the Government of Canada to provide a separate court of appeal, that they will not look upon the additional trial judge or the two extra district court judges with any favour at this time.

The workload is relevant. If honourable members are interested, I do have the statistics showing appeals that have been tried in Newfoundland during the past number of years. They have not been very extensive but I believe, Mr. Chairman, that with a separate court of appeal the number will increase. In any event it is my opinion that the number of appeals heard in this province is not relevant in arriving at that conclusion. It is desirable and I say this at all without any reflection on the capabilities of the present Supreme Court and the judges who comprise the Supreme Court of Newfoundland but rather everywhere in the British Commonwealth you have separate courts of appeal. I do suggest that these separate courts of appeal were not set up simply to take care of additional burden that was being placed upon trial judges but rather the principle of a separate court of appeal, in my opinion, is very defensible. I want to assure my honourable friend that this administration has indicated, time and time again or as often as we can within reason, our support for this. As soon as we get a firm indication from Ottawa, there is a lot of timing involved so I am told and legislation must go through both Houses at reasonably the same time or alternatively, if legislation is passed in this House, it has to be subject to proclamation and they

both have to be proclaimed the same day.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to belabour the point at all. I do not think it is a point which is of great interest to too many people until perhaps they are hailed before the courts, whether they are criminal or civil matters, it is an important matter. I got the impression from talks with Mr. Turner, back in I think November or December of 1971, that there would be no difficulty whatsoever (these were informal talks) in getting what is surely our just due here in Newfoundland without any, as the minister has already indicated, reference at all to workload or anything else. If you are talking about workload then perhaps if it all depends on workload, then perhaps many of our valuable institutions that we have in this province could be abolished altogether.

The situation you have now is where there are four Supreme Court judges all of equal rank, except for the Chief Justice who is more equal than the others. You go to court, you have your case heard by one of the judges. If that judge errs in law or makes a mistake, as all human beings are prone to do on some occasion or another, then you can only appeal in the first instance to the three other judges who every day cheek by jowl with that judge, talking things over, having a coffee together. I would say they are in fairly friendly circumstances but this is not to say that on the appeal you would get an unfair hearing. I am not saying that at all. All I am saying is that in principle and for the sake of appearances because, as it has often been said, justice must not only be done but must appear to be done. For the sake of that you have to have two separate courts. When you have a case heard before a judge and you do not agree with the finding of that judge in fact or law or the judgment handed down by him, you ought to be able to appeal to another separate plain of judges, on a separate level altogether, so that you are assured and your client and anyone involved are assured that they are going to receive an

independent objective unbiased hearing, that the best intelligence and knowledge of that court of appeal is going to be brought to bear on solving the legal problem involved. I am not saying that does not happen now, Mr. Chairman, but in principle it has to be the way that we have talked about it.

Now I cannot understand why there has been so much foot dragging either in Ottawa or in the province on such a simple matter. After having these talks with Mr. Turner, I at the time sent a letter away to him in which I asked that his officials and our officials get together, by correspondence or otherwise, and come up with the parallel legislation needed, whatever legislation was needed in either House of Commons or the House of Assembly, get together and do it. That could have been done in a month or so and then whatever sessions were then sitting, legislation could have been brought in and passed by the Houses and then the thing could go into effect. Yet nothing has happened for almost one year and a-half, which to me is intolerable in a way. I do not see why it should happen.

There is some indication by some people, some unkind people, that there may be some political skulduggery afoot on the question. I have my doubts about that. Some people were saying that perhaps this government here were waiting until a Tory government got elected in Ottawa, so that lawyers who happen to espouse their cause might be appointed to the bench. That has not been unknown.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Shame! That is unheard of, Mr. Chairman, in the history of politics, it is unheard of that judges be appointed from among lawyers who happen to espouse a particular political party.

AN HON. MEMBER: He did it.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Evil!

Now, Sir, that is the type of thought that pervades the atmosphere because of this type of foot-dragging that has gone on between this government and the government in Ottawa, because there is no need for any delay. We are due that concession. We

are due that court of appeal and three judges on it. Whether there is a workload or not is irrelevant. I would submit, Sir, that very soon after that court was set up there would soon be a workload. I would say the present system inhibits people to a certain extent from appealing to the Supreme Court, sitting as a court of appeal. I would say there would soon be a workload and certainly in principle in any event we are entitled to that institution.

I would hope that these rumours of political manoeuvring and political hope and political expectation are unfounded, I hope they are because as far as I am concerned it is something that should be removed completely from the sphere of political influence. I believe the Minister of Justice in Ottawa set up some kind of a secret commission or other -

MR. HICKMAN: The former minister.

MR. ROWE, W.N. The former minister, Mr. Turner, set up some kind of a secret body that could report to him on who was qualified in their minds to be judges in the Supreme Courts in the various provinces and in the Supreme Court of Canada.

When I had the privilege of being Acting Minister of Justice, I got an order-in-council passed which set up this board of judicial recommendations which also in the event of judicial vacancies was to submit to the province here there recommendations as to who should fill those positions. The province, in an advisory capacity only, having no power in the field, could send these recommendations on to the Minister of Justice in Ottawa whoever he might be. There is some thought that perhaps we were overstepping our jurisdictional rights in that regard, but I do not think that argument holds water at all.

All I wanted to make sure was that whatever minister, whatever government was in Ottawa would have the benefit of the advice of some good committee here in the province, who could send to the ministers there recommendations as to who should go on the court of appeal, who should go on the Supreme Court, who should go on district courts. Then the minister in Ottawa could

reject that out of hand if he wanted to but there would be some moral persuasion there. He certainly would have to give it some serious consideration. After all, this would come from a body of lawyers and laymen who should know who the best among them are and who would make the best judges and who would serve in these judicial capacities best.

So I would hope that it is taken out of the realm of politics, I think it is foolish and stupid that it is in the realm of politics or it has been in the realm of politics. I hope that this rumour going around among certain lawyers and certain people who are interested in our courts, that this provincial government may be dragging its heels somewhat because they are waiting for their friends in Ottawa to get in power, I hope that rumour is unfounded, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the minister might have something to say on it.

As a matter of fact I will say here publicly that if there be ever a court of appeal set up, I would like to see the Minister of Justice on it, not because he is any great political terror, who should be removed from the political field, to give us a break - I do not think that is true either but because I genuinely believe that with his experience, with his intelligence, his capability, he would make a good Supreme Court judge or even Chief Justice of the court of appeal. I believe that as long as, Mr. Chairman, the other two judges are Liberals, I would not mind a Tory judge. That was facetious, Sir, but I would like to see the honourable minister reach that high station in life at some point. I am sure that if he were to be appointed to such a court, there would be no need for any political influence to be brought to bear on anyone in Ottawa. He would deserve that in his own right just as a number of other lawyers, some in this House and some outside of the House, deserve that appointment in their own right no matter what their political colouring might be.

I would like to hear the minister on this.

MR. HICKMAN: You have all the lawyers upset in the House now.

MR. ROWE, W.N. You mean there are four or five lawyers and they are all looking now at the Attorney General's job with a jaundice eye. A very nice job it is I guess. But in any event, perhaps the minister could deal with that and perhaps some of the other members who are concerned might deal with it as well.

As far as the fifth Supreme Court judge in Corner Brook is concerned, this is something which should not be dismissed lightly by either this government or the Government in Ottawa. I think it was a unanimous recommendation of the Law Society of Newfoundland, a unanimous recommendation made to the Attorney General, with the request that it go to Ottawa. There seems to be some need for that. I have never practiced in Corner Brook, I do not know what the problems are. Perhaps Your Honour has some idea as to what the problems are there.

I do not think that they should dismiss that out of hand at all. As far as two additional district court judges are concerned, the same consideration applies there as with regard to the court of appeal. It is again intolerable that all the people, for example, in the Burin Peninsula, how many people are there? Thirty thousand or forty thousand people?

MR. HICKMAN: Statistically 30,000, politically we say about 45,000.

MR. ROWE, W.N. For the sake of when the redistribution is drawn up, there will be 45,000.

MR. HICKMAN: No, 30,000.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: 30,000 in that case.

But, Sir, it is intolerable again that people who are involved in civil actions or other actions which come within the jurisdiction of the district court should have to go to the trouble, expense and inconvenience of either getting a lawyer here in St. John's or -

MR. HICKMAN: It is a good firm down there now.

MR. ROWE, W.N. There is a good firm there now, yes, in the area.

But, Sir, I think that people should have easy and convenient access

to the courts, they should as a matter of right. Whether there is any great workload involved or not is irrelevant. You will find again that if there is a district court judge in Grand Bank or another one in Gander, you will find that judge will be kept busy very quickly indeed. I would say there are lots of people now sleeping on their legal rights rather than to go to the trouble and expense of coming to St. John's or looking for a lawyer in St. John's or the great cost of witnesses coming back and forth and all that sort of thing, Mr. Chairman. People should not have to have that additional burden on them. They should be entitled to have quick and speedy access to courts, quick and speedy justice, at the least expense to them and the least of inconvenience to them. I am

sorry to see that the minister seems to have lost his enthusiasm somewhat for the district court judges. I would have thought that the opposite would be true. I think that he should be a little more aggressive again in this field. He should go after the federal government in a more aggressive fashion and try to get them to accede to our eminently reasonable request as far as these judicial institutions are concerned.

MR. AYLWARD: On 7-01-01. Mr. Chairman, before that is carried I would like to just add a few words on the appeal court. I was a member of the committee, Sir, set up by the benchers to look into the question of the necessity of an appeal court for the province. This committee, under the chairmanship of Judge Noel of the district court of Bonavista-Conception, they unanimously concluded that there was certainly a need for an appeal court in the province and they went into the work-load as well as all other factors and in addition of course the fact that every other province, as previous speakers said, except Prince Edward Island had an appeal court. Really the only real expense of the province was the provision of quarters for the court and the maintenance of a court building.

Some people voiced the opinion that probably we needed a -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Stenographer.

MR. AYLWARD: Well, yes, it is administrative but really not that significant.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Hundreds of thousands of dollars.

MR. AYLWARD: No, not really. Mr. Chairman, I do not think that we can count pennies when it comes to justice, ration it out. I do not see any real excuse, Mr. Chairman, on the part of Ottawa to have this amendment to the Supreme Court of Canada or whatever act is required to be amended in Ottawa. I understand from the Minister of Justice that there is an amendment required of our own Judicature Act and certainly I suppose a good step forward would be to see this

present session of the House have an amendment brought into the Judicature Act to make whatever amendment is required. I am sure that the attorney general was pleased at the suggestion of the honourable member for White Bay North with respect to the appointment of himself on the appeal court. I must say that I endorse his sentiments completely. I think that he would make a fine candidate for that position and I also feel that they will not have too much difficulty recruiting the required candidates for the appeal court.

I do not think that the province should wait until a new courthouse is established nor do I think that the work-load is any yardstick for the appointment of an appeal court. I think the rights of the people of the province demand that when they want to appeal they appeal not to two or three other trial judges but to an appeal at court. One could talk for hours on this, Mr. Chairman, but I do not really feel that it is necessary. I think it appears, at least from the debate so far, that both sides of the House are unanimous if on nothing else on the constitution of this appeal court. I sincerely trust that the present session of the House will see the required amendment to our own Judicature Act made.

I also agree that the two district court judges for certainly Burin and Burgeo - I think that there are a large number of people on the Bruin Peninsula and now that there are lawyers moving out to other parts of the province and particularly to the Burin Peninsula, it is only right that the people of that section of the province should have the right to go into the court on the peninsula itself. I sincerely trust that within the not too distant future we will see a district court set up there as well.

On motion 7-01-01 carried.

Total subhead 701 carried.

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: (MINISTER OF JUSTICE): On 711-01. Some of it is in anticipation, Mr. Chairman. My understanding is that - I am looking at the salary vote in the back - that we have a general increase plus the fact that we are in negotiations now with the representatives of the three groups that come under my department. Hopefully too our salary for solicitors will be able to be used up this year. We have not had much luck so far but maybe we will later on. Other than that there have been some increases, as the honourable gentlemen will notice, in the salaries of the staff of the department during the past year.

On motion 711-01 to 711-02-08 carried.

On motion 712-01 to 712-02-02 carried.

On motion 713-01 to 713-02-02 carried.

MR. W. ROWE: On 714-01, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister give us some idea as to when we might expect the royal commission which was set up to enquire into all aspects of the magistracy in the province?

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: About May 31.

MR. W. ROWE: Good.

On motion 714-01 to 714-02-04 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Before 02-05 is carried, could the minister inform the committee if the recording equipment belongs to George McLean now?

MR. HICKMAN: No, Mr. Chairman. IBM equipment is what is being used.

On motion 714-02-05 carried.

MR. W. ROWE: On 715-01, Mr. Chairman, Her Majesty's penitentiary and Gaols, could the minister tell us of the salary estimates, since we will not get a chance, since 09 will not be called, and what the construction and alterations and the capital expenditure of \$160,000 is for?

MR. HICKMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have so many clauses here I cannot seem to find my way through them. The amount is for the gymnasium which is presently under construction and which hopefully will be completed this year. Well, it will be completed this year. I had some particulars on that gymnasium, size and all that sort of thing.

The total cost of the gymnasium is \$256,000. Honourable members will recall that there was some voted last year but we had some difficulty in getting it started. The main contract is to be completed by mid-summer and the small allied contract such as plumbing will be completed slightly later. It is anticipated that the whole job will be completed this fall.

In the capital account vote as well there is \$30,000 for the construction of a magistrate's residence at Placentia. Tenders have been called. I do not think the time for tenders has expired yet. The magistrate's residence that has been occupied for the last number of years by Magistrate Linegar, until he retired, I suspect must have been one of the oldest residences in the province. It is in pretty dreadful condition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the minister and I last year agreed that something had to be done about teenagers being put in with more mature adult, hardened criminals at the penitentiary. The minister told me at the time that a special committee was set up to study all of the correctional institutions in the province. I am wondering if that committee has completed its work yet. If so, when will the report be made public or will it be made public or if the committee is not finished, could the minister indicate when the committee will finish its work?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, the report most definitely will be made public. It is a joint federal-provincial study. The chairman informed me last week - he was here - I think that they had their final hearings. They have been around the province holding hearings and he informed that his first draft would be completed by April 15.

MR. NEARY: Who is the chairman by the way?

MR. HICKMAN: A gentleman named Caul, Keith Caul, who is the executive director of the John Howard Society of Ontario, and he is a professional penologist. He so far has kept on schedule and by Sunday

his first draft will be completed and then he calls a meeting of his committee, I think in Ottawa, and he says that he must have the final report in the hands of both governments before (he anticipates) April 30. I tell him that it will be May 15, but he says no because he has another assignment starting May 1. So, it is less than a month away.

MR. WOODWARD: I was wondering if the minister can tell the committee if he has any plans for a construction of a courthouse for Goose Bay-Happy Valley. In the event that I do go to court under the conflict of interest bill I feel that I deserve a better facility than the existing facility that we already have.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, on that I have had some discussions with the magistrate at Goose and it has been suggested to me that with some of the buildings that are to be vacated, that there is at least one building there that would make an excellent courthouse. I have taken the liberty of drawing that to the attention of the federal authorities and in particular Newfoundland's representative in cabinet and he has shown a great deal of interest in it and has assured me that if the building can be made available we can have it.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, before we pass this particular vote, if the minister would tell us if the buckets have been done away with now at the penitentiary. Remember this has come up year after year.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The what?

MR. NEARY: The buckets. You often heard the saying that, "He has not got a pot to (blank) in." Well, that was before the minister's time. He does not know anything about the penitentiary. I think some steps were taken to renovate the penitentiary and to put in toilets and so forth. Has this project been completed yet?

MR. HICKMAN: No, I do not think that it has, Mr. Chairman. In fact I am quite sure that it has not. The programme that was initiated in 1960 - I remember it very well because we had a bit

of a controversy over it, brushed with politics, of a gradual refurbishing of the accommodation there. I do not think it is completed yet.

MR. NEARY: They are all using the buckets?

MR. HICKMAN: I suppose.

MR. WOODWARD: I wonder if the minister can inform the committee if they have given any consideration to putting jails or penitentiaries, whatever you want to call them, in areas such as Labrador where people are coming out and have to be flown to the province for a short period of time at a tremendous expense. I understand that there was some submission that was made to the minister in this respect. I wonder if he can inform the committee if he would give any consideration in this particular area.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, the submission was not made to me. The submission that the honourable member from Labrador North is referring to was a submission that was prepared at my request by Magistrate Goodyear, for submission to a senate committee on correctional institutions. I cannot presuppose what the findings of the committee will be, but I am told that the members of that committee feel that Magistrate Goodyear's submission on the

correctional services board, native Canadians, is by far the best they have seen and there is a very strong likelihood that that submission may very well be the basis of their recommendation for the treatment of our native population, not just here but in the other Canadian provinces. It is a real problem. Nobody should minimize it. I think it is regrettable that the native Canadians who live in Labrador have to be brought in here. They are generally short-term inmates, very well behaved, but there is no point in giving them gradual release, temporary release. Two or three have gone to university and with careful guidance, I believe that they are becoming community leaders in the honourable member's area right now. There is one young man in particular. The recommendation of Magistrate Goodyear is that the Government of Canada should provide correctional institutions for the native population in their areas so that if they can get temporary leave of absence, it means something to them. Any instruction courses that are given will be geared towards their way of life and that sort of thing. I am in total accord with the recommendation that the hon. member for Labrador North suggested.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the honourable minister can inform us as to what happens in the case of a native Eskimo who cannot speak English or a native Indian who goes to the penitentiary. Is there an interpreting facility at the penitentiary so that those people can communicate with the authorities at the penitentiary? Do we have such a facility in the province?

MR. HICKMAN: I do not think we do in the province, Mr. Chairman. I have never heard of any problems being encountered at the penitentiary with the Indian and Eskimo inmates. One thing which may be of interest to the committee is that during the past year a number of Eskimo inmates

received temporary absence to permit their participation in a project which was carried out by the Department of Linguistic Study at Memorial University and the project of that department was the compilation of an Eskimo dictionary. The indication we received from Memorial University was that the work of these men facilitated a great deal of the work that was being carried out by the university. That particular problem of requiring an interpreter, I am sure that it has not been a problem because I would have heard of it.

MR. NEARY: There is a quick question that I want to put to the honourable minister, Mr. Chairman. Would the honourable minister tell us how many females can be accommodated now at the penitentiary? This was a bit of a problem all along too I think. Would the minister also tell the committee whether or not the Salmonier Line is used in the wintertime? If so, what do they do down there all winter?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, it is either six or eight females who can be accommodated at the penitentiary.

MR. NEARY: What happens if you get more?

MR. HICKMAN: That problem has not arisen as yet. Generally it runs one or two. I will try to find the exact figure here now. I made so many notes that -

MR. NEARY: The females are well-behaved.

MR. HICKMAN: That is right. The Salmonier Prison Farm is operated all winter. As honourable members know, we have minimum security. There are some recreation facilities there that were built a few years ago.

MR. NEARY: They have their own hockey team I understand.

MR. HICKMAN: I understand they have a hockey team. They are kept reasonably busy. I would like to see an increase in the number of those going to that institution. I have reason to suspect that one of the recommendations that we will get from the joint federal/provincial study is that there be more use made of the Salmonier institution.

MR. NEARY: And probably a new penitentiary too.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, I have no doubt that that will be recommended too.

A great deal of selectivity has to go into the type of person who is sent to that institution. They can walk out if they want to. Nobody will stop them. They know that if they do leave -

MR. NEARY: How many do walk out?

MR. HICKMAN: There have not been any in the last five years, I do not think.

MR. NEARY: Not in the wintertime but -

MR. HICKMAN: No, I cannot recall any within the last five years. I remember Fox Williams though.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Looking down through the salaries of teachers, I find it difficult to see anyone we could identify as a person who would be involved in rehabilitation of prisoners, people who are convicted of crimes. What is the government's policy on this? What kind of a programme is in effect now to try and rehabilitate people who have been convicted of crimes? Now this penitentiary down here is for people who have been convicted of crimes and have been sentenced for less than two years. If it is more than two years, they go off to the Mainland to become hardened criminals. Could the minister give us some indication as to what his views are on this field generally or what programmes are presently in existence and what programmes are likely to come into existence as a result of any studies going on?

MR. HICKMAN: We have a prison school, with two teachers, at this time. The problem again you have with the school is that the average daily attendance - for instance last year it was twenty-one. Now this again is because we have so many short-term inmates and they say, "What is the point in starting a course of instruction or starting on Grade X or Grade XI when I am only going to be here two months." With statutory remissions, time off for good behaviour, even a three or four month sentence

is likely to see them out thereafter two or three months. Again for the information of the committee, the average number of days of school attendance per pupil during the year was a mere forty-two days. I will not say that that is the extent of the rehabilitation programme that can be carried out there. We do have some day releases and I do not want to identify institutions or anything, but some of the inmates with higher education do participate in some instruction within the city. Their instructors are aware of where they come from.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Do you have young fellows who go back and forth to work or to school?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes that is right.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): To the university?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes we do.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): By day, and go back to the penitentiary by night.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, day release.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, before we leave the penitentiary question, may I raise (my colleague has adverted to it and the minister has adverted to it) the perennial question which I think is relevant to the penitentiary and I refer, of course, to the O'Toole Commission Report. It must be ten or twelve years ago now - I think it was Mr. Justice O'Toole - Archanbault Report, I am sorry. The Archanbault Report was set up by the Government of Canada to look into the whole question of penal policy in Canada, which recommended among other things the creation of the medium security institution such as Springhill and I believe there is one at Drumheller in Alberta. I am sure there is one in Quebec and probably one in Ontario as well. The point which would interest the committee I think is that they recommended that the Criminal Code of Canada be amended so that it would be no longer possible for a person

to have a sentence of greater than six months but less than two years. In other words, Mr. Chairman, if one were convicted of an offence under the Criminal Code, the permissible range of sentence within the magistrate's discretion or the judge's discretion would be from zero days to six months on the one hand or from two years and on up on the other. The reason for that, of course, is the one that the minister has just touched upon and my colleague outlined it, that more than two years, it would be a federal custody, one is an inmate of the federal penitentiary as I understand it, and less than two years one goes to a provincial institution. I suppose there are exceptions, particularly in Newfoundland where our institution is medium security I suppose at best. If we had somebody who the authorities felt had to be confined in a maximum security institution, even if he were sentenced for a short time, he would have to be taken to Dorchester or wherever one goes.

The point is this that it is not something that the province can do anything about. It is a federal matter on two accounts. First of all on the legislative side and secondly on a policy side because it would mean that Ottawa would have to build additional accommodations. Nonetheless, I think all the penologists who have ever looked at this feel it makes some considerable sense because, as the minister has just said and we have been over it in years gone by, for the prisoners now, with six months there is really no opportunity for rehabilitation. As my colleague said, that if you are sent off to a federal penitentiary, you get what amounts to a post-graduate course in crime. The recidivism rate in Canada, as I recall it, is one of the highest in the so-called civilized world. I may add that our sentencing is equally bad. One that especially haunted me was Canada, with twenty million people, in one year had three times as many people serving sentences of five years than did England with three times our population. In other words, the Criminal Code between Canada and the United Kingdom are roughly

the same. We have the same law. We follow the same jurisprudence. We are the same type of society. We have nine times as many people receiving heavy sentences. I think there is a feeling that sentencing in Canada is high, but that is another story. There is little the minister can do here. I suspect that there is little really Mr. Laing can do in Ottawa unless he is willing to make major changes in the Criminal Code.

But I wonder has anything come of this? Have there been any renewed representations to Ottawa about the Archanbault theory? Ottawa have accepted it in principle but has done precious little to implement it. Where do we stand on it? I suspect it is more timely than ever because if this committee that the minister set up with Mr. Kaus, who is the chairman, reports, as we all assume and suspect it will, that the present penitentiary here should be made into a museum or a garbage recycling dump but anything except a penitentiary, then the question will become very relevant because the government here will be faced with building a new institution if they are to dispense with this one. The question is, what do they build and how large should it be? It is one thing to have to build an institution for the number of prisoners who are serving terms of six months or a year or less on the one hand and it is another thing to have to build an institution to cope with the inmate population that we average in Newfoundland now. Has anything new come on it? It is an old subject.

MR. HICKMAN: I have an uneasy feeling that that policy changes with every Solicitor General. That may be an unkind comment. Quite recently I was in Ottawa, a meeting called by the present Solicitor General.

AN HON. MEMBER: More dope on it, is it?

MR. HICKMAN: It was not called for that purpose at all. It was

called for the International Congress of - I have forgotten what it is now - it is to be held in Canada in 1975.

MR. ROBERTS: Intimate concern to Newfoundland.

MR. HICKMAN: Well he summoned all the Attorney Generals for one night.

As a result of my meeting with him, I came to the conclusion that he is far more sympathetic toward this proposal than his predecessor. Springhill was finished. I am told that most of the federal prisoners from Newfoundland are presently in the Springhill institution. They go first to Dorchester where they are classified and then they go to Springhill. The committee may be, despite all the statements of gloom and doom and the rise of crime and all this sort of thing in Newfoundland, interested to learn that there has been a very marked decline in the number of admissions to H.M. Penitentiary in St. John's during the past two years. In 1971-1972, there were 806 admissions representing 687 individual offenders. In this past year just coming to a close or just came to a close, the year ending March 31, 1973, it was down to 686 admissions, representing 591 individuals. This decline was about sixteen per cent the year before and twelve per cent in the individual offenders.

The age group, sixty-five per cent of those admitted were in the age group of twenty-four years of age or younger. Eleven per cent were in the age group of twenty-five

to twenty-nine years, eleven per cent, thirty to thirty-nine years, thirteen per cent, forty years of age or over. These categories seem to remain constant pretty well each year. The number of juveniles admitted were down from seventy-eight in 1972 and in 1973 to forty this past year and constituted five point eight per cent of the total admission.

On motion Head 715 carried.

On motion Head 716 through 716-03-05 carried.

MR. ROWE, W.N. For want of a better place to ask it, I notice up here in appropriations-in-aid, Prison Industries, \$7,000, is made apparently by the government as the result of industrial produce in jails and penitentiaries. Is that a fact? What is the hourly rate paid to prisoners? For example, is it the minimum wage? This is a point of curiosity.

MR. HICKMAN: I am not sure if it is the minimum wage, if the honourable gentleman will recall, last year we amended the Prison Act, the last session of the House, to provide for the paying of prisoners who do that kind of work. I think they get paid at the minimum wage. I am pretty sure that they do because I noticed in the note that I had there on the Eskimos who worked with Memorial, they were paid. I am told the going hourly rate. So I would think the same thing, I am sure it does.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. HICKMAN: I have all the facts here but you are asking them so fast that the files are all over the place.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I am very sorry for the minister if he has so much data that he cannot find it. That is a bit of a switch for the minister. Normally he comes in and tries to fly either by the seat of his pants or the hair of his head. We have seen a number of examples.

I have a quizzical question. In a number of provinces as I recall it, the prison inmates, the prisoners by whatever name one wants to call them, are put to work producing licence plates. One would not have thought, Mr. Chairman, one could bring licence plates

under the Department of Justice, One can, I do not know if they were reflectorized or not, but it does happen. At the federal institutions they make mailbags and they used to make mailboxes but that stopped when the boys went off and took some - they not only made the mailboxes they made the keys as well. There was a sudden outbreak of mailbox robberies in and about Metropolitan Toronto and upon investigation they discovered that the keys used had come from Kingston, were opening the mailboxes that came from Kingston. We would not run into that with licence plates. Had any thought ever been given to it here?

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. ROBERTS: I suspect Mr. Robert Neal has probably gotten some equipment for sale, judging by the fact that he no longer is in the licence plate manufacturing business for the government of this province. You know it is a fairly labour-intensive operation I should have thought.

While we are at it, I am told there are only twelve. Let us have a quorum. On such a question the minister should have fourteen to answer it.

MR. HICKMAN: There are two who just came in.

MR. ROBERTS: The member for St. John's North makes -

MR. HICKMAN: Two.

MR. ROBERTS: Makes two. Well he may but I am not allow to say two of what. Okay, the minister has his audience.

MR. HICKMAN: All I can say, Mr. Chairman, that thought has never occurred to me and it has never been recommended to me by Superintendent Fagan but if you can make an honest dollar and could turn out the number required with the limited number of inmates that we have - anyway I will draw it to the attention of Superintendent Fagan.

On motion 03-05 carried.

On motion 03-06 through 716-03-04 carried.

MR. POWE, W.M. Mr. Chairman, '05 - Fees and Expenses of Witnesses. What is the going rate now? It always has been miserably low. You get a witness coming to court and probably losing a day's work or

something.

MR. ROBERTS: I was a witness once and I got paid nothing.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: You should have put in your claim.

MR. ROBERTS: Where do I put in my claim? I was a witness once and did not get paid.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: You get a medical practitioner going down to court and getting four dollars or something for the day.

I do not remember what the fees are but have they been raised recently or is it the intention to raise them?

MR. HICKMAN: They have not been raised, Mr. Chairman, but we have had representation from the profession -

MR. ROBERTS: From the Witness Association?

MR. HICKMAN: From the what?

MR. ROBERTS: The Witness Association?

MR. HICKMAN: No.

The fees right now, under the Criminal Code the ordinary witness gets a witness fee of \$4. per day, for summary jurisdiction offenses \$1.50 a day.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: Good pay.

MR. HICKMAN: I do not understand -

MR. ROWE, W.N.: That is not the minimum wage.

MR. HICKMAN: No. I asked one of my officials the other day to check and find out why there is that distinction between witnesses under the Code and Summary Jurisdiction Act offences and he has undertaken to do it. With regard to the witness fees paid to expert witnesses, these figures vary. I cannot give the committee right now the amount paid to the medical profession, They are the ones who are complaining the most. Again I have asked the assistant deputy minister if he will prepare a paper which I will have to submit to my conferees on the Treasury Board for approval. But nobody makes any money on witness fees I can assure you.

On motion 716-03-05 carried.

On motion 06 through 11 carried.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Chairman, on 716-03-12, I want to say here I am glad to see this vote increased and no matter how tight the Minister of Finance and the Treasury Chairman was I am delighted to see that he found it possible to increase this vote from \$25,000 to \$100,000. I think this is one of the best steps forward by the Department of Justice, as far as assisting the needy of the province, that has taken place in a long time. I would like to give credit to the Minister of Justice himself here because in the struggling days of legal-aid in Newfoundland when we found it hard to get a dollar, the present Minister of Justice provided the legal aid committee with free offices and gave it \$10,000 just to hire secretaries. From that the organization has today grown and it is now administering the agreement which the province has made with the Government of Canada.

This means now, with this vote of \$100,000 from the province and the amount that the province is capable of receiving under the agreement entered into with Ottawa, we will have something in the neighbourhood of between \$350,000 for legal-aid in Newfoundland. I think this is a great step forward and it will be a great help to the poor people of the province who find themselves in a position where they are charged with offenses and they can go to court. Because what this really means is, as far as the criminal side is concerned, that no longer will any individual in Newfoundland who is charged with an indictable offence be excluded from obtaining the services of a lawyer. And also, of course, this extension here will assist us to expand legal-aid on the civil side. It is certainly not enough and I know the demand will increase because last year alone the demand for legal-aid has increased over one hundred per cent.

The committee may like to know, Mr. Chairman, that since the Legal Aid Society was formed and administered legal-aid in Newfoundland, we have assisted over 1,500 people to date and this has not cost the province really anything except the services of one lawyer, namely Timothy Chalker, last year. So I think the Law Society and the

profession can certainly take a great deal of pride out of the contribution that they have made here in assisting the needy of the province in legal-aid.

I am more than pleased to see that this vote has been increased by \$75,000.

MR. NEARY: Poor old lawyers, if they did not have to get this \$100,000 they would all be on welfare tomorrow. Sir, I hope that what the honourable member just said will come true. I hope that the needy people of this province will benefit by this. I hope the lawyers have not discovered another milch cow.

Sir, three or four years ago when legal-aid came in this province, we were told by the Law Society, who were trying to make amends at that time for the high fees they were charging for real estate transactions in this province, that is when it was brought up, when legal aid first came up, when they were trying to make amends to the people of this province, the poor couples who were trying to buy a house being fleeced, in conscience, Sir, they came out and they said, "Look, we have set up a legal-aid programme." We were told by the Law Society this was going to be voluntary, Sir, I stood in this honourable House at that time and I said, "voluntary my foot." All they wanted was enough money at the time to rent an office downtown and to hire a secretary. That is all they wanted, they told us. I remember it distinctly. I was in this honourable House and I stood up in the House at that time and I said what will happen is that a year or two from now they will be back, it will be \$25,000, the following year it will be \$50,000 and the next thing you will know it will be \$100,000 - a volunteer organization, my foot! Lawyers becoming community-minded, they are going to look after the needy people of this province who need legal-aid, free of charge, volunteer their services. Now it is up to \$100,000.

I will make a prediction here tonight, Sir, that two or three years from now it will be \$200,000 and God only knows where it is going to end, Sir. But I hope the honourable member - is the honourable

member President of the Bar Society now?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No not president.

MR. ROBERTS: The Leader of the Bar is called the Treasurer.

MR. NEARY: The Treasurer of the Bar. Well, Sir, one thing about it, I will never be made an honorary member of the Bar Society in this province, I can tell you that.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Not that Bar. I may be brought before the Bar down at the Killock Lounge.

But, Sir, I am serious about this. I hope that the lawyers will not fleece this legal-aid programme. I hope that it is the poor people who cannot afford to hire a lawyer in this province who will - they will be the ones who will benefit by it. I hope that the lawyers will expand their programme beyond St. John's, Sir, go outside of St. John's, go outside the overpass down here at Donovan's, go right across the province and into Labrador.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I am looking after Bell Island right here. Legal assistance, \$15,000 for my good friend over here, the Minister of Provincial Affairs and myself, I presume that is what the \$15,000 legal-aid is in there for.

AN HON. MEMBER: That would not be enough.

MR. NEARY: It would not be enough?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, you can joke about that all you like but it is quite a serious matter. Mr. Kostaszek recommended that the lawyers clean their own house. (I am sorry if I deafened my friend up here in the booth.) The lawyers clean their own House, Sir, and reduce the cost of legal fees involved in real estate transactions of this province, but they did not do it, Mr. Chairman. They did not do it. They did not follow the Kostaszek recommendation. But I hope, Sir,

that the poor people of this province will benefit by this. We will see what kind of a report we will get from the Minister of Justice next year when he brings his estimates into this House.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, if I may, please. Mr. Chairman, I remember last year going through the estimates and talking of legal-aid. We mentioned the fact of what type of publicity programme that the minister would give to sell this particular legal-aid programme to all of the province. My honourable friend for Bell Island in complaining about the Law Society should know that our law firms are grouped together in three or four communities along the Trans Canada Highway and a number of areas throughout this province have little knowledge of what legal-aid is all about.

Maybe the minister can explain to the committee what type of publicity programme that he has going on this. Will he hire the services of George McLean to publish a brochure or slide presentations at \$4,000 apiece?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. WOODWARD: I am just asking the minister if he would inform the committee, Mr. Chairman, and if I could have the privilege to be heard in silence while I am asking questions of the honourable the -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please, the honourable the member for Labrador North will be heard in silence.

MR. WOODWARD: Maybe the minister can inform the committee as to what type of programme. There are a number of areas throughout the province where we do not have any presence of lawyers or law firms so that the public in general, not only to sell the programmes to the three or four communities or cities or where we have law firms, maybe he can explain to the committee the type of programme that they are going to institute, whether they will do it through the magistrate

in the different areas or through some other means.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, before the legal-aid committee of the Law Society get into the act may I say a word or two, because there are some questions that cut across party lines. There are in this House at present five so-called learned gentlemen -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: No, I am not counting a quorum. I am counting the so-called learned gentlemen, those of us who for some strange reason of parliamentary procedure are called learned. I could see calling a member who served in the war as gallant and I could see calling a gentleman who has been ordained in a church as reverend but I do not see why we are called learned. It is typical I guess of the fact that lawyers make the rules.

But, Mr. Chairman, the problem with legal-aid in this province - and let me first of all congratulate the minister for wrangling it out of the hardhearted Minister of Finance. It is a very substantial increase from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Let me say also that I agree, as a non-practicing member of the bar, with the gentleman from Placentia East. I think some of the lawyers in this province and including notably the gentleman from Placentia East have contributed very greatly to the legal-aid system we have. Now with the federal government coming into the picture, we will presumably be adequately represented on the criminal side or at least the indictable offences section on the criminal side. As I understand it, if one were to be accused of an indictable offence henceforth and if one meet the means test or whatever the basic qualification is in the income sense, then Ottawa will pay or this federal-provincial plan, with Ottawa money, will pay the standard fees.

That is fine but there are still two gaping weaknesses in our legal-aid system in Newfoundland. One is that even though it has been extended recently, the types of action have been broadened

considerably. I am still under the impression and I may be wrong and I would be glad to hear that I am wrong, but it does not cover everything. Secondly and to me a far more glaring problem is the one touched upon by my friend from Labrador North. There are still areas of this province without any lawyers at all and there are still many, many areas with very few lawyers. The Burin Peninsula I believe has one lawyer. Mr. Fred Bishop is practicing in Marystown. I believe he is the only lawyer there permanently. I know lawyers from St. John's go down there but that is an expensive business because of course one must pay a day's time and I suppose that is what? Two or three hundred dollars.

AN HON. MEMBER: I do not charge that. Ask the Minister of Justice?

MR. ROBERTS: But I mean two or three hundred dollars is what one would pay for a lawyer's time and then his travel expenses even though one may only have him for an hour in court. Gander has I believe just one lawyer. Port aux Basques has two. Mings Bight has very few but the Minister of Education is going to set up practice in Riverhead, St. Mary's.

AN HON. MEMBER: Then there will be one sea lawyer.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: There would have to be about one hundred sea lawyers.

MR. ROBERTS: The honourable member will have to answer to his own constituents for that. Mr. Chairman, the point is there are large areas of our province where legal services are not available at all unless one has a very great deal of money. The entire Northern Peninsula, all of Labrador, but there is a lawyer in Labrador West, in Labrador City, a gentleman from Nova Scotia who has been admitted to our bar and is practicing up there and there are lawyers from here who go down on literal carpathagger circuits, the old circuits. I think Mr. Ike Mercer goes throughout Labrador and I think Mr. David Sparkes has been known to travel to Labrador, as the Minister of Justice says, and many of the other lawyers. I am sure if one is hired one goes down.

But the point is that in large areas of the province there is no effective access at all to legal services and the legal aid programme, as good as it is, does not answer the need. If one of my constituents, Mr. Chairman, should get himself into a brush with the law, I submit, even on the criminal side, even with the indictable offences, even with the federal government programme, he would find it difficult to get a lawyer unless he is standing his trial in the supreme court. He might find it difficult to find a man to come to represent him in magistrate's court sitting at St. Anthony. It would be a very expensive process to take a lawyer and to send him down. Similarly on the civil side it is immensely more difficult and I would venture to suggest almost impossible. I do not know, but I am approached from time to time by constituents asking for legal advice and I give them the best advice I can, which is to consult a lawyer in practice. I sometimes put the arm on my friends downtown and ask them to advise a person out of the goodness of their hearts, and they often do and I am quite pleased to say that.

The fact remains, in large areas of the province there is no effective access by our people to legal services and legal aid will be a mockery until we do have access to them. Now the only answer that I can conceive, Mr. Chairman, is I do not think we will ever live in the halcyon days when there will be enough lawyers in private practice in the smaller communities. I think it may be a long while before there is a lawyer in private practice at St. Anthony, for arguments sake, and some time before there is a lawyer in private practice in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. I doubt if there is a volume of work there to support them, but maybe there is. We are seeing rapid development, as a few years ago we had lawyers only in St. John's and two or three in Grand Falls and eight or nine in Corner Brook, but now we have many more in many more communities.

MR. HICKMAN: When I started practice there was one in Grand Falls

and there were two in Corner Brook.

MR. ROBERTS: One in Grand Falls and two in Corner Brook. Well things have come on substantially since those dark days but the fact remains there are still many areas without lawyers. The bar is now getting larger in Newfoundland. It is growing very rapidly. A lot of our young people are reading law and a lot are being admitted to the bar and they are all coming into practice.

So I will make the suggestion, now I know I will probably be stomped upon by my brethren at the bar if he does not like it, I make the suggestion the Minister of Justice might consider hiring a half dozen young lawyers such as Mr. Timothy Chalker, whom the gentleman from Placentia East mentioned, and might consider stationing them in the smaller communities, guaranteeing salary. Maybe they could be in private practice, if there were somebody who wanted to, but with a guaranteed salary, much as we do with dentists in the rural areas.

Nine. Even with all of us here, Your Honour, I mean really if we are going to sit late, if we are going to sit at ten o'clock tomorrow morning, the least we can do, Sir, is have fourteen of the honourable gentlemen present.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are just by the door there having a smoke,

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I see the gentleman from Bay de Verde, having a cigarette, outside. I assume it is a cigarette he is smoking. He has just entered the chamber and bowed appropriately. I see the Minister of Provincial Affairs about to join us. I see the minister of this or the minister of that and the gentleman from Harbour Grace, Come on in, Come on now. I am prepared to believe the honourable gentleman is a gentleman most of the time - the honourable gentleman for Trinity South. One, two, three, six, eight, ten, twelve, fine!

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: If you cannot be intelligent at least be intelligible.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is the new maths

MR. ROBERTS: Well, the new maths are newer than I. Now, Mr. Chairman, what I am suggesting of the minister is he might think of hiring - I think we are now beginning to get enough young lawyers around. I am told there are beginning to be difficulties fitting them in downtown. It maybe a year or two yet but it will come just as a few years ago it was difficult to get doctors.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Chairman, one of the great legal-aid quests of Newfoundland is going to be watching the honourable gentleman from St Mary's get to the bar. "May there be no mourning at the bar when we put out to sea," as Tennyson says. "Sunset and evening star and one clear call for me." (If he wants the clear call.) "May there be no mourning at the bar when I put out to sea." It is quite an effective poem.

But, Mr. Chairman, a few years ago we had trouble getting doctors in Newfoundland and we still do not have any great number of them but it is becoming substantially and significantly easier for the Minister of Health to recruit doctors because St. John's and the more attractive private practice areas are beginning to fill up, beginning to be enough men to handle the work that is available. The Minister of Health, as he told us earlier, has had a much more successful time of it than any of his predecessors had. Well, I think that is beginning to happen with lawyers and I put forward quite seriously whether the minister would take under consideration trying to hire two or three young lawyers, either hiring them or guaranteeing them a certain level of income if they were to go to a place.

Now the point is, the work is there. There is a case north of Saskatoon, in a community called Duck Lake, where there are a number of Indian reservations centered about that community and that has attracted the support of the Donor Canadian Foundation who put a lot of money into Newfoundland. The extension services that my friend from Bell Island is so keen on has attracted a

lot of money from the Donor Foundation this past two years. They have also had a lot of money from the government of the province, I might add. The Donor Foundation is financing a one year experiment and the experiment is to put a lawyer in this community and see what work there would be, because the answer always is; "No, there is not enough work." Well they are finding out the answer. I read the report two or three weeks ago, an interim report, and they are finding out a very great deal of work exists and it has never been looked at before, and these are the minor things in the overall scale. They are not great high property transactions and they are not estates in several hundred thousand of dollars and they are not corporation problems but they are the small problems of individuals.

For example, we now have quite a good Landlord and Tenant Act in this province but I submit that many people are going to need legal advice to get their rights under that act and they need legal advice to understand the act to begin with. So I make the suggestion to the minister. I think it is something we could look at. Hire a few lawyers and station them. Maybe one would go to Burin or Grand Bank, perhaps the Goose Bay Area, perhaps the St. Anthony Area, there ought to be a need up in Springdale or somewhere in that area because the people in Springdale are now going out to Grand Falls. One would have to have a great deal of money in Springdale to hire a lawyer to come up from Grand Falls. There is one gentleman practising law in Gander. Mr. Lloyd Easton I believe is the only lawyer in practice in Gander now, Mr. Brewer in Carbonear, -

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Mills.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Mills commutes to Clarendville, does he not? He is there two or three days a week.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, his home is in Clarendville and I think he commutes to St. John's.

MR. ROBERTS: I see. But where there is one lawyer there should be

two to make sure each side has access to one. I am more concerned even still about even the more remote rural areas, but I put forward the suggestion. It would not cost a lot of money particularly if we were to take the approach that instead of paying them a salary we would say, "All right, we shall guarantee you \$12,000 or \$15,000 or whatever the going price would be for a lawyer, and you hang out your shingle and take what work you can and what legal-aid work comes you will be paid for on the normal scale." Now with the Ottawa contribution and with the increased contribution that we are voting here under this subhead, Mr. Chairman, it might be practicable. I think it would be a great benefit to our people because despite what has been done (maybe the gentleman from Placentia East could comment on this) despite what has been done many of our people still do not have access to legal services and for the people in most parts of this province the money we are voting here is of remarkably little use.

The federal scheme is of remarkably little use because the money may be there but the lawyers are not accessible. In practical terms they just are not available and the only way we are going to make them available is if we take the initiative, if the government take the initiative and the government say, "All right we shall provide the lawyers. If nobody else will, we shall." I think we are coming to the point in our society in Canada and in Newfoundland in particular, where legal rights are just as tender and just as highly regarded as hospital care or medical care all of which a few years ago were private and now they are public, I think the time is coming when legal rights of this type should be public. Corporations can look out for themselves, people buying and selling houses can look out for themselves even though they are being charged extremely high rates.

What is the score on the game by the way?

AN HON. MEMBER: Two-to-nothing.

MR. ROBERTS: Is it the same score as the House Leader has?

AN HON. MEMBER: A tiny bit ahead I think.

MR. ROBERTS: A tiny bit ahead. It is the first time in history the House Leader has been ahead of anybody, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MARSHALL: Actually I am listening to the requiem.

MR. ROBERTS: Listening to the requiem?

AN HON. MEMBER: Three-to-nothing.

MR. ROBERTS: Three-to-nothing for whom?

AN HON. MEMBER: Montreal.

MR. ROBERTS: I thought the world series was over.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is now in progress.

MR. ROBERTS: It is now in progress, is it?

Mr. Chairman, I put forward the suggestion quite seriously. I think it has some merit. Maybe the gentleman from Placentia East or the minister could comment on it.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Chairman, I do not think really I can let the remarks of the honourable member for Bell Island pass here. He is such a great crusader for the poor, the white knight, and he is really the gentleman who espouses all the causes of all the needy throughout Newfoundland. I certainly think that if he really is concerned in this instance about the legal services that the needy of the province will receive, he would certainly be better informed and would do the future recipients of legal-aid a favour if he were to inform himself of the facts. He seems to conclude for some reason, Mr. Chairman, beyond me, that he is the author of all good including now this legal-aid programme. I will say this for the honourable gentleman, I do not know when he started but I am sure he was not the first in the province to complain about legal fees and I am not here -

MR. ROBERTS: The gentleman

from St. John's West also complained quite publicly about them as well.

MR. AYLWARD: Of course he did and so did several other gentlemen. They will continue to complain about them and there have been recent meetings and in fact here was a meeting scheduled only as recently as Tuesday to do something about this matter.

Mr. Chairman, I do not want the honourable gentlemen to feel that because of his concern for legal fees at the time, that this was really the cause for the Law Society to go into the question of legal aid. As I said once before when I dealt with this question, he had as much to do with that really as I had or will have in selecting who will go to the moon on the next mission. The Law Society decided in 1964 that this whole question should be investigated and a committee was appointed to investigate the matter. They studied it and studied it thoroughly. After a period of two years they made their report to the Law Society and as a result of that report the present plan that we have in effect was recommended to the society and approved.

Mr. Chairman, for a period of over three years, every person in Newfoundland who qualified for legal-aid received it on a voluntary basis from local lawyers practicing in Newfoundland. I am very, very pleased to say that not one copper was paid to any lawyer for legal fees in any legal-aid cases. I certainly feel, in fairness to the number of men who provided this service free of charge, that the record should be straight and that is that not one cent, not one penny was paid. On the contrary, Mr. Chairman, what happened was this; when legal aid was set up in Newfoundland we only had very, very few lawyers and practically, I suppose ninety percent of them were here in St. John's. We wanted to ensure from the beginning that legal-aid was provided, not to the people of St. John's but to the people of the entire province, everywhere in Newfoundland, if they qualified under the plan.

AN HON. MEMBER: And Labrador.

MR. AYLWARD: And Labrador. We sent lawyers to Labrador. Mr. Chairman, when there was not a cent available, when my honourable friend the Great White Knight from Bell Island was a member of the previous cabinet, when I was trying to extract one thousand dollars to pay for a secretary, I could not get a cent and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Chairman...

AN HON. MEMBER: No. No.

MR. AYLWARD: Oh yes. Oh no, I know. The Leader of the Opposition and my honourable friend from White Bay North, they were synpathetic, they thought it was a great cause but they were just as unsuccessful as I was in trying to extract, not a thousand, not a hundred, not a dollar; not one dollar for legal aid in Newfoundland. Now I will say to them that these...

MR. ROBERTS: That is an incorrect statement.

MR. AYLWARD: That is not incorrect. That is not incorrect. I know whereof I speak. That is not incorrect.

MR. ROBERTS: It is too.

MR. AYLWARD: In what respect?

MR. ROBERTS: Would the honourable gentleman yield for a second?

MR. AYLWARD: Yes, by all means.

MR. ROBERTS: Both the gentleman from Bell Island and myself joined the cabinet in July of 1968. I have no idea what the grant was at that time but I suspect it was \$10,000 for legal-aid. It was raised a year or two after that to \$25,000 which is what it was when the Smallwood Administration left office. It was \$25,000 this past year and it has now been raised in the item under consideration to \$100,000. I appreciate the honouarble gentleman's efforts, I was the recipient of some of his oppportunings in behalf of the Legal Aid Committee but I point out that his statement was incorrect. I do not know when the first grant was made, I suspect it was while the Minister of Justice was Minister of Justice.

MR. AYLWARD: That is right, 1968.

MR. ROBERTS: He and I served together in the cabinet from July of 1968 until he had an unfortunate accident in late October 1969 and

left the cabinet. Let us let the record stand.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Chairman, the point I am attempting to make is this -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. AYLWARD: Well, you know, a man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still and I am sure I, not alone I, but if every lawyer in North America talked for the next ten years they would never convince the honourable member from Bell Island. I am not attempting to do that. What I am attempting to do is this; to give the Law Society of Newfoundland the credit they deserve for the legal-aid provided in Newfoundland. I do not want the honourable member from Bell Island nor the record to indicate that the honourable gentleman from Bell Island, no matter what else he did or what he did not do, he had as little to do with legal-aid being set up in Newfoundland, as I said before, as I had in selecting who would go on the next moon mission.

Mr. Chairman, on the question of legal-aid this is what I want to say: Not alone did the Law Society provide the service from 1968 up until the time Mr. Chalker was hired free of charge, they did more than that. We had to determine a method to ensure that every lawyer would participate in that programme. When we opened the office every Wednesday night and we had two lawyers on duty down there, no one received a cent, if the people qualified for legal-aid, they were assigned by these lawyers, the lawyers took the cases and the lawyers to whom the cases were assigned, they were assigned in alphabetical order. That meant this, Mr. Chairman, if a recipient of legal-aid were assigned to a particular lawyer and that lawyer could not himself look after that individual then he was required to retain a lawyer himself and pay for it.

What happened over the years, Mr. Chairman, was this; in some cases and I know personally of cases where lawyers to whom legal-aid cases were referred, who were unable to act for one reason or another, they themselves were compelled under the plan to hire a

lawyer to provide aid to the recipient of legal-aid. In some cases lawyers have paid out of their own pockets in excess of five hundred dollars so that a person could obtain legal-aid. For the honourable gentleman from Bell Island to get up talking about all the money all the lawyers in Newfoundland were getting from legal-aid- not one five cents, not one five cents, Mr. Chairman.

When through the efforts of the present Minister of Justice we were successful in obtaining an increase of the grant from \$10,000 to \$25,000—

MR. ROBERTS: No way. The present minister was not in the cabinet when that increase was made.

MR. AYLWARD: He was not? I am sorry.

MR. ROBERTS: The record will confirm that. He had no more to do with that than the honourable gentleman had to do with getting elected in Placentia East. Les Curtis gets what credit there is for it.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Chairman, the honourable the former Attorney General had and I would say and I said it when he was there, he had a fifteenth century concept of legal aid. I think the honourable gentlemen, both the Leader of the Opposition and the member for White Bay South, were at the office one time when I attended there, discussing the question of legal-aid. I must say they joined me in my efforts to try to extract further sums. He was of the opinion that if a man were charged with an offence that was sufficient.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hang him.

MR. AYLWARD: He was guilty beyond any doubt, he did not need any defence from legal-aid—

MR. W.N.FOWE: Do not waste money on a trial.

MR. AYLWARD: Do not waste money on a trial, so he really did not need any lawyer.

MR. HICKMAN: You are talking about the former Attorney General?

MR. AYLWARD: Oh yes, Mr. Chairman, I want to make it abundantly clear, of course, that this was the former Attorney General.

MR. CROSBIE: The present one is a great human being.

MR. AYLWARD: The present one is a great humanitarian when it comes to legal-aid, Mr. Chairman. He does deserve a great deal of credit, because we know how difficult it is to extract money for any cause.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, and there is also a human being over here.

MR. AYLWARD: To see that he was successful in increasing that grant from \$25,000 to \$100,000 is I say: a great feather in his hat. I want to give him credit for it.

MR. CROSBIE: He got it from an even greater human being.

MR. AYLWARD: That is right. That is right. He got it from an even greater human being.

AN HON. MEMBER: It will not happen again.

MR. AYLWARD: I have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, that if this government were to provide the amount of legal-aid required in Newfoundland today, I would certainly say that this vote would be closer to a half million dollars than \$100,000.

MR. ROBERTS: It will be. We are getting there.

MR. AYLWARD: Sure it will be. Sure it will be. Do you know, Mr. Chairman, if the honourable members of the committee were to look at from 1968 to this year, we received I think \$10,000 a year for three years, which was \$30,000, and \$25,000 a year for two years for a total of \$85,000, for legal-aid in five years. One doctor under Medicare receives that, Mr. Chairman, one doctor.

If the honourable member for Bell Island wants to do a real good service to the people of Newfoundland, I think he should probably direct his efforts to the medical profession.

MR. ROBERTS: But the government have just given the doctors another \$500,000.

MR. AYLWARD: That was the time you should have been on your feet complaining about that, not on this legal-aid. If the opposition, have any real desire and I am sure they have, as the Minister of Finance suggested today, they have a great desire to resume the

seats that they vacated some short time ago, but if they really want to endear themselves to the people of Newfoundland they should all support this. Nor should they quarrel about, are the lawyers going to get it? They should look at the recipients of this money, who are the poor people who cannot afford a lawyer?

Despite the political acumen of the honourable member for Bell Island, he is doing himself, his party, the province, the poor, everyone a great disservice by complaining about this grant for legal-aid. I was expecting him to be the first on his feet, Mr. Chairman, to ask why we were not paying more for legal aid in Newfoundland.

Only one point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, before I resume my seat and that is this; under the financial assistance available to the province for legal aid, no money is allowed to be paid for administration. If the Legal Aid Committee are expected to administer the legal-aid programme that will result because of this agreement with Ottawa, it is going to cost a great deal of money administratively to administer that plan. No federal funds are available for administrative costs, so a large portion of this will, I respectfully submit, go to administration. I was hoping that more funds would be available so that the province could expand the plan on the civil side, because, I do feel that in the field of divorce and matrimonial matters, where there are very, very great family disputes existing and they need to be resolved in the courts, in many cases in these marriages there are children and these children suffer untold difficulties. They have to live in homes where the differences between the parties cannot be resolved, they cannot afford the money to go to court and no matter what we feel is a great need, Mr. Chairman, we feel that all the money that is spent on social welfare, on health is a great need but sometimes if you were to sit in a legal-aid office for just an hour or two and interview and hear some of these people complain about

the troubles that they encounter, you would certainly see that more problems and untold misery can result from a broken contract particularly in marriage than from all that come under health and welfare.

Mr. Chairman, even with this amount of money we will not be able to expand legal-aid on the civil side, so that all the people in Newfoundland who require legal assistance, not in criminal matters but in civil matters, will still not be able to obtain a lawyer.

On the point mentioned by the honourable the Leader of the Opposition about the lawyers in different parts of the province, I can see some merit in the suggestion but my own view is, Mr. Chairman, that I would like to see the recipients of legal aid entitled to select their own lawyer, just the same as an individual who can afford to pay for a lawyer.

The big criticism with this, and the joint committee that studied the whole question of legal-aid in Ontario, before the programme was brought in, recommended very strongly against retaining lawyers to administer legal-aid because the result would be that

we would have something similar to what they have in the United States, a public defender system where they are paid for by the state.

Now in all the studies in Canada, I do not believe any committee that has seriously studied the problem have recommended the public defender. I think one of the most important things we must ensure in any legal-aid programme is the independence of the bar. Unless you have an independent bar then, Mr. Speaker, you cannot have a successful legal aid practice. I support the present system in that anyone now who is entitled to legal-aid and who qualifies on the criminal side they are entitled to select any one of fifty lawyers who have indicated their willingness to participate in the programme.

I think that any man in Labrador, in any part of Newfoundland, who is entitled to a lawyer, should have the same right to select a lawyer as a man who can afford to pay for one. The only difficulty about the plans suggested by the Leader of the Opposition is this, that the person in White Bay North or White Bay South or Placentia East or Placentia West or anywhere in Newfoundland, if you have these five or six lawyers who are paid by the government or paid by the Legal-aid Committee, they may not have the same confidence in that lawyer as they would in some independent lawyer, if they were given the right to select him.

So I think a necessary ingredient of a successful legal-aid programme is the right for the person who is entitled to legal-aid to go choose any lawyer he likes. I was more than pleased to see in the agreement that we have, that the province negotiated with Ottawa, that in cases where murder or where the sentence upon conviction could be life imprisonment, the recipient of legal-aid is entitled to select not any lawyer of the present

fifty but indeed any lawyer in Newfoundland.

The big argument against retaining lawyers to go out in different parts of Newfoundland is that it does not give the recipients of legal-aid the right to select their own lawyer,

I do think that that is a very, very necessary ingredient and I hope that when we expand the plan we will still be able to retain the choice of lawyer.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to delay the committee on this, I hope that the question carries, and that it should.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the honourable gentleman from Placentia East has drawn me into debate. Let me make two or three comments.

First of all with reference to his gross and unjustified personal attack on my colleague from Bell Island, I was surprised that the gentleman from Placentia East would lower himself to that sort of attack. My colleague from Bell Island said nothing that such gentleman as the gentleman from St. John's West have not said many times, namely that legal fees, particularly for real estate in this province, are much too high. The Kostaszek Commission I believe came to that conclusion. Everybody who has looked at them thinks they are too high. I say that with all the assurance of somebody who does not practice at the Bar but has occasionally done a property transaction and was absolutely staggered at the fees that our lawyers charge, my brethren at the Bar. I think that it really is much too high and I am not begrudging the need for a lawyer but I think the lawyers of this province, my brethren, my professional brethren, some of them my political brethren, will be doing themselves a very great service indeed when they meet next week, whenever the meeting. I got a notice today but I shall not be going to it, I do not feel it is fair. I am not in practice, I do not think I should involve myself in these things. They would be doing themselves a very great service if they vote to lower fees on real estate. They are much too high.

MR. ROBERTS: I think anybody who knows anything about real estate fees would concur on that. I do not propose to go on at any length on it but I will make the flat statement - they are much too high. They are far higher than Ontario's or anywhere else.

The Minister of Justice, if he really wants to bring in some reforms, could do something to bring in a lands titles act and wipe out lawyers' fees for all effective purposes for transactions. Let him look at Alberta or Saskatchewan where people convey their own land if they wish.

Mr. Chairman, I want to come back to legal-aid. I was quite amused to hear the gentleman from Placentia East say that much of this increase is to be eaten up by administration. It is too often the case with government programmes, the people for whom the aid is intended will never get to it, it will be eaten up with administration.

I do not propose to debate, if the honourable gentleman wish to, I shall, I do not propose to debate the concept of whether we should have - I did not mention a public defender system, that is a far different system, but the orthodox traditional conservative reactionary eighteenth century view of selection of lawyers in the circumstances we have in most parts of this province is like telling a blind man he could have a colour television set. It is no good telling somebody in St. Anthony, Mr. Chairman, or in Croque that he can choose whatever lawyer he wants. He has no choice at all and as I say the analogy strikes me as inept. It is like getting a person who has lost his sight, taking him by the hand down to Hickman's or Steers or whoever sells television sets in this town and saying, "Old man, pick whatever you want, the best television set in the place and it is yours."

All I can say is that the lawyers who support that view, and it is general through Canada, I agree, and they have convinced the federal government, the legal-aid scheme we have now - no, I am sorry they have not convinced Ottawa, Ottawa neatly ducked that

issue. It is up to the province. Ottawa gives the money but as long as it meets the criteria, the province could hire public defenders, as I understand it, with the federal money, if it so wished - but the administration here have chosen to confer upon - one could argue it. One may argue freedom of choice, but I say there is precious little freedom of choice because our lawyers are not available.

It is not freedom of choice which is the issue, it is the availability of lawyers - and that is precious little. All that has happened is that there is going to be a bonanza for some of the gentlemen at the bar, my professional brethren. That is what it is going to be. That is what legal-aid is going to be. It is \$300,000 divided among fifty lawyers. That is \$6,000 each. "They will earn it?" Of course they will earn it. They will defend people for it, and that is fine: but the freedom of choice is a shibboleth, a canard, a Trojan horse of the worst sort.

The gentleman from Placentia East, I have always assumed, had some open-mindedness on these questions. Instead he has parroted the orthodox, the traditional view, "What we are doing is the same as medicare." And he drew the analogy of doctors making \$85,000 - and there are here doctors, I submit, making \$120,000 or \$130,000 from Medicare. "That is what we are doing with lawyers."

Now I hold no brief for one system or the other. What I want is a system which works, and in the realities of a situation, as we have it today in Newfoundland, unless the government guarantee an income to solicitors setting up practice, even in Gander. If a gentleman in Gander now should need legal-aid he has but one lawyer to choose from. does he not? Mr. Lloyd Easton, a very competent, capable and a very good lawyer. That is the freedom of choice.

The freedom of choice in Clarenville apparently is Mr. Mills. The freedom of choice in the Town of Placentia is whoever you can get to come out from St. John's and pay his free. The freedom of choice -

MR. AYLWARD: I wonder if the honourable member would permit a question?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes certainly.

MR. AYLWARD: Is that situation not the same for any member of the public anywhere in Newfoundland? Is he entitled to legal-aid or not?

MR. ROBERTS: No. No.

MR. AYLWARD: What is the difference really?

MR. ROBERTS: Here in St. John's one has a choice because there are one hundred lawyers in practice in St. John's -

MR. AYLWARD: No, no, you missed my question.

My question is -any member of the public in any of those areas that you mentioned outside St. John's, if they want a lawyer they have difficulty obtaining a lawyer. Any one!

MR. ROBERTS: I agree because Ontario -

MR. AYLWARD: Yes, any one. It is not only the recipients of legal-aid, that applies to everyone. Do you follow me? The point I am making is this, that anybody in White Bay North or White Bay South, charged with a criminal offence and he wants a lawyer, whether he can afford to pay for a lawyer or not, he will encounter the same difficulty.

MR. ROBERTS: That is precisely what I am saying.

MR. AYLWARD: This applies not only to persons entitled to legal-aid.

MR. ROBERTS: I agree completely but I mean, if I live in St. Anthony and I have money, I will get a lawyer. Lawyers are (that is an unparliamentary word), lawyers are the hand-maidens of money, and I am a lawyer. We are trained to be and

MR. ROBERTS: we are brought up to be and all this talk about the ideals of the Bar is fine and lawyers live up to the ideals but mostly what motivates lawyers is money - money, cash, lucre, lots of it.

Mr. Chairman, the point is just the one made by the gentleman from Placentia East - there are no lawyers available. I said before and I shall say again, it is the kernel of this and it is an important subject, well worth the time of the committee, because this year we are going to lash out \$400,000 on legal-aid in this province and last year we lashed out, it says here \$225,000, no that is royal commissions I am looking at - we are going to lash out \$500,000 from Ottawa, is it?

MR. HICKMAN: \$250,000.

MR. ROBERTS: \$250,000, is it? Fifty cents a head, I am sorry. We are going to lash out \$100,000 ourselves, that is \$350,000 going into lawyers' services. I will be interested a year from now to get a geographic breakdown from the minister because I suspect most of that, not on a proportional basis, it is going to go to St. John's and Corner Brook.

I do not think St. John's is going to have all the criminals in Newfoundland, I do not think all the people who need help, and even more on the civil side. I am delighted to hear my friend from Placentia East say that the civil side is the great neglect. Because it is the people who are having trouble with the landlord, or he mentioned matrimonial causes, or people who were getting shafted on a sales contract do not realize their rights under The Sale of Goods Act or The Direct Sellers Act or the people whose wages are garnisheed unlawfully, or - every member runs into these - the people with trouble over a bit of land and there is no access to lawyers. It is availability, accessibility that is the problem in Newfoundland, and this is not going to do anything about it.

So I suggested to the minister that he might - I suggested

MR. ROBERTS: hiring him alternatively. One might guarantee them an income. Say to a young fellow, "If you set up in St. Anthony or if you set up in the Town of Placentia or if you set up in any of the areas, large population areas without adequate legal services, hang out your shingle, anybody wants to hire you in the normal course can come, pay the normal fee and get the work done, but then anybody who needs you on legal-aid can have you. We will guarantee you an income."

That is not unusual. We talk of freedom of choice with doctors and every doctor will go to the cross gladly in defence of freedom of choice. You know when we were talking of Medicare in this province a number of years ago that was the great issue, unbeknownst was the fact that incomes went up; freedom of choice.

The Minister of Justice was the Minister of Health then but I mean he talked - he is aware of this. It happens to be true. It was freedom of choice that was the issue. The gentleman from Humber East confirms this, Of course it was and I may add I have been exposed in my home to a certain amount of medical politics, a certain awareness of what is happening politically in the medical world and so forth. I may add now that I have a brother about to enter the service as well.

But in most parts of Newfoundland, in the Town of Placentia, in the gentleman's district, there is little freedom of choice for doctors, because that is the way it must be. Down in St. Mary's, there is Dr. Seide, and he is I believe the only doctor up there. There is a doctor in Trepassey and he is leaving and a new doctor is going into Trepassey. Young Higgins, Dr. Higgins I think is going to Trepassey, Jeff Higgins, a fine young man.

There is no freedom of choice there and nobody complains about it. The question is accessibility. I would love nothing better than people in St. Anthony to have a choice of lawyers. Sure, great, we could have a man down in Happy Valley, but now there is no choice. So to bring in this issue and I do not

MR. ROBERTS: want to debate the issue - if the minister or the honourable member wish, I shall debate it. I have strong views and we do not agree. We could have a good debate but I suggest it is not the point here. The point here is accessibility. The point is that we are voting this year a vast amount of money for legal-aid compared to what we have voted. I agree it is not enough.

Ontario has been spending \$12 million and \$15 million a year for six million people, \$2.00 a head on legal-aid. By that we would have \$1 million in Newfoundland this year instead of \$250,000 -

AN HON. MEMBER: \$100,000.

MR. ROBERTS: No I am talking about the criminal one. The Ontario one up until now has only been criminal. Ontario has had a criminal-aid scheme for the past three or four years.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes okay but they have been spending about \$2 a head, going up to \$2.50 a head, rising dramatically, a bonanza for all the lawyers. Lawyers have nothing to do now, Mr. Chairman. He walks down to the magistrate's court in Toronto and takes dock briefs, and for \$25 each he can pick up \$300 or \$400 a day for nothing, representing clients most of whom plead guilty on your advice, because that is the sensible thing to do. Then you speak and try to get a lower sentence.

Mr. Chairman, the issue in Newfoundland is not this freedom of choice. I have no objection to the system here in St. John's where there are alternatives but the issue is accessibility to legal services. The issue is that many of our people, maybe as many as half, numerically, do not have access to a lawyer, and that is why I suggested to the minister that he do something about it. I can tell him that if he do not, we shall because this is one of the great problems that must be solved in Newfoundland and it will be solved.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, my colleague the Leader of the Opposition said practically all that I would have said. No, I am not going to say it again because I do not want to prolong the debate. Sir, I am really surprised tonight. I was amazed to hear the honourable member for Placentia East stoop to the personal attack. It is not becoming of the honourable gentleman. It is the first time that I have seen the honourable member do it in this House which goes to prove, Mr. Chairman, that the honourable member has a very weak defense, that I touched a nerve. He is very sensitive about this whole matter. Sir, the honourable member was so frustrated, so uptight about what I said that he could not get his facts straight. Any good lawyer knows, Sir, that you should never try to argue a case unless you have your facts straight. Many good lawyers have tried, Sir, and they have lost the case and my honourable friend defeated himself. He lost the case because he did not have his facts straight.

Fact number one, Sir, was that I was not in the Cabinet when my honourable friend was crusading for legal aid. When I did come into the Cabinet I was one of the group responsible for the \$10,000 that I spoke about earlier. Yes, Mr. Chairman, oh yes!

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: \$25,000.

MR. NEARY: No, \$10,000 first. No, that is right. I was not in the Cabinet when the \$10,000 was granted. The present Minister of Justice was in the Cabinet and he was with the Minister of Justice at that time. The Minister of Finance was in the Cabinet and the Minister of Public Works and Services was in the Cabinet but I was not in the cabinet, but when I did enter the cabinet, Sir, I approved of a \$25,000 grant for my honourable poor, old friends downtown, the lawyers who are almost on welfare. The member almost had me in tears when he was talking about it.

Mr. Chairman, I did not say that I was responsible for

legal-aid in this province. That was fact number two. The honourable member should listen as well as talk. What I said was that it came about at the same time that Mr. Kostaszek had made his report.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: When.

MR. NEARY: 1964-1965.

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, legal-aid was the big issue right around the same time that Mr. Kostaszek submitted his report. What I said was that the lawyers were having pangs of conscience and they wanted to come out and volunteer their services to try to offset the impact of the Kostaszek Report that verified what I had been saying for two years prior to that, that the cost of legal fees for real estate transactions in this province were excessive. That is what I said, Sir. The honourable member obviously was not listening. In his rebuttal he went on to personal attack. Now, that may be becoming of some members on that honourable side of the House, Sir, but not the honourable member, and I am sure that he regrets it now. Now that he can reflect back on it, sitting down, listening to my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition - he will be a minister I hope in two or three years and make some ministers - now that he has heard all of the arguments, Sir, and the situation has become clear to him, I really believe that he is sorry that he stooped to -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Oh, heartily sorry.

MR. NEARY: Heartily sorry that he stooped to the personal attack. So, Sir, with these few remarks I hope again - I am serious about this, Sir. The Leader of the Opposition said \$250,000. Where does he get that figure. It is only \$100,000. You mean that there is another \$250,000 besides this and more to come? \$350,000? You remember I said in my earlier remarks that two or three years from now they would be back for a couple of hundred thousand. Well, my God how wrong could I be. This year

they are going to get \$350,000 guaranteed annual income. Well, Sir, I hope that they use it wisely. That is all, I pleaded with the honourable member to pass this on to his brethren in the bar. I hope that it will benefit the poor people of this province and it will not be a bonanza for the lawyers. I hope that when they go down to their meeting the day after tomorrow or whenever it is that we will hear some announcement, five minutes after sitting they will take to the air and say "Yes, we are going to reduce legal fees in this province for real estate transactions."

Now, if the lawyers want to perform a community service, if they want to show us what good guys they are, I will be the first to give them the citizen of the year award, Sir. If they will haul down their legal fees in this province for real estate transaction, then I will tap the honourable member on the back and say, "Boy, you are a fine fellow. I know that you are sincere in what you said."

On motion 716-03-12 to 716-03-13 carried.

MR. NEARY: What are the Royal Commissions, Mr. Chairman?

MR. HICKMAN: This is the estimate for next year. The estimated amount for next year for Royal Commissions, the Royal Commission on Labrador, \$125,000. The Royal Commission on the Structure of Municipal Government, \$110,000. The Royal Commission on the Magistracy, \$5,000. The Judicial Inquiry, \$25,000.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. HICKMAN: It is referred to fondly as the Bell Island Enquiry, \$25,000. The Legal Work Stopages, \$25,000. Nursing, \$5,000. Workmens' Compensation, \$5,000.

MR. WOODWARD: Before 03-14 is carried, Mr. Chairman, could the minister inform the committee, is that the total cost of the Royal Commission on Labrador, \$125,000.?

MR. HICKMAN: That is an estimate.

MR. ROBERTS: Could the minister give us a breakdown as to what that cost makes up? Does it include Mr. Snowden's Salary? Does it include Mr. Goodyear's salary?

MR. HICKMAN: Well, Mr. Goodyear is a public servant.

MR. ROBERTS: So is Mr. Snowden.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, the arrangement with the university, as I understand it, Mr. Chairman, is that Mr. Snowden's salary is paid by the university but as he is seconded to the public service that they have to reimburse the university his salary.

MR. ROBERTS: That is interesting. We have not appointed anybody to replace him. We have appointed an acting director, Mr. George Knee.

MR. HICKMAN: Right. There are three others. There is Lawrence Jackson who is on for six months and Miss Elaine Harris from the university and Mrs. Pamela Karasek. They are all from the university.

MR. ROBERTS: I am grateful for that much but how much has been spent this year by this increasingly expensive commission, what is the \$125,000, the amount of money?

MR. HICKMAN: The amount spent this year is \$26,528. Of that amount \$24,000, in round figures, was salaries to Messrs. Snowden, Jackson, Harris, Karasek, Mrs. R. Snell and a Mrs. Dara Wood. Travelling, \$2,238. Also telephone calls and mileage but mostly for travelling. This is an estimate based on the amount that has been paid to date.

MR. ROBERTS: What sort of breakdown?

MR. HICKMAN: The breakdown as I say of salaries, I am referring to salaries not of the members of the commission but Mr. Snowden whose salary is paid by the university and we reimburse the university and the salaries of Lawrence Jackson, Elaine Harris, Pamela Karasek, Mrs. Snell and Mrs. Wood who are I understand research people at the university who again have been seconded not full time but their time is kept to so much a day, twenty three dollars

and twenty-nine cents per day, for instance, for Pamela Karasek.

MR. ROBERTS: Is there any control on this sort of thing?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, there is a control, Mr. Chairman, and a control that has been exercised by my humane colleague, the President of the Treasury Board, who has indicated very strongly to the Chairman of the Royal Commission that he has to submit to the Treasury Board a budget for the completion of his work.

MR. ROBERTS: Has that budget been submitted?

MR. HICKMAN: It has.

MR. ROBERTS: How much is estimated then he will need to complete it?

MR. HICKMAN: \$125,000 is the estimate we have right now.

MR. ROBERTS: Could the minister then give us the breakdown of where that is to go. I do not want to know how much Mr. Snowden is getting or how much Mrs. this or that. That is beside the point. What I am interested in is this \$125,000. It is a lot of money for what this commission is doing. My colleague from Labrador North will say a few words. What is the breakdown of it? Is that all salaries? The minister is asking for the money, somebody can tell us.

MR. HICKMAN: A proportion of the amount has been spent to date. We have approximately \$24,000 paid out of a total of two figures here. It was \$26,000 and this one as prepared is \$28,000. Out of \$28,000, \$24,000 went into salaries and research assistance, the salary being the salary of the chairman and the others being the research assistants, the others the legitimate expenses of travelling expenses of the commission. The \$24,000 out of the \$28,000 gives you the proportion of the cost to salary.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, since this commissions comes under the minister's department, does the minister have the power to modify or change the terms of the references of such Lieutenant Governor-in-Council? Presumably the minister would make the proposal

at the cabinet level. Is that correct if such a proposal were necessary or going to be made in the first place?

The reason that I ask, Mr. Chairman, is because I have made this request a couple of more times in the House and I stand here to make it once again since we are considering this particular vote now. That is that the terms of reference of the Labrador Royal Commission be modified so as to include part of the Great Northern Peninsula, the Northern half of the Western part of the Great Northern Peninsula. I say that in view of the fact that the Premier has stated in this House that he would like to see the Straits of Bell Isle, both on the Labrador side and the Newfoundland side, become one provincial electoral district. One reason that he gave was to tie the island and the mainland portion of the province together but the other reasons that he gave had to do with the similarity of the problems and the way of life of the people on both sides of the straits. Sir, I think that when you consider the problems of the people in St. Barbes North and you compare them with that of the problems of the people on the Labrador side of the Straits, you find a tremendous similarity. Sir, I ask the minister if he would entertain the idea of making a proposal to the cabinet to have the terms of reference of the Labrador Royal Commission changed in such a way so as to include the Northern half, approximately, of the Western side of the Great Northern Peninsula. I think that there is a great need for it. When is the report due, Mr. Chairman?

MR. HICKMAN: November.

MR. F. ROWE: In November. So, there is still plenty of time to make the change. I think that it would be a good thing for the people on that side of the Great Northern Peninsula. I think it is a necessary thing. So, I will ask the honourable Minister of Justice if he would give some consideration to this and comment on it here now.

MR. HICKMAN: I am at odds with the honourable member on that whether it is necessary to amend the terms of reference of the commission because

there is the broad general term at the bottom. I do not know, I have a feeling that the commission already plans to hold hearings on the Great Northern Peninsula but if they do not I suspect that it is only a matter of, if I am now the minister responsible for the commission, suggesting to them that they do that. I do agree that in looking at, particularly Labrador South, it is relevant that the commission as well take a look at the top half of the Great Northern Peninsula on both sides. That suggestion commends itself to me.

