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VERBATIM REPORT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1974

SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS:

HON. JOHN C. CROSBIE (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the government is today, with the concurrence of the companies involved, Newfoundland Fisherman Food and Allied Workers, Union Local 625, releasing the report of the Conciliation Board, chaired by Dr. Harris of Memorial University. He was appointed September 19 to look into the matter of the dispute between the union and B. C. Packers Limited, Atlantic Fish, National Sea, Fishery Products and Booth Fisheries in connection with the trawler industry.

The board had terms of reference that require them to investigate and report on all items of a monetary nature affecting the relationship between trawler fishermen and operators, including fish prices, lay arrangements, short-time and working forth in other matters.

The board was specifically asked to make recommendations with regard to the economic ability of the companies to maintain or increase prices of fish, using as a bench mark the price of fish in effect at July 30 and further to make recommendations on the social requirements of trawler fishermen.

The board was asked to take into consideration that question, the issue of inflation and its affect on fishermen's earnings, standards achieved by other workers, the relative position between fishermen and plant workers, giving consideration to hours of service, working conditions and all related matters.

The report of the board is of great interest, not just to the parties involved in the collective bargaining dispute, to the public of Newfoundland and the governments of both Newfoundland and Canada. The

report is particularly relevant to the situation today since it pinpoints the main sources of difficulty in the fishing industry of Eastern Canada at this time and the need for long-term government programmes of assistance to the industry and those who work in it.

To summarize some of the main points made in the report: The report finds that the most serious problem of the Eastern Canadian fishing industry is the manner in which there has been depletion of what should be an infinitively renewable resource. Despite a vastly increased catch in effort, vastly increased investment in ships and technology, catches continue to decline. The rate of depletion the board finds is largely attributable to the vast European fleets operating in our Continental Shelf and waters adjacent to our coast.

The board suggests that there should be an immediate reduction of the total quotas by ICNAF to fifty per cent of their current level with respect to cod.

The board recommends that Ottawa must assume absolute control of the resources of fish on the Continental Shelf and that control must come about through unilateral action that international negotiations failed to achieve the desired end with catch quotas drastically reduced until sufficient scientific data is available to provide firm projections on the maximum sustainable yields.

The board points out that declining volumes of production have to mean higher per unit costs since whether the volume of landings go up or down, the great majority of costs remain unchanged and with volume increasing the unit costs decline.

The board finds that the

continuation of prices and costs obtained on July 30, if the companies continue to pay the same prices as on July 30, they would all be involved in sustaining heavy loses in their trawler operation as well as generally since they are facing a stagnant market and they have escalating costs of fuel, packaging and so on which aggravates the situation. They find that the market is stagnant at a level that makes the Newfoundland trawler based industry less than viable. They find that the state of the industry in brief is that fish landings are declining, that the decline in landings means lower earning levels for crewmen, that all elements of the cost equation are increasing at an alarming rate, that market prices are low and that the combination of these four elements has produced a situation in which each of the five companies and the board examined their accounts as for several months past and is now sustaining heavy loses. They find that deep sea fishing is becoming less and less attractive to Newfoundlanders and that trawler fishermen have good reason to be dissatisfied with their lot since their income as compared to the incomes of other groups of workers have declined in recent years in relative terms.

They suggested that the trawlerman's year should be fixed at 240 days, which is the equivalent of 48 five day weeks, so that an individual trawler fisherman would engage in twenty-four trips of ten days each during the year. They suggested the method to set the trawler fisherman's return for his labour should be a direct charge of so many cents per pound of fish caught by a trawler and that there should be established a minimum income level for trawler fishermen.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: The honourable member will get the report.

The board finds that the average cost of crew shares at the present time is about four cents per pound of landed fish. Well, with an average increase in costs of one and a half cents per pound of fish landed, the minimum earnings for full time fishermen should be about $13,000 a year for twenty-four trips per year with an average of 150,000 pounds per trip. It is necessary to provide a mechanism to insure to the fishermen some

absolute guarantee of income as well as some degree of a regularity in terms of payment dates and that to provide the necessary security to fishermen the board suggests an income average in formula to operate during the year with respect to trips.

For several years to come and perhaps until more sensible fish management policies will have had time to be implemented and to produce an effect or until markets improve appreciably, the viability industry will remain invalid. It does recommend to both governments that immediate action be taken to establish a mechanism through which the companies can continue to operate while assuring the fishermen of a fair return for their labour.

Two important questions that the governments must answer or find the answer for are first: What level of subsidy is required? (2) How is a subsidy to be applied?

Mr. Speaker, before this conciliation board report was received I saw the Minister of Fisheries at Ottawa and discussed with him the perilous state of the Newfoundland fishing industry. He had already been to Nova Scotia and had gotten the same kind of information from Nova Scotia. It was decided with him then that once the board's report was received a special task force would be appointed by the Federal Government and the Province to examine this problem and to come up with recommendations as to what assistance is needed to continue the industry in the next few years while the resource is being gotten back in proper shape, presumably under Canadian control.

MR. NEARY: He will have to get another study -

MR. CROSBIE: Listen, Mr. Speaker, we know that the honourable gentleman from Bell Island is not seriously interested in the Newfoundland fishery.

MR. NEARY: That is what he thinks. (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CROSBIE: As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, we decided then that this task force should be appointed as soon as the report was in. On November 18 the federal representatives, the Chairman of the federal task group is

Mr. F. Doucette of the Fresh Fish Marketing Corporation. He has been asked to chair it on behalf of the Federal Government. We have appointed Mr. David Vardy, the acting Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Gordon Slade, Frank Spencer, Mr. Leslie Dean, Mr. Rupert Prince and they can call on other people and they have been working on this problem since November 18 in corporation with the industry and of course with the union.