MR. F. ROWE: Correctly now, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister giving me that assurance?

MR. HICKMAN: I cannot give you an assurance. I cannot dictate to the commission but I will give you the assurance that I will suggest it to the commission.

MR. F. ROWE: Good. I would appreciate that very much, Sir, because earlier I sent a telegram from the district to the Premier asking him to do the same thing and he said that he would not do it because it was not included within the terms of reference.

MR. HICKMAN: You are only trying to get me in conflict with the Premier.

MR. F. ROWE: No, no. I would not dare try to embarrass the minister of justice. I do ask if there is any possibility of getting the royal commission to look at St. Barbes North, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a further suggestion in that respect. If the honourable minister is going to be making recommendations regarding the Royal Commission on Labrador, I would like to see included within its terms of reference a sector that is left out now, I think perhaps deliberately left out, for various reasons, that is the study of nonrenewable resources. I understand that there is

an independent study or another study underway at the present time on the use of nonrenewable resources, the whole aspect of nonrenewable resources. I would like to see the Royal Commission on Labrador include within their terms of reference such a study particularly as it pertains to the overall planning for development in the territory, to develop in a rational manner the nonrenewable resources as well as the other resources; also to review what kind of revenue accrues to that part of the province from the nonrenewable resources now being exploited, particularly in Labrador West, to see whether or not it is in fact equitable.

MR. WOODWARD: Looking at the expenditures, having a list of the people who have been attached to the royal commission and listening to the number of names and the salaries the minister mentioned, I am sure there have been a number of people omitted from the expenditures that have been submitted to his department. Maybe it is because of the fact that the bills are not current, are not turned in and a lot of the expenditures. I would like for the minister, if he would feel free, to table with the committee a list of the actual expenditures that he does have to date?

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Every now and then we are asking for an explanation in this House as to how money is spent and the minister seems to have these tender sensitivities about disclosing how much money someone might be getting out of public funds for a salary. As far as I am concerned, Sir, there should not be any tender sensitivities about it at all. This royal commission like so many other royal commissions threatens to expend perhaps uselessly (far be it for me to judge, we will await the report) a lot of money. What was it? It was \$175,000. Well I, for one, as a member of this House and a person who is supposed to be trying to protect the public interests, would like to see what kind of money people

are being paid. Whether the minister does it privately or publicly I do not care. I would just like to know.

MR. HICKMAN: The reason why I put it that way, Mr. Chairman, was that another honourable member on the other side used the philosophy that I just used. I have forgotten -

MR. ROBERTS: I said that I did not care but my friend does so give it to him.

MR. HICKMAN: Okay, all right.

On motion 03-14 through to 03-17, carried.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Mr. Chairman, on 03-18, is there any intention by the minister to divide the two divisions, companies and securities, to have a registrar of companies and a registrar of securities?

MR. HICKMAN: That is not what this vote is for, Mr. Chairman. There is that intention. What this vote is for is to retain this year some expertise in the drafting of a new Companies Act and a new Securities Act.

MR. ROBERTS: Hear! Hear!

MR. HICKMAN: If we can accomplish all of that with \$20,000, we will be doing reasonably well. The Maritime Provinces have come up with an uniform Securities Act which may be reasonably suited to this province. I can foresee spending a fair amount of money on drafting a new Companies Act because that is a massive undertaking.

MR. ROBERTS: Is George McLean -

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Does the minister intend to hire local lawyers or what?

MR. HICKMAN: If local lawyers can be found but if not, it has been suggested to be by some members of the bar, that with respect to the Companies Act, I would probably have to try and engage the services on a part-time basis of some law professors who are teaching company law.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sure that there are lots of those available.

MR. HICKMAN: They do good work particularly in the summer months.

I have a feeling that our conferees at the bar may be so busy - I would like to get this before the next session of the House.

On motion 03-18 carried.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Mr. Chairman, on 718-01, Constabulary, could the minister indicate to the House how much of that increase of \$1,580,000 to \$1,690,000 accounts for annual increments in salaries and therefore how much is left over to go towards any salary raise which may be negotiated?

MR. HICKMAN: Well the thing speaks for itself pretty well does it not? The salary vote last year was \$1,580,000 and the salary vote this year is \$1,690,000, that is about \$110,000 .

MR. ROWE (W.N.): That is all increments by the way, is it?

MR. HICKMAN: No, it is not all increments. I do not know the exact amount but there is some money in there for the negotiations that are going on down there and they are going on with a great deal of satisfaction I think.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): That is a matter of opinion I would say, Mr. Chairman. The indications from some gentlemen who shall remain nameless but who are directly affected by this, is that there is an amount provided by the government which is approximately one-third of the minimum that is going to be acceptable. As the honourable minister heard any of this? I might ask further, before the minister replies, what is the Minister of Finance - is this another one of these cases, Mr. Chairman, where if more is asked for than is estimated here, that we are going to have a mini-budget, that we are going to have taxes increased?

MR. HICKMAN: Negotiations are carried on by -

MR. ROWE (W.N.): The hon. Minister of Finance should let us know also. He has now touched on this in the House whenever we have asked a question about salary negotiations. There is a \$6 million surplus, Mr. Chairman, after all.

AN HON. MEMBER: Fat!

MR. ROWE (W.N.): There is that much fat in all the lean - no not fat, surplus is a surplus, disguise it as you will. For the honourable minister to be coming in here and threatening the people of the province -

MR. HICKMAN: Who?

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Not the hon. Minister of Justice but the hon. Minister of Finance to be threatening the people of the province, especially those in the public service who are directly affected, with mini-budgets and tax raises and everything else, Mr. Chairman, when there is \$6 million surplus, fat, that can go towards a half decent raise for our public servants. The two things are mutually inconsistent. Perhaps the minister might have a word to say on it?

MR. CROSBIE: One hesitates to try and explain anything to the honourable gentlemen opposite because they do not want to understand. Now as far as the surplus is concerned, Mr. Chairman, there is no surplus in the Newfoundland budget. Anybody who looks at it and understands figures sees that it is a huge deficit. If you separate current account from capital account, then there is a surplus on current account of \$6.7 million hopefully but if you add that to the capital account you see that there is a huge deficit - huge deficit, no surplus. Now as far as the salaries are concerned, the honourable gentlemen knows as well as we know over here that when we are contemplating the salaries for the year, the estimates generally speaking are based on positions now established and the salaries being paid now. If the constabulary win themselves an increase during the year and this amount is not sufficient, well it will just have to be supplementary supply. Nobody can foretell what will happen in the collective bargaining. We cannot prophesy. We can only hope, knowing that the policemen are a very

reasonable crowd and the firemen, that there will be a reasonable settlement with them. What that will be, we cannot tell the dollar or the cent. We will be reasonable. We want to preserve our little surplus on current account if we can. We might have to have a mini-budget. We might have to have a maxi-budget. Who knows what we might have to have?

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Huge tax increases.

MR. CROSBIE: Well they have already been suggested for education.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Finance is beginning to get familiar in the gloom and doom line with them.

MR. CROSBIE: You have not heard anything yet.

MR. ROBERTS: I agree we have not heard anything. I was about to say that he obviously has been too long in the same party as the Right Honourable John George Diefenbaker, that prophet of all gloom and doom, which is beginning to rub off on him, the process of osmosis.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Diefenbaker is a good man.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Diefenbaker certainly is a great man. I have no hesitation in saying it and he is also a great politician and he was also a disastrous Prime Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, and I can name some other things Mr. Diefenbaker did. He provided the basic trades colleges in Newfoundland; the original ARDA Programme was of the Diefenbaker administration; he gave us Bill Brown - no we gave him Bill Brown and unfortunately he gave him back. Mr. Diefenbaker's administration did do some good things. I should be the very first to say so. Of course, they were a disaster for Canada and for themselves. That is what happens to administrations who win big.

Mr. Chairman, a point which has been gone over time and time again but it is worth going over here, the Minister of Finance has given us his normal reaction to wounded dignity, and his debating tricks. I do not know how much is in here for increases for the constabulary. There obviously is not very much. The constabulary have 224 men, from memory, on strength. Apparently there is no thought of expanding them at this stage. I find this interesting in view of the Premier's commitment as expressed to a meeting of the Newfoundland Constabulary (I believe it was in November, 1971) that when he became Premier (he was not then Premier but he was on the hitch) he would cause a review to be made. A review for what purpose? A review to see if perhaps the Newfoundland Constabulary could not be expanded to police all of Newfoundland. Like so many of the promises made by the administration that, of course, has fallen by the wayside. The municipalities keep renewing that request. I believe it was in the most recent annual brief of the federation, to the cabinet, the Federation of Municipalities. The Premier made the commitment and once he got into office, he promptly turned his back. We shall see about that.

There is nothing in here really of a substantial raise. If there are 220 men, they will get increments of at least five per cent a year unless they are at the top of their scales. Most of them I submit are not at the top of their scales because they were only recently placed on the scales. Five per cent of fifteen hundred thousand dollars is seventy-five thousand dollars therefore of the one hundred and ten thousand dollars in the estimates, I submit that maybe as much as fifty or sixty thousand will go in the increments for the men, increments to which they are entitled by virtue of their loyal and faithful service. Obviously, there is nothing in here of any significance for a salary increase. I have no idea what the

police have asked for. I saw in a newspaper the other day that Mr. Ross has come down to advise them and to help them to negotiate. I assume the negotiations are underway. My friend and colleague from White Bay South has indicated, as a number of us have heard, that the constabulary being very reasonable gentlemen expect a fair and reasonable raise. If it is a ten per cent raise, it is \$160,000. If it is a five per cent raise, it is \$80,000. There is not enough in here to cover their raise. That is beside the point because, of course, as as the Minister of Finance again remind us, we have a very fat surplus on current account. Over all, the province, we are going to be borrowing large amounts of money again this year like every other province. I have not heard the Ontario budget yet but they were looking at a \$400 million or \$500 million deficit, all of it on capital account, big wealthy Ontario where, to quote the Minister of Finance, "they have money coming out of their ears." Ottawa is running \$2 billion of a deficit this year, money coming down out of their ears. Newfoundland is going to have to borrow over \$200 million.

Well I am not going to go on. The ministry are arrogantly just refusing to indicate. That is fair enough. The police have figured it out. I am willing to bet that Mr. Ross or whoever is negotiating for the constabulary can tell me to the nickel. I have not asked them. Really I am not in their negotiations. They know to the nickel how much is in here over and above what is committed for salary increments. They know to the nickel, maybe to the cent, but certainly to the nickel. Obviously, we will see a slash in the fat on the current account, the \$6 million that the Minister of Finance has squirreled away and if it is slashed too deeply, we are under the threat. He can say what he wants to about us. We have

read the words in the budget speech. We have all read the words in the budget speech. The threat is there. "If you do not take what we give to you and be grateful"- be grateful! -"there will be a mini-budget or we will cut services." Maybe we will cut out the mothers' allowance. You cannot cut out the mothers' allowance because that got the shaft last year. They cannot cut out student-aid because that got it this year. What will they cut out? I wonder what they will cut out.

As for tax increases, the Minister of Finance the other day -

AN HON. MEMBER: Cut out the opposition allowance.

MR. ROBERTS: Cut out the opposition allowance, by all means if they want to - nothing better. If they feel that they should cut it out, mind you we might at the same time have a few words to say about the inflated estimates of each minister's office. Well the minister is always being very helpful. Mr. Nutbeem was getting two-thirds as much as the opposition and they may say he is worth more than the entire opposition and he certainly is. The people of Newfoundland no doubt think that Mr. Nutbeem is worth as least as much as two-thirds as the opposition. We can find a few dollars around and about. The point is and I do not intend to belabour it, Sir, that we again in this estimate, the salaries for the constabulary, are seeing the axe at work, the threat, it is there. It is not even covered any more. We will see services cut or we will see taxes increased. The Minister of Finance says the "butcher's bill" is ready. If Mr. Turner had not provided him with \$24 million the other day - he found the \$24 million. He is a

ruddy good fellow John Turner is and for the Hansard that is "r-u-d-d-y" not another word with the same sound. I certainly do support him, he is a great Minister of Finance. I support him for the position as Minister of Finance, if and when the Leadership of the party becomes available again in eight or twelve years, when Mr. Trudeau steps down as Prime Minister, then we shall see what we shall see.

AN HON. MEMBER: Pierre will step down this year.

MR. ROBERTS: Pierre will step down this year?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: The honourable gentleman is again trying out the Premier's seat and maybe it is just a wish. He hopes that party leaders -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I agree and the honourable -

MR. NEARY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, honourable members are only permitted to speak from their own seats in this honourable House, Sir, and I would like for Your Honour to enforce that rule.

AN HON. MEMBER: But he thinks it is his seat.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, that is the point, he thinks it is his seat.

MR. NEARY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point of order is well taken and I am sure the honourable member will observe that rule which is long standing and will observe quite rigidly on occasions.

MR. ROBERTS: I thank Your Honour and I thank my colleague. But the point I was making with reference to the salaries of the constabulary, Your Honour, is that the honourable Minister of Finance is speaking from what he considers to be his seat. And if he thinks the Prime Minister is going to step down, I do not know, maybe he does. But as he says, the wish is father to the thought, I do not know. The Premier has once again left us, he has drifted off. He was here earlier but he has drifted off somewhere, heavens knows where! Drifted off again,

may be in the arms of Morpheus. He has drifted off in arms and ammunition.

MR. DOODY: If you are talking about Pierre, it must be arms and ammunition,

MR. ROBERTS: No, our discussion about the Prime Minister obviously comes under office - Office of the Prime Minister. Now, Mr. Chairman, we have not yet come to office have we? But the point is, if the administration have told the constabulary as they have told everybody else, we will come to some other isolated examples of it. the civil service, the police, the firemen. We have not come to the firemen, the firemen are over the page somewhere, are they not?

AN HON. MEMBER: Right.

MR. ROBERTS: Their salaries are up. Haw! Haw! \$160,000, firemen. The constabulary have been told that they are negotiating under threat again. There is nothing in these estimates for them. There may be \$80,000 or \$90,000. I do not pretend to know how much. Enough for maybe a five per cent raise. I have no idea what the police will settle for. I have no idea in the world. I hope this time when they have a salary brief it will get to the cabinet and not sit on the minister's desk for one month or a year.

MR. HICKMAN: It will get to the Treasury Board where it belongs.

MR. ROBERTS: I will tell the honourable gentleman in all sincerity it is a bit of a rude shock to be in a cabinet and discover that one's colleague has a brief that affects the entire government that has not moved beyond one's colleague desk, that is a shock. If it had ever happened the minister concerned should hang his head in shame.

MR. HICKMAN: He certainly should have.

MR. ROBERTS: He certainly should. He certainly should.

Mr. Chairman, I have made the point, if the committee wish I could go on but I shall not. I think I have made it as effectively as the committee can take at this hour of the morning, night, day whatever it is. The point is there is nothing here for the constabulary

all except the back of the hand from the administration. We shall see.

MR. NEARY: I do not know if the honourable minister indicated if the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary were in fact going to receive annual salary increments this year.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, sure.

MR. NEARY: They are going to receive them?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes.

MR. NEARY: Because I have heard they are being withheld but I do not think this is a negotiable item.

MR. HICKMAN: No it is not.

MR. NEARY: They are not being withheld, they will get their salary increments?

MR. HICKMAN: Sure.

MR. NEARY: Because when the contract was negotiated a year ago, I think the first year of the agreement they dropped the salary increments because they received \$100 straight across the board increase and they dropped the increment for that year. But I think it was only for one year. Mr. Chairman, I would like for the minister to confirm tonight that the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary and the firemen will receive their annual increment in addition to whatever they negotiate during their contract negotiations.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, so that there can be no mistake about it, whatever the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary are entitled to they will receive. As the honourable member tells me, they are entitled to an increment and I think they are, then they will receive it.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before it carries maybe the honourable minister can answer a few questions. Is the honourable the member for St. John's South acting as a solicitor for the policemen?

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. WOODWARD: He is not?

AN HON. MEMBER: Or a member of his firm?

MR. HICKMAN: I do not know if there is anybody acting for them at this moment. As you know the negotiations are not carried out

at this moment. As you know the negotiations are not carried out by the Department of Justice but by Mr. Blanchard.

MR. ROBERTS: I saw the minister conversing with Mr. Blanchard as I came in today.

MR. HICKMAN: That is right. I have not heard of anyone other than Mr. Ross being present but I do not know who their lawyer is.

MR. WOODWARD: Maybe the other question, Mr. Chairman, is how does a constable in the constabulary his salary compared with a constable in the R.C.M.P?

MR. HICKMAN: It is lower. I would say it is at least \$2000 a year.

MR. WOODWARD: Do you have any figures?

MR. HICKMAN: No, I have not got the figures of the R.C.M.P.

MR. WOODWARD: Any salaries?

MR. HICKMAN: The constable in the R.C.M.P. I just have not got them here but I do know it is considerably lower. That is a well known fact.

On motion 718-01 carried.

On motion 718-02 through 718-03-03 carried.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, 718-03-04, We are acquiring four additional motor vehicles this year and a replacement of eighteen others.

On motion 718-03-04 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 719-03 carry?

MR. W. N. ROWE: That is up substantially, Mr. Chairman, could the minister give some idea as to why?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, there has been a fairly substantial increase in the salaries paid to the R.C.M.P. under their negotiations with the Government of Canada. Each year there is an increase, I have forgotten the number of R.C.M.P. officers coming in. I know there are at least five going into Corner Brook, one or two going

into the honourable member's district, one going into the District of Burin and there are others. The authorized provincial contract is 357, we pay forty-seven per cent of the per capita cost of the 320 out of a total of 357. Under the provincial contract then we pay fifty per cent of the per capita cost of the first five men under the municipal contract in Corner Brook, and seventy-five per cent of the per capita cost for each additional man thereafter. The total authorized establishment at Corner Brook was forty and it is going to forty-five. Then there is a similar municipal policing contract in Labrador City with the same formula and there we have six men.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Mr. Chairman, could the minister give us some idea as to when he is going to implement his stated policy to expand the Newfoundland Constabulary across the province?

MR. HICKMAN: What stated policy?

MR. ROWE, W.N. The policy the minister stated a year or two ago, publicly.

MR. CROSBIE: The Premier.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Or the Premier, the minister also.

MR. HICKMAN: Indeed he did not.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Well maybe we can confer with the Premier now.

The stated policy of the Premier to the effect that the Newfoundland Constabulary would be enlarged to police the whole province, that stated policy when will it be implemented?

MR. HICKMAN: That is not the stated policy.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Well what is it then? I mean we can only go by what we hear.

MR. HICKMAN: I understand the honourable Premier before he became Premier indicated that we would have a look at the cost and the programme -

MR. ROBERTS: Tell us about the look then.

MR. HICKMAN: I can give you the figures on the look.

MR. ROBERTS: Tell us about the look.

MR. HICKMAN: I have had to look a little, Mr. Chairman, as simply as this, that it is beyond the financial capacity of this province to expand the Newfoundland Constabulary. It really is. For instance on capital account alone the R.C.M.P. -

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, to a point of order, there is no quorum.

MR. HICKMAN: There is a quorum, Mr. Chairman.

MR. ROBERTS: No, no, Mr. Chairman, if the clerk were to count I am sure there will be four honourable gentlemen who leave, as is our right. There is no quorum in the Chamber at present.

MR. HICKMAN: Well count them.

MR. ROBERTS: They are all in. The minister may now continue.

MR. HICKMAN: As I say, Mr. Chairman. as I see it as minister, there is no conceivable way that we could ever lay our hands on finances necessary to expand the Newfoundland Constabulary and with the equipment that is necessary for the policing of this province. For instance, where could we ever lay our hands on close to \$1 million to buy a helicopter or to buy two aircraft which the R.C.M.P. have and which they must have. Where could we find -

MR. ROBERTS: We have four or five helicopters, for heaven's sakes!

MR. HICKMAN: But not the police helicopters. I mean one that is on full-time call, full-time duty with the police -

MR. ROBERTS: Sure they are working now.

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. ROBERTS: We have all sorts of aeroplanes.

MR. HICKMAN: Where could we find the necessary funds to put up our own building? Remember the R.C.M.P. would still be here for the federal statutes, they would still have their detachment quarters. The other thing is to provide - bear in mind, Mr. Chairman, that in our arrangement with the R.C.M.P. there is no charge to this province

at all for training police constables when they join. Some people will argue that the Newfoundland Constabulary would create additional employment. That is true. I think it is equally relevant that the R.C.M.P., I am speaking from memory now, but I believe that last year there were sixty-four Newfoundlanders recruited in this province. True it is that they have to police as a matter of policy, I think they work for their first five years anyway in other provinces and then when they reach a certain stage they start drifting back but there is a great deal of employment being found for Newfoundlanders and a large number of Newfoundlanders are applying for the R.C.M.P.

The other thing is, Mr. Chairman, that whilst there may be, I am aware of certain and I have had discussions with municipalities on the policing policy, it had been suggested on one or two occasions that the Newfoundland Constabulary might be moved to certain areas but I am been flooded with requests from municipalities for R.C.M.P. detachments or for increases in the present detachments. There is not doubt that the stature of that force throughout this province stand very high. They have a good record, as do the Newfoundland Constabulary, of very heavy community involvement that is first class. I have no doubt at all as far as both forces are concerned we are going to see more and more of it. We have seen very excellent examples in the City of St. John's with the involvement of the Newfoundland Constabulary, the Boys Club, an area where we had difficulties and law enforcement problems and they went in there and today it has just about disappeared.

Still four to nothing.

MR. ROWE, W.N. On that point, Mr. Chairman, I draw to the minister's attention that there is twice as much being spent or estimated to be spent in the estimates, more than twice as much being spent on the R.C.M.P. as there is being spent on the Newfoundland Constabulary. Now what would be the ratio? How many constabulary are there compared

to R.C.M.P, officers?

MR. HICKMAN: You asked me, so I will have to answer it.

The per capita cost of policing the City of St. John's is 300 per cent higher than policing the remainder of the province.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Mr. Chairman, so what? I mean that is not the question. I am wondering how many -

MR. HICKMAN: Is the honourable gentleman suggesting that St. John's is under-policed?

MR. ROWE, W.N. No, Mr. Chairman, what I am suggesting is that there are not twice as many R.C.M.P. officers around the province (Are there?) as there are constables in St. John's?

MR. HICKMAN: Oh, no.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Yet the cost of the R.C.M.P. to us, under our contract, is twice as much as the cost of the police.

MR. HICKMAN: Wait now. Hold on for one minute.

MR. ROWE, W.N. So when the minister says that we do not know where to find the money to expand the Newfoundland Constabulary throughout the province, I would suggest that he will find the money right there that we are lashing out to the R.C.M.P. Now I am not necessarily in favour of getting rid of the R.C.M.P. in the rest of the province, I mean that is not my point at all. What my point is, is that again we have seen the Premier of the Province making what certainly appeared to me to be a public commitment before getting into office and that public commitment has now evaporated. The same thing that has happened in a dozen other cases, Mr. Chairman.

There is quite a lot of money going to the R.C.M.P. The other question, of course, it is probably not relevant under this subhead but the other question is: why should the provincial government, (this question is the perennial one) why should the provincial government be paying for the cost of policing in St. John's when in many other places around the province who need a police officer, there is no grant by the province to a particular municipality for police services?

MR. HICKMAN: Except Corner Brook and Labrador City.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Corner Brook and Labrador City. There are others as well. Baie Verte, for example, has a detachment in it.

MR. HICKMAN: Oh, yes.

MR. ROWE, W.N. But there are lots of places that do not get police services as such, you know a direct police service. So has the minister given any thought? Are the government given any thought to turning over the Newfoundland Constabulary to the municipal government of St. John's to operate and pay for out of city taxes?

MR. HICKMAN: As the honourable member said, this is a perennial thought for quite some time.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Especially during the strike.

MR. HICKMAN: Well I do not know about that but I recall there was a commitment made by the former Premier to the Mayor of St. John's in 1949 that so long as he was Premier of Newfoundland the government would assume responsibility for the policing of the city and for the fire protection in the city.

MR. ROWE, W.N. The people obviously did not agree with that, so they tried to turn them out.

MR. HICKMAN: This commitment was made. Now there is one thing you know I am sure of, that any sensible person would agree that we could not suddenly call in the Mayor of St. John's today and say, "Mayor Adams, Your Worship, my friend, here is the police force because you get involved in a great deal of grants-in-aid." For instance, if we had a city police force here now the Mayor of St. John's could very properly say to me, "Fine, we have a police force. We will make sure that they will enforce the Dog Act and we will make sure that they will enforce parking regulations and all municipal by-laws but if a murder is committed do not look to us nor a break and entry." So what happens then is the province turns around and pays substantial grants to the city to carry out the work that is vested in the Attorney General - the same with the protection of public buildings. I would

say that there would have to be a fairly sustained study before we could arrive at a definite decision on that.

On policing the municipalities, in conversations which I have had recently they have suggested that we should await the outcome as it is in the terms of reference of the Whelan Commission.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before we carry this subhead, I wonder if the minister can inform the committee as to the changes now taking place and if the Department of Justice will be involved in the additional R.C.M.P. as I understand are now being recruited for the policing of airports ?

MR. HICKMAN: No, we are not involved at all.

MR. WOODWARD: This will be a direct federal responsibility and the province will not be involved in it.

MR. HICKMAN: Directly federal.

MR. WOODWARD: But I understand there will be an additional R.C.M.P. force, a type of special force for the airports which will include a number of persons, as many as thirty, forty or fifty or something like that.

MR. HICKMAN: I know something about it, Mr. Chairman, because the Commanding Officer of the R.C.M.P. alerted me and asked me if I would make a statement on it with the hope of attracting recruits. It is an auxiliary force in the sense that they will not go through the full training programme in Regina, as an ordinary recruit is obliged to take. They will be restricted to security at the airports and it will be all Newfoundlanders. I do not think there has been any difficulty in recruiting so far. Indeed there has been a very strong response to the applications and I am not sure of the number but thirty to forty seems to be rather high. I did not think there were that many. But it is an additional police presence because obviously you have them in a particular airport, the general public are not going to distinguish between two R.C.M.P. officers in uniform and one is stationed in Gander policing the Town of Gander and another is at the airport. But it is a few more jobs, a few more dollars.

On motion 719 - 03 carried.

On motion 719-04 carried.

On motion 720-01 through 720-02-02 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Before you carry 720-02-03, Mr. Chairman, maybe the minister will enlighten the committee, I think we brought this up last year on the training of out-of-town firemen and who pays the expenses?

MR. HICKMAN: The programme is carried out, Mr. Chairman, by the Fire Commissioner, in co-operation with the Fisheries College, and fire chiefs take courses at Torbay which has received a great deal of approbation from the federation of mayors and municipalities. When they were in to see us recently they were rather complimentary towards this programme. The thought is that the chiefs go back then and pass on this training to their firemen. It is working quite well at least so the mayors and councillors tell me and so does the fire commissioner,

MR. WOODWARD: There is a point that I want to raise, Mr. Chairman, the fact that there is only \$8,000 in this vote. Is the minister's department inviting firemen from the municipalities to participate in this particular plan?

MR. HICKMAN: Oh, yes and they come in.

MR. WOODWARD: Out of 276 municipalities and we have \$8,000 in the vote?

MR. HICKMAN: No, we have not got 276 municipalities.

MR. WOODWARD: It must be a worthwhile vote and a worthwhile programme, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKMAN: It certainly is, Mr. Chairman, and number one we do not have 276 fire brigades. Number two, that if you have them in last year from a particular area, they do not come this year, you have another group. My understanding is that the municipalities pay the travelling cost of these men coming to St. John's. There is no cost for the instructors, this is provided by the Fire Commissioner, by

the St. John's Fire Department and by the Fisheries College. I think their building is at Torbay, I am pretty sure of that. Again there is no cost. So again we get good value for that money.

On motion 720-02-03 carried.

On motion subheads 721 through 723 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 724-01 carry?

MR. ROBERTS: No, Mr. Chairman, no.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: Who is the Electoral officer at the moment?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Harvey W. Cole of St. John's.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: Who?

MR. HICKMAN: Harvey Cole Esquire.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: Harvey Cole. What does a Chief Electoral Officer do between elections by the way, Mr. Chairman?

MR. HICKMAN: Inaudible.

MR. ROWE, W.N.: The new Minister of Justice, I would watch it if I were you.

MR. ROBERTS: At least that is one acting Premier that puts us one up from where we were.

MR. HICKMAN: The question was, what does the Chief Electoral Officer do -

MR. ROWE, W.N.: What does the Chief Electoral Officer do between elections?

MR. HICKMAN: Well right now I think he is still busily engaged in going over -

MR. WOODWARD: Counting ballots from Sally's Cove.

MR. HICKMAN: No not counting the ballots but there is a provision under the act that after one year the ballots have to be tabulated and then destroyed. Anyway I understand that he is busy. He will be busy -

MR. ROWE, W.N.: Will he be able to live up to that commitment that he has made to the honourable minister that, you know, to be able to tabulate the ballots and destroy them over a four year period?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. HICKMAN: He is a gentleman with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Dalhousie University, what was he? A Captain in the Navy, or some officer.

AN HON. MEMBER: Three times he was defeated.

MR. HICKMAN: And I believe he has been unsuccessful in certain contests.

MR. WOODWARD: Do you mean maybe?

MR. HICKMAN: But have not we all? Look at me now.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I find it hard to beat the bat at 11:25 at night, but I mean this appointment is really just about the most offensive that any administration could have come up with. First of all, the Premier told the committee last year that he had no intention of appointing an Electoral Officer full-time. I do not have the reference to Hansard, but if there is anybody listening in our office in there, it happens to be on my table somewhere, I do not have it here now. The statement is in Hansard. So we will see what the Premier's word is worth or we will have it confirmed what it said. Even more than that, Sir, and let me say and other gentlemen opposite can howl at me if they want to, I take no offense at giving Mr. Harvey Cole a job. The man was a faithful Tory political hack. If the gentleman opposite do not like the word "hack" which has been used recently by Mr. Stanfield in Ottawa. Is there no quorum? If we all leave, there is no quorum and I gather my colleagues all want to go and stretch their legs, Mr. Chairman.

AN HON. MEMBER: Come on boys!

MR. ROBERTS: Good, here they come!

Okay, as I was saying, Mr. Chairman,

AN HON. MEMBER: We even got the Minister of Finance that time.

MR. ROBERTS: As I was saying, Mr. Chairman, I have no reason against the government giving Mr. Harvey Cole a job.

AN HON. MEMBER: Come on now, crocodile tears.

MR. ROBERTS: No, there are no crocodile tears at all. Mr. Cole stood by the Tory party when many of the honourable gentlemen opposite -

MR. NEARY: Let us have a quorum count.

MR. ROBERTS: Thirteen. No, I am about - there have to be fourteen on the other side, Mr. Chairman, that is the rule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

AN HON. MEMBER: If we only had someone like the honourable member for Burgeo Lapoile.

MR. ROBERTS: If only the member for Burgeo Lapoile were still whip. I gather he is still whip.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Is that what the honourable member is drinking tonight? The honourable gentleman is drinking water tonight, is he? Well then he can have a drink of water at his table, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: On a point of order, please.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS: I have the floor, Mr. Chairman, let him be quiet.

MR. EVANS: Order! Order!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. ROBERTS: Now, Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, I have nothing against the honourable gentleman opposite giving Mr. Harvey Cole a job. I should think if anyone deserved well of a P.C. or a Tory government Mr. Harvey Cole did. He stood by that party, Sir, when most of the honourable gentlemen opposite were of another political complexion, You might say they were Liberals. Liberals of convenience. So when the Electoralship came in for the Tory party under full sail, Mr. Cole was entitled to a job. He served as special assistant, I believe the title was, to the minister of Finance.

MR. ROWE, W.N. He was good at ransacking offices.

MR. ROBERTS: He was awfully good at ransacking offices. Yes, he was invaluable, I have no doubt, in ransacking offices.

AN HON. MEMBER: He was invaluable at everything.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes he was probably invaluable at everything. And the Minister of Finance told us last year that he had been, maybe -

MR. ROBERTS: Yes he was probably invaluable at everything. And the Minister of Finance told us last year that he had been, he may have used the word "invaluable," a most valuable public servant. I do not mind in the least Mr. Harvey Cole having been taken on but, sir, I think it is highly offensive to put a man with his record, you can say what you want about the Smallwood Administration and I am not going to claim because it is not true that the Smallwood Administration did not appoint political friends to certain posts.

AN HON. MEMBER: Go on, they did not!

MR. ROBERTS: Oh, they certainly did. They certainly did. The honourable gentleman for Placentia East was given a political job by Mr. Smallwood before he revealed his true political colours, as he would tell us he now has. He was given a number of political jobs by Mr. Smallwood.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! We are dealing with -

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are dealing with Mr. Harvey Cole.

MR. ROWE, W.N. We are talking about political appointments are we not?

MR. ROBERTS: Political appointments. I was asked to name one. I was happy too. Now, Sir, that is Mr. Cole's salary, is it? As I was saying, Sir, the men who served this province as Chief Electoral Officer have never before been political hacks. We now have one. Mr. Cole is a political hack. Mr. Cole left the Minister of Finance's office, his personal staff, and what did he do then, Sir?

AN HON. MEMBER: He was a political disaster.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Cole is a political disaster? He may be that too.

AN HON. MEMBER: So is the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, if the honourable gentleman opposite would like to put Mr. Cole to work at having an election tomorrow, I should be delighted. I would be delighted. If the honourable

gentleman opposite wants to put the Chief Electoral Officer to work, Mr. Chairman, I should be simply delighted.

It would be a very nice thing. We have not had an election in this province for a whole year. It has been a whole year since we have had an election.

MR. DOODY: We had one in October.

MR. ROBERTS: All right let us talk about October because Mr. Harvey Cole was active in the October election because as he left the honourable Minister of Finance, was pushed aside. Where did he go then, this public servant, this nonhack, this nonpartisan creature? Why he went to work for a public servant organization, an educational, nonprofit organization, the Progressive Conservative Federal Campaign Committee. Mr. Harvey Cole, the gentleman whose salary is under discussion now, ran the most unsuccessful Tory campaign that we have had in this province in a number of years because Mr. Ambrose Peddle met his come-upance at the hands of the electors of Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador with Mr. Harvey Cole guiding him. Mr. Fred Woodman met his come-upance at the hands of the electors of Bonavista-Trinity-Conception -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: A backhanded slap to the Premier.

MR. ROBERTS: Not a backhanded slap, a fronthanded slap to the Premier, with Mr. Harvey Cole guiding him.

MP. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The first point of order is that when I rise to a point of order I think that I have the floor and I think that the honourable Leader of the Opposition should take his seat.

Mr. Chairman, the federal election is hardly relevant to this item which is the salary in the electoral office.

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to the point of order?

We are talking about the salary of one Harvey Cole, chief electoral officer, who immediately before becoming chief electoral officer was the campaign manager for the Progressive Conservative - Federal Election Campaign in this province. There is where the

relevancy is.

MR. MARSHALL: What relevancy has the results of the -

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, to the point of order. We are not speaking of the Federal Election Campaign. We are talking of Mr. Harvey Cole's work, his qualifications for this vote. Surely it is in order, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under the heading 724-01 we are discussing the salaries of the electoral office. I do not think the Federal Campaign nor the campaign managers to whichever party is relevant to this particular item under discussion. I would suggest that the honourable member of the opposition keep within the rules of relevancy by referring to this particular item and not going outside the rules of relevancy.

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are talking about the chief electoral officer. After his previous experience - and Lo and Behold! The gentleman who holds the post of electoral officer!

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are talking about the electoral office salaries.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What has this got to do with election campaigns other than the gentleman whom you are discussing, other than the salaries? You are going well outside the bounds of relevancy.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, all that I mentioned was that the gentleman - did I mention election after Your Honour ruled that I could not? Did I? No, I did not. Get the Hansard and check it. We are talking about the salary of one Mr. H. Cole. I do not care to use his name. We are talking about the salary of the chief electoral officer. Is that right? That is included in this vote, Sir. There is \$14,000 big, luscious dollars in it, \$15,000 in it for him. Is that right?

MR. W. ROWE: \$15,003. The three is for the working dog.

MR. ROBERTS: \$15,003 big, luscious, lovable, lovely dollars in it

for the chief electoral officer. Is that right, Mr. Chairman? I want to make sure that I am relevant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable Leader of the Opposition continue along those lines, I think it is in order but it was the Chair's impression that he was about to wander again. The Chair suggests that he keep within this particular item, 724-01, Salaries of the electoral office.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not know whether to laugh or to cry really. Sir Brian Dunfield, a very great jurist, quoting thousands of other great jurists once said, "Every dog is entitled to the first bite." I believe Your Honour when he says that he was under the impression that I might - I mean, are we going to put a man in jail now because he might go out and murder somebody and it is against the law to murder? If there is an offense, then one can be called to order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair suggests that the honourable gentleman continue on this item and not delay the subject.

MR. ROBERTS: I am all for it, Mr. Chairman, and I hope that Your Honour does not anticipate what I am going to say. If I say something and I err, then Your Honour will quite properly call me to order but this nonsense of anticipation is utter, arrant nonsense. Twaddle, that is the word for it.

Now, we are talking about the chief electoral officer. I still say that it is the most offensive public appointment that has ever been made in this province. The Minister of Finance has to defend it. He has all of the brass of a colonel's horse. That is not bad, is it John? I must say for twenty minutes to twelve. I think that is pretty good. I wonder if the page will get me a drop of water, Mr. Chairman, please. Is Your Honour rising to object or is Your Honour just changing the guard? The guard is changed. The Premier is about to join us. That is good because I hope that the Premier will say a word or two about his statement to a committee

last year that he could not see the need for a full-time chief electoral officer. ~~We~~ now have one.

As I was saying, Sir, I consider Mr. Cole - I do not want to use the gentleman's name.

We have found the verbatim report for Tuesday June 27, 1972. It is page 3336 quoting the honourable the Premier in reply to a question by me. I asked, "Is it the intention of the minister, Mr. Chairman. Will there be a full-time appointment or will it be the practice of the past few years? In other words, part-time?"

Quoting the honourable the Premier in reply, Sir, "At the present time, Mr. Chairman, it is a full-time classification. It is a full-time job but it seems that with the system we have it is somewhat ridiculous that a full-time returning officer be appointed at \$17,500 a year, because that is what Magistrate Tricket was getting as a magistrate when in essence the only real work he has to do is on approaching an election."

My reply was, "That would be one year out of four."

The Premier replied, "Admittedly when an election is approaching and after there is a great deal of work to be done in that office, probably a great deal more than the salary justifies. But it would seem that probably the most logical thing to do would be to look for a part-time electoral officer with the understanding that he becomes full-time at the time of the election." That is what the Premier said. Now, he went on and weaseled out by saying, "This is not government policy. It has not even been discussed in any great detail."

Then the honourable gentleman from Bell Island went on about hospitals. What that had to do with the vote I do not know. The next reference, Mr. Chairman, is the matter concerning the people in hospital during an election. What is the score? Four to nothing. I thought that the basketball world series was

over.

Now, Sir, obviously the administration changed their mind. Again I am not going to belabour the point. If honourable gentlemen opposite want to debate it, I shall be happy to. I do think that the appointment of the particular gentleman to the post of chief electoral officer, whose salary is now under discussion, is the most offensive public appointment we have ever had. Not because of the fact that the gentleman has a job. I wish him all the jobs in the world. I really think that if any man ever earned a political appointment, a patronage appointment, the particular gentleman did. I really mean that, I believe it but, Mr. Chairman, to put him in this particular job because, Sir, this is the job of the man who referees the general elections. There has been over the years spread about Newfoundland the story that general elections in this province have not been above board. Somebody opposite said, "Here, here." Well, Sir, I have never heard of any evidence being put forward to support that. I am sure that if there were evidence it would have come forward. I do not know of any cases. I really do not.

Now, Sir, with this particular gentleman in this function I think those of us on this side knowing his record, admiring his devotion to one partisan cause - it has never happened in Canada. It has never happened across Canada. It has never happened in Ottawa. Now we have a partisan official and, Mr. Chairman, it is very serious because it goes right to the heart of the whole system. He is the man who is responsible for supervising the electoral machinery. He is an open - well, he is not now maybe but has been an open, avowed and very unsuccessful partisan. It is not the way the game should be played, Sir, and I think the people of Newfoundland deserve better.

Accordingly I think I should move that the salary be deleted. There is no need at all for a chief electoral officer this year. If

the honourable gentlemen opposite have an election, as I hope they shall, they can get a special warrant and pay the fellow that way, but I would move that the subhead in question, which is 724-01, be reduced by the amount of \$15,003, which I understand is the amount purposed to be paid to the chief electoral officer. This would bring it down, Sir, to \$2,797. Let me reduce it to one dollar or a hundred dollars. That is our token. I think the case for this speaks in support of it. I do not think that I need to say it again but honourable gentlemen opposite will have a few words and perhaps some of us will have a few words. I really think that it is an offensive appointment, not because of the man himself but offensive because of the political partisan history of the man and because of the nature of the position to which he has been appointed. If they want to give Mr. Cole a job, Sir, there are all sorts of jobs that they can give him. Let them give him the Power Commission. Let them give him any number of things but, Sir, let him not be chief electoral officer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Could the honourable Leader of the Opposition repeat the motion?

MR. ROBERTS: I move that 724-01 be reduced by \$17,700 to a token amount of one hundred dollars.

MR. CARTER: In the past few years Newfoundland's political history has been stormy to say the least and there is no doubt that practically everyone who could breath, walk or crawl has shown a tremendous interest in the election and has sided on either one side or the other, for or against the previous administration. So, in that sense I think that you can say that all Newfoundlanders in the past few years have been political. That is to say that there were very few people who were neutral. Perhaps a few people who were too old to understand what was going on or too feeble to care but practically everyone has had a political bias. I say that without meaning it in a pejorative sense. So, in looking for

any appointment, one has to fall back on ability.

Now, I would agree with the Leader of the Opposition that to appoint a person just for political reasons would be political depravity but when you have someone of Mr. Harvey Cole's undoubted ability and fair mindedness and when you consider that since his appointment he has deliberately stayed away from every hint of partisan political involvement -

MR. ROBERTS: He tackled my colleague at a cocktail party.

MR. CARTER: What was it he called him? Was it a "sniveling cur"?

Anyway the honourable gentleman who has been appointed to that post of chief electoral officer is one of the most highly qualified people that could be found in Newfoundland and one of the most fair minded. I would say that the Leader of the Opposition is speaking from a sense of frustration and envy and nothing else that motivates him. To say that we can avoid a political bias is to say you know, "When did you stop beating your wife?" In the case of the Leader of the Opposition, "When did you stop beating your fiancée?" All that I can say is that the Leader of the Opposition spent more time cringing in the last regime. I would suggest that the honourable Leader of the Opposition employ his time more fruitfully than attacking someone of undoubted ability and high minded fairness of Mr. Harvey Cole.

MR. F. POWE: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the amendment moved so ably by my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition. Sir, the first thing we have to look at as far as I am concerned when we talk about such an appointment is the qualifications of the man. The honourable the member for St. John's North just broadly says that Mr. Harvey Cole has great qualifications for this particular job. Sir, he did not give one single example of the qualifications or the experience that Mr. Cole had in order to

enable him to get such a position. He lost the nomination. He ran unsuccessfully for the Tory Party a number of times. He has been an organizer in the Tory Party. Practically anything I know about the man that he has been associated with always had to do with work with the Progressive Conservative Party whether it was research or whether it was campaigning or organization. That is the only qualification that has been brought before this House, Sir. Now, I am not saying that the man has not been experienced in some other area but the only thing that has been brought before this House has been the gentleman's political experience. Even the member for St. John's North did not point out any other experiences that Mr. Harvey Cole had that would qualify him for such a job.

Sir, this job requires a person who is completely nonpartisan and completely objective as far as any political affiliation is concerned. That can hardly be said of Mr. Cole. I myself feel that the job should go to a man such as a magistrate or certainly to a man who has had some similar type of experience in the past. Sir, this is the exact equivalent of appointing - can you imagine what would have happened, Mr. Chairman, if three or four years ago the then Premier of the time had to have appointed Mr. Joe Ashley as chief electoral officer in this province? Can you imagine what kind of reaction we would have had from the other side of the House if that type of thing were done. Or Mr. Frank Wall as Chief electoral officer, good men who have worked for the Liberal Party but, Sir, appointing them as chief electoral officer would have been just a little bit much, too much, just the same as the situation that we have here today with Mr. Harvey Cole.

Sir, I would like to get another thing straight. Is that the only work that Mr. Harvey Cole is doing in this province today? For instance, I was driving my son off to music practice there on Saturday morning and on the way back Lo and

Behold! Who should I see strolling into the Progressive Party Headquarters, none other than Mr. Harvey Cole trying to get into the Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters on a Saturday morning. He could not get in.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: He was reading Joe Ashley.

MR. F. ROWE: He was reading Joe Ashley. Joe Ashley would have been a little bit much too, Sir. I conceded that.

The fact of the matter is that Mr. Cole was trying to get into the Progressive Conservative Headquarters unsuccessfully on Saturday morning, because he would not find the right key.

Now, what I would like to know is does Mr. Cole have a key to the Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters and why does he have a key to Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters and what was he doing trying to get into the offices on Saturday morning?

MR. CROSBIE: Before we vote on the question, I want to speak on behalf of Harvey Cole. Mr. Chairman, one of the things that I find most objectionable about the honourable Leader of the Opposition is the uncouth language he uses when he deals with what he calls political hacks. In the twenty-three years before this administration took office there were quite a few people who had political connections appointed to commissions or appointed to office or the civil service or given this, that or the other thing. Yet, I cannot recall the opposition of that day getting up in the House of Assembly and attacking these people and saying that they were political hacks.

If we just look at the Civil Service Commission alone, the Civil Service Commission which is supposed to appoint everyone to the civil service and have some say on promotions and the rest of it. Who composes the Civil Service Commission? Eric Jones who was a Liberal politician and a Minister of Finance. Yet when he was appointed there was no one in the Progressive conservative Party came out in public and attacked the man, that took his

character, embarrassed his family and called the names to Eric Jones that Harvey Cole is being called. Before Mr. Harvey Cole was appointed chief electoral officer, when he was appointed as my special assistant, he was defamed in the press and called a political hack and a political appointment and the rest of it. Not caring at all what effect that might have on him, his family or his children, he was just insulted and harassed. When Jack Robinson, a defeated Liberal candidate in Gander District, was appointed to the civil service commission, there was no outcry from the opposition that he was a political hack and a hanger on and a political worker and a this and a that and the rest of it.

When Ron Fewer was appointed, and he was a Liberal campaign worker in Grand Falls for twenty years, he was not insulted or attacked. As a matter of fact they are still in their jobs. I could go on with other names. Yet when Mr. Harvey Cole was appointed, not our chief electoral officer, but the same kind of thing was said about him a year ago when he was made my special assistant, executive assistant, which is a political appointment in the first place as were political executive assistants in the last administration, and have not got civil service tenure anyway. Now, of course tonight this is all dredged up again so it will be in the press and radio and television so that Mr. Cole's wife and his family and his cousins and his relatives can hear it all again and see it in the press tomorrow that he is a political hack and he is this, that and the other thing. I think that it is disgusting.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Loathsome.

MR. CROSBIE: Yes. Loathsome is the proper word for it. It is loathsome. If the honourable gentleman wants to object and say that he is a political appointment and so on, fine. Say that and make the point. To come on with all this political hack and these personal comments about Mr. Cole, I think it is a pretty poor show.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the only comment that I have made about Mr. Cole in this debate is that he is a political hack.

MR. CROSBIE: It has been a lot more than that, Sir.

MR. ROBERTS: Not from me and not from anybody on this side. A number of us have used the hack and a number of us have pointed his political career which surely is relevant to the man who has been made the province's chief electoral officer. I have used that term about Mr. Cole outside the House. If it is an actionable term, Mr. Cole is at liberty to have his solicitors wait upon mine. It is a harsh term. It is a very harsh term but I think that it is exceedingly offensive to have such a man appointed to this position. The Minister of Finance was probably out having a cigarette or something when I said earlier that - he can hold me down and he can quote this back at me later in years to come, whichever he wishes or either or both - that the administration of which I was part of of course made patronage appointments just as the present administration does. That does not surprise me and it does not shock me and it does not offend me. What does surprise me and I was surprised when I heard that the gentleman in question has been appointed to this position. It was not a week after October 30 that the appointment was announced. It was not a week. I heard it on the radio. I was not in St. John's. I was in the province but not in St. John's. He was appointed fresh off the campaign trail.

My friend now says that he saw him the other day trying to get into Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters which is down at that nice old home there, a little brick building on the back of the South West Corner of the intersection of Empire Avenue and Kingsbridge Road. I do not know who owns it but there is a nice little brick office back there. Any man with that record in this position would be offensive.

He mentioned Mr. Fewer, the honourable gentleman opposite. It

would have been equally offensive in my eyes to appoint Mr. Fewer to this position.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. I should think so. If the administration choose to replace the Civil Service Commission as they may - I do not know what they are going to do with these men - that is their choice. That is their responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, it is a very serious principle here. I tried as far as I could to refrain from using the gentleman's name because if his family are upset, that is unfortunate. I am not very happy about that but I may add that a number of other families or would be families are not altogether pleased by some of the things that have been said in this House from time to time. Mr. Chairman, the principle is a very serious one, the principle of this amendment. The office of chief electoral officer in this province has been nonpartisan up until now. With the appointment of this gentleman, it has become partisan. I think that is wrong. Well, the Minister of Finance disagrees with me. That is fine. We do not agree on very much. Mr. Nehemiah Short was not political, partisan. Not to my knowledge. Mr. George Tricket. Who else has been chief electoral officer? Mr. Nehemiah Short, Magistrate Strong, Magistrate Tricket, Magistrate Olford, who left the office, became a political candidate for the Liberal Party, was elected, resigned his seat in interesting circumstances and indeed never took his seat in the House and then was reappointed to the bench by the present administration. So, I can only assume that they have checked and found Mr. Olford's character not wanting and found him to be a well qualified magistrate.

The Minister of Justice, on the morning Jerry Horan's mother was buried, made an attack on him.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Not so.

MR. ROBERTS: It is so. On the morning Mrs. Horan was buried it was on the radios. My colleague was the acting Minister of

Justice at that point, Mr. Mahoney, having met an unfortunate accident at the polls. Fortunate it may be in the eyes of honourable gentlemen opposite. Unfortunate in my eyes.

This is an offensive appointment, Mr. Chairman. It is an offensive appointment and that is why we move the amendment. I do not expect that it will carry. The government side will vote us down. So there the majority will rule. I am shocked even more by what my friend from St. Barbe North says that he saw Mr. Cole attempting to enter - I am sure that he was not trying to break in. I would not accuse him of any crime of any sort. He was trying to enter the Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters last Saturday. So much for his careful air of nonpartisanship. I should think Mr. Cole if he had any honour and integrity in political matters would resign and come to the Premier and say, "Premier I would like a job please."

DR. FARRELL: I was just wondering did you say that Mr. Cole was in Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters last Saturday?

MR. ROBERTS: No, I did not say that. What I said was that my colleague from St. Barbe North has said that he observed Mr. Cole attempting to get into Progressive Conservative Party Headquarters last Saturday.

DR. FARRELL: I believe that Mr. Cole was in Corner Brook last Saturday. I am pretty certain - I stand to be corrected but I am pretty certain that Mr. Cole was in Corner Brook last Saturday. He left on an eight o'clock flight from here.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, let us have a little order here.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, I saw, unless I saw his twin brother, Mr. Harvey Cole trying to get into party headquarters this past Saturday morning. He has not proved that he was in Corner Brook.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, do I have the floor?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. There is no point of order here. Honourable members are in dispute as to facts which cannot be resolved by a

ruling from the Chair. So, it is fruitless to ask the Chair for a ruling on this matter.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I have the floor I take it. If Mr. Cole was in Corner Brook, then so he was in Corner Brook. My colleague said that he saw a man and the Premier says that he should have said he looked like him.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, I do not mind repeating it. If I missaw somebody, I have no hesitation whatsoever in apologizing and retracting the statement but until such time as it can be proven that Mr. Harvey Cole was in Corner Brook Saturday morning, I am certainly not going to retract the statement. My only fear is that it was not Saturday morning past. It might have been the Saturday morning before.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Was it a Saturday morning?

MR. F. ROWE: It was a Saturday morning

Mr. Rowe (F.B.):

Mr. Chairman, when I was driving my son back from music practice. Now if there is going to be a difference between which Saturday morning it is, I will correct that.

MR. MOORES: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the Premier would be well advised to confine his remarks to the subhead under discussion as Your Honour keeps telling us. I know the Premier spends so little time in the chamber that he is not familiar with even that rule.

MR. MOORES: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Well, maybe after reading the "Herald" the Premier would have a bleeding ulcer, I do not know. Is this an off day for the Premier?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: What I want to know, Mr. Chairman, is, is this an off day for the Premier or an on day?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! Honourable gentlemen have carried on a jocular discussion now for the past five minutes or so and the Chair has refrained from intervention and honourable members, as is the custom that has grown up in the House, may on occasion divert into irrelevancy, however I think it is time that we dealt specifically with Head 724(01).

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and it being midnight I shall draw my remarks to a close unless the Premier is going to say a word or two and that would be welcome. Maybe he will draw me out. They are bringing in the members just in case the vote we sneak it through, the four of us outvote them on this motion. When I put it, it will meet a sad fate but so will Mr. Cole in due course. Anyway let us hear from the Premier and then we will see.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member for Bell Island has risen on this point.

MR. MOORES: I wish he would keep on going.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I will give the Premier the floor.

MR. NEARY: It is very seldom we hear him, Sir, so I will let him have the floor.

MR. MOORES: That is all right and it is even more seldom, Mr. Chairman, that the honourable member for Bell Island listens.

The fact is regarding Mr. Harvey Cole the attitude taken by the opposition as far as the political appointment I suppose could be qualified in the sense that Mr. Harvey Cole was identified with the Progressive Conservative Party for a great many years. Any allegation to the effect that Mr. Harvey Cole is anything but an honourable man, is anything but a man with ability in the area in which he is now serving, is totally an injustice and totally irresponsible by anyone who says it. We have heard the name bandied around and once again we are in the area of personalities which the opposition so gladly throws around so easily and the member for St. Barbe North, who is not normally guilty of this, tonight stood up and said that he saw Mr. Harvey Cole going into the Progressive Conservative Headquarters on Saturday or trying to get in, whichever it was.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): (Inaudible).

MR. MOORES: Now one moment. Mr. Cole flew to Corner Brook on Friday morning, nine o'clock, with the St. John's Caps, was in there for the hockey series for that weekend and came back on Monday. Now, Mr. Chairman, it is not the fact that what Saturday it was there was an identifiable time, place and man, and if that is typical of the attitude of the people in this House, where you can casually take a character of a decent individual and slander him here where he has no defence, that is unforgivable.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): I was not.

MR. MOORES: Of course, you were. You were telling a lie about a man in this House.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, the Premier can rant and roar if he wants but he used a word which Your Honour has told us time and time is unparliamentary. May I ask that he

be directed to withdraw it.

MR. MOORES: Speaking on that point of order, Mr. Chairman, I have said that Mr. Cole was in Corner Brook on Saturday and the honourable member for St. Barbe North said he was not, he said he saw him downtown on Saturday. If he retracts the fact, that he did not see him, I will retract the statement that I called -

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, to a point of order, we have had this out in the committee a hundred times and I have been as guilty as anybody. Your Honour has ruled consistently that that word cannot be used. No mention of retraction, so would Your Honour please direct the Premier to withdraw the word.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, on that same point of order, that statement the honourable member for St. Barbe North made was incorrect and untrue. I will withdraw the lie word. One second, on the point of order -

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, are we still on the point of order?

MR. MOORES: I hope.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As far as the point of order raised by the honourable Leader of the Opposition is concerned, it is the feeling of the Chair that the honourable Premier has retracted the allegation that the honourable member for St. Barbe North had told a lie and the honourable the Premier has successfully, within the rules of the House, rephrased his statement.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Chairman, I am not speaking on the point of order as that is disposed of. I just wish to say that -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, as I said I am not speaking on that as that is over with. Actually I just telephoned Mr. Cole in order to check on certain allegations and as the Premier just indicated Mr. Cole left St. John's Friday for Corner Brook and came back on Monday. I went further and I said, "Have you ever since your appointment as chief electoral officer been in or tried to get in or had access to or tried to get into Progressive Conservative Headquarters?" and

he said, "Absolutely not."

MR. MARSHALL: Now, Mr. Chairman, I have never in my life seen the like to equal this. We heard in this committee an unequivocal statement made by a member of the opposition to the effect that the chief electoral officer was seen going in to our political headquarters, the Progressive Conservative Headquarters, and this followed a great abomination, a great tirade from the opposition calling the man a political party hack, referring to his political allegiances that he had before, his success or lack of success with respect to it. We heard statements to the effect that this was the most offensive appointment and it is certainly quite obvious to me that whatever anyone may think of what is an offensive appointment, that I know that he is not the most offensive public person in Newfoundland because I know where they sit. The very idea in this House of Assembly to get up and make an unequivocal statement to the effect that an individual, a public official such as Mr. Cole was carrying out his duties, was acting in a manner that could be construed to be improper, when the honourable member for St. Barbe North was obviously wrong, as he was out of St. John's at the time.

Now I am wondering whether the honourable member for St. Barbe North is going to be prepared to get up on his feet and apologize to this House and also apologize to Mr. Cole for the innuendo that he placed upon him. This is utterly disgraceful. It is indicative of the type of tactics that we have on the other side, the gashouse type of tactics of innuendo and slander and what have you against any individual whoever he may be. Now we hear the Leader of the Opposition over there saying this person is a hack and this person is the other thing. I think he could have a little bit more respect for the people concerned than to act the way he did and to stand up and support the type of thing that came out, and this is all it was, that came out of the honourable member

for St. Barbe North, is absolutely disgusting, untenable and ought not to be permitted in this House. Apologize.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): I have no intention whatsoever of apologizing.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Do I have the right to be heard in silence, Mr. Chairman? Do I, Mr. Chairman? While I was driving, and I repeat it again and I do not mind repeating it, while I was driving my son back from music practice one Saturday morning, now I will -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I already indicated if a time difference makes a difference as to whether or not a certain gentleman was trying to get into the Progressive Conservative Headquarters, so be it!

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): It was not before. Mr. Chairman, I thought it was last Saturday but it might have been the Saturday before but I saw Mr. Harvey Cole, as far as my eyes told me, and I will not retract it for that reason, that Mr. Harvey Cole got out of his car close to that building and attempted to get into Progressive Conservative Headquarters. He tried the door several times and he was unsuccessful in getting in. Unfortunately, Sir, there were witnesses there but I be darned if I can, I do not know them. I saw that and I will not retract the statement. The only thing that I am prepared to retract is that possibly it was not this Saturday, but it was this Saturday or the Saturday before, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Look I am talking about a Saturday morning. I know what my routine is on Saturday mornings, as simple as that, so I am not prepared to retract it.

MR. MARSHALL: Would the honourable member make that same statement outside the House?

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Yes, I will make that statement outside the House, Mr. Chairman.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Chairman, now that we have disposed of that let us talk a little more about entry by the honourable gentleman. I wonder if the Premier could tell us please or the Minister without Portfolio or anybody else what Mr. Cole was doing breaking into the room at Colonial Building in which Mr. Smallwood had some papers. He at that time was a member of the staff of the Minister of Finance. I believe the Premier -

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would permit me, the head under discussion is Head 724(01) - electoral office, salaries of that office. The matter which the honourable Leader of the Opposition is discussing is irrelevant.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I assume that a salary goes to an individual and the individual's fitness for an office is surely a relevant factor. If the Premier should not want to answer it, that is fine, I am happy. All I want to know is what he was doing breaking into Joey Smallwood's office.

MR. MOORES: I will answer it, Mr. Chairman, in the fact that the Colonial Building I always thought was the property of the people of Newfoundland. I did not think it was the property of Mr. Smallwood. At that time Mr. Cole was an assistant with the Minister of Finance and at that time he was given instructions to look up certain files which happened to be in an office which happened to be government property. At that time, maybe the Leader of the Opposition would understand this better, he was interrupted by a lady with a handbag.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Cole was interrupted by a lady with a handbag.

MR. MOORES: That is right. What I was saying, Mr. Chairman, -

MR. ROBERTS: In the campaign we have seen against Joey Smallwood, thank heavens at least his daughter would come to his defense.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect, the member for Bell Island, after four months absence, was the only one who turned up at the airport to meet the past leader of the party. Where were the others? Half and half, neither one thing nor the other. Are

they defending Mr. Smallwood or are they not? They take whichever is convenient, How convenient is it, Mr. Chairman?

I know we are talking about the electoral officer here and we bring in what happened when he was an assistant with the Minister of Finance which has nothing to do with this vote and I would say, Sir, that we should be discussing the vote under the electoral office and not the personality nor the innuendo that goes with the debate as it regressed and digress as it has right now.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, there has been no attempt by anybody on this side to speak of the gentleman's personality. There has been a considerable attempt and a justified one to speak of his complete lack of fitness for the office of chief electoral officer. The reason my colleague was at the airport by the way was that he was the only one who knew Mr. Smallwood was coming.

MR. MOORES: Oh! Oh! Everyone knew it.

MR. ROBERTS: I did not know. I plead guilty to Mr. Smallwood not having told me he was coming back to Newfoundland and more than that he did not call me for a nice chummy little chat on the "Open Line" as we had already had our chummy little chat by then. We did. We had a great chummy little chat over at Roaches Line. We chatted about the Premier and other things as well.

Mr. Chairman, the debate has tended to vary somewhat but after all it is 12:12 A.M., I mean one gets a little groggy. The Minister without Portfolio was close to losing control of himself. The point remains that the gentleman concerned is not fit for this office, in our opinion. It has nothing to do with his personality and has everything to do with his ability and with his record, with his accomplishments, and that is that. It is that simple. If my friend from St. Barbe North says he saw a man looking like him or saw the man going into the office and if the gentleman says no then we have a difference of opinion

as to the facts and we will see what comes of that.

MR. MARSHALL: How despicable.

MR. ROBERTS: How despicable, listen to it. Speaking of despicability, there sits despicability personified.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oops!

MR. ROBERTS: Oops! Not oops.

MR. MOORES: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am only asking for a ruling of the Chair. Is it proper for a member of this House to look at somebody else and say, "There sits despicability personified?"

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is certainly not a complimentary term but whether it is an unparliamentary phrase is debatable. It does not appear as one of those phrases which are proscribed by Beauchesne and undoubtedly argument could be waved either way. It is certainly a derogatory term and perhaps, honourable gentlemen, if in future their terms could be more flattering the need for the point may not arise.

MR. ROBERTS: I thank Your Honour. I shall try harder to be flattering to the gentleman from St. John's East. It is difficult, Sir, to be flattering to him. My colleague says it is impossible, but we shall try.

In any event, do we want to go on on this? We are still on the electoral office and we still have some goodies ahead of us yet, Have we not? Are we going to do the Premier's estimates next?

MR. MOORES: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: In any event I have said at least eight times everything I had to say, if nobody else wants to say anything. Oops!

MR. NEARY: Take it easy now. Mr. Chairman, I was doing quite well with the hockey game there until my old buddy over there, the Minister of Finance came strolling into the House to enter into this debate. Sir, he said something that I could not take and I have a pretty strong stomach, Sir. Like most Newfoundlanders

I have a strong stomach but I could not take what the honourable Minister of Finance said, the comparison that he used when he said, "Think of Mr. Cole's family." Well, Sir, I say to the Minister of Provincial Affairs, think of my family when he made unsubstantiated charges in this House a year ago.

MR. HICKEY: I thought of the honourable gentleman's family. I had a duty to this House and I did that duty and I will await the decision of the commissioner who is enquiring. I say to the honourable gentleman from Bell Island, he should have thought of my family some years ago, some five years, when he attacked me and attempted to destroy me, five years in succession while I sat on that side of the House. Think of everyone's family and let this debate keep a little higher than what it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable members persist in engaging in irrelevant debate and then demanding the Chair to adjudicate upon their irrelevancies. However the honourable member for Bell Island could be stretching a point by bringing the Minister of Provincial Affairs into the discussion on 724(01). So had the honourable Minister of Provincial Affairs not arisen, it is quite possible that the Chair would have interrupted the member for Bell Island, as it is loathe to do. It is quite possible that both honourable members were out of order at the time.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, when the Minister of Finance cannot walk into th's House with a handful of statistics to throw at one, he uses some other weak argument and he complains, Sir, about the term that was used, "party hack." Do any of the members of this honourable House know the meaning of hack, what it means, what it is? I brought the dictionary in, Mr. Chairman, "Webster New World Dictionary, College Edition."

AN HON. MEMBER: I carry it with me all the time.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I touched a nerve again. Let me give the honourable Minister of Finance three explanations given in

this dictionary for hack. I always thought, Sir, that a hack was a second class journalist, a second class writer. Well here is what it says here and I do not know if I can see this with the lighting in this House. "Hack, to chop or cut crudely, roughly or irregularly as with a hatchet; whack at, hack the crate to pieces, to break up with a hoe, a mattock etc., to make rough or irregular cuts, to give harsh, dry coughs," (Now I do not know if Mr. Cole gives harsh, dry coughs or not) "a tool for cutting or hacking, a hoe, a mattock; a harsh, dry cough." Here is another explanation as there are three. "Hack, board on which a falcon's meat was put, a grating or rack for drying cheese or fish," (I do not know if you can hang fish on Mr. Cole or not to dry, Sir,) "food for eattle," (Is Mr. Cole good food for cattle?) "a pile or row of unburnt bricks set out to dry, to place on a hack for drying." Here is the one, Sir, that I thought it meant. I thought it meant a second rate journalist and I was right. Here is another explanation of a hack, "A horse for hire, a horse for all sorts of work, a saddle-horse," (Maybe we can put a saddle on Mr. Cole so he can earn his \$15,000 a year) "often dull writing, literary drudge," (Now there is what it really means) "a carriage or coach for hire, a taxicab," (Well, Sir, maybe we can get one of these things the Chinese use, the rickshaws, and get him to drag it around town and help the poor old taxi drivers out.) "a hackman, to employ as a hack, to hire out a horse etc., to wear out or to make stale by constant use, to ride a horse, especially a hired horse for pleasure -"

MR. HICKEY: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman, if the honourable gentleman wish to improve his English, can he not do it elsewhere? Can we not get on with the vote?

MR. NEARY: I am reading this out, Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of the Minister of Finance who took such great offense to that word. He did not even know what it meant, Sir. It sounded dirty so the Minister of Finance decided that he would turn the argument against

my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition, by accusing him of character assassination of which the old boy over there himself is the master, is the artist in this House. Well, Sir, they can say what they like over there. They can put up all the smoke screens they want but this appointment of Mr. Cole as chief electoral officer in this province was one of the most brazen political appointments that was ever made in this province and they cannot deny that, Mr. Chairman. They cannot deny it. They have not used one argument that would counter anything that has been said from this side of the House. There has been no personal attacks on Mr. Cole, no personal attacks from this side. I have not heard them. But it was a brazen political appointment, Sir.

It is a generally known fact that Mr. Cole is a defeated Tory candidate.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was never known before?

MR. NEARY: What was never known before?

AN HON. MEMBER: To have a political appointment.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, not as chief electoral officer. It has been known to make political appointments to the Civil Service Commission, to the Power Commission, to the Premier's office -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, never before to my knowledge in the history of this province, in the history of this island, has a defeated political candidate been appointed chief electoral officer - the first time.

It is a precedent and it is a very dangerous precedent, Sir, as the lawyers will tell you, and it should not have happened and it is wrong. That is what it is all about. That is what this debate is all about, Sir. Nothing personal against Mr. Cole, no it is not.

Nothing personal, not as far as I am concerned, Sir. Then the Minister of Finance waltzes into the House and says, "What about Mr. Cole's family?" Well, I would say, what about everybody's family?

in this House whose character has been assassinated.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, it is getting a bit late for comic relief from the Wabana Warbler.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, now who is making the personal attack?

MR. CROSBIE: The master of the smear is long gone.

Mr. Chairman, I think that it should be pointed out, before we vote on this resolution, for the record, that tonight a member of this House smeared an innocent person outside of the House and when it was brought to his attention that he had been mistaken, the member for St. Barbe North said that last Saturday morning he saw Mr. Harvey Cole attempting to enter Progressive Conservative Headquarters on Circular Road. When it was brought to his attention that Mr. Harvey Cole was not in St. John's last weekend, the member for St. Barbe North tried to slinge and hedge and said that perhaps it was some other Saturday and that he had not said last Saturday and it might have been the Saturday before, instead of being frank enough and honest enough and decent enough to say that he must have made a mistake.

Then when told by the Minister of Education that he had been speaking to Mr. Cole, who confirmed that he was in Corner Brook and who confirmed and said that he had not been in Progressive Conservative Headquarters or near it since he was made chief electoral officer, the member for St. Barbe North still persists in this slander or libel on Mr. Harvey Cole, this defamation of Mr. Harvey Cole and after he has done all that the Leader of the Opposition stands up and talks about their smear tactics. If that is not a smear tactic, if that is not despicable, if that is not cowardly, if that does not exhibit a complete lack of decency, then I for one just do not know what those appellations are because everyone of them fits this situation and the member for St. Barbe North, still unrepentant, intends to leave that smear on Mr. Cole despite what has been shown to this House tonight.

Well I for one am going to be delighted, thrilled, pleased

that I can vote against this attempt to lower Mr. Harvey Cole's salary. One other point, this talk by the honourable gentleman opposite that there had never been a political appointment as chief electoral officer in this province before - so what? Whether the appointment were political or non-political, what difference does it make? The chief electoral officer of this province never had tenure for good behaviour. He was appointed at pleasure and every chief electoral officer since 1949 was appointed at pleasure and knew that the moment he displeased the government he could be dismissed. He is not an officer of the House. He is always at the mercy of the government and no matter what kind of job they did or how fair they tried to be that was always the situation.

So if honourable gentlemen are really concerned about chief electoral officers and how important it is that they should be independent, they should be up suggesting that Mr. Cole be appointed during good behaviour rather than at pleasure because then whether the occupant is Mr. Harvey Cole or anyone else he has nothing to fear from the government of the day and he can be truly independent. So all of this talk about magistrate this and magistrate that was chief electoral officer and now things are different is entirely irrelevant. I would venture to say Mr. Harvey Cole, Mr. Chairman, will do an excellent job in that post. He would be completely fair and impartial, and that is his job to do that.

Coming to the Colonial Building also, when the Leader of the Opposition saw the member for St. Barbe North was in a bad way, he had made a bad mistake, he had made a vicious mistake, that he he was unrepentant and would not withdraw, he tried to drag in a red herring and talked about Mr. Cole going down to the Colonial Building. As the Premier has said, Mr. Cole went down to the Colonial Building after I had been contacted for two or three days and told that there were several filing cabinets out in the hall of the Colonial Building, not in the office down there but out in

the hall of the Colonial Building and they would like somebody to come down and check through them and see what was in them. I spoke to the Premier and we decided to ask Mr. Cole to go down. Mr. Cole did not go down and break into any office in the Colonial Building. The filing cabinets were out in the hallway in the Colonial Building and whatever he did do he was requested to do by myself with the Premier's concurrence so the responsibility is not his at all.

Now if the member for St. Barbe North is the man I think he is, he should stand up here tonight and say it is quite possible that he was mistaken.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I made a statement -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE (F.B.): Now, Mr. Chairman, if I am allowed to speak in response I will speak but if I am going to be harangued from the other side I will not concede to anything that was demanded by the honourable Minister of Finance or anybody else. I simply ask for that courtesy.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I will simply repeat what I said before and I will concede the fact that I obviously made a mistake as to what Saturday morning this was. I mean if the man were on a flight and my honourable colleague from Labrador North just informed me that Mr. Cole was on that flight going to Corner Brook on this Saturday morning. Now it is obvious that I did not see Mr. Cole at between 11:30 A.M. and 12:00 noon on this Saturday morning and I will retract that part of the statement without any hesitation whatsoever. But, Sir, I was sincere and I say it in all honesty that I saw Mr. Harvey Cole on a recent Saturday morning get out of his car and try the door of the Progressive Conservative Headquarters and I say that because I saw it, Sir, and unless I was hallucinating at the time it has to be true. I do not retract that part of the statement and I will concede the fact that obviously it was not this Saturday morning that I saw Mr. Cole trying to get into the Progressive Conservative Headquarters

but it was a fine Saturday morning, Sir, between 11:30 A.M. and 12:00 noon when I saw Mr. Cole, unless he has a twin brother, trying to get into the Progressive Conservative Headquarters. I do not retract that part of the statement, Sir, unless my eyes were deceiving me, I know it to be true. It is as simple as that.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, I suppose we should not -

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, when it boils down to that, Sir, it is simply my word against Mr. Harvey Cole's word. It is as simple as that.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Now, Sir, this whole distasteful, disgusting exhibition here tonight in this House is evidence of what we have been talking about all along. In any event we have gone through a couple of departments and we will go through fifteen or sixteen more departments. I will say that no other man's name, who is in the public service, will be brought up in this

MR. WM. ROWE: House again. No man's name has been brought in up to this point.

All that has gone on here tonight simply points up what we have been saying and what I am sure a number of people on the other side of this House believe as firmly as we do. Namely that the office of the chief electoral officer should be, whether it has been in the past or will be in the future, it should be something which is considered to be a little more sacrosanct perhaps than any other office in the province.

The point that the honourable Minister of Finance has brought up is an excellent point. The man is in a quasi-judicial capacity and for the same reason that judges have security of tenure, this office should have security of tenure, just as the magistrates should have security of tenure. I believe that the Minister of Justice is going to do something in that regard. Security of tenure in these judicial or quasi-judicial offices - that is an excellent point.

But the other point remains, equally strongly and equally firmly. A man who has a past history and record of highly involved political activity should not be put in that office, it is as simple as that. There is no way that you can dispute that fact or that statement, Mr. Chairman. He should not be because, as we were saying earlier in this House, if Mr. Cole from now until doomsday were the soul of impartiality and unbiased and objective consideration wherever it came to making some decision with general elections on the go, very few people in this province will believe that he is unbiased or objective or impartial.

How can they? It is impossible, just as any man who is a judge in his own case will be accused of being biased and partial and unobjective, even if he is not those things. The appearances have the effect of undermining the whole system and that is what I dispute, that is what my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition, and the other speakers tonight dispute - and that should not happen.

MR. WM. ROWE: Perhaps the time has come, as the Minister of Finance has said, to make it a position with security of tenure, let a man who has had no involvement in politics for at least a considerable amount of time take that job.

Just as the Auditor General for example was appointed by this House -

MR. ROBERTS: The Auditor General is appointed by the governor, removed by the House.

MR. WM. ROWE: In other words they have security of tenure to the extent that they can only be removed by the House.

These are the people who should be above politics. It is as simple as that. If they are not above politics no amount of judicious decision making on their part can ever remove that stain or that smear from them and this is all that has caused this uproar here tonight. That is all I have to say on that particular aspect of it.

As far as the comments made by the member for St. Barbe North were concerned, he has made a statement which I believe he was genuine and sincere in making. There was a mistake made perhaps with regard to time involved and members on the other side were very free in taking advantage of that mistake in his statement. But whatever he said here tonight did not merit in my estimation the kind of appellation put on by the Minister of Finance or others. All of which terms I will draw to Your Honour's attention were unparliamentary, although nobody raised any objection to them. If you go through Beauchesne you will see that these terms are not allowed to be applied to another member in this House of Assembly.

They are not words like cowardly, words like someone is lacking in decency, all these words are unparliamentary. The honourable Minister of Finance has applied them to the member for St. Barbe North. I do not think he deserves them. He made a statement, Sir, he made a statement which he believes to be true.

MR. WM. ROWE: He would never have made the statement if the gentleman we were talking about was not so highly involved in politics before. He is merely voicing a concern which we all feel and everybody feels when a man like Mr. Cole, who is an acquaintance of mine, we have had our political differences, I like his company. I do not like to see him getting into this kind of a job just like I would not like to see him getting in any other job where he has to exercise a quasi-judicial decision-making capacity.

I just do not want to see it in this province. It leads to acrimony. It leads to people thinking politics is corrupt. It leads to people thinking that all politicians and all people involved with politics are a bunch of crooks and no-goods. I would like to see us in this province strive a little bit to get away from that, and this kind of an appointment does nothing to remove that kind of thing, Mr. Chairman, from politics in this province.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, one further question. My colleague has put the matter awfully well but a question for the Justice Minister, could he indicate to the committee, please, the terms under which the present occupant of the office has been appointed?

MR. HICKMAN: He was just appointed to the position of Chief Electoral Officer, that is all.

MR. ROBERTS: At pleasure.

MR. HICKMAN: Right, with effect from a current date. Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion that 724-01 be reduced from \$17,800 to \$100, not carried.

MR. ROBERTS: 724-02-04 Question on that one - we passed an act, there is to be appointed an electoral boundaries commission, what is the \$20,000 for?

MR. HICKMAN: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Well would the minister favour us with some of his thinking on what went into the estimate. It would have been more normal, I do not know what expense this thing is going to go to, I suppose there is some but an estimate is an estimate.

MR. HICKMAN: We have had no experience with this, No.(1): The Act provides for the appointment of a chairman and three other members of the commission of the electoral boundaries commission and at the same time the commission have the right and obligation to appoint whatever secretarial staff that they will require.

Now there is no way that we can estimate with any degree of accuracy what that cost is going to be. No.(1): It will depend on the person whom Mr. Speaker decides to appoint. For instance, if he should appoint a public servant, obviously unless someone should decide to pay him an honorarium there is not likely to be any payment there. But I am quite certain that if the electoral boundaries commission follows the same practice that has been followed here with the federal, there will be a secretary. The secretary of the present sub-commission here is the retired Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mr. Robert Kent, and I think they have one stenographer.

MR. WM. ROWE: He would be an admirable secretary, by the way, for this group.

MR. HICKMAN: Well that is up to whoever the chairman will be.

MR. ROBERTS: The chairman is a chief justice or a judge.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes but that will be up to the chairman to decide and his commission and also there will be some travelling. I have serious doubts if \$20,000 is enough but -

MR. ROBERTS: Any idea when they will be appointed? The Speaker is away but he is due back and the act says that always when the Speaker is not here the person acting as Speaker functions in his place.

MR. HICKMAN: The act, as honourable members will recall, provides that the chief justice shall, within thirty days, upon receiving of a letter of request from me. That letter has been sent within the past - when the act was assented to the week before last.

MR. HICKMAN: So the Chief Justice has another three weeks and by that time Mr. Speaker will be back. I would assume that the Speaker will not arrive at a decision as to his appointees until he is made aware of the chairman.

MR. ROBERTS: Well he will be doing consultation with the chairman.

MR. HICKMAN: Right.

MR. ROBERTS: It would be well advised.

On motion 725-01 to 725-02-02, carried.

On motion Department of Justice carried:

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:

MR. DOODY: I was just going to point out that this is a relatively small amount, it only takes up a page in this marvellous book. I have nothing very exciting or interesting like electoral officers or what not in here.

Page 57 - there is a vote of \$27 million; \$25 million of that is the oil refinery project. I will let the honourable members carry on.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, this is a department which does not take up a lot of space in the printed estimates - a page and a half. But there are in it a number of fairly important and interesting items, some of which I guess will be dealt with under the various subheads but I think there are one or two general remarks that I would like to make; maybe some of my colleagues would wish to say a few words as well.

As a very minor point but a starting point, I notice provision has been made for an executive assistant to the minister but I believe up until now at least the minister has somehow struggled by without an executive assistant. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, the gentleman from Harbour Grace would be eleven, twelve - Mr. Chairman, there is not a quorum in the House.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I mean, if a quorum were called there would not be a quorum in the House.

MR. ROBERTS: The rule says you can call a quorum and go out, Mr. Chairman, we have been through that one hundred times. You can go out, including the gentleman who calls the quorum - two, four, six, eight, ten - that is enough now, a little bit of an audience.

I was saying, the minister I believe has not appointed an executive assistant up until now.

MR. DOODY: Yes I had the same executive assistant as I had previously.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh Mr. Rockwell, okay then, that is good. We know that now.

The things which most interest me, Mr. Chairman, at this stage are the fishing vessel - once again now - fishing vessel construction programme, I assume that is the trawler programme.

MR. DOODY: No.

MR. ROBERTS: Okay then, the minister may perhaps dilate somewhat upon that. I always understood, Mr. Chairman, that the minister was responsible for the trawler programme, by which I mean the \$40 million worth of trawlers we heard about in The Throne Speech. We heard nothing about it since until the other day when the Premier was in Harbour Grace.

MR. DOODY: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Well the minister is blessed. But I mean there is a \$1 million subsidy programme on fishing vessel construction -

MR. DOODY: Marystown.

MR. ROBERTS: Well that is funny because the Marystown Shipyard is down below - operating losses.

MR. DOODY: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Okay then, where is the trawler programme? We have been looking for months to find it. Is that in here? Where is it?

MR. DOODY: We do not have one.

MR. ROBERTS: You do not have one.

MR. DOODY: We do not have one. We do not have a vote for one.

MR. ROBERTS: You do not have a vote for one. Well the minister - is the minister responsible for that programme, is he?

MR. DOODY: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Well he is one of the able fellows, he should have something like that. Maybe he could tell us a little about it because there has been this mass confusion in the industry, but there is even more confusion among the public and I confess I am part of the confusion.

The only other thing, you know most of the things in here, Mr. Chairman, we have gone through a number of times. Perhaps we could say a few words about the Offshore Petroleum Industrial Advisory Council which has come in here. I would be interested to know some details of the assessment and research.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation is fairly straightforward. We have a bill before the House now which I assume will be called in due course and will be debated but the minister may be able to tell us a little about that or he may prefer to wait until the bill comes. It is really all the same.

He will have a word or two I hope about the subsidy programme - is this for the new? I saw the minister in the newspaper, I saw a note the minister had signed for five more trawlers.

MR. DOODY: Five Atlantic Fish that were announced here.

MR. ROBERTS: The other week.

MR. DOODY: The other week.

MR. ROBERTS: So he may tell us how much and all that sort of thing.

MR. DOODY: Yes I will give you the full details on it.

MR. ROBERTS: Provincial Building Limited - that is the end payment. There is no payment this year under that. The Newfoundland Marine Works, we are being asked to put \$200,000 there, I do not understand that particularly because there are no operating losses on the Marystown Shipyard.

MR. DOODY: That is that derelict that sunk down there, "The Eurgeo," which had to be towed out to sea. It cost the province some \$400,000. We recovered \$200,000 in insurance.

MR. ROBERTS: There was no appropriation-in-aid.

MR. DOODY: No.

MR. ROBERTS: Well who are Newfoundland Marine Works?

MR. DOODY: That was the company that ran Marystown at that time.

MR. ROBERTS: Was that the one in which all these?

MR. DOODY: That was Vickers and these people.

MR. ROBERTS: Well Vickers had part but then all these fish companies had part. Is that that one?

MR. DOODY: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: It should be Newfoundland Marine Works Limited.

MR. DOODY: Yes, well that is it. I am sorry about that.

MR. ROBERTS: Well it is not much to be sorry about.

MR. DOODY: I did not realize that they had left that out. That is the company.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes it is a company. Okay, that we did not know.

MR. DOODY: I can give you some detail on that.

MR. ROBERTS: All right, let us hear from the minister.

MR. DOODY: Maybe I should run through these various subheads and give you the notes that I have here.

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister has some data over there and I spy with my little eye one or two of his officials around about, maybe he could -

MR. DOODY: Are they here with me?

MR. ROBERTS: Well I see two of them gracing the Speaker's Gallery. The minister inherited some of the better officials in the entire administration. That is saying a great deal.

MR. DOODY: Not very many but the quality is the thing.

MR. ROBERTS: No but quality made up for quantity. He may say a word or two perhaps on how he is coming on on his staffing

MR. ROBERTS: and so forth. Well I am about to, at least at this juncture, to keep quiet for a bit. I am prepared to say, this may be the kiss of death for him, the minister is probably the most able minister over there, barring none.

MR. DOODY: Yes that might be the kiss of death.

MR. ROBERTS: It might be the kiss of death. Well the Premier is gone again, I mean, so what? Well I will tell you what, I will make you chief electoral officer, non-partisan as you are.

MR. DOODY: That is better, the last time he offered me a job it was at Newfoundland Farm Products.

AN HON. MEMBER: That was on a merit test.

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable minister prefer that we all had our little say and then he could -

MR. DOODY: Maybe if I go through the notes that I have here you may not have to.

MR. NEARY: I want to raise probably, Mr. Chairman, the most important project that will be raised under this heading, Industrial Development, Sir, and that is the development of the Lower Churchill Falls.

Now, Sir, we have asked a number of questions in this session of the House about the development of the Lower Churchill. Is there a quorum in the House, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. NEARY: Well Sir, I am glad we got the Minister of Finance out from under a rock, got him back in the House, because what I am about to say has some connection with the honourable Minister of Finance. I think we should spend a little time on this, Mr. Chairman. We got until daylight. We are going to sit again at 10:00 A.M.

But this is a very, very important matter. It is probably the most important item that will come up under the Industrial Development Vote - the minister's salary. Now, Sir, we have

MR. NEARY: been told in reply to a number of questions that we put to the Minister of Finance and the Premier and the Minister of Industrial Development about the development of the Lower Churchill, we have been told or the inference has been left that everything is going well, no problems. The Minister of Finance, a one man dynamic negotiating committee, had the situation well in hand, no problems, everything going off, a few little details to be ironed out with Ottawa, a few little tax matters to be straightened up and then we will probably see the commencement of the development of the Lower Churchill.

So repeatedly, Sir, we have put questions to the administration to get a progress report on what was happening in the negotiations. The Minister of Finance will get up and in his usual jocular way say, "Oh well everything is going fine, nothing to worry about," put up another smoke screen, put the minds of the opposition at ease, put the minds of the people of Newfoundland at ease, everything going along fine.

All of a sudden today, Mr. Chairman, today we had the bomb drop, when Mr. Mulholland, the President of BRINCO, took a vicious cut at the Minister of Finance who is the spokesman for this administration in the negotiations that are taking place with BRINCO.

Mr. Mulholland implied that things are not going very well. As a matter of fact, he said that if certain, at least I got the impression in his statement that if certain matters were not straightened reasonably soon, it would not be economically feasible to develop the Lower Churchill. The cost of developing the Lower Churchill I think he said is escalating at the rate of six or seven per cent a year. A fantastic amount of money every year, Sir, every year that the development is delayed it is going to cost another six or seven per cent onto the total cost of developing the Lower

MR. NEARY:

Churchill because of the increase in the cost. Mr. Mulholland also said that it was because of the location of the Lower Churchill, it was more difficult to develop the Lower Churchill than it was to develop the Upper Churchill. Make no wonder, Mr. Chairman, we heard Mr. MacDonald yesterday in Ottawa make a statement that he was going to give preference to the uranium enrichment plant to the Province of Quebec or the Province of Ontario because they had surplus power. Newfoundland did not have any surplus power, he said.

But Mr. MacDonald probably did not realize, Sir, that the power which we are presently exporting from the Upper Churchill we have a right, according to an agreement that was made by the previous administration, that we have a right to reclaim certain specific reserves or surpluses. But it only goes to show, Mr. Chairman, both Mr. Mulholland's statement and Mr. MacDonald's statement show beyond any doubt Sir, what I feared for a long time, that this present government has neither shown BRINCO nor shown the Government of Canada, that they intend to do something about the potential on the Lower Churchill.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, they have done what any red blooded Newfoundlander would do, they have boasted about the potential of the Lower Churchill. "We have the raw material," this is what they have been saying. Anybody can say that. There it is, it is there, the potential is there, what they have failed to do, Mr. Chairman, in my opinion they have failed to demonstrate to either the Government of Canada or to BRINCO that their intentions to develop this Lower Churchill were honourable. They have not done anything about it. They have not shown any concrete evidence that the Lower Churchill is going to be developed, and we are likely to lose that uranium enrichment plant, Sir. It will go over to Quebec or Ontario.

MR. NEARY: So tonight, Sir, without belabouring the point because I think the administration has gotten the message from what I said, Mr. Mulholland confirmed today, after he left a Board of Directors meeting of BRINCO, Mr. Mulholland is President of the Board of Directors, after he left the meeting he was interviewed by the press or he made a press release condemning the Minister of Finance. Now why was he condemning the Minister of Finance?

Mr. Chairman, he was condemning the Minister of Finance because the Minister of Finance, who is speaking for the government in this matter, is inflexible on certain concessions that BRINCO want. The Minister of Finance has said they are not negotiable. When did he say it, Mr. Chairman? He said it in his Budget Speech only a week or ten days ago.

Here is what he said, Sir, "While it would not be possible or desirable for me to outline all of the conditions suggested by the Government, since negotiations are still proceeding, there are several conditions," the minister said, "Which I can state the Province regards as non-negotiable. The Province," he said, "Will not grant any exemption from the provincial sales tax nor from the gasoline tax with respect to this Project. The Province will not rebate any income tax to the developer either with respect to federal corporation income tax returned to the province under the Public Utilities Income Tax Transfer Act or with respect to provincial income tax or otherwise. "

This great Minister of Finance that we have in this province, this great negotiator, the diplomat, goes on and says, "The Province also insists that there must be constructed as a part of the capital cost of the development of the Gull Island site a transmission line from Gull Island to Happy Valley-Goose Bay area." Well I have no doubt that BRINCO would do that, Sir. They do not have to be bullied into that.

The point I am making, Mr. Chairman, is this particular

MR. NEARY: honourable gentleman, ever since the administration took office, has been hostile to outside industrialists and businessmen coming into this province. I have been saying that outside of this House, Sir, repeatedly. The minister is not a good negotiator. He should not be acting on behalf of the province on this important matter.

I would like to see the Minister of Industrial Development take over these negotiations. The honourable the Premier went over to England recently to crack a bottle of champagne on the "Frank D. Moores," and wind up the negotiations with ECGD on the second oil refinery. He did not take the Minister of Finance. He left him home. He did not take any lawyers, as a matter of fact. He took all laymen, like the Minister of Industrial Development, non-lawyers. If he took the lawyers over there, Sir, he would be over there yet. We would never have a second oil refinery, no more than we will get this development on the Lower Churchill if we leave it in the hands of the Minister of Finance, Sir, it is too important a matter for this province to have the Minister of Finance try to bully around, best to their knees a big corporation like BRINCO.

I know the government have to get the best deal they can for this province, Sir, but you cannot dig your heels in. You cannot do it, Mr. Chairman. You have to be flexible. Here you have a minister off negotiating with BRINCO and coming out in his Budget Speech and telling the whole world, including BRINCO, "I am inflexible." He is saying, "Sure we will sit down around the table, sure, let us have a few cocktails, but I am inflexible, I am not moving."

That is not negotiating in good faith, Sir. I do not blame the President of BRINCO for coming out and tearing into the Minister of Finance. We need that project, Sir, and we need it badly.

Sir, I say tonight in this House, in all sincerity, that our provincial government should get on the ball right now, get off their rear ends and get on the ball, show some courage, show a little fight and determination, show the people of this province that they are interested in their welfare and that they are going to provide good government, good leadership in this province. That is why I am up here making this emotional appeal tonight, Sir. Obviously BRINCO is not going to do it, the Minister of Finance is not going to negotiate. He is speaking for the province so I say to the government; get on the ball right now and do what I suggested in this honourable House about ten days ago. Develop the Lower Churchill as a provincial project and the heck with BRINCO.

If we go ahead, Sir, and develop it as a provincial project, we will be beholden to nobody. We will not have to worry about sales tax, gasoline tax or any of the other things that the honourable Minister of Finance had in his budget speech. What is more important, Mr. Chairman, is that if we develop it as a provincial project, we will not be scurrying around the world ten or fifteen or twenty years from now looking for the millions or the billions that are necessary to buy it back from private enterprise. Ontario had that experience several decades ago, when Sir Adam Beck I think it was shaped up the Ontario Hydro as a provincial corporation. They took over all the production of electricity in the Province of Ontario as well as the Province of Quebec, Sir. Here we are down here today in poor, little, old Newfoundland exporting power up to Quebec.

Mr. MacDonald, the Federal Minister of Energy, I think it is, coming out any saying; "No we are not going to put the uranium enrichment plant down in Labrador or down in Newfoundland the source of the power, we are likely to give it to Quebec." So they can use our power, Sir, to operate that uranium enrichment plant, when the Minister of Finance knows full well that we can reclaim reserve

power here in Newfoundland. The minister knows that. He is going to make a little note now so that he will remember it. I will remind him of it when he gets up on his feet. The surplus power belongs to this province and we can reclaim reserves and use them here in Newfoundland.

I think somebody stated in the House today that the (I think it was the member for Labrador North) most obvious place to put the uranium enrichment plant is right in between the Lower Churchill and the Upper Churchill, because you need more than one source of power. Then you can have the power coming from both ends. Who ever made that statement, it is a very common-sense, a very sound idea.

We have two alternatives before us. Let the negotiations remain stalled, the Minister of Finance and BRINCO taking a stand off attitude, the next thing, they will be just dropping one another a memo, they will not be speaking on the phone. That is the impression Mr. Mulholland left today. We can follow that route or we can negotiate in good faith, we can try to get agreement and get the Lower Churchill started this year, which is most unlikely, highly improbable, Sir. The present attitude of the Minister of Finance and BRINCO'S attitude toward him, it is very unlikely that this is going to happen. I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, that we do not have any choice but to take the second route and that is to develop the Lower Churchill ourselves.

If the Minister of Finance is so worried about his sales tax and his gasoline tax, his income tax and his transmission lines to Goose Bay, we will do it ourselves. We will keep the money home. Mr. Chairman, if we can get money for everything else in this province, if the minister can get a couple of hundred million dollars for the linerboard mill out in Stephenville, added to the direct debt of the province, we can get eighty or ninety million dollars for Come by Chance, we can get twelve or fifteen million dollars for

E.P.A., buy new jets, set our own airlines, we can get money to put up a new provincial building in this province. The Premier has been out boasting about the fact that we are going to abandon this House of Assembly. Two or three years from now, Sir, we may not even be on the floor of this House, we will be out in a new building somewhere. No, we are not going to expand the old building, go to a new one. We can get money for everything in this province, Mr. Chairman, everything.

I do not suppose the Minister of Finance will have the gall to stand up and tell me that we cannot raise the money to develop the Lower Churchill ourselves.

AN HON. MEMBER: How much would it cost?

MR. NEARY: How much would it cost? I do not know, a couple or three hundred million dollars.

AN HON. MEMBER: Five or six.

MR. NEARY: Get out of here, five or six! How much did it cost to build the Upper Churchill?

MR. W.N. ROWE: A billion.

MR. NEARY: It cost a billion? All right, five or six hundred million. What is that tacked on to the provincial debt for the returns that we will get?

The minister talked about the previous administration bankrupting the province. He has gone all over the world, put us up now to about one billion two hundred million, over a billion, another four or five hundred million are not going to make any difference. Look at the benefits that we get for this province and the employment opportunities that we so badly need, Sir.

Mr. Chairman, I will bet you today that you can go anywhere in this province, anywhere, and talk to men who are unemployed and ask them; "What would you like to see happen in this province?" They would say; "I would like to see the Lower Churchill Falls development start." It is the only hope they have for a job, Sir, the only hope they have.

I hope that the administration will forget about dwelling on the past every time they get down on the eight floor in the cabinet room. "Let us see if we can find a precedent for this. Yes, we have one, they had four executive assistants we can appoint sixteen. They did this, we can do it better, more expensively, more costly to the taxpayers." What ever it is; "Did the previous administration do it? Yes. Oksy, good, that is it, we can do it." Now, do not, forget that, Sir, get down there around that table and start looking to the future and start doing things in the interest of the people of this province. I would suggest they start with the Lower Churchill, a good opportunity for the administration to fulfill one of the promises that they made in two general elections in this province. Get off their backsides, get out and get this thing going and do not come into the House giving us excuses, putting up smoke screens and telling us that everything is going well with BRINCO when it is not going well. We were told that today by Mr. Mulholland.

I must say, Mr. Chairman, I got the shock of my life when I turned on the television news this evening after we left this House, when I was trying to grab a bite to eat to rush back here, I saw Mr. Mulholland's picture on there and he was tearing into the Minister of Finance who had already driven one industrialist out of this province and would have had the second one gone but for the Premier. That was a mistake, Sir, that was the biggest blunder that that administration ever made, taking over that linerboard mill. They should have kept the owner on the hook. It would have started up...

MR. CROSBIE: On what hook?

MR. NEARY: It would not have cost as much as it is going to cost the taxpayers right now, \$220,000,000. We would have gotten it started up for about \$140,000,000. I could tell the honourable Minister of Finance a few stories about the linerboard mill. He does not know it all. When we get into another debate, maybe in the

Budget Speech, Mr. Chairman, I will have a go at the Minister of Finance about that because that was a blunder. He talked the Premier into it and talked his colleagues into it. They will never forgive him for it. He can come into this House and put on all the displays of debating that he wants but he will never get forgiveness for the damage that he has done this province. Mr. Chairman, it does not take long for word to get around the international world that you have a Minister of Finance and an administration that are hostile toward outside developers coming into this province. If the Premier is listening to me, I appeal to him now to change that attitude, in the best interests of this province, otherwise, Mr. Chairman, we are doomed.

I hope, Sir, with my little emotional speech tonight, I have knocked a bit of sense into the heads of some of that crowd over there. Let us get on and do the business of this province.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, we have all become somewhat emotional listening to the emotional appeal of the honourable gentleman opposite which of course was as sensible as appeals usually are. If there is one thing that I am hostile to, Mr. Chairman, it is any deal that is not in the best interest of this province. These are the kinds of deals that I am hostile to, these are the kinds of deals that this government are hostile to, which was not true in the past.

This is a serious subject so I will try to deal with it seriously.

MR. NEARY: That is right, it is a serious matter.

MR. CROSBIE: It is a serious subject, treated very seriously by the honourable gentleman from Bell Island. I listened to every word. First the position on the uranium enrichment plant because the honourable gentleman has that all mixed up as he always does in his own inimitable style. The position on the uranium enrichment plant is this, that BRINCO are still doing a feasibility study as to whether or not they should establish or get involved

with a uranium enrichment plant at all. They are still doing that study. They have a team working on that. They cannot get involved in the uranium enrichment plant unless the Government of Canada agree to support it, because they cannot get necessary data and information on the process for a uranium enrichment plant without the support of the Government of Canada. The Government of Canada, so far as I know, unless it has changed recently, has not indicated that they want a uranium enrichment plant in Canada or that they will cooperate with anyone or give them their consent to do it.

It may be that there will never be an uranium enrichment plant in Canada. The problem of the location of an uranium enrichment plant is not; "Have you the power available?" Of course, you have to have power. It is going to require a couple of million horsepower or a million and a-half. Whatever it is, it is a huge amount. That is not the essential question. The essential question is as was said earlier today, it must be in a location where it is assured of power every minute. It cannot be down for an hour, it certainly cannot be down for a day, therefore, it must always have power and it must be in a place where there is no danger that if it has two transmission lines coming to it that they will both be down at the same time or that anything will happen to stop the flow of power to the uranium enrichment plant. Therefore, it may be as Mr. MacDonald suggests, that it might be found that Labrador is not the place for it because it is on the end of the grid. It may be that the only location for it is in the very heavily populated area which has power coming to it from four, five or six different directions, so that if several power lines are down there is still power to go to that plant.

That may be, but there has been no decision made on that by BRINCO or anyone else because they do not even know whether there is going to be an uranium enrichment plant. One thing you can be sure of, as long as this administration is in power, is that

there will be no uranium enrichment plant using power from the Lower Churchill unless the plant is in this province or unless we are getting such a terrific price for it that it more than makes up for not being in the province.

As far as the Lower Churchill is concerned, the position is this: when the Upper Churchill was negotiated, there was one negotiator, that great negotiator in the sky, Mr. Smallwood. He did not bother with experts, he did not bother with support staff, he did it himself and —

AN HON. MEMBER: And look what we got out of it.

MR. CROSBIE: And look what we got out of it is right. We have gotten very little out of it. Who has benefited from the Upper Churchill? The Province of Quebec. The Province of Quebec is going to get power from the Upper Churchill. The honourable gentleman talks about our power reserve from the Upper Churchill. The only power we have the right to recall from the Upper Churchill is 350,000 horsepower out of the 5,600,000 horsepower. That is the only power we have, 350,000 horsepower. Partly it was because the terms were so bad, partly because it was a new project in the middle of Labrador a number of years ago, a large number of uncertainties and so on. Perhaps that was part of the reason and perhaps those terms had to be agreed but Newfoundland is receiving from it relatively little. We will get some revenue from it, five, six or eight million dollars, eventually it might go up to eight million dollars a year but they are inflated dollars.

Every year that goes by with inflation decreases the value of those dollars. Fifty cents a horsepower. What is the good of fifty cents a horsepower? Fifty cents a horsepower might have been — the fifty cents that was agreed in 1966, today is worth what with the inflation we have had? That fifty cents is worth about twenty cents. The revenue we are going to get from the Upper Churchill is very limited. They paid no S.S.A. tax, they paid no gasoline tax, the corporation tax they pay to the Government of Canada, ninety

percent of it is rebated to Newfoundland and we are rebating half of it to Churchill Falls so that they can decrease what they are charging for power to Quebec-Hydro. The whole advantage of that went to Quebec. Now Quebec is going to get power from the Upper Churchill at a price just in excess of three mils per horsepower for the next forty-odd years. The cost of power everywhere else has gone up since. In Newfoundland the average cost of power is eight, nine or ten mils. In Quebec now the cost of power has gone up enough, but for the next forty years they will have power going to them from the Upper Churchill at three mils, which they are going to be able to sell to attract industry to Quebec and sell it to them for six mils, seven mils and eight mils. Quebec has the whole benefit of the Upper Churchill.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. CROSBIE: Yes and they are exporting power from Quebec for eighteen mils. Quebec got a wonderful deal out of it.

What about the Lower Churchill? It so happens that this province is lucky. Mr. Chairman, the Smallwood Administration went out of office without having signed a lease with BRINCO on the Lower Churchill. BRINCO had not signed the lease with the Smallwood Administration so we were still in a position to do something about this. The position is that the Premier appointed a committee of which I am the chairman, (the Minister of Industrial Development is a member, the minister who looked after Labrador Affairs, Mr. Rousseau is a member and the Minister of Mines and Energy is a member) to negotiate this with Churchill Falls and BRINCO. We, of course, keep in touch with the Premier so that he knows what is going on at every step of the way.

For the last six or eight months, we have held numerous discussions with the Churchill Falls Corporation. We are not acting on our own, it is not just us four ministers, we have support staff that we are using. We have the staff of the Power Commission doing

very valuable work. Very fine people. We have staff from the Department of Finance, Mr. Avery in particular, Mr. Wilf Garland from the Power Commission, Mr. George Hobbs and Mr. Wally Reid. These are the people advising us. We have exchanged information with the Churchill Falls Company.

Why are we dealing with Churchill Falls? Why are we dealing with this company? Because the Liberal Administration gave them the right to develop the power. They have the right under the present legislation and agreement until 1982 or 1985, I am not sure which it is, to develop the remaining water power on the Churchill River. They have the right to develop it but they have to receive a lease from us to do that. We are dealing with them because they were given certain rights by the Legislature of this Province and the past administration and it would be improper not to deal with them. Therefore, we are dealing with them but we have made it very plain to them, Mr. Chairman, that we expect a vastly improved arrangement over the Upper Churchill. It is now a proven fact that you can have power from Labrador. It is proven that you can go long distance transmission. There is no longer the risk involved and it is not going to be as difficult to attract money to invest in it and all the rest of it. This province cannot afford another deal like the one that was entered into on the Upper Churchill.

We have told the Churchill Falls Company the conditions under which we think we would be prepared to sign a lease, of which four are mentioned in the budget speech. Those four are not negotiable. That is correct, not negotiable. The project will not be done by the Churchill Falls Company unless these four terms and conditions are included. Not negotiable means non-negotiable. That is one hundred per cent correct. If the Churchill Falls Company does this project, it will be under these four conditions and others that are negotiable. These four are not. They are "non" not negotiable. That means they cannot negotiate, they cannot wear us down, they cannot change our minds. The project is just not worth it to this province if we have

to change these four conditions.

What are they? We are going to have the sales tax paid during construction, \$32 million over five years, if they do the project. \$32 million altogether, that is including the gasoline tax. There will be no exemption of the gasoline tax. That is our policy now. They had to accept it on the second oil refinery. If any private corporation do the Lower Churchill, it has to accept that we must be paid the sales tax, we must be paid the gasoline tax. We cannot afford the loss of revenue that we suffered, particularly last year, in tax equalization as a result of these being tax free. These are two points.

The third point, there must be a transmission line from the lower Churchill, from Gull Island to Goose Bay. That is not negotiable. I do not believe the member for Labrador North wants that to be negotiated. What is the point of having power developed at Gull Island if we cannot put some power down to the Goose Bay Area? What did Mr. Mulholland say today about that? I have what he said today here. I am not going by inaccurate reports of what he said on the T.V. Mr. Mulholland said; "I will pass over the minister's second point for a moment and deal briefly with the third element, the provision of a transmission line from Gull Island to the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Area. I share with the government the view that it is of fundamental importance to ensure that Labrador itself receives adequate power from the Churchill River development, wherever it is economically feasible to provide it." Then he said: "If it proves economically feasible, we believe that a line should be built from the Gull Island site to the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Area and we are giving this matter the fullest consideration." That is what Mr. Mulholland said.

We say: "Mr. Mulholland, it does not matter whether you are giving it the fullest consideration or you are not giving it the fullest consideration. It does not matter whether it is economically

feasible or not economically feasible, there will be no Lower Churchill project done by you if there is not a transmission line from Gull Island to the Goose Bay Area." That is our position and I do not think the gentleman from Labrador North would want us to change that.

Mr. Mulholland said that he was giving it the fullest consideration. "We have always taken the view," He said; "that Labrador Customers, present and potential, should receive the power they require at the lowest possible cost to the customer and our planning is carried out with this in mind." Well I could say a lot on that. That is a new view but it is not true on the Upper Churchill. On the Upper Churchill we are paying for our recaptured power exactly what Quebec pays, despite the fact that it is developed in Churchill Falls and it has to go a couple of hundred miles to the border. We pay for that power the same price as Quebec-Hydro has to pay. Anyway, let that pass for now. That is what he said about the transmission line from Gull Island to the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Area.

The final point that the Budget Speech states is non-negotiable is the corporation tax. Now I ask the honourable members of this House, why should BRINCO or Churchill Falls alone, of all the Canadian Corporations, not be required to pay the corporation tax? Why should they get a rebate on the corporation tax? BRINCO or Churchill Falls pays the corporation tax, (I think the rate now is forty-nine percent) to the Government of Canada of which we get thirteen percent. Thirteen is ours, it comes to the province, our own, the rest is the federal government's. The federal government agreed, under the Public Utilities Transfer Tax Act, to rebate ninety-five percent of the corporation tax from privately owned electrical utilities back to the provinces. On the Upper Churchill ninety-five percent is going to come back to us and the last administration agreed to rebate half of that for BRINCO or Churchill to reduce the price to Quebec-Hydro by that amount.

We say that on the Lower Churchill we are not going to rebate any income tax to BRINCO or to Churchill Falls or the company

that does it. We are going to get ninety-five percent of the corporation tax that the federal government gets from them back here in Newfoundland and we are going to keep it here in Newfoundland and spend it for the services, for the people of Newfoundland, all the services that we need. We cannot afford and there is no need for us to pass on half of that to BRINCO. They are going to be taxed no more and no less than any other Canadian corporation, that is all.

On the Upper Churchill having the special concession: They are getting half their tax back but on the Lower Churchill, if it is done by BRINCO or their subsidiary, they will not get any rebate back. There is nowhere in Mr. Mulholland's remarks, his statement, saying that it is not economically feasible for them to do the Lower Churchill under those four conditions. Nowhere in his remarks is that stated. He tries to give the impression without stating it, because it is economically feasible...

MR. NEARY: He did state it on the radio.

MR. CROSBIE: If he did state it on the radio, fine. If that is his opinion, it is not correct. Our own experts have been all over the figures with them and they are quite satisfied and we are quite satisfied that Churchill Falls, BRINCO or some other private corporation can do it under these conditions and still make a very handsome return for their investors. If Churchill Falls, if BRINCO feels it is not economically feasible to do it with those four conditions, they just have to indicate that to us. They have not done it yet. They have not indicated to this government that they cannot do it.

MR. NEARY: I hate to interrupt the minister but there is no quorum in the House. This is quite an important matter, Mr. Chairman, and members should be in their seats to hear this. It could mean a lot to the future of this province

MR. CROSBIE: As I say, Mr. Chairman, (I do not want to drag this

on too long) they have not indicated to us that it is not economically feasible. But suppose they do indicate it to us, does that stop the Lower Churchill? No, that will not stop the Lower Churchill. We will either find someone else to do it or we will do it ourselves. Either by ourselves alone or in partnership.

MR. NEARY: How long? How long are we going to fool around with them?

MR. CROSBIE: Well, you are saying that Mr. Mulholland is saying that it is not economically feasible. We will find out from him next week. He will say; "Gentlemen, it is not economically feasible and we are no longer interested." We will say; "Fine gentlemen, you give up your rights now on the Lower Churchill, we will compensate you for your plans and what you have done there and we will immediately - we have other avenues, we will proceed."

MR. NEARY: I hope we will not give it the ten year hoist.

MR. CROSBIE: Do not worry about any hoist. I will be very surprised, Mr. Chairman, if Mr. Mulholland or BRINCO confirm to us next week that they are not interested in doing it under these four conditions, that it is not economically feasible.

MR. NEARY: Are you still on speaking terms?

AN HON. MEMBER: Best of buddies.

MR. NEARY: You got the message today through radio and television.

MR. CROSBIE: This is just to put a little pressure on. A negotiating tactic, put a little pressure on.

AN HON. MEMBER: You do not understand it.

MR. NEARY: I understand it. I understand it. I also understand the Minister of Finance.

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, and the Minister of Finance -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, can we have a quorum in the House, Sir? Are the members not interested in this topic, the development of the Lower Churchill?

MR. CROSBIE: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Chairman,

and I do not believe any other members on this side are going to be pressured by BRINCO or by Churchill Falls or anyone else into dropping any conditions that we think are essential to this province. I have not heard anyone yet on the other side suggest that the four conditions stated in the Budget Speech should be dropped. There is no need to drop them. If a private developer such as Churchill Falls say that they cannot do it underneath that, fine. The public can do it. governments can do it.

MR. NEARY: Now you are talking my language.

MR. CROSBIE: Right.

MR. NEARY: I did not know the honourable member had socialism in his bones.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Why does not the honourable minister pile on a few more conditions to make sure? We can do it in this province with our Power Commission. Pile on a few more conditions so that it does become economically unfeasible for BRINCO and then they will give up their rights and the Power Commission can do it.

MR. CROSBIE: As the Budget Speech states - there are a lot of other conditions that have not been once mentioned in a budget speech that are negotiable. They should have the first opportunity to do it, having the rights, but if they now find it economically not feasible because of those four conditions, well then we know where we are. We hope we will have this clarified very quickly and we know where to proceed from there on. That is the position. We do not intend to engage in any public argument with Mr. Mulholland or anyone else.

The Budget Speech expressed our policy. If he said today that BRINCO or Churchill Falls cannot do it under those four conditions, then we have come to the parting of the ways. If he does not mean that, if he means that they might find it difficult or they still

want to discuss it, then we know where we are.

MR. NEARY: You are on thin ice there now so be careful.

MR. CROSBIE: I think I have covered the points for the honourable gentleman. No. I never saw the television but I see no reference in this transcript here of any harsh words by Mr. Mulholland. Naturally, Mr. Chairman, BRINCO or Churchill Falls want to make as much out of this as they can. The least onerous conditions they get, the more money for them. The better conditions we get, the more money for us. They have had to produce to us all their figures on the construction costs, complete information. Our support staff have gone over it, analyzed it and are quite satisfied and with the conditions we have asked, it can still be a good investment for BRINCO or Churchill Falls if they want to go ahead. If they do not want to go ahead, well I have already explained the -

MR. NEARY: Well let us not get pigheaded and sabotage the project.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I suppose, to put it very mildly, I am saddened by the remarks of Mr. Mulholland of BRINCO. I would like to remark here in this House tonight that possibly BRINCO and the BRINCO Organization, despite what the hon. Minister of Finance has said or will say to this House, possibly that corporation was the greatest financial corporation and developers that were ever brought into this province, bar none. I am thinking in terms of the minister saying that we can possibly develop this particular power resource on our own. When I think in terms of the amount of money that Quebec Hydro, in connection with BRINCO, have put into that power grid, to feed that seven million horsepower from the Upper Churchill into that Quebec grid - we have no potential market for this in our own province but will again have to sit down with Quebec and I am sure the honourable minister will recall the negotiations

that took place between this province and the Province of Quebec, in order to get an agreement on a right-of-way to run power to that province or sell it to that province. I have a lot of admiration and respect for the hon. Minister of Finance in his ability as a minister but will he get the same sort of a deal with BRINCO, going to bed with the Province of Quebec, already supplying power to the province and then to go and turn around, when the Province of Quebec itself are now today involved in a multi-billion dollar project in James Bay which will possibly, when this thing is developed in five to seven years, be more than sufficient to feed the Eastern Seaboard, the markets of Quebec and possibly into Ontario for a number of years. I wonder what type of deal would the honourable minister get for the sale of this power that he intends to develop by the province and what marketing facilities he is going to use? Who would be in a position to buy that power?

There were a number of arguments, going back two to three years ago when we felt at one time that we could no longer negotiate with the Province of Quebec, about bringing the power down to the Straits of Belle Isle, across the Straits of Belle Isle by means of a submarine cable, by means of a tunnel, bringing it down into Port aux Basques, running it across by means of a submarine cable over into Nova Scotia and then down to the markets in New York and the Eastern Seaboard in the United States. I would like for the honourable minister right now to explain to this committee, if they break off the negotiations (I am sure they will not) with that company, with BRINCO, and they go the route that the province is going to develop that power, how will this province or the government overcome the cost, if they cannot reach some reciprocal agreement with BRINCO to run that power down on that grid that already exists there? In what competitive position will the province be if they have to construct

their own transmission lines to run that power into some markets on the Eastern Seaboard of the United States? My gracious, Mr. Chairman, I doubt that before the honourable minister or his government think in terms of refusing BRINCO that already have a transmission line and a grid to feed that power down, before they think in terms of duplicating that cost and shipping the power down, which is half the amount - is it five million horsepower?

MR. CROSBIE: If the honourable gentleman would permit me, the Lower Churchill cannot use the same transmission lines. Whoever does it, there have to be new transmission lines.

MR. WOODWARD: My understanding is that the power will be fed back from Gull Island into the grid for the Lower Churchill and fed down the same grid.

MR. CROSBIE: The power will have to go to Quebec. Quebec would be the logical buyers. It does not go over any present transmission lines.

MR. WOODWARD: Yes but this is the problem, the cost of building that transmission line, the additional cost of just adding to it now. You are not building a separate transmission line.

MR. CROSBIE: The cost of the Lower Churchill, BRINCO's cost includes these transmission lines anyway. That cost is there anyway whether BRINCO does it or anyone else.

MR. WOODWARD: But what do you do when you get to the border at Seahorse and when you get into Quebec? Who is going to negotiate with Quebec?

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, but that is Quebec Hydro's grid.

MR. WOODWARD: Right. You have to go to Seahorse and then you have to go into the grid. How much has Quebec Hydro spent on that grid?

MR. CROSBIE: It has nothing to do with it.

MR. WOODWARD: What do you mean it has nothing to do with BRINCO?

MR. CROSBIE: We will sell them power.

MR. WOODWARD: Are we not already buying power from BRINCO on the Upper Churchill? They are going to divorce themselves and they are going to turn around to the Province of Newfoundland and say; "look, you have the power, we will no longer buy the power from BRINCO, we will buy the power that is produced by the Province of Newfoundland." Is that what is going to happen?

MR. CROSBIE: They will buy it from us on the Lower Churchill and from BRINCO on the other.

MR. WOODWARD: No, the Province of Quebec is already tied into BRINCO, with pay-or-take contracts for how many years?

MR. CROSBIE: Well they will take that and they will take the Lower Churchill too, That has nothing to do with it.

MR. WOODWARD: What happens to James Bay coming on stream? What happens to all the money that the province is investing in that development?

MR. CROSBIE: We are hoping to use it.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I feel in all sincerity that the hon. Minister of Finance is leading this province up a garden path.

MR. CROSBIE: Are you suggesting that we drop these conditions? Let us forget that transmission line to Goose, take that out, let us drop that, let us drop the S.S.A., the gasoline tax, drop that?

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of things in the negotiations that have taken place and I do not want to think in terms of the province having now ceased or the BRINCO Organization having now ceased with negotiations on the development of the Lower Churchill with the Province of Newfoundland. But I feel that there have been a number of things that the hon. Minister of Finance

or the Minister of Industrial Development have not disclosed to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. They have been relatively silent, Sir, on the negotiations that have been taking place. The thing was in the budget, I suppose which consequently brought about Mr. Mulholland's statement today. I am not saying that the Province of Newfoundland should give BRINCO everything that they need in their concessions. I am not thinking in terms of the four conditions that were laid down, which the honourable minister is saying are non-negotiable the sales tax, \$32 million, and the transmission line into Happy Valley, which I support and I supported in the Budget Speech when he made his remarks.

Mr. Chairman, I am very much afraid if we slip out from under the arm (this may come back some day to haunt the honourable minister) of that great financial corporation of BRINCO and go piddling around with our own resources that we have in this province, such as our own Power Commission, I am very much afraid that we are going to be a long time, a relatively long time waiting to see that great hydro potential on the Lower Churchill developed. I think the honourable minister owes it to the people and in particular the people in Labrador to come out and explain publicly to the people what is holding up the negotiations?

Mr. Mulholland has come out today in a statement, which I am sure will get more publicity tomorrow or today, as it sits right now, explaining to the people and in particular the people of Labrador, who have been looking for a number of years and hopefully waiting for this power development to take place and consequently other types of industry, not only is BRINCO looking at a hydro potential but BRINCO is looking at other industries and the development of other resources in Labrador. Consequently, this

power development on the Lower Churchill will in turn be a focal point in other developments that are going to take place. Maybe when my hon. colleague from Bell Island states that the Minister of Industrial Development may be more of a diplomat or a better negotiator than the hon. Minister of Finance, maybe the Premier of this province should, after all the controversy which has taken place with the Shaheen development and not wanting to be derogatory towards the minister, Mr. Chairman, pass over the negotiations of this mighty project for a period of time, the cooling-off period of time, to some other minister, for instance, as we feel the honourable and capable Minister of Industrial Development. Maybe we would in turn come up with a better deal. Maybe the people in the BRINCO Organization would be more - I would not say possibly to look on the honourable minister more favourably than the hon. Minister of Finance. The Minister of Finance has been known to use some very strong methods in his negotiations Mr. Chairman.

I feel and taking into consideration the things which I have said, taking into consideration the marketing of power, taking into consideration developing ourselves and competing with people like BRINCO for the sale of power that is already in debt with the Province of Quebec, (the Province of Quebec is the only possible means whereby we can get that power down to the markets) I think possibly the honourable Premier of this Province should take another look and maybe send in another minister to head up that negotiation team. Maybe the second doctor's look would possibly help considerably in this respect, Mr. Chairman.

Perhaps now the hon. Minister of Finance can answer some of the questions concerning the marketing, and the transmission facilities. He said that Mr. Mulholland did not state that they will not develop

or it is not economically feasible, but he left the impression that it was not economically feasible and he said that in the event that this does not happen, we will find someone else or do it ourselves. I hardly think, Mr. Chairman, that there is anyone else in Canada who have the resources, who have the means of obtaining financing, who have the expertise to develop a power project of that nature, only the BRINCO Organization.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few more brief remarks in reply to what the hon. Minister of Finance said. He was speaking in this debate. Sir, the Minister of Finance said that he did not want to negotiate the terms of the agreement in public. But, Sir, the Minister of Finance has made the goof of his lifetime. He has made a big blunder, Sir. The Minister of Finance did negotiate and he was the one who brought the negotiations out in public, in his Budget Speech. Negotiations were going on quietly behind the scenes with BRINCO, so we were told in this honourable House, until we got to the Budget Speech. Then we saw these conditions laid down by the government that were non-negotiable. If that is not bringing negotiations out in the public, Sir, I do not know what is. Today, Mr. Mulholland was giving his answer to this. The minister had flung down the gauntlet. He had flung these things in the face of BRINCO and today he got his answer in public. The minister asked for it. He invited this. Sir, by us here in the opposition trying to take the position of stressing the importance of this project and trying to pressure the government in getting off their fannies and doing something about it, that is not weakening the position of the government, Sir. That is not weakening their negotiating position. Personally I do not contend for one minute that we should

give up anything. We should try and get the best deal we can for the province.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I agree with that, Sir. That is like agreeing with motherhood. But, Mr. Chairman, we have to negotiate in good faith and believe me, Sir, when I say this, and this is not a personal thing, it is not, Mr. Chairman, it is generally known in the international business community that that particular minister is hostile towards outside developers. That is a well-known fact, Mr. Chairman, believe me it is. I have very good reason to believe that. The minister has dug his heels in as he has done so often. You cannot get away with it, Sir. You can get away with it, Sir, in the little Newfoundland business communities but you cannot get away with it in the international business world.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: That is not my circle. I know because I have my ear to the ground.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I can tell this administration right now (you can believe it if you want to) that developers, industrialists outside of Newfoundland who want to come in here are in deadly fear of that minister.

MR. CROSBIE: Ah!

MR. NEARY: Well he can joke about it all he likes, Sir, but it is true. There are industrialists, Sir, who would like to come into this province right now, sit down with the government and negotiate in good faith and they will not do it as long as they have to negotiate with the Minister of Finance. He just does not have it, Sir, for negotiations. He may be good

at some things but that is one thing he is not good at. The sooner the Premier and the administration realize that and replace him, Sir, I would say the better for all concerned.

MR. CROSBIE: Provincial Affairs.

MR. NEARY: Oh, Provincial Affairs might be a good place to put the minister. Now, Sir, as I say we are not or at least I am not trying to weaken the government's position. I am only trying to knock a bit of sense into their heads.

Mr. Chairman, I will say this to this administration right here tonight that two or three years from now, when a provincial election is called in this province, this will be the big issue, this will be the issue, Sir. I do not have any faith whatsoever in that administration, that crowd over there, getting the Lower Churchill off the ground - none whatsoever, Sir. I do not think they can do it. They do not have it in them. They do not have the desire to do something for this province. The Minister of Industrial Development may have the desire but I am talking about the crowd in general. They have nothing to crusade for, Sir, they are all so well-off, all so fat, fat cats, millionaires most of them, they have nothing to crusade for, Sir. They should be out with their sleeves rolled up and say; let us get this great development going.

AN HON. MEMBER: How sweet it is.

MR. NEARY: Ah, make all the fun you like. You will pay the price at the polls in the next election. Wait until the people get a crack at the ballot box again.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: No Lower Churchill - just wait. I guarantee you this and I will say this here tonight too and the hon. Minister of Finance

can sit their and smirk all he likes but if that crowd over there do not start the Lower Churchill, Sir, we will.

MR. CROSBIE: The honourable gentleman is really stirring me tonight. These words give us the strength and the courage to carry on. It is very comforting to know that the honourable gentleman is right behind us. Now the honourable gentlemen are being a little bit inconsistent. I have not heard them suggest which of these four conditions or whether we should drop all four conditions that Mr. Mulholland is objecting to. In fact I think the honourable gentleman said a few minutes ago that he did not think any of them should be dropped.

MR. NEARY: No, I said negotiating is a good thing.

MR. CROSBIE: These are not negotiable.

MR. NEARY: Not negotiable.

MR. CROSBIE: Not negotiable. If the honourable gentleman wants to tell us which of these four he thinks we should be prepared to drop, that are not important, then that would be very interesting to listen to.

MR. NEARY: Give me the minister's salary and I will tell him.

MR. CROSBIE: What is the honourable gentleman doing here tonight? He is falling right into the trap that Mr. Mulholland set for him. Mr. Mulholland is well posted on what is likely to happen in the Newfoundland House. He knows who are likely to get up and shoot off their mouths and be irresponsible and start a fuss, because Mr. Mulholland made a public statement today and hopes, you know, that if there is enough pressure, enough fuss made that our resolve might be weakened and that we might drop one or two, three or four of these conditions just to get the project underway and stop the opposition criticizing. Well if that were Mr. Mulholland's theory and it has been borne out tonight, and the hon. gentleman from Bell Island

and the hon. gentleman from Labrador North have fallen into his trap, he is making a mistake. It will not weaken our resolve at all.

Now the hon. gentleman from Labrador North wanted to know where would (suppose we did this project and we are not going to say how we would do it or who we would do it with, we do not have to do it on our own) we sell the power. We would sell the power to the same people that are going to buy the power from Churchill Falls or whoever, except we would get a better price for the province and it would all be ours. We would sell it to the same people. The costs would be no greater because we are doing it than if Churchill Falls do it. Those conditions would not change.

As far as the situation with BRINCO is concerned, they have known about these conditions for a number of months. They had not told us before that they just cannot do the project. I do not think they have said it today either that it is not economically feasible to do it. They produced a wholesome figure to try to show that. Our analysis of figures does not support that. All they are doing is using a negotiating ploy by making a statement today and hoping that this would create a stir and put pressure on the government to cave in and let them go ahead under any conditions. Well that will not happen. The honourable gentleman does not need to worry about it. The Lower Churchill will be underway, well underway before the next election comes. We will not be waiting for his administration to start it.

MR. MARTIN: I could have saved the honourable minister some breath I think if I had been a little quicker to my feet in the first instance but when I began to rise both of us spoke in the same breath. The points I have to raise, Sir, are very brief, perhaps

minor in comparison with the others that have been brought forth tonight. As far as the Lower Churchill is concerned, as I have stated earlier and I think I would be remiss if I did not make my comments known on this since it has a direct bearing on the future progress of my district, I think we should not bother to get involved with any kind of private developers whatsoever. I think it is well known how I feel about that. I think we have the expertise. If we do not have the expertise, we can certainly go out and buy the expertise as well as BRINCO can and get on the ball and get our Power Commission and develop the Lower Churchill Falls. It is not simply good enough just to go out and develop one source of power. If we are going to do that, then we may very well wind up with a lot of surplus hydro electricity that we cannot market. Like any other resource development, it has to be developed in accordance with an overall plan.

I was saddened to hear the other day from the Minister of Mines and Energy that we do not even know what kind of minerals we have discovered under the ground. If we are going to develop the Lower Churchill at all, it must be developed in accordance with some kind of an overall plan that is going to utilize all of our resources. Suffice it for me to say that I do not think we should even be negotiating with BRINCO, we should get on with the job ourselves.

The development corporation, if I may move on to another one of the wider areas, has an unique role to play in this whole scheme of things in that it is the one agency I feel that can bring forward the overall development plan. However, it is also an agency which is

subject to a large degree of political patronage. We already know what the views of the government are on political patronage. There is a great deal to be looked at here to see whether or not this department is going to function as an agency of political patronage or an agency of development.

I do not think I can add any more to the debate that has been gone into tonight except to say that for all of our industrial development programmes it is simply not enough to do a piecemeal, a bit in Marystown, a bit in the Lower Churchill, a bit somewhere else. It has got to be done in accordance with an overall plan and I would like first of all to see the administration sit down and devise some kind of a plan before we go off helter skelter developing power for somebody else to make profits on.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, just briefly, the honourable member for Labrador South took the words right out of my mouth because when the honourable the Minister of Finance made his usual charge, typical of him, that all we were trying to do was to weaken the government's position, we were falling into Mr. Mulholland's trap. Well, Sir, the honourable minister should just think back to what I said when I wound up my few remarks. The ace that we have up our sleeve, Sir, a rabbit in the hat, is we will do it ourselves, we will say good-bye Mr. BRINCO! Adieu and Farewell! Nice knowing you! So long! It has been good to know you! We will do it ourselves!

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not what the honourable member for Labrador North said.

MR. NEARY: That is what I said.

AN HON. MEMBER: He says BRINCO should do it.

MR. NEARY: I want to make that clear to the Minister of Finance because it was the Minister of Finance, as I said a few minutes ago. Sir, when I was speaking, that brought these negotiations out into the open, out in public.

MR. DOODY: Which is the official opposition position on it? Should it be not advertised to the public?

MR. NEARY: It is a free party - free and democratic.

MR. DOODY: Okay.

MR. NEARY: Sir, we are developing policy right now and we will develop a policy on this. Do not worry. I told the House that if that crowd over there do not start the Churchill Falls development before the next provincial election that this crowd over here will. I make that statement categorically, Sir, and we will go around this province and we will have something to crusade for because that is the difference, Mr. Chairman, between Toryism and Liberalism. It is becoming more obvious in this House all of the time, Sir, that we are interested in people. Over here we are interested in developing the province, creating jobs so our people will not have to go up to Ontario and find work. That crowd over there are only interested in the few, looking after their buddies, political buddies and friends.

AN HON. MEMBER: Rubbish.

MR. NEARY: It is not rubbish. It is true. Take a look at the salaries.

Has any member on the government side taken the trouble to go through the salary estimates for 1973-1974? They have. The honourable Minister of Justice, if he did he would go out and resign, he would be ashamed of himself. The poor people in this province with not enough food to put on their tables. Take a look at some of the salaries in here. Take a look at the cost of running the Premier's office. Is that all they are interested in, restructuring to create jobs for their buddies? That is the difference between Liberalism and Toryism, Sir. We are interested in people.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not much to run the minister's office of this particular department for a fiscal year.

MR. NEARY: No I realize that. The honourable the Minister of Industrial Development is a misfit. Square-pegged he is, over there with that crowd -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! That was unparliamentary and I ask the honourable member to withdraw it, please.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: "Misfit", that is unparliamentary.

MR. NEARY: Oh no it is not, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, it is not unparliamentary. Show me where it is listed here. The honourable the Minister of Industrial Development is a misfit with that crowd over there. Sir, he is only a poor man with a crowd of millionaires. Now, Mr. Chairman, what is wrong with that?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable gentleman will permit: Maybe I did not hear correctly but I understood him to say that the honourable gentleman was a misfit.

MR. NEARY: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And a misfit is an idiot. Is that what the gentleman said? If it is not what he said then I will withdraw it.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, it is the first time that I have gotten the Chairman to withdraw. Mr. Chairman, the honourable minister is far from an idiot, Sir, far from an idiot. If Your Honour had given me a chance to finish the sentence -

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will apologize for a misunderstood statement.

MR. NEARY: Oh, God bless you, Sir; at least we are getting a little democracy back in the House, You should have been in the House all week. Sir. But, Mr. Chairman, the honourable Minister of Industrial Development has a lot of common sense. I have known him for a long time, Sir. Charlie Devine, Paul Fardy, Ray Gallagher, Basil Hickey, I was in with that crowd, Sir,

MR. DOODY: You saw the light.

MR. NEARY: Yes, I saw the light. I remember when the honourable minister had a little bit of the socialism in his veins.

MR. DOODY: It is still there creeping around.

MR. NEARY: It is still there, well, Sir, he will never bring it out with that crowd over there - capitalists.

MR. DOODY: I would take over the Lower Churchill myself.

MR. NEARY: But anyway. Sir, look I want to wind this thing up because I think I have made all my points. Now that the Minister of Finance is back in his seat I want to re-emphaize what I said. Sir, so that he will be able to go to BPINCO, the Minister of

Finance will be able to call up Mr. Mulholland on the phone (and I did not have one tonight by the way) call up Mr. Mulholland on the phone tomorrow and say, "Mr. Mulholland, you mean what you said in your statement? 'Yes' or 'no' or 'we can negotiate.' Well, Sir, did you say if we would not negotiate these terms, these conditions that the project would not be economically feasible?" He would say yes or no. Well he might say, "John, let us get together and talk about it."

But what the Minister of Finance should say is this, " Mr. Mulholland -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No "Mr. Mulholland", not I. No, I am like all the rest of the Newfoundlanders, I call him, "Mr." and tip my hat to him. They call me, "Steve". They call the honourable minister "Bill," but to the honourable the Minister of Finance you tip your hat and say Good day! Sir, Yes, Sir! No, Sir! Kiss your feet, Sir! Yes, Sir!

Mr. Chairman, seriously -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Well, Sir, I would not mind giving it a boot.

AN HON. MEMBER: Where?

MR. NEARY: For what the minister is doing to this province and he has been stringing us along in this House all session telling us that everything is going fine. What he should say to MR. Mulholland and Mr. BRINCO, "Gentlemen" (I do not know if there are any ladies on the board of directors) "Gentlemen, here is our position. We are prepared to negotiate in good faith." Some of these conditions that the minister laid down. I cannot see how he can be firm on them. Some of them can be negotiated. It is not rubbish. Some of them can be negotiated, Sir. We do not have to sell out. We do not have to give away everything.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, this is a real bugaboo with the minister, what we did the last time. Sir, if the minister had stayed over here or stayed with the previous administration, we would not get one thing done in this province, not a thing.

MR. CROSBIE: Get John C. to do it.

MR. NEARY: Oh! He drove John C. out but he is not dealing with John C. now when he is dealing with BRINCO. The honourable minister will soon find out he is not dealing with John C. now. He crucified John C. and assassinated his character -

MR. CROSBIE: Holding his hand.

MR. NEARY: He will not do it with BRINCO or Mr. Mulholland. The honourable minister will go down the drain first.

MR. CROSBIE: I hear you are going to Panama for Easter.

MR. NEARY: Ah, never mind!

MR. CROSBIE: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: The minister thinks this is funny but what he should say should say is; "Okay! We will sit down and negotiate in good faith." Let us forget this negotiating in public. I am sorry and I brought this matter out in the public in my budget speech, that it was a threat. That is not the only threat in the budget speech. There are others that we have heard so much about this session. Look, let us negotiate in good faith and let us set a critical path to -

MR. CROSBIE: We will get the honourable member to walk to Bell Island.

MR. NEARY: Oh, come off it!

MR. CROSBIE: That would be critical enough.

MR. NEARY: To get this development going in the Lower Churchill, it is not; Mr. Mulholland, good bye! So long! God Bless! Nice knowing you! We will do it ourselves!

On motion 1501-01 carried.

On motion 1501-02-03 through 1502-02-08 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 1503-03 carry?

MR. DOODY: 1503-03 - Assessment and Research - Maybe the best way

to explain that one would be to give a breakdown on last year's \$220,000. It might help to demonstrate the type of thing that it is used for. The assessment and research, provision is made in this vote for the expenses incurred by government in undertaking special studies and utilizing outside consultants in connection with major industrial projects requiring assessment and research of a highly technical or complicated nature. Provision has also been made for funds to enable the department to cost-share with private entrepreneurs in the case of exceptional merit. Certain development costs of worthwhile projects, this includes such things as feasibility studies and market testing of new products. Last year that \$220,000, there was \$176,000 paid out to Camm Ure Associates, which is broken down as the \$15,000 for a three month extension of their contract at \$5,000 a month. There was \$114,000 paid to them for various DREE applications which they did. I have a list of them here, if they are of any interest to the committee. There are travelling expenses of \$13,000 and there is a \$33,000 amount for a feasibility study they did for the previous government on a proposed expansion to the existing Marystown Shipyard facility.

MR. NEARY: Camm Ure Limited.

MR. DOODY: Camm Ure Associates. There was an amount for T.A. McLoughlan Associates which was broken down, \$48,000 which is broken down for a three months extension of their contract of \$10,000 a month for April, May and June. There are expenses which include travelling, communication costs, printing costs incurred by the firm for \$8,000. There is \$10,000 amount in there for a technical system. This covers payments for an audio-visual slide presentation programme presentation of Newfoundland, to be placed at the department's disposal and to be available for one year in trade offices etc throughout the world. That is the sort of thing that George McLean is doing this year.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: This is a one shot effort for \$10,000. It is

available for distribution throughout the world if we want to make copies of it, but we own it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: Well at \$10,000 you could well afford to make copies of it.

MR. ROBERTS: Right.

MR. DOODY: But it does not cost very much to run copies off once the visual thing is done.

MR. ROBERTS: So you will not be paying \$10,000.

MR. DOODY: But anyway Mr. McLoughlan's contract expired on March 31 and it has been decided not to renew it. It may be necessary to get another slide presentation done. The one that is there now is kind of partisan, it has pictures of the previous Premier applauding the various accomplishments, which may not be a bad thing, I do not know.

MR. ROBERTS: Is it envisaged to hire firms who do the same kind of work?

MR. DOODY: Not McLoughlan, no.

MR. ROBERTS: What about the Camm Ure Firm?

MR. DOODY: The Camm Ure Firm is no longer on contract but once again they are available for DREF studies. We have no objection to hiring the Camm Ure Firm. I think they did good work in many cases.

MR. ROBERTS: Their work was satisfactory. Was the McLoughlan work?

MR. DOODY: I do not believe the McLoughlan work was up to their standards. The two or three projects that they did do for us, or the two or three firms that they did search out are not in the best of shape now, One of them is ARCO Industries, Truck Atlantic.

MR. ROBERTS: Is that the firm Ed Power is with now?

MR. DOODY: Yes. I wish he were still with us but he is not.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, a good man.

MR. DOODY: That is it on the assessment and research. There was an amount of \$15,000; the Lake Melville Project contribution will come out of that too.

MR. DOODY: There are legal fees for the -

MR. ROBERTS: What?

MR. DOODY: Legal fees for the case of the crown and the C.N., rate increase intervention, J.J. O'Neil was paid \$1,800 for presenting the case of the government. Why that ended up in economic development is something that I am not aware of but it is here.

MR. ROBERTS: That case is still on, is it not?

MR. DOODY: Yes. But he was paid \$1,800. There is an amount here also for assessment and research, that is that one. Then there is a promotion amount which -

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, on the promotion, we talked about how much George McLean is doing, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DOODY: That is no problem, George McLean is not doing anything nor has he done anything, as a matter of fact, in the supplementary supply -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: Yes, right. It was suggested by the member for Bell Island that Mr. McLean had indeed done some work in the department in some advertisements and various newspapers and what not. I said that I doubted it very much but he felt sure that this was so. Since that time I have had an opportunity to check and I was right they were done by our department, and our department has done all this work including the mass media advertising, advertisements in the "Financial Post."

MR. ROBERTS: As a matter of interest, I think they were well done advertisements.

MR. DOODY: Two of the gentlemen are here with us now and Rick Emberley was very active, and I think Rick Emberley -

MR. ROBERTS: Well whoever did it they were well done.

MR. DOODY: Yes.

The fact that I said there are no projects in here for McLean advertising or NACOM does not mean that. The department

feel that McLean's company can make a contribution of some sort that it is not beyond the relevant possibility that I might -

MR. ROBERTS: Does the minister anticipate that any such feeling may come over him?

MR. DOODY: I do not feel the urge right now but it is possible that we may have a project that McLean could do well, I have seen some of the stuff that he has done and he has done it well.

MR. ROBERTS: I have seen it too and it is very good, the political stuff.

MR. DOODY: Yes, that is right.

So that is about what I have on the assessment and research and on the promotion.

The next thing down the line on that development promotion was the Offshore Petroleum Industrial Advisory Council which the Leader of the Opposition asked about. This is a \$40,000 fund to set up that council. I mentioned that earlier, it will be staffed by a director and with a minimum of one clerical worker to begin with. We will have liaison with the Department of Economic Development and with the Department of Mines and Energy and it will draw from the university and from industry and from the municipal authorities, from the shipbuilding industry and we intend to ask Mr. Rennie or representatives of the various towns to serve on that, somebody who is familiar with projects such as the Harmon Corporation to serve on that, to get an overall view and to prepare us, in the happy event that we do have some spin off from a possible oil strike. This is a preparative thing more than anything, with preparation hopefully for the projected oil discovery or the hoped for oil discovery. Apparently we have found that those countries that did not make any preparation for this sort of thing, such as Scotland and the Arberdeen Area, they have gotten into a tremendous mess over there in terms of housing and land speculation. So we hope that these people working together in time might come up with a programme which will help prevent the sort of mess that might be possible.

I think that just about covers that particular point.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, no appointments have yet been made I take it. Are we to expect something relatively soon on this?

MR. DOODY: I would say in a week or so we should have something.

MR. ROBERTS: Good timing.

The minister went rather quickly over and perhaps the hour being early I did not quite get all of it. I wonder if he could tell us where the \$151,000 for promotion last year went? I am sure he has it there.

MR. DOODY: I gave you part of it. I had part of it included in the Camm Ure thing - the \$151,000 was paid to McLoughlan, the \$175,000, which was the previous amount, the major portion of the \$222,500 was paid to Camm Ure, plus the Lake Melville thing, plus there is \$14,500, an amount which was used to set up a company called DMM well it was not to set it up it was to help them do research on marble quarrying here in the province. We have helped them to cut samples of marble from various sections of the province and sent them to England for assessment, and they have come back and it appears to be a pretty healthy looking operation.

MR. ROBERTS: DMM

MR. DOODY: DMM Limited, do not ask me what the initials stand for.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I shall have it looked up if it is registered in Newfoundland.

MR. DOODY: Yes. I do not know who DMM Limited are. Does he know? Maybe the honourable member for St George's could help me with this.

AN HON. MEMBER: Where are you getting the marble?

MR. DOODY: All over.

MR. ROBERTS: There has been marble quarrying done in Newfoundland, there has been marble quarrying in my constituency,

MR. DOODY: In various parts of the province.

MR. ROBERTS: And they have a very good grade of marble.

But are they quarrying marble to use as blocks or slabs, or are they quarrying it to sort of chip it up?

MR. DOODY: They are using it in small glazed blocks for surfacing or for floor tiling.

MR. ROBERTS: For making Terrazo it is called, marble chips.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who are they?

MR. DOODY: A British gentleman named Mr. Faye is one of them, and Mr. Williams is a local man.

MR. ROBERTS: Who? What would be his function?

MR. DOODY: Mr. Williams, I do not know anything else about the gentleman other than the fact -

MR. ROBERTS: What is the name of the company again?

AN HON. MEMBER: Tommy, is it?

MR. DOODY: No, it is not Danny either.

MR. ROBERTS: Is it Fred Williams?

MR. DOODY: Fred, is it? Of the oil service station, a war veteran.

MR. ROBERTS: No a legion fellow.

MR. DOODY: A legion chap.

MR. ROBERTS: What is the name of the company again?

MR. DOODY: DMM Limited.

MR. ROBERTS: DMM.

MR. DOODY: Three capital letters. We have allocated \$14,500 for it, \$4,210.90 of which has been paid and other invoices will be coming in.

MR. ROBERTS: It is worth looking ~~into~~.

MR. DOODY: Yes. You would never know what might be in the bottom of these chips, the marble chips I mean. There is an amount of \$198 paid to the University of Waterloo. Well it says here there was a gentleman went there for a development course. It must have been a very short course.

MR. ROBERTS: Or a very undeveloped.

MR. DOODY: I would suspect it was for expenses that were incurred on the way.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, another area of development perhaps the minister could favour us with a statement on, Mr. Spencer Lake, as he knows, I assume, has been up in Bay d'Espoir recently holding meetings and telling the people there of very good news indeed, that

he is going to start a fish plant. He is going to start a hotel or motel operation. He is going to start a sheep farm. He is going to start a cattle farm, as I understand it. He is going to start a sawmill and a lumber operation.

MR. DOODY: Almost a great imperial design.

MR. ROBERTS: Well he has great imperial resources, having whacked \$2.6 million out of the Burgeo plant. The people there naturally are interested and Mr. Lake, as it comes to me. I hasten to say, Mr. Chairman, if you are still with us, it is late -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: I remind honourable members that "This Country in the Morning" starts at 9:13 A.M. according to the note I have in front of me. Actually it is half an hour later here. You know the world ends at 12:30 Newfoundland time. But Mr. Lake, it is reported to me, has told people in the Bay d'Espoir Area, at meeting, not a vast public meeting but a meeting of eight or ten people there - not more than four of whom have called me today. He has told them that he is all set to go, the federal government are all set to go with their DREE money, whatever it may be. I assume it is DREE, but the St. John's Government, the Provincial Government, Her Majesty's ministers, as represented by this sterling collection of scintillating characters, are not ready to go.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, you have to speak from your seat in this Honourable House, Sir, would Your Honour enforce that rule, please.

MR. ROBERTS: We cannot find out if the honourable Minister of Finance is in his own seat or not, that is the problem. But anyway I am passing on the reports as I have them. I do not know whether they are valid or not but I wonder if the minister could perhaps let us in on the situation of exactly what is planned, whether there

is to be any assistance from the province and, if so, what form it is to take and so forth and so on? What about concessions on timber? The timber in Bay d'Espoir I think is mainly owned by Bowaters. The minister may know what Bowaters are up to but it is not government timber to give out. But what is the story?

MR. DOODY: The honourable member has more information on it than I have just to begin with. When I was speaking to Mr. Lake, on Friday I think it was, we spoke primarily of the fish plant. This was his first desire to get a fish plant operation going there. The other things that he mentioned, and I do not think they are as far-reaching - yes, there was the sawmill bit and the motel bit. These were the other two that he spoke about at that time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: Yes, I have no doubt about it. I am just repeating Friday's discussions now, to the best of my recollection, but the fish plant was his prime concern, he said, the other things could come secondary but would we as a government be prepared to assist him to establish a fish plant in Bay d'Espoir? We said we certainly would be, we would do everything we could to help, within the scope of our authority. I suggested that the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Authority might be the vehicle which could draw all the loose reins together, his equity position, whatever it might be, whatever the DREF participation or other federal government participation, whatever participation that the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation itself was prepared to put in, and then the provincial government would look at what was available and find out if it were necessary indeed for the department to become involved financially or not.

I was in Ottawa on Monday and Tuesday. I was talking to the people in the DREF office. To the best of my knowledge they had made no commitment to anybody on the Bay d'Espoir project except to express in terms of general interest that they were quite happy and enthusiastic and would like to see a development there and indeed

we all would. If Mr. Lake made a statement at a meeting, however small or large, that everybody was prepared to go except the Province of Newfoundland, I am afraid he was mistaken. That is not so. As of Friday, we were as prepared to go as anybody. I have yet to see, in great honesty, the colour of Mr. Lake's money or the colour of Ottawa's money, I know what colour our money is, and that is where that project stands right now. I would be delighted to see it go and there is no part of Newfoundland that needs a rural development deal, such as that would be, as Bay d'Espoir.

I sincerely hope that he gets it going, and this government are quite prepared to do everything they can to help him get it going.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I think he would welcome it. It is hardly unexpected that it is the government's desire to help. I mean, as the minister said, there is

no man in the House, Sir, no man who knows anything about Bay d'Espoir who would not want to see it developed up there. I am correct, am I, in suggesting that Mr. Lake had some proposals?

MR. DOODY: He has also done a forestry survey. He has had a forest survey done which he submitted and brought in to us for assessment. It is in the hands of our forestry people. He is trying to get an assessment of the saw log potential in the area.

MR. ROBERTS: I see. Well, that is a sensible, reasonable step, a sensible, reasonable response by the administration. At this stage there is no proposal in the hands of the government as such, not commensurate with the fact we need so much help. Certainly from the minister's understanding, from his talks in Ottawa, with the DREE people, there is nothing further that they have.

I wonder if the minister could say a word or two about one aspect of this business. I have mixed feelings on this, the proposal of a fish plant. Now, Bay d'Espoir, as we all know, is an indraft.

MR. DOODY: I do not know how you do this. You do this all of the time.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Sir, a number of them have fallen into the habit.

MP. DOODY: You are in better shape than I am.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not know about that. Politically I am in far better shape than the minister, of course.

Bay d'Espoir is a long indraft. It must be twenty miles from Bay d'Espoir - we do not have a member here - from St. Alban's maybe down to Spaniards Cove. By the way, I think it is still reserved as a national harbour. Has it been designated?

MR. DOODY: It is designated as a national harbour. I think that Mr. Lake has had some discussions with them with relation to the government wharf that is there. I think then that could be made available to incorporate -

MR. ROBERTS: That would mean the wharf was being used, which would

be a nice thing. Anyway it is a fair distance in from the sea. Now Mr. Lake directly or through interests in which he is associated operates the plant at Gaultois and the plant at Ramea. Indeed I believe that he now makes his home in Ramea in so far as he has a home in Newfoundland. Of course, he formerly operated with considerable success the fish plant at Burgeo. He took it over from Fishery Products - they went out in the mid-fifties I think - Mr. Lake took it over and did very well. He did best of all by selling it to a government anxious to please.

The point that concerns me is not just the indraft. That is a factor that would mean so many extra minutes or hours steaming. I have understood from any number of people who presumably know - I confess that I do not because what expertise I have is not in this field - that most fish plants in Newfoundland now are facing supply problems. The plant in Harbour Breton is definitely facing supply problems. A little later I am going to ask the minister a little about trawlers, extra fish capacity going into Harbour Breton. He mentioned it here in the House. Even if he had not, I think I probably should have stumbled on that for some strange reason

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: You mentioned it.

MR. ROBERTS: Did I? Well, the minister mentioned it at one stage as we were chatting about the -

MR. DOODY: You asked what a trawler boat was.

MR. ROBERTS: No, no. I mentioned that, sure. I am not sure what it was on. On an estimate of the two boats that are now being built at Marystown. One of them is gone to National Sea and the other the minister said may go to Harbour Breton. It may or may not, we do not know. I hope that he will say a few words about it.

The problem is that most fish plants are running into supply problems. Indeed this is the basic problem with the fishery now in that our resource is anything but infinite. We

may well be within the bounds of the finite measure. We may well have to start rationing ourselves. This is a point to which I would like to hear the minister address himself. I agree with the need for employment in Bay d' Espoir. No part of the province needs it more. A fish plant is a very good thing although the people in Bay d' Espoir have never fished. Should we have a quorum called? They should really be here. It is not late. It is two thirty o'clock.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: My cousins? I cannot claim, Your Honour, being related to them.

Bay d' Espoir is not known as a fishing area. You get out further on the coast, Francois, MacCallums or over on the other side -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: They are lumber people.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, they are lumber people, loggers. Bowaters are in there. Whatever Bay d' Espoir is noted for, it has never been noted as a fishing area. That is a consideration because one must look at the labour supply. I wonder if the minister could tell us whether any thought has been given to the question of fish supplies, to the question of trawlers. Mr. Lake is short of trawlers now, as I understand it, and he could use more. Also there have been persistent reports going back for years that the Lake interests would like to close the Gaultois Plant for a lot of reasons.

Indeed I can recall at one stage, when Mr. Pickersgill was in the Cabinet in Ottawa in 1963, and I was working on his staff then. That was the year when ENB began the plan of putting water supplies into the plants. They have done most of the plants around Newfoundland now. The Gaultois Plant has a desperate water supply situation because Gaultois has a desperate water supply. It is rock. I mean there is just no water. There was some considerable discussion given then

to whether or not one should just close Gaultois and move the whole plant, community and everything else to the mainland, up to Bay d' Espoir somewhere. It was mentioned at the time. It came to nothing. It was not mentioned by Mr. Pickersgill but it was mentioned to him. I happened to be at a meeting where it was discussed. It came to nothing. It was not a serious suggestion. I wonder if perhaps the minister could tell us whether Mr. Lake may have this in mind now.

Gaultois is a difficult location. That is one fact. It has a water problem. That is another fact. It has a bad pollution problem. That is a third fact. Gaultois is also a deep sea plant. Ninety-nine per cent of the fish going into the Gaultois Plant is deep sea fish, draggers and trawlers.

Bay d' Espoir has no fishing tradition of that sort. Bay d' Espoir does have lots of land. I should think a good water supply is readily accessible. That is fine. We also know as another fact that the pressure on the fishery resources is getting very great. The people are becoming very concerned. The industry is becoming very concerned. Richard Cashin and the union are becoming terribly concerned. Ottawa are becoming concerned. I assume what is left of our fisheries department is concerned. Could the minister dilate a little on this because if Mr. Lake is talking of a fish plant at Bay d' Espoir, you know these other aspects I think should be examined as well. Perhaps while the minister is on his feet he could talk about Harbour Breton. They have had persistent shortages and the plant has been operating maybe half-time. When I say shortages, I mean shortages of fish. They do not get enough fish. I think that there are two trawlers operating in the area now. There may be three.

Are we going to get another trawler going into Harbour Breton? Perhaps that other boat that is being built at Marystown?

The minister shakes his head. I gather the decision may have been to put it somewhere else. Could the minister tell us about it?

I think that it is something that is of concern to a lot of people.

MR. DOODY: The first is the Gaultois situation that you mentioned. You mentioned various facts which are undoubtedly facts. What Mr. Lake's intentions are regarding Gaultois is something that I have no knowledge of. I know nothing of it at all. We did discuss the labour situation as far as fish plant workers were concerned in Bay d'Espoir Area. He did not seem to be particularly concerned though. As I say, we have no definite proposal on paper from Mr. Lake nor have our federal counterparts any such proposal. So, it is difficult to make an assessment or a judgement of exactly what his intentions are except for the broad statement that this is a development that he would like to see. We would all like to see it. It is one of these things that I think too much has been said about without enough concrete background information. It is the sort of thing that raises the hopes of people who live in an area.

MR. ROBERTS: That is well taken but the problem is apparently Mr. Lake has been in contact.

MR. DOODY: That is right. Unfortunately I am not in a position to add any more to Mr. Lake's comments than the dialogue that we have had so far.

The fish supply I can say is a matter of concern to everybody. It is the supply of particular species I suppose that is the problem. There are various species that we are not fishing at all.

MR. ROBERTS: Look at the dogfish.

MR. DOODY: Well, there is also butterfish and squid and there are various kinds of mid-water fish and various species that we are not using at all. That is another matter. These plants and these firms with the technology to keep up with the industry are not having the supply problem that some other companies are having.

National Sea, for instance, had to truck a million and a half pounds of fish to Maine to get cut this week because they did not have enough plant facilities to handle all of the fish that they are bringing in. There are other plants as you say that are not getting nearly enough fish.

You mentioned the Harbour Breton fish supply. It is a chronic problem. The people down there are just not getting a fair deal. They are just not working enough. It is a crime to call it a fish plant operation. Putting one of these new stern trawlers from Marystown in there will not solve that problem. You have to remodel the plant to accept that particular trawler. You need a big high-loading apparatus. It takes a double-channelled wind blower. To put that particular trawler into the Burgeo plant would take about five days, to ice it and unload it and get it out again. You cannot have a ship like that tied up that long because they are too much money. They can turn around here at the St. John's Plant in a relatively short period of time. So, it is not just a matter of getting one of these sophisticated trawlers into some of these plants. The problem is a great deal more complex than that. They are old and they have not been modernized. Some of them are going to have to be, if they are going to keep up with the industry.

MR. ROBERTS: So, that second trawler from Marystown is not going to Harbour Breton then?

MR. DOODY: As of this moment it is not.

MR. ROBERTS: Where is it going to?

MR. DOODY: I do not know. If it does not go to Burgeo, an alternate supply of fish equal to what it can put in will have to go to Burgeo. It is no secret that we have been talking to National Fish trying to get them to take over the Burgeo Plant, on the management agreement or whatever kind of an agreement.

MR. ROBERTS: Will they pay \$2 6 million for it?

MR. DOODY: I doubt it very much. I do not think that national companies are as concerned about the social conditions of peoples' lives as we are, this crowd, as my huddy calls us.

The same problem then applies in Burgeo with respect to that particular type trawler. It would cost maybe another million dollars or more to put in these necessary icing machinery, the unloading machinery and the handling facilities to accommodate that one trawler plus the fact that you get crude products. Who wants to fish in one of these relatively old side trawlers when they have one of these. It has been known for skippers and engineers to quit the side trawlers to go to work as deck hands on these new stern trawlers because they make that much more money on them. So, as we have all found out in life, nothing is very simple.

I think that is about all the comments that I can make about the fish situation. I am in economic development not fisheries.

MR. ROBERTS: I think the minister makes a lot more sense than the present Minister of Fisheries does when he talks about fisheries. I do not know if it is under this heading or not, Mr. Chairman, and I confess making a little work on it. I have reason to believe that the Burgeo Plant is not making a great deal of money. I know there is nothing under here, so where does this work come? I mean, is it under industrial development? Is it under fisheries? The government at some point -

MR. DOODY: I guess it is under NIDC, in Finance.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I am sure if the Minister of Finance could hide it, he would have. I am sure that he is quite ashamed of it. Who is the minister responsible, if you wish, for the government's administration of Burgeo?

MR. DOODY: I guess I am.

MR. ROBERTS: You mean nobody wants the dirty job so the junior member for Harbour Main takes it? Well, maybe he can tell us a little bit about Burgeo then. What is it costing us, please?

MR. DOODY: We have had the first financial statement for the first six months of operation which showed a loss of \$90,000.

MR. ROBERTS: On what basis? Taking in capital costs or is that just an operating loss?

MR. DOODY: That is an operating loss.

MR. ROBERTS: What would the capital cost allowance be or depreciation if you wish?

MR. DOODY: I do not honestly know.

MR. ROBERTS: Would it be fair to take a tenth of the capital cost?

MR. DOODY: No. That is after depreciation.

MR. ROBERTS: That is after depreciation. Will that statement be tabled here in the House?

MR. DOODY: I do not see why it should not be.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not see why it should not be either but I am the one that is asking.

MR. DOODY: I know. I am the one who is trying to find the reason why it should not be.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister has said what he meant and meant what he said. Will the statement be tabled in the House?

MR. DOODY: I will certainly ask the people more knowledgeable than I am. That is financial. I do not know, I presume it is.

MR. ROBERTS: After we own the plant, we the people of Newfoundland.

MR. DOODY: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Tabled next year but will it be tabled now, this year?

MR. DOODY: Only the public accounts

MR. ROBERTS: Well, so much for the great information that the government were going to hand out. They have spent \$2.6 million on a plant. They get, granted, an unaudited statement. That is fine. They will not even table that. That is interesting. More

than a six month statement. We have had a year of operations now. We have owned the plant for over twelve months.

MR. DOODY: The statement is for the first six months.

MR. ROBERTS: The six month statement will not be audited. Why can a six month statement not be tabled?

MR. DOODY: It might give the wrong impression.

MR. ROBERTS: Of course it might give the wrong impression. Not tabling it will give the wrong impression no doubt.

MR. DOODY: I think we will be in a position to make a pretty definite statement on the Burgeo situation within the next few weeks. As I say, we are talking to National Sea.

MR. ROBERTS: Now, let us talk about National Sea. We have noted that the administration have no intention of giving -

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable Leader of the Opposition will allow. We are discussing 1503-03 which is the fisheries research.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, assessment of the Burgeo Fish Plant surely. The minister has told us that he is the minister responsible for the government's involvement with the Burgeo Fish Plant.

MR. DOODY: Yes. I do not mind talking about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable members wish to discuss it.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: It is out of order.

MR. W. ROWE: It is not out of order.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I was about to ask about National Sea. If the minister would tell us what National Sea have been doing in Burgeo - there have been reports in the press but that is rather a poor way for the full story to come out, because the reports have not been quoting the minister. They have just been speculative or pieced together from a bit of information here and bit of information there.

MR. DOODY: I made no statement to the press.

MR. ROBERTS: No. That is what I just said. It is hardly a full and frank disclosure of. After all the people of Newfoundland own this plant. They have put \$2.6 million into it. That will cost

\$250,000 a year to service that amount of debt. We lost, we are told, \$90,000 in the first six months. So that is another \$200,000 a year which by the way is the figure that I have given all along that the plant will lose from the way it is being managed. What is going to happen to it?

Not only are the people in Newfoundland interested, Mr. Chairman, but the people of Burgeo community, the island, are vitally interested because that plant is probably the factor in the economic life of that community.

MR. DOODY: That is why we bought it.

MR. ROBERTS: I have never quarrelled with the decision to buy it. I have had some, shall we say, doubts about the price. Even the ministry have not attempted to defend the price. They realized that for what it was. What is the situation? How is it being run now? Is it being run as a crown corporation? Mr. Kevin, Smart, I think hired from Ramea. He was assistant manager I believe there to Mr. Hector Reid, manager at Ramea. Mr. Smart was the second in command. He is a very smart man indeed. Everything that I know about him is quite good. He has some relatives whose political affiliations are dubious but that is not why he was hired. His brother-in-law is in the political business. He is a good fish plant man. There is no doubt about that. I would be interested to know what the arrangement is. Has he been hired on a long-term arrangement? Is he a civil servant? Is there a crown corporation up there now? So forth and so on.

I may add, part and parcel there must be about forty questions destined for the order paper on some of the intricacies of the Burgeo plant. Maybe the minister could tell us a little. Also he could tell us about National Sea. Do they plan to take it over? Under what terms? We hear talk of very large sums having to be spent if the plant is to carry on. Apparently it was not maintained very well over the years. Like many of these things

it was just enough to keep her going. I gather we are coming relatively close to the point where major expenditures must be made if the plant is to remain competitive. That is significant because there is only one place, Mr. Chairman, that money can come from. There is only one place. It is not going to come from Spencer Lake. It is not going to come from National Sea. I submit there is only one place it will come from and that is out of the pockets of the citizens of this province, through the government. So, could the minister bring us up to date on that?

MR. DOODY: Yes to the point where I can. As I say, National Sea, at my request, sent two of their engineers in there a few weeks ago or maybe a month ago. They did a survey of the plant facilities and the operation and the efficiencies and what have you or the lack of efficiencies. About three or four days ago I received the report from them in the mail. Only this morning I met with Mr. Morrow for about three hours or so and we discussed the whole situation. I have not had a chance to report the discussion, the findings or my recommendations to government, so that I am not privileged at this time to go into that.

MR. ROBERTS: Why not? The government answers to the House.

MR. DOODY: They will.

MR. ROBERTS: They will also answer to the people.

MR. DOODY: Oh yes. That has been demonstrated conclusively.

The manager is Kevin Smart. He is on a one-year contract. His salary is around \$20,000 per year, \$18,000 to \$20,000 per year or something in that area. It is off the top of my head.

It is a crown corporation. There are four directors who are all members of the Cabinet. The government crown corporation has also hired an accountant and put him in down there, Mr. Lockyer, who worked with the Riddell Stead or whatever the accounting company was who did their books down there. Anyway we hired him from that company and now he is residing in Burgeo and he is looking after the

accounting for us.

As was suggested, there are repairs and there are improvements and there are capital works that have to be done down there if the plant is to remain competitive and viable. It quite obviously is, if I may use one of your own favorite expressions, a penetrating insight into the obvious.

MR. ROBERTS: A very good phrase.

MR. DOODY: I remember it well. You chomped me on television one afternoon or one night.

MR. ROBERTS: Me! I would not have done that to the minister, would I?

MR. DOODY: It was pathetic but I took it in good sorts. I knew at heart you were a kind person.

MR. ROBERTS: Deep-down beneath it all.

MR. DOODY: Beneath it all.

The money has to come from the Provincial Treasury. I think that properly managed and properly run, with the improvements that are necessary, it can and will pay and it will also return the money that is necessary for the capital improvements. Whether it will return the money that was necessary for the acquisition of the plant remains to be seen. That will be paramount in our negotiations with them. That is about all that I can tell you about Burgeo at the present time.

On motion 1503-03 to 1503-06 carried.

MR. W. ROWE: How is the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation coming along? Is it operational now, Mr. Chairman? Is she operating?

MR. DOODY: Yes, it is operating. They have an office down on Bond Street, in the old Parkins Academy Building, which has a fancy new name on it which escapes me. They have a staff and they have a bagful of applications and they are working on them and processing them. I have not been close to it. I have not been chasing Mr. Spencer to find out how many people he has worked with or given loans or grants to. I do not know.

It was hoped here earlier that there would be no political involvement with the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation. I assure this House that there has not been. We are having some difficulties with the funding of it, I might say, in terms of the agreement. The equity amounts are the problem. It is the old Ottawa Formula. It has to be feasible and viable and then these people will be allowed, the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation will be allowed to put in three-for-one in terms of and in ratio of,

MR. ROBERTS: Twenty-five per cent must be equitable.

MR. DOODY: That is right. So, the Government of Newfoundland has a \$2 million equity position on this. There is a \$20 million federal loan fund in there. In order to get most of the applicants equity positions up where they can get a reasonable amount of money from the loan fund, the poor old Government of Newfoundland once again has to throw in the risk capitals.

MR. ROBERTS: Cape St. Mary's Bay's throw.

MR. DOODY: There we go again, the same old story.

However, we were talking

to our federal minister, our mutual friend -

MR. ROBERTS: A great fellow.

MR. DOODY: He is one of the better people. He promises to look into this and see if he can do something to make it a little easier or to loosen it up a bit. As a matter of fact I think the DREE people scored a small victory in getting it three-to-one. The Department of Finance up there were insisting that it be two-to-one. They are going to try once more.

MR. ROBERTS: The Departments of Finance are like that all over.

MR. DOODY: It was not like that. Under the old regime here they were a pretty loose and lax outfit. However, the thing is operational. It has not been as effective as we would have liked it to have been because of that reason. I do believe though that it can be made so in a short period of time. I hope so because there are an awful lot of people waiting.

MR. ROBERTS: Have they actually approved a loan as yet?

MR. DOODY: I do not know. They had five or six better ones out on the table a few days ago when I was talking with them and they were then trying to find ways and means of bending the rules to get these five or six better ones.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister has a director within easy reach.

MR. DOODY: That is right.

MR. ROBERTS: I mean has a loan - the director would presumably know.

MR. DOODY: None have been approved. Oh, I am sorry. Some have been approved but money has not been actually passed out to the lucky few. I do not know who they are. Maybe it is just as well that I do not, then there is no political involvement at all.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Is the corporation, Mr. Chairman, just about into everything? There was a thought at one point that they would not

be getting into service industries or something like that. They would get into sort of manufacturing, productive industries. How far away from that position has the corporation come, i.e., if a motel has to be put up, do they fund that or do they assist in funding that, service stations and that sort of thing?

MR. DOODY: In a service industry such as a motel, they would only be too happy to get involved. That is an obvious asset to the tourist industry. They will be reluctant to get involved in the service stations. There are many service stations and everybody in Newfoundland either seems to want a service station or a grocery store.

MR. ROBERTS: Will they be aiding the Hotel Inn. I hear that Holiday Inn is going to get a big extension.

MR. DOODY: I doubt very much if the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation will be involved. I cannot imagine Holiday Inn fooling around with government for a paltry \$1 million. Maybe they are. I do not know what their application is but they have made a policy decision in the Newfoundland Labrador Development Corporation that these sort of things: grocery stores, retail stores, service stations and garages are not really within their terms of reference or their scope. They are much more interested in getting a resource-based thing or a manufacturing thing, secondary industry, motels and this sort of thing.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister would tell the committee what is the interest rate on the loans and is it varying with the size of the loan?

MR. DOODY: The bank rate has to be a minimum of one per cent above the rate that we borrowed from the federal government, so it will not be less than nine per cent.

MR. WOODWARD: (Inaudible).

MR. DOODY: No, it is nobody's handout and that is for sure.

Seven and eleven-sixteenths we are paying for it now.

MR. WOODWARD: So, Mr. Chairman, are we not competing with the Industrial Development Bank in Labrador City?

MR. DOODY: No, we are not competing with it.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I must say that I had understood that this corporation would not only be taking risk capital, going into ventures which perhaps the more orthodox institutions - IDB is a relatively orthodox institution. They put out a fair amount of money into Newfoundland.

MR. DOODY: Ottawa orthodox.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, you can get money from them sometimes when you may not get it from a commercial bank or a mortgage company. They turned down a lot of opportunities to take a bit of a flier.

MR. DOODY: It is not the venture capital programme that we need.

MR. ROBERTS: The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, as I understood it, (I think all of us were working on it. It began with us and is being carried through by the present administration) was to be very much a venture organization, not fliers, not gambles nor divided carefully calculated gambles, the shrewd assessment of the writ.

MR. DOODY: Calculated risk.

MR. ROBERTS: If it looked like it was worth the effort, worth the cash or what is at stake, go ahead. It appears that it is not to be this at all. It appears to becoming somewhat of a - nine per cent or eight per cent money is fairly dear money.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Not really? I think it is fairly dear money. It certainly is not much of an incentive. Are there to be capital deferments? It might be a matter of no interest for the first three, four or five years but eight or nine per cent money is fairly dear. The province

is borrowing what? Is it eight per cent or eight an a point now?

AN HON. MEMBER: The province is better than that.

MR. ROBERTS: The province may be better than that. They may well be better than that. It all depends on what the market is. It will go down and it will go up. The Minister of Finance really has nothing to do with it.

MR. DOODY: We are also obliged to keep a reserve against bad debts. We are not going to be able to -

MR. ROBERTS: All I can say I guess -

MR. DOODY: Under the terms of the agreement we have.

MR. ROBERTS: There are going to be an awful lot of disappointed people who have been led to believe that the corporation was the answer to almost all their prayers, that there would be available in Newfoundland a significant source of venture capital in the best sense of that word and instead it appears what we have is in many ways, as my friend from Labrador North says, another IDB prepared to look at things that normal banks may not consider to be the thing.

MR. DOODY: We have a few advantages. We have a tremendous manager there, Mr. Frank Spencer, who is quite capable of getting involved into situations where the IDB would not look. Our biggest problem there are the terms of reference and we want them changed and so does Ottawa. I think we will get that done.

MR. ROBERTS: If the two parties to an agreement want to change the agreement to which they only are the two parties, they should be able to manage that much.

MR. DOODY: But how far, I am not in a position to say.

MR. ROBERTS: I do commend it to the minister because not only is there a need for this type of thing in the spectrum of industrial development or economic development policies but many people expect that the corporation is precisely that.

MR. DOODY: Including myself.

MR. ROBERTS: Including the minister. Well that makes two of us then and perhaps other honourable members feel the same way. I know little about the conception. It is conceived as being very much risk capital, very much the place which might look at things that ordinarily would not be looked at.

MR. DOODY: I was not present at the conception but I saw the birth.

MR. ROBERTS: Well then the minister is a very bad midwife because he was part of the administration which signed the agreement, negotiated and concluded the negotiations.

MR. DOODY: Well it had been hanging fire for months, months and months.

MR. ROBERTS: Well that it is true. It took fifteen months I think after the present administration assumed the reins of office. The point is that they concluded it. If they were not happy with it, they should have waited even longer because they are now in the position of having to go back again.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Eighteen drafts when we left office.

MR. ROBERTS: Were there eighteen? Well there was something like that. There was a thundering row going on about whether there would be three Newfoundland directors or two in these great issues of principle with the Ottawa bureaucrats. What was it? We had a great row one day, Mr. Chairman, on whether the Ottawa director had to be a resident of Newfoundland or not. There was a great thundering row over there.

MR. DOODY: Whether they should be signed in Ottawa or St. John's.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I mean there are very great questions of principle that have to be worked out here. Leaving all that aside, the fact remains that most people in this province believe and I suspect still believe

that the corporation is many things that apparently it is not to be.

MR. DOODY: It might be.

MR. ROBERTS: It might be but the fact remains what we have is not what we thought we were going to get.

MR. DOODY: Exactly.

MR. ROBERTS: We will have something over \$2 million in this by the end of this fiscal year.

MR. DOODY: That is right. We also found it necessary to put the entire \$2 million in here.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, that is our -

MR. DOODY: Otherwise there would be no equity for these people.

MR. ROBERTS: That is our entire commitment at this stage.

MR. DOODY: All in there in the beginning.

MR. ROBERTS: Well that is the old story, government money always goes in first and comes out last, if at all. But again that does not bother me if one gets the results. Anyway I guess what we really will have to do is wait a bit. Mr. Spencer is certainly one of the most capable men ever attracted back to this province. I think Mr. Jamieson should get a lot of the credit. It was Mr. Jamieson and his people who sought him out. The Premier looks up expectantly. The Premier sought him out? Well all I can say is that Mr. Jamieson told me a long time ago that the Premier was involved in it, that Frank Spencer was interested in coming back to Newfoundland.

MR. DOODY: I will give Mr. Jamieson full marks for many things but not -

MR. ROBERTS: Well I do not mean to do the Premier a disservice. I mean I do him enough services and disservices in the course.

MR. MOORES: A three-way mutual agreement.

MR. ROBERTS: A three-way mutual agreement. Well then the Premier is right up there with Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Spencer. But Mr. Spencer is one of the most capable people we have attracted into the development sector in this province.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is Mr. Spencer?

MR. ROBERTS: Frank Spencer took the -

MR. ROWE (W.N.): I want to know how capable he is.

MR. ROBERTS: Well he took the Fortune Plant which had gone bust. The government sold it, I think for \$50,000 or \$100,000, to Booth.

MR. DOODY: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: So the \$50,000 did not come in, it went out.

At the time the Progressive Conservative, as I recall it, -

AN HON. MEMBER: Booth-Reid.

MR. ROBERTS: No, it was not Booth-Reid. It might have been even more successful and more costly.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): If it were Booth-Reid, it would be more than \$50,000.

MR. ROBERTS: But Booth Fisheries - this was decried at the time by the Progressive Conservatives as being a give-away and they took that plant at Fortune, which I guess had been built by the government, Had it?

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. ROBERTS: Who was it built for?

MR. HICKMAN: It was built by the Dicksons.

MR. ROBERTS: The Dickson Family of Grand Bank and Fortune?

MR. HICKMAN: Of course.

MR. ROBERTS: The government ended up with it under a mortgage of some sort - you know the old story. The Fortune Plant now I guess it is

prosperous and as good as any plant we have in this province. They are expanding very significantly. There is a lot of DREE money. I guess they have no money at all from the province.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): It is because of their member.

MR. ROBERTS: Because of their member. It could be. I see him down -

MR. CROSBIE: He is a magnificent human being.

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Chairman, really is something else. I do not know what the gentleman from Burin should say about that. It is pretty hard to take offence at being called a magnificent human being especially when one is called - I am sorry.

MR. HICKMAN: (Inaudible) Chief Justice.

MR. ROBERTS: Chief Justice? He should hope. He should hope, Sir. He should pray, not hope.

MR. DOODY: It sounds like the appeals court today.

MR. ROBERTS: I must say - nowhere to go. That greater human being will not let him come in because of that. Actually I thought that the member -

MR. CROSBIE: You would have to draw straws.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes and the loser has to stay in the cabinet with the Premier. The winner gets to go to the court. Seriously the corporation, unless it can be straightened out, is obviously going to be a very great disappointment. One might go a step further and say it is very much a failure, when one measures against what it set out to do. There is not much more I can say on it now. Obviously there will be some debate on it in the House when the bill comes up, and to authorize the agreement. But even more to the point this is what it is. We will have to wait a year and see what comes of it. It is too bad though because I really had expected more. I am disconcerted to find out now that so little has come.

I guess all I can do is wish the minister well and hope that Mr. Jamieson can somehow get it solved for us.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before the item is carried, there are a couple of questions I would like to ask the committee. Mr. Chairman, maybe the honourable minister can inform the committee as to the total amount of equity that is going into the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation. Maybe he would like to file with the committee any directions or documents that he has as to the formation of this particular corporation. I think people are skeptical of what is going on. No one has seen anything on it. What direction has the minister given to the corporation as to the formation of it? What type of loan are we giving?

MR. DOODY: There were 600 copies of that agreement distributed around the province, to municipalities and all interested parties. There are lots available if you want a copy.

MR. WOODWARD: I have not seen them.

MR. DOODY: He has not? Has he asked?

MR. WOODWARD: I have not seen any information on it.

MR. DOODY: Did he ask the department for a copy of the agreement? He did not ask me, did he?

MR. WOODWARD: No I did not ask him.

MR. DOODY: Okay, I can get him one.

MR. WOODWARD: Okay. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

On motion 1504-03, carried.

On motion 1505-01, carried.

On motion 1506-03 to 1506-10, carried.

On motion Block Provision Canada Pension Plan, carried.

On motion Block Provision Unemployment Insurance, carried.

MR. DOODY: There is one item I think I should mention before we close up. There was a lot of talk about political patronage here

tonight and I thought someone was going to ask me about Newfoundland Hardwoods Limited. I just wanted to mention the directors and the previous, last year's, directors' fees. Financial statements for 1967-1972 inclusive indicated that \$60,000 was paid as directors' fees for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1971. Mr. Gordon F. Pushie advises that these were the only fees ever paid in the company's history and these were divided as follows: (This is an amazing thing because it was the last year) Mr. Gordon F. Pushie, \$10,000; Mr. Leslie R. Curtis, \$10,000; Mr. Arthur R. Lundrigan, \$10,000; Mr. Chesley A. Pippy, \$10,000; Mr. Donald K. Dawe, \$10,000 and the manager of the plant who is also a director received the director's fee. These were the directors' fees for Newfoundland Hardwoods. There were some legal fees paid out there also, from 1966, to Mr. Donald K. Dawe who was also a director. In 1966 there was \$1,748; 1967, \$1,875; 1968, \$5,965; 1969, \$5,236; 1970, \$6,062; 1971, \$5,317; 1972, \$5,312 paid. I have no doubt that Mr. Dawe earned these legal fees. As the hon. member for Bell Island said; anything we can do for legal-aid is a step forward in Newfoundland."

I just want to pass this information along because I did not want the honourable members of this House to feel that we were the only ones who are helping our friends from time to time.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL - HEAD III - 301-01.

On motion 301-01 through to 301-06, carried.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, on this particular vote of 302-01, I guess the best thing to do is to wait until 303 comes up to discuss this as well. On the Premier's Office, Sir, there is an increase in salaries, not as substantial as the one under Executive Council Office, which I think is the major one to be discussed. It

will require explanation regarding the planning and priorities committee, the various secretariates in the Treasury Board and so on. Regarding the Premier's Office itself, the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs has been put under this particular vote and that includes at the present time quite a few people who had previously been with the Department of Community and Social Development. This section of the Premier's Office still needs to be revamped so to speak because there are quite a few people here that moved in from that department. Even though they were probably skilled at their function in the previous department, it does not necessarily mean that they will be in this one. However the function will have to be done. It is a major function. This particular group, the group in charge of Intergovernmental Affairs, will primarily co-ordinate with the federal government, the various DREE projects, particularly in conjunction and act really as a liaison with the line departments.

I think rather, Mr. Chairman, than carry on with any great speeches at this time, I will await the comments of the various members of the opposition and try to answer to the best of my ability any questions they have regarding this particular vote.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of points to be made with respect to - as the Premier said 302 and 303 are not inextricably linked but they are very closely linked. Head 302 has a fairly significant salary increase in it, 302-01, because last year that vote, which was \$315,000 in the revised figures, included the infamous Information Newfoundland. Information Newfoundland was paid out of that vote last year. We had a substantial supplementary. The estimate as presented to the House last year was \$221,000. I see the ministry estimated, as of the date of the revised estimates, \$315,000. That is an increase of about \$95,000. That in itself is significant. Then furthermore, in that money last year there was a

director of Information Services; a research officer; a press information officer and there was a communications clerk, all of whom are now elsewhere. I think they have been shunted over to Supply and Services because Information Newfoundland has failed completely in its attempt to be a good propaganda organ and has been shunted aside. We do not hear very much about Mr. Bulter and his people these days. Anyway there is a significant increase there and I wonder if perhaps the Premier could say a few words about it.

Going down in the salary appendix, Mr. Chairman, we have a Premier, that is reassuring, a parliamentary assistant, that is even more reassuring, four personal assistants at \$42,800 total. I wonder if the Premier could indicate possibly which people. When I say political, the stenographers are not political but the rest of these people are political appointments, of course. There are four personal assistants and a total of \$42,800 is requested, Perhaps he could indicate who these people are and how much each is being paid. There is a press secretary at \$16,000 and a special assistant at \$10,000. I assume that is the hon. gentleman from Trinity North.

MR. MOORES: Green Bay.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh, Green Bay, I am sorry. The hon. gentleman from Trinity North is a parliamentary assistant and the hon. gentleman from Green Bay is the special assistant. There is a private secretary for the Premier. Who is that?

MR. MOORES: Miss Ford.

MR. ROBERTS: Miss Ford. Where does Mrs. Nugent - she is the personal assistant?

MR. MOORES: Yes, personal assistant.

MR. ROBERTS: We have a director of administration too. That sounds like a civil service position. There is a secretary to an executive assistant, that is interesting because there is no

executive assistant listed. The parliamentary assistant has a secretary; and the special assistant has a secretary. We have a Clerk IV and there are three Clerks III; two Clerk-Stenographers II; a Clerk-Typist I and a Mail-Messenger Clerk. There is a substantial amount for extra assistance.

Mr. Chairman, that is a very large amount of money. I have not even touched on the Intergovernmental Affairs Division which has in it some very high-priced people. I assume these are the people to whom the Premier referred. Mr. Peter vanEs and Mr. Sametz I think were there. They would be the two, special adviser and special co-ordinator. I would like to know who the provincial co-ordinator of work programmes is, whatever that may be. There is an Engineer II and an Economist II. Are those positions filled and if so by whom?

Now by means of comparison, Mr. Chairman, I have done a little research. I do not have all of the provinces here but one might be interested to know for example that in New Brunswick, the Premier's Office for this year, the estimates before the House there are \$187,000 for staff, for salary costs. That is a little more than one-half the cost of our Premier's Office here.

MR. MOORES: That is without the intergovernmental affairs. Ours is \$187,900 with the -

MR. ROBERTS: It says Premier's personal staff.

MR. MOORES: How much was that again?

MR. ROBERTS: The figure I have is \$187,535. In Saskatchewan the information I have is that the Premier's Office is \$167,000 and the planning and research branch of the N.D.P. Executive Council is another \$148,000. The total is \$315,000. Our comparable total here (it is hard to compare it accurately because Treasury Board is included) would be substantially higher. In the Province of British Columbia, a rather

large province, the total salary including the Premier's full salary, as Premier and as minister, an executive assistant, etc., etc., etc., all the way down, including a press secretary at \$16,000, is \$131,000, substantially less than here. That is the Premier's Office in British Columbia.

In Ontario we have the only province really that can compare. The information on Ontario, as the Premier's Office is defined, is a little under \$1 million. It is \$995,000, which it cost Mr. Davis to maintain the office of the Premier in Ontario last year. The personal staff, I am told of Mr. Davis, as the Premier of Ontario or as he would say, the Prime Minister of Ontario -

AN HON. MEMBER: No quorum.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten - Mr. Chairman, they really should be in to hear the Premier's estimates. I think that is a decency and a courtesy they owe their leader. They also owe it to the Premier. Come on boys, no cigarettes, no snoozing off. Oh, there they are, their smiling faces. I do not know where old faithful is. Have we a quorum, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. ROBERTS: Okay, thank you, Sir. Now as I was saying Mr. Davis, the Premier of Ontario, has a staff of about eighty people. Ontario is a province of seven million in population. We have one-half million. Our Premier's personal staff comes to twenty-one or thirty-five if one adds in the Intergovernmental Affairs Division, if one adds in the whole executive council, it is thirty and one hundred and thirty-one, which is one hundred and sixty-six. The Premier of Ontario has eighty on his personal staff and our Premier has either twenty-one or thirty.

The point of all this, Mr. Chairman is quite simply that the Premier of Newfoundland now has a personal staff that is grotesquely swollen. Is there not a quorum again? My oratory is repelling. Mr. Chairman, there is no quorum. Come on boys! Be in here and hear this now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a quorum.

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, that is very good. There are eighteen members in the House and that means if five leave, any five, take your pick, take your card, there is one left, A couple of more have drifted in. The point of it is, quite simply, Mr. Chairman, in a sentence or two, that the Premier of the Province today has a personal staff that is very, very large. I submit it is swollen. I think we are being asked to pay too much. I may add that the figures I read do not include the chief executive assistant to the Premier, as I understand the gentleman will come under the vote a little later and is paid out of a head of either professional fees or consultants, I am not sure which one. He is paid out of that subhead because I gather he has a contract and he is not an established civil servant in the sense that these other people are. It is very large. I do not agree with it. My colleagues do not agree with it. We think it is too large.

By means of comparison (I have these figures here somewhere but I have so many it is hard to tell sometimes)

MR. ROBERTS: yes, here we are, in 1969-1970, the salaries for the Premier's office amounted to \$168,000, these are from the estimates. In 1970-1970 they came to \$145,000. In 1971-1972 they came to \$136,000 for eighteen people. Now we are asked to vote, Mr. Chairman, for twenty-one people, \$187,000, a quite significant increase, Sir.

I guess all I can do is make the point. It is not the sort of thing that at 3:20 in the morning even I can make great, thundering speeches about. I think we are being ill-served. I think it is too large and I submit, with all respect to the Premier, I do not begrudge him any help at all, that is the Premier's prerogative. The Premier of this province has enough to carry without having to worry about lack of staff but I think we have too many and I think the Premier as a result is ill-served.

I think the staff is too large. It is lacking in direction, and it shows clearly in the position in which the Premier often finds himself.

Now having said that, I guess I should let the Premier say a word or two. I suspect he will disagree with me. He cannot disagree on the facts because those are facts but he will presumably differ on the interpretation I have placed upon them and that is the way it tends to be in this business. Just to repeat - if the Premier could identify, please, the people (do not worry about stenographers and so forth) political people. I think we would be interested in seeing who is who down there.

Are we short a quorum again? Two, four, six, eight, ten, eleven and I am twelve -

AN HON. MEMBER: Thirteen, fourteen -

MR. ROBERTS: No, that is not the floor of the House. Looking out the window is not the floor of the House anymore than a minister is not a company which he owns, separate things. Fourteen, the House of Assembly Act says.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh yes unless I leave, sure.

MR. HICKEY: The honourable gentleman is free to leave.

MR. ROBERTS: No, I cannot speak if I am not here. Is that not right?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: My honourable friend is outside the House, that is the bar of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a quorum here now.

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We need seat belts for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I wonder would it be in order for the Chair to implore the committee, particularly the government side, that we try to keep a quorum in the committee. This has been repeated far too many times tonight. I think if the honourable gentlemen will put a little effort into it they could remain in their seats.

MR. ROBERTS: I agree with you, Sir, completely and if they had a Whip or if their Whip were here, He has taken leave. Our Whip is here, He may be off duty for a few minutes but he is here. If the honourable gentlemen want him to come in and speak for a couple of hours, I am sure he gladly would on this subhead and he would be very entertaining and very eloquent and very effective.

AN HON. MEMBER: He has gone home.

MR. ROBERTS: Gone home, has he? Maybe, he may be off duty.

AN HON. MEMBER: He left word for you to carry on.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I hope the minister's estimates are called next because we have some special treatment in store for the minister, a way to show our affection for him.

Anyway I think we should hear from the Premier.

MR. MOORES: Regarding the Leader of the Opposition's remarks on this subhead of 302, there is an increase in staff, not as substantial as he would have us believe. The reason is very simply,

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, that a great deal more work is being done in that office now by other people, other than the Premier, now that my predecessor is no longer there, I do not make any claim to being able to make all the decisions or even to do all the planning. Unfortunately I am one of these persons who have to require assistance for that and in order for that I need staff.

The Information Services, Mr. Chairman, contrary to what the Leader of the Opposition says, is not a partisan propaganda machine, I think they are doing a worthwhile function. I think really the only people who could genuinely answer as to if they are doing a worthwhile function or not are the various media outlets. As a matter of fact, I think it probably would be very worthwhile if they were canvassed and asked candidly if it is a worthwhile function or not.

MR. ROBERTS: What is this? What is this?

MR. MOORES: Information Services.

MR. ROBERTS: How about a survey along those lines?

MR. MOORES: It may be worthwhile.

The salaries that the Leader of the Opposition requests, and I might mention before going into these in detail, that there are different functions in this office now than previously - like the Intergovernmental Affairs group. Also I think there is probably more regional representation of the Premier's Office throughout the province.

The key ones that he asked about were the parliamentary assistant, which is the member from Trinity North, at \$10,000; the personal assistant, Mrs. Nugent, Mr. George Hutchings, in Corner Brook, Miss Florence Meaney, in Corner Brook, and Mr. Sam Dicks, in Grand Falls. These are representative offices of the Premier - the Corner Brook office and here.

Mrs. Nugent, this office, is \$42,800. Do you want a breakdown

MR. MOORES: of each of these?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. They are political appointments, are they not?

MR. MOORES: Yes. Mrs. Nugent is \$8,000; Mr. Hutchings is \$15,000; Mrs. Meaney is \$7,800; and Mr. Dicks is \$12,000; Press Secretary, Mr. Korbal is \$16,000, Special Assistant, the Member for Green Bay, is \$10,000; Private Secretary to the Premier, Miss Ford, is \$8,900; the Director of Administration has not been filled as yet. This will be recruited on the advice of Mr. Channing, the Executive Clerk of the Council, who is now with the Planning Secretariat, reporting through the Premier's Office as well.

A Director of Administration will be required but that position has not been filled. The secretary to the Executive Assistant is Mrs. Pottle, who is the secretary to Dr. Peters. The secretaries to the parliamentary assistants are Mrs. Barbour and Miss Whelan.

MR. ROBERTS: These are civil servants, I am not interested in these.

MR. MOORES: Regarding the rest in the civil service, that probably takes all of them, except for the civil service itself, bringing it to a total of \$187,900.

It is interesting to note that the Leader of the Opposition mentioned New Brunswick is \$187,535, There is not really that much difference when one considers the various people there are out there.

The Intergovernmental Affairs Department, which makes up the balance of the \$354,000, Mr. van Es, and if you want me to read all these names I will gladly do so.

MR. ROBERTS: I am interested only in the top three or four I think.

MR. MOORES: Mr. van Es is \$38,662.

MR. ROBERTS: That has been in the press recently.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Sametz is \$29,200; Provincial co-ordinator of work programmes - Mr. Alec Stacey, who came from Economic Development, at \$15,575; the Engineer, Class II, is Mr. Barfoot, at \$10,546. Probably the other major one here is -

MR. ROBERTS: Statistician or economist or something?

MR. MOORES: He is Engineer II, that is what he is referred to as

MR. ROBERTS: Is there not an economist listed?

MR. MOORES: Economist II is vacant, to be recruited in this group.

MR. ROBERTS: There is a Director of Administration.

MR. MOORES: Director of Administration, that also is vacant and the salary has been included there. The other one of any significance is Accountant Number II who is Mr. B. Foley.

MR. ROBERTS: Well again those are public servants, are they not?

MR. MOORES: They are all public servants, yes. Everyone on that list is a public servant.

In that regard, Mr. Chairman, the Intergovernmental Affairs Department which I will admit is not finalized in that it has not been streamlined for the function which it was set up for, with the restructuring and the Planning and Priorities Committee operational as it is, with the Industrial Development and the Minister for Industrial Development, who is going to assist in co-ordinating the various DREE programmes, which he has been doing to date, that particular area has not been, as I say, streamlined but these are the positions that will be required to be filled, irrespective of who fills them.

MR. ROBERTS: (302-02-01) Mr. Chairman, maybe we should take all of these votes, if you wish, together. The travelling seems to be up substantially - \$31,000, the estimated expenditure for the year ended a fortnight ago, up to \$50,000 this year. I know that covers a lot of people, The Premier may indicate what that is about.

MR. ROBERTS: Also, professional fees are up. I would like him to indicate what that is for, please, and consultants, I would like him to indicate what the money was spent on last year and why he is asking \$200,000 this year.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, the expenses for travelling have gone up by \$18,500, mainly because the Intergovernmental Affairs people will be, by definition, travelling more than the Information Services, which was what boosted it last year. I think that is a fairly reasonable increase.

The professional fees are Dr. Peters who is at \$36,000 and Professor Whelan who has been seconded from the university for one year at \$26,000.

MR. ROBERTS: Was that the salary he was getting at the university, by the way?

MR. MOORES: Yes, as far as I know, it is exactly the same. It is \$26,000, and he is doing this report on municipal affairs as well as assisting in the restructuring programme itself.

MR. ROBERTS: Any renegotiation of the Chief Executive Assistant's salary?

MR. MOORES: No more renegotiations as far as I know.

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister of Justice could speak about that.

MR. MOORES: Yes. He would rather not.

The consultants' figure is one that came from actually the Department of Community and Social Development which had had ongoing studies, I am sure the honourable member for White Bay South is familiar, St. John's Urban Region Study, \$111,900.

MR. ROBERTS: That is the one that was presented the other day, is it not?

MR. MOORES: Yes and that is still outstanding, the New Brunswick Research and Productivity Research Council, Fogo Island Study - \$5,500; Patterson Planning, Grand Falls - Windsor Local Government Study - \$11,500; the Institute of Social

MR. MOORES: and Economic Research Manpower and Study - \$30,000; the Insitutue of Social and Economic Research, Newfoundland Consumption Patterns - \$12,500 and the William S. Brown Associates plan for Grand Falls Primary School - \$2,400.

These were ongoing contracts that had been let quite some time ago.

MR. ROBERTS: My whizzing brain was not adding up all those things. Is that roughly the \$200,000, or does the Premier envisage that he will be making further studies this year?

MR. MOORES: No, that is the \$200,000.

MR. ROBERTS: You see I did not total them as I went, the Premier had somebody total them for him.

MR. MOORES: Any other studies will be under some other department I assure you.

MR. ROBERTS: Well there are no two other places to put them. The only two amounts to be paid out of (03) are Dr. Peters and Dr. Whelan, is that correct?

MR. MOORES: That is correct.

On motion Head 302, carried.

MR. ROBERTS: (303-02-04) I just do not understand. What are the Planning Task Force expenses? There are any number of salaries that we voted without any problem, they are very high but I suppose that is one thing the present administration have achieved, it has given a lot of people a lot of raises but what is \$25,000 to be spent on Planning Task Force under expenses for?

MR. MOORES: This particular vote, Mr. Chairman, primarily covers consultant fees and the cost of special studies and temporary staff to assist the various task forces. The planning task forces that have been set up (I have a copy of them here). There is, as the honourable Leader of the Opposition I think is aware, representation from DREE and allied departments in Ottawa

MR. MOORES: as well as provincial members on these task forces and the Agricultural Community Development Resettlement Community Service Standards. Actually there are nineteen of them altogether which I will gladly table if it is of any interest, with the various personnel that make up the various committees.

It is really out-of-pocket, not out-of-pocket but \$25,000 to cover any consultants that are required to assist the task force. All the work has been voluntary pretty well in this regard. It is there as a contingency in case it is required in the total confirmation.

MR. ROBERTS: Okay that takes care of that.

(303-02-08) Mr. Chairman, maybe I am out of computer time, perhaps we may be given some details.

MR. MOORES: This vote is to cover the rental of services and facilities of the Newfoundland and Labrador Computer Services because it was felt that with not only compiling each planning committee itself but also the very definite need for computer services once the totals of the task force committee are starting to be compiled in an overall package as to one document and actually putting it into implementation, it was felt that this particular amount would be required for computer services. We are hoping it will be less but in order to cover it we put that amount in.

MR. ROBERTS: Could the Premier indicate to us, Mr. Chairman, when we may expect results of all these planning task forces and also how we may expect them? Will there be a document such as the Government of Manitoba recently produced which will take - well what I have to say about it, I will say when and if it comes out.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, only too gladly. It is hoped now that the bulk of the reports will be in by the end of May, that is the final reports. We will have the interim reports in by the end of this month, with any luck.

MR. MOORES: There are two committees that project into July but the balance should be all in and should be completed by the end of May. Now as I have said, the involvement in these particular committees has been DREE officials pretty well on them all and the allied departments pretty well on them all and considerable input locally from citizens in the community, like Dr. Harris, Dr. George Storey, people of that sort who have added tremendously to it.

Now the procedure is that the committees will bring in their report and this will be referred to the planning and priorities committee for what will be the priorities of the government -

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the cabinet.

MR. MOORES: The cabinet sub-committee for priority discussion and then approval by cabinet.

Now in the meantime, together with the DREE officials, and I spoke to Mr. Jamieson about this when I was in Ottawa, we will be compiling the total document actually in three stages; the idea, what we possibly can obtain and what we realistically can expect to get.

Now having said that here, we have to decide which goes in what, what the priorities of the government are going to be and what fiscal flexibility we are going to have in another year. Anyway the document will be -

MR. ROBERTS: If the Premier has ulcers now, he is going to have ulcers on his ulcers.

MR. MOORES: The document will be made available to the Leader of the Opposition as soon as it is ready.

MR. ROBERTS: All I can say is that I shall read it with great interest.

MR. MOORES: So shall I.

MR. ROBERTS: Even with more interest I shall await the publication of the results of the cogitations because the - well I will not say

MR. ROBERTS: it then, but if the Minister of Finance thinks he has a problem now, the expectations of the people of this province, I can assure the Premier and the members of the committee, Mr. Chairman, that that is minor, that is a molehill compared to the mountain that will result when this exercise is completed.

But there will be loads of time to discuss that, loads of time yet. I mean this is not the time nor the place to go ahead with it. There will be time. I look forward to getting the document.

MR. MOORES: I would just like to say one thing, Mr. Chairman, to pay tribute to the people who have done a tremendous amount of work on this planning. I am sure (this is certainly not a partisan remark) there has been a tremendous amount of free time by civil servants and by people in the community and from Ottawa as well for that matter. There is going to be a tremendous amount of effort go into this. It is going to take a tremendous amount of time to compile it and put it together. Hopefully it will be a document that will benefit the province for many years to come and not just the life of this particular session.

On motion Head 303, carried.

On motion Premier's Office carried:

DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND RECREATION:

MR. ROBERTS: If we are going to close the estimates tonight, as the rumor is, as long as they have been tabled we will read it tomorrow.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Honourable members across the House have been apparently talking to the Premier.

Mr. Chairman, I do not have any opening statement of any magnitude. If anybody has any questions on the estimates I would be pleased to answer them.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister apparently has - has he an executive assistant?

MR. ROUSSEAU: No.

MR. ROBERTS: Are there plans to hire one? There are hundreds of people in Labrador West quivering with anticipation.

MR. ROUSSEAU: There are not right now. There is a possibility one may be hired.

MR. WM. ROWE: The money is in there though for one.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The magnanimous Minister of Finance put it in when I mentioned I might want one.

MR. ROBERTS: That is awfully decent of the Finance Minister.

Really you know, leaving aside the question of whether or not there should be a department, and this is not the place to debate that - no it is not, we put a bill through the House. It was like all these other restructuring bills - froufrou.

The only items falling under the minister I think that are worth any real discussion, there may be some questions on homes for special care and the Hoyles Home and Harbour Lodge the Childrens' Home, and the Boys' Home and Training School, and the Girls' Home and Training School but those are all ongoing programmes and I would ask the minister whether there are any significant changes planned in any of them this year - well are there or, I mean is it just the ongoing programme?

MR. ROUSSEAU: The ongoing situation.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I mean that is straightforward. They have been ongoing for years and we need more in everything and that is it.

Recreation and sports and then of course my friend from Labrador North will have I am sure a few words to say when we come to the Labrador services section of the subhead.

Really the only question I have on recreation and sports services, Mr. Chairman, is this: There is a statement, I think it is in the Budget Speech or in one of the innumerable supplements to the Budget, which goes to the effect that nothing is to be done this year except that which has already been committed or announced - I am not sure which.

I wonder if the minister could tell us. We must have a list

MR. ROBERTS: there of the projects which are to be funded this year by the recreation and sports thing, a fair amount of money involved, Mr. Chairman, about \$880,000 on capital and about \$520,000 on current account, maybe the minister could indicate what is going to be done this year because there are a lot of people expecting a lot of things this year and you know - are they going to get them? It is a good time to find out.

Hold on, that is two, four - there is no quorum. Really, Mr. Chairman, I mean - no the member for St. John's South does not make a quorum. He helps.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: All right then, get in here then. If they want something to eat, let them eat but not on our time. There is a quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. ROBERTS: That is very reassuring, Mr. Chairman. Anyway now that I have set the stage for the minister he is on.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Would he rather I do this under the subhead or does he want me to do it now?

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I mean I am easy, why do we not get it over with. It is painless.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Okay! There was a statement in the Budget to the effect that no new capital commitments will be undertaken and I would like to explain that statement if I may.

I spent quite a bit of my time, since December 1, attempting to clear up the situation with regard to the actual commitment on capital that we have now.

MR. ROBERTS: Is that where the honourable gentleman took over the programme from the gentleman from St. John's North, last December?

MR. ROUSSEAU: You know I have to defend the honourable gentleman

MR. ROUSSEAU: from St. John's North and the honourable gentleman who preceded him in the fact that a department as large as the Department of Education cannot adequately care for a division such as Physical Education and Youth. I think that probably this is the problem. The minister was unable to stay on top of the programme to the extent that it now can be and we -

MR. ROBERTS: I agree with that statement. The then minister was quite unable to stay on top of it.

MR. ROUSSEAU: And the many ministers before, regardless of who it was. The department was just too large to concentrate on this division, as a result, we have a number of commitments which I am sure all honourable members in this House, in every district, appreciate. So what we are trying to do in the department, in the capital expenditures, is to attempt to find out which commitments we have that are definite commitments and which we will be fulfilling this year.

Now I have a report here that -

MR. ROBERTS: Read it or at least the list.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well let me put it this way, if the honourable Leader of the Opposition would be satisfied, right now we prepared a list of the commitments which we think we have. We, as a division, intend to have a meeting within the next week or so to define which ones are actual commitments and which ones are not and then determine from that the capital commitments that we will go ahead with. I would be more than pleased to table it to the House at that time.

Right now, if I read them out, I might read one that may not be a definite commitment which may not go ahead. But I would undertake to table this as soon as it becomes available if the honourable Leader of the Opposition is satisfied with that.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I am not particularly satisfied with that, Mr. Chairman. The minister is here asking for \$1.4 million. He must have something in mind and I can assure him, I think he knows

MR. ROBERTS: well that there are many, many people - for example, is the stadium going ahead in Windsor this year, in Bishop Falls, in Badger? I mean the minister; he knows they want some money, \$18,000 or \$20,000 to put lights or ice or something in, I forget the details, Maybe the House will still be in session a week from now, this ridiculous bit we are on, but maybe we will not be in session a week from now, I do not know, but if the minister could let us in on some of the secrets he has in his blue book over there.

MR. ROUSSEAU: They are not secrets, the specific questions. For example, the Bishop Falls' stadium is going ahead, the Windsor stadium is going ahead, depending on the ability of the people involved in Windsor or in any other project of this nature that is a relatively new project in providing us with the information as to where the remainder of the financial resources are coming from.

For example, should a stadium cost in the vicinity of let us say, \$300,000 and the community was eligible for \$180,000, which is \$150,000 plus the equipment grant, then we would want to know before we gave any money to this community where the other \$120,000 is coming from. In the case of many of the new ones now that have been approved within the past year, these will go on as scheduled, there is no problem there at all. There will be no new ones undertaken.

If the leader should want me to go through the list, I shall go through the list.

MR. ROBERTS: I think it would be a useful exercise really.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well 1973-1974, I must stress that these are not what I know to be totally committed. In other words there may be some question, it may be a political commitment, it may be a commitment that the people have had and they do not intend to go ahead with because there is not enough funds to complete it. There could be any number of reasons, so this is merely a tentative list.

BADGER: Re-covered recreational complex - \$25,000; which is part of an ongoing programme; Bay Roberts Central Sports

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Commission - \$1,000, that is one payment; Bay Roberts Swimming
Pool - \$12,500 which is part of an ongoing commitment;
Burin Playground and Soccer Pitch - \$3,000, that is ongoing,
two more years, at \$3,000.

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more years at \$3,000. Baie Verte, steel and metal stadium \$30,000. That is three more years payment on a commitment that was previously started. Bay Bulls, recreation facility, once, \$5,000...

MR. ROBERTS: What sort of facility would that be?

MR. ROUSSEAU: That would be a general recreational facility, a youth club or playing club or sports field or anything of that nature. Bay L'Argent, outdoor rink, \$3,000, one payment. Bell Island, repairs to the arena over there which we undertook last year, \$16,000. Bishops Falls, \$6,000. Botwood, extension to the stadium, \$22,500, which is part of an on-going commitment. Brigus Gullies, swimming pool, \$2,000, once. Come by Chance, a sports field \$7,000, once. Corner Brook Ski Club, extend facilities, \$5,000, with two more years to run. Corner Brook, Humber Gardens, \$30,000, an on-going commitment. Carbonear, ice arena and swimming pool. There is a commitment down there that we are negotiating with now with regard to the actual amount of the commitment. They have received \$30,000 in the past year. Chapel Arm, swimming pool, \$750.00, one payment.

This is done normally in conjunction with the officials of the department who go out. Colliers, softball diamond, \$3,000. Conche, sports facilities, hockey, soccer, softball, \$4,500. Comfort Cove, playground and rink, \$2,400. That is part of an on-going, two more years after this year. Codroy Valley, playground, \$5,200 and three more years to follow this one. Creston North, playground, \$1,000. That is finished this year. Now this may have been two or three years on the go. This may be the final payment or it may be the initial payment, I do not know, to be perfectly frank, with all of them. Dark Cove, Cambo, ball field, \$2,000. Dunville, playground-sports field, \$11,000, that is once. Englee, outdoor sports complex, \$3,000 and two more years to run. Eddies Cove East, outdoor rink, \$2,000, once. Fox Cove, community park, \$3,000, once.

MR. ROBERTS: What?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Fox Cove.

MR. ROBERTS: Lock's Cove?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Fox Cove.

MR. ROBERTS: L-o-c-k-'s?

MR. ROUSSEAU: No, F-o-x I have here.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh, Fox Cove, in Burin?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Burin? Cut it out, take it out.

MR. ROBERTS: Fox Cove, down by Mortier, is it not? It is in Placentia West District. It is down near Burin.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Fortune, soccer pitch and playground, \$1,400 and two more years to go. Fleur de Lys, sports field, \$3,300. Fermeuse, playground and field, \$3,500, once. Flatrock, swimming pool, \$7,500, once. Grand Bank, soccer pitch, \$5,000, two more years to go. Grand Falls golf course, \$50,000, and two more years to go.

MR. ROBERTS: \$50,000 for Grand Falls, for a golf course?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: And \$50,000 next year and \$50,000 the year after?

MR. ROUSSEAU: No, just once more.

MR. ROBERTS: Once more?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Can the minister tell us how much has gone into that already?

MR. ROUSSEAU: I think there was a commitment for \$150,000.

MR. ROBERTS: How much? I find it hard to be indignant at this hour but, how much? \$150,000 is going to a golf course in Grand Falls? \$50,000 this year and \$50,000 next year?

MR. ROUSSEAU: \$50,000 for three years.

MR. ROBERTS: \$150,000 in all is to go in?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Why is that?

MR. ROUSSEAU: One second now.

MR. ROBERTS: That is a private course, Mr. Chairman. That is not even a public course. That is owned by the Grand Falls Golf Club or whatever.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is a DREE project.

MR. ROBERTS: It is not a DREE project. It was a LIP project, the gentleman from Grand Falls - I am sorry, it was not even LIP, it was a federal winter works loan project and they made a mess of it.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was a Liberal project. It was on the list you left.

MR. ROBERTS: It was not a Liberal project, Mr. Chairman. Anything may have been on the list but it certainly was not implemented. Will the minister confirm that \$150,000 has gone to a private golf club? Will he go on? Is this the policy now? Can anybody who wants to start a private golf club come forward?

HON. F.D. MOORES: It was a verbal commitment.

MR. ROBERTS: By whom?

MR. MOORES: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: No way. No way. It may have been made by an official but it was never made by a minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: During the election campaign, by the candidate.

MR. ROBERTS: The candidate out there, not our candidate but another party may have made that commitment. That is a thundering outrage. I do not blame the minister, he inherited it.

MR. ROUSSEAU: One second now, the minister inherited nothing. The minister is responsible for anything that is going on in the minister's department.

MR. ROBERTS: I know. That is what we all say and we all believe but I mean, the minister did not start that project. Expound upon it eh?

MR. ROUSSEAU: The Leader of the Opposition catches me with my file on the third floor.

MR. ROBERTS: I am heartbroken.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Good! Excellent! I goofed but I will look into it and I am prepared to table the information for the honourable the Leader

of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Table what information?

MR. ROUSSEAU: On the Grand Falls golf course.

MR. ROBERTS: What on?

MR. ROUSSEAU: On the financial commitment.

MR. ROBERTS: What I want to know - if the minister does not have it he does not have it. You would think when a minister comes for his estimates - the minister is doing very well, he has a lot of information, but you would think he would come prepared.

MR. WOODWARD: You would think the Minister of Finance would let him get his file at least.

MR. CROSBIE: I am being attacked, I am being attacked, Mr. Chairman.

MR. ROBERTS: The fact remains, not only is it a lot of money, it is the largest single amount the minister has read up until now, \$50,000 in one year of a three year grant. It is surely the first time that a private facility has ever been given this sort of money and I think the House is entitled to a full explanation of it.

I went into it last March in some detail, I had reason to. Relying on memory - could we keep it down to a dull roar, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): If honourable members will permit. The honourable the Leader of the Opposition has the right to be heard in silence.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Excuse me! May I?

MR. ROBERTS: You have some information?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Gang ahead.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I have mentioned that these are things that we have down. This application here has further information on the back. I just received this yesterday, so I have not had a chance to look at it.

MR. ROBERTS: Read on.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The word here is, development; additional nine holes and I have here "turned down." "The minister come unprepared and is

caught with his pants down" but the minister is prepared to table the information on the golf course at Grand Falls for the Leader of the Opposition. Otherwise we have to...

MR. ROBERTS: I cannot press it any further if the man be without the information, Mr. Chairman, he does not have it here, he does not have it. There is no point in my saying anything more about it, except to indicate the sort of thing I would like when he does table it. I would like to know what commitment was made. As I recall it, a commitment may have been made by an official. I think this project was on a list that had been prepared by the officials for the Liberal Administration, for the cabinet...

MR. ROUSSEAU: I have that list here.

MR. ROBERTS: Of a way to spend seven, eight or ten millions that came from Ottawa or was to come from Ottawa. A loan. It was never approved by cabinet, it never came to cabinet. I do not believe, even when there was a cabinet committee, that it went to the cabinet committee. It will be all in the files. Perhaps the minister could dig that out and perhaps he would let us know. As he will recall, the issue became rather an interesting one during the election of March 1972. There was some discussion of it in Grand Falls, some discussion of which I had a small part. At that time we were told that it was entirely a federal loan, and there were attempts to blame it on us.

Could the minister table what he has, a full statement of this rather troubled project? I hope he has interpreted correctly when he says it has been turned down, because we...

MR. ROUSSEAU: I say that this is back here, I have to check.

MR. ROBERTS: I realize that the minister is being very good about giving us some information, it is most interesting but I really hope it is turned down because, with the needs we have in Newfoundland now for recreational facilities, (it is becoming the thing, everyone wants and should have facilities) for us to lash out \$150,000 over three years to put an extra nine holes, that is about sixteen or seventeen thousand dollars a hole, that is very holey, to lash out so a bunch

of people in Grand Falls can play golf. That is all it is, It is not a public club, There is no public golf course in Newfoundland. Maybe we should have one, that would have some merit. People in Gander have been trying for years to get a bit of a golf course going. I do not know how many there are in the province. There is one in Labrador West, there is one in Harmon, there is one in Goose Bay, there is the Bally Haly Club here, the Blomidon in Corner Brook, I mentioned the one at Harmon that the Americans left there, out on the spit, between the harbour and the bay, and there is one at Grand Falls. That is it, is it not? The one at Harbour Grace did not come off.

AN HON. MEMBER: It should have.

MR. ROBERTS: No, a lot of other things...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: No, I have no need for any land in Harbour Grace for golf. I submit that it is outrageous and if it is not turned down it should be turned down. Everyday I am sure the minister has delegations wacking in looking for money and they are going to be most upset if they do not get what they want and I suspect not everybody is going to get what he wants out of this business, if \$150,000 is committed to a private - Golf is one thing, I have understood the game of golf...

MR. ROUSSEAU: The request was for \$100,000 not \$150,000.

MR. ROBERTS: I cannot understand golf. A lot of people play it but to me it is big men with a big stick hitting a little ball. I do not

MR. ROUSSEAU: It is a beautiful game.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister may think it is a beautiful game but

AN HON. MEMBER: So does the Speaker.

MR. DOODY: It is a way to spoil a good walk.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, it is a way to spoil a good walk. If you want to go for a walk, go for a walk. If you want to go lie about on the grass, then lie about on the grass. I mean, all this talk about sticks and balls and things, really, with the needs we have in Newfoundland today in recreation, I think the minister would agree with me that to lash

anything into a golf baby, and there may well be a case for that but a private golf club. I would submit without any offence to whoever may be the members of the golf club in Grand Falls, that they are not on the dole. Golf tends to be a wealthy man's sport in this province, (maybe elsewhere but in this province) and if they want an extra nine holes so that they can chase their little ball that much further and hit it that much further, then I think they can pony up the cash themselves and pay it off themselves.

AN HON. MEMBER: You do not realize that the Chairman is an ardent golfer.

MR. ROBERTS: Is the Chairman an ardent golfer? He has many failings, that is one more. I cannot help it if he gets his kicks out of hitting little balls that cannot hit back. That is his problem not mine. The fact remains, Mr. Chairman, I submit it is a bad use of money. I do hope that it is turned down by the government. If it is not turned down it should be and if it has been granted it should be ungranted. It is one thing for the Grand Falls club to borrow it from Ottawa, that is problem enough, and the minister may deal with that in the statement he has promised us. That is a loan. What they are now talking of is grants and part of the statement should be - they are talking grants, I am not saying that they are going to get them.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Right.

MR. ROBERTS: I said they are talking. I think the whole sordid story, (sordid is too strong a word) the whole intriguing mess should be laid out in all its glory, all nine holes of it, so we can have a look at it. First of all, did they get a loan? Why? If not, (the sight of the Minister of Justice eating that sandwich is just too much) why not? (He looks like Marlon Brando in the "Godfather")

AN HON. MEMBER: "The Last Tango."

MR. ROBERTS: "The Last Tango." Has the minister seen "The Last Tango?"

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. ROBERTS: Has the Minister of Industrial seen it? Does he recommend it?

MR. DOODY: Not allowed to.

MR. ROBERTS: Not allowed to?

MR. DOODY: It is not in the index.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I will give it my imprimatur and the Premier will give it an nihil obstat. They do not use that any more, Mr. Chairman. I think there are a few nihil obstats around here and a few will-nots too but I am not allowed to define what a will-not is, not in parliamentary terms. Some honourable gentleman opposite would classify as will-nots. My friend from Labrador North knows what I mean.

MR. DOODY: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: Outside the committee I would tell the minister. I cannot say much more on it. The minister says that he will give us a full statement on it, maybe he will deal with these points.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I want to reiterate again that these are ones where we are trying to determine which commitments have been made and which ones have not been committed. Harbour Grace Lion's Club, a playground, \$15,000. Harbour Deep, a sports field, \$3,000. Hampton, outdoor rink \$2,550. Holyrood, basketball court, \$1,000. Jackson's Arm, sports complex, \$2,000. King's Point, community centre, \$3,000. Lawn, soccer pitch and sports field, \$1,000. Lethbridge, recreation centre, \$8,000. Lord's Cove, recreation field, \$4,000. Lush's Bight - Beaumont, skating rink, \$4,500. Musgrave Harbour, sports complex \$3,000. Ming's Bight, playground and rink, \$1,000. Mount Carmel, recreational facilities \$12,500. Marystown, little league baseball, \$4,500, Marystown Youth Centre, \$12,000. Marysvale, playground and sports field, \$1,900. Musgrave Town, playground, \$8,500. Newtown, Bonavista Bay, outdoor ice rink, \$2,500. Norris Point, playground and swimming pool, \$6,000. Norman's Cove, outdoor rink, \$9,200. Northeastern Recreation Association, \$5,000...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: (Inaudible)

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): Order please!

MR. ROUSSEAU: \$11,500 for North Harbour, Placentia Bay, outdoor rink. Plate Cove East, repairs to swimming pool, \$3,000. Plate Cove West,

swimming pool and rink, \$1,000. Pouch Cove, sports field, \$16,000. Paradise River, playground, \$750.00. Port Anson, playground, \$1,420. Port Hope Simpson, outdoor rink, \$2,500. Port Kirwan, outdoor rink, \$1,500. Port Union, recreation area, \$4,000. Postville, swimming pool, \$1,000. Ramea, playground and field, \$6,000. Riverhead, Harbour Grace, playground, \$3,500. Rushoon, swimming pool, \$10,300. Renewa, outdoor swimming pool, \$1,200. St. John's Boys Club, indoor pool, \$25,000. St. Lawrence, recreation centre, \$50,000. St. Shotts, soccer and sports field, \$3,500. Stephenville Curling Club, \$7,500. St. Anthony, playground, \$1,000. Twillingate, recreation centre, \$23,000. Upper Island Cove, swimming pool, \$6,000. Victoria Cove - Wing Point, playing field, \$5,500. Virgin Arm, outdoor rink, \$500.00. Wild Cove, outdoor rink, \$900.00. Wedgewood Park, indoor pool, \$4,000. Pasadena - Midland, playground \$10,500. Clarenville, improvement to stadium, \$6,000. Deer Lake, improvement to stadium, \$30,000. Gander, improvement to stadium, \$32,000. Grand Falls, improvement to stadium, \$36,000. Harbour Grace, improvement to stadium, \$13,500. Happy Valley, the new stadium there, \$36,000. Lewisporte, \$36,000. These are all on-going capital.

Stephenville, repairs to stadium, \$16,000. Springdale, the new stadium, \$36,000. Wabush, new stadium ...

MR. ROBERTS: Like a drop of water? A drop of water for the minister?

MR. ROUSSEAU: No. I am okay. You missed that one. Wabush, new stadium, \$30,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: How much? \$30,000?

MR. ROUSSEAU: \$36,000 actually, they have a mistake here.

MR. ROBERTS: That is the first year, is it?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes. They had it before but they did not use it. They had the letter from the previous Premier but they did not use it. They were waiting to negotiate with the Wabush Mines for an equal amount. On a dollar for dollar basis we approved the application.

MR. ROBERTS: Have Wabush Mines come through with this?

MR. ROUSSEAU: We are waiting for Wabush Mines to come through now. We certainly hope that they will. The minister and the community are certainly hopeful, because the facilities in Labrador City now were completely built without government funds. They are not nearly enough to facilitate the total communities, both of them.

Windsor, new stadium, \$36,000. In these, for example, the Windsor people will have to show us where the remainder of the money is coming from on their total. This comes to a total of a little over \$1 million. We have to determine which one of these are legitimate and which ones are not. Most of them will be. We have to know which ones were committed. Most of them are and we have to determine which.

MR. ROBERTS: I thank—

MR. WOODWARD: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry.

MR. WOODWARD: What was the amount?

MR. ROBERTS: He said a little over a million.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, which is a little more than \$925,000.

MR. ROBERTS: I thank the minister. It is going to take a little while for him to get this completed I guess (a week he mentioned earlier) but would he undertake to table in the House, when it is done, a list of what has been approved out of this.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The list that has been approved. That is okay. When I get that, as soon as I do I will table it.

MR. ROBERTS: What the minister has given us now is sort of the working list and there will be some butchery done on it and then we will have the final list.

While we are on it, Mr. Chairman, one of the significant things in the recreation field is the voluntary organizations. As I recall it, the policy has been to assist the province-wide federations or associations. Mr. Graham Snow has been going around for three or

four years now, helping with his officials or his associates, to get this set up. I guess most sports now have a sports governing body. The minister has been knowingly or not raising expectations among these sports governing bodies this past little while and that is a good thing. I wonder if he could perhaps indicate to us what assistance will be made available to these sports governing bodies this year.

I do not see an item in the recreation and sports services to cover it.

MR. ROUSSEAU: It is under miscellaneous physical fitness.

MR. ROBERTS: This is a matter of \$230,000 which is not very much more than has in fact been spent in the year just ended. Could he indicate, again, I suspect he has a list there, could he give us some idea of what it is, please?

MR. ROUSSEAU: This is subhead 66802-04, is it? No, I am sorry, that was the old subhead in education. 91103-01, this one is broken up into various categories. There is the grant to community recreation commissions. That is not the capital, that is the grants that are given for recreation directors for administration costs, for setting up a recreation commission and the on-going operating expenses of a recreation commission.

There are six subhead in this and we have not determined yet how the \$230,000 will be split up. The grants to provincial sports governing bodies, last year I think that was \$75,000. Sports training \$15,000. Federal provincial sports programmes, that would be the Canada games, \$25,000 and the Newfoundland games which will be \$50,000, that is a \$75,000 item there. Labrador sports project, \$15,000. That is a federally-funded project which we had. There will be financial assistance to two hundred and fifty recreation commissions and of course, we do not know how much that is going to be, and the forty sports governing bodies.

MR. ROBERTS: All this for \$230,000?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes. When you give two hundred and fifty recreation

commissions, you are talking about small operating ones. You are not talking about the major capital ones we talked about in the other one, you are talking about --

MR. ROBERTS: No, but five hundred dollars each is \$125,000.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Right, we cannot give them to everybody. We have to do as well as we can with what we have and we try to spread it out as well as we can. That is all we can do with that.

MR. ROBERTS: How much for the sports governing bodies?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Right now it is the same - I do not know, but I would think the same as, at worst the same as last year. No worse than last year anyway.

MR. ROBERTS: What was given last year then?

MR. ROUSSEAU: \$75,000. It was \$150,000 and it was cut in half.

MR. ROBERTS: Any breakdown of what sort of grant? Will they get five thousand dollars grants?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Oh yes,

MR. ROBERTS: What scale of grants?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Last year it was approximately \$75,000. That would be to the Newfoundland Badminton Association, the Basketball Association, curling and so on and so forth. I have issued an invitation to the group with the facilities, the amount of money available, that we would sit down with two or three people from the Newfoundland and Labrador Amateur Sports Federation, with two or three officials of my department, to have some input in how the money is allocated within this sports governing body's context. I will, of course, as minister, retain the final decision but I am prepared to go to the Newfoundland and Labrador Amateur Sports Federation and ask for an input from them because I think they are directly involved and certainly we want to find out what their feelings are on each of the different sports organizations. All I can say now is that at worst it would be the same as last year but I do not foresee any significant increase if any in the amounts advanced to sports governing bodies.

MR. ROBERTS: There will be a lot of disappointed sports governing bodies around then.

MR. ROUSSEAU: A lot of disappointed ministers too.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, that is the lot of ministers and if they think their disappointments are bad now, Mr. Chairman, they should see what is coming. One other question on this. Could the minister tell us a little about the second stadium for Corner Brook, please?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, Sir.

MR. ROBERTS: The second stadium for Corner Brook.

MR. ROUSSEAU: There is no commitment to a second stadium in Corner Brook. There is a request in for a second ice surface.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, a second ice surface then. Where will it be? Will it be indoors?

MR. ROUSSEAU: I think the plan is that it will be an "L" shaped building adjacent to the existing building. The honourable members know what the trade college is.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I know.

MR. ROUSSEAU: It will be just between the stadium and the trades college.

MR. ROBERTS: Will it be covered?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: What is it going to cost?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Something in excess of \$300,000 I believe.

MR. ROBERTS: Is there a commitment to it?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Just saved a job right there.

MR. ROUSSEAU: No, I did not.

MR. ROBERTS: The Premier announced it. How much is going to be spent this year?

MR. ROUSSEAU: On the stadium?

MR. ROBERTS: On that "L" shaped whatever you call it?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Oh I do not.

MR. ROBERTS: The Premier announced it in Corner Brook. The minister may have been there for all I know.

MR. POUSSEAU: I was there. \$36,000 I would think. They will get the same as any other capital recreational facility at Windsor or Bishops Falls.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister might want to amend his list. It was not on the list he read out to us. I had to ask him to read the whole list to find that out.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I am sorry! The reason it is not on the list is because the minister has not written yet to give them a formal approval from the department.

MR. ROBERTS: I submit that that is something the minister should attend to. After all, the leader of the administration announced it very publicly and the minister confirms, in his very own presence, he heard it with his very own ears.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Did the Human Resource Development Task Force recommend this?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, did the Human Resource Development Task Force Subcommittee on Planning recommend this?

MR. POUSSEAU: It may be buried in my office somewhere but I do not have it in my papers.

MR. ROBERTS: Well! Well! The Spirit of Christmas yet to come. The Spirit of Christmas yet to come, there he is. Would the minister be good enough then to table, when he finds the reports, to table the reports from the Human Resources Development Subcommittee Task Force on Planning? When he finds them.

MR. ROUSSEAU: When the minister finds them.

MR. ROBERTS: All right. I can see when the next administration takes over in two years, these will be among the missing files.

MR. WOODWARD: There was some announcement some time ago about the flat electric rate for stadiums in the province. Maybe the minister can inform the committee if this policy has gone through and if there will be a flat electric rate for the stadiums, for the whole thing rather than being charged the normal rate?

MR. ROUSSEAU: I think all honourable members can agree that there is a big problem involved here. First of all is how much is going to be paid, how it is going to be paid and to whom it is going to be paid. All I can say at this point in time is that

government is now considering the policy of who will be paid or for example, are you going to limit it to stadia or are you going to enlarge it beyond stadia because in a policy like this you have to be very definitive in what buildings or what structures you are going to pay this subsidy to because otherwise the next thing you will be into school gymnasiums, as part of a school possibly. You have to be very careful and we want to be very careful about what facilities will be covered under any electrical subsidization plan before we announce the policy. I think this is fair because people would be writing letters wondering whether they were going to get it or not.

So right now I would anticipate that there will not be anything, this current winter is over now, so of course it will probably be into next fall at the latest before anything is actually announced.

On motion, Headings 901 and 902, carried.

On motion, 903(01) through 903(02)(03), carried.

903(03)(01):

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, this is the vote I assume out of which are paid whatever is going to be paid for the new homes which are going to be built in various places around the province this year. I wonder if the minister could give us his version of the commitment to Babb Construction with respect to these homes and also if the minister could tell, please, Mr. Chairman, where the home for St. Anthony now stands. The minister announced, as I recall it, that a home is to be built at St. Anthony and then subsequently he sent a letter of which he was kind enough to send me a copy and I thank him for that. He sent a letter to the people, the committee there, I forget the name of the committee, Mr. Sheppard is chairman, Mr. Albert Sheppard, at the Hospital, or Dr. Gray, Mrs. Pomeroy is the secretary, Dr. Gray is the chairman but he is on sabbatical leave in England this year or Bristol, I believe doing

post-graduate work. Where does that stand now? That committee were not able to get ahead and I think they have run into problems. I would like to hear a few words about the Babb Construction thing first.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well, right now we have written four as we have added Stephenville Crossing. So we have written Grand Bank, Lewisporte, Stephenville Crossing and St. Anthony. I do not have copies of the letter here but in effect what the letter said was that permission has been given to build a senior citizens home contingent on certain conditions - which were that in effect the government would provide a guarantee of ninety-eight per cent occupancy and that the committee could not expect any further financial assistance from government beyond the ninety-eight per cent occupancy guarantee.

Now as far as I am concerned as minister and as I assume the government is also concerned I know nothing of any plans for Babb Construction to build any or all of the homes although Babb Construction may well end up building them all, but I do not know this. We have given the committees this letter and from here on in the ball is in the committee's hands. They will have to determine what they want, who is going to build it and they do the plans, subject to our approval because there is money involved. We only do this because we have the expertise down in the Department of Public Works and we want to approve the plan so that any help we can give to the committee from the money they are paying in tax, rather than have them take on an extra burden we are prepared to do. We want to check the financial arrangements that they undertake, again to protect any, maybe not a given community in this group of four but maybe we might at some time in the future and maybe this group may need some extra financial expertise so we would like to see the financial arrangements they have.

So we have no commitment to any individual company to build these homes.

MR. ROBERTS: Is there a quorum, Mr. Chairman?

MR. ROUSSEAU: What is the matter, you do not find me interesting?

MR. ROBERTS: It is not us. It is your own crowd who do not find you interesting.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I do not mind that, that is not unusual.

MR. ROBERTS: Do we have a quorum?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Seventeen and a half, we do have a quorum.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is the half?

AN HON. MEMBER: Half in and half out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. ROUSSEAU: So we do not have any commitment to any company. Is that satisfactory? I have the St. Anthony answer to give him too but I thought he might -

MR. ROBERTS: Okay, well let us dispose of the bad thing with some decency. It got stopped fortunately because the committee at St. Anthony sent for the "Evening Telegram" and gave them the story. Let it be recorded in Hansard that that committee in St. Anthony, a delegation came in to see the then minister and it was not the present minister. They had a devil of a job getting to see him as he had been evading them, avoiding them every way possible but they finally pinned him down. The gentleman said to them, "Well we just happen to have a company in mind that will build your home for you. We have a plan, the company will build the home and they will finance it. We just happen to have a company in mind. It is a Newfoundland company, a family owned company." A look of wonderment and awe must have passed across the faces of the three people who were at the meeting because the then minister immediately sensed it and said, "Oh, no, it is not what you think. It is not the Crosbies," and they said that they had not thought that at all. He said, "No, it is another family-owned company." "Oh," they said. "Yes," he said, "as a matter of fact the gentleman concerned just happens to be outside

the door," and the door opened and in came a major shareholder, perhaps the major shareholder in this company. I do not know if he is president of it but I will name him if anybody should wish. The company of course was the Babb Construction Company Limited or whatever their corporate name is and that committee were given the impression by the then minister that there was a firm commitment as far as the minister was concerned.

They went back to St. Anthony and cogitated on it prayerfully and eventually they sent long cables to the minister and did not have the courtesy of an answer from him. The minister is still in the cabinet but he is not here at present. When they did not have the courtesy of an answer from him, they sent cables to the Premier, messages to the Premier, and again no answer. Finally, because they did not know what else to do, they telephoned the "Evening Telegram" and eventually one of the reporters down there, Mr. Bill Kelly, went down to St. Anthony and met the committee and saw the documents and the story resulted. Of course the game was up then, the jig was up. The Premier pulled the rug out from under the minister concerned. I think his phrase was that it was an act of the heart, a mistake of the heart.

Well all I can say is that obviously the incident is closed. The contract was not given in fact or if it were it was cancelled, by mutual agreement awfully, quickly. I think it should be recorded that that committee were under the impression, judged solely on what the minister had said, the curious incidence of the representative of that company being outside the door of the minister's office, (there he comes now and maybe he will say a word or two), judging solely by that, they were under the impression that a commitment had been made to the Babb Construction Company Limited in respect of the home at St. Anthony. I think their understanding was correct and I may add subsequent events, including a statement by the Premier to that scurrilous rag, that yellow-dog

of journalism, the "Evening Telegram", which they featured on their front page, as I recall it, on a Saturday, that confirmed it. It was an incident but it is closed now, unless somebody should want to debate it, but I think it should be recorded. The minister does not want to debate it, okay, but now maybe he can tell me about St. Anthony and where it now stands.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well, St. Anthony were given permission to build a senior citizens home along with the other three groups on the basis of the letter and as I just suggested, ninety-eight per cent occupancy guarantee. Now recently I had a request from St. Anthony suggesting that because of the added costs in the area in which the building is being erected, the Great Northern Peninsula, that there was indeed some higher cost involved in that area than would be normally involved in other parts of the island. So the government looked at this because I am sure it is easy to see that once you do something in one community, it is not an individual thing and you have to consider it as a part of policy.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROUSSEAU: I believe yesterday by the way, and I apologize as I do not think you had a copy of the telegram. It was done yesterday and I was quite tied up with other things and the deputy minister made out the telegram for me. They made a request for some extra assistance from government and I wired yesterday on behalf of the government to the St. Anthony group indicating that the government would not go beyond the commitment, that is to say that the ninety-eight per cent occupancy guarantee is as far as government is prepared to go. This was predicated on the fact that we have some proliferation of requests for senior citizen homes and the St. Anthony case which maybe quite legitimate, as in Labrador we have the same problem with building costs probably a little more and I recognize that St. Anthony has problems up there.

We have a report from the architects suggesting that

there would be a greater cost there but once you enter into something like this the repercussions for the group we have now and what I call phase-four, counting the old one we had before and then the Grand Falls, Gander and Corner Brook one is the next phase and then the four we have is phase three, that is the four new ones that have been announced. There will be other ones looked at now, other possible locations so that you are looking at quite an expenditure. It is not just the St. Anthony group. If it could be confined to that maybe government might have ruled differently but because of the implications in the long run we have decided that we will remain with our policy and the total government involvement will be to guarantee up to ninety-eight per cent occupancy in the home and beyond that it is necessary for the community to provide the land and to provide any extra costs that may become involved with the erection of the building.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, I am extremely sorry to hear what the minister says because what he is saying in effect is that the project is now dead, dead as a doornail. There will not be a home for the aged on the Northern Peninsula because it is not possible for that group to finance it or any group. The ninety-eight per cent formula which I wrote, as I was the Minister of Welfare when that policy was developed, it is that old, it is ninety-eight per cent up to a stated amount, \$300.00 or \$360.00 a month, and as far as I know that has not been changed.

MR. ROUSSEAU: \$300.00 for ambulatory and \$360.00 for non-ambulatory.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, \$300.00 for ambulatory and \$360.00 for non-ambulatory. There is no way, Mr. Chairman, that any group is going to be able to do it on that and I mean that, any group. I will go further and say there is no way the St. Anthony group could do it even on higher levels.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Does he know now that the CMHC loan ceiling has been increased?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I know that but loans have to be paid. The \$300.00 a month has to pay the operating expenses as well as service for debt involved and I doubt if they could do it even here at Grand Bank, for arguments sake, unless there is a very significant amount raised by the community.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, but these things cost \$15,000 a bed and you are going to need one hundred nights at \$10,000 a night to make up this sort of thing. All I can do is implore the minister to reconsider it or ask his colleagues to reconsider it. I cannot speak for Grand Bank and I cannot speak for the project at Lewisporte nor can I speak for the one at Stephenville Crossing but I will say that the minister has killed the St. Anthony home for the aged, by that decision he has just told us about, every bit as effectively and as surely as if he had never written that letter. Indeed it might have been more honourable and more honest not to have written that letter. I know the minister stands by the letter and perhaps when he wrote it he did not realize, I mean I will grant him that he did not realize that it was unworkable.

MR. ROUSSEAU: We had the understanding on the basis of the Grand Falls, Gander and Corner Brook homes that the homes could be built and furnished for \$10,000 a bed.

MR. ROBERTS: No, Sir, there is no way one could have that. The Corner Brook one not only has a guarantee of ninety-eight per cent occupancy but it has a \$300,000 loan in the bargain.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I am talking about the final analysis, the actual cost per bed of these homes.

MR. ROBERTS: No, I am talking about financing it, paying for it. I am talking about a group of persons who put a lot of effort into it and they have been led up the garden path, knowingly or unknowingly, and now they have had their hopes dashed, dead. Well I cannot change the ministry's mind, I cannot ever change the minister's mind

but I think it is a pretty shoddy trick. The need is there as there is no home north of Corner Brook and no home at all in Labrador. It is a pretty shoddy trick, pretty second-rate. I will accept the minister's word that he did not realize when he wrote the letter that it could not be done and he has had it pointed out to him since. There is no way, with that offer.

I wrote the policy and the policy was never designed for the use to which the minister is putting it. It was not. It was designed to meet a particular need, if he wish to use his terminology, of the so-called phase two. Anyway those people have had their hopes dashed now. That is it. I mean I can say the home will be built. The present minister will not build it. The present administration will not but I can say that that home will be built in St. Anthony because there is a need for it. I do not know what the formula will be. The formulae have to take into account reality. The minister can sort of rest on his laurels. His laurels include building people up to think they had the problem, to think they had a solution and then having dashed it. It is all I can say.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well, certainly I would like to say a few words, if I may. Believe me there was no attempt here at trickery whatsoever. We had looked into the problem and we felt that the homes could be built in the vicinity of \$10,000 per bed. When I penned my name to that letter I had no thought that a situation such as this would occur, believe me. I feel badly if St Anthony are unable to build their home as I think there is a need on the Northern Peninsula for a home. I do not think that it was shoddy because certainly it was not done with any ulterior motive - you know, here is a letter going out that is going to cost me only an eight cent stamp. That was not the situation. It is an unfortunate situation and I sympathize with the Leader of the Opposition and the honourable member for the district. I know it is not an easy thing to accept

if indeed the home cannot go ahead, but I certainly would not want to leave the impression that the letter went out with an eight cent stamp knowing that there would be no further commitment because the home could not be built at that rate. I was under the distinct impression from the facts and figures I had that a home could be built and furnished for approximately \$10,000 a bed. Of course, we have to accept the fact that there must be some community involvement too and I think there was some land available at St. Anthony as well. On the basis of the fact that \$10,000 a bed should furnish a home and on the fact that the \$10,000 per bed was available through CMHC or any loan if they wanted it, they did not have to go through CMHC although it was subject to our approval but it is CMHC most people have gone to, plus the fact that with some community financial involvement to provide even \$100.00 or \$1,000 extra a bed, whatever was necessary, then I had every reason to expect that the St. Anthony home would go ahead.

I want to assure the member and I want to assure the people in St. Anthony that it was never my intention to do this with an ulterior motive that eventually this decision would be taken and that as a result of this decision that the home would not go ahead in St. Anthony.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Chairman, the minister can try his story on the people in St. Anthony. I think they would be prepared to believe as I am that the minister did not knowingly mislead them, but I will say that he carelessly misled them. It is really a shocking indictment of incompetence, to put it kindly. The guarantee of ninety-eight per cent occupancy is in effect guaranteeing an income to these homes. What it says is that for each ambulatory patient you will have \$3,600 a year and for each bedridden patient, non-ambulatory, you will have \$4,320 a year. That is what it says. Out of that money you must pay to operate it, you must pay your light, your heat, your

food, your fuel, your staff and then you must service your debt. Mr. Chairman, it cannot be done. The Hoyles Home, which has no capital debt (I believe it does, I am sorry) taking into its calculations, is now costing it simply more than that, infinitely more. Perhaps it is offering a higher standard of care and it should be as it is really a hospital without operating rooms.

I do not know what will happen in Lewisporte or what will happen in Grand Bank or what will happen in Stephenville Crossing but time will tell. I will not be the least bit surprised if they cannot get it off the ground. In the community of St. Anthony the land was there, \$10,000 worth of land had been provided, I think at \$1.00, and the minister carelessly, and I will not go beyond that, carelessly led that committee. Mr. Chairman, they were ecstatic and exultant and they said that the minister was as fine a man as they had ever dealt with, but they said some unkind things about his predecessor in that sense. They certainly said kind things about him and as I said they will be very disappointed when they get this news and they will feel that they have not been treated fairly.

Among other problems they are now faced with a \$7,000 or \$8,000 debt for architects' fees that they incurred in good faith, to draw these plans. I gather the minister is not prepared even to give them that money, so what will they do? I suppose they will have to find it themselves. All I can say is that if I were the honourable gentleman I should never show my nose in St. Anthony for the rest of my life because I think the people there, and I have not talked to them about it as indeed I did not even know that cable had been sent.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, that was sent and normally I would have told him

MR. ROBERTS: Well I did not know it. No, that does not matter as normally I would be called but because the House is sitting, I have messages so high on my table.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Normally I would have told the honourable member but

MR. ROBERTS: I know that. I mean the minister has been quite decent about those things. I have not talked to the people in St. Anthony but I am afraid his political name is mud, mud, mud. It is about the shoddiest thing I have heard of in a long time. It really is. I only hope that the people in Stephenville Crossing, Your Honour, and the people in Grand Bank and the people in Lewisporte are able to live within this formula. The formula is now five years old and it was adequate at the time but even with the formula Corner Brook had to have a \$320,000 loan. I think it was in the estimates at some point. Gander I believe has had additional assistance. I believe Grand Falls has had additional assistance and in Grand Falls they were rebuilding a building, the old Carmelite Hotel which was purchased for a relatively low sum from the Hicks family.

So the fact remains that I hope it is going ahead. I really hope it does because it is needed but unless the minister changes the policy, unless the whole government change the policy which the minister administers, it will not go ahead. He will have to bear the responsibility for that, even more than that he will have to bear the responsibility for the fact that hopes were aroused by his letter and his press statement. He made a press statement and his press statement was accurate. His press statement said what was in the letter but hopes were built very high and they have just been dashed and shattered. I feel sorry for the minister.

I do not know what sort of political future he has but I know he has unlimited ambition and I wish him well with that but if this is the way he is going to go at his political career, I can tell him, as a young man whose political career maybe behind him or maybe ahead of him, I do not know, that he is going about it the wrong way. People will never forgive him for building up hopes whether wittingly or unwittingly. One of the things any minister must guard against, Mr. Chairman, is unwittingly building up hopes.

I do not think the minister intended to deceive anybody.

I do not think for a minute, but maybe he should go to St. Anthony and try to make his peace with that committee as they represent all the leading citizens of the town. They really do. You could not put together a group of ten or twelve or fifteen people from St. Anthony, Mr. Chairman, or anywhere in Newfoundland, a finer group of citizens or a more representative group. The minister's name I suspect is mud. I hope I am wrong. I really hope it can go ahead but from what I know of it, it cannot. The minister has just killed it dead. He might as well have put a knife right in, metaphorically speaking, the heart. It is a sad start to a political career.

On motion, 903(03)(01) and (03)(02), carried.

903(03)(03):

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, could the minister inform us on this, "other homes." I hope we are not going to have any type of homes -

MR. ROUSSEAU: Mr. Chairman, we still have residents in the CNIB hostels in St. John's and Corner Brook at the rate of \$275.00 per month. The CNIB hostels in Corner Brook and St. John's, there are approximately thirty-four blind people in these hostels and we pay the rent for them of \$275.00 a month.

On motion, 903(03)(03) and (03)(04), carried.

904(01):

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could indicate the current deemed rates at the Hoyles Home or what are the rates?

MR. ROUSSEAU: At the Hoyles Home the monthly rates are now \$617.00 for bedridden patients and those who need special care and \$562.00 for ambulatory patients.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, if ever there was any doubt about the unwisdom of the minister's policy of \$300-\$360.00 it was just exploded with that statement. In the Hoyles Home there is a capital cost element built into that because we are the guys who

did it and we figured that it was a way to get some money out of Ottawa and it is a legitimate way, fifty-fifty. We cover over the years half the cost of the Hoyles Home. If it costs the government \$562.00 for ambulatory patients and they only allowed \$300.00 for ambulatory patients in these other homes which are being built today, at today's cost, ten years after it was built at whatever the costs were ten years ago, I am not going to press the point. I really feel sorry for the minister because I think this is a shattering thing to happen. Does the minister know Coleridge's poem, the "Ancient Mariner", the "Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner?" I commend it to him, Mr. Chairman, because this phase three is going to be the albatross which is hung around the neck of the ancient mariner.

MR. ROUSSEAU: May I respectfully suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that the figures here are the last figures of the honourable Leader of the Opposition's administration, This is the figure for 1972 and these have increased, as the honourable Leader of the Opposition knows, since 1966 when it was \$120.00 for ambulatory and \$180.00, and the operating costs have gone up each year since.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister has misunderstood -

MR. ROUSSEAU: I am not suggesting either that the prices are not out of line but these are the prices and the operating costs of the home.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister has misunderstood me, Mr. Chairman, as I am not objecting to the rates at the Hoyles Home. It is an artificial rate in the sense that there are very, very few people who pay the rate. It is set at that level because that is the recovery rate from the Government of Canada and it is in the interest of the government of this province to get that rate at a realistically high level because then Ottawa shares half the cost. So I am all for it, but that is not my point. My point is

that the minister is operating an institution, through his officials, a very good institution, Hoyles Home is a first class institution and it is costing \$560.00 a month in round figures for ambulatory patients and that capital cost element is the cost from eight or ten years ago. Here is the minister at the same time saying to a group of citizens, "You build a home and we will give you today's costs, \$300.00 or \$360.00 a month," and that is the albatross. I suspect the minister is offered a policy proudly but carelessly. My

albatross remark, I commend Coleridge's poem too. It is the albatross which will hang around his neck in the political sense because already the St. Anthony one is there. From what he is saying, I really hope Grand Bank and Lewisporte - they better not get any help from the government after St. Anthony getting it. You know, chalk of one and cheese of another.

MR. ROUSSEAU: If they get it, St. Anthony will get it.

MR. ROBERTS: I appreciate that. The minister is fair. I am afraid his policy is in ruins. I hope that I am proven wrong. I would dearly like to be proven wrong because there is a need for these institutions all around this province. As it now stands I must now come to the conclusion that the policy is a shambles.

On motion 904-01 to 904-03 carried.

MR. ROBERTS: On 905-01. Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could tell us what it is for, please?

MR. ROUSSEAU: On the Harbour Lodge.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, the old Halfway House in Harbour Grace - Carbonear, Saddle Hill.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROUSSEAU: No. I am looking and I am thinking. I have a book with it marked in and it happens to be on my desk, Sir.

MR. ROBERTS: Really, Mr. Chairman, if we are going to be dragged through this farce of voting several hundred million dollars in this way, the least the ministry can do is come with reasonable preparations. The estimated revised figure last year was \$418,000. This year the request that the minister is making is \$588,000. That is an increase of \$170,000 which is about forty per cent up from last year. That is a very large increase. It is reasonable to ask what it is about. It is hardly an unanticipated question. They need either more staff or vast increases. Is the place being increased?

What is it about?

MR. ROUSSEAU: There are certain adjustments being made in the home down there to some of the rooms that were office space that will be made into occupancy rooms which will require additional staff. I would assume that the additional staff would be required. That would be the cause of it there.

MR. ROBERTS: Is there going to be a forty per cent increase in the staff, Mr. Chairman? Where there were a hundred people before, there are now going to be a hundred and forty. I do not know how many units there are. I think there were fifty-six rooms in the hotel when it was then operating. Are they going to be increased by forty per cent? I do not know. Maybe they are taking the basement. The minister should have the size. I would have expected better from this guy.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Right. The increase as well for the purposed extension is thirty-four beds to the institution.

MR. ROBERTS: How is that going to be paid for, please? Hold on now. There is no capital vote in here.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The minister has no officials.

MR. ROUSSEAU: No. The minister does not have his officials.

The thirty-four bed extension was announced apparently and there was supposed to be money here.

MR. ROBERTS: There is \$30,000 capital. That is not going to build thirty-four rooms.

MR. ROUSSEAU: No. That is hardly going to do it. I would assume that the honourable member has a good thing going for him, that it would be additional staff that is necessary at the home. I have to leave it at that. Then you may call me incompetent and I will sit down.

MR. ROBERTS: No. I will not call the minister incompetent. I have a splitting headache. So, the minister does not know what he is talking about. That is not fair. The minister has come to the committee totally unprepared for a question which I submit is a fairly

easy one to anticipate. Estimates are funny business. One never knows what some fellow across the House may come up with. I mean the Minister of Justice last year had no real way of knowing that we would embarrass him so frightfully on his cars. I mean the minister's usual finesse. All I want to know is why it is up before -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Saved by the bell.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, saved by the official. That is what officials are for. The minister has some very good official. Could he give us the answer now?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Bed-care patients in the extension will need extra care.

MR. ROBERTS: That is only begging the question. There is no money in this anyway, Mr. Chairman, for the capital. There is \$30,000 capital which is being voted over in the Public Works Department. The minister is not going to convince me that he can put thirty-four beds anywhere for \$30,000. He could not even buy the beds for that.

MR. HICKEY: The reason for the increase is for the purposed extension. Now, whether there is sufficient capital in there to do it or not is something else. If there is not, it is an error or it is to be found from elsewhere. I do not know. I do know that the increase is for the extension.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I find it reasonable that we are going to have additional beds and there is going to be additional staff. I think that I know enough to believe that people who are bedridden and need constant care, incontinent and the whole thing needs a lot of staff. There is no point in going over it again. I find it very incongruent. I can tell the minister I suspect what happened. The Treasury Board cut the guts out of his capital account requests. The mere fact that it had been announced by somebody has never stopped them. They never do what they announce over there anyway. It was cut. There is no money in here. There is where it should be. There is \$120,000 rental payment. So, it was cut out and the mandarins of the Treasury Board neglected, as they sometimes do. They are very,

very good but once in a while they goof. I suspect that we will be told in due course that there is a substantial amount of fat in there. It is \$170,000 gross. Fifty/fifty Canada Assistance Plan. It is of the order of about \$70,000 or \$80,000 that can be saved. So, the Minister of Finance has that much to go against supplementary supply somewhere else. I suspect that is what happened. If there are no extra beds, there will not be any extra staff, I hope.

MR. HICKEY: It should be pointed out that the increase in salaries is not that great. It certainly would not amount to that number.

On motion 905-01 to 905-02-04 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Maybe the minister can explain, Mr. Chairman, the \$120,000.

MR. ROUSSEAU: That is 905-02-05, rental purchase, capital \$3,000. The annual payment of principal and interest towards the purchase price of Harbour Lodge paid to the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.

MR. WOODWARD: \$120,000 a year?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

On motion 905-02-05 and 905-03 carried.

MR. ROBERTS: On 907-01. Mr. Chairman, again there is an increase on salaries.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Why? You know I get a wonderful -

MR. ROBERTS: If the minister has to ask why, where does that leave the rest of us?

MR. ROUSSEAU: The very peculiar thing is that in doing up my information here they have started on (02) on everything. So, I would assume that extra staff is necessary down there. Beyond that -

MR. ROBERTS: Can the gentleman from the East Extern-

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes. He could probably do it for me.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, it is not unusual that the minister who has been in the department just as long as the honourable gentleman would

not have all the details. I do not know why the honourable gentlemen opposite are so perturbed over this. This is just a normal increase in staff that we were not able to get last year and which is needed. I would not suggest that some of the staff or the vote that we have just passed is the same thing. It is areas where we needed additional staff last year. We were unable to get them and now they are in this year's estimates.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, leaving aside the attempt at sarcasm by the gentleman from St. John's East Extern, I would not call a twenty per cent increase in staff normal. I recall in the distant recesses of my memory the days when I was Minister of Welfare, as it was then called. The portfolio has gone through about eight permutations since then. The departmental officials maintained constantly and I suppose that they had a great deal of merit to their arguments, that one needed more staff. All of these institutions require a lot of staff. The staff at childrens' homes in particular are among the most noble people that we have in the province. Well, annual increments, Mr. Chairman, do not eat up twenty per cent. I am not going to press it. The minister does not have the information. I guess that is the point.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I assume that we would like to try and get more teachers in the schools, on the staff.

MR. ROBERTS: The increments may amount to five per cent.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Plus the additional staff.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, let us have a look at the additional staff while we are at it now. The Childrens' Home, Water Street, last year had eighty-one. Exon House last year had thirty-nine. That is one hundred and twenty. This year ninety-eight at the Childrens' Home. At Exon House one hundred and forty-three. That is two hundred and forty-one, a significant increase in staff. If the minister had looked up the information, there are very significant increases in staff. I am not going to vote against it. I would not dream of it. The point I was really making is that the minister has come to

the committee as ill prepared as any minister I have ever seen. That did surprise me. It surprised me for three reasons.

First of all these questions are easy to anticipate. Secondly, the minister had up until tonight or this morning or what ever it is struck me as being a guy who sort of mastered the job down there. I now have some doubts on this evidence, his testimony here. It has not been a star performance.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I agree with you.

MR. ROBERTS: Thirdly, the officials in that department - Mr. Andrews is the deputy minister. He is one of the great officials of the public service. I had the pleasure of being the minister and he was the deputy minister. The gentleman in those days had prepared for me a book, a loose-leaf book in which were inserted sheets. On the sheets was typed information. I think the gentleman from St. John's East Extern had similar books last year when he did his estimates. There is nothing wrong with them. They are called briefing books. They merely had a lot of information in them. The minister may have them there now. That is the third reason why I am surprised. I really had expected better of the minister. I cannot be eloquent, I cannot even be sarcastic at five o'clock in the morning. I have a splitting headache. Really it has been an most inent performance by a minister from whom we did not expect that.

On motion 907-01 to 907-04 carried.

On motion 908-01 to 908-03 carried.

On motion 909-01 to 909-03 carried.

On motion 910-01 to 910-04-02 carried.

On motion 911-01 to 911-03-04 carried.

On motion 912-01 to 912-05 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: That is an underworld. Sir, could we have a quorum call? We have a quorum. Good! He just woke up, Mr. Chairman. Good! He was sleeping all night.

MR. DAWE: I guess he was sleeping all night, Sir. He has not been here all night. On a point of order, Sir, this subhead has been carried before the honourable gentleman.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: No, Mr. Chairman, the honourable gentleman was on his feet.

MR. DAWE: Carried, Sir. It should be carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable gentlemen will permit me. The subhead was called and the Chairman did say carried but the honourable member for Labrador North was on his feet. The mistake was the mistake of the Chair not of the member for Labrador North.

MR. NEARY: Go back to sleep "Teddy Bear". Go back to Wabush and get on the picket lines.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, just a few brief questions for the honourable minister on Labrador services and on the salaries vote. Maybe the minister can inform the committee of the number of additional staff that have been taken on. I see that there is a substantial increase in salaries. I do not know if he has the information in front of him. There are well over \$100,000 in salaries from last year, a substantial increase. Maybe he can inform the committee as to the additional number of people that have been taken on and give us the categories or the listings. Also maybe he can inform the committee of the number of local people that have been hired in the communities. If he does not have the information, then I am quite satisfied to have him table it at some later date. He can maybe also inform the committee of the change and the restructuring in the Labrador services, taking out the Labrador Northern Services Division.

MR. ROUSSEAU: On the salaries question, this would be the division of Northern Labrador Services of last year in with now the Division of Labrador Affairs. Both groups have been placed together. This would create the added people in the department. The division itself now is larger as a result of the integration of both divisions. So, actually what we are looking at here is what would have last year been

in the estimates for the Division of Northern Labrador Services and the Department of Labrador Affairs. There have been no new hirings to my knowledge. There may have been replacements but there are no new hirings as yet. Certain posts are not now filled. I hope that they will be filled. Any expansion will go beyond there. Probably I could answer that question in answering the restructuring.

Again as I suggested in the House previously, the restructuring of putting the Northern Labrador Services Division, of the old Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation, and the Department of Labrador Affairs together was as a method of administrative convenience. Of course the Northern Labrador Coastal Communities as well as the North West River and the larger communities there will be served in the same method as they have been served in the past years. There is no great expansion at this time in any services to Labrador. The reason that we called it Labrador Services was due to the fact that although the greater emphasis with regard to cost was placed on the coast - I am just thinking of something. I have a couple of amendments to make. Has anybody got any, by the way? You have them there.

The most of it is on the coast but the air subsidy and the travelling exchange and the other programmes actually cover all of Labrador. So, for administrative convenience we thought of calling it Coastal Labrador Services but again to put the programmes that are applicable to all of Labrador into a Coastal Labrador Programme would not be accurate. So, we called it the Labrador Services Division. We would hope that possibly some of the federal help that is prevalent in Northern Labrador may be redirected into Southern Labrador if it is at all possible. We certainly intend to get at that at their earliest convenience. Basically all we have in the division is the old Department of Labrador Affairs integrated with the Department of Northern Labrador Services, a part of the Department of the old Social Services and Rehabilitation

Department; Northern Labrador Services Division.

MR. WOODWARD: There were three slots or positions for local representatives in Labrador: One in the West, one in Goose Bay-Happy Valley for the North and one in the South. I understand that there are still two vacant positions. I wonder if the minister can inform the committee if these positions will be filled. Also the total salary for those three positions is somewhere in the vicinity of \$30,000. I think it was \$8,000, \$10,000 and \$12,000. Although the total increase is \$120,000, the other \$90,000 represents office staff that have gone from Labrador Affairs into the Labrador Services Division.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The problem with regard to the representatives, I am sure, for example in Labrador West, it is very difficult to maintain a resident representative on the salary. I think the salary scale has been - again I am not certain of this but the salary was about \$9,000, I think. It is now down to \$7,000. It is very difficult in Western Labrador to get a person to act as a representative on that salary. Certainly the suggestion of filling the post in Labrador South is a very important one. My intention is that as soon as the House closes I would like to go up and meet with Frank Mercer, our resident representative in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area, and define his frames of reference and what we would like to see him do and to hopefully look at the situation in Labrador South with regard to a resident representative there.

On motion 913-01 to 913-02-02 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, on 913-03-01, maybe the minister can inform the committee - I see there are here in the estimates operating expenses and air passenger subsidy. Have the air passenger subsidies been increased this year? Would that include the air passenger subsidy, the Labrador Air Service subsidy, which remains the same as it did last year?

MR. ROUSSEAU: That is just the twenty-five percent of the residents of Labrador.

MR. WOODWARD: The trading and supplies have been reduced by \$295,000. That was because of the supplies that went in this year.

On motion 913-03-01 to 913-03-03 carried.

MR. MASSPALL: There is an amendment to 913-03-04 that Labrador subsidized air services be increased from \$90,000 to \$104,000 to cover the year's subsidy on the food shortage in Southern Labrador. This will require consequential additions to the totals and the subtotals. I move this amendment.

On motion 913-03-04 as amended carried.

On motion 913-04-01 to 913-04-03 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Could the minister explain the maintenance of students?

MR. ROUSSEAU: The maintenance includes boarding, lodging and transportation and uniforms and so on for students in Labrador who come down to the island for their educational purposes. High School Education, for certain students who come down to the island part of the province for their high school education, this is to pay their board and lodging, transportation and uniforms, tuition fees and so on.

MR. WOODWARD: That is from the coastal communities.

MR. ROUSSEAU: From the coastal communities.

On motion 913-04-04 carried

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, maybe the minister would like to explain to the committee, does this include the replacement of the building that was burnt out in Nain. Maybe he would also like to provide the committee with the information as to the total construction programme about - I do not know if you have had time to put it together - the number of buildings that are going to be constructed and the number of homes that are going to be constructed in each community this year.

MR. ROUSSEAU: That is another subhead, the housing. I have just settled with the depots on that.

MR. WOODWARD: Is this the replacement of the depot in Nain? Does this include any capital cost on the fish plant in Makkovik?

MR. ROUSSEAU: This is \$270,000 to replace the premises in Nain destroyed by fire, at approximately \$125,000. We have ordered a building now which we hope to have by July 15. It is a pre-engineered steel building measuring eighty by one hundred and forty-four. It will serve as the building for the depot as well as have a half basement which will provide adequate housing, warehousing and so on and so forth. So, that will be a \$125,000 building. We have ordered it on the basis of delivery to arrive at Nain by July. So, barring any unforeseen circumstances, the building should be at Nain by July.

Additional warehouses at Nain, Makkovik, Postville and Black Tickle, \$55,000. Hunting lodge in the Nain area, \$75,000. Repair and renovation of old Moravian Mission dwelling at Hopedale to provide accommodation for transient guests, \$15,000. So, that is the depot building subhead of \$270,000.

MR. WOODWARD: I am curious on the fishing lodge, \$75,000. Are the government putting up a fishing lodge or are they giving financial support to someone for a lodge?

MR. ROUSSEAU: We are putting them up and hiring local people to handle them.

MR. WOODWARD: Is it actually a commercial organization or a sports fishing organization?

MR. ROUSSEAU: No, our own division.

MR. WOODWARD: Yes but what purpose is the lodge?

MR. ROUSSEAU: It is a fishing lodge which will be used for fishermen and hunters and which will give local people some work.

MR. WOODWARD: Well, this is the first that I have heard about this, Mr. Chairman. I know there are a number of people and I have acted on behalf of a number of people in the area who want to get into the sports fishing and put up their own lodges. I have not heard of the government putting up a fishing lodge and going into the sports fishing business.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Could I make my statement on the facts, if I may?

MP. WOODWARD: Yes.

The decision intends, with approval, to operate hunting and fishing lodges in at least areas in Northern Labrador. This will be undertaken in order to provide employment to local residents and they will be expected to operate the camps, under supervision in the beginning.

MR. WOODWARD: Is this a new policy? This is the first time I have heard

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, it is a new policy, subject to approval.

MR. WOODWARD: This is a new policy that the government are getting into.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. WOODWARD: Will they eventually sell the lodges back to the local people? It is a completely new programme?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes.

MR. WOODWARD: There are going to be five this year.

MR. ROUSSEAU: No there is only going to be one this year, the main one this year, but as you know, an on-going policy, we hope to establish at least five areas there, Now this is hopeful in the future. But the main one is planned this year in the estimates.

MR. WOODWARD: Seventy-five thousand dollars for a fishing lodge that is going to be put up by the government and operated by the government, Mr. Chairman. There are people, private individuals looking for financial support to get into this business and they have not been consulted and the government are again getting into the business. Have the department consulted with the local residents in this respect whether they are in favour of this sort of a thing, Mr. Chairman?

MR. ROUSSEAU: It is subject to approval. I would think that approval would mean that we would talk to the people about it, We put it in the estimates. There will certainly be a dialogue with the people, we do not intend to put anything on the people of Nain or any other part of Labrador or any other part of the

province where the people are actually for it. As I suggested the division intends with approval, and the approval is that the money is here and we will talk to the people.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, just one minute, there is something wrong there.

MR. ROBERTS: Does the honourable member for Labrador West have any idea really of what he is asking for? He should spent some time not in front of the cameras.

MR. ROUSSEAU: It is a federal project.

MR. WOODWARD: It is a federal project. Well most of the money that is spent, Mr. Chairman, is federal funding, sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the money is being spent. But it is something that is completely new and I have not heard of it and I have not had any representation from the communities or the community councils as to this particular programme. I am sure there are a number of people - I have gone to the Minister of Tourism with a number of letters, people soliciting financial support to get involved in the sports fishing in Labrador. Now we understand that the government are going in and putting in their own camps. Is this in direct competition with private enterprise, the thing that we are trying to develop? Is this a complete change or switch in policy where maybe the minister - I do not know.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The government intend with approval, this money is there and we intend to tie it in along with the people of Nain. It is a policy that we would like to implement. We have not talked to the people in the area, if the people do not want this and they would rather have private enterprise, nobody is going to shove it on them. But provision has been made for this operation up there to provide employment for local residents. This one is in Nain.

MR. WOODWARD: I wonder if the honourable minister is aware that there is one commercial camp starting in that area this year by a local outfitter from Goose Bay that the Department of Tourism have

already given approval to? There are already two camps in Northern Labrador. Now the mere fact that the government are programming to put in five more camps to go in direct competition with private enterprise, I am at sea to understand, to understand the policy, Mr. Chairman. I am at sea.

Maybe the minister can explain the policy after, It is the sort of a thing that catches me unaware because of the fact that we have been trying to promote private enterprise to take the local residents out of the government's grip and get them off the welfare role, then we see the government are putting in camps. I do not know maybe it is the right policy but I am at a loss to see it, Mr. Chairman.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well do I take this now as a suggestion that the member is not in favour of this policy and that we should withdraw it?

MR. WOODWARD: I am not in favour with the policy, I am not saying that we should withdraw it but I think that the local people should be consulted and in this respect before you bring estimates to the House. There is no one aware of that programme and it is not going to be acceptable to the people.

AN HON. MEMBER: How do you know?

MR. WOODWARD: Because - if I may explain to the committee and my good friend the honourable Minister of Industrial Development, is the mere fact that I have been acting on behalf of three people in my district who are trying to start the same thing, by looking to the Department of Tourism and Crown Lands for land to get into a fishing operation which we feel and the government feel that this is a type of promotion that should be done rather than the government going in and saying that they are putting up five camps this year.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I will certainly take the member's objections into consideration when we are considering the policy, Okay?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the honourable gentleman a question? Is he under the impression that this lodge is on a river or something of that nature? He mentioned being in opposition to commercial lodges, Is he under the impression that this is on

one of the fishing rivers?

MR. WOODWARD: Yes, this is what the minister -

MR. HICKEY: No, No, Mr. Chairman,

MR. WOODWARD: That this particular lodge is the fishing lodge that they are going to operate and hire local people?

MR. HICKEY: But, Mr. Chairman, I must point out that the minister has already stated that this lodge is in the Community of Nain. It could be classed as lodgings, as a small kind of hotel or motel to provide accommodation for people coming in.

MR. WOODWARD: Well if that is the case, I am sure that the minister is not aware, Mr. Chairman, that this is the case, is it a hotel or a motel?

MR. HICKEY: The minister gave the information.

MR. WOODWARD: And it is going into communities. This is not what I was told. I was told this was a fishing lodge.

MR. HICKEY: The minister stated it was for the Community of Nain.

MR. ROWE, W.N. The minister gets up and says. it would be this and it could be that. What is it, Mr. Chairman? What is it? What are we voting here now?

MR. WOODWARD: It is the fishing and hunting lodge, is this what it is, Mr. Chairman?

MR. DOODY: Yes.

MR. WOODWARD: Yes.

MR. DOODY: May I make a point, Mr. Chairman?

MR. WOODWARD: Yes you may make a point.

MR. DOODY: The point is that there is a pilot project being financed by the Government of Canada to try and encourage hunting and fishing in the area which the honourable member represents. Now I would feel that if the honourable member do not wish to have these funds expanded in his district then there would be no problem to have them withdrawn and private enterprise might possibly pick up the tab and go look for that sort of fund, and he can do it on his own. But we feel

that is in the best interest of the people of Labrador North that such a pilot project be gotten underway that the hunting and fishing potential be explored, that Nain be the base for it and that this is all that this is. It is an attempt to help in a pilot sort of a project the kind of hunting and fishing development that we feel is essential to the development of that area.

Now if private individuals want to get involved in this, the Government of Newfoundland has absolutely no desire to hinder them in anyway. We will help them if we can. But I do not think we can afford, in the interest of the people of Labrador North, to turn down such an offer from the people, from the Government of Canada.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the information from the honourable minister to this committee but I was under the impression -

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would permit me, preserving the quorum within the House would be appreciated if honourable members are within the confines of, within the bar as it were, if they would remain seated. Now honourable members are walking around and there seems to me a certain amount of confusion within the committee. The honourable the member for Labrador North.

MR. WOODWARD: I appreciate the information, Mr. Chairman, that the honourable Minister of Industrial Development has given to the committee. I now do not understand what the \$75,000 programme is. Is it a motel, as the honourable Minister of Environment is telling us or is it a fishing and a hunting lodge? If they are putting a fishing and a hunting lodge in Nain, in the Community of Nain, it is going to serve very little purpose because there is no hunting nor fishing there.

MR. HICKEY: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I am sure my honourable friend does not wish to take what I have said out of context. the word "motel" to describe or to give an example of the kind of facility or the kind of service it might provide. I did not say it was a motel.

MR. WOODWARD: Inaudible.

MR. HICKEY: A fishing lodge in Nain.

MR. DOODY: Inaudible.

MR. WOODWARD: You know the Minister of Industrial Development, it is a pilot programme, we are going to promote hunting and fishing and there is a lodge going somewhere in the Nain Area but not necessarily in the Community of Nain.

MR. DOODY: I would think not. But I am sure that the detail on it -

MR. WOODWARD: Why I think the confusion was caused, the honourable minister did mention the fact that there would be five similar type lodges going up. I welcome the pilot programme. I would like to think in terms of not having Labrador Services to run this particular lodge but possibly to give it over to some qualified native people to do the operation for them, and possibly with the thought in mind of turning it over to local groups for operational purposes. I think this is the concept of what we are trying to get into.

MR. DOODY: This could very well be, and if it is probably in the interest of the district, we can let the item stand over for another year.

MR. WOODWARD: But if the honourable minister at a later date or maybe next week or sometime can fill me in with the information so that when I get inquiries from the district that we can -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

On motion 913-07-01 carried.

On motion 913-07-02 through 07-03 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 913-07-04 carry?

MR. WOODWARD: 04 - Sawmill Machinery and Equipment. Maybe the honourable minister can explain where the equipment is going or if this is the upgrading of the equipment in Northwest River? The sawmill additional equipment?

On motion 04 carried.

MR. MARSHALL: Before we carry 06, Mr. Chairman, there is an amendment to 05 which shows a nil balance. Subhead 913-07-05 -

Housing Eskimos and Indians, which presently has a nil balance, should be increased by \$330,000. Offsetting this amount will be an appropriation-in-aid of \$214,500 thereby requiring Subhead 913-10-04, Government of Canada (Capital), to be increased from \$665,000 to \$879,500. The gist of this amendment then, Mr. Chairman, is to provide for an expenditure of \$330,000, contribution from the Government of Canada, \$214,500. I propose this amendment and ask that the totals be adjusted accordingly.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, may I speak on the amendment or the amount that is in here. I do not know if the minister has the information available, the number of homes going into each community -

MR. ROUSSEAU: Twenty to twenty-five will be built right now.

MR. WOODWARD: Twenty to twenty-five and at a later date you will give me the list of the number of homes that -

MR. ROWE, W.N.: The amount of money that is grabbed out of the air by the honourable House Leader for the building of housing for Eskimos and Indians, now surely here, Mr. Chairman, it is being based on some rationale or other, we will hear later where it is going to go, or we have not decided yet and this sort of thing. I mean what is the rationale? What is the idea of it? I mean, why this amount of money?

MR. ROUSSEAU: This amount of money is to build twenty to twenty-five homes in the area of Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville Rigolet and Northwest River on the bases of possibly two to one for Nain. Last year, for example, if I may give the figures and I would suggest that they would be approximately in the same proportion, there were seven at Nain, six at Hopedale, five at Makkovik and four each in Postville and Rigolet and Northwest River; so there will be approximately the same ratio again.

MR. ROBERTS: I must say, Mr. Chairman, I think on the estimates is suppose to be the time when the ministers are tried and we have seen some good performances from the gentleman for Harbour Main, the Minister of Industrial Development gave us one but really I

do not think there has been an item on which we have questioned. We have been rather delicate with respect to this department, where the minister has been able to supply us with any accurate information at all. You know, to say twenty to twenty-five when he thinks and he thinks and he thinks there must be a programme. Indeed, I will go further. Sir, these amounts, as the House Leader for the other side has pointed out, are offset in large measure by appropriations-in-aid from the Government of Canada.

MR. ROWE, W.N. They did not just lash that out.

MR. ROBERTS: The Government of Canada. There is an agreed programme between the Government of this Province and the Government of Canada. It has been adopted by order-in-council by this government and by an order-in-council at Ottawa. If it has not so been done, it is the first time in the twelve or fifteen years there has been a programme that it has not been done.

Now does the minister know? I mean, he is asking and we are quite prepared to vote the money, I wish we could vote twice as much because anybody who has seen anything of housing conditions in these communities knows that the need in this programme is a good one, It could be better. I mean this is not some vague thing, it is not the matter we are trying to recruit staff, I mean, that we understand. It is an on-going programme. It is worked out by officials. There is a joint committee. I do not know who is on it at present but there have been so much toing-and-froing in the department Mr. Andrew's was always on it, the Deputy Minister of Health, the Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Philip Hanley, used to be on it, I do not know if his successor Mr. Roebottom is or not, but there is a joint committee of officials who works out the programme. As my honourable friend from White Bay South points out, Ottawa just do not lash it out, it is agreed and there is usually a lot of back and forth, coming and going and then out of it comes a programme and Ottawa agrees to pay - is it ninety per cent of the cost of Indians and two-thirds the cost of Eskimos? Or is the project in respect of Indians and a project in respect of Eskimos?

So the minister comes to the committee with ample warning. I mean, this ploy we are seeing now was worked out. I am sure, days ago, the minister knew what would be happening. It is an easy matter to anticipate it. It is not as if, as I have seen happen on estimates sometimes, Mr. Chairman, you know a question that nobody could ever anticipate and nobody has asked. Mr. Bill Browne, the honourable W.J. Browne, used to do that. Questions that nobody would ever dream of Mr. Browne would come up with. The questions we have asked are fairly straightforward. I have never seen a man, (he had a great reputation when he began a couple of hours ago) I have never seen a man expose himself as completely. I mean, can he tell us what the programme is? I am sure it has been agreed by order-in-council here and in Ottawa and there are minutes of what happens. The minutes are approved by order-in-council and if it has not been done it is the first time. I can only speak of four or five years with personal knowledge but it was always done and I am sure always has been and I would presume always will be. I mean, this is just too, too much. He has help from the Premier. The Premier has been down helping him, the gentleman for St. John's East Extern has been down helping him, the junior member for Harbour Main has been helping him, the Premier is coming to help him again now. I mean does the minister - the minister is asking us for a net of \$7 million, one whack of cash.

Every question we have asked him, he just says, "I will find out." He has tried to be helpful. It seems to me he did not know anything to start with. I do not know, I mean really it is too much and I am surprised but without at all joking, the minister has struck me as being one of the more competent on the other side. It is the first time he has ever put estimates through the committee. He is doing it under good conditions because everybody on this side is beaten to a frazzle just as I suspect most of the members on the other side are.

AN HON. MEMBER: No we are not.

MR. ROBERTS: No, they are as fresh as a daisy.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROWE, W.N. He always looks stupid.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, Teddy Bear always looks like that.

But, Mr. Chairman, the point is the minister is here under optimum conditions, there is hardly any - there is no desire on our part to - we thought he was doing well but really he has exposed himself completely as being inept -

MR. ROWE, W.N. You were dazzled by the flash bulbs.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I may have been dazzled by the flash bulbs but I have never seen a man start off with as great a reputation and two hours later have it in shambles. Now can the Premier - the minister cannot answer the question, perhaps the Premier can.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The housing for Indians and Eskimos, there will be provided approximately twenty new homes at the communities of Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet and Northwest River. I will undertake to provide when the decision has been made as to where they are and where they are going to be located and that would be tomorrow I would hope or today.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, will the honourable gentleman undertake to table the minutes of the committee of officials between Ottawa and Newfoundland? I do not think it is a very secret document. It is agreed between the two governments. Would the minister undertake to table that?

MR. ROUSSEAU: If it is available, yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Well if it is available, and if it is not available, will he provide an explanation? It has always been available.

On motion (05) as amended carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall (06) carry?

MR. WOODWARD: Maybe the minister could explain this, is this the total operational cost for the dormitory? There is some controversy over it and I am sure the minister is aware of the controversy that developed in the last couple of days.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The Dormitory at Northwest River?

MR. WOODWARD: Yes. What is the total industry is picking up for the operation of the dormitory?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Seventy-five thousand is required to complete the dormitory, \$125,000 to construct and equip the children's home in Northwest River, the children who require care for short periods, similar to the United Church Children's Home in St. John's, \$200,000.

On motion 06 carried.

On motion 07 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 08 carry?

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, \$265,000 for water and sewerage systems. Maybe the minister can inform the committee as to what communities, how much money is being spent in each community? What programmes? We talked in terms of Stage I and Stage II. Maybe the minister can inform the committee what communities will get a start on water and sewerage and what phase will get started this year.

MR. ROUSSEAU: The division undertook with an engineering firm to do water surveys of the communities of Nain, Makkovik, and Northwest River. Now the studies, by the way, are the Nain study, I have just received in my office yesterday, the other ones will be completed within I guess the next six months or so. The amount here of \$265,000 is for the initial stages of construction of the water system for Nain, \$200,000; waterline to fish plant at Makkovik, \$25,000; water supply system for Rigolet \$10,000, and additional equipment for Hopedale pumps, \$5,000; the finalized plan for the Northwest River water system \$25,000.

On motion 08 carried.

On motion 09 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 10 carry?

MR. WOODWARD: On 10, Mr. Chairman, Fishery Premises and Equipment: Is this the additional equipment that is going in to complete the

plant at Makkovik?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Right.

MR. WOODWARD: Or will there be any upgrading or additional equipment for that plant at Nain?

MR. ROUSSEAU: To complete the Makkovik fish plant, \$50,000; ice making machine and other plant equipment, construction of workers restroom and toilet facilities, \$45,000 and nets and fishing gear for all settlements \$30,000.

On motion 10 carried.

On motion 914-03-01 through 08 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 09 carry?

MR. ROWE, W.N. On 09, Mr. Chairman, could the minister give us some indication as to what the others are?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Grants to the Canadian Council Social Development, \$3,600; Newfoundland and Labrador Association for the aging, \$4,500; the Canadian Legion \$1,500; the Kiwanis Operation Drug Alert St. John's, \$15,000; the West Coast Drug Drop-in Centre Corner Brook, \$17,000; Insight Grand Falls, \$59,50; Multiple Sclerosis, \$1,000; Canadian Diabetic Society, \$1,800.

MR. ROWE, W.N. What is the basis on which the government decide to give out grants to these organizations? I mean is it a sort of any laudible enterprise that one might wish to start, providing some kind of a public service of this nature can expect to get a grant from the government to operate it, is that the idea?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Well any group that is providing a community service or a necessary service to communities would certainly be eligible. But in the context of the money available then, we have to establish which groups that we can provide grants to. I could respectfully suggest here that there are a lot who should have them who do not have them because the finances are not there. But at this point in time these have been normally established with an original amount somewhere along the way and normally they request from year to year

increases and it is very difficult to increase, if you want - either you have to increase or add on new ones. Especially as you will notice here, there is \$32,000 going for the Drug Alert group at St. John's and the Drop-in Centre at Corner Brook. We think that to be an important aspect of living in today's society and we would like to help in a government way in combating the drug problems. So these are various societies which provide a community service in which there is money available to operate, from government.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Why does not the minister break out the others and list them like the other ones are listed there? One there, for example, is getting \$18,000 or something I heard. It seems to me a significant amount of money.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I am sorry, a breakdown.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Here it lists down eight of them and then "Others" take \$52,000. I mean, why is it not set out?

MR. ROUSSEAU: These are fairly new ones and they were booked in with the other group. The other ones were pretty standard, they had been in operation for a number of years, and these are fairly new ones, the Drug Alert one and so on and so forth.

MR. ROWE, W.N. But there is no money here now, Mr. Chairman, there is no sort of, well it would not be a contingency fund that implies an emergency of some sort, but there is no slush fund as such in case other enterprises this year were to apply to the minister, for example, for money. It is all committed, is it?

MR. ROUSSEAU: Only the magnanimity of the Minister of Finance.

Again normally these groups know that the budget is brought down at this time of the year and normally the requests we have at this time of the year, there would be no further request during the year under normal conditions and any other that was requested during the year we would have to delay of course until the new fiscal year.

On motion 03-09 carried.

On motion 971 - Block Provision: Canada Pension Plan carried.

On motion 972 - Block Provision: Unemployment Insurance carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES

MR. MURPHY: I just want to say that I do not want my political future destroyed so I brought in some of my officials here to give me a help.

Mr. Chairman I did have a statement on the policy so on and so forth of the philosophy of this department but I think at this hour of the day, I do not think it would be too greatly appreciated. As we are all aware I think in doing estimates, (I have been in this House for ten or eleven years) everything is itemized here so that we can get all the information that is possible out to the people. As the items come up, I will be only too happy to discuss them. If I do not have the answers, I am sure that these two men, who are two of the most competent men in the civil service, will supply them for me.

On motion Head 801, carried.

On motion Head 802, carried.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Mr. Chairman, would you suggest to the clerk that he be a little more distinct in his reading and also a little slower. We are not all like the member from Burgeo who can grasp these things immediately. Some of us are a little slower. Even the minister you see is lost.

MR. MURPHY: No, I was just wondering what is happening down there.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Here he comes now, Mr. Chairman. He is going to help us out.

MR. EVANS: From an ordinary individual I would not mind, but from somebody with an I.Q. that is a bit lower than what we would call a retarded chipmunk - we will as far as I am concerned.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): The question I was going to ask, Mr. Chairman -

MR. CHAIRMAN: With respect to the honourable member's point of privilege, the Chair will take in under advisement and rule on it later.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): This is a new division, planning and research I think. Would the minister give us some idea of that?

MR. MURPHY: Quite frankly, Mr. Chairman, it is something that is

badly needed in our department. It is being done on the federal level and it is a position that we are looking for that is not yet filled and we certainly hope to get it as soon as possible.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Yes, what kind of planning and research is envisaged?

MR. MURPHY: Basically the income on maintenance programmes under the federal CAP, Canada Assistance Plan.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): So it is sort of what might be described as more or less academic research, researching the plans, trying to say alter the cost shared programme between the province and Canada to suit our circumstances, that kind of a thing, negotiations with Ottawa and that sort of thing. Is that the idea?

MR. MURPHY: Actually my deputy minister tells me we have to know what type of programmes are best suited to the needs of our particular province and to do this there are people who would be specialists in that area and this would be their job to do that.

MR. WOODWARD: Are there people or one person? How much is in the estimates?

MR. MURPHY: One person at the present time.

MR. WOODWARD: One person. No, you are not going to divide that \$12,000 up among eight or ten people.

On motion, Head 803, carried.

On motion, 804(01) through 804(02)(02), carried.

804(02)(03):

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, on (03)-Operation of Motor Vessels, does the minister have a yacht? Maybe he can explain to the committee -

MR. MURPHY: She is tied up for the winter and that is why the cost is so small here but we did have a couple of boats in Fortune Bay. This is a motor vessel we had there but due to the roads now in Fortune Bay I think there are only two places, if I am not mistaken, so this will be phased out at the end of - it

is phased out now basically.

MR. WOODWARD: The money that is in the vote then, if the boat is phased out what will the money be used for? Will it be used for the purpose of renting that?

MR. MURPHY: We had two but there will be one left the "William Whiteway" which operates from Rose Blanche to Francois on the Western end of the South Coast.

On motion, 804(02)(04), carried.

804(02)(04):

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, why is the vote for professional training down, cut by half?

MR. MURPHY: Previously in this department they had a system of bursaries to students coming into training but that is cut out now and they do not give these bursaries any more.

MR. WOODWARD: Yes, but can they not cut out the - They still have \$14,500 left in there.

MR. MURPHY: That is what we call for in-service training for our welfare officers where they come into the office and this type of thing, pays transportation and their expenses at headquarters and so on.

MR. WOODWARD: Their entertainment.

On motion, Head 804, carried.

805(01):

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Why is that down, Mr. Chairman?

MR. MURPHY: There is a gentleman and his secretary who were formerly with the training school in our department and are now transferred to the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation. There will be some changes and as you go through you will notice, because of the separation actually of the two departments.

On motion, 805(01) through 805(03)(01), carried.

805(03)(04):

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, what is the rate now per child for an unmarried mother?

MR. MURPHY: I have no idea as I never used them.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): It is too late now.

MR. MURPHY: Actually this is not their rates but this is a grant to them for legal services to help them.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): To get after the punitive fathers.

MR. MURPHY: To get after whom? That is what it is for basically for, legal services towards maintenance.

On motion, 805(03)(04) through 805(03)(06), carried.

805(03)(07):

MR. ROWE(F.B.): I would like to hear what the exact policy is with respect to those who are on social assistance having to pay school assessments. I know during the run of a year I get fifteen or twenty letters. Now is there a firm policy on this or is it up to the school boards? I probably should have asked the question when we were dealing with the Department of Education but what is the policy?

MR. MURPHY: Actually there is no provision anywhere in the plan to provide funds for people on welfare but I will agree with the honourable gentleman, as I said in the House, I think on the education estimates, it is one of the things that we meet with together with municipalities when we get taxes. As I said at that time we are hoping to meet with the Department of Education and with the others to try to work out some system where we can, but basically the fact is you cannot squeeze blood out of a turnip. They just do not have the money and that is it, but they are being pestered and summoned. What we can do, I do not know. Actually there is nothing we can do under the present setup.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Now on top of that we have a situation where the school tax authorities are considering trying to figure out some means and method of taxing the people who are on social assistance. It seems like a ridiculous thing but the sooner this is worked out obviously the better, Mr. Chairman.

On motion, Head 805, carried.

On motion, 806(01) through 806(02)(03), carried.

806(03)(01):

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I do not know where to bring up this particular question. I do not know if it is coincidence or if I am going paranoid or what but -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): There are a few of us, Mr. Chairman, trying to do the business of this country.

MR. MURPHY: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: That is the most sensible thing the minister has ever said. The most sensible thing he could ever say would be, "I resign." But really could we have them open. I mean it is dingy and dirty enough in here now without -

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is a perfectly legitimate request and it is directed to either open them or close them.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I do not know where to bring up this question. Where do we bring up fuel allowances?

MR. MURPHY: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): I asked the minister on several occasions if he would consider increasing the fuel allowance for the people on the Great Northern Peninsula to bring them in line with what the people in Labrador are getting and he undertook to look into it or study it and I wonder if he has any firm policy on this at the present time. They get \$5.00 more per month in Labrador, I believe. Now I realize, Mr. Chairman, that the basic problem with respect to fuel allowance is not the fact that they do not get enough fuel but it is the fact that they cannot keep the houses warm if they had a blast furnace in there because some of these homes are in a pretty deplorable condition. But just the same, if we do have special consideration for Labrador and when you consider the location of the Great Northern Peninsula and the prevailing westerlies over the ice in the winter, I think

it is only reasonable to give some such consideration to that area.

So I do not know if the minister -

MR. YOUNG: We requested that the drapes be drawn because we were blinded with the sun over here. It is quite all right for the Leader of the Opposition because he is over there squat down in his chair but at least we could have them half across, Sir, or something. I mean this is why we requested them to be drawn because the sun is blinding us over here.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. YOUNG: I would close your eyes anytime my son, but that is nothing to me, I mean I do not want to be blinded. If it were five o'clock this afternoon, you could get away with it.

MR. MURPHY: Is it all right to answer the question now?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable gentlemen will no doubt agree that this is an acceptable compromise.

MR. MURPHY: Now in answer to the question asked by the member for St. Barbe North, the department is very much aware, particularly this past winter, of the fuel allowance. It was increased \$5.00 last year all across the board and there is a special allowance for Labrador.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. MURPHY: Yes, and St. John's Centre were pretty cold this winter too. But this is a thing that is being looked after, Sir. It is something that within the means, as I say, last year there were rates right across the board on fuel but it is being considered and what this year will be we do not know. We have a couple of million dollars extra in the fund this year, thanks to the generosity of the Premier and my colleagues in the cabinet who have very warm hearts for people who need things. I think it has been overlooked for a long, long time, the needs of these people. So as I say, it is very much active, Mr. Chairman, and we hope we can do something with it.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I do not want to be persistent on this but this is what I heard during the winter, that it is very active. This is the kind of information, Mr. Chairman, that I got during the winter, that it is under active consideration. What I am asking the minister is will he have decided upon a policy before the coming winter, the next winter.

MR. MURPHY: Yes I am saying that there will be a policy decided on it. I mean we have been after it for fifteen years and it is only this year we increased it \$5.00.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Right.

MR. MURPHY: If you want to get snappy on the thing -

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I am not -

MR. MURPHY: It would have cost \$1 million to increase it \$5.00. We figured the whole thing out and we just did not have the money in the estimates to do it.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Yes, All right, that is all I am asking.

MR. MURPHY: I have already told the honourable member and if he wants it in writing I will give it to him but that is all I can do.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): No, there is no need. No, no, no, Mr. Chairman, the last bit of information that I got -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. MURPHY: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE(F.B.): What is going on here, Mr. Chairman? I cannot hear myself speak.

MR. MURPHY: But that is not a reasonable request. I told you what we hoped to do-

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, if the honourable minister will give me a chance to ask a question, he would not be so tangled up as he is at the present time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If honourable members will permit, it is very difficult for two members to address the Chair at the same time. So the

honourable member for St. Barbe North has the floor and his method of approach is quite in order.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, the last time I got up to speak I got up to speak for one reason because the answer to my question from the minister was that it was under active consideration. I simply asked would there be a definite policy established by the coming winter and he informed me that there is and I am satisfied with the answer. But there was no need to launch back fifteen years ago and all this sort of thing. I will keep asking the same thing over and over if I do not get an answer.

On motion, 806(03)(01), carried.

806(03)(02):

MR. ROWE(W.N.): (Inaudible).

MR. MURPHY: Long term is pretty well basic right across the board and there maybe little variations but the clientele are just about the same. Perhaps there might be a little up and down because -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. MURPHY: Well, in a sense I think. It seems to balance out I think. If you check back I think you will find that the estimates - It is something like a pension I believe, in this way.

MR. ROBERTS: How can you be angry with the gentleman from St. John's Centre? I mean he is such a lovely fellow. The long term assistance historically, as I am sure his deputy minister can tell him, has gone up five per cent a year on the average over the past ten years. When did the Canada Assistance Plan come in? 1966. It has gone up on an average of five per cent a year.

MR. MURPHY: They tell me it is just about leveled off the past couple of years.

MR. ROBERTS: Just about leveled off. Okay that is a reasonable thing. But why?

MR. MURPHY: That is a good question.

MR. ROBERTS: I thought it was a very good question. At six o'clock

in the morning I am pleased with myself for having asked that.

MR. MURPHY: My officials feel that the Canada Pension Plan might have taken up some of the slack in that way the past three or four year. Basically that is the only way they can judge it.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not have the heart.

MR. MURPHY: People are now becoming eligible.

On motion, 806(03)(02) and (03)(03), carried.

806(03)(04):

MR. ROBERTS: Hold on now, that is blind persons' allowances.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Well, in any event why is it down?

MR. ROBERTS: That is a federal programme phasing out. It is one of the old categorical assistance programmes.

MR. ROWE(J.N.): That is good enough.

MR. ROBERTS: You get more money there than if you put them under Canada Assistance.

MR. MURPHY: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: But I mean that is a categorical programme and will carry till most people have died actually or until they all get pensioned.

MR. MURPHY: I would say so.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, that is right. The deputy agrees with me.

MR. MURPHY: That is where I get my information.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, it is a good source. The minister should consult him more often.

On motion, Head 806, carried.

807(01):

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I would like perhaps a word or two of explanation on it and maybe this is the place where I could bring up a curious story that was related to me a couple of weeks ago by a gentleman from Colinet or somewhere in that part of St. Mary's Bay. He told me an enthralling story, Mr. Chairman, that seems to relate to employment opportunities. It is the saga of the chain saws. Their

story, and I have not had the opportunity to check it. The minister may need a drink with this one as it is that sort of story. The Premier would be interested in it. I think his sense of humour would be tickled.

Apparently the department have purchased thirty chain saws, "Pioneer", at \$205.00 each, and they have provided these chain saws with thirty men through the Harvey Road Welfare Office. It is a sensible enough project in theory. These men were then sent to Stephenville where there is an upgrading school and they had two weeks at the upgrading school, and low and behold they were made into loggers in two weeks! Now it is not that every logger in Newfoundland is employed, as I could probably find three or four in my constituency who are not employed and are on short-term assistance at this moment. At this moment they are in bed, if they are sensible people. But I mean they are all living around Roddickton, Main Brook, Englee, Conche. Anyway we apparently took thirty men, when I say from St. John's I mean through the Harvey Road City Welfare Office, not from the Long Pond office, not from the Bay Bulls office but from the Harvey Road office who out of all the loggers there are, here in St. John's. There is a fellow living down on Bulley Street. He is a logger. I expect he is called a lodger. These men were given chain saws, nice new "Pioneer" chain saws, not the best but next to the top line, \$205.00 each.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: I agree but it is not a good programme. It is good in theory but it has really been botched. What happened was these men went off to Stephenville each clutching his chain saw, his new chain saw under his arm, and they were shown a tree and they probably cut that tree and they got paid. Canada Manpower I suppose lashed out two weeks or three weeks pay for them. I am reading the story that came to me and it may not be true but it is too good a story to miss.

So at the end of two or three weeks they were given a

certificate as loggers. Thank heavens they were not taken on the Bill of Cape St. George, Your Honour, or they would have been made fishermen or if they went into the experimental farm in Mt. Pearl they would have been cows. Then they were brought back and set to work and one of the gentlemen who came to see me has \$10,000 from the Minister of Rural Development, another dilly of a programme and we will come to that one of these days, \$10,000 to set up a little logging industry, and he hired one or two of these fellows. You should hear them talk. You really should have, Mr. Chairman, you should have heard the description. Because what happened, to hear their employer talk, if you turned your back on them for a minute they were asleep, a little like most of the members, but when they were cutting the stumps were five feet high and when the employer said, "Man we are paid by the cord and the cord is a measure of length among other things and should you not bend over." The fellow said, (unprintable profanity) "What do you mean bend over? I am here on the welfare chain saw programme." I am serious and the Premier might have a look into it.

But the best of it, Sir, is that of these thirty men maybe ten are now at work as loggers or doing anything. A number of them have sold their chain saws, a sensible idea as they were not using them, traded them in for something useful like money, cash, and gone off to Upper Canada somewhere. That is the story I get. Now I do not know if it is true or not. The minister could tell me about it. The rest of them, there are a handful at work, another handful have converted their chain saws into cash and gone on. The middle group still have their chain saws and they are not at work. Once in a while they go to work. The story is a taxi pulls up to their door, here in St. John's, the driver goes up and knocks on the door and says, "Good morning to you, Sir, it is nine o'clock now and this is your welfare taxi service and we are here under the employment opportunities programme. Would you like to go to work today?" "No," he says, "I do not want to go to work today."

I do not think it is my day to go to work, boy. I was at work one day there last month and did not much like it." I mean that is the story I am told. It sounds incredible. It really sounds incredible.

AN HON. MEMBER: I thought you were going to say they went down to Goose Bay.

MR. ROBERTS: No, there are enough troubles at Goose Bay but the men at Goose Bay are loggers. I mean if this is even - I obviously embellished it somewhat, not very much I suggest. Maybe the minister could say a few words on it. Some of my colleagues were present and we had a most entertaining half hour with these gentlemen who by the way have since I gather been persuaded to tell their story on "Here and Now." It will make interesting viewing. But what is it all about? There may not be a scintilla of truth in what I say but what I have said I pass on as having been told by two gentlemen who appeared to have a legitimate case. If it is true, it is the biggest boondoggle. Employment obviously is a valuable thing and it is a good suggestion, but what is it all about?

MR. MURPHY: As I can understand, Mr. Chairman, the honourable Leader of the Opposition refers to thirty people and out of that thirty people who are chronic welfare recipients we put ten of them in jobs apparently. I am only hearing the story from the Leader of the Opposition which I think is tremendous. These are people who abused certain privileges if they sold their chain saws, but it is no more than some people down through the years who abused their cheque to buy beer or liquor out of, their welfare cheques. But quite frankly I am rather pleased if we can rehabilitate one out of three people whom we try to and whether it is a chain saw or a hockey stick, what difference does it make. It sounds funny and I can see the honourable Leader of the Opposition make great play of this, but I bet you there have been loggers brought down from White Bay and put into other jobs and made a success of working

in offices and and this type of thing eventually or utility men.

If the honourable Leader of the Opposition feels that we should forget this employment opportunities programme because this particular one failed. So he went off with his chain saw under his arm. He did not expect us to send him a valet to carry the chain saw for him, Sir? Basically he carries his own chain saw. But if he feels it is an absolute waste of money, if we can put three people to work in employment, and we have done over six hundred, temporary and permanent perhaps, but this pays the salaries of quite a lot of the welfare workers. The thing might have been abused. I imagine they got a great kick out of this somewhere along the way. They might have been on "Here and Now" but I did not hear them. I would like to hear their story. I would like the names of those who sold their chain saws because I think the Leader of the Opposition is just as much responsible for the property of this government as I am as minister. If this is a fact, then I certainly would like to know of any abuse.

But we are giving it a good try and we certainly hope that the thing will pan out. We have chronic, as I said, people on welfare for years, out of hell there is no redemption and this kind of stuff, but there is redemption for them now, at least with these employment opportunities we have people working and it is the first time. I want to thank the honourable member for St. John's East Extern, the former minister, I think one of the things, only one of the things that he did, in addition to increasing the welfare rates and everything, was to make these people see some purpose in living, after twenty-three years of almost dejection. Only the year before last, the honourable member for Bell Island and I say he did this, brought some sense of feeling to these people by paying them by cheque instead of issuing the old dole order. It was a darn good move and I compliment the man for doing it. In my opinion, Sir, it is a very humane department and these people have feelings and they

have rights and we are trying to give them to them.

The honourable Leader of the Opposition can laugh in his snide, scornful way he laughed there.

MR. ROBERTS: No, I am not laughing at that.

MR. MURPHY: He cannot tell me as I have put up with it for five years. Very funny, very funny with his rather sarcastic remarks. This is a bit too serious, Sir, for anybody to make jokes of this thing and if sixty-six per cent failed, I would say thank God for the one-third who succeeded.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, having heard the minister's defense I can only conclude that most of what I was told was in fact -

MR. MURPHY: I have no idea. I have no reason to believe the honourable Leader of the Opposition's story.

MR. ROBERTS: I can believe that. I can believe that the minister has no idea at all as he has only been minister of the department for four months and he obviously has no idea. This is in theory a most valuable programme. It is perhaps the star in the crown administratively or politically speaking and he has no idea about it. Well, I would suggest, if he wants to say I am against it, I mean that is childish, even for the minister that is childish.

MR. MURPHY: It is not childish. Everything we did yet you brought it up -

MR. ROBERTS: Even for the honourable gentleman that is childish. I suggest he look into this because any programme that looks to gentlemen in St. John's as potential loggers, I suggest it bears some examination. I am all for trying to rehabilitate people.

MR. MURPHY: That is why you put the birch plant in Donovans, was it?

MR. ROBERTS: These people were cutting for the birch plant.

MR. MURPHY: That was the honourable gentleman's -

MR. ROBERTS: That is right, the people who came to see me were cutting for the birch plant. The birch plant went there in 1950 or 1951 and I was ten years old at the time, I am fully responsible for that decision? I was ten years old and I am fully responsible for that

decision.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Now the honourable conflict of interest is in there now. Now, Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, all I point out is that the programme was a good one. We will have to wait a bit because of those six hundred jobs, the minister says some are permanent and some are temporary. I suspect if we took out the LIP jobs from that we would come to about three-and-a-quarter permanent jobs. All I suggest to the minister is that he might wish to investigate this because thirty chain saws - \$6,000 and apparently it is just gone. Now maybe it produced, I do not know if it produced one job or ten or twenty-one but it does not matter. That is not the point. The point is that apparently there has been a waste - Apparently public money has been used carelessly.

MR. MURPHY: Did the honourable Leader of the Opposition feel it was his duty to advise the department? I do not know if there -

MR. ROBERTS: It is not my job to advise the department. I am trying to give the minister a few hints here now. Let him deal with the department. He has two officials there who are among the most competent men in the government.

MR. MURPHY: Right.

MR. ROBERTS: Indeed the best thing about the minister is his officials. Now, Mr. Chairman, all I ask is that the minister might want to look into this. Apparently there have been some abuses

MR. MURPHY: Absolutely, we will look into it.

MR. ROBERTS: To me the staggering thing, Mr. Chairman, is that the minister does not know anything about it. I do not know what he does down in that department. To hear him talk and I agree with him, it is one of the areas where something can be done. Most of that department is a matter really of the long-term is ongoing and short-term is largely uncontrollable. If a man comes in to his office and proves his need, really one just issues a cheque, issues

the assistance and that is the way it should be. I mean it is an administrative machine and a very good one. There are very few areas now, especially as all the rehabilitation stuff has been moved over to the tender inadequacies of the gentleman for Labrador West, and this is one of the few areas where really one could make some significant steps.

All I point out is I heard this story. I began by saying I did not know if it were true or not. It sounded too astounding to be true. For the minister to implicate his predecessor, the honourable member for St. John's East Extern, is no favour to that gentleman at all. My suggestion would be simply that the minister look into it and if there have been mismanagements as apparently there have been because any government that would hire thirty men in St. John's to be loggers - now hire the thirty men in St. John's by all means, and maybe they did not all come from St. John's but St. John's is not the logging area in Newfoundland. St. John's has many things to offer. If one wants loggers, I suppose Trinity South has lots of men in it who are good loggers. The member for Port de Grave has a bit of a logging industry going up there, in back of South River, I think on crown land.

AN HON. MEMBER: Juniper Stump.

MR. ROBERTS: Is it Juniper Stump? It could be.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is when they are not being run over by the buses.

MR. ROBERTS: That is when they are not being run over by the buses hurtling back and forth on that road there. There are many areas close to St. John's from which

men log. That is straightforward. If there are 100,000 people in St. John's, I am willing to bet there are not eight loggers. That is not St. John's any more than if the honourable gentleman, to mention my constituency, if he goes to Roddickton, he will not find four bookkeepers in all Roddickton. He just will not because the skill, the people in Roddickton have are the skills they need in Roddickton. They are extremely capable loggers, carpenters, handy-men, mechanics and truck drivers. In Englee you will find good fishermen. You will not find any farmers in Englee.

All I say to the minister is this; apparently there is something gone wrong, one aspect of one programme. It is not very important except now, obviously, the question comes up; what else is going on in this programme? I wonder if the minister would table that? I realize he would not have it with him but if he could table it a little later in the session, perhaps some data on the six hundred jobs. Where have they been created? Name the projects. What are the projects? I do not expect the minister, this is not the sort of information that any minister would have on his estimates but the officials if the minister directs them will I am sure get the information, maybe a little report. Perhaps we should have one on this, because, I do not know what is going on here. I know the gentleman went over to see the C.B.C. because the story they tell should become public. That is fine. That is their right.

Now that I have pointed that out to the minister, there will be some public interest. There is nobody in the press gallery, they went home hours ago. Sensible fellows! It is in the House and we have all heard it. I do not blame the minister, I am not even blaming his predecessor, I am feeling very charitable right now. This thing on the surface is ludicrous, it really is. The Premier would agree I am sure that to hire loggers in St. John's is a little much. There are no controls. To give a man a chain saw is a very fine thing. I know thousands of loggers in Newfoundland who cannot get chain saws or who have to go up to their necks in debt to get them.

Let me see who is here - the honourable member for Trinity North has a lot of men in his constituency who log.

AN HON. MEMBER: Not now. It is Green Bay now.

MR. ROBERTS: In Green Bay, and men have to go up to their ears in debt to get a chain saw. The companies sometimes give them out. It is heartbreaking! How many times have the honourable gentleman from Trinity North have men come to him and say in effect; "Sir, can you get me a chain saw? I can get a job in the woods if I can get a chain saw." Here we have thirty being given out with no controls. I am not expecting the minister to have an official walking side by side but, I mean, to give a man a machine, a valuable machine like a chain saw, and then have so little control that he can - they are even selling those for twenty-five dollars each. That is what I was told. You know, twenty-five dollars and they go one day, I suppose it would go in beer or something, a nice drunk and that is the end of it.

That is not a meaningful rehabilitation programme at all. It really is not. I do not blame the minister, he is only new and he has his other problems. Can he look into it? While I am at it, let me make a suggestion about chain saws. If there is money to lash out for chain saws, if there is, there are probably five hundred bona fide loggers today in Newfoundland who -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry! Did the gentleman from Trinity South say something? I guess he is talking in his sleep then.

HON. A.J. MURPHY: He is speaking to me I think.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh! All right, do you want to speak to the honourable minister? Would the honourable gentleman like to say a word to the minister? Colleagues should speak to each other once in a while.

MR. REID: I said it.

MR. ROBERTS: The honourable gentleman said it. That is good. If somebody understood it, we would be further ahead. Mr. Chairman, there must be five hundred bona fide loggers today in Newfoundland.

Honourable members opposite I am sure know many constituents who cannot get chain saws. A chain saw is two or three hundred bucks. Your go into the woods and you work up to your waist in - down in Labrador eh? How many men? How many men in Labrador South or St. Barbe North cannot get chain saws?

MR. REID: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: I do not know. The conflict of interest boy, we will come to him. If there is money for chain saws and it would be a good programme, I think the minister might want to have a look at it, I recommend it to him, it would be a very good programme. Let us go to the logging districts. The next thing we will hear is that out in Gander they have a programme to train fishermen. I can see it now: eight men from Gander or seven men from Labrador West are going to be taught to use Japanese cod traps. I mean, that is the next step.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Whitbourne.

MR. ROBERTS: No, the fellows from Whitbourne, Mr. Chairman, are going to be taught, what should - we will teach them weaving in Whitbourne and we will go out to Port au Port or out to St. Georges, out the valley where they have some farms and what will we teach them? How about if we teach them, Mr. Chairman, to be longshoremen? How about that? There are no longshoremen here in St. John's, We will go out now out in the valley where they farm, they are good farmers and we will take twenty or thirty men and we will teach them to be longshoremen. We will give them each - what does a longshoreman have, a sling or something?

AN HON. MEMBER: There are a lot of longshoremen from the valley working in Port aux Basques.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes that is true, there are. I thank the honourable gentleman for that, there certainly are. My point is that it is on the face of it questionable to look in St. John's for men to be loggers. If we need loggers in Newfoundland, there are man men around who are qualified and I am sure could use the help and would need it.

I have nothing against trying to help people in St. John's, I am all for that. The minister might want to have a look at the programme, it is good in theory, one of the better things this administration have done really. I do not suggest it is entirely new, The fact that there have been some changes in the Canada Assistance plan has helped, indeed, it has made it possible. All I can say is (this is an embarrassing incident) I do not blame him but —

MR. A.J.MURPHY: I do not think it is embarrassing.

MR. ROBERTS: I think it is embarrassing. If I were the minister I should be embarrassed about it. I guess I do not have as much gall as some men.

MR. MURPHY: Oh my! Do not say that.

MR. ROBERTS: I would just ask the minister to look into it. If he should want me to make a splashing attack on him I shall but I do not want to. I do not think it is deserved or warranted at this stage at all.

MR. MURPHY: Because we have ten people working?

MR. ROBERTS: I am not sure that even ten are working.

MR. MURPHY: Well I would check it out. The honourable member does not know the facts.

MR. ROBERTS: Maybe twenty are working. Maybe twenty-nine are, I do not know. What I am passing on is hearsay. I agree it is hearsay but I find it interesting that the minister has consulted with his officials, There is obviously something to it. It is worth looking into.

MR. MURPHY: Okay, settled!

MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak to this. After all, I have to do with loggers. It is the proudest time I have been since I sat in this honourable House.

MR. ROBERTS: It is an honourable appellation.

MR. WILSON: It is wonderful to find out that the Minister of Social Services can give chain saws to people in St. John's or in university

or anywhere to put them to work. I am just the man to know. Right at the present time, this winter, there are forty men in need of work. Of these forty men thirteen are college students who cannot even get a job teaching and we have heard so much about education on the floor of this House. This winter, they have cut 7,500 pieces of spruce. I have checked them and put them on Clarke's Beach and 6,800 of them stuck. With some university students...

MR. ROBERTS: That is the LIP project, is it?

MR. WILSON: It could be a LIP project but these people and the students would have had to go on welfare.

MR. ROBERTS: Were they given chain saws?

MR. WILSON: I am proud to be in this honourable House.

MR. ROBERTS: Were they given chain saws?

MR. WILSON: They did not get any chain saws but I will tell you what I gave them. They were honest enough to go to work and I gave them a chain saw and that one chain saw is after cutting all of that. I am proud that we have a Minister of Rehabilitation who will turn around and try to lift some of our young people off welfare and send them on their way rejoicing.

Not only that, we had them last winter on LIP programmes. Some went to vocational school and at this present time they are in Toronto putting basements, reading blueprint and they possibly never knew what a chain saw was when it was put into their hands. I was never so proud in my life than I am now, being in a government who are trying to do something for these people. Never so proud in my life! Give them chain saws? If they sent them along to me, I would put my hand in my pocket and give them a cheque to go and buy one hundred chain saws to get them to work.

On motion, 07-01, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DUMPHY): The Chair recognizes the honourable member from St. John's East Extern.

HON. T.P. HICKEY: I had not intended getting involved in this debate but I cannot sit here and let the press report what the Leader of the

Opposition said without providing some facts.

First of all, Mr. Chairman, he is totally incorrect. I realize he was told a story but he is totally incorrect and whoever told him is incorrect, when he points out that all of the people who were given chain saws are from St. John's. That is not true. People from outside St. John's - the Harvey Road Office not only covers St. John's, but several areas around St. John's, people who live in rural communities.

Another interesting point, Mr. Chairman, is that the Leader of the Opposition apparently feels that because somebody lives in St. John's, there is very little chance that he is going to become a logger. Let me ask him a question. Has he ever tried to rehabilitate a welfare recipient? If he has, it is rather difficult. Whatever chance he has of rehabilitating him, he sure will not rehabilitate one from the Northern part of Newfoundland bringing him in to work on Topsail Road, away from his family. Whatever chance he has is to find someone close to home to go out and go to work, if he brings him in from out of town, where he cannot get back to his family, he is beaten before he starts.

Mr. Chairman, it is very easy to kill this programme which was started. The fact that I had a little to do with it does not matter a darn, the important thing or the real fact is that this government have changed a policy. If we do have some people who sell chain saws or abuse the system or refuse to go to work, it is because of the negative policy that was perpetrated by the former administration for some twenty-three years. Completely negative, never an opportunity nor a chance to rehabilitate a person. Just give, give, give. A captive vote. That is what welfare recipients were before this government took over. It is fine to condemn those who are dishonest enough to abuse a system and sell equipment that has been provided them by the government, I am not defending them but, Mr. Chairman, it is totally wrong to criticize a programme for the sake of a few. It is totally wrong

for the press to be allowed to report this particular situation when in fact, and I am sure the minister can get the information out of every project that was started under the rehabilitation programme and under the LIP programme or winter works programmes, they have been smashing successes, certainly by a great majority.

I also point out that I remember quite well when those people were being asked to go to Stephenville. I wonder if the honourable member has any idea how many people refused to go?

MR. ROBERTS: No, I do not.

MR. HICKEY: A darn good many did who preferred to stay on assistance. Mr. Chairman, all I want to say is this; before we say anything to condemn a programme that is trying to do something constructive within the Department of Social Services, I would suggest that we keep in mind that those people who are being rehabilitated, who are making a real effort to get back into a work programme or to help themselves and their families, those are the people who are going to suffer by this kind of criticism, those are the people who are going to become discouraged. All we are doing is attempting, whether we know it or not, to kill those who are already trying. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that when the minister gets this information he produce it to the House because I think it is very important that he does.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,

MR. DAWE: Carried.

MR. ROBERTS: Would somebody wake up the senior member for Harbour Main.

MR. DOODY: Junior is awake.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh junior is awake but I really think the senior member is asleep. Give him a dart "Ank."

MR. W.N. ROWE: Get "Haig Young" in to carve him.

MR. DOODY: He is just here in case of a quorum call.

MR. ROBERTS: That is the function he fulfills in the cabinet anyway. Mr. Chairman, \$11,500 a year we are paying him. Just look at it will you. Just look at it.

AN HON. MEMBER: It would be cheap advice.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Yes it would be, I must say.

MR. A.J. MURPHY: That is not nice. Let him rest.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister, I hope, will table the information in due course. Perhaps he could table a list, not of the people who received these chain saws but their addresses by community. I should be very interested. As the gentleman from the Extern said; the St. John's welfare office covers all of St. John's shore, Pouch Cove and all down through Portugal Cove...

MR. MURPHY: Quite a bit of Harbour Main.

MR. ROBERTS: There is an office at Long Pond.

MR. MURPHY: Yes, but I mean out of Harvey Road.

MR. ROBERTS: I thought the Long Pond office dealt with.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, and so that means Chamberlains, Horse Cove Line, which my honourable friend represented so notably, at least once. Is handled for welfare purposes?

AN HON. MEMBER: Patience always, I remain yours faithfully.

MR. ROBERTS: I have your letter of the 13th. inst. I have never found out what inst. and ult. meant. Really, Mr. Chairman, the minister perhaps will table the communities from which these people are drawn, not their names - their names are irrelevant. Also, let me make just one brief comment on the gentleman, the minister of whatever he is, of Provincial Affairs and the Environment.

The programme may or may not be sound, we do not know. The fact remains that it was made possible because the Government of Canada changed the Canada Assistance Plans so they now share in the costs. That is a significant change. There was an amendment made to the C.A.P.. It makes it a lot easier. I can remember when I was in the department - am I wrong?

MR. MURPHY: I was just wondering - shared the cost of employment opportunities.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes.

MR. MURPHY: When did this occur?

MR. ROBERTS: Within the past six months or a year. An amendment to C.A.P., I forget the date. I could look it up.

MR. MURPHY: It was shareable all along according to my deputy.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, the problem was that it was not shareable. With all respect to your deputy minister, the capital costs were not shareable.

MR. MURPHY: Oh no, capital costs were not, that was something else.

MR. ROBERTS: Chain saws are capital costs, I should think.

MR. MURPHY: Chain saws, okay, carry on. Employment opportunities I thought were the subject.

MR. ROBERTS: I can remember when I was in the department being told by the - we wanted to work out one or two pilot projects -

MR. MURPHY: Again I have been informed that chain saws could be listed as items of special need and they are shareable. Let us carry on.

MR. ROBERTS: Fine, but being told that capital costs were not shareable, the C.A.P. I think has been changed. Am I wrong on that one?

MR. MURPHY: It was changed. They are shareable now.

MR. ROBERTS: Ottawa have seen the light on that point and have agreed to pony up fifty cents on each dollar. The programme, at least as an idea, has considerable merit. It is much too early in its life to tell whether or not it will work. Six hundred jobs are not to be sneered at, it is a lot of jobs. LIP has produced 7,000 jobs in Newfoundland. Some of those are included in the six hundred. I do not know, maybe one hundred, maybe eight hundred.

MR. MURPHY: I would say a lot of them.

MR. ROBERTS: Most of them I would think. But the minister will table a list and we will see. The trouble with LIP job is that they are temporary by their very nature. I would like to know how many permanent jobs have been created. I realize the minister does not have the information, but I know he will get it for us and then we shall see.

My only point in bringing up the episode of the chain saws was simply to point out what apparently is a weakness in the programme.

MR. MURPHY: It is a wonder I did not hear from these people, you know, have the names so I could contact them.

MR. ROBERTS: I have the names of the people who came to see me.

MR. MURPHY: I would like to have them, quite frankly, because if there is anything being done wrong.

MR. ROBERTS: All I have to say to the minister is that I did not even know there was a programme when I began. I had been told, but I hear many stories.

MR. HICKMAN: Do they still have the chain saws?

MR. ROBERTS: Some of them I suppose. Some of them have them at home.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are the utility poles safe in St. John's Centre?

MR. ROBERTS: I do not know. Some of them sold them. Literally, offered to sell them for twenty-five or fifty bucks to get a couple of bottles. The minister may check into it. I am sure he has a record or the officials do. The minister is a busy man and it is a big department but just paying a little ministerial attention and I really direct him to it. One or two examples like this can destroy the value of the whole programme. If this should become known now as the free chain saw programme, it will destroy a very worth-while programme. It is the result of...

MR. MURPHY: Every man, woman and child will want a chain saw.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sure that hundreds of people are going to be looking for chain saws now that the government are in the chain saw business. The only thing the minister could do which would be more expensive would be to get into the false teeth business. That should be done of course but the cost would be astronomical. Next to getting in the false teeth business...

MR. MURPHY: Assistance with false teeth for the welfare recipients, and eye glasses?

MR. ROBERTS: I am all for that. The cost would be, I do not know, I

was always told, six or eight million dollars. Incredible! Incredible! It should be done but it has not been done, I guess because it cannot be done. I would like to take a bite at that one of those days. Really, the next most expensive programme I can think of is buying chain saws. Next on the line would be backing notes for trucks for men who want to go to work on the highways. I am sure the minister has had invitations to do that.

MR. MURPHY: I have not. There may be --

MR. ROBERTS: No, but I mean, it is a common thing. A man trying to get ahead, it is there, he says; "Will you back a note and I will go to work on the highways?"

MR. MURPHY: We backed some bigger notes than trucks, that we lost.

MR. ROBERTS: That is right. That is right. We certainly have.

The next step down the road would be to provide loans for longliners without the ten percent down. There is no end to it.

MR. MURPHY: No.

MR. ROBERTS: I just bring it up because I thought it was a strange anomaly. I will not say cast doubt on the whole programme, but I think the minister would be the first to say that it needs looking into and when he produces the information in the House we will see what the result of it is.

On motion, 807-01, carried.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, that is all, but I would just like, as I usually have done in the number of years that I have been in this House, to pay tribute to the staff of the department that I am very proud to be minister of now. I must say that they are doing a tremendous job, Sir. They are very kind people and I think they have a tremendous job. I think the Leader of the Opposition who is a former minister and my colleague here and my other colleagues would say the same. I thank these gentlemen and through them their staff for the tremendous job they are doing for the people.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister is very fortunate with the staff.

On motion Head VIII, Department of Social Services, carried.

Heading XIX, Municipal Affairs and Housing:

HON. H.A. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I do not have an opening statement but I am ready for any questions.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, there are just three or four things here, general types of things and I will get into the details when we are dealing with each one of the votes.

The first thing, Sir, is earlier in the session the minister indicated to the member for Bonavista North, in answers to questions concerning the installation of water lines in incorporated and unincorporated areas, water and sewer line systems, that the cost for unincorporated areas would be something like \$700 million and the cost for the incorporated would be similar \$800 million or approximately a billion and a-half dollars. He gave the impression at that time that there was no way in this world that this province could ever think of putting in all the water and sewer lines that are required in this province.

MR. COLLINS: Not in one year.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Well, obviously, not in one year. But, Sir, that sounded something like a little bit of a defeatist attitude to me. I am just wondering what the minister is planning to do in the coming years. What kind of expenditures he is planning. You can see it here in the vote now, but this seems to be a pretty difficult problem. What are the plans the minister has for trying to do the best to establish water and sewer lines and come up with some new programme to provide these, particularly in the unincorporated areas?

The reason I ask this question is twofold. (1) I do not know how accurate that estimate was, what the figures were based on. There must be some reason as the minister was able to lay \$700 million out for unincorporated areas and \$700 million for incorporated areas. I would like to know what rationale the minister had for using these particular figures, because I feel they are just a little bit high.

Secondly: the Premier announced publicly on one of his Friday morning programmes.

MR. ROBERTS: That is not public, that is V.O.C.M.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Anyway, the Premier announced on V.O.C.M. on his Friday morning programme sometime back (and I am précising what he had to say) that this administration was going to de-emphasize implementing service projects.

MR. DOODY: Take it easy now, it is not like the Harvey Cole system.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Oh, I explained Harvey Cole's system pretty clearly I thought. I have no regrets for saying what I said and I will repeat them again if I have to. The Premier is there standing in the door now and he said on one of these programmes that the time has come and his administration will de-emphasize service projects and concentrate on an emphasize to a greater extent projects in the area of economic and industrial development. I think that is a fair précis of what the Premier had to say at one stage.

AN HON. MEMBER: Pretty close.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Yes, it is basically what he said, Right! Well, Sir, that coupled with the tremendous figures that the minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced with respect to the cost of establishing water and sewerage lines in incorporated and unincorporated areas sort of leaves me with a feeling of defeatism with respect to the installation of those. I would like for the honourable the minister to straighten out that particular thing.

(1) what was the rationale for his figures? Where were they drawn from? Will there be a de-emphasis on such projects? And particularly, what is going to be done in the area of the Amenities Division of the original Department of Community and Social Development? The minister's department is now responsible for water projects in such communities. They certainly have been downgraded as far as expenditures are concerned. What is in store for the future as far as establishment of water lines in those small communities without local government are concerned?

Secondly, Sir, getting back here to St. John's, are there going to

be amendments to the St. John's Elections Act for universal suffrage? Is this legislation going to be brought into the House before the next municipal election here in St. John's? Will all the people of St. John's have the opportunity to vote for the council of this city? While we are on that particular theme, I mentioned this last year as well, what is in store for local governments throughout this province? We have a tremendous number of councils and local improvement districts appointed by the cabinet and I think the time has come where we should give greater consideration to having fully elected councils and local improvement districts, because, if the people on these councils or these local governments are not responsible to the people through the voting mechanism, I am afraid that they are not going to do the job that they should be doing on these particular things.

Mr. Chairman, also with respect to the Royal Commission on Local Governments: When is that due and is there to be a freeze on the - let me put it this way - I will give you an example; There is one community in St. Barbe North that has been looking for a local improvement district ever since the election, Anchor Point, Mr. Chairman, and they have been looking for this local improvement district now for some sixteen months and it was just; "Well we are going to do something about it, we are waiting for the royal commission or we are going to bring it to cabinet verbally and we will have this settled next month." Is there in fact a freeze on the establishment of local improvement districts?

MR. COLLINS: Not really.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Not really, but almost. There is close to a freeze on the establishment of any form of local government. I guess this is it.

MR. COLLINS: We are not encouraging them too much at this time, owing to the royal commission.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Can the people be made aware of that publicly?

MR. COLLINS: Yes.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Because there seems to be some confusion on the whole matter.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. F.B. ROWE: Anchor Point.

MR. F. ROWE: There are other people down there trying to chuck out one group of guys and they elect another, the normal confusion that you get with local government.

But anyway Sir, I would like for the minister to clarify that. What is the story on the establishment of local government, until such time as this royal commission is in?

Also Sir, this whole business of the royal commission on the Blackhead Road Urban Renewal scheme. Sir, the data from the survey indicates that a combined public-private expenditure of approximately \$1 million will be necessary to correct the deficiencies of the system and to upgrade all inferior homes to the minimum property standards. I am quoting here now from that report.

This expenditure of approximately \$1 million, Sir, is broken down into the correction of scheme deficiencies, that is landscaping public areas, playgrounds, and facilities and commercial areas and this adds up to \$208,000; road crossing improvement - \$4,000; research housing project, that is for low cost public housing, modular housing units and demonstration homes comes to a total of \$24,000; grading and filling of private lots - \$44,000, for a total of \$280,000.

Then Sir, this private residence upgrading and rehabilitation and that is dealing with landscaping of private areas, landscaping, fencing and lock changes, bathroom units, home extensions, maintenance modifications, chimneys, plumbing connections, electrical connections and structural repairs, that adds up to a total of \$736,000 for a total of \$1,016,000.

Now Sir, the purpose of this urban renewal is to upgrade substandard areas to an acceptable level. The final report of March 1967 established objectives for the rehabilitation and development of the Blackhead Road. However, during the implementation process several decisions were made which reduce the scope of the scheme and hamper completion of the major

MR. F. ROWE: activities.

The commission believes that the province has an obligation and a self-interest to complete the rehabilitation of Blackhead Road and to encourage its long-term development. Toward this end it is recommended that a neighbourhood assistance programme be organized and implemented.

Sir, what I am really trying to find out here is whether or not the minister is intending to implement this particular report. I have not gone through this particular report in the detail that I should have gone through it, to be quite honest with you. Having just finished with Education, I had not expected to be in Municipal Affairs and Housing quite so soon. I did not realize that the Government House Leader was going to pull this sneaky one off here today or yesterday. So, Sir, I did not give it the preparation that I should have. I would like to know whether the minister is intending to implement that particular royal commission and also apply the principles of this commission to the Conception Bay Area and to the Corner Brook Area and to the Mundy Pond Area because the establishment of a neighbourhood assistance programme, with some sort of a directorate, fills a tremendous void in community planning. I think if you got people participation in such community planning it is going to go a long way in rehabilitating the particular area.

Sir, in the Blackhead Road Area now they still have 108 family problems up there, with respect to their housing and their water and everything else. There has been very little maintenance over the last year and the people feel that they are essentially back to where they started because of the lack of maintenance on the roads and the lines and this sort of thing in that area, Sir, I would like the minister to indicate the degree to which he is likely to implement that particular report.

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, I would like the minister to indicate as well the situation in Gander at the present time, just leave that as it lies, and also of course the situation in Windsor. Now, Sir, I do not know if the minister wants to jot this down or whether we should wait for the estimates, but probably it would be just as well for me to mention it now and I will mention it again when we get to the vote. Sir, the honourable the member for Bell Island did carry out a survey some months ago to try to get some idea from the people, of their needs.

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. F. ROWE: Could we have a quorum call, Mr. Chairman?

I must say, you cannot work up any enthusiasm at all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I thought I might just point out, as a result of this survey, we did get some feedback from a number of communities that they need certain works as far as water and sewerage is concerned. For instance the Town of Old Perlican, Sir, apparently they want a water and sewerage system. There is not one water and sewerage system in the District of Bay de Verde according to the information that we have received, and Old Perlican is the only municipality in that particular district and I was wondering what the situation is with respect to a water and sewerage system in Old Perlican.

Also, Sir, in the Town of St. Georges, apparently the town has applied for a DREE grant but to no avail so far. Their design was completed by Gorman and Butler Associates years ago and apparently they are still looking for some work on a water and sewerage system in that particular town. Water and sewerage facilities are needed in a new subdivision in Burgeo. The estimated cost of this service is approximately \$100,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: The south shore of Conception Bay.

MR. F. ROWE: Yes, this is the feedback, that I felt sure they might not have felt inclined to send a questionnaire back to their

MR. F. ROWE: liberal caucus. I cannot see them on the list.

I am just pointing out the information that we have here. But I am sure that the honourable minister will make sure that water systems do go in those particular areas.

AN. HON. MEMBER: We cannot do the impossible. We want to keep the records straight.

MR. F. ROWE: The Town of Pasadena, Sir, the same thing; water and sewerage system for the Community of West St. Modiste in Labrador South, water and sewerage for the Town of Dover, Bonavista Bay. Sixty per cent of the town's water is unsatisfactory, Sir, there, according to the Department of Health; water and sewerage for Southeast Placentia; water and sewerage for the Community of Point Leamington.

There are still areas of Harbour Grace not serviced with water, water and sewerage system for the Town of Belleoram; water supplies needed at Main Brook.

Now, Sir, obviously we can go on here with a list of three or four or five hundred people. This is why I pointed out earlier, in my initial remarks, that I was extremely concerned to hear the figures that the minister did mention here a few days ago, \$1.5 billion and linked up with the Premier's announcement saying that there is going to be a de-emphasizing of service projects and more emphasis on industrial and economic projects, I just have a little bit of concern as to what exactly is going to happen because we are going to have to do something. We are going to have to at least provide some reasonably good wells if nothing else to some of our communities because what we have now is we have inadequate water supply systems, sometimes linked up to ponds. They are frozen in the winter, they are not working properly the rest of the year. Probably (to be quite frank with you) returning to a few community wells, this might be the answer in some cases because we have a situations where we are going to have diseases as a result.

So, Sir, that is all I wanted to mention. A couple of artesian wells for Change Islands and Quirpon would be all right.

MR. COLLINS: I want to respond to the questions from the honourable member, Most of them are reasonable. He asks where the rationale came from in the figures I mentioned a while ago about servicing the remaining areas of the province which are left to be serviced.

It is based on engineering surveys and feasibility studies which we have done so far and projecting it over a period of I believe, I do not know how many years but projecting it over a number of years, That figure is a realistic one in terms of inflation and cost and what have you.

With regard to the unincorporated community, our policy now is that \$300 per family, or \$10,000 per community is available to communities where there is a water committee established.

He mentioned the royal commission. The royal commission is sitting now, in fact public hearings have been held in Central Newfoundland, in Grand Falls yesterday, in Gander the day before. They hope to conclude the public hearing process by June. There is some work to be done then in terms of questionnaires which will be sent around Newfoundland, a pretty good sampling of people's views and attitudes toward local government, etc.

Then of course the process of writing the report takes place and the deadline or the target date, and it is a deadline, we have established that; the report will be submitted to us by the end of October or early November.

The honourable member asked whether we would be ready to introduce universal suffrage in the forthcoming election in St. John's. I am not sure that the legislation has been tabled but the legislation is ready and will be presented to the House before we close.

He mentioned the prospects for local government. We are looking to the royal commission for some guidance. I think it is generally acknowledged that the local government process in Newfoundland has been growing on an ad hoc basis more than on

MR. COLLINS: a really planned basis, While we have some ideas of our own, we are reluctant to make any changes in terms of policy at this particular stage in view of the fact that the commission is sitting and we do not want to make any more mistakes, in view of the fact that they will be reporting in October. So it is not too long to wait.

With regard to the local improvement district, I agree with what the honourable member has said. It is certainly not the best form of government. There is a purpose to be served with local improvement districts. We have changed a lot of them this year and hopefully when the general council elections roll around in November we can encourage more of them to change, possibly all of them. That is what I would like to see.

The Blackhead Road Urban Renewal Scheme, the Kostaszek Report has been received and I believe that if the honourable member will read the report fully he will find that Mr. Kostaszek indicates he is quite satisfied with the work which has been done in the municipal services field as a result of his recommendation. We are following through with that, Funds of course are always limited. The federal government will not recognize any further involvement in urban renewal schemes anywhere in Canada so the province is going to be required to come up with funds to try and finance it. Hopefully that can be brought to a successful conclusion. It is a very difficult area in which to work.

The Corner Brook scheme is working very well. It is just about complete and is within budget. The Mundy Pond scheme, as honourable members might know, we had meetings in Ottawa a little while ago, with the Mayor of St. John's, the city council is the implementor of the Mundy Pond scheme. We had meetings with Mr. Basford and his officials and while there is nothing definite yet, we are optimistic that we will get some cost sharing up there to continue.

MR. COLLINS: With regard to the situation in Gander: There is a municipal election coming up on May 15 and that should solve any problems which might or might not exist out there.

With regard to Windsor: I made a statement a couple of days ago with regard to Windsor, as a result of information which came from a council meeting and subsequently our officials went in there. We are not satisfied with the record of tax collections up there and we have let the council know that and hope that they can improve the situation.

MR. F. ROWE: Are you planning to implement the thing, lock, stock and barrel or to what degree are you planning to implement it?

MR. COLLINS: Well in so far as it deals with municipal responsibilities we are looking at streets and water and sewers and this sort of thing. The report goes into the overall social development requirements up there and certainly we will assist them in any way we can. A lot of other departments will have to get involved as well.

MR. F. ROWE: Correction there, where I mentioned the expenditure of approximately \$1 million as necessary to correct the deficiencies of the system and this is not the first part of the report and the breakdown table here seems to indicate that practically every bit of that would be under the jurisdiction of the department.

MR. COLLINS: In the meantime a lot of that work has been done.

MR. F. ROWE: Oh a lot of this work has been done. What percentage of the \$1 million?

MR. COLLINS: Oh I would say possibly fifty or sixty per cent of it.

MR. F. ROWE: In other words, the requirement of the expenditure of \$1 million is to correct the necessary deficiencies, He means to say half of these deficiencies have been taken care of.

MR. COLLINS: I would say approximately fifty per cent of it has been taken care of.

MR. F. ROWE: So with your \$300,000 this year, I believe, the minister is suggesting that we are only short there by approximately \$200,000, as far as the implementation of this aspect of the report is concerned.

MR. COLLINS: Where are you looking at the \$300,000?

MR. F. ROWE: Page 69, last page - Urban Renewal Capital, 1921-06-01. So if it is fifty per cent completed then you have \$300,000 there, you are short only by \$200,000, is this what the minister is suggesting?

MR. COLLINS: Well as I said, a lot of the work which Mr. Kostaszek refers to has been done; when I say fifty per cent possibly it is a bit more than fifty per cent. We are hoping to be able to finish it.

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable minister be a little more specific about the Blackhead Road, about the Kostaszek Report. Just what precisely is it the government is going to do on the Blackhead Road in connection with the Kostaszek Report? Could the minister give us a breakdown of the work that is going to be done in this fiscal year? How much is going to be spent on each item?

MR. COLLINS: Well this will depend on some negotiations which are taking place. There is an independent review board appointed to look into the Blackhead Road, in addition to the royal commission. Some of the major problems up there now are the settlements with individual home owners in terms of damage and raising houses on foundations, etc. There is a fair amount of work to be done in terms of transferring land and there is some work to be done in terms of drainage on the roads, which is a Department of Highways responsibility, of course.

There is also some work which remains to be done on storm sewers. The main trunk sewer has yet to be insulated. All those things are now in progress and hopefully we will get them done this summer.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I know what needs to be done because I can read the Kostaszek Report, but will the minister tell us precisely what items in the Kostaszek Report are going to be done this year and how much is going to be spent on each item? For instance how much is going to be spent on landscaping, how much on site improvements, how much on housing?

There are only forty-six public housing units constructed so far. How many more on going to be done this year, public rehabilitation? Incidentally, Mr. Chairman, this is a rather interesting thing. The Kostaszek Report said that this is one of the best things that was done on the Blackhead Road. You remember all the bellyaching about the money spent on Bell Island for building materials, Sir. Do honourable members know how much was spent up on the Blackhead Road, in the District of St. John's South? How much? Would the honourable Premier hazard a guess?

Mr. Kostaszek says it was one of the best things that was done up there. Before I left office I approved the material, over \$200,000. No judicial enquiry into that and there were substitutions made too, Mr. Chairman, by the way.

MR. MARSHALL: Would the honourable member permit me to move that the committee rise for just a moment.

MR. NEARY: I am back. I got my batteries recharged, no, no, well when I am finished the honourable minister can rise the committee.

MR. MOORES: Just for one second if you would, please.

MR. NEARY: For what purpose, Mr. Chairman?

MR. MOORES: For a personal privilege that is all.

MR. NEARY: Personal privilege. Look I would not deny the honourable member the floor for all the money in the world.

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

MR DUNPHY: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and have passed items of current expenditure on the following headings - V - Education, VII- Justice, XV - Industrial Development, IX - Rehabilitation and Recreation

MR. CHAIRMAN: with amendment, which was subhead 913-03-04, increased from \$90,000 to \$114,000. Subhead 913-07-05 increased from nil to \$330,000.

Appropriations-in-aid, increase, in subhead 913-10-04, to be increased from \$665,000 to \$879,500. The total subhead 913 increased from \$1,490,300 to \$1,629,800. The total head IX increased from \$7,678,500 to \$7,818,000, also Head III, Executive Council, also Head VIII Social Services, and ask leave to sit again.

On motion report received and adopted, committee ordered to sit again presently.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise on a point of personal privilege on an event that happened in the House yesterday and the, as far as I am concerned, disgraceful headline and content of an article in "The Daily News," this morning. I happened to have been privy to the conversation at the time and there are inexactitudes in this article, in quotations, that as far as I know and I have been assured by my colleague from Harbour Grace, are incorrect and I would like to apologize to those concerned for any embarrassment that may be caused.

I do not think really that an apology is necessary from anyone other than the "Daily News" because this is probably one of the wrottenest pieces of reporting of its type I have ever seen. I am just very sorry, Mr. Speaker, that events in this House at the time of the motion, which are not really meant certainly, hopefully, as this sort of reporting would have it to be.

I would just like to put on record, Sir, as Premier of this Province that it was one of the most revolting articles, knowing the facts, that I have ever read in any newspaper in this province.

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Speaker, I would like to also rise on a point of privilege, Sir, to clarify any remarks that I made yesterday which might have been misconstrued earlier by the Leader of the Opposition concerning his private life. His interpretation to the contrary

is incorrect.

I do probably, I probably would like for him to withdraw his remarks concerning what he said about attacking me physically.

I was questioned by the press, not the press exactly but some of the radio stations, and I am sure if anyone saw the interview with me on C.J.O.N., I did not in any way criticize the Leader of the Opposition.

I am sure the Premier will bear out with me that I had no intentions, and neither did I say that I went over there to get Roberts, I was not going to take that kind of talk from him. When we left here we went over to have a very friendly chat and to let the Leader of the Opposition know my remarks. One thing they did quote here was a remark that I did make and that the Leader of the Opposition misinterpreted. I do not know the reporter. I tell him I would not know a reporter from "The Telegram" or "The Daily News" and that I would never respect that man again. He must be crazy. I did not say that to any reporter. I know there is one reporter here now and he asked me for a statement on it and I told that later on, when the Speaker went back in his seat, I was going to rise on a point of privilege, and I would not give that man any comment.

Thank you! These are the facts.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I have no complaint with the article in "The Daily News," because I do not think I am quoted in it and secondly I do not pay any attention to this sort of thing anyway.

The honourable gentleman from Harbour Grace did come to see me in my rooms outside the House and he explained to my satisfaction the remark he made which I think I misinterpreted. I agree that I misinterpreted. It is a subject I know the Premier would agree on and I think the honourable gentleman would agree, I do not really care what is said about me, subject to the protection of the rules of the House. I shall take whatever comes my way and return it with considerable additions, I trust, to the other side. That is

MR. ROBERTS: part of the parliamentary process.

I said some words in heat which I certainly regret. I have no intention, unless I was provoked and I should hope not even then, I do not know what I would do if provoked, but I have no intention of remodelling the honourable gentleman's physignomy, as much as that may be desired or necessary.

But I used words in heat and I certainly have no qualms about withdrawing them. It is not the sort of thing that should go on in this House.

The honourable gentleman made a remark which may or may not have been an appropriate remark but I certainly have no hesitation in accepting his word that the remarks which he made were not the remarks which I interpreted. If he had made the remarks which I interpreted, then I may have had reason for being provoked, I suspect any honourable gentleman would. But he did not say them outside the House. This was one hundred years ago, it was about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, when we began this marathon Black Friday session.

I accepted his word then and offered him my hand and he took it, so that is fine. We shook hands on it. I thank him for his statement today. I have nothing to say about "The Daily News," one way or the other. Who cares really? I have long ago given up expecting more than a modicum of accuracy with respect to any newspaper reports of the House. I suspect that may be in the interest of the House as well. I was not privy to the statements

to which the Premier and the honourable gentleman from Harbour Grace referred. If they were quoted inaccurately, then the 'Daily News' or any other newspaper should take the appropriate action. I can neither add nor subtract on that.

I am glad the honourable gentleman from Harbour Grace does not think I am crazy. Mind you, I would not exactly take his word under the Mental Health Act, but that is beside the point too. The point is, it was an instance where - and I think it proves once again, Mr. Speaker, the desirability of keeping debate in the House - I do not mind heated debate, we are talking about important issues and heated debate is part of it. Men feel strongly on issues. Perhaps the interjections from some honourable members, inaudible as they appear in Hansard, should be restrained somewhat.

Certainly, I have no hesitation in saying again that I withdraw the remarks without any reservation, without any hesitation, I would just as soon not have made these remarks, Sir, to be quite honest. It is not the sort of thing I like to do. I misinterpreted. I was provoked, I suspect I was in an angry or disturbed mood at the time.

AN HON. MEMBER: An off day?

MR. ROBERTS: No it was not, only the Premier has off days. Do other honourable gentlemen have off days as well? There should be a sign they hang around their necks; "I am having an off day." The point is that personal -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROBERTS: You know, there are some people who have a genius for being inappropriate, there really are, Mr. Chairman. Here we are talking about the need to try to keep -

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): Order please! the honourable the Leader of the Opposition has the floor, making a point of some substance and concern to the whole House. I consider that he deserves the respect that the question that is under discussion deserves.

MR. ROBERTS: Well that really is the point I was making. It is all very well to have the cut and thrust of debate but references to anybody other than honourable members are really inappropriate and I suspect even most of the references we make to each other are inappropriate. That is why I said that I am thankful the press do not report us, certainly in full. I hope they do report us accurately.

I suspect and hope the House learns something from the incident. It was something from which we should take a lesson. Let us hope it does not happen again. I hope we have heated debate in here. We shall. The Premier and I understand each other perfectly on that point. Other honourable gentlemen will engage in it as well and that is the way it should be. Personal references I suppose are unavoidable but any references to anybody, to any private matter as opposed to any public matter really, I think we came close yesterday, all of us, on both sides, I was involved, to disgracing this House. I think we should learn from that lesson and not try it again. Now that the honourable gentleman from Labrador North has joined us, maybe he will make a speech.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Kostaszek was high in his praise of the previous Liberal Administration's programme to rehabilitate homes on the Blackhead Road. There was more money spent, Mr. Chairman, per capita by the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation, more money spent per capita rehabilitating homes on the Blackhead Road than in any other district in Newfoundland including Bell Island, and that should be an eye-opener.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not true.

MR. NEARY: That is true.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not true.

MR. NEARY: Let me repeat what I said, Mr. Chairman, let me repeat what I said, let me repeat it. The honourable minister is asleep over there now. There was more money spent per capita...

MR. HICKEY: The honourable gentleman slept last night.

MR. NEARY: There was more money spent per capita by the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation on rehabilitating old homes, homes of indigent families on the Blackhead Road than was spent in any other district in Newfoundland.

MR. HICKEY: What year?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman,

MR. HICKEY: What year? Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I do not have to say what year.

MR. HICKEY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

MR. NEARY: There is no point of order, Sir. What is the point of order?

MR. HICKEY: My point of order is that the honourable gentleman has given the House incorrect information. For the year 1971, there was no district in the province which expended as much on building materials as the District of Bell Island, in the amount of two hundred and sixty odd thousand dollars. For the greater St. John's Area, which involved something like six districts, the total was some ninety odd thousand dollars.

MR. NEARY: That is not a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I submit, Your Honour, that that is not a point of order.

MR. HICKEY: It is a corrected statement. Do not mislead the House.

MR. NEARY: I will make my statement again, do not worry.

AN HON. MEMBER: Of course you will.

MR. NEARY: Can we have a ruling on that, Mr. Chairman?

AN HON. MEMBER: Coming right up.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Let us hope it is not garbled like the other.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DUNPHY): I have been advised by the Deputy Speaker, that this is a disputed fact and it is not a point of order.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, what I said was that there was more money spent per capita to rehabilitate homes of families who could not afford to repair these homes themselves, there was more money spent per capita in the honourable member's district on the Blackhead Road than was spent in any other district in Newfoundland.

MR. HICKEY: To a point of order. Are we going to allow the honourable gentleman to continue to mislead this House? I have just stated that that statement is incorrect and I will offer to produce the facts today.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, this is definitely not a point of order.

MR. HICKEY: I will give a complete run-down.

MR. NEARY: Ah, sit down!

MR. HICKEY: I will give a complete run-down of districts, I know from where I speak. I do check my facts.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Your Honour has already ruled on this. The honourable gentleman from the Extern is attempting to harass my colleague from Bell Island. Your Honour ruled three seconds ago on precisely the same point. If I may say so again, Your Honour's ruling was that this is a disputed fact between two honourable members and it is not a point of order. The honourable gentleman from the Extern in due course may lurch to his feet if he wish and attempt to make a speech. That is his right. We shall hear him, not only with the courtesy he deserves, we will hear him with the courtesy any member should have, which is far more than that honourable member deserves.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, an accusation that a member is misleading the House, is that parliamentary, Sir? Could I ask Your Honour if that

is parliamentary?

MR. CHAIRMAN (DUNPHY): I just ruled on this a few moments ago.

The honourable member from Bell Island does have the floor and must be heard in silence. The honourable Minister of the Environment will get an opportunity to rise to the debate to reply to his statements.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I was accused of misleading the House and I would like Your Honour to inform me whether or not an accusation against a member of misleading the House is improper and is unparliamentary, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DUNPHY): I would like to reserve any ruling on that for the time being until I consult with my senior adviser, if you like, the Deputy Speaker.

MR. HICKEY: I will withdraw that remark until today when I produce the facts and then we will see.

MR. ROBERTS: Let us get a ruling on it.

MR. HICKEY: Forget the ruling on it, I will withdraw it.

MR. NEARY: I want a ruling.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not care if you withdraw or not. What you do, idiot, is of no importance to anybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DUNPHY): The honourable member has withdrawn the statement that the honourable member from Bell Island was misleading the House, so the ruling will not be necessary.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I assume that it was unparliamentary language. Sir, today is Friday the 13th. I hope honourable members will keep that in mind. Now, Sir, that is one aspect of it and this may not be relevant, but in the minister's own District of Gander, in Peterview, more money will be spent per capita repairing homes in Peterview than was spent on Bell Island in the fiscal year, per capita now, 1971-1972.

AN HON. MEMBER: What has that to do with rural development?

MR. NEARY: I am just making the point.

AN HON. MEMBER: Provincial money or federal money?

MR. NEARY: Provincial money from the Department of Social Services.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is federal money.

MR. NEARY: It is not federal money, it is cost-shared by the Government of Canada but the money that was spent on Bell Island was also cost-shared.

MR. COLLINS: The money spent in Peterview was a LIP programme, the greatest portion of it, plus some assistance from the—

MR. NEARY: It is not federal money, Mr. Chairman, it is not federal money.

MR. COLLINS: Oh yes!

MR. NEARY: It is not federal money, it is—

AN HON. MEMBER: Federal money.

MR. NEARY: It is assistance from the Department of Social Services as the minister can confirm.

AN HON. MEMBER: Plus LIP.

MR. NEARY: And all the assistance given to recipients of social assistance based on need is cost-shared by the Government of Canada, fifty percent.

MR. MURPHY: The facts are available in my department, Mr. Chairman, I will accept to have a statement prepared to the satisfaction - I do not know right off the bat. Now argue the point.

MR. NEARY: No I am not going to argue the point. I just wanted to make that point because it was rather interesting when I got these figures from the minister.

MR. ROBERTS: Based on the figures the minister gave the other day.

MR. NEARY: The figures the minister gave the other day but, Mr. Chairman, there was upwards of two hundred thousand dollars, upwards of two hundred thousand dollars spent repairing homes of people who were unemployed, who were sick and so forth, on the Blackhead Road. A programme, Sir, that I am proud of, the previous administration is proud, and it cost more per capita to repair these homes on the Blackhead Road than it did to repair the homes on Bell Island. That is a fact worth keeping in mind, Sir, because we are going to hear more about that in

the future.

MR. DOODY: The homes were in the same condition?

MR. NEARY: The homes on Bell Island were probably in worse condition. I have seen some of the homes that were repaired on the Blackhead Road.

By the way, I was up there the Saturday before last and I looked at some of the homes. If the group who were doing the LIP project over on the Blackhead Road, Sir, that got the building material from the Department of Social Services, if they had to follow the list of materials that the Minister of Social Services is allowed to give out, if they had followed that, they would not have been able to carry out the repairs that were necessary to these homes, so there was substitution.

MR. MURPHY: The only substitution I made, if I may, Mr. Chairman, on that point, and that is that with all the building materials they were not permitted insulation, which I think is the most ridiculous thing in the world to repair a house and not be permitted to purchase insulation. I changed that because I thought that any home today, to be made windproof or weatherproof, must have some type of insulation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: Hear! Hear! Sir, Hear! Hear! I am all for it.

MR. ROBERTS: Is that the rule enforced throughout the province now?

MR. MURPHY: Under this granting of supplies yes, absolutely.

MR. ROBERTS: I mean, can I get insulation for a house in St. Anthony?

MR. MURPHY: If there is help approved for that house, in building materials. That is the point I was making, Sir.

MR. ROBERTS: It is a good thing.

MR. MURPHY: Another great, broad outlook of the former administration.

MR. NEARY: So, Mr. Chairman, in order to carry out repairs to these homes successfully, over on the Blackhead Road, there had to be substitution. There had to be and there was and there is no investigation. I am glad there is no investigation, Sir, because the list of material that the Department of Social Services is allowed to give out is ridiculous, ridiculous.

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): If the honourable member would permit, the topic under discussion or the Head is Head XIX, Municipal Affairs and Housing. The honourable member is encouraged not to get into a long argument which should more appropriately have been heard under Head Social Services which was passed some two hours ago.

MR. NEARY: I would not dare, Mr. Chairman, I would not dare. You know that. Now, the honourable Minister of Social Services can go to Florida for a couple of weeks. Sir, I am trying to get the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Mr. Chairman, to tell the committee precisely, and I am sure the member for St. John's South will be interested in this, I am trying to get the minister to tell the committee precisely what work is going to be done on the Blackhead Road this year and how much is going to be spent on each item?

For instance, let me give the committee an example: How much will be spent on the recommendation in the Kostaszek Report on landscaping on the Blackhead Road? How much will be spent on site-improvement? How much will be spent on housing? We are told that the programme for public housing is only partially completed. Only forty-six public housing units have been constructed and private rehabilitation will also be carried out this year, Sir.

MR. NEARY: About twenty homes have been built, forty-three have been repaired and sixteen extensions have been completed with private funds. This activity has been impeded by the reduction in the scope of the plan. Mr. Kostaszek also recommends, Mr. Chairman - and this is another promise that was made by the Tories in two provincial elections.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Progressive Conservatives.

MR. NEARY: Better known as Tories, Sir.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: That is right.

MR. NEARY: That the legislation of this province be changed to allow the government to provide a home for a home in cases where urban renewal developments are done in the future. A home for a home, remember, Sir, that we heard that being promised in two provincial elections and nothing has been done about it. I would like to hear the minister's comments on that.

Sir, what I am getting at - I do not want to prolong this debate - what I am getting at is that the people on the Blackhead Road would like to know what items in the Kostaszek Report, what recommendations are going to be carried out this year and how much is going to be spent on each item. That is not an unreasonable request, Sir. The minister keeps

answering my question by asking me a question. That is no way to answer a question in this honourable House. If the minister does not know what the answer is why does he not call in his officials and get the answers or rise the committee and go on to somebody else's estimates and let the minister go downstairs and get the information, Sir? The people in the Blackhead Road want this information. There is no reason why it should be withheld from them. This is the government that talk about planning, all the planning. Well will they please tell us what their plans are for the Blackhead Road in this fiscal year? That is all I am asking the minister. If he does not have anything to hide, why does he not tell the committee? If he does not have the facts, if he does not have the information, if he does not know, why does he not get up and say, "Well look, I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I do not know what we are going to spend the money on in the Blackhead Road this year. I do not know if we are going to spend a cent." At least he should level with us, be honest with us and tell us how much is going to be spent and for what.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, that is precisely what I did just now. Of all the communities across this province, when we allocated a certain amount of money for them I do not know how many bags of fertilizer they buy or how many nuts and bolts or pieces of pipe or what have you. We have looked at the Kostaszek Report. We have had frequent meetings with Mr. Kostaszek as the interim reports were written. There is an independent review board on the Blackhead Road. There is also an householder union up there. The people on the Blackhead Road, as far as I am concerned, are getting a lot of attention. We are in the process of trying to come up with some means of insulating the overhead sewer pipes. At the present time we are dealing with people who still have problems in terms of whether or not they want their

houses raised and houses which were moved because of the scheme.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. COLLINS: That I really cannot say, Mr. Chairman. There is no reason why I should. That is an unreasonable request. I think the honourable member must realize that. The Blackhead Road Union would know and the independent review board would know. I would not know offhand and no one in the department would know at this particular time. We are working with them very closely. There has been a lot of work done and a lot of work done by the past administration. We have followed through and hopefully we can reach a satisfactory conclusion.

With regard to the subsidized rental units, half of them, as the honourable member has mentioned, have been provided. We are in the process of getting plans done and hopefully will be able to call tenders pretty soon for a further supply of subsidized rental units on the hill.

MR. R. WELLS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few comments as this matter of the Blackhead Road has been raised. When the previous administration left office there had been just over \$7 million spent on the Blackhead Road. Now I think it was obviously a fine idea to do something and redevelop the Blackhead Road Area but unfortunately the scheme was put into effect in such a way that great hardship was caused. A lot of people were upset and a lot of harm was done to individuals. I will not go into that. When this present government took office, it found that before it could go on and finish the scheme that a lot of what had been wrongly done and improperly carried out in terms of actual technical work on the Blackhead Road had to be put right. A lot of it has been put right. As Mr. Kostaszek says in his report, it is going to cost a lot of money to put all the things right. Now I do not see how the minister could stand up here today, with things in a state of flux as they are on the Blackhead Road, where there has to be

considerable investigation of some of the problems (I am talking about engineering, physical construction problems that has to be done. It is an ongoing thing) I do not see how the minister could possibly say what will be required to be spent this year or even next year. The only thing that can be said with any certainty is that a good deal of public money is going to have to be spent to correct deficiencies that should not have been deficiencies in the first place, because the public money was not carefully spent in the past.

Now on the question of housing, the hon. gentleman for Bell Island has said that more money was spent per capita on the Blackhead Road than any other district in Newfoundland. Be it far from me to say that that is not so. I would like him to substantiate that in the public accounts or some other figures, what he is saying here. I do not think it is so. In fact I felt that it was one of the deficiencies of the Blackhead Road scheme from the very start. It is all very well to provide services and roads and this sort of thing but unless you have a clear plan from the beginning to upgrade housing, it is not much good. It is not much good to be able to have a paved road in front of them, if they are living in shacks. Now a lot of work has been done up there recently under federal programmes. The Department of Social Services have made available building materials and the federal programmes have made available labour. There has been a lot of good community involvement up there. I hope that that will be an ongoing thing. I hope that the province will see fit also to engage even to a greater extent in the upgrading. I do not think the minister, after a very, very complex and comprehensive report like the Kostaszek Report, I do not see how so recently afterwards the minister can say now what money must be spent on the

Blackhead Road to complete and finish the scheme.

I may say that I would like, myself, to see a certain amount of the money that is in the estimates allocated for landscaping and clearing away the bolders and rubble which are up there because it is a most unsightly thing and the community must be made to appear better by reason of clearing away this sort of rubble.

The other thing, that is important I think, which the administration did was establish a review board of competent people who could size up the deficiencies and make recommendations for the fixing of these deficiencies. That is being done now and it is an ongoing thing. Quite honestly, Mr. Chairman, I think that the proper steps are being taken in connection with the Blackhead Road.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am sure the people up on the Blackhead Road will be howling if they heard him, Sir, taking it up for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. All I was trying to do, Sir, was to get some information for his poor old constituents up there.

MR. WELLS: That is just nonsense.

MR. NEARY: It is not nonsense. These people up there want to know how much money is going to be spent up there this year, what recommendations of the Kostaszek Report are going to be implemented. They want to know that. I was up there the Saturday before last and talked to some of the people up there. I know how they feel about this. They are waiting for the honourable member to come up.

MR. DOODY: I wonder if the honourable members listening to this could get somebody from Public Works to come up with a front-end loader, Sir, to shove off - it is bad enough keeping track of the honourable member when you can see his eyes but the way it is now it is absolutely ridiculous.

MR. NEARY: About the only thing I can say is that I ask the honourable minister not to shoot until he sees the whites of my eyes.

Now if the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Sir, cannot give the committee the information, well and good, there is nothing

I can do about it. I cannot drag it out of him. I cannot force it out of him. I cannot beat it out of him, Sir. The only thing I can do is to plead with him to provide the information. I am surprised with the hon. member for St. John's South. I thought he would be right in there helping me to try and get this little bit of information. Let me ask the minister a couple of more questions. These are not costly items.

The commission has recommended that a community development directorate be established to oversee successful completion of the scheme and guide the design of a long-term plan for community development and local administration. The structure and role of such an organization are summarized in figures 9(a) and 9 (b) opposite. Functional areas of responsibility are described in figure 10 opposite. The highlights of the commission's proposal include: formation of an interim review board consisting of representatives from the community and various government departments; appointment by government of an impartial chairman of the community development directorate (an impartial chairman); provision of appropriate resources, qualified personnel and funds to support the community development directorate as required; (I presume a few dollars to enable the directorate to carry out its work) involvement of the Department of Community and Social Development to assist the community plan and to co-ordinate the various federal and provincial programmes in the possible role of community planner and co-ordinator; development of a community planning team by the householders union made up of a representative number of residents and qualified professionals.

Would the minister please tell the committee what is being done about that recommendation, if anything? If nothing has been done, when will something be done about that recommendation?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the only responsibility I have on the Blackhead Road is in terms of the municipal requirements of the scheme. Now I cannot

get involved with the educational problems up there or the social development problems. The minister here looks after that. I heard that Dr. Kitchen was up there a few days ago. I do not know if he accompanied the honourable member or not. Presumably Dr. Kitchen and the honourable member if they should go up there will assist the people. There has been a lot of attention paid to the Blackhead Road. I only wish that all of the rest of the communities - communities down in the honourable member's district, St. Barbe North, could have had the attention that the Blackhead Road people have had.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. COLLINS: This is the third time now that I have said that we are correcting the deficiencies in the overhead sewers. We are correcting the deficiencies in the drains and what have you. How many bags of grass they are going to plant, I really do not know.

MR. NEARY: Perhaps if I changed the subject, I might get a little more - obviously the people of the Blackhead Road are not going to get the information they want.

MR. COLLINS: That is all the communication with the people of the Blackhead Road.

MR. WELLS: I do not think that it should be just left like that. The honourable member spoke about the Blackhead Road Review Board recommendation. That review board was set up last fall, not under the Minister of Municipal Affairs but under the Premier's Office. The review board was composed of Mr. Don Wilson, who is a professional engineer, as chairman and certainly impartial.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WELLS: That is right. We are not talking about partiality now between Liberal and Progressive Conservative. He is certainly impartial insofar as the Blackhead Road is concerned, whether there are deficiencies and what to be corrected. The other member was Mr. Ed Horlick, who was the choice of the residents, appointed to the board. The other member

was Mr. Charlie Earle of the Department of Finance. This board has done a lot of good work. It was not under the Department of Municipal Affairs but rather it was an impartial board between the officials of the scheme and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Blackhead Road to see impartially if any department of government - that is why it was under the Premier's Office - what ought to be done. The board made some valuable recommendations and I hope will make more, particularly with regard to the practical sorting out of say the sewer system or the storm sewer system which had been improperly put in and which had filled with silt, sand and rocks. A great deal of public money is going to have to be spent up there to correct that sort of deficiency and especially the sewer line which comes down over the hill, which has a habit of freezing up every winter when it is particularly cold. Much public money is going to have to be spent by this administration, with all due respect to the honourable member, to correct some of the things that were wrongly and improperly done in the past and before this administration took office. This public money has to be spent. It will be spent. I will argue for it unceasingly but I do not think we should lose sight of the fact that it is to correct deficiencies that were allowed up there in the first place.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the member for St. John's South should be the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. We might get more information out of him.

Now, Sir, I am going to switch to another topic. I do not know whether this was discussed before I came back into the House, but as honourable members know, Mr. Chairman, one of the major needs of the people of this province is good housing. By people, Mr. Chairman, I do not only mean welfare recipients, I mean people in the low income brackets, people in the middle income bracket. The minister is nodding his head. He agrees with me I think, on this. It is very

difficult in my opinion, even with the slackening up in C.M.H.C. regulations, Sir, it is still very difficult for most people to meet the mortgage conditions that are laid down by C.M.H.C. in purchasing houses. With the cost of housing today, Mr. Chairman, only the relatively rich in this province, only the relatively rich, Sir, can own their own homes. I am deeply disappointed that this present administration has not taken more steps in helping our people in this province to ownership of their own, poor little homes. Another promise that has gone by the board, Sir.

The cost of housing is sky-high in this city today, Sir, sky-high. It is beyond the reach of the ordinary man. If this should continue, the middle income families in Newfoundland will never be able to own a home of their own, never. The cost of land, Sir, you would not know but it was a gold mine you were buying when you are buying a building lot. Fifty by one hundred or fifty by seventy-five feet, do you know, Mr. Chairman, what it costs in this city? Anywhere from eight to twelve thousand dollars. Until we reach the stage in Newfoundland and in Canada, I suppose, for that matter, where we have complete public ownership of land, the cost of housing will be up.

Mr. Chairman, we were told the other day, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, that building lots would soon go on sale down in the new town, the satellite city. I asked the minister if he could indicate to the committee how much a person would have to pay, for instance, what would be the cost of a building lot say fifty feet by one hundred feet? The minister said that he was unable to tell me. Well, Sir, that information is available. I know a gentleman who went down to the office, I do not know where the office is located, but he told me he went to the office, asked about the building lots; he was interested in a corner lot. The gentleman said; "Yes, they would be going on sale very soon." I do not know if he said they were on sale or going on sale, but anyway he said that the cost of this particular lot was \$12,000; \$12,000. in Mount Pearl in the new satellite city, a corner lot.

MR. COLLINS: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: It is a corner lot, Sir, I do not have a map in front of me. I would submit, Sir, that building lots in the new satellite city will range anywhere from seven thousand to fifteen thousand dollars. I would say the lowest would be about seven thousand dollars. The minister must have some idea what these lots are going to cost. Is that a correct ball park figure, anywhere from seven thousand?

MR. COLLINS: That is rather high I suspect.

MR. NEARY: Seven thousand dollars is rather high?

MR. COLLINS: We are hoping to be able to sell the lots around the six thousand dollar mark.

MR. NEARY: Around six thousand dollars. How many lots for six thousand dollars?

MR. COLLINS: I cannot say that for sure, I have only the information that is given me. It might be sixty-five hundred, and someone will say: "The minister said six thousand dollars."

MR. NEARY: The point I am making, Mr. Chairman, and the minister has confirmed it anyway, if there are lots for six thousand dollars there are only a handful. I would say the average cost in the new town will be eight or nine thousand dollars. That is pretty high for a person in the low income and in the middle income bracket, Sir, too high.

The minister also told us the other day, Mr. Chairman, that some of the lots, some of the blocks - I think he said that a block of lots would be sold to contractors. Well, Sir, I am opposed to that and I will tell the committee why I am opposed to it. You know what happens when you sell these building lots to contractors, Mr. Chairman?

AN HON. MEMBER: They build houses on them.

MR. NEARY: No, they do not build houses on them. Sometimes they do, sometimes they do not. It is a well known fact in this city that contractors have bought blocks of land for resale.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, just in case the honourable member might be getting off on the wrong foot. When we said that there would be blocks of land available for contractors, it is to build a block of houses on, not to buy land and keep it for speculation purposes. It will be a case of going in to build a number of houses and they will be given several blocks of land to do that.

MR. NEARY: That is fine, Mr. Chairman, that is fine. I am glad to hear that but I am still going to make my point about the contractors buying land in this city, maybe not from the minister's department but they buy it privately for resale. If a poor family in the middle income bracket comes along with seven, eight, nine or ten thousand dollars, I think they are up to about eleven or twelve thousand dollars now, and says; "Yes, I will buy this building lot. How much do you want for it? I want ten thousand dollars. Okay! Fine! The hitch is this, Mr. Chairman, it is not only the person having to lash out his ten or twelve thousand dollars for a building lot but he has to sign an agreement that he will buy the building materials from that particular contractor. The minister is nodding his head in approval. He says; "Yes, that is correct."

MR. COLLINS: I have heard of some cases.

MR. NEARY: It should be stopped, Sir, it should be stopped at once. Chester Dawe is one of the biggest culprits.

AN HON. MEMBER: No matter what the price?

MR. NEARY: No matter what the price, Sir, the fellow is forced to buy his materials from Chester Dawe Limited if Chester Dawe sells him the building lot. He cannot go and shop around for material, he has a signed agreement. It is contrary to the human rights, the Canadian Code of Human Rights, I would suggest to the Minister of Justice. It would be worth-while for the minister's department to look into it. That is happening, Sir. I know a friend of mine, a very close friend of mine, who bought a building lot recently from Chester Dawe Limited. And he had to sign an agreement that he would buy the building materials to build his poor little house with from Chester Dawe Limited. This

is wrong. What are these people, slaves? Surfs? Who do Chester Dawe Limited think they are or Mr. Gardiner? The Minister of Finance's flunkie for a while? I would like for the minister to look into that. The minister knows it is happening.

MR. COLLINS: I have read about it. I have read about a case or two the past couple of days.

MR. NEARY: What can be done to stop it?

MR. COLLINS: I really do not know if anything --

MR. NEARY: Our people are desperate for land, Sir, desperate for it. You just cannot get a building lot in this city. When they do spot one somewhere, some speculator, some contractor has it tied up. He will charge an exorbitant price for it and then you have to sign an agreement to buy building materials from him. What kind of a racket is it, Mr. Chairman? It is the worst I ever heard in my life. It should be stopped and I would like for the minister to get his officials to look into it and put it to a stop. It is bad enough to have to lash out ten or twelve thousand dollars for a piece of land without committing yourself then to the supplier of building materials.

Mr. Chairman, what other land assemblies are being serviced now apart from the satellite city? What plans does the minister have in mind to develop other areas around the city and around Newfoundland for that matter? Housing is not only a problem in St. John's, Sir, it is a problem in the minister's own district, it is a problem on the Burin Peninsula, it is a problem all over this province. I would like for the minister to tell us what short-range plans his department has for housing and what long-range plans, if any. I wonder if the minister can outline to us what is going to be done about housing in the next five or ten years. Will there be more government involvement in procuring land, servicing the land and selling it back to the people, who are interested, at cost price or even subsidize it? The cost of land, Sir, is killing our people, barring not only our young people but our people, period, from owning their own homes. They

will never own their own homes at the rate we are going now. I wonder if the minister could give us a few comments on this subject.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the difficulty in obtaining land and the high cost of land, I think I have said before that all the people in Newfoundland, all of Newfoundland were caught with their pants down in terms of the availability of serviced land. They just could not get a piece anywhere - St. John's, Gander, Corner Brook or Grand Falls or any of the urban centres. We will not go into the reason for that or whose shoulders the blame should lie on. As I have said on numerous occasions recently, the Mount Pearl new town development will be ready, hopefully by June. Virginia Waters, which is being developed by the St. John's Housing Corporation, will be ready this summer. There will be a considerable subdivision become available in the Town of Gander by late summer, certainly by the fall. There is a considerable amount of land becoming available in Corner Brook now and more this summer.

With regard to the cost, Mr. Chairman, the cost of land is high. Labour costs are not going down they are going up. As long as labour costs continue to rise, the cost of producing machinery and piping is going to increase, the cost of digging ditches is going to increase and the cost of installing is going to increase. The federal government have certain amendments before the House of Commons now. We know just what amendments they proposed, whether they will pass through the House or not we do not know and they have not passed yet. Consideration is being given up there to introducing a mortgage subsidy arrangement. What the amount will be we really will not know until the legislation is passed. Certainly, that is a move in the right direction in assisting people in the lower and middle income groups to be able to own their own homes as opposed to the subsidized rental units which we are building and will continue to build unless some better arrangement is made.

The province is looking at ways and means of making it easier

for people to obtain land or obtain mortgages, whatever it might be. I am not in a position to say what that will be yet and we will not be until the federal government ideas or the federal government's policy is made known to us. We do not want to get involved in the same area as they are, we want to be able to compliment their plan and supplement it or piggy back on it, if you want to. Hopefully, they will have their plan through and just as soon as we know what it is we are going to make some moves as well. I cannot say too much more than that about it yet.

We do appreciate the fact that it is practically impossible for middle income people ever to own their own homes. Certainly the subsidized rental units are not the answer to that, because those are costly units for the province and for the federal government. The average cost in terms of yearly subsidy on subsidized rental units is about two thousand dollars and we think that that money could be better spent in other ways to help people obtain home ownership and build up an equity.

MR. NEARY: Will the minister tell us if anything will be done in the way of public housing this year in any part of the province?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, there will be a fair amount of public housing this summer. I cannot tell the honourable member exactly where they are going to be. I will be announcing that in the House as soon as we have decided on it but there will be certainly as many as last year and maybe more starts than last year in subsidized rental units.

MR. NEARY: I do not know if this were discussed while I was out of the House or not, but his great report that we had on regional government in Newfoundland, these three or four volumes -

AN HON. MEMBER: What report?

MR. NEARY: The big one that was almost like a suitcase.

MR. COLLINS: The urban study?

MR. NEARY: Yes. What is being done with that now? Will anything be done, say, in the next year or so, on the recommendations of the - that dealt with regional government, did it not?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: I saw in there where they thought Bell Island should be wiped off the face of the map. They did not include Bell Island in any of their plans, any of their recommendations. They just forgot about it hoping that it would go away. What is going to be done about this report?

MR. COLLINS: The honourable member is referring to the St. John's Regional Urban Study I presume. That was presented to the people some time ago. not too long ago. It has been circulated now to all of the councils involved, the incorporated areas, groups of people and individuals and what have you. I indicated at the conference in Queen's College that we were going to continue with the board to make sure that the people had an opportunity to understand the report and have some input in it. The royal commission of course will be looking at it before their report comes in and hopefully, at that time we will be in a position to know what

should be done. It is a very useful study.

On motion 1901-01 to 1901-02-03 carried.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister explain why this is up by \$108,000?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this reflects some new positions which we anticipate getting. They have not been approved. They have nothing classified by PAD yet. They do have money in the estimates to take care of it. Just as soon as I get the classifications I can tell the honourable member more.

MR. NEARY: The empire is getting built bigger.

MR. COLLINS: I would say that our department is possibly the most understaffed department in Canada.

On motion 1902-01 to 1902-02-02 carried.

MR. ROBERTS: I wonder if you could explain computer services for me.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the cost of the computer services has been prorated over the different departments this year. In the meantime we are using the computers to some extent in providing certain information for the royal commission.

On motion 1902-02-08 carried.

On motion 1911-01 to 1911-02-02 carried.

MR. COLLINS: Yes, \$500,000 of that is to the City of Corner Brook. There is \$28,000 to the City of St. John's.

MR. ROBERTS: That is what it was last year. Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could tell us a little about the financial situation of Newfoundland's second city, namely the City of Corner Brook. It has been somewhat in the news recently. I gather that things are not well in Corner Brook in a financial sense. Also while we are at it, I understand that the - when I say the council in Corner Brook that may not have been the full council. There has been some sort of undertaking to give them some extra money so that they can open another fire station in Corner Brook. I am sorry, not open. They have it open. I think it is over on the west side or in Curling. If the grant is not increased, from whence cometh all good - so on these two points, could the minister enlighten us somewhat, please.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, there has been some misunderstanding I think in some of the things which have been reported with regard to the City of Corner Brook. The City of Corner Brook is doing a pretty good job. They have possibly the highest tax rate in Newfoundland. Not possibly, I am sure it is the highest tax rate. There is a very good council there. Things are going relatively smoothly. There was some indication, I think a misunderstanding on the peoples' parts, that the city had intended building a junior college. Of course, the City of Corner Brook cannot afford to build a junior college, as we all know.

With regard to the firemen, there has been an additional third fire station opened. There is a need for additional firemen. It is not reflected in the estimates here. We have only received a request from the city a short time ago and the government is considering it. I think they are looking for an additional \$50,000 or \$60,000.

MR. ROBERTS: Could the minister indicate whether the council will be getting that money from the government.

MR. COLLINS: I would say that there is a pretty good chance. I cannot say for sure because it will be a government decision of course.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister is being somewhat ingenuous, Mr. Chairman, I suggest. His colleague, the Minister of Transportation and Communications, quoting the honourable the Premier, has indicated to the council in Corner Brook publicly - I am relying now on the "Western Star" which after all maybe I should not rely on because it is a sister in journalism for that scurrilous rag, that yellow dog of journalism, the "Evening Telegram". Are they going to get it or not? The honourable gentleman for Humber East has said that they will get it.

MR. COLLINS: As I said, Mr. Chairman, the government has not made

a decision on it yet. I suspect that they will get the money.

MR. ROBERTS: Let it be recorded then in this time and place that although the Minister of Transportation etc. has said that they will get it, the minister concerned says that:

(a) There is nothing in the estimates. (Well, that is patently obvious) and

(b) That government have not made a decision as yet.

MR. COLLINS: The government has not made a decision as yet.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister indicates that he expects the decision to be favorable. I expect it too.

MR. COLLINS: There is a reason for it not being reflected in the estimates, of course. The request came in after the estimates were prepared.

MR. ROBERTS: That makes sense. It is possible to amend the estimates. The minister cannot amend his own but any other minister opposite could leap to his feet and move an amendment. I shall yield, if anyone should wish. Would anybody like to amend this up, to do what the government have apparently committed themselves publicly to do? You do not mean, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister of Transportation etc. has made a commitment and the government are not leaping to honour it. What will the people of Corner Brook think?

MR. COLLINS: The people of Corner Brook will decide when they know what the government decision is.

MR. ROBERTS: It may be, Mr. Chairman, that the people of Corner Brook have already decided. They are merely awaiting the opportunity to express their decision.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the minister skipped lightly on the question of the financial situation of Corner Brook. I think it is a serious matter and worth a little attention by the minister and by the committee. There was a bulletin from "Information Newfoundland", that fountain of wisdom, truth, objectivity, and the whole, full, complete story. One was led to believe that the City of Corner Brook was in

desperate financial straits. Taxes were the highest. I happen to have my views too. I think the minister and we agree. I am merely reporting what was said to the eagerly awaiting public. The mayor was called stupid. That is not bad for an administration that does not go in for any personal references. In any event, will the minister tell us, are things that bad in Corner Brook? At any moment are we going to see Mayor Murphy and his council trouncing through the bankruptcy courts.

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman. I have already told you.

MR. ROBERTS: I will yield to let the minister say a few words.

MR. COLLINS: As I said a little while ago, the City of Corner Brook is not in a position to build a junior college. This is what this statement is about as I know it. I did not even make the statement. I did hear it on radio. We all know the history of Corner Brook. Some years ago they did lose this status of local elected government and had a commission of government which did a pretty good job. The elected council has been doing a pretty good job since. Like all municipalities all over Newfoundland and all over the Mainland, there is not a dearth of money, they are making ends meet. They are not developing as fast as they would like to. We are helping them where we can. As far as I am concerned, the town is progressing.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, that is very interesting. I hope "Information Newfoundland" will issue the minister's statement. Maybe they would not want to do that though because with it would have to add the minister's resignation from the cabinet because he has just directly contradicted the Premier's statement.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the Opposition cannot get away with that. I do not know exactly what Mayor Murphy said but what came across by the press was that the City of Corner Brook were prepared to build a regional college if the provincial government could not do it. I believe the Premier said that the City of Corner Brook could not afford to build a regional college. I think

that is about where it ended.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what Mayor Murohy said but I do know what "Information Newfoundland" said that the Premier had said. I repeat that the statement made by the minister which is in Hansard - he cannot erase it - if they are worried that somebody will run to the Premier with it, that he has directly contradicted what the Premier said on the matter, that is his problem not mine.

I wonder if the minister while we are on Corner Brook, Mr. Chairman, the grant to the City of Corner Brook, could tell me what the situation is, please, with respect to Dyke's Road. That may not be the right name of it. Yes, Dyke's Road and Peid's Road. That is part of the City of Corner Brook as, of course, the minister is aware. They have had some problems with water. I wonder if the minister can tell me if there have been any representations made to him with reference to that problem. If so, what has been the result of them?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have received representations but since it is a part of the City of Corner Brook, the City of Corner Brook, of course, then must decide what can and cannot be done for those people.

MR. ROBERTS: That makes some sense. Could the minister tell me whether the government are prepared to help the City of Corner Brook in this matter. Could he also tell me please, Sir -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Let us have a quorum call.

MR. ROBERTS: All right let us have a quorum call, boys. It is only ten after eight. She is really getting down. Oh there they come in now. Look at them, the fine, blithe souls. The honourable gentleman from St. John's South looks as inscrutable at ten after eight in the morning as he does at ten after eight in the evening. Have we got enough? All right! Now, stay aboard boys. Do not go too far. Oh, Mr. Chairman, three, six, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen. Mr. Chairman, honourable gentlemen must be in their seats surely to be present in the House. A member has no right except to his assigned

seat. Everybody in their seats, please. A member has no right except to his own seat, Mr. Chairman. Would Your Honour please rule on that. The rules are quite clear. A member must sit in his own seat. He can only speak from his own place. Everybody in his own seat now, boys. Your Honour, can you be present in the House unless you are seated in your own seat?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is in the House.

MR. ROBERTS: He is in the House. All right! Stay in now. We even have the police to keep them in.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Where is your rattlebox?

MR. ROBERTS: My rattlebox is sitting right over there, Mr. Chairman, just behind the gentleman from Fortune Bay.

Now, Sir, I was asking the minister whether the government were prepared to help the people in Dyke's Road with this. Could he also indicate to me, please, who made the representations on their behalf?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I cannot recall who made the recommendation or the suggestion or the request because we have hundreds and thousands of those. Certainly it is a problem which the city will have to face up to. I suppose the province will have to do their part in trying to assist the city, which we are doing in every way. We are considering the request which the city has in for a guaranteed amount of money this year for capital works programmes. There are some negotiations being conducted with the DREE people. Just what the position will be for this year, I am not in a position to say yet.

MR. ROBERTS: I suggest, Sir, that the minister is being ingenious. He may or may not have received the request as he says he did. I am prepared to call assurance from it somewhat odd because the people -

MR. COLLINS: Did you get a copy of my letter?

MR. ROBERTS: No. I do not have a copy of the minister's letter. I believe that is the problem, because the people concerned wrote to their

member and said that they had no reply. Then they wrote to me. The member concerned is the gentleman who is also the Premier of the Province. I will read a letter signed by the secretary of the citizen's committee of Dyke's Road, Corner Brook. It is dated December 7, 1972. Now, that is three or four months ago, I agree. It is addressed to me. It says, "The Premier has only acknowledged receipt of our petition or request but has not given us any reply either in writing or otherwise. I wrote to him again approximately three weeks ago but still I received no reply. I do not expect one. It appears that this is the policy of the Progressive Conservative Government to acknowledge receipt of petitions but remain silent thereafter. Your help in soliciting a reply from our member would be greatly appreciated by us. With such a reply we could take steps to prepare for the winter that lies ahead." (That does not give them much time to prepare for the winter that lies ahead unless they are talking of the winter of 1973-1974)

"If the government is unable to help us then our only solution is to dig wells, the water in same being condemned by the Department of Health seven years ago. To do so will be taking a backward step."

That is the problem. Obviously nothing has been done on it. So, it is one more problem.

On motion 1911-03-01 carried.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, 1911-03-02 is the local councils grant. It is up somewhat, about \$600,000. Perhaps the minister can give us a breakdown of where that is to go, please.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, that is the revenue grant which is paid to local councils. It is up this year because there were a number of councils formed last year, for one reason. I have a list of those here somewhere, I believe. Of course the revenue grants were increased last year. That is reflected in the amounts here. When I say the revenue grants, the ceiling on the revenue grant was raised from \$75,000 to \$100,000. I believe that I indicated to the honourable Leader of

the Opposition that I would supply this information some time ago. I do not know if I did it or not but I have it here now.

The communities which benefited from that are Bay Verte, Botwood, Carbonear, Channel-Port aux Basques, Cander, Happy Valley, Grand Falls, Labrador City, Lewisporte, Mount Pearl, Marystown, Steenville, Springdale, Wabush and Winsor. The number of councils incorporated last year, which are also added to this cost, Campbellton, Colliers, Conception Harbour, Shoal Harbour, Terrenceville, Torbay, Joe Batt's Arm, Barren Islands, Chance Cove, Cottle's Island, Luke's Arm, Heart's Delight, Islington, Northern Arm, Salvage, Seldom, Little Seldom, Small Point, Kingston, Broad Cove, Black Head, Adam's Cove, Tilton, Aquaforte, Benton, Rencontre East, St. Bride's, Seal Cove, Fortune Bay, York Harbour.

MR. ROBERTS: There has been some flux from time to time, Mr. Chairman, about the town hall in Burgeo. Has that been solved by now?

MR. COLLINS: Hopefully that has been solved. We have arranged monies for them under the - I am not sure if it is under capital works.

MR. ROBERTS: Could the minister be a little more explicit. It is under capital works, so they are now to get their town hall at long last in Burgeo. Good! I hope that they will ask the minister to the opening. They had better have an opening soon.

Mr. Chairman, there was a petition from a number of people, ninety-seven in number, living in the Indian Pond section of the Local Improvement District of Conception Bay South. They asked that there area be removed from the local improvement district. They gave us a reason. I have a copy of a letter addressed to the minister on the date of October 26. If in fact the residents were not permitted to express their opinions by voting when the canvas of opinions was being taken - that was the claim which was being put forward by them - they should not be included against their wishes. Could the minister comment on this? It is hardly the most earth-shattering.

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman, you know that this comes from my district.

I would certainly indeed like to comment on it since I have first hand information on it. There was last year what was purported to be a petition circulated amongst the residents of Seal Cove, that portion of Seal Cove along the Conception Bay Highway which is not exactly the community of Seal Cove but which is locally referred to as Seal Cove. This petition was circulated by one Martin. The petition itself was not actually properly worded nor could it ever be considered a petition. This gentleman has contested the fact that the area is considered within the boundary of the local improvement district. It is his personal feeling that it should not be included in the local improvement district. This does not concur with the feeling of the residents in that area.

A petition which was later circulated by a Mr. Martin and Mr. Morgan which was properly drawn up legally and which was properly presented to the residents of that area, shortly after the so called petition of this Mr. Martin, was signed by practically every resident included in the boundary of that portion of the local improvement district of Conception Bay South. The boundaries as they are now delineated are absolutely acceptable to practically all of the people of that particular area. There is no question whatsoever that these people want to be included into the local improvement district of Conception Bay South. It has been proved conclusively. The honourable minister has the evidence in his department. It is available to the opposition on request. There is nothing to hide. Ninety-nine per cent of the people in that particular area are quite in favor of being included in the local improvement district. There is no question whatsoever. They want it. There are only two families, maybe three, who object to it.

Mr. Martin, to whom I refer in the first instance, when the initial petitions were circulated to have this area, this particular area included in the local improvement district - these families of Martins actually circulated the petition. For reasons of their own, reasons which are known only to themselves, now they wish to be excluded. As far as I am concerned there is no question to it. It

can be checked out. The honourable minister has the evidence in his department. I am sure that if it be required by the opposition, there is no problem to get it.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I think that it would be very useful if the minister would send me photostatic copies of this data.

The town council in Deer Lake has a problem. I suppose every town council in Newfoundland has a problem but they have a very large one in Deer Lake. The Town of Deer Lake is dumping raw sewage into Deer Lake. Some time ago - it may have been two or three years ago, certainly of that order - the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority ordered that after some day yet to come, 1975 - 1976, the Town of Deer Lake should no longer dump raw sewage in the lake. In other words, at least a primary treatment plant has to be provided and possibly a secondary treatment plant as well. The plant two or three year ago was estimated to cost about a half a million dollars. It would probably cost more by now. I have never heard of anything going down.

The town claim and I have no reason to doubt them, indeed I should be surprised if anything else were the case, that there is no way in which they can afford it on their present budget. The Town of Deer Lake is in exactly the same position as most other or every other council in Newfoundland. There is just no way even if they could borrow the money, a guarantee or some such thing, that they could service the debt. A half million dollars in capital, Mr. Chairman, is fifty thousand dollars a year to service. So, they are in a somewhat invidious position. Here is a lovely town.

Two, four, six, eight, ten. Really, Mr. Chairman, we should have fourteen. That is what the act says.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a quorum present.

MR. ROBERTS: That is reassuring, Mr. Chairman. I do want to be sure that our business is done legally and all that. Welcome back honourable gentlemen who had temporarily left us.

The council of Deer Lake are in a very strange and difficult position in that one agency of government - my Lord! two police, Sir, two members of the constabulary.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: We are expecting a riot.

MR. ROBERTS: Expecting a riot twenty-five past eight in the morning, after the House has met for twelve hours?

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The opposition has counted out numbers.

MR. ROBERTS: We certainly have in brains and in talent and in everything except mere quantity.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Do not let it go to your head though.

MR. ROBERTS: No. I do not want a head that looks like the gentleman from Trinity South. Now hold on. We had a word from the gentleman from Burgeo. Let us have it again.

MR. EVANS: Do not let it go to your head. It would take a long time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

MR. ROBERTS: I thank the Chairman for coming to my rescue against the onslaught which I am sustaining from the other side.

Now, Sir, the Town of Deer Lake are in a difficult position. One agency of the government, the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority, have ordered, properly I would suggest, to stop dumping raw sewage into Deer Lake, I suppose into the Humber River and then into the Deer Lake itself. I think that we should all welcome that. Deer Lake could become one of the scenic areas of the province. In the last two years they have cleaned up the lake front. They have made a park out there. It is very nice. So, that is one side, one hand of the government.

On the other hand, they have to get the money. I wonder if the minister could tell us, please, what he purports to do about it. I understand the CAWSA deadline is only a year or two away. Presumably work would have to go ahead this year or at the very latest next year. The council in Deer Lake is quite concerned about it. You know they have to have some assurance. What it is going to mean is

that the government is going to have to give them the money one way or another.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we are aware of the problem in Deer Lake. I do not know all of the details of it and I am sure that the honourable Leader of the Opposition would not expect me to be able to anticipate all of the different types of questions which one can ask from all of the different places in Newfoundland.

The STP deal, a sewer treatment programme, which operates under CMHC facilities and financing, is not all that it should be. We are told here again that there is going to be some improvement in terms of cost sharing. We are very cognizant of the need. We have been in discussions with the Town Council of Deer Lake. Unfortunately, because there is not enough money to do all of the things at once, we have to try and get some balances in terms of providing water without sewer, some just water and sewer without treatment. Certainly in that particular area treatment is very important. We will hopefully be negotiating this in the next DREE agreement when we get around to that.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder would the minister inform the committee or maybe the expert on the South Shore of Conception Bay would tell us who is responsible for approving the installation of septic tanks on the South Shore of Conception Bay.

I am told, Mr. Chairman - I do not know if it is true or not - that there is favoritism in granting permits to install septic tanks. For instance, a gentleman called me the other day and told me that a block of land had been frozen - I will not mention the community - for several years past. The owner wanted to put up two or three houses down there. He could not get permission to install a septic tank. He put a little pressure on either the Minister of Municipal Affairs or the Minister of Health and got approval to put in the septic tank and the houses are now being built. Other people in the area cannot get approval to install a septic tank. Would the minister outline the

procedure that one has to go through down on the South Shore of
Conception Bay. Do they have to make an application to the
Department of Health? Are inspections carried out?

Is there in fact any favouritism or is this just a figment of somebody's imagination?

As far as the honourable member is concerned, the junior member for Harbour Main, Sir, I was on an "Open Line Programme" -

AN HON. MEMBER: The senior member, believe it or not.

MR. NEARY: The senior member. I was on "Phone Forum" recently and one of his constituents called me and asked me about one of the petitions that he spoke about. I said, "Well why do you not take it up with your member?" Because far be it from me, Sir, to get involved in another member's district. I do not cut across electoral boundaries, Sir, I have enough problems to look after my own. So I said, "why do you not get in touch with your member? I have tried," he said, "one hundred times and I cannot get through to him. Cannot get through to him. Cannot reach the member. He will not talk to me." That is what he told me. He told me on the phone and the whole of Newfoundland heard it, if they were listening to "Phone Forum" that morning.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: It is all right for the member to get up and tell us that everything is well done. Maybe it is and I hope it is because they need that town council up the shore there. But at least the minority groups should have their rights too, they should be heard. The member should at least listen to them. Whether he agrees with them or not, he should allow them to go through the democratic process. But I am not particularly interested in that, that is just an incidental comment. Sir, what I am interested in is the procedure regarding the installation of septic tanks on the south shore of Conception Bay.

How long more does the minister expect this to continue? Because the whole area is contaminated, polluted.

MR. COLLINS: It did not happen last night either.

AN HON. MEMBER: Five years ago we were talking about that.

MR. NEARY: Is the survey to put in a water and sewerage system on the south shore of Conception Bay, is that completed yet? And if it

is, when will the government take steps to implement the plan?

MR. COLLINS: Of course a lot of the questions which the honourable Leader of the Opposition is asking, Mr. Chairman, should properly be directed to the Local Improvement District of Conception Bay South. They are an incorporated body. To deal with the first part of the question, if someone want to put in a septic tank, he makes application to the town council or in this case the Local Improvement District. They in turn are required to contact the Department of Health or the individual can do that. But certainly the Department of Health must first inspect the area, select the site. They need a blueprint then of how the septic tank is suppose to be installed in the ground, The Department of Health are the people who do it. I do not recall ever hearing from anyone concerning the installation of a tank or anything else there. The honourable member has some information which would indicate, without any pressure to bear, I would be glad to see it.

MR. NEARY: The Department of Health's arm was twisted I think.

MR. COLLINS: I would doubt that because the Health Inspection Division people I think are quite capable themselves.

MR. DAWE: To me there appears to be an underlying insidious accusation in what the honourable member has said.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Mr. Chairman, that is not true and I ask the honourable minister to retract what he said. There is nothing insidious in what I said. I genuinely had a phone -

MR. DAWE: There is so, Sir.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir. I genuinely -

MR. MURPHY: Inaudible.

MR. DAWE: If that is not insidious -

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, what I said -

AN HON. MEMBER: Sure it is.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I said that I was told that Sir, by a few people on the south shore of Conception Bay and I did not know whether it was true or not, I asked the minister to clarify it. Now, Sir, that is not insidious and I ask that minister, that yogi bear, to retract that statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The expression "yogi bear" I appreciate that the honourable member wants to speak to a point of order by all means, but the expression "yogi bear" as applied to another honourable member of this House is certainly in poor taste and not at all parliamentary.

MR. NEARY: What about the point of order, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I may, the honourable minister has gotten up to say something but the honourable member did not allow him to finish so we do not know what he was going to say.

MR. NEARY: It was a personal attack on me, Sir, and I ask the honourable minister to withdraw it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member did not get to the point of really expressing -

MR. NEARY: Well all right let him restate what he said, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman, I said that there was an underlying insidious insinuation in what the honourable the member for Bell Island said.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, to a point of order.

MR. DAWE: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, there was no underlying insidious accusation and I ask the member to withdraw that, Sir, that is not true.

MR. CHAIRMAN: With respect to the point of order, Sir, the minister has not yet had an opportunity to say what he was going to say. That is, if we heard what he was going to say -

MR. NEARY: But he said enough to be unparliamentary, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

MR. DAWE: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I rule that is not so. Would the minister continue to say what he has to say.

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman, there is an underlying insidious accusation, Sir, against me. It appears that he is accusing me of favouritism

that certain people can get permits to install septic tanks and certain other people cannot get permits to install septic tanks, Sir, and to me that is indeed insidious. He also accused me of not communicating with certain people within the district which is crazy, It is not true. My phone never stops ringing and people have often come to my door and knocked on my door and are welcome at any time. I have lived in the district all my life and this is something which I have lived with for as long as I can remember, Sir, because my father was the type of person -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, to a point of order, please. Before the honourable member gets us in tears, Mr. Chairman, the honourable member said that I accused him of showing favouritism in the issuing of permits to install septic tanks in his district. Sir, that is not true not true. That is a downright lie, Sir, and I ask the member to retract it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Ah, keep quiet! Keep quiet, you clown!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. F. W. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, speaking to the point of order, I was listening very carefully to what my honourable colleague said, He had simply pointed out that he was saying what he had been told and I cannot remember my honourable colleague mentioning the minister at all in this matter, as a matter of fact, a few weeks ago, Mr. Chairman I presented a petition to the House in which the same kind of complaints were made and nobody took that up as an insidious insinuation.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I would like you to rule on the point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair rules that this is a set of disputed facts in which the honourable the member for Bell Island has one view and the minister has another view. If in cases of disputed facts (these are not properly points of order) if the member disagrees with the fact he is at perfect liberty to state his view on the facts at another time. But the fact that the minister has a different view

of facts then the honourable member does not prohibit the minister from saying it; it does not prohibit the honourable member from saying that he disagrees.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, with all respect, I think Your Honour has missed the point. The senior member for Harbour Main stated, Sir, a few moments ago, that I accused him of favouritism in the issuing of permits to install septic tanks in the District of Harbour Main. I say, Sir, that I did not say that. I did not refer to the member or the minister, That is untrue and the member should withdraw that statement. Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable minister is satisfied that the honourable member had no such intent, perhaps he should say so. The honourable member has withdrawn and assured the House that he had no such intent, Do I hear the honourable member correctly, honourable member for Bell Island, that there was no such intent? Would the minister be prepared to accept his retraction?

MR. NEARY: What retraction? No, Mr. Chairman, that is the member who has to retract.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! I understand the honourable the member for Bell Island to have said that he intended no such slur on the minister, in so many words.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, not only did I not intend it, Sir, it was not even in my mind. I did not say it. I did not infer it and that minister who just attacked me personally in this House, Sir, should withdraw his statement.

Mr. Chairman, let me repeat what the minister said, I know everybody is drowsy this hour of the morning but for God sake let us look at the rules of the House! The member said that I had inferred, Sir, that he as member for the District of Harbour Main had shown favouritism And I did not refer to the member for Harbour Main, Sir, I did not refer to the minister. I asked a question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, if that inferred he had shown favouritism in the issuing of permits in the District

of Harbour Main, Sir, but I did not make any such accusations, any such inference, any such charge, it never entered my mind. Sir,

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: I am on a point of order here now.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are?

MR. NEARY: I am.

AN HON. MEMBER: Well you would never know it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would permit. If no attack, no slur nor anything were intended with respect to the -

MR. NEARY: The attack was on me, Your Honour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one moment please. If no attack were intended on the honourable minister and the member says that, I am sure the House is prepared to accept this statement -

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, the attack is on me not that member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair rules that there was no attack on the honourable member for Bell Island. The minister expressed his view of what was said. Now surely we can continue with the work of the committee and dispense with further discussion on this.

Shall Heading 03-02 carry?

MR. NEARY: There is no apology, Mr. Chairman, what I said I stand by it. Mr. Chairman, I am going to repeat what I said.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why do you not repeat it?

MR. NEARY: I will repeat it. Mr. Chairman, I want to put the question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the member asks a question to the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs whose estimates are being discussed -

MR. NEARY: Ah take it easy, Mr. Chairman! Take it easy, do not be so jumpy! Take it easy.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one moment please.

May I remind the member that there is a certain way to address the Chair and a certain way to conduct business.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair is observing every -

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The Chair is extending every courtesy to the honourable member. I would ask that the same be extended in return.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I will give the Chair the courtesy that it deserves.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The courtesy that the Chair is due.

MR. NEARY: The courtesy that the Chair deserves then is due.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am going to go -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Without being unnecessarily offensive.

MR. NEARY: No, I am not being unnecessarily offensive, Sir. We have had enough of one-sided debate in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member has a question, would he please ask it?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I will cross-examine the minister on the estimates at my own leisure. I do not have to be pushed, bullied by anybody in this honourable House. I am going to put the question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs again that I put to him before. I hope that members are awake long enough this time to hear what I say.

It was reported to me, Sir, by a couple of people on the south shore of Conception Bay that there was favouritism involved in the issuing of permits to install septic tanks on the south shore of Conception Bay. I do not know whether that is true or not, Mr. Chairman. I do not know whether it is true or not and I could not care less. If it were true I would care but I do not know whether it is true. So I am putting the question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to tell me what the procedure is for people who want to install septic tanks on building lots on the south shore of Conception Bay? Do they have to apply to the Local Improvement

Council? Do they have to apply to the minister's department? Do they have to apply to the Department of Health? And if so, what procedure do they have to go through? If they have to apply to the Local Improvement Council, is that then passed over to the Department of Health, and they have the final decision? Who makes the final decision? Is it the Local Improvement Council? Is it the minister's department? Or is it the Department of Health?

Now, Sir, I think the committee has a right to have that information. That is all I ask the minister. The member for Harbour Main got up and personally attack me. Sir, if the member for Harbour Main want the truth of it, I will give it to him but he will not like it I can tell Your Honour that. I will give it to him about the septic tanks.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I already answered the question. If in the area of Conception Bay South and a person is living within the incorporated area and he wants to install a septic tank on his property, he makes application to the Local Improvement District, the Local Improvement Council or he can go to the Department of Health. The Department of Health has the responsibility of selecting the area on the plot where a septic tank should go. In the event, if the Department of Health should in their wisdom think that there might be some possibility of polluting other pieces of land, brooks or streams or whatever, then we should call in the CAUSA people to have them look at it as well.

MR. NEARY: Now, Mr. Chairman, I also asked the minister another question in conjunction with that. I asked the minister if he could tell us how long more this arrangement will continue? When will water and sewerage be implemented on the south shore of Conception Bay? Does the minister have any idea? Is the survey yet completed? If so, when will construction start?

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, the survey is not completed, in fact the survey is not started. We just received the St. John's Urban Renewal Study. The problem in Conception Bay, and it is a very real

problem as all honourable members opposite must realize, a very costly one to cope with, it is being considered and please goodness something can be done in due course!

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, would the honourable minister inform the House if he refused any applications for the formation of local councils? How many applications do his department have now for areas to be incorporated as local improvement districts or given local community council status such as local improvement district or community councils? How many applications are before the department now?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, that is another question which I did not anticipate. There are a number possibly in the order of twenty or twenty-five places which have applied. Some of them have not met the various criteria, whether it is for community council, local improvement district or what, because the criterion differs -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. COLLINS: I can get the information for the honourable member but I have not got it with me.

AN HON. MEMBER: Would the clerk count the members, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a quorum in the House. The minister may proceed.

MR. COLLINS: I am finished, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 03-02 carry?

MR. WOODWARD: No before you carry it, Mr. Chairman, there are a number of communities especially in my own district that have made representation to the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing -

MR. NEARY: Could we have another quorum call, Mr. Chairman?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: We want fourteen on that side.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! The honourable the member for Labrador North has the floor.

MR. WOODWARD: There has been an application before the department from the community of Postville for some six or eight months now and the people are waiting to see whether they will get the

formation of a local council. I have talked to the minister and his officials about the formation of a council in the Community of Muddy Lake, Maybe the minister can inform the Committee what action is going to be taken in this respect.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, as I have just said, I really cannot recall those particular ones because with so many of them coming in, but I will certainly undertake to get the information for the honourable member. I will make a note of it.

On motion 03-02 carried.

On motion 03-03 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 03-04 carry?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, would the minister give us the names of the members of the Metropolitan Area Board and if they are receiving a salary and how much salary they are receiving? Or if they are just getting paid by the meeting? How much a meeting? How much the Chairman gets? How much each member of the Metropolitan Board receives for each meeting? I believe the Chairman is paid, Mr. Chairman, I would like for the minister -

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I believe I tabled that a couple of days ago, but I have it here again. The Chairman of the Board is Mr. John R. O'Dea; the members are Mrs. Joan Roberts; G.C. Carnell, here by statute, of the St John's City Council and J.M. Fagan; also Mayor Ashford of the Town of Mount Pearl, Mr. Ron Casey, Mr. William Dalton, Mr. Thomas Green. The Chairman is receiving \$10,000 per year and the members are receiving \$35.00 per meeting.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Joan Roberts, is that Jim's wife, Mr. J. B. Roberts?

MR. COLLINS: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I really do not know.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, is Mr. Gordon Power on this board?

MR. COLLINS: No.

MR. NEARY: No. Is Mr. Power still down in the minister's office?

MR. COLLINS: In what minister's office?

MR. NEARY: He used to be down on the same floor right next door to where the minister had his office?

MR. COLLINS: Is the honourable member referring to the former, I do not know, maybe it is present assistant deputy minister of -
Mr. Power who was the deputy minister.

MR. NEARY: Of Supply and Services.

MR. COLLINS: He does not work for me, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: He has not been appointed to the Metropolitan Board recently? That is interesting. What about Mr. Duncan Sharpe who took his place on the board?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No, that is right, he was on the St. John's Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 03-04 carry?

On motion 03-04 carried.

On motion 03-05 through 03-07 carried.

MR. NEARY: Item 03-08, is not carried, Mr. Chairman, we want to get some details on this from the minister. It is a paving grant \$775,000.

MR. COLLINS: That is the paving programme which we have of fifty/fifty cost sharing arrangement with the municipalities. Last year the following municipalities took advantage of that programme, Burin, Corner Brook, Fortune, Grand Bank and Marystown.

MR. NEARY: Do I understand then the minister correctly, that this is to pay for work that has already been done or is it work to be done in the coming year?

MR. COLLINS: This will be work for this year, I mentioned the places that took advantage of it last year.

MR. NEARY: Well will the minister tell us then what communities will receive paving grants this year?

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, I cannot say that because we are receiving application and we will probably be receiving them all during the summer and which ones we will be able to help I really

cannot say. I can probably get the information at a later date.
Mr. Chairman, it is not available in the department at the present time.

MR. NEARY: Well how did the minister arrive at a figure of \$775,000? Why was it not \$1 million or \$10 million? Why \$775,000?

MR. COLLINS: We would like to make it \$775 million but we know we cannot afford that and this is a programme which we feel will be much appreciated by the municipalities.

MR. NEARY: Well I know it will and I am all for it. I am glad to see a programme that was started by the former Liberal Administration being continued.

MR. COLLINS: And cancelled out and we -

MR. NEARY: And cancelled out by our successors and now it is reinstated again.

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, the past administration, give them all the credit in the world, introduced the programme in 1966 and withdrew it in 1968 and we reintroduced it last year.

MR. NEARY: Now, Mr. Chairman,

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: A good Liberal concept, Sir. Seven hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. The minister's official must have arrived at that figure in some way or another. He just did not pulck it out of the air. They must have had some communities in mind. Does the minister not have a list of the communities in front of him that are going to get these paving grants this year? Can the minister get a list?

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, we do not have it in the department yet.

MR. NEARY: Can the minister get a list?

MR. COLLINS: I will get it when it becomes available.

MR. NEARY: Well when will it become available? The minister's department has not made the selections yet?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, this work is done by municipalities

we do not know what municipalities might apply. There might have been one or two in already but certainly there will be others to come. It will be done on the basis of priorities. Many municipalities would like to take advantage of it but cannot because they cannot afford their fifty per cent. We really do not know and the department does not know at this time.

MR. NEARY: I know I am naive and gullible, Mr. Chairman, but I am not that gullible. Sir, I would submit that the minister could if he wanted too could provide us with a list because there are a number of applications on file right now and have been for years.

MR. COLLINS: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Every town council in Newfoundland, Sir, has made an application for a paving grant on the fifty/fifty provincial cost sharing programme. I will bet you that the minister has applications stacked that high down in his office.

MR. COLLINS: There are a good many down there.

MR. NEARY: There are a good many down there, of course there are, Sir. But the minister does not see fit for some reason or other to give us the list of the communities that are going to receive grants this year. So I cannot force him to give me the information, Sir, I cannot beat it out of him, I can only plead with him to give them to me.

MR. COLLINS: We do some paving in the honourable member's district but let him make the announcement.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear, fine, that is a good idea, Sir, but I do not think they have an application in. Is the minister receiving applications now from municipalities for these paving grants?

MR. COLLINS: I get a fair amount of mail.

MR. NEARY: Well, the minister -

MR. ROWE, W.N. He does not answer it either.

MR. COLLINS: Oh, never you mind!

MR. NEARY: Is the deadline closed? Have the selections been made? Is there any point in the municipalities -

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, there have been no selections made yet.

MR. NEARY: No selections, so it is wide open, Mr. Chairman, so any community council, any town council, any local improvement district in the province still has a chance to get under the deadline. There is still a possibility of sharing in this fifty/fifty cost sharing programme for paving in municipalities. Good! Glad to hear it, Sir!

On motion 03-08 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 03-09 carry?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, this is water and sewerage, \$3,400,000. Could the minister give us some indication of where water and sewerage projects will be carried out this coming year? Surely he must have a list of that, \$3,400,000.

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, we do not have a list of that either. This particular vote of course reflects our subsidies on water and sewerage systems. I have a number of places where water and sewerage systems became operational last year, in 1972, if the honourable member would like to hear them.

MR. NEARY: No, I am not interested in what became operational, If, Sir, the minister could table that information, I should be glad to have it for my records. But what I want to know, Sir is what work is going to be done this year in providing water and sewerage facilities for our people? What communities are on the minister's little list he has downstairs somewhere, a list of priorities by district? No doubt they are done by districts, Sir. The minister does not have the list. Well can he get the list? No answer.

Well let me try this out on the minister then, Mr. Chairman,

MR. COLLINS: Does the honourable member want an answer?

MR. NEARY: Yes, I want an answer.

MR. COLLINS: Any water and sewerage systems which are provided or are to be provided are provided by the municipalities. The money is not reflected here at all, it is under capital works, Really

we do not know precisely what we will have for capital works for this year's operation as yet but please goodness it will be as good as last year, it might be a little bit better.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, can you understand the minister coming into this House and asking for \$3,400,000 -

MR. COLLINS: That is for last year's and the previous year's subsidies.

MR. NEARY: And not knowing, Mr. Chairman, where the work is going to be done. It does not make sense to me, Sir. Maybe I am naive.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, this is not for work to be done this year but is for subsidies on previous programmes.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, I submit that quite a bit of this is for new work, new construction, quite a bit of it.

MR. COLLINS: The honourable the Leader of the Opposition knows.

MR. NEARY: My honourable friend the Minister of Rural Development will be interested in this vote I am sure.

Sir, if I cannot get the information maybe I can go through a little list that I have here where communities have written to me to ask if we would try to get information out of the minister concerning these communities. One, Sir, is from the Community of Old Perlican. I understand, Mr. Chairman, that there is not one water and sewerage system in the District of Bay de Verde and that Old Perlican is the only municipality in that district and the people over there, Sir, would like to know from the Minister of Municipal Affairs if their community is going to get a water and sewerage system this year. Is their community on the list? Will they be lucky enough to get water and sewerage this year? God only knows they have been waiting for it all long enough.

MR. COLLINS: How many years?

MR. NEARY: The honourable member down there will agree with me. And they want to know. Could the minister give me a simple yes or no answer?

MR. COLLINS: I really do not know, Mr. Chairman, the people could possibly find out from the town council what there chances are.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, if they could find out from their town council they would not have asked me to put the question to the minister.

MR. COLLINS: Well if some of the constituents in Old Perlican wanted information they can go to the town council.

MR. NEARY: Well, Sir, I submit right here and now to the honourable minister that the town council do not know and that they are frustrated, they are waiting to hear from the minister. The minister has the information locked up down in his office. He will not give it to anybody. He will not give it to this committee. We are putting through \$3 400,000 and we cannot find out if there is going to be a water and sewerage system installed in Old Perlican this year.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we are not asking this committee to approve or disapprove any money for water and sewerage programmes this year. The figure we are looking at in the estimates here reflects our water system subsidy which now pays for projects which were done last year and the year before and years ago. Any monies which are going to be spent this year will be on capital account and will be made available in the form of guaranteed loans. It does not appear in our estimates, unlike other departments.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am not going to get the answer for the people in Old Perlican so I will try to get some information for the poor old constituents out there in the District of St. George's. The town applied, Sir, a year or two ago, for a DREE grant but to no avail. A design for a water and sewerage system for the Town of St. George's was completed by Gorman Butler Associates years ago, put on the shelf, Sir, and nothing done about it. I would like to ask the minister now on behalf of the residents in the Town of St. George's out there in the beautiful scenic District of St.

George's if the minister is going to approve a water and sewerage system for that town this year? Let him get his drag, Mr. Chairman, get his drag.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the Town of St. George's is one of or the largest single town in the province without water and sewerage. I do not know when they made the first application, several years ago I would suspect, We did include it in our list of projects when negotiation on the revision to the second DREE agreement. It was not approved by the federal authorities. I do not want to criticize the federal authorities too much but they did not see fit to approve it. We are considering other ways and means of trying to do something for them.

MR. NEARY: Well I did get a little bit of encouragement for my honourable friend's constituents who are out there in the District of St. George's. I hope the minister follows through on that.

Now, Sir, I would like to go to bat for the poor, old, neglected constituents of my honourable friend, the member for Burgeo, the people of Burgeo. Sir, the people down in Burgeo, the town council, need an estimated \$100,000 to provide water and sewerage facilities in the new subdivision.

What is the minister going to do about this? Sure the honourable member for Burgeo has been knocking on his door day and night, hounding the minister, trying to get a hundred thousand dollars to extend water and sewerage facilities in the Town of Burgeo. Well, the honourable member never even heard of it. He has only been in Burgeo I think once since he got elected in March of last year, maybe twice. No wonder he has not even heard of it. Well, I heard of it. The honourable member's constituents could not get in touch with him so they got in touch with me. So I would like to ask the minister what is going to be done about this request, this very reasonable and sensible request from the Town of Burgeo.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, if any supports of the honourable member's party left to cross Newfoundland, I can see them coming back with maybe four or five hundred place names and asking what we are going to do about their needs for this year. We will have a certain amount of money to make available to town councils in the form of guaranteed loans for water and sewer projects and other types of projects. We have not yet decided which places will be done this year. Certainly we must all agree that they all cannot be done this year nor indeed next year. As soon as we have decided what systems are to go ahead, we will certainly announce it. I am not in a position to do it now.

MR. NEARY: I am sure, Mr. Chairman, the honourable member for Burgeo cannot wait for this House to close to get down to Burgeo to tell the people down there, "Look, the minister is in a state of indecision, he could not give us an answer," because that is what he just did, Sir.

MR. EVANS: It seems that the member from Bell Island has gotten into my district where he has no business, as usual. I was down in the district just after New Year's.

MR. ROBERTS: Happy New Year.

MR. EVANS: The same to you. The mayor in one of the towns in my constituency asked me if I knew Mr. Neary, the member from Bell

Island. I said, "Of course, we all know him."

"Well," he said, "we have a letter from him offering his help in anything that we needed here in -"

MR. NEARY: Is this a point of order, Mr. Chairman?

MR. EVANS: Just a minute. I said, "What did you tell him?"

He said, "We told him that we have the best representation we have ever had in our life, especially from the Liberal Government."

MR. NEARY: Well, Sir, now that the honourable member brought it up: To that point of order, what this gentleman did tell me was that the member for Burgeo abused the welfare officer and the fishery officers in Burgeo. That is what I was told by that honourable gentleman, that the welfare officer in Burgeo was severely reprimanded by his minister because of false information from -

MR. EVANS: A point of privilege, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. If the honourable member will permit. Both honourable members are digressing into matters which are certainly irrelevant to water and sewerage. However, honourable members are asked to get on with the job, water and sewerage, 1911-03-09.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your Honour is right as usual. I am very grateful for your ruling, Sir.

Now, I would like to move on to that great district of Humber East I think it is. Unfortunately the member for Humber East is not in his seat tonight. What about water and sewerage for the Town of Pasadena or not water and sewerage but what about sewerage? Anything in the estimates this year? Is there a start going to be made on providing a sewerage system for the Town of Pasadena this year? Nothing for Pasadena this year. Okay. I hope the member when he goes back will be able to tell his constituents: "Nothing this year!"

I am sure that my honourable friend, the member for Labrador South, will be interested to know, Sir, that some of his poor, old

constituents down in West St. Modeste who are interested in water and sewerage. This community has a request before the department, before the minister. I would like to know if the prayer of their petition, Sir, is going to be answered this year? Will a start be made on water and sewerage in West St. Modeste, in Southern Labrador, this year?

MP. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I will give him the answer to that.

None of the monies which might be spent this year on water and sewerage programmes is reflected in our estimates. It is done by the way of a guaranteed loan. As soon as we have decided what monies we will have to spend and we have decided on what the capital works project will be, we will have an announcement in the House.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, whether it is shown here or not, Sir, the minister should know by now. Here it is the thirteenth, Friday, April 13. No wonder they are so jumpy on the other side. No wonder there is a dark cloud over them, Sir, "Black Friday."

The minister should know by now what water and sewerage projects are going to be done this year and where they are going to be done and how much they are going to cost. I submit, Sir, that his officials downstairs on the main floor have that information. I do not know why the minister will not give it to the committee. So, nothing for West St. Modeste this year. My honourable friend will be able to go back after the House closes and report to Mr. Moores and all of my good friends in West St. Modeste, "No water and sewerage this year."

Now I come to a beaut here, Sir. This is a beauty and this one is rather urgent. It concerns a water and sewerage system for the Town of Dover in Bonavista Bay. I am told, Mr. Chairman, that sixty per cent of the town's water, drinking water, is unsatisfactory according to the Department of Health. Now, surely the minister must know this. If he does not, he should. If he does not know it, I am telling him now. Sixty per cent of the drinking water in the Town of

Dover is unfit for human consumption. Now, surely this has been brought to the minister's attention. He should be able to tell the committee if there is going to be a water and sewerage system started this year in the Town of Dover in Bonavista Bay.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I cannot say at this moment.

MR. NEARY: He cannot give us the information. We are not getting much out of the honourable minister, Sir.

Let us go down to that great historic district of Placentia East. We heard the member for Placentia East in this honourable House a few weeks ago, Sir, tell us about how all of the water in the district of Placentia, Jersey side, Southeast was polluted. The member was in deadly fear that there was going to be an outbreak down there, Sir. I think he was right. I know the area fairly well. Now, his poor old constituents in Southeast, Placentia, want to know what is going to be done about water and sewerage for that part of Placentia. It is on the outskirts of the Town of Placentia. Will a start be made there this year to install water and sewerage?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the question should be referred to the Placentia Town Council.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, they cannot get the information from the town council because the town council does not have the information. They are waiting to hear from the minister.

All right, Sir, let us move out in Central Newfoundland again.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Obstruction.

MR. NEARY: This is not obstruction. These are requests that I have to get information on. They are in writing. You would be surprised who writes the honourable member and the phone calls that we get, Sir. The government closed the door. They are operating a closed-door policy. These town councils, school boards, individuals have to come to the opposition. We will put the pressure on. Do not worry, we will keep the pressure on until some of these projects are

started .

Now, Sir, out in the community of Point Leamington, a beautiful little community, Sir, I had the pleasure of being there a year ago for their Point Leamington Day. It is a beautiful, thriving little community, Sir. They asked me if I would put the question to the honourable minister of when their water and sewerage project would get under way. Can the minister give us any information on that?

MR. COLLINS: No.

MR. NEARY: No. No information. Well now, Sir, I will get back to my own little area of Conception Bay. I am going to move in to that great district of Harbour Grace. Despite all the efforts that have been made, Sir, to install water and sewerage in the Town of Harbour Grace, there are still areas of that town, Sir, that are not serviced with water. It would not cost very much I am told to expand the water and sewerage system in the Town of Harbour Grace. No representation has been made yet, to my knowledge, by the member. Maybe there was, I do not know. If the member has made representation to the minister, Sir, I am right behind him because his constituents over in Harbour Grace are very concerned about this.

MR. YOUNG: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I do not know about that, Sir. I cannot say that. I was not told that.

MR. YOUNG: Island Cove.

MR. NEARY: Oh yes, Island Cove. That is right. I was told they cannot see him in Island Cove but I was not told that they could not see him in Harbour Grace. So, Sir, I would like for the minister to tell us if there is anything in this vote or in any other vote forthcoming to extend water lines in the Town of Harbour Grace?

MR. COLLINS: All those places are under consideration, Mr. Chairman.

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Chairman, I think that he is just prolonging debate. Down in the Department of Municipal Affairs now there is a five year

plan for Harbour Grace, water and sewerage, to finish it. I am sure that - I do not know how long - but apparently it took twenty-three years to get water and sewerage extended. There was water and sewerage in Harbour Grace over a hundred years ago. I am sure within that five year plan that the town council and McNamara have drawn up that we will have at least - there are places in Harbour Grace probably where we could not get water and sewerage there. I know there are some places like Stratton's Hill and these places. It is quite difficult to get water at Long's Hill. I am sure that we will do a better job that you did in the last twenty-three years.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am merely doing my duty, in this House, to the people of this province. That is why we are elected, Sir, to this House. Sir, as long as I am in this House I will continue to serve the people of this province. I will run an open-door policy not a closed-door policy. I am accessible to any person in this province who wants to get in touch with me. I will help them any way that I can.

Now, Sir, let us move down the South Coast to that little Town of Belleoram. It badly needs a water and sewerage system, Mr. Chairman. Winsor is the first municipality. The water lines as I understand are in pretty poor shape and the whole system needs to be replaced. They have a request before the Minister of Municipal Affairs. What is going to be done about this one? Anything going to be done.

MR. EARLE: With the minister's permission I might answer that one and save the honourable member some wear on his jaw. He must be getting tired. Belleoram, he will be interested to know, is presently working on the extension to their water system. They are not only going to get it, they are in the process of putting it in.

MP. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am not getting tired. As a matter of fact I have my batteries recharged. I am good now till six o'clock tomorrow

morning, if honourable members want to try to ram these estimates through the House without giving us any information. They are so anxious, Sir, to get down to Florida and down to the Caribbean they cannot wait to get the House closed.

I do not have to ask about Main Brook in my honourable friend's district because my honourable friend has that well in hand. That is the real reason, Sir, to get the House closed.

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, I hope that all the answers, the state of indecision of the government on these question that I put on these various communities will be properly recorded and that the people in these districts will see that this crowd who went around promising water and sewerage and paved roads in two provincial elections have no intention of fulfilling these promises at least this year, Sir.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, during the summer of last year I brought to the attention of the honourable minister and his department the number of areas in my district of Labrador North where there was to be some action taken with the regard to especially water because of the particular situations where we had a number of communities with contaminated water. There is a lot of publicity given. There are a number of reports made. One was made by Doctor Patten, for the Grenfell Mission in Labrador. This was very alarming.

Conditions as far as water is concerned have not improved. There have been a number of reports made and a number of surveys done but I am not yet satisfied as to what action the government is going to take this year to correct the situation that exists. We had one particular community, the Community of Makkovik, that the hospital recorded some fifty-seven cases of hepatitis in.

We have another community of North West River, the Indian side of the river, which was completely turned down by the Department of Health. The water was unsafe for drinking.

We have another, the Community of Nain, in which the water supply was condemned by the Department of Health. A warning went out to the people not to drink the water unless they first boiled it, as it was unsafe for drinking purposes.

We also have a disturbing report - I see that the honourable member for Labrador South is in his seat - from the community of Cartwright where there was an alarming report on the condition of the water in that community. Several letters have been written. Several reports have been made to the government. I have been in touch with the Department of Labrador Services who over the years have been trying to piece together a water supply, doing the water supply systems on a piecemeal basis, putting a little bit of pipe here, driving a well there and really not coming up with anything substantial as to a permanent-type solution to the problems that exist. Over the winter months we have had the public health inspector go around on a monthly basis taking water samples from the communities, reporting back to the Department of Health. I am told as recent as last week that the conditions have not improved. In a number of cases they have gotten worse. So, I was wondering and I have asked the Department of Labrador Services if they would in turn get in touch with the Department of Municipal Affairs with respect to developing an over-all plan for the Communities of Makkovik, Hopedale, Nain and also for the Community of North West River.

I understand that the BRJNCO people have some concern regarding our water supply in the Community of North West River because of the restriction that was imposed during the Sail Lake dykeing. They imposed some restrictions on the Naskaunt River. Consequent to lowering the level of water in the Grand Lake area, The sea water has crept in from the Lake Melville. Consequently the water in the communities has a certain amount of salt. So, maybe the minister can tell me, to satisfy the people in those coastal communities, what action has been taken, if there is anything

in this particular vote with regard to the installation of water and sewerage in the coastal communities or the four or five coastal communities of Labrador North, to include Labrador South, the Cartwright Area. Also if they have been in contact with the BRINCO people with respect to BRINCO assisting and helping in correcting the water supply system at North West River.

MR. MARTIN: This kind of debate I think re-enforces what I have long thought of the workings of government, that perhaps they are not really working at all but just floundering along from day to day. I do not point the finger at any one political party or any one administration, it just seems that they get caught up in a system over which they lose control quite often.

Last year there was a task force from the Premier's office, just before the election in Labrador South, which went down to study several problems. Among them was the water situation. That was brought on by a report, I think emanating from the IGA, about a crisis in certain communities. Now, just as an indication of the kind of bureaucratic cuff-huffle we get into once in a while, I would like to go down, Mr. Chairman, through a series of circumstances that brought us to this stage.

In 1967-1968 I was dispatched, as a civil servant, from the Department of Community and Social Development to the Labrador Coast to, amongst other things, find out what the situation was with regard to community services. In the Community of Cartwright, amongst others - this one stands out in particular because it has come back to haunt us since - as a result of a public meeting we put together a brief to the Provincial Government on the water sources and water supply. Somehow or other that never, ever got any action. I do not believe that it even got any reaction from the government. We worked then into this terrible resettlement thing.

Mr. Chairman, prior to 1965, before resettlement started, we had been pretty well in control of the situation on the Labrador Coast.

We had not gone in to pollute each others water supplies. We had maintained an even distance between dwelling houses so that we had good water and sewerage services of our own. Then we got resettlement and people were pushed in, crowding each other out, and consequently polluting each others water sources.

Last year when the election was on we heard from the IGA that there was a crisis in certain communities and that if something were not done very soon, we would have a major disaster. I think it is only a matter of luck that a typhoid bug or something has not been introduced there, that they have not been wiped out already. Well, as a result of that report and the subsequent outcry, a task force was dispatched from the Premier's office to go down and get the true facts of the matter. We had assumed, Mr. Chairman, that the whole thing had been taken in hand and that we were going to get the water and sewerage systems that we so obviously need. Now I hear the honourable minister tell us that we are not really talking about estimates for new water supplies and that we do not know whether or not there will be any, that it is up to the community councils themselves.

Now you see we get back again into the bureaucratic structure of the civil service and government administration because as far as that particular community council goes and I am sure many, many others, they are not aware of the procedures which they must follow in order to go about getting their water systems and all of the rest of it. Where do we start? Which is the chicken and which is the egg? Can the government go around saying that there is no responsibility upon this administration or any other administration to provide these services because the people in the community have not asked for them? Everybody is aware of the problem. Certainly they are aware of that particular problem in Cartwright because it was created by the government in the first place. It does not matter which government. It was created by a government administration.

I think if we are going to go about this in anything other than a disjointed fashion, that it is incumbent upon civil servants in the upper echelons of the service to make sure that these people who are elected in municipalities and communities are aware of the procedures of how they should go about it. My honourable friend from Bell Island mentioned West St. Modeste. I think here is a classic example. West St. Modeste needs a water system as bad as anywhere else. They have probably spent more money on trying to get their water system than anyone else in Labrador. They have spent very close to \$60,000. They still have not got a water system. The reason is that the money was passed over to local people to spend, who had no engineering ability, had no administrative ability. They went and did the best that they could. There is no suggestion that the money was spent improperly but it was certainly spent unwisely. This was over the last two years. It was a special election project. This particular matter, as far as I know, has been taken in hand. I have made representation on behalf of the people of West St. Modeste to the Department of Community Development or Rural Development now.

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, and I do hate to interrupt the honourable member but last year when we went into all-night session some of the members on this side of the House brought in with them cups of coffee and tea and so on. It was objected to by the opposition. Now I notice that breakfast is being served. I wonder if Your Honour would rule on this. I do not think that it is proper. We are certainly allowed to have water but I do not think that we are allowed to have coffee or tea or whatever. It was objected to last year, Sir. The ruling last year was that it was not permitted. Now I would appreciate Your Honour's ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair has no objection to any member taking tea within his seat, particularly under the circumstances of the all-night session.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, could we have another quorum call to get the members back in their seats?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We do have a quorum.

MR. NEARY: Okay, Sir. Sorry, but we have got to keep them in their seats. We need an audience when we are speaking.

MR. MARTIN: The point that I am trying to make, Mr. Chairman, is this, that it seems to me that there is far too much confusion in these communities who have simply organized for the sake of having a community council. In the community council in Cartwright in particular, I think they were the second community council to be organized on the coast. They have been in existence for fifteen or eighteen years. They still do not understand the functioning of government. Now, is that their fault or is that the fault of the department?

The point that I am going to make and the question that I would like to put to the honourable minister is this; if we are now debating estimates for expenditures in water and sewerage systems in the forthcoming year, where do we get at those estimates, those particular estimates in this document? Then having established that, where do we go from there? Where do the communities go from there? How do we go about following the proper established rules of procedure in getting our hands on the necessary capital to put in these water and sewerage systems?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, this is about the umpteenth time that I have explained this. None of the funds which will be spent this year in water and sewer programmes are reflected in our estimates for the simple reason that the monies which are made available for that purpose are made available to the individual communities involved, generally on a loan basis. This case on a guaranteed loan basis. The initiative must come from the communities. Certainly that is the whole idea of local government.

Now I have said before and I will say again in a few words, it is impossible for this government or any government, whoever they are

to find enough money in any given year to provide all of the needs for the people of Newfoundland in terms of water and sewerage. It is just impossible from a financial point of view. We are trying to do the best we can, bearing in mind the amount of money which we can afford to guarantee on the province's credit, what monies might be available from DREE. It is a very trying problem I can assure you. I would like to be able to do all of the places in the island next week but I know I cannot. I really do not know what the long-term answer is. The honourable member has said there are some weaknesses in local government. I could not agree with him more because the number of communities which have become incorporated during the past two or three years mainly, Mr. Chairman, I believe through being falsely advised, I should not say falsely advised but ill-advised sometimes in terms of thinking that once they become incorporated there is an unlimited tap in St. John's somewhere where money can be had, and very often people have become disappointed and understandably so.

What the long term answer is I really do not know. The royal commission are investigating the thing now and we have some very capable people on it. I have mentioned their names before and I do not want to mention them again. They are very capable people who are studying the local government structures, studying legislation, the manner in which finances are arranged and so on and so forth. What they will recommend I do not know but I have some ideas, I think, of what they might recommend because I think I know the problems and they are going to find them out too. Maybe we are going to have to move towards the establishment of a water commission or a water authority or a municipal board. I really do not know what it might be called but I believe that in time we will have to move in that particular direction, based I suppose on the principle of the Power Commission, because after all the Power Commission finds its roots or we can find its roots. It is the rise from the old diesel engines which were provided by

local government in various parts of Newfoundland and finally when they became unbearable, unmanageable and not practical and so on, and could not fill the need, the Power Commission was established to take on that particular job and eventually borrowed money and provided services and introduced uniform rates.

That is another problem in Newfoundland. Almost every and in fact every single municipality has a different form of tax, a different rate of tax. While there is a subsidy down in the department downstairs, I am sure the honourable Leader of the Opposition knows and honourable members opposite know too that in the past years the subsidy has been more or less thrown out the window because that was inadequate as well. I think this is the only solution to the problem, of course, to realize that people must have clean water and they must have the opportunity to be able to flush toilets. The only way I see to do it, as I said, is to establish a proper authority or commission or whatever and get about the job. Now they are not going to do it overnight either because their funds are also going to be limited but at least we will be doing it on a sensible, reasonable, sane approach to it. Maybe they will not recommend this at all but they are certainly looking at this because I have asked them to look into that particular aspect to see what is happening in other provinces and see how it might work in Newfoundland.

We will know when the fall arrives and the report is presented to us. Hopefully something will be done, as I said, so that all the people will be treated alike, as that is very important as well. There is very little uniformity now and I am reluctant to make any major policy decision because that would be a major policy decision. I believe if I were to do that now with the royal commission sitting, that I would be criticized certainly by the press and I would be certainly criticized by the people, and rightly so. I believe, with the capable people we have and with

the indepth study which they are doing, we should wait and see what they will come up with and please goodness we will have a better system.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the minister on a couple of occasions mentioned that there is nothing in this vote for water and sewerage projects that would be done next year. Sir, I do not know but the minister is leaving the wrong impression. This is the heading under which we discuss water and sewerage projects past, present and future. Is that correct?

MR. COLLINS: Past but not future.

MR. NEARY: Past present and future, Mr. Chairman. I contend that the minister -

MR. COLLINS: I can only give information and if he is not going to believe it that is all I can do about it.

MR. NEARY: Well, Sir, if we cannot discuss the future projects that are coming up, then the minister and his department must be doing it on a hit-and-miss basis. This is April, Sir, and they should be able to provide the House with a list by now of what water and sewerage projects are going to be undertaken this year. This information is available. The minister knows it is available and for some reason or other he will not give the information to the committee. I cannot beat it out of him, Sir.

Now the minister made a very interesting statement there a few moments ago when he was replying to my honourable friend here from Labrador South; that his department was thinking of setting up a water commission.

MR. COLLINS: No, I did not say that at all.

MR. NEARY: Well, he said that maybe a water commission was the answer to the question that my honourable friend raised.

MR. COLLINS: That is closer to what I said.

MR. NEARY: Is that a fair assumption, a fair analysis of what the minister said? Well, Sir, the minister on a number of occasions

talked about setting up committees down in his department. I think I heard him mention this water commission before in public.

MR. COLLINS: I have never mentioned it before.

MR. NEARY: Certainly I heard the minister talking about setting up a special committee in his department to meet all these delegations that were coming in from town councils to discuss water and sewerage. Am I correct in saying that the minister was thinking about that?

MR. COLLINS: We did consider that, yes.

MR. NEARY: You were considering it. Well, Sir, in my opinion this would be abdicating a responsibility. We have enough committees and commissions now, Sir, as a result of restructuring we do not need any more. Town councils, community councils, local improvement districts, Sir, that are coming to this government must be able to discuss these matters with the elected representatives of the people. They must be able to put a little bit of political pressure on. It must not become an impersonal thing. I think it would be very unwise for the minister to set up another commission, another bureaucracy that my friend talked about, make it more difficult to cut through all these layers of committees and special assistants and executive assistants and flunkies and what have you before you can get to the minister, before you can get to talk with the elected representative of the government. I think the minister should put this out of his mind.

I know it is hard work. It is hard slugging down in that department. It is hard work, Mr. Chairman, delegation after delegation after delegation but if the minister does not like it, nobody is forcing him to stay there. The Premier can always transfer him to the Department of Provincial Affairs. If you go out and you offer yourself for public life, Sir, and you get elected to this House and you are fortunate enough, have the privilege to become a minister, then you should be prepared to put up with the consequences.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I am not talking about setting up boards to get away from the people. That is not what I am talking about.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The honourable member for Bell Island is being irrelevant. The heading which we are discussing here is Item XIX - Municipal Affairs and Housing, section 1911(03)(09), water and sewerage systems, and I think that the honourable member should keep his remarks in that direction.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am most grateful for your ruling, Sir, it is the first in this honourable House, in twelve years since I have been here, that Your Honour when he was in the Chair earlier this morning withdrew a statement and apologized to a member, Sir. I guarantee you that Your Honour will have no trouble with me as far as the rule of relevance is concerned. I was only trying to discourage the minister from setting up another bureaucratic stumbling-block for delegations, like my honourable friend talked about, getting in to the department, getting in to see the minister. I hope the minister does not do that. I hope that people who come in looking for water and sewerage will have recourse to the minister and to the Premier and to their elected representatives. Sir, I do not think they should be denied that privilege even if the minister is getting bushed. Go ahead and take a couple of weeks in Florida, I do not care, but at least leave the door wide open so that the delegations can come in and see the minister whenever they feel like it.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, while I was speaking a few minutes ago I directed a number of questions to the honourable minister and I did not get a reply as to what plans his department has for water and sewerage in the areas that I talked about, in the district. Maybe it would save me time and save the honourable minister time. We have had a very dull night as there have not been too much excitement at all. To a lot of people it is an important issue and

I feel that we cannot lose this construction season without getting some work done, at least an initial start in a number of communities.

Mr. Ball from Provincial Planners has made recommendations and reports and the communities have sent in delegations that have met with the officials and I felt and they felt at the time of the budget we would know what money has been set aside for those programmes. The honourable Minister of Finance gave us a budget as to what the projected expenditures were going to be this year and I am sure that somewhere in this department or in the estimates for Municipal Affairs and Housing there is money. If it is not in here would the minister tell us, as he must have some idea, how much money that they are prepared to spend this year on water and sewerage installations, new installations in the communities. They must have gotten together. It is not the community councils, Mr. Chairman. I do not know how many community councils have made applications to the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing for such programmes. No doubt the minister's officials have put a dollar value by saying, "Look, we can do so much, and this is what the money will go after." Maybe if the minister does not know the exact communities and the amount of money that is going to be spent maybe he can give us an idea. I think budget time is the time when people look and say, "Look, what is in the budget for us?" And each community is orientated in this respect now. They are saying, "If it is not in the budget, then we do not get it for next year."

The honourable Minister of Finance, going back a couple of days ago and it seems like a couple of years ago, a couple of days ago was saying, "Less is more and more is less." So budgets are not budgets anymore. The money is not included in budgets. Mr. Chairman, I would think we are getting in a whirlwind of a tangle. We are getting everything confused. We are bringing down a budget but there is no money in there for water and sewerage. We do not put this money in the budget. Well, how do we get it,

Mr. Chairman? Is it included in the minister's speech? It is not in here.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, to a point of order, the honourable member is also a member of the local improvement district and he knows very well how the financing is done for municipalities and he was also a cabinet minister in the past administration and he knows full well from that experience.

MR. WOODWARD: What is the point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It seems that we are belabouring the point here on water and sewerage. The honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on four occasions since I have been in the chair, I do not think I know has told the committee how the water and sewerage would be financed in this province. The question being asked, I am sure he is a little tired of hearing it and I am sure that the committee knows from whence these funds come and how they come.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, has Your Honour given a ruling on that now? Mr. Chairman, we are perfectly within our rights, Sir, with all due respect, to discuss future water and sewerage projects under this heading. Whether the minister gets tired of it or not, Mr. Chairman, does not make any difference. If he is bushed, he can go out in the back room and lie down and go to sleep if he wants to.

MR. COLLINS: The honourable member was home all night.

MR. NEARY: The honourable member was not home all night. Sir, it does not make any difference if the minister is getting up tight.

MR. COLLINS: There is no one over there going to bush me.

MR. NEARY: That is our duty in this House, Sir, to cross-examine the minister and get as much information as we can and we are going to do it whether the honourable minister likes it or not because this is the only opportunity, Mr. Chairman, the only heading under which we can discuss water and sewerage. We are completely within our rights and we are completely in order and if the minister does

not like it, he is going to hear it over and over again as we are going to keep repeating it to try and drag information out of him. He will not give us the information. The information is available down in the minister's department. All he has to do is call up his officials, send for them, bring them into the House and the honourable minister will get the information in a hurry.

We are merely trying to find out, Sir, what water and sewerage projects are going to be done this year. How much is the government going to guarantee for water and sewerage projects this year? Remember, Mr. Chairman, when that crowd were over here, the bellyaching that they did because we would not provide a list, and they were going to change all that. Now they are over there, Sir, and they have not changed a thing. The faces are different but the policy is the same, Sir. The policy is the same, no change.

MR. MURPHY: I am glad you said that, glad you said it.

MR. NEARY: Why is the minister glad I said it? It is not a compliment to the -

MR. MURPHY: Because, what did we get? What did we get? Abuse. Abuse. Continuous delay of this House.

MR. NEARY: Oh that is the reason. They are punishing us now, Mr. Chairman. We are being told by the Minister of Social Services we are being punished because we would not give the Tories -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The honourable member for Bell Island has continually made the point that he is speaking about water and sewerage or is going to speak about water and sewerage but since I have resumed the Chair he has not spoken about water and sewerage. He has allowed himself to digress into matters which are totally irrelevant to water and sewerage. So if the honourable member is to persist in speaking of water and sewerage, he will have to speak on point.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Your Honour's ruling, but what I am getting at, Mr. Chairman, is a list. I am trying to get

a list from the minister of the water and sewerage projects that will be done in the twelve months just ahead, Sir, and the minister -

MR. HICKEY: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the honourable gentleman has been told fifteen times that that list is not available, He is not going to get it, so what is he beating a dead horse for? He is just not going to get it as it is not available.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, that is not a point of order -

MR. HICKEY: Any further debate on this subject along the lines we have heard in the last ten minutes, Mr. Chairman, is completely out of order.

MR. NEARY: Is that a point of order, Mr. Chairman?

MR. HICKEY: Yes it is a point of order.

MR. NEARY: I am asking the chair. I am not asking the ignoramus responsible for garbage. Is that a point of order, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The right of honourable members to ask questions in varying forms, to ask the same question in different forms and quite often to repeat the question is unfortunately perhaps one that is too well precedented especially in this House to rule against without great consideration. Consequently, while the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment's point is well taken, the point of order unfortunately cannot be sustained. The honourable member for Bell Island may continue with his discourse on water and sewerage.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Another victory for democracy. Well, Sir, all we are trying to do, Mr. Chairman, here and it is our duty -

AN HON. MEMBER: You are holding up the House that is all you are trying to do.

MR. NEARY: No, we are not holding up anything, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, do you know the real reason for trying to get this House closed, trying to ram the estimates through, this water

and sewerage vote through? Your Honour, you know why they are trying to stifle the debate on this, Sir. They will call it obstruction, Mr. Chairman, but you know what I say that they all have their reservations booked to the Caribbean and to Florida and that is the real reason they want to get the House closed, Sir.

MR. HICKEY: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I have sat for one and I have listened to this garbage for the last hour. Now I ask Your Honour to rule on one issue. The honourable gentleman I maintain is out of order because he has asked a minister at least fifteen times a question which the minister has refused to answer on good grounds, that the information is not available. Now is he going to continue to ask that question and beat the rules of the House? It is complete -

MR. NEARY: Your Honour just ruled on that point of order.

MR. HICKEY: Your Honour did not rule on that point of order. Your Honour, I ask you for a ruling now.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, Your Honour knows full well, Sir, that -

MR. HICKEY: Are you speaking to the point of order?

MR. NEARY: No, there is not a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Your Honour ruled -

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, I rose on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment has raised the same point of order that he has raised on two occasions in the last ten minutes and the ruling that was given then is the same ruling as is given now. The honourable the member for Bell Island has the right to speak on water and sewerage systems which is Head 1911(03)(09) and he may ask many questions in varying forms and his only guide is his conscience.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman! Your Honour is quite right and being a lawyer down in court Your Honour knows what it is like to cross-examine a witness. Really, what we are doing is we are cross-examining.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member should nevertheless do the committee the service of at least speaking to the point which is water and sewerage systems. It has been approximately twenty minutes since I have resumed the Chair and the honourable member has not yet begun to speak of water and sewerage systems so eventually his digressions can no longer be tolerated.

MR. NEARY: I just got word, Mr. Chairman, that breakfast is now being served in the common room. Well, Sir, this is quite an important issue this water and sewerage systems. The minister does have a large number of requests for water and sewer system. The town councils and the community councils and the improvement district councils, Sir, want to know, they are anxious to find out if there is a start going to be made on their particular water and sewer project this year, and it is our duty here in opposition to try to get that information, Mr. Chairman. I already listed a number of communities that have gotten in touch with the opposition to ask us if we could find out certain information from the government, put a little pressure on to see if we could influence the government in any way -

MR. YOUNG: The honourable member for Bell Island said he had a number of communities that had gotten in touch with him concerning water and sewerage. I wonder could the honourable member tell me did the Town Council of Harbour Grace write him concerning water and sewerage or was it a personal letter?

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to inform the honourable member for Harbour Grace that it was the town council and not an individual. The honourable member would do well to keep in touch, communicate with the Town Council of Harbour Grace because they are really, really serious about this matter of extending the water system in the Town of Harbour Grace, Sir. I was surprised actually, Mr. Chairman, to discover that the Town of Harbour Grace did not have one hundred per cent water and sewerage. I was surprised to hear that. As honourable members know, it is an

old community, It was a thriving community at one time and had its setbacks in recent years but, Sir, I do not think we can go on denying people in certain sections of the Town of Harbour Grace drinking water. That is all they are asking for. They are asking for a little drop of drinking water, Sir, clean, unpolluted, grade A drinking water and the honourable member should be in there battling for his constituents.

MR. YOUNG: Could I ask a question, Sir?

MR. NEARY: Yes, let her go.

MR. YOUNG: Would the honourable member for Bell Island mind tabling that letter that he received from the Town Council of Harbour Grace?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I did not say it was a letter by the way, I said it was a communication.

MR. YOUNG: I beg your pardon!

MR. NEARY: It could have been a telegram, it could have been anything, Sir. I did not say it was a letter.

MR. YOUNG: Would he table the communication that he received from the Town Council of Harbour Grace?

MR. NEARY: The communication I received, Sir, was from the Town of Harbour Grace and if the honourable member would just control himself and come across the House, while I am in the common room having breakfast I would be glad to show him the information that I received from the Town of Harbour Grace.

Now, Sir, I do not think there is any point in flogging this particular vote any longer, (03)(09) water and sewerage systems, because obviously we are not going to get the information we want, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: Carried.

MR. NEARY: No, not quite yet. Do not push me or I might carry on for another hour. I am rearing to go, Mr. Chairman, and I am good until about six o'clock tomorrow morning if I have to. I am worse than Joey, I am in great shape, great shape, Sir. They will

never beat us down over here, Mr. Chairman. They can try what they like to wear us down but they will never do it. They will be down in Florida and the Caribbean and back before we stop trying to get information for the people of Newfoundland in this House. That is what we are elected for and that is what we are going to do. I will fall on the floor before I will give in to that crowd over there, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I could answer that, Mr. Chairman, but the honourable minister would not like it. No, Sir, this is quite a serious matter and the members on the other side can joke about it all they like but their constituents, Mr. Chairman, are denied the advantages and the privileges of having water and sewerage systems. There are poor little children in a lot of our communities do not know what it is like to take a bath, Mr. Chairman, and they are still using the outdoor privy. What percentage of Newfoundlanders are still using the outdoor privy? Does the honourable minister know what percentage?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I used one myself, Sir, practically all my life. I often sat there, Mr. Chairman, with Eaton's catalogue, when the snow was drifting in through the knot holes in the boards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: With all due respect to the honourable member, I believe we are discussing modern water and sewerage systems. The honourable member may be digressing too far into the past.

MR. NEARY: That is why we need water and sewerage systems because too many of our people are still using the outdoor privy.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is right.

MR. NEARY: Now see, the honourable minister agrees with me now, Sir, I am relevant, right in order. It is true. It is a statement of fact, Sir. I do not know what percentage. Perhaps the minister -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Well, I am not ashamed to say it because we were making

progress but now obviously the progress is halted because the Premier told us several months ago that it is time the town councils in this province. He took to the television with his Dick Nolan voice and it was a wonder he did not have his guitar with him, Dick Nolan's voice, and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, town councils have to stand on their own feet. Put in your own water and sewerage, finance your own water and sewerage, no more government guarantees." We should have had "Aunt Martha's Sheep" playing in the background, Sir. But, Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether the Premier was making an off-the-cuff remark that day or whether he was having a bad day or not, but he did imply, Sir, that the water and sewerage grants were coming to an end, that the province could not afford it and that town councils would have to increase their taxes if they wanted water and sewerage. That is the inference or at least that is the impression I got from what the Premier said. He said that they would have to stand on their own feet if they wanted all these privileges. Remember, Mr. Chairman, in this House we criticized the Premier for making such an off-the-cuff, irresponsible statement. Town councils cannot afford to put in water and sewerage without government help, Mr. Chairman. We should continue to build on the foundation that was left by the previous Liberal Administration. Get rid of the washtubs, Sir, and get rid of the outdoor privy and let us continue to put water and sewerage systems in the unserved communities in this province.

That is all I am asking, Sir, and I hope -

MR. MARSHALL: May I -

MR. NEARY: Yes, A point of order or a point of privilege?

MR. MARSHALL: A point of order, yes.

MR. NEARY: A point of order, let her go.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, I do not think the honourable member for Bell Island is allowed to swing on the microphone.

MR. NEARY: What was the point of order?

MR. MARSHALL: Swinging on the microphone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been brought to the attention of many members on numerous occasions that the microphones are very delicate instruments and honourable members should treat them with respect and care. While I am on my feet, I would like to direct honourable members to my left who have persisted in interrupting the speaker who quite legitimately has the floor and has been ruled in order on three different occasions, that he had the right to be heard in silence and any provocative remarks from the honourable gentlemen to my left in all likelihood will encourage further discourses on water and sewerage from the honourable gentlemen to my right.

MR. NEARY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think that is a fair appraisal of the situation, Sir, and I am sorry that I was doodling with this but on the other side, members are getting so fidgety and irritable and jumpy, Sir, that they have wrecked a couple of these microphones. I might point out to the House, Your Honour, I know Your Honour meant to, that I understand there are no parts available for these microphones now and it is very difficult to repair them and we have had a number wrecked on that side of the House this session; none over here, Sir, I am happy to say.

But, Mr. Chairman, it is time that this government enunciated its policy, its policy on water and sewerage. Are they going to continue the implementation of water and sewerage in the unserved areas of this province or are they not? That is all I am asking the honourable minister. If they are, would the honourable minister tell us what communities are going to be done in the twelve months ahead? That is a reasonable request, Sir. It is a reasonable request. Will the Minister of Rural Development tell me why it is not a reasonable request? Are we doing it on a hit and miss basis? Is it being done on a political basis? Is it being done on the basis of priority? How is it being done? Would the minister tell us? All I am asking for, Sir, is information.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, for the last time, I cannot go over this again. The water and sewer systems are financed by the community councils or the town councils or the local improvement districts. Generally the monies are made available on long term loans, sometimes a twenty-five year term.

The money which we are asking the committee to vote to the department, under 1911-03-09, the amount of \$3,400,000 is the amount of money which the government has committed under its subsidy programme to pay off the loans which have been arranged over the past number of years.

Now what work is going to be done this year by town councils, I cannot say at this particular moment. We are not asking the committee to vote any money for it because it does not appear in those estimates. That money, when it is made available, will continue to be made available in the form of guaranteed loans to the various municipalities.

MR. WM. ROWE: To pay off existing debts, is it?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. WM. ROWE: Yes but obviously not to anyone's satisfaction because when I got in here the honourable member for Bell Island was ranting and roaring and that is not his style at all, Mr. Chairman. He must have been upset about something.

MR. MURPHY: He was like that since seven o'clock this morning.

MR. WM. ROWE: Is that right? Well I am back here, Mr. Chairman. I went home and had a shower and a shave, went down to the law office for an hour or so, made a few dollars, brought the deeds and everything back to drive the honourable member for Bell Island mad when I tell him about the legal fees I am going to make or I made in the last two hours.

MR. MURPHY: You cannot drive him, he has been there.

MR. WM. ROWE: Well just very briefly then, I do not want to delay the committee if the minister has already given the committee all this information, perhaps very briefly he can tell me - after debts and what not or whatever this is going to be spent on, after

MR. WM. ROWE: existing commitments are looked after, how much is going to be left over for new projects under this Head?

MR. COLLINS: It is the same question, Mr. Chairman, in a different way. There is a pressure approach to it I must say.

MR. WM. ROWE: If the honourable member does not mind, what is the answer? Did the honourable minister give an answer before or something?

MR. COLLINS: If the honourable member had stayed there like I did he would have known the answer. He went home and went to sleep.

MR. WM. ROWE: Had to make a few dollars boy, to keep the wolf from the door. What is the answer, briefly, in five words.

\$600,000 left over for grants to municipalities for water and sewer systems, new projects. Is that the answer?

Well we will find out next year and then we will see if the honourable minister has or has not, you cannot say misled because that is unparliamentary, has or has not given us the correct information.

MR. MARTIN: In reference to the statement the honourable minister made, I can see what is happening now. Just for the record and information because I have been specifically requested to obtain this information to pass on back to the communities, I just want a yes or no answer.

As I understand it, the task force that listed the Labrador Coast from the Premier's Office last summer has made this report: That the government is well aware of the problems, what the situation is. That there is no money allocated here but that money is available providing the proper procedures are followed and everything else is in order. That it is now up to the communities themselves to take the initiative and make application. Yes? or No? Thank you.

MR. M. WOODWARD: (1911-03-10) What communities receive Special Assistance Grants and how much does each community receive?

MR. COLLINS: I got a list here, I do not know if I have them all, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WOODWARD: Bring in the officials, Mr. Chairman.

MR. COLLINS: We can manage without the officials, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WOODWARD: They have some very fine officials down there, they have a lot of famous documents.

MR. COLLINS: No question about that at all in this world.

MR. WOODWARD: Very valuable to the committee.

MR. COLLINS: We have some great officials down there, some of the greatest.

MR. WM. ROWE: Among the greenest.

MR. COLLINS: Fifteen pages.

MR. WOODWARD: Fifteen pages. Could you table the list and the amounts for each community.

MR. COLLINS: I could get copies and table them.

MR. WOODWARD: Would you like to read the list of communities?

MR. COLLINS: We have not got time to read fifteen pages of names and figures.

MR. WOODWARD: Oh I thought you said fifteen places.

MR. WM. ROWE: Will the minister undertake to table copies for any member who wants them?

Generally speaking, what is Special Assistance?

MR. COLLINS: Well just about every type of assistance one can imagine.

MR. WM. ROWE: Well how does this differ from the special projects?

MR. COLLINS: We have not reached Special Projects yet.

The honourable member knows quite well because he has often told me how difficult it was to administer that particular vote.

MR. WM. ROWE: What do you mean, the Special Projects one or this one?

MR. COLLINS: No, Special Assistance - it is assistance which is made available for - from anything from repairing fences to a bit of grass seed.

MR. WM. ROWE: No I was just wondering which one of them was the one we talked about.

MR. COLLINS: Special Assistance, in other words emergency grants.

MR. NEARY: (1911-03-11) \$50,000 - Local improvement District of Conception Bay South.

MR. COLLINS: That has been on for two or three years. I imagine we will carry on for a while until we see what is going to happen.

MR. NEARY: There is no specified time.

MR. COLLINS: That was an Order-in-Council by the past administration.

MR. NEARY: (1911-03-12) Incinerator and Firefighting Equipment, no Mr. Chairman, it will not quite carry - we would like to have another list from the minister on where incinerators are going to be placed this year and what communities are going to be provided with firefighting equipment.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, that is quite an impossible question to answer. You have \$150,000 in the estimates, you have some applications on hand and no doubt there are going to be others coming. That is a vote that might not be all spent until next fall or next winter.

I do not know if the honourable member is aware of the programme in terms of firefighting. The province shares on a fifty-fifty basis with municipalities the cost of fire engines etc. In the incinerator programme, the incinerators have been manufactured, generally speaking, the ones being used in Newfoundland, they are manufactured in Marystown, have been supplied to municipalities more or less on a gratis basis, with the municipalities installing them.

MR. WM. ROWE: How much does the typical incinerator cost?

MR. COLLINS: A typical incinerator would cost in the vicinity I suppose of \$12,000 to \$15,000. It is just the different sizes, something like that.

MR. NEARY: With all due respect, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister would tell me, he has admitted that he has numerous

MR. NEARY: requests in his department, how did the minister arrive at an expenditure of \$150,000 if he does not know what communities are going to benefit by the services of an incinerator this year and what communities are going to receive firefighting equipment?

I know I am naive and gullable, Sir, but I am not stupid, I do not think. I would like to know, can we have a list? How many incinerators are under construction at the present time down in Marystown?

MR. COLLINS: None.

MR. NEARY: None being made up now, How long does it take to make one up?

MR. COLLINS: I could get in touch with the shipwrights down there, I suppose they could tell me. It is not a very major thing to make.

MR. NEARY: They are not even ordered yet, Sir. This should be a very simple matter for the minister to provide us with a list of the communities that are going to benefit by these services this year. It should be a very simple matter. Why will the minister not give us a list? Why? Is it because there might be a political backlash? Is that what he is afraid of?

MR. COLLINS: It is \$50,000 more than last year and last year was -

MR. NEARY: I realize that, that is why I am asking the question. Who is going to get it?

MR. COLLINS: We will let the town councils know.

MR. NEARY: Are they going to just put all the requests down in a hat, Sir, and call in somebody to put their hand down in the barrel or hat and pluck them out?

MR. COLLINS: That is probably the fairest way to do it.

MR. NEARY: Well I wish the minister would give us some information, tell us something. How is he going to do it?

MR. COLLINS: We are going to do it, Mr. Chairman, in the places where the greatest need is, We cannot provide for all the needs this year.

MR. WM. ROWE: Greatest need - greatest criminal need!

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I suppose I will just have to accept it. I am not getting any information out of the minister, Sir. I do not know why he wants to hide the fact that X number of communities will receive an incinerator this year and firefighting equipment. It is nothing to be ashamed of. The only thing I can see is that the minister is scared of the political overtones, the political backlash to this. It should be a very simple matter to provide this committee with a list. Obviously we are not going to get it, Sir, I do not have any choice but to sit down, give up in defeat, give up in disgust, I cannot crack the minister, I cannot break him. He is too strong, too much will-power, Sir, so I will just surrender, give up.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the firefighting equipment, the question I am going to pose may sound a little off but I would like to take a moment to just explain why.

In my district, Sir, we cannot use the conventional type of firefighting equipment for two very good reasons, First of all we do not have roads and secondly we do not have water pipes. But we have devised a system based upon the kind of equipment being used by the forest service and certain other special types of equipment that will allow us, for instance, to drill holes in the ice in the wintertime.

Now what I am wondering is, because this point was brought up at a community council at which I attended as a guest one time, whether or not the department has a set of standards or particular type of equipment which must be provided through the department or whether we can make proposals based upon our own special circumstances and no matter how unorthodox that system may sound, whether that will be given consideration by the department?

MR. COLLINS: The firefighting equipment programme or whatever you want to call it is that the municipality will buy the

MR. COLLINS: type machine which is needed to provide the service in the community, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Fire Commissioner, Mr. Ryan.

The department's policy in the past has been and still is that we share in the cost of the machine, fifty-fifty. There has been no policy established in the unincorporated areas of the province. My department was not involved in that particular field with restructuring. When restructuring came about, we approached the Provincial Fire Commissioner to let us have his recommendation on the proper package type of unit which could be available for smaller communities, maybe twenty-five or thirty families or fifty or sixty families. He is in the process of providing that to us. Once we know where that is, then we can recommend to the smaller communities what is available. Just what the cost sharing will be we do not know. We have not worked out a policy on that yet but the officials are taking a look at it.

MR. WM. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, it is painfully obvious why the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs will not oblige my colleague from Bell Island and tell him where these things are going to go.

It is painfully obvious, Sir, because of the paltry, meagre, minuscule amount of money involved. If a fire engine should cost I suppose \$20,000, at a fifty per cent pay-out by the government that would be fifteen fire engines, or at \$15,000 for an incinerator, ten communities looked after by an incinerator or five fire engines and say seven incinerators.

You do not have to be an Einstein mathematically to figure out why the minister would not dare to even attempt to list where these things are going to go. He would rather rest on his laurels and point proudly to the fact that there is \$150,000 in there for this laudable purpose. When you boil it down -

MR. COLLINS: This is an ongoing programme remember, that becomes \$300,000, if it is all spent on fire engines.

MR. WM. ROWE: On fire engines it would become then say fifteen fire engines at \$20,000 each.

MR. COLLINS: That would go a long way I would say in solving the need -

MR. WM. ROWE: If it be all on fire engines but it is on incinerators and fire engines as well.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is this part of the conference that was announced over at the Arts and Culture Centre.

MR. WM. ROWE: Yes that is right. We had expected to be able to spend \$2 million or \$3 million on this, Mr. Chairman, if we had remained in power. Is that not right? However, we are down to \$150,000.

MR. COLLINS: I got a big list of them here now.

MR. WM. ROWE: I remember a big grey book of all the places that incinerators were going to go.

MR. MURPHY: We have a big list of bills outstanding for that.

MR. WM. ROWE: Well it is the credit era we are in, Mr. Chairman. In any event -

AN HON. MEMBER: Never borrow money needlessly.

MR. WM. ROWE: But when you must. We found that we must during that particular epoch. But in any event, Sir, it is obvious why the minister will not divulge this information because it is a very small amount of money and unfortunately, for every one community that he can please there will be fifty communities who will be right after -

MR. COLLINS: No, that is an exaggeration. We will not be able to please them all.

MR. WM. ROWE: Well let us say one in ten or something like that. It is a very unenviable position to be in. The minister will be secretive, under wraps, behind closed doors, sneak it out when he

MR. WM. ROWE: can, do not tell anybody you have this -

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, that is a lot of nonsense. That is not it at all. I do not know what communities have made application. There are dozens and dozens and dozens down there. That is not a question I anticipated. I can get the information but, my goodness, if I have got to anticipate all honourable members asking me questions on all the requests from all the municipalities in Newfoundland, goodness that is unreasonable!

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, while we are on the subject of incinerators and firefighting equipment, this winter a very unfortunate circumstances involving a fire in an isolated community of Nain and at that time the emphasis was put on what do you look at as the type of equipment you would use in a community where you cannot use conventional fire trucks of that nature because of the fact that the roads are not cleared and you have to have some type of track vehicle to lend itself to be functional in a community where you have no snow clearing or no roads during the winter.

I think that the honourable minister's department did give a fire pump to the Community of Nain or gave \$1,000 towards a fire pump, but at that time we also talked about the fact that they would get together with the Department of Municipal Affairs, Labrador Services, getting together with the Provincial Fire Commissioner and researching and hopefully to develop some type of fire fighting apparatus or equipment that would be suited for isolated communities, not only possibly on the Labrador Coast but other areas here on the island as well.

I have not seen or heard, I have heard but not seen any incinerator programme. I doubt if any communities in Labrador have made application. I do not know, maybe the honourable member for Labrador South - are his municipal people familiar with the incinerator programme?

MR. MARTIN: No.

MR. WOODWARD: Not, but I understand this in itself too, maybe it is not a bad thing. Well I am chiefly concerned about the firefighting. I wonder if the minister would see fit, Mr. Chairman, to expound, if you will, on the type of equipment or if they have developed or are developing or researching firefighting equipment that would lend itself to communities such as the Community of Nain and other communities in Labrador where you have the conditions whereby you do not have any snow clearing or any roads.

There was a big cry went out, I think a considerable loss possibly in the Community of Nain to the government. It is very fortunate that the weather conditions and other conditions were favourable. We were fortunate in getting sufficient food supplies into the community on an emergency basis to keep the community going. Most of the communities have one central supply point and when these supplies are destroyed, as the case of the fire in Nain, then there is no other means but to have emergency food flown into the communities.

We were fortunate that no one suffered any hardship in Nain. In the event that at the particular time the fire was on that you did have storms that do last for long periods of time, possibly as much as a week on end, where you cannot get an aircraft into the community and you run into circumstances of this nature, I suspect there would be great hardship caused to the citizens, the residents in the communities.

So maybe the honourable minister can explain if his department along with the Provincial Fire Commissioner are developing any sort of research into this particular problem and if they are working with the Provincial Fire Commissioner.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, could we have a count of the House to see if we have a quorum?

AN HON. MEMBER: No quorum.

MR. NEARY: (1911-03-13) Special Projects - This is the special make-work project that is funded by the Government of Canada.

AN HON. MEMBER: Funded by this government.

MR. NEARY: Funded by the Government of Canada, Sir. These are forgivable loans.

MR. WOODWARD: The minister did not reply to my question.

MR. NEARY: Well I am sorry. If the minister wants to reply to my honourable colleague's question, Sir, I will gladly yield the floor -

MR. COLLINS: I reply pretty quickly because I anticipated the honourable member's question, because I gave him the answer previously before he asked the question. We are discussing the need with the Provincial Fire Commissioner now and he is a professional in that field. He is going to recommend to us the different types of packages which are available to serve the varying needs in the different size communities. When communities make application for fire fighting equipment we will refer their request to the Fire Commissioner in the first place to make sure that the proper equipment is supplied to them.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, several months ago the Government of Canada made available to all ten provinces a certain amount of money, Sir, to enable the provinces to fund special make-work programmes in their particular province.

The philosophy, Sir, the whole idea behind this programme is to make work, to create jobs, to create employment at a time of the year when unemployment is at peak, when it reaches its highest point, in the winter months.

Our share of that money, Sir, I think was \$10 million or \$11 million -

MR. COLLINS: \$12 million over a three year period.

MR. NEARY: \$12 million over a three year period, work is done before the end of May. It is one hundred per cent forgivable, very low interest.

MR. CROSBIE: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: The labour that is done before the end -

MR. CROSBIE: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I wish you would ask the honourable Minister of Finance to restrain himself, Sir. He will be up in a few minutes. Sir, when I sit down I know what is going to happen. Sir, another attack on the Government of Canada, hostile towards Canadians, outsiders, Mainlanders; the Minister of Finance, But Sir, \$12 million is our share of that money.

Let us have another quorum call, Mr. Chairman, keep them in their seats, count the House, count heads, Sir.

MR. MURPHY: Obstruction.

MR. NEARY: No smoking in the House either, Mr. Chairman, no smoking in the House, Sir.

MR. MURPHY: He is not smoking.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is only holding a cigarette.

MR. NEARY: Newfoundland's share of that fund, Sir, was \$12 million and God only knows that is little enough, Mr. Chairman, in a province where you have the highest unemployment rate in the whole of Canada. So you would expect, Mr. Chairman, that no time would be lost by the Tory Administration in taking advantage of this \$12 million, because we have the highest unemployment rate in the whole of Canada.

We have men begging for work in this province, forced to go on welfare. So you would think, Mr. Chairman, you would not even give it a thought, that this government, this Tory Administration would be the first to have their lists up to Ottawa for approval to create work for our people under this special make-work project.

No, Sir, several months have passed, only about three weeks ago I think it was in this honourable House that the first list of projects was read out in the House, approved, valued at \$4 million, and that is what is shown here in Heading 1911-03-13

MR. NEARY: (Special Projects - \$4 million).

I believe, Sir, that since then another list of projects has been approved and the honourable Minister of Industrial Development who made the announcement along with Don Jamieson - two, four, six, eight, ten, eleven - let us count heads again, Mr. Chairman, no quorum in the House. You cannot keep them in their seats, count the House.

So, Mr. Chairman,

\$4 million was approved about four weeks ago. There was a further amount I think of \$2.5 million approved since then. A total of \$6.5 million has been approved. I was interested in some of these projects, Organizations on Bell Island were interested in some of these projects so we wrote the honourable Mr. Jamieson in Ottawa. I received a reply, the organizations on Bell Island received a reply, stating that the province had to put the proposals, whatever they were, before the Department of Regional Economic Expansion.

MR. J.C.CROSBIE: Are you talking about the municipal projects now?

MR. NEARY: I am talking about all projects.

MR. COLLINS: These are municipal ones now.

MR. CROSBIE: We are dealing here solely with municipal projects under the winter employment loans programme and it would be quite irrelevant and out of order for the honourable gentleman to say one word, one syllable, one jot about any other than municipal projects. The rest of them are dealt with in other parts of the estimates.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, to my knowledge, the list of \$4 million that we have are all municipal works. They were all municipal works, \$4 million.

MR. CROSBIE: The \$4 million is all municipal.

MR. NEARY: That is that here, \$4 million. I do not know what the point of order is, Mr. Chairman, is there a point of order?

MR. CROSBIE: You are attempting to discuss other projects.

MR. NEARY: I am discussing - I am disgusted. Is there a point of order, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): The point raised by the Minister of Finance is quite correct. Whether or not the honourable the member for Bell Island was violating that point of order is another question. I am afraid that at this point the Chair's powers of recall are very short and cannot quite remember whether he was violating it or not.

MR. NEARY: I can assure Your Honour that I was not.

MR. PECKFORD: On that point of order, Mr. Chairman, the honourable

member for Bell Island mentioned all capital works projects. As of today's date we have had projects under the Municipal Affairs Department, covering water and sewerage projects etc., plus some under forestry plus others under fisheries and tourism. Therefore, when he says all winter capital works projects, he is including aspects of other departments, hence, he is out of order and irrelevant.

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, I am not out of order. The honourable junior, juvenile, inexperienced member for Green Bay should just sit and listen before he starts leaping in to making points of order. We have had the member for Bonavista South who continues to make a fool of himself.

MR. PECKFORD: Can I have a ruling on that, Mr. Chairman? Can I have a ruling on that?

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): The Chair is not prepared to accept the honourable the member for Green Bay's memory as a substitute for its own. Since the matter did escape the Chair, the Chair is not prepared to rule on the point of order raised by the Minister of Finance.

MR. NEARY: Anyway, Mr. Chairman, we have not, this province has not taken full advantage of these special projects. We heard the Minister of Municipal Affairs today tell this honourable House that he has quite a comprehensive list of water and sewer requests in his department.

MR. CROSBIE: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. That has been discussed already.

MR. NEARY: What has been discussed?

MR. CROSBIE: For three hours that has been discussed. Water and sewerage was.

MR. NEARY: Well I will make a statement of fact, Sir. It is a fact that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has a long list that would stretch from here over to the overpass at Donovans, requests for water and sewer projects in this province.

AN HON. MEMBER: You already said that.

MR. NEARY: No I did not say that before, I did not use such a colourful term before, Sir. When the Minister of Finance was home sleeping, I was most eloquently - he should have been here to hear me this morning. Mr. Chairman, there is no shortage of projects and yet Ottawa is left completely dumbfounded, left with the impression that the province have not been able to dream up, use their imaginations, come up with projects.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: The honourable minister is not going to draw me out like that. He is not going to draw me out. Ottawa is completely dumbfounded. They do not know what is wrong with the province. Do you know what they did, Mr. Chairman? I would say, about a month and a-half or two months ago, a minister arrived in Ottawa with a list of projects, presented it to the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, most of it water and sewerage projects. Back he comes, home to Newfoundland, informed the Minister of Finance and the Premier what he had done, Lo and behold! Do you know what happened on Sunday which is a holiday in Ottawa as well as in Newfoundland? An emergency phone call, an urgent phone call; "Cancel the list. For God's sake cancel the list. Cancel it, I am going to send a new one on Monday." This is the crowd that are going to do long-range planning. "Cancel the list, I will have another one up to you on Monday, special delivery." Another one came up, I am not sure if it were all approved or not. A lot of it was I suppose but the delay - the point I am making, Sir, the delay - leaving Ottawa with the impression that there are no projects in this province.

I have already stated that we have the highest unemployment rate in the whole of Canada and the government are dragging their heels, dragging their feet. This \$12 million should have all been taken up weeks ago, Sir, and people should have been working at municipal projects by now.

MR. YOUNG: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, I am afraid he might try to put the

coppers on my eyes. No, Mr. Chairman, no, I have nothing but the strongest criticism for the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Industrial Development for not taking advantage of this \$12 million sooner. As I remarked a few moments ago, one hundred per cent of the labour costs of projects undertaken before the end of May is forgivable. After that I think seventy-five per cent is forgivable. Every day's delay is costing this province money and denying our people services that would result from these special make-work projects. Apart from creating badly needed jobs for our people, Sir, it would create some badly needed services, give some badly needed facilities to some of the unserved parts of Newfoundland.

I ask the minister why the delay? What is the hang up? If the Minister of Industrial Development is stuck for a list, go down and drag down, take down off the shelf, the list of water and sewerage and say; "Here you go, Sir," you can have it approved tomorrow. I can guarantee you that, Mr. Chairman."

There is about two and a-half or three million dollars lying up there, The Minister of Finance is worried about the insignificant interest on it. What is the interest? Seven and a quarter? It is seven and something, seven and a quarter or seven and three quarters, a lot better than you can do at the bank, Sir, but that is not the important thing. It is repayable over a period of fifty years, I believe fifty years. Fifty into three million dollars? Who is the mathematician in the group? How much would it cost us a year for interest? Most of it is forgiven and I would say five or ten years from now it will be all forgiven and the Government of Canada will wipe it off, write it off. Uncle Ottawa up there, who just dumped \$24 million in the lap of the Minister of Finance, will write it off and forget about it. It would not be their first time, Sir. They are trying to create jobs, trying to make work, trying to help solve the unemployment problem and they do not understand and I do not blame them because I do not understand, nobody understands why the

Tory Administration is blocking this, why they have not taken advantage of it sooner. Why? Can the minister tell me why? There is no shortage of projects. People are waiting for approval of projects so that they can get a job to support their families, get them off welfare.

MR. WILSON: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: No, it is LIP money they are using over there. All this money is made available by the Government of Canada, the great Liberal Government up there in Ottawa, and the Tory Government down here is not taking advantage of it. What more can they do? What more can Ottawa do? They have to send their officials down here to dream up projects when the Minister of Municipal Affairs has all kinds of them - town halls, water and sewerage, artesian wells. Well artesian wells are not labour intensive.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. NEARY: No, that is right. It has to be labour intensive. Water and sewerage, Sir, digging water and sewer lines by hand. Last summer over on Bell Island sixty-five men were out digging a water line by hand, sixty-five men who would ordinarily be on welfare. After the first week, after they got the blisters on their hands and got the kinks out of their backs, after the first week when they got their pay cheques they did not worry about manual labour.

MR. YOUNG: At the beach I guess.

MR. NEARY: No, it was not at the beach.

MR. YOUNG: They went to the beach - oh yes!

MR. NEARY: Oh yes, they went to the beach and they went to Middleton Avenue. The first pay cheque they had, the first pay cheque that most of them had since 1966.

MR. YOUNG: Thank the Tory Government.

MR. NEARY: No, the Liberal Government did that, the slush fund my honourable friend talked about. This is the same thing, this is precisely the same thing here, Sir, special projects. It was referred to by that crowd over there when they were over here as a slush fund.

It is not a slush fund, Mr. Chairman.

MR. YOUNG: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Is it right to refer to members on this side of the House as a crowd? Is that parliamentary?

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): This matter was drawn to my attention by my officials. We searched diligently for a ruling on the words "crowd" and "bunch" or other words which denote a group of people. It is not unparliamentary. The tone in which some honourable members use the word tend to be unparliamentary at times but, however, it does not fall within the prohibited expressions. However, the manner in which the honourable member used them may evoke unparliamentary responses.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot help it if I raise my voice, That is my style, Sir, the tone of my voice, I have no control over it. I get emotional, I get carried away, I get provoked by members over there. Maybe I should keep my voice down, Sir. Maybe I should raise it today to keep the Minister of Finance awake to hear what I have to say, because it is a fact that this government have not taken advantage of the \$12 million as fast as they should. As a result the Government of Canada as sincere, as it might be in trying to create make work projects in this province, are having their cause defeated by the Tory Administration here who are blocking it. The initiative, Mr. Chairman, and I point this out because it is important, the initiative has to be taken by the province. Granted the projects have to be approved by Ottawa in conjunction with the province but the initiative has to be taken by the province. I contend that as of this moment they have no initiative and they have failed miserably to take advantage of this special works money as quickly as they should have.

On motion, 03-13, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAGG): Shall 1911-04-01 carry?

On motion, 1911-04-01, carried.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, what is this \$75,000 for? Urban renewal and planning studies. Does this have anything to do with the Kostaszek Report?

MR. COLLINS: No, Mr. Chairman, that is planning studies. The old heading was Urban Renewal and Planning Studies but there is very little of that, practically none of it going into urban renewal studies. This is strictly planning studies.

On motion, 04-04, carried.

MR. NEARY: Could the minister tell us what is meant here by regional appeals boards?

MR. COLLINS: Gladly. Only about a week ago we announced the dissolution of the provincial appeal board in this honourable House and announced the appointment of three regional appeal boards, one in Corner Brook, one in Gander and one in St. John's. This covers the cost.

On motion, 04-05, carried.

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable minister tell us where engineering surveys are being conducted at the present time, Mr. Chairman?

MR. COLLINS: These are engineering surveys which will be conducted this year in various places across the province at the request of the various municipalities generally for water and sewer design.

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable minister tell us where then these engineering surveys will be conducted?

MR. COLLINS: It is very difficult to say, Mr. Chairman, where they will be done as the requests are from various parts of the province asking that they be done.

On motion, 02-06, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN (STAG): Shall 1914-01 carry?

MR. NEARY: Is this the artesian well vote? No.

MR. COLLINS: Yes.

MR. NEARY: Is it? Oh!

MR. COLLINS: I do not know about the artesian well vote but this is

the programme which was in Community and Social Development, the unincorporated communities.

MR. NEARY: Oh! Well now, let me see, Mr. Chairman, if we have any requests for artesian wells. Can the minister tell us, while I am looking over my list here, where artesian wells will be drilled this year? I have one request here, Sir, one or two requests, one from Change Islands; the residents down there would like to have an artesian well and I imagine that the minister has the list, I would like to hear whether they are going to drill an artesian well down there this year so the people can have some drinking water?

The residents of Quirpon would like to have an artesian well. Does the minister have a list in front of him? Could he see if Change Islands or Quirpon are on his list? Well will the minister make a note of it?

MR. COLLINS: Change Island would not be under this vote. You have already passed the vote for Change Islands because this is unincorporated and Change Islands is a town that is incorporated.

MR. NEARY: It is incorporated. Well, would the honourable minister make a note on the Quirpon one?

MR. COLLINS: Quirpon?

MR. NEARY: Yes, make a note of it and check it when you go down and let the people down there know if they are going to get it.

MR. COLLINS: Do you have a copy of the letter?

MR. NEARY: Sure, here, Mr. Chairman, I would be glad to let the minister have a copy. Can we get the Clerk of the House or the Law Clerk or somebody to take this over? There are only two places. I think there is going to be \$300,000 spent on artesian wells this year. Mr. Chairman, will public tender be called on these artesian wells? I do not know if it has been the practice to call tenders or not. I think there are probably one or two at the most three.

AN HON. MEMBER: Two.

MR. NEARY: Two operators in this province who have the equipment to

drill artesian wells. I would like to know if the honourable minister intends to call public tenders and if the contracts will be awarded to the lowest tender and if he would give us some idea where artesian wells are going to be drilled this summer?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I cannot provide a list of where wells might or might not be drilled. That is an unreasonable request. With regard to calling tenders, there are only two outfits in the province which do the work. We have introduced stricter controls than have ever been used in the past. It is a very difficult thing to control because one never knows how far down one has to go to find water. As a programme this is working out reasonably well.

MR. MARTIN: (First part inaudible) development and we have heard it referred to as for artesian wells. Is it specifically for artesian wells or is it for any water system to unincorporated areas?

MR. COLLINS: It is for water services in unincorporated areas.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, when I was responsible for running that operation, the officials of my department provided me at one point with a list of communities and the cost.

MR. COLLINS: You certainly did not do much about it, with all the places still left.

MR. W.N. ROWE: We tried, but the amount of money involved is so pathetically small. With a list of the communities and the amounts involved here, can the minister give some general - it is unreasonable really to expect him to come out with where two thousand dollars might be spent, because waterlines might break during the winter and this sort of thing, but can he give us some general idea as to how much money is needed now to clear up the demands, the needs in unincorporated communities for reasonable water services, plastic hose and that sort of thing; maybe a well or two or dams?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I mentioned a figure of \$700 million a while ago in the

MR. W.N. ROWE: \$700,000.

MR. COLLINS: Incorporated areas. If you look at all the places in

Newfoundland which are not incorporated, whether they will ever need water or not and a lot of them do I know, whether they will be prepared to spend some money themselves and obtain government subsidies in the provision of water services, I really do not know. It is a difficult thing to project but in the event that they did all desire to have running water and taps, they would be looking at double that cost.

On motion, 1914-01, carried.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Can the minister give any general ideas as to what is the course of development this year under the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation? Any major projects planned?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, if I might for a moment refer to what is called the small loans programme of the corporation.

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible)

MR. COLLINS: It is a fair size loan now, because we increased the ceiling of six thousand dollars to nine thousand dollars. That is for rural parts of the province and the reason for increasing it was that the six thousand dollars did not permit people to complete the project and very often we found that the borrower went to other sources like banks or finance companies and got himself or herself involved in second or third payments. By increasing the loan to nine thousand dollars, that is just about meeting the needs of the more rural sections of the province.

I have a list here some place, if I can find it, of the number of loans which were made.

MR. W.N. POWE: Would the minister table the list when he finds it?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, it has been a long night. We will certainly table the list which shows the number of inquiries which we have had, the number of loans which were made and the number of applications which are now in the processing stage. That is for the small loans programme.

With regard to land development, I have already explained

that a couple of times before during the night sometime. With regard to subsidized rental units, we will be building more this year than we were before, in various places such as, Burin, Grand Bank, Trepassy, Gander, St. John's, Shea Heights. Some of those might change, the numbers might change because we might find that depending upon contract prices etc. we have had ten planned for a place and we might increase that to twenty. In another area we might have to reduce it, so I would not want to say how many in any particular area at this time.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, when the minister does table what ever list he has there, will there be an indication as to (I do not want names obviously) but an indication as to where the people live, some idea as to distribution. I ask that for a valid reason, Sir.

MR. COLLINS: I have the list I was looking for. The total number of inquiries received - 1,703, the number of loans made - 384, the number of loans in process, in different stages of processing - 318, the number of inquiries which we receive daily - about 14 (that is the average), the number of people visited or with whom we are dealing, (it is almost a personalized service because very often title of land is involved and people do not know how to go about it. The lawyers' services are too expensive for them to be able to avail of them.)

MR. W.N. ROWE: Is Mr. Evans still in charge of it?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Evans is still in charge. He is a fine man.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before we pass this subhead, maybe the minister can inform the committee, if he recalls tenders going out last year for, I think, forty units in Happy Valley? Through some turn of events, either there was no tendering on them or the tender was withdrawn. Is it the intention of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation to put this out to tender again? Will those forty units be built this year? At the same time, maybe the minister can advise the committee if Labrador Linerboard is looking for housing

under this project? Will there be any in addition to the forty they have planned for Happy Valley-Goose Bay?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, tenders were called and the prices came in very high which was a little discouraging. In the meantime, we are waiting now to see exactly what is going to happen with regard to the base, because there is a possibility that we might not need them. If the corporation see that the houses are needed, and they are watching it closely, then we shall go to tender for them again.

MR. WOODWARD: For the information of the committee and the minister, I would like to add that there has been a pretty heavy demand on the houses that will be available from USAF which are being turned over to the Department of Transport. As recently as last week the school boards along with the vocational school committee (the new vocational school that is opening in Happy Valley) made representation to the Project Group Committee and the Department of Transport could not give any housing to - I should not say any housing but I think they are looking for somewhere in the vicinity of thirty-five houses and they could only give the school boards nineteen units. I feel in this respect there will be no surplus housing made available by the Department of Transport to the community.

This is what we are looking at now. The school boards are screaming, they are negotiating with private real estate people to see if they can have sufficient housing to equip them for the coming school season.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, could we have a head count to see if there is a quorum in the House?

MR. CROSBIE: There is a quorum, do not worry. Do not worry about it. An instant quorum. Quorum! Mr. Chairman, it is useful to have the information the honourable gentleman gives. This is a problem that will get priority attention. What I wanted to say, because the honourable

gentleman mentioned Labrador Linerboard, we have in the gallery this morning the president, Mr. Ingram, and the woodlands manager, Mr. Johnson, and the mill manager, Mr. Chalmers. The mill has produced its first linerboard, its own linerboard from its own wood chips. I do not know what this piece of linerboard cost but anyway I saw a very nice little middle square this morning. It was quite good.

MR. WOODWARD: Is there a sample?

MR. CROSBIE: I will bring some up this afternoon, yes. Anyway that is just a by-the-bye. The housing situation is one that will receive attention.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ingram has been talked so much about in this House that we feel like he is an old friend. I am glad to hear, Sir, that they have produced their first linerboard and I do wish the project every success. Mr. Ingram will understand that there are certain things

that we have to do in this House, cross-examining ministers and so forth. The opposition in trying to get information from the government sometimes may appear as if they are trying to embarrass people, bringing in personalities. I want to assure Mr. Ingram that this is not true. All we are doing is trying to get the facts and figures so we can get the information out to the people of Newfoundland. After all, it is their money that we are spending and they have the right to know, Mr. Chairman, what we are doing with their money. I do wish the project every success.

I want to ask the minister one question before I take my seat. Will the minister indicate to the committee how many public housing units will be built on Shea Heights this year?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I would not want to state a specific amount. The corporation in co-operation with the householders union and the review board are investigating the needs up there now. We are talking in terms I think of maybe twenty-five or thirty.

MR. NEARY: I do not want to pin the minister down on that. The minister seems to think that it will be somewhere in the vicinity of twenty-five or thirty. There will be a minimum of twenty-five or thirty, Mr. Chairman. I do not know whether that is good news for the - how many public housing units will be built on Shea Heights? What will be the total when they are all built? I think there is something like forty-six built there now.

MR. COLLINS: There are forty-six or fifty up there now.

MR. NEARY: Forty-six built. Maybe another twenty-five or thirty this year. That will be seventy odd.

MR. COLLINS: Which is a pretty fair number of subsidized rental units.

MR. NEARY: I know it is a fair number but how many were recommended in the urban renewal project in the beginning?

MR. COLLINS: There were recommendations that there was a need for a hundred houses. There is no recommendation as to what type it

might have been. We are reluctant to put in too many subsidized rental units. I think the home ownership concept should be looked at very carefully because sometimes that is better.

On motion 1921-04 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Thinking in terms of the Harmon Corporation, I did not know that the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing was responsible in this respect. I thought it would probably come under the senior minister in the Cabinet, the Minister of Industrial Development, the senior of the three senior ministers. He is not in his seat today. Maybe the honourable minister can give some information to the committee.

Thinking in terms now of the phase-out programme of the American Air Force or the United States Air Force at Goose Bay and sometime during the formation of the Goose Bay project group which is represented by some senior provincial officials as well as some senior federal officials and trying to find ways and means whereby you can have a legal entity to attach lands too if you want to call it that or to acquire certain assets, I was wondering if maybe the honourable minister. I am sure that he is more than familiar with the Harmon Corporation. If not I am sure that the assistant senior cabinet minister, the Minister of Finance, would be more than familiar with the programme. Maybe he could shed some light on this particular subject to the committee. I am wondering if we should think in terms of having a Goose or some other form of corporation set up under the same body or under the Municipal Affairs and Housing, the same as the Harmon Corporation, so that this particular group that is now a joint committee co-ordinating the phase out of the United States Air Force and looking after surplus facilities, and facilities there will become available, having the same type of corporation with some legal entity so that we can negotiate with other federal or provincial bodies. Maybe the minister could shed some light in that respect.

We are looking for not only a group that is put together or committee but we are looking for some entity that can take the responsibility of having possibly land transferred or property transferred - someone that the MOT officials or the federal officials can deal with as an authority and a legal entity.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the Harmon Corporation has just recently been transferred to my department and I am the minister responsible for it. In fact there is very little that I know about it because while it is in our estimates, it will be with us within a few days but the change has not actually taken place yet. I would suspect what might happen over there is that the housing would be passed over possibly to the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation. So far as other types of buildings are concerned, some of those might and some of them might not. Actually we have not had a good look at that yet. I am not so familiar with it as to be able to go into any detail about it.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before we go on, I understand there is a Harmon Act that brought the corporation into being. I was wondering maybe if the minister would give some consideration to researching and maybe making recommendations to the Goose project group as to how you go about setting up a legal entity in that respect whereby the same type of thing that the Harmon Corporation do have. Maybe not the same responsibilities but the responsibilities probably differ or the concept differs from area to area. We are now searching for some legal body whereby we take some action. We do not know what we are going to get involved in.

MR. COLLINS: Yes. It might very well be worth-while. I would certainly be interested in talking with the honourable member on that.

On motion 1921-05 carried.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, we have been several hours now on the estimates of the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and I must say that we have gotten very little information so far from the minister. I am

going to try again, Sir. I am going to try to get some information on Shea Heights, Blackhead Road, Urban Renewal (capital), \$304,600.

Could the minister give us a breakdown of what that \$304,600 is going to be used for?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, this must be the sixth or the seventh time since about six o'clock this morning. I will try it again. I have not got a list and there is not a list in existence anywhere. The money will be spent on repairing overhead sewer lines. It will be spent on cleaning up some catch basins. It will be spent on raising some houses higher on foundations, putting in new basements and things of that nature, general improvements.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister have a breakdown in his department? I do not mind waiting for a day or so to get them.

MR. COLLINS: I can get a copy in a few days.

MR. NEARY: Yes. This may be the easiest way to get out of it, Mr. Chairman. Then we can get on with the other estimates. Would the minister undertake to get a breakdown of that \$304,600? I would appreciate it. I am not trying to be smart. The people want this information. I am trying to get it for them.

MR. COLLINS: Okay.

MR. NEARY: Thanks, Sir.

On motion 1921-06-01 carried.

MR. COLLINS: On 06-02, Corner Brook, \$250,000. That is the Corner Brook Urban Renewal Scheme on the West Side and this amount of money we think should finish that scheme. That has been a very successful one.

On motion 1921-06-02 carried.

MR. NEARY: Can you give us a progress report on the Mundy Pond Urban Renewal Development, Sir? I think the minister was in Ottawa recently on some negotiations, negotiating for additional funds for the project. I believe the Mayor of St. John's accompanied the minister. Perhaps the minister could tell us the purpose of his visit to Ottawa and if he

had any luck in gouping a few more dollars out of Ottawa for that project. How much more it is going to cost to complete the project! Give us a progress report and a breakdown of this \$750,000 that is going to be spent on Mundy Pond this year.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we were to Ottawa. I went along mainly with the mayor. The City of St. John's are the implementors of the Urban Renewal Scheme in Mundy Pond as opposed to the Shea Heights where our department were the implementors. There has been a considerable overrun in terms of cost in Mundy Pond. I think it is about \$1.5 million additional going to be required. We are hoping to share that three ways. We had a reasonably successful meeting with Mr. Basford who is the Minister of Urban Affairs. There are no Urban Renewal funds any more. The Urban Renewal Scheme as such is out and I believe rightly so because it destroys too much in terms of property and creates a lot of problems in terms of moving people - the bulldozer approach. So, there is no money available there. The officials of CMHC and the city have carried out meetings since then. They are most hopeful that they will find some other programme whereby they can get some thrust showing from Ottawa.

MR. NEARY: What it really means and what it boils down to, Mr. Chairman, is that there is an overrun of \$1.5 million, approximately \$1.5 million. The minister thinks that that will be shared three ways, the City Council, the province and Ottawa. At the moment there is no commitment from Ottawa. Is there a commitment from the province that they will put in their share?

MR. COLLINS: Yes.

MR. NEARY: There is a commitment from the province. They will put in one third.

MR. COLLINS: We will see what Ottawa puts in. We will share with the city on the other fifty per cent.

MR. NEARY: So, there is a commitment that the province will put in one third. There is a commitment from the city but so far there is no commitment from Ottawa. In the event that Ottawa cannot find the money because there is no vote for this now I understand, then will the province and the city go fifty, fifty on the deal? I can appreciate the minister up in Ottawa trying to save the poor, old province here a few dollars. We are not going to see the project grind to a standstill, grind to a halt because Ottawa will not come across. The minister must realize that they had to put a deadline on this. The city council have dates set to complete certain work over there. If you go beyond these dates the cost goes up. Would the minister care to comment on this?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we are not hurting yet. There is work going on in there now. This money is enough for the work which is going on this summer, the main work, streets, etc. We do not know for sure whether we will need more money or not. We are exploring the possibility of obtaining money for an Urban Renewal Scheme from another vote. I do not know what their votes are. If we cannot get the money from Ottawa, then we will have to look at trying to complete the scheme ourselves. Of course there is always the possibility that it will be delayed a bit longer. One never knows because that is a considerable amount of money to find. The city are committed to sharing and we are. I cannot see the federal government letting us down really.

MR. NEARY: I presume this will be mainly for water and sewerage and road work.

On motion 1921-01-03 carried.

MR. COLLINS: This is a vote, Mr. Chairman, which shows the funding which is available from the Department of Regional and Economic Expansion for various projects some of which have started. More tenders will be going on them in the spring and in the summer etc. That is generally on a fifty-fifty basis, fifty per cent grant and a fifty per cent loan.

MR. NEARY: Is this the work projects that I spoke about a moment ago?

MR. COLLINS: No.

MR. NEARY: Oh, it is not.

MR. COLLINS: This generally reflects work in the second DREE agreement and the revision to the second DREE agreement. Mainly it is infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, another list of winter capital works projects. This is a fairly large one. This was approved yesterday. It can be tabled if honourable members wanted to have a look at it. I can read it out. You would like to hear it all read?

MR. NEARY: There is no need to have it all read out. Unless the honourable minister wants to read it out? I do not mind. I will stay here till six o'clock tomorrow morning.

MR. COLLINS: I will read it in a couple of minutes.

Badger's Quay, fire hall, practically \$14,000; Baine Harbour, dam and water line construction, \$17,000; Bay Roberts road construction, \$50,000; Beaumont Area, municipal building, \$15,000; Benoit's Cove, breakwater and water line construction, \$164,000; Botwood, municipal park, \$25,000; Branch, recreational facilities, \$30,000; Brent's Cove, water supply and rink construction, \$33,000; Carmanville, municipal building, \$14,000. These are approximate figures. When they come to the press they are going to be a little different. Catalina, playground, \$77,000; Chance Cove, municipal building, \$25,000; Comfort Cove, municipal building, \$32,000; Crow Head, municipal park and skating rink, \$28,000; Cupids, retaining wall construction project, \$25,000; Eastport, water line extension, \$40,000; Embree, municipal building, \$8,000; Gander, solid waste disposal site, \$26,000; Grand Bank, municipal works depot, \$30,000; Grand Falls, municipal park, \$38,000; Harbor Breton, road construction, \$85,000; Harbour Grace, reconstruction project, \$62,000; Heart's Content, municipal building, \$25,000; Holyrood, municipal building, \$80,000; Lewisporte, subdivision development, \$45,000; Milltown, community improvement, \$26,000;

Ming's Bight, municipal building construction project, \$21,000; Mount Moriah, sewer line extension, \$15,000; Northern Arm, municipal building, \$33,000; Port Rexton, community center, \$48,000; Pound Cove, community center, \$17,000; River of Ponds, community center, \$23,000; St. Alban's, solid waste disposal site \$10,000; St. Bride's, municipal building, \$20,000; St. Jacques, swimming pool, \$15,000; Victoria, municipal building, \$50,000 (that is Victoria Carbonear); Winterland, municipal building construction, \$30,000; Woodstock, road reconstruction and recreational facilities construction project, \$40,000; New cribbing for a fish landing reconstruction project at New Harbour, \$25,000; Green's Harbour, long-liner trawler construction project, \$25,000.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: A fine lot of work.

MR. NEARY: The member for Gander was not exactly behind the door when the goodies were being passed out. There is nothing, absolutely nothing in there for Labrador. I do not recall anything in the previous list for Labrador. What is wrong with poor old Labrador? What is wrong with my honourable friend's district down there? I am sure that he will get up now and he will tear into the administration for not approving some projects for his district. Why not spread it around? Do not put it all in Gander. There is a fair amount of it in Gander. There are four if not five projects there for the district of Gander. I do not begrudge the honourable member -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: There are two.

MR. NEARY: No. There are four or five. I do not begrudge it to the honourable member. He is in trouble enough out in his district trying to mend a few fences. Well, you cannot blame the minister for that. For heaven sakes, spread it around a little bit and think of Labrador when you are approving these projects!

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, my criticism of this particular item is the same criticism that I have leveled at just about every department, that is the lack of information from this building for the general public. I think the first batch were already announced and the second

was just about completed before I personally found out anything about it. I must say that I have had co-operation in getting my projects into the next one coming up. Hopefully they will be approved. I think a little more could have been done at the start in getting the information regarding this particular programme out to the communities involved.

On motion 1921-07 carried.

On motion 1971 carried.

On motion 1972 carried.

On motion Head XIX carried.

Head XX, Provincial Affairs and Environment.

MR. NEAPY: Mr. Chairman, I really do not want to say anything about and I am seriously tempted to say nothing because the Department of Provincial Affairs and Environment is so ineffective. Unless the minister provokes me, Sir, I do not think we will even debate it. We will just let it go through. Forget about it. We would not waste our time, Sir.

There is only one matter that I want to raise and that is the matter of the environmental management and control. That seems to be in a bit of a shambles, Sir. I understand that the minister has advertised in the papers on the Mainland for a qualified engineer to replace Mr. Oakley. Well, I hope that he gets one soon, Sir, because there are a number of big, huge, important projects going ahead in the province at the present time, the oil refinery.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, might I make a suggestion to my honourable friend. Would he agree that we go through the Provincial Affairs part and deal with the environment part?

MR. NEARY: Let her rip, Mr. Chairman.

On motion 2001-01 to 2001-01-03 carried.

On motion 2002-01 to 2002-02-02 carried.

On motion 2003-01 carried.

On motion 2004-01 to 2004-04-02 carried.

On motion 2005-01 to 2005-02-01 carried.

On motion 2006-01 to 2006-03-01 carried.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not really have much to say with regard to the matter raised by my honourable friend. I presume that he is talking about the two resignations. It is true that we have run advertisements in the province and in fact right across the country because we believe that we need good people heading up this division. We felt that because we need professional types that we should advertise in other provinces rather than locally. I can certainly inform the House that we have received a number of applications, I might add a number of good ones, good prospects.

I should say, Sir, that the fears expressed by some branches of the news media and I believe some members of the opposite side when the resignations were announced, certainly there is no cause for such fears. I have always felt, Mr. Chairman, that none of us are indispensable. No matter what our job might be, no matter how important our job may be, no matter how professional we may be, there is always someone to replace us. That is not to take anything away from the two gentlemen who worked in this division.

As to the reasons for the resignations; the reason for the resignation of Mr. Oakley I believe is quite evident. He has obtained a position in Ottawa, a rather lucrative position. While some people might suggest -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. HICKEY: While some people might suggest, Mr. Chairman, that his reasons were other than to better himself, I would challenge that. It might well be that he has some feelings as to what we should be doing. As all honourable members realize, we have to divide what funds we have available throughout the service. No minister I would suggest, Sir, gets everything that he wants or wishes.

The suggestion that this government have not paid attention to the environment division certainly does not hold true. I do have some

figures which I can provide as to the amount of money spent in this division. Certainly, Mr. Chairman, it must be remembered that this administration saw fit to replace the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority and put that responsibility in a line department. Some people might well wonder why it went in Provincial Affairs. I believe and I think the reason government did place it in this department was to give it the emphasis that it deserves rather than have it in another department where it might well take second place or get lost in the shuffle if it were in maybe a more technical department. So, any criticism of this administration playing down as it were the environment division or indeed the importance of protecting the environment, controlling the environment is very much unfounded and without basis. I think in the years that lie ahead, in the very near future, this government will show in many other ways its interest and concern for protecting the environment. I do not think that there is any doubt at all as to the priority we place on it.

My only answer to the criticism of budget or budgetary restraints is that we do not get everything we want, we cannot get everything we want and we just have to make do with what we have for the time being.

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, could the minister give us the latest report on the ERCO spill? What is the situation now?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, the situation at ERCO, based on the latest information that I have, a couple of days ago, is that it is completely

cleaned up. The harbour has been dredged for the particles that might have remained after the solid material was removed from the harbour and there was a small amount in the wharf and steps were taken to seal off the wharf at the water level, from the water level up. My officials insisted that the wharf be dismantled in that particular area and that whatever phosphorus that might be there be removed. It is my understanding that the federal officials have insisted on the same thing.

The only other thing that I can say on it is that we are awaiting the court case. We do not feel that we should go back to ERCO and make any demands because whether or not there were negligence or neglect on the part of ERCO is something which will be determined by the court and until such time as that I do not feel that we should move any further.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, a couple of questions of the honourable minister: (1) Has there been any known biological aftereffect as a result of this or anything in the sea at all affected by it?

No.(2): The minister says that they should not make any demands of ERCO pending the outcome of the court case to see if ERCO showed any neglect or negligence but -

MR. NEARY: No quorum in the House again, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): The minister says he should await the outcome of the court case to see if there is any neglect or negligence on the part of ERCO. Well on that, Mr. Chairman, negligence is something which usually applies to people going about ordinary activities, driving a car, the reasonable man concept and all that kind of thing. If you are in fact dealing with very highly dangerous, destructive substances, negligence does not enter into it really. What enters into it is that the person handling or using this kind of a substance acts as a guarantor really that this will not happen. It is not a question of whether reasonable precautions were taken. The question is really as to whether everything

absolutely known to mankind really was utilized in order to prevent this type of thing from happening. Now the case is before the court, as the minister says, but is there any indication now, not that ERCO were negligent or not but is there any indication that they are now taking steps for example to make sure themselves that this will not happen again? They are called upon in a case like this not merely to act as reasonable men would act, they are called upon to take every conceivable precaution known to the industry, known to man. Is there any indication, in other words that they are taking this kind of a step?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, the answer to the first question is no, there has been no damage to any fish. The count has been very low within some fifty feet, forty feet of the actual spill. The count was something like point two per billion. So it was very low, because of the type of spill it was as opposed to the previous one some years ago.

The second question, I felt that my honourable friend would assume that we as a government and myself as the minister responsible would certainly make some reasonable demands or logical demands immediately upon ERCO, which I did, to take the necessary precautions and any precautionary measures that they could take immediately to ensure that this would not happen again.

AN HON. MEMBER: No quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

MR. HICKEY: What I meant, Mr. Chairman, when I said we would await the outcome of the court case, I have to disagree with my honourable friend when he says that negligence does not play a part or that it plays a rather small part.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): If the honourable minister would allow me to clear it up because it is an important point. Negligence certainly plays a part but what we are talking about goes beyond negligence. In other words the degree of care, the duty on them, that they must fulfill, goes far beyond the ordinary concept of negligence. The

concept of negligence under the law is that you take reasonable precautions and no man is required to take precautions that are - You know if you are driving a car along the road you are not required under the concept of negligence to be liable for say any latent defects that reasonable inquiry would not have found out. For example, if you did not know about them and reasonable diligence would not have found out about them, you are not liable under the concept of negligence. But when you are dealing with something which is highly dangerous, highly destructive, the duty of care, the degree of care that must be taken goes far beyond the ordinary concept of negligence. It puts the person into the position of almost an absolute guarantor that this will not happen. They take all precautions, not only reasonable but far beyond the concept of reasonability. So negligence is there but it is subsumed under the greater concepts of taking every conceivable precaution.

That is the point, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, may I just very quickly point out what we have done. We immediately made demands on ERCO to investigate fully the cause. We knew where the spill took place and we knew that there was a leaky tank so we impressed upon them and in fact demanded that they immediately take precautionary measures to use a different type of tank, namely, stainless steel inside of the type they were using, so there was double protection there, and other things as well. But, Mr. Chairman, the point that is more important, because of the nature of the product that is being produced at Long Harbour and the effects that it can have on the fishery, is simply this and this is where the area of negligence comes in: If ERCO were to take all precautionary measures and were to be perfect corporate citizens insofar as we could see up to this point in time and they had co-operated fully but if in a court case they were found to be negligent, that in fact they did not take all the precaution necessary assuming they had the proper equipment,

there is the area of human error or negligence or carelessness. If this were found certainly I would suggest that this government would have to take a much more serious view of the whole situation. In fact I would go so far as to say that if this were to be determined as the cause of that spill, I think we would have to take into account the possibilities of putting a stop board around that plant in order to protect the fishermen.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, this particular division I do believe is going to prove to be one of the most important of all divisions of any department of government that we have. It is all very well to talk about pollution cleanup and piddling sums for pollution control such as we have here. I submit, Sir, that pollution control goes far beyond simply going into an existing operating industry and trying to make them tow the line. I think the honourable minister has a unique responsibility on his shoulders. It depends upon how well he manages and administers this department or this particular division of his department, how well he does this will determine exactly what kind of a province we are going to have twenty-five or fifty or a hundred years hence.

In short he has taken upon himself the responsibility to protect for our children and grandchildren the environment that we have now, and that is in my opinion a very, very heavy responsibility. We have been dealing with problems created through mismanagement of our resources or mismanagement of our economy in the past but that is neither here nor there as the mistakes have been made and they are there to be dealt with. I submit that the most important form of environmental control that the honourable minister can exercise right now is to make sure that any future industrial development that is going to be carried out in this province is not the kind that we have been just dealing with, the ERCO plant; is not the oil refineries.

A prominent member of the former government was making

a comment on a statement that what we were going to see driving through the Isthmus of the Avalon was nothing but smog and smoke and industrial pollution from one end of it to the other and his comment was that the stink that we would run into on the highway would not be a stink of pollution but the sweet smell of success. I sincerely hope that this is not the attitude of this administration.

I would say, Sir, that the only effective means of pollution control is to make sure that any potential for pollution is eliminated before it even begins and ensure that we do not encourage this type of dirty, heavy industry that we have been forced to pay out so many dollars on in the past.

On motion, 2007(01) through 2007(02)(04), carried.
2007(02)(05) - Public Information:

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, what public information does the honourable minister have in mind? Some kind of a brochure or a weekly newspaper or what?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, the division during the last year and possibly since the Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority was established felt that one of the areas in which there had to be something done was by way of public information to make people more aware of the importance of controlling the environment and so on. Admittedly this is not a great amount of money but this year there is an attempt to be made to start this programme, to attempt to get some kind of a pamphlet or a leaflet or something of this nature as well as any other areas that we might be able to involve ourselves in, to make at least some kind of a start by way of public relations to let people know that it is important to keep our countryside clean, that it is important to control the garbage disposal areas and so on straight across the province.

Really, as I said, we do not profess to have the answer to the whole problem of public information but nothing was done in the past and this is a start. All I have to say is that we

must start somewhere and we are making that start this year.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, is there any money? Will the government be doing their own public information or will this be a contractual agreement with McLean or some other organization?

MR. HICKEY: No, Mr. Chairman, there is no intention of hiring people to do slides or anything.

MR. WOODWARD: No, \$4,000 slides or anything like that?

MR. HICKEY: I am sure that the criticism afforded may come and the past certainly should indicate that the amount of \$5,000 is not sufficient -

MR. WOODWARD: Not sufficient to get involved.

MR. HICKEY: Well, not sufficient according to the honourable gentleman opposite.

On motion, 2007(02)(05), carried.

2007(03)(01) - Professional Fees:

MR. WOODWARD: Maybe the minister could explain professional fees, what type of people are they looking at and the nature of the profession they are going to research.

MR. HICKEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, this is usually in the form of various consultants or consulting firms. We have a study under way at the moment regarding solid waste disposals in the greater St. John's Area. That one by the way is being cost-shared by federal, provincial and municipal. Whatever the problem might be that may come up, if my officials feel that they do not have the expertise or the time to really do the job, if a quick study has to be done, then what we usually do is bring in a consultant or hire an engineering firm to gather the information for us.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, will this be done by hiring consulting firms or will this go through individual people who are already now engaged in providing professional services to the government? How does the minister go about getting professional people in this field?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, to my knowledge there has not been any

contracts or projects awarded to individuals. It might well be an individual doing the job, it might well be one man, one engineer doing the particular project, but our dealings would be with a firm and that firm having been requested and awarded a project to attend to would then, of course, delegate or designate a particular official.

On motion, 2007(03)(01) through 2007(03)(04), carried.

2007(03)(05) - Waste Management Sites:

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, does the minister have any idea of the number of sites that they will be developing, the areas? Could he pin down the location of the particular sites that will be for waste management sites? How many municipalities they will be looking at throughout the province and what areas? Do you have a list of them? There is quarter of a million dollars for it. Is Robin Hood Bay the only one?

MR. HICKEY: I do not have an exact or a detailed list of the sites that we are going to develop because this is a lump sum of money and the sites will be determined during the year. I do have some information that I can give the committee. A portion of the \$250,000 includes provision for the relocation of the Pouch Cove, Torbay, Bay Bulls and Whitbourne waste disposal sites. There are approximately fifteen new sites throughout the province in unincorporated areas and part of this money would include such items as waste management, setting up the committee and giving them possibly whatever help we can to get them organized.

On motion, 2007(03)(05) through 2007(03)(09), carried.

2007(04)(01) - Water Systems Operations:

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, maybe the minister can explain the water systems operations.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, water systems work in conjunction with Municipal Affairs and Housing. They are financed through an agreement with ADB and the province. Usually they come about to provide water for fish plants and then in most instances or subsequently through

the project going into operation a town or part of a town would hook up to the services and use the water. I think that is about all I can say on it.

On motion 2007(04)(01) and (04)(02), carried.

2007(04)(03) - Contribution to Water Systems (Capital):

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, before we pass (04)(03)(Capital), where is the money being spent, in what areas?

MR. HICKEY: I am sorry but I did not get that question.

MR. WOODWARD: Where is that money being spent and in what areas in the province?

MR. HICKEY: Part of it is for the industrial water system at Long Harbour, Stephenville and that is about it, Mr. Chairman. \$35,000 was the cost of the Trepassey sea-water system and that seems to be it.

On motion, 2007(04)(03), carried.

2008(03) - Rent Control Board:

AN HON. MEMBER: Why the increase here?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, when the new legislation was given second reading I pointed out, in introducing the bill in fact, that there were provisions in the bill to set up five rent control boards for the province, in five different areas. One is Labrador, I can say that but the other areas have not been defined yet. There will be a St. John's Rent Control Board, of course, to replace the one that we have now and that is not necessarily to mean to replace the people but under the new act it would have some different powers and authority. The travelling and payment to members for meetings and what not, that takes up the bulk of the \$30,000.

On motion, 2008(03) and (04), carried.

On motion, 2071 - Block Provision: Canada Pension Plan, carried.

On motion, 2072 - Block Provision: Unemployment Insurance, carried.

MR. NEARY: Before we carry the total, Mr. Chairman, could I ask the minister if there are any little goodies in here for our good old friend George McLean.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend missed the debate I am sure because his colleague has taken care of things while he was out and asked that question.

On motion, Head XX carried, without amendments.

Head XVIII - PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES:

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, in introducing the estimates for my department it might be as good a time as any for me to make the following statement. I am pleased to announce that under the second special areas DREE agreement between Canada and the Province of Newfoundland four new schools will be called to tender within the next few days. These are: a regional high school will be built at Port Saunders to accommodate approximately 310 students in grades VII to XI and will have a gross area of approximately 50,500 square feet; an elementary school at Hawkes Bay which will accommodate approximately 210 students from kindergarten to grade VI and will have an area of approximately 29,000 square feet; a high school at Corner Brook which is to accommodate approximately 700 students from grade VII to XI and will have a gross area of approximately 69,000 square feet and a regional high school at Stephenville which will accommodate approximately 800 students in grades IX to XI and will have a gross area of approximately 135,000 square feet. Tenders are presently being called, that is this week, for the elementary school at Hawkes Bay and the regional high school at Port Saunders and tenders will be called within the next two weeks for the high school at Corner Brook and the regional school at Stephenville.

Just a few preliminary remarks on my estimates, Mr. Chairman. As the committee will understand, the Department of Public Works and Services, of course, is one of the departments that went under some

restructuring, becoming consequently the Department of Supply and Services of which technically I have only been a minister for a matter of a few days because the now Minister of Tourism was in charge of that department until I was appointed the official minister. The Department of Supply was really jointly divided between the Minister of Tourism and myself and we both found that that was running quite well and very efficiently and there is not a great deal that I can comment on it. If I do not appear to know too much about the supply division, I make no excuses for it because up to this point I have not had much opportunity to look into that and coupled with that, of course, the Department of Public Works, when I took it over there were some major construction projects going which needed very, very heavy attention.

I might say at the outset that the former minister of that department who is now the Minister of Transportation and Communications, I would like to pay a tribute to him. The House will recall that last year the then honourable minister was a very sick man indeed. He did not return to the House and to his office until I think it was the middle of June last year and he was far from well at that time. He immediately took on the tremendous burden of the Department of Public Works and the then Department of Highways. How he did it I will never be able to imagine, with the experiences I have had with this single department, and if there were some mistakes of which I am happy to say there are none, there would be every excuse for them having occurred in that period because the minister was really an ill man and it is great credit to him that he was able to carry the burden.

This department is presently conducting or overseeing construction projects totalling approximately \$120 million in addition to which of course it has had a tremendous burden of work put on it due to restructuring and the movement of personnel and offices and accommodations for various departments which will be moving out of this building. I am happy to say that this is

proceeding quite well. There have been some delays as you will always find in things of this nature but we are now getting under way and what is happening, when you first start to make the first move then the others follow automatically. But it is the first move where the delay is caused because then the others just follow on. The first moves have now been made and I think that the public will see the other departments become established fairly rapidly from hereon.

I do not wish to take up too much time on the opening remarks. I might say just in passing that on a couple of questions which were asked in the House during the present session one particularly having to do with snow clearing and questions on our tenders which were awarded this year, I have since checked the figures and am very proud and happy to announce that the total cost of snow clearing for all public buildings this year, up to this point, was down quite considerably not that I am very happy with it because I think that it can be reduced further but it is a good start. Also there was a minor question on parking which was asked in the House and that is the parking for our public servants. This has been a continuous headache because of the confusion which I might say has to some degree resulted from new staff, new employment and new departments and so on and people were trying to take advantage of whatever parking space they could get. I should point out that our security guards down here are not empowered to issue tickets. If they find a car in the wrong place they have to call up a policeman and get him to come in and issue a ticket, which incidentally, for the members' benefit, is quite expensive. It is a twenty-five dollar fine. We have kept continuous diligence on this and tried to keep the parking as good as it possibly could be but quite honestly I have not pushed the point as much as I should because during the restructuring and when the departments move out of this building, then will be the logical time to rearrange the parking. It would be senseless to

do it at this stage while departments are in a state of moving and flux. So I would predict that the whole parking situation in the vicinity of this building can be considerably improved once the departments which are moving out of the building have been moved.

This is all I have to say for my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, and I will be happy to answer any questions that I can.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, since there is nobody else only my honourable friend down here and myself left on this side of the House I guess I will have to make some attempt at getting some answers from the Minister of Public Works and Services, on his estimates.

Sir, in two provincial elections in this province and prior to the two provincial elections we heard severe criticism of the previous administration on their system of tendering. We were told, Sir, the people of this province were told that if and when the Tories formed the administration no more tenders, no more contracts would be awarded unless they went to the lowest tender. Prior to the election, Sir, we heard, this was one of the election issues. As a matter of fact, I suppose the oil refinery was the biggest, Mr. Shaheen, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Smallwood himself were the biggest issues. But tendering was a big issue. It was a big issue, Sir, in leading up to the election. The charges and the allegations that were made against the former administration for not calling tenders on certain projects or for calling tenders and not awarding the contract to the lowest tender, You would be almost ashamed to come out of your house in the morning you might be greeted with an onslaught from the Minister of Finance, lashing out at the former administration, you would turn up the collar of your coat and you would sneak down the street you felt so ashamed of yourself for wrongdoing, for your system of public tendering.

Certainly, Sir, when this crowd fluked their way into forming the administration of this province, when they fluked their way in in October; October was a fluke, Sir. -

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not in Public Works, Sir.

MR. NEARY: When they woke up one morning and discovered that the court had given them the extra seat, no not the extra seat, had taken away a seat which evened it up, when the court had disallowed the election in the District of St. Barbe South, they realized that and eventually took over the administration. The last thing in this world that you would have expected to hear, Sir, was this bunch of angels, this crowd of self-righteous individuals, this crowd of sanctimonious do-nothings, the last thing that you would have expected to hear, Sir, would be that administration and that minister giving out a contract without calling public tenders.

I do not know how many contracts have been given out but I know two contracts were given out, given to Babb Construction. On the Carbonear Hospital alone, one was for a smoke stack, \$189,000, another one was for water and sewerage, \$159,000. You know the feeble excuse, Mr. Chairman, that the minister gave us for granting these two contracts without calling public tenders -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Babb Construction, over in Carbonear.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Oh, I am coming to St. Anthony. No we have gone passed that, it is too late.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not too late.

MR. NEARY: St. Anthony is the minister's patron saint. Well I would suggest that he start -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I would suggest before the next election he would start praying to him.

MR. MURPHY: If he would say a prayer to him, that he had lost his mind -

MR. HICKEY: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Two contracts were awarded to Babb Construction -

AN HON. MEMBER: A good company. A good company.

MR. NEARY: I am not saying they are not a good company, Sir, but the feeble excuse that the minister gave for granting these two contracts without calling public tender was because of the time element and they were the only contractor available that could do the work. What nonsense, Sir? What nonsense! What nonsense! Then he said his officials told him this. "My officials said that these were the only two contractors available to do this work and because of the time element they" (referring to his officials) "had to award these two contracts to Babb Construction."

Sir, the officials hearing a statement like that, it is a wonder they have a hair left on their heads. The minister trying to brush off

this dastardly deed on his officials, trying to blame it on his officials when he knows full well, Sir, that it was not the fault of his officials. They were merely carrying out directions given to them by the minister who probably had his arm twisted, Mr. Chairman, by the honourable the Premier, for reasons which I will not mention in this honourable House.

MR. HICKEY: No innuendoes.

MR. NEARY: No innuendoes, none whatsoever. If the honourable Premier be in there on the couch having a nap he can hear what I am saying and he is quite welcome to come into the House and enter this debate and let us have it out. This administration was going to call tenders on every contract. It was not going to award a contract without calling tenders and here we find two examples over in the Carbonear Hospital where I understand we are going to have an overrun of about anywhere from \$3 million to \$5 million on that project, no public tenders were called and the excuse that we heard from the minister was because the officials had to do it because of the time element and so forth.

I am willing to bet, Mr. Chairman, that there were at least a couple of dozen contractors in this province that would have been glad to get that water and sewerage contract on the Carbonear Hospital at that time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Ashley.

MR. NEARY: Ashley does not do water and sewerage.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Tiller?

MR. NEARY: No, neither does Tiller. But there are a couple of dozen contractors, Sir, both large and small, that would have been more than happy to bid on that contract but they were not given the opportunity, Sir, the door was slammed in their face and Mr. Babb was called in and given the contract for \$159,000. There was no choice. No consideration was given that; taking bids from any other contractor. They were numerous at the time, Mr. Chairman, because last year was a very slack year in

the construction industry.

AN HON. MEMBER: No, no.

MR. NEARY: Oh, yes, yēs.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was the highest year yet.

MR. NEARY: It was not the highest year yet, Sir. The equipment was lying idle all across this province, Lundrigan's, as big as it is, in Corner Brook had to layoff some of its employees, no work and no work on the drawing board and no work on the horizon.

MR. MURPHY: They lost their grandfather.

MR. NEARY: Ah, they did not lose their grandfather, and the smaller ones, Sir, were lucky to survive, there was just no work. I would hazard to guess that there were a couple of dozen contractors who were eager, willing and available to do that work on the Carbonear Hospital. I for one, Sir, am not prepared to accept the minister's explanation and I am not going to accept it and the people of this province are not going to accept it.

But this is just one example, Sir, of the hanky-panky that is going on in awarding contracts without calling public tender or not awarding contracts to the lowest tender. This was the administration that was going to act like a bunch of angels, their haloes would hurt them when they formed the administration, no more awarding contracts without calling tenders.

I am told, Sir, that there are all kinds of favouritism, all kinds of it in awarding contracts in the minister's department.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Ah, there are two examples there -

MR. EARLE: Would the honourable member permit a question? Generalities -

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Chairman, the honourable minister will have his chance.

MR. EARLE: Just name a few favours and name a few people.

MR. NEARY: The honourable minister will have his chance, Sir. Sit down! Take it easy! I know I am touching a very sensitive nerve there. I am getting through to the minister and to the administration. They

cannot take it. They keep the House open for twenty-four hours, they are hushed, they all want to go to Florida or the Caribbean. Well, Sir, they are not going to beat us to our knees over here.

AN HON. MEMBER: Clearwater.

MR. NEARY: I will go down in a heap on the floor before I will surrender.

AN HON. MEMBER: You made a mistake last night.

MR. NEARY: No I did not make any mistake last night.

AN HON. MEMBER: Be careful now, the policeman is on his way, stay nice.

MR. NEARY: This was the crowd, Sir, that were going to behave like angels and the honourable Minister of Rural Development can get the grin off his face because we will come to him shortly. We will come to him shortly, It is a wonder he is not in here for one of these contracts.

MR. REID: That is one thing that he will not be able to accuse me of.

MR. NEARY: Is that so?

MR. REID: That is true.

MR. NEARY: Ah, well we will see about that.

MR. REID: He will see about it.

MR. NEARY: We will see about that. We will find out how much equipment the minister has rented out to the the various government departments.

MR. REID: Every piece of equipment I bought and paid for it myself.

MR. NEARY: That is not the point, Mr. Chairman, that is not the point.

MR. REID: I have gotten no government handouts, I will guarantee him that right now.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, that is not the point,

MR. EARLE: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. REID: That is the point.

MR. NEARY: Whether the member -

MR. REID: A very important point.

MR. NEARY: No, that is not the point.

MR. EARLE: On a point of order. Are we on Public Works or are we on Highroads or are we on Education or what? This has no connection whatever with Public Works.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member for Bell Island has been extended latitude in his remarks.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Latitude that has turned into longitude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Latitude that has turned into longitude, yes, as the honourable the Minister of Education says. The honourable the member for Bell Island, being a veteran of debates in the House, of course, will keep his remarks to Public Works and Service.

If the honourable member would permit, I would like at this time to welcome to the visitor's gallery thirty-nine Grade XI students from Twillingate Centre High School, in Twillingate, accompanied by their teachers, Miss Joan Stockley and Mr. Bill Clarke. I trust that your visit to this honourable House will be an enjoyable one. I would like to extend to you a very cordial welcome on behalf of all the honourable members of this House.

MR. NEARY: May I remind Your Honour that there is also another rule in this House that you are not permitted to speak in this House unless you are in your own seat, Sir. The minister who barked at me across the House, that distracted me from the topic under discussion, Sir, was not in his seat.

But there is some relationship -

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable the member for Bell Island is quite correct, The honourable members' conduct has been exceptionally good for the past twelve hours or so and honourable members of course will in future observe the Standing Order, when addressing the House they will stand in their place, uncovered.

MR. NEARY: So, Mr. Chairman, I think I have said enough to indicate to the House that this crowd that were going to carry out the great reforms in public tendering and brought a piece of legislation through this House have no intention in this world, Sir, of following the rules and regulations that they have laid down. They tried it in the case of

the Senior Citizen's Home in St. Anthony. They have awarded contracts in Carbonear, I do not know how many contracts have been awarded over here on the Health Science Complex, Sir.

MR. HICKEY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, does the honourable member want to make a charge about the St. Anthony Senior Citizen's Home?

MR. NEARY: That is not a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman,

MR. NEARY: I choose to ignore that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKEY: I will call his bluff now.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I choose to ignore it. I showed the honourable minister the distain that I have for him in his department by ignoring his estimates when they were going through the House, Sir, that should be message enough for the honourable minister. I will deal with him later on this year.

So I do not think there is any doubt at all, Sir, that this administration are going to look after their friends. that there is going to be favouritism, there has been favouritism, there is going to be favouritism in the future and the honourable minister as sanctimoniously as he is should be the first to get up and admit that, be man enough to admit it. When his arm is twisted, he has to jump. When the Premier pulls the string, bang goes the minister, award a contract here, there, all over the place. I do not know how many contracts have been awarded over here in the Health Science Complex without calling public tender.

I do know this, Mr. Chairman, that the minister has been unsuccessful so far in entering into an agreement with Scrivener Products.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Well unless the agreement were made in the last week. Last week when I asked the minister a question in this House there was no agreement either on the Carbonear Hospital or on the Health Science Complex over here at the university. They are the project

managers, Mr. Chairman, they are overseeing the project for the government. These projects have been going on now for several months past, Sir, one has been going on for almost one year and no agreement with Scrivener. Two top officials of Scrivener have resigned, The chief engineer and their top man here in Newfoundland have resigned because of disagreement with the administration. No explanation was given.

One of the reasons given by one of these top officials of Scrivener was that they were forced to give out contracts without calling public tender, which was contrary to government policy.

I will come to the honourable Minister of Rural Development, do not worry about that. We will find out of all the contracts that he has gotten whether they be from Public Works or from any other government department, whether tenders were called and whether they went to the lowest tender or whether there were any favouritism or conflict of interest. We will find out. We are going to find out.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Ah, is that so? The honourable minister made a public statement two weeks ago that he thought he was in conflict of interest. "He thought he was." And the honourable the Premier said that when the minister is bidding on -

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, it is completely irrelevant to the discussion on Public Works. If we have to listen to the gentleman's ghastly emissions at least keep them relevant.

MR. NEARY: Ah, Mr. Chairman, what a contribution! Is that a point of order, Mr. Chairman?"

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, it is.

MR. NEARY: Or is that just a bit of sarcasm?"

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would permit, the point of order is very well taken. It is the same point of order to which the honourable member was drawn approximately fifteen minutes ago and since that time he has gradually meandered back to the point of irrelevancy at which I had to interrupt him earlier. The honourable member is to direct himself to Head - 1801-01, Public Works and

Services.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I wish some of my intellectual friends were in the House, some of the geniuses that could give me a hand here. I am battling the whole administration by myself, all thirty-two of them, taking on the whole works.

But, Sir, seriously something is wrong. Something has gone wrong. I would like for the minister to be man enough to stand in this House and level with the committee. Tell us the truth. Tell us what is wrong. Tell us why public tenders are not being called on all contracts that are awarded by the minister's department. Why there is favouritism and the administration was looking after its buddies and its friends. They have criticized the previous Liberal Administration so much for doing that, Mr. Chairman, Your Honour will remember the issues leading up to the election.

Now, Sir, I think I have said enough about that. I will wait to hear what the minister has to say in reply, then I may have a few more comments. Maybe he can provoke me into making a few more comments on this.

Now I want to come around to another matter that the minister raised himself, snow-clearing. The minister said that this year the cost for snow-clearing around the government institutions and buildings was down slightly. He did not say how much.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Substantially? Down substantially. Well so is the fall of snow this winter down substantially, Sir. We had less snow this winter than we have had in recent years.

Sir, what brought this matter up in the first place was a question that I put to the honourable minister several weeks ago in this honourable House. It is so long ago I almost forgot about it until he mentioned it again today. I asked the minister if he could explain to the House what procedure was used to keep track of the time that was worked by the operators who have the contracts to

clear the snow around the various government buildings and institutions.

I believe the minister told me at that time that the security people around this building, the watchmen and the security people who work twenty-four hours around the clock, they keep an eye on the snow clearing operations for the department. Well, Sir, I want to say to the minister right here and now that that is not so. I do not know if he were looking for an excuse to give the House or not, but it is not so. I have since checked it out. I discovered that nobody is keeping a check on these contractors that have snow clearing contracts. They come and go as they please, Mr. Chairman, that is the truth of the matter. They come and go whenever they please. When you have a fall of snow they move in, nobody keeps a record of the time they started work or when they finished, nobody, but nobody, nobody in the minister's department. In actual fact what happens, Mr. Chairman, is this, that they bring their bill in to the minister's department, they present their bill, it is endorsed by the superintendent or the supervisor, whatever the case may be, I do not know what his official title is. He just okays it and he does not know whether they punched the time in or not. How would he know? He was probably home in bed when we had the fall of snow when the equipment came on the job.

What actually is happening, Sir, the department is taking their word for it, there is no check, there is no control, there is no signing in, they do not have to sign in when they come to Confederation Building to clear the snow around it. The watchman does not say to the driver of the bulldozer or the truck or the snow plough, he does not say, "Well, look what time did you come this morning? Here, sign the book." People coming into this building on weekends, they have to sign the book. The operators do not have to sign in, they do not have to sign out. There is no record kept of the time, Sir. It is wide open for abuse. That is why I raised it in the first place, because it was brought to my attention, Mr. Chairman, that contracts that had been advertised and then recalled by the minister's department (and I do

not know why they were recalled, Sir) were awarded to contractors for snow-clearing, for instance around Confederation Building here, for \$9.50 an hour. I think it was, \$9.50 an hour. Lo and behold! Mr. Chairman, the successful bidder, the successful tenderer, you know what he had to do, Mr. Chairman? He did not have adequate equipment himself, he had to go down to poor old Bill Roche down here on the Torbay Road and he had to hire equipment from Poche, had to hire equipment, Sir, for \$20. an hour, He is only getting \$9.50 an hour for snow clearing around the building and he is hiring equipment from other contractors for \$20 an hour.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, either the man should get the Citizen of The Year Award -

AN HON. MEMBER: How much did he pay Bill Roche?

MR. NEARY: Twenty dollars an hour, Sir, while the contractor himself was getting, \$9.50 I think it was, an hour.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No, he should have gotten the Citizen of The Year Award. He should have gotten the Distinguished Order of the British Empire. The only man in the history of Newfoundland I would suppose that did work for the government for nothing, went in the hole.

AN HON. MEMBER: Donated his time.

MR. NEARY: Donated not only his time, he donated his money. He paid the operators. It did not cost the taxpayers a penny. I wish we had more patriotic citizens like that in this province, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister give us the explanation? How could that operator in particular, how could he clear snow around this building for \$9.50 an hour? Incidentally, he was awarded that tender after tenders were re-called.

MR. CARTER: : Mr. Chairman, to a point of order. The sound system here is quite adequate, we are able to hear the honourable member. Could you ask him to keep his voice down? He is speaking at great length and that is his privilege of course but he could at least modify his delivery.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, that is not a point of order. I thought after the honourable member spent three weeks to one month in the Canary Islands he would have been well rested and he would be able to withstand the criticism that is being levelled at his colleague and at the administration. He has already proven his incompetence, Sir, and he got flung out of the cabinet. I would suggest to him now that he be seen and not heard.

So, Sir, I would like for the honourable minister to explain this to me because I cannot understand it myself.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Well I am trying to make a point. Look the Minister of Finance danced around this floor the other day for five or ten minutes and then spoke for three hours against public safety on the highways in this province. So I am entitled to take five or ten minutes to talk about the abuse and the misuse of the public tendering system in this province.

I will be interested to hear what the minister has to say about all this snow clearing business.

Now, Sir, last week in the House I raised the matter of parking around Confederation Building. I was quoting from an item I think it was called "The Nape News", I was looking for it here but with all of this, we are soon going to get a bulldozer to clean off my desk, Sir, \$9,50 an hour. Could the minister get one in to clean off my desk? In the "Nape News" I think it was, Sir, where the public employees in this building have been vehemently criticizing this administration for several months past, to get rid of the parking regulations around this building. Several meetings were held with the minister's officials. I think two meetings were held with the assistant deputy minister of that department and the deputy minister of that department. When I put the question to the minister last week, what was going to be done about this request, was the request going to be granted? Was the parking going to be put on a first come first served basis, except for those who are physically handicapped? The minister told me it was the

first he had heard of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would permit. We have in the galleries another visiting student group from Chance Cove Elementary School, Chance Cove, Grades VI and VII, twenty-four students, with their teacher, Mr. Norman Mugford. I trust that your visit to this honourable House will be interesting and informative and on behalf of the honourable members I welcome you to this afternoon's proceedings.

MR. NEAPY: The minister told me, Mr. Chairman, that was the first he had heard of it. Then I reminded the honourable minister and I held up the newspaper and I showed it to him and then he said he would check with his officials to see if any meeting had taken place. I am sure that today when I take my seat he will probably be able to give us a progress report on this and be able to tell us whether this reasonable request put before the minister and before the administration on behalf of the public employees in this building is going to be granted or not.

Now, Mr. Chairman, only one other thing. Before I take my seat I would like for the minister to give me a progress report on the engineering building over at Memorial University. Have all the contracts been let on that building? How far is it advanced? Were public tenders called? Were contracts awarded to the lowest tender? Or was some contractor called in because of the time elements and because the officials could not find another contractor to do the work?

Now in his introductory remarks, Sir, the minister announced four of five DREE schools for Newfoundland. I think I already saw the announcement in the "Morning News," Sir, but this is welcome news indeed. Just another example, Sir, of what Uncle Ottawa, what that great Liberal Government up in Ottawa is doing for Newfoundland. No credit to this crowd over here, Sir, that is a DREE programme.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Who is paying for it? The Government of Canada. The Government of Canada are paying for it, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are paying the full shot.

MR. NEARY: No, they are not paying the full shot but they are paying most of it.

MR. NEARY: The Government of Canada, Sir, are practically paying the full shot for these DREE schools. It is a fifty per cent grant and a fifty per cent loan my honourable colleague tells me.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Oh are there any ninety per cent loans in there?

MR. COLLINS: One hundred per cent for roads.

MR. NEARY: One hundred per cent for roads, fifty-fifty for schools.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: They love it. The students love it. They are really getting educated today, Sir. It is too bad they cannot stay here and just watch how tongue-tied the members on the other side of the House are, Sir. It is too bad they cannot stay. Maybe they might even see their own member in action.

But, Sir, my honourable colleague here may have more to say about these DREE schools. It is a great Liberal concept Sir. Thanks to that great Liberal Government up there in Ottawa, thanks to Uncle Ottawa, here we are going to get four or five more DREE schools this year, Sir, badly needed.

AN HON. MEMBER: Thanks to Mr. Lewis.

MR. NEARY: Thanks to whom? What Mr. Lewis?

MR. WM. ROWE: What are we on?

MR. NEARY: We are on Public Works. I am glad you came back because I am starting to collapse here.

So, Mr. Chairman, I will give the minister a chance now to answer some of the points that I have raised.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, I am very happy that the honourable gentleman from Bell Island raised a number of these questions. It is difficult to deal with them all because he brought in so many, but I am trying to lay the ghost first of this heinous crime.

MR. EARLE: These two contracts that were let without tender, these things which defied the fine Progressive Conservative policy of this government, were so disgraceful in comparison with what happened in the past that we cannot possibly live with this. We should all resign immediately. This is quite obviously such a terrible thing that the Progressive Conservative Government should resign, if you listen to the honourable member.

But as usual, Mr. Chairman, the honourable member from Bell Island has most of his facts wrong. The ones where he has his facts right, he twists them so that they are not recognizable.

I have already given the answer on the Carbonear Hospital but let me go back a little bit because this is really worth repeating. It was not my intention to dig back into the past because I do not like going back and blaming the previous government for their mistakes. After all, I was part of the previous government and I accept the full responsibility for the mistakes made while I was part of that government.

But these mistakes to which the honourable member is referring occurred since I resigned from that government and I do not accept responsibility for them. The mistakes to which I am about to refer are particularly the Carbonear Hospital and while the children are still here from Twillingate, I would like to mention the Twillingate Hospital also. This will be of great interest to them.

The Carbonear Hospital, I do not know how many times the sod was turned for that particular building. It started I think back in 1965 and then it built up to a great thing, that it is going to be a Carbonear Hospital, and sods were turned, they were flying all over the place, a codfish was not safe in Carbonear Harbour, he would be hit on the head with a sod the way they were going at it over there.

But in any case, this was built up, a great thing, and

MR. EARLE: then the real climax came when there was an election approaching in 1971 and of course something had to be done because so much had been said.

Now the story is this: Although the Carbonear Hospital had been announced all these years, there was no proper planning for it, there was only a rough architect's drawing with a rough estimate. I say at the outset here, that that architect's drawing predicated a building which was of such odd angles and such odd shape and conformity (I would like to show you a picture of it) that it had to cost an outrageous amount. Construction of that building was foredoomed to cost a tremendous amount of money.

Well what happened? Because an election was coming up, the then government went out and started digging up foundations. Incidentally they dug a foundation in Bay Roberts before that, which cost them \$50,000, which they never used. There was supposed to be a hospital there too, but \$50,000, that is only small stuff.

But then they started digging out the foundation for the Carbonear Hospital and that foundation predetermined the shape of that building. When we got in office, the damage was done. We could not rectify it.

Now we tried to live up to our obligation to the people of Carbonear and we went ahead with a hospital but, as I mentioned, the honourable minister at the time, who was in charge of this department, had been very ill and possibly things were going ahead rather quicker than the proper controls were there. But I am not blaming my officials for this.

It was decided to go ahead with the hospital in a piecemeal manner and to find out as quickly as we could what the project would cost. So certain work was done but the whole fault of the structure was this, that the building was decided to be built and

MR. EARLE: work actually started on it before any final plans or drawings or estimates or anything else were taken. When we finally got to grips with this, through all proper plans and proper estimates and all the rest of it, the cost had escalated by practically fifteen per cent, just the pure construction cost and materials and labour alone, and then the actual look of the building itself had driven the thing up to practically double what it was originally supposed to cost when Mr. Smallwood announced it.

Now on the bad contracts which the honourable member mentioned so much, I already gave the answer on this that because of expediency and because of the fact that there are not enough local contractors who wanted to bid on this particular job, on the advice of our construction or project manager, not on the advice of our civil servants (I might say I am not blaming the officials of my department) but on the advice of the construction managers, Scrivener, we decided, because the season is drawing late, we should award these contracts, because the contracts, the price quoted, was within the estimate that we had for that particular work and that company had also received a contract for the boiler house and these two contracts normally tied in with that work.

Now the honourable member for Bell Island displays complete ignorance of the construction business by saying that this had nothing to do whatever with the thing, that this was a foolish mistake. When you are getting into a large scale project of this sort, it is not the immediate job like the smoke stack or the underlying pipes or this sort of thing that determine that you can go ahead with that and just do that, because there are always alterations relating to the hospital. If you are following a consecutive plan, everything else relating to the hospital has to fall in place and it would not be just those two jobs alone that would be delayed but it would be the whole hospital

MR. EARLE: that would be delayed.

So we took the expedient course and awarded these contracts because as I say, there was only one local bidder. Incidentally on that point, another part of the reason why this hospital has cost so much is the fact that the sub-trades, the bricklayers, the electric wiring people, the plumbers and all the rest of it, because of that area over there, we have had very, very few bids indeed. It is amazing. There has been very little competition on this particular job and some of the bids which we are compelled to accept we believe were outrageously high, but nobody else bid for them.

Apart from these two particular contracts, every other contract on that hospital was awarded to the lowest tender and the list of the names of the people who got these contracts, in case the honourable gentleman thinks there is any favouritism, contains such names as Lundrigan's, Ashley's and people of that sort who are not supposed to be particular friends of the Progressive Conservative Party.

These contracts were given to the lowest bidder. The only two in question were the Babb contracts and for the reasons I have given. Actually Mr. Andy Davidson, the then manager of the job over there, gave this reason. I read his letter previously but in order to double check on this and I must say that I should point out that I was not the minister at the time but I checked very carefully into this when I became minister.

So I asked Mr. Harvey Self, who is the President of Scrivener Limited, to give me his version of it. I think it would be worthwhile if I read this letter, because this is a letter from Mr. Harvey Self, on the Carbonear Hospital.

"With regard to the award of the work for site service and the chimney stack to Babb Construction, we would outline the reasons as follows:

"The drawings and specifications were becoming finalized as at the end of August 1972 and it was felt that it would be

MR. EARLE: highly desirable to have the revised estimates prepared in order to obtain a more accurate picture of the cost of the project.

"The original estimates had been prepared from preliminary general data. This new estimate would indicate if any major revision in design were required in order to maintain the budget for the project prior to calling and awarding further contracts. Hence the delay in the calling of structural tenders."

AN HON. MEMBER: What date is that letter?

MR. EARLE: This is one I got from him on April 2.

AN HON. MEMBER: April 2 of this year?

MR. EARLE: Yes, shortly after the question was asked in this House, Mr. Chairman.

At that time, Scrivener, chief executive in St. John's, requested that tenders be stopped, on authorization of a telephone call from the Department of Public Works.

"While completing this new estimate it was considered critical that on-site services and the construction of the stack proceed. Otherwise additional costs would be incurred due to winter work and valuable time would be lost and the sequence of the schedule affected.

"Babb Construction who are the only local contractor in the immediate vicinity, were the successful competitive, low bidder on the boiler room and sub-structure and the site services and stack were closely associated with these works.

"In the interest of economy related to additional cost for winter work, etc., if these two sections were delayed, it was considered that they should be negotiated with Babb Construction provided their price was in line with the budget.

"This was accomplished successfully and the work awarded to Babb Construction, such that construction could continue without

MR. EARLE: disruption. As a consequence, the site services and stack were proceeded with such that the awards of the following contracts could proceed without pushing more of this phase of construction into the costly winter period."

Now that is the story on the Carbonear Hospital. I should like to mention at this time the Twillingate Hospital. The Twillingate Hospital is even worse. This was another one of these schemes which was announced prematurely for political purposes. The people of Twillingate were to get their hospital.

At the time it was announced there were no drawings, no specifications and no anything else. Then again as we approached an election, immediate orders went out to start bulldozing and giving appearance of doing something. This is where this government has found itself to be in really deep trouble. Because anybody who knows Twillingate Island, I am sure the children here are familiar with what I say, know that that is practically a bed of rock, solid rock. Twillingate is just one solid rock and when we had to get into that job down there, after some of the preliminary work had been done, the expense involved was beyond all realization, on top of which there had been no proper drawings, no designs nor no estimates.

Now we had to go over all this work. The result will mean, Mr. Chairman, that the Twillingate Hospital (which incidentally I should like to inform the committee is going to be proceeded with) our latest estimate for a job which the Liberal Government estimated would cost \$3 million, which was completely foolish and false, will now turn out to cost approximately \$6.2 million.

Now this is the story that we have run into all along the line. When we say we have been picking up the mistakes of the Liberal Government, these are two very close, clear and concise instances of exactly what I mean.

These Babb contracts, just to go back to these, are the only

MR. EARLE: two that I know of in the Department of Public Works that were awarded without contract.

All of the medical centre, to which the honourable member refers, had been called and the tender awarded to the lowest bidder. That project over there is within budget and is on time.

Incidentally, on the contract with Scrivener, which the honourable gentleman mentioned, the Liberal Government, the former government, had arranged such an outrageous contract with Scrivener's, when we came into office, we shuddered at what it would cost. We had to start renegotiating that contract and that is why it has taken right up until now to get a proper contract with Scrivener. I have confirmation that that contract is accepted and we have cut down the cost of that contract very, very considerably.

As a matter of fact, I sent two of my officials to the Mainland. They checked out similar jobs in different provinces, they checked with the federal government in Ottawa and they came up with the fact that what we were getting it done for by Scrivener was entirely reasonable and quite as good as we could expect to do.

I must say that the only complaints that I have really had of Scrivener's conduct on these things is from local people who feel that they are not getting enough share of the work. The fact is that Scrivener has been very, very tough indeed. He is driving some of the local people mad because he will not accept bids until he can get the absolutely lowest price. He has been accused right and left of not favouritism but by cutting it down so far that the local people cannot get a possible chance at it.

Now this I might say, Mr. Chairman, is similar with all our construction jobs at present. The engineering schools which the honourable member questioned, is estimated to cost

MR. EARLE: when finished, \$10,600,000. It was stopped for the winter because it would be stupid to go ahead under winter conditions to work that, but approximately \$7,745,000 worth of contracts had been awarded for that. All tenders were called and the lowest bidder accepted. Actually the bids which we accepted were below our estimate. We are quite happy about the way that is shaping up.

I hesitate to go back to such petty things as snow-clearing and parking because these are too foolish. As usual the honourable member is completely wrong with what he states. There are time sheets. These fellows are checked in and checked out and the evidence of that is the fact that it is costing less this winter.

Now when the honourable member says there is little snow this winter, he is thinking of only around Confederation Building but my department looks after 300 buildings throughout this province and if anybody thinks there was no snow in Corner Brook and Stephenville and Gander this year, they should go back and read the papers of the winter and look at it.

The snow conditions out there were really worse than any year that we can imagine and yet our total cost of snow clearing was down. So I think we are on the right track.

On the parking question, I already gave the answer. What on earth is the sense of trying to arrange a sensible parking arrangement around this building until the departments have been properly relocated?

The fact that I got up and said I did not know about these meetings is quite correct. Because, unlike the honourable member when he was Minister of Welfare, I do not stick my nose into every petty detail in the department. I have good officials on whom I rely very much and they are more competent, including discussions which they have had with Mr. Jim Channing who is more familiar with conditions around this building than anybody

MR. EARLE: else. They are more competent to judge that than I am and they come back and give me a report when things are ready. They do not follow me with trifling things when they are in the process of being thrashed out. Therefore, I do not waste my time on things of that sort until they are ready to be dealt with. That is my way of operating as a minister and if the honourable gentleman does not like it, he can lump it.

MR. MARTIN: I have two questions of the honourable Minister of Public Works and Services. One has only to look at this document, Sir, to see that the Department of Public Works and Services holds perhaps the most potential of any department for political patronage of which I suppose every similar department of every government in the Commonwealth has been accused of at one time or another.

We see such things as building, construction, sale, rental, operations of aircraft, printing and photograph, acquisition of vehicles, all of these highly subject to patronage.

Now the first question that I would ask of the minister is regarding his departmental purchasing policy. We dealt with this briefly during the supplementary supply but I would like to have an expanded answer, I would like to know what criteria is used in determining whether purchases are made from firms operating within the province or from those outside the province?

We have been told or we have been led to believe that in many, many instances, in an effort to cut down on expenditure, that the initial cost alone has been the determining factor. If this be the case, then we are letting ourselves in for an awful lot of trouble.

First of all, if it be an item that is coming for instance from Toronto, we might need certain items of resupply on this, of servicing the whole item, so the initial cost may well be down below what we are going to get in the province, but in the long run we may be letting ourselves in for two or three times what

MR. MARTIN: It would take to service this particular item from the province.

Secondly, if cost be the only consideration, then we are doing a great disservice to those firms that are trying to conduct commercial enterprises here because there is the element of employment and the more purchases that are made by government from local firms of course the more opportunity there is for continued and other employment.

Thirdly, perhaps the most important one, is whether or not the quality of that product has really been taken into consideration. If we are going to buy something at ten cents, that is going to last six months, and we can get it in the province for twelve cents and it is going to last two years, then we are going to be away ahead of the game.

So I would just like for the honourable minister to assure us that it is not cost alone and to expand a little on that and tell us precisely and exactly what it is, what criteria are used.

The second question - regarding comments made by two of the honourable ministers on the other side, brought up first I believe by the honourable the Minister of Finance and backed up by the honourable Minister of Public Works and Environment, when they referred to the fact that political patronage was a way of life and that we have to accept it and recognize it for what it is: Now given that the Public Works and Services Department holds such great potential for political patronage, I am wondering if this reflects government policy and whether or not we are going to see a burgeoning of political patronage, whether or not we are going to see mass, large-scale hand-outs to political supporters.

I do not think that is the case but I would just like to have some public assurances that it is not. These are the only two thoughts I have on this particular subhead, we will get into the

MR. MARTIN: others later.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, as I said at the outset, I am not as thoroughly familiar with my division as I should be and I admit it. I have checked into it a fair amount and all of the supplies to government are by public tender and public opening.

All of the suppliers - there is a list of people who can supply, and anybody's name can go on that list if he can provide the articles and can offer them. Very often, people do neglect to send in their names for certain things and if they are sent tender forms three times in succession and they do not respond to them, they do not bid; they are automatically taken off the list, and invariably I get a call from somebody and of course, his name is put back.

But we cannot just keep sending out forms and wasting money and so on to people who are not interested, so we keep this check on them. These people know, all of the people who are on the list, they are free to come if they wish to do so, at the public opening of all these tenders, which are kept closely sealed until the actual hour that the bids are opened. They can be present and see them.

Now I should state this, that in connection with local suppliers, local manufacturers, particularly local manufacturers, we try to bend over backwards to give preference as against what the honourable member fears we might be giving something to the Mainland. Actually in manufactured goods, goods which are manufactured in Newfoundland, we are within our regulations allowed to go within a ten per cent price differential in order to give it to a local manufacturer who is employing Newfoundlanders, and we do this.

It does not go for all purchases but this is left largely to the discretion of the minister and we try, where we can, to be fair but we have a responsibility that we must buy as cheaply as we can. All things being equal, the question of quality is very

MR. EARLE: carefully considered.

We have in the division down there people who are experienced with the quality of goods and type of thing that they are buying and we try to insist on getting good value for our money.

I quite assure the honourable gentleman that if he were sitting in my office this question or condemnation of patronage, whatever the Minister of Finance may have said or may not have said, that there is not a day passes that people do not phone my office, particularly Progressive Conservative supporters, and say, "What in the heck is going on, I am not getting any business?"

This thing is done on the up-and-up and completely fairly and I can get all kinds of calls from all sorts of people and sometimes supported by our own members, but I am afraid it does not cut any ice. We accept the lowest bid providing the quality and everything else is all right.

As I say, I am not completely familiar with supply division but in the next few months I hope to be able to check that over pretty thoroughly and I think that I shall find that the same pertains there.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, I would move that the committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

MR. DUNPHY: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred, have made some progress and ask leave to sit again presently.

On motion report received and adopted, committee ordered to sit again presently.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I would move that the House adjourn until three o'clock this afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: I do now leave the Chair until 3:00 P.M.