It is hoped, Mr. Speaker, that

by December 15 these groups can report to their respective governments so it can be decided what kind of assistance will be given in the period of the last several months, in the next few months, to keep the industry going in the meantime. While a permanent system of assistance is being worked on, that will have to be in effect until the fishing resource comes back so that it is adequate to sustain the East Coast Canadian Fishing Industry. So that work is now under way and they are meeting every day on it.

The work under way now, Mr. Speaker, is confined primarily of the problems of the fish plants served by the offshore fish fleet. Once a plan of action is devised with respect to the trawler fleet and the companies who have trawlers, then work will have to be done on what needs to be done in connection with the inshore fishery.

It is quite clear, Mr. Speaker, that the government of Canada will not provide any assistance to Newfoundland that will not apply to the other Atlantic Provinces.

Since the central problem of the fishing industry is caused by the decline in the fishery resource, a matter which is solely under the constitutional jurisdiction and which is solely the responsibility of the Government of Canada, the province is expecting the Government of Canada to provide a very major portion of any programme of assistance that now evolves.

We are not passing the buck, Mr. Speaker, the BNA Act passed that buck in 1867. The Government of Canada is responsible for everything that happens offshore here in Newfoundland. When you are going off the shore line there, the Government of Canada takes control.

Now, Mr. Speaker -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: With respect to fish. With respect to oil and gas the matter is different. Although the honourable gentleman opposite apparently wants them to have the oil and gas control also.

MR. ROBERTS: Not so.

MR. CROSBIE: Well then, he should keep his mouth closed or open it and

explain his position.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CROSBIE: Now, Mr. Speaker, as far as the Conciliation Board Report is concerned, the government feels that its main findings are accurate and sound. With respect to what Dr. Harris finds and his board finds, the trawler fishermen should receive - the government agrees that there is need and the need is shown that a trawler fisherman should receive substantial improvement in the remuneration he gets for the work that he undertakes.

Whether the amount Dr. Harris suggests and the way in which he suggests it should be done is the best one or the proper one, of course, is a matter for the parties to negotiate about and to finally settle once they know what assistance is available to them from the governments. The government does not want to become involved, if that can be avoided, Mr. Speaker, in the collective bargaining negotiations and details that should be left to the parties themselves.

It is quite clear, Mr. Speaker, that this is a complicated area and that everything possible is being done to bring it to the attention of the Government of Canada and for us to do our part. The House need not fear either, Mr. Speaker, that we will do our part within our financial capability.

Now, I have other information on the Fishing Industry Advisory Board and so on which I can give the House later just to say that that matter is well under way. Mr. Prince who has been appointed chairman of the Fishing Industry Advisory Board has now been authorized to commence work with whatever people he needs to set up the Fishing Industry Advisory Board. Their aims and objectives have been identified. The government has agreed that there will be legislation introduced in the coming session of the House to allow the board among other things, to subpoena information if that kind of power is required.

Mr. F.A.J. Laws who was special assistant to the Minister of Fisheries, a very experienced man in the fishing industry, has been appointed as secretary or seconded as secretary to the board. Mr. Prince and Mr. Gar Pynn who is the other member of the board, have

been authorized to get whatever legal advise they need from the Department of Justice. They use Mr. Carl Sullivan in the Department of Fisheries in financial analysis to get whatever economic and other advice they need from the Planning and Priorities Committee and to hire such chartered accountants,market analysists or other experts as they may need so that within the next two or three months they will have the legislation ready and their aims, objectives and their methods of operations settled.

It is estimated that the amount, that the cost of doing this work up to the end of March will be $88,000 most of which will have to be supplementary supply which I assume that the opposition will not vote against.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the government has no objection whatsoever and in fact wishes to have the whole position of the fishing industry of Newfoundland and Eastern Canada debated in this honourable House. The government will not do it today. The honourable gentleman wants to speak from ignorance. He has not received the Harris Report but he wants to speak about the fishing industry today. It will not be today, Mr. Speaker, but the government will make time available for a debate on the fishing industry next week. A motion that will permit, that will be made later in these proceedings.

The government, Mr. Speaker, has nothing to fear about debates in the fishing industry. It has done more in two and a half

years than the Roberts/Smallwood Administration did in the previous twenty-two.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PETITIONS:

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Bay de Verde.

MR. B. HOWARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present two petitions -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HOWARD: Both dealing with roads. The first being from eighty-nine residents of Old Perlican, which is known by local residents as "The lower end of Old Perlican." The prayer of their petition is: "We the undersigned residents of Old Perlican request that the road to Daniel's Cove be paved one-half mile beyond Harold Barrett's residence. There are several new homes in this area and several more under construction. As this is an extension of Old Perlican and traffic is very heavy at times, there is a considerable amount of dust. With paving equipment presently in the area, we feel this opportunity should not be overlooked.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this petition as Old Perlican is expanding and this is the only way at the present time that they can expand is on the road to Daniel's Cove, and maybe a little prejudice on this owing to the fact that I come from the Community of Daniel's Cove and during the last election I got a one hundred per cent vote from there, although it was only my mother and she was eighty-four years of age, she had to walk four miles to vote. I fully support that petition.

AN HON. MEMBER: Voted P.C. at that.

MR. HOWARD: And voted P.C. at that, yes.

The second petition is from Lower Island Cove, it is signed by 159 voters. The prayer of the petition is, "We the citizens of Lower Island Cove do hereby petition the government to have a secondary road paved down through our community. This road is a school bus route besides being one of the main roads of our community. The road would not need any extensive upgrading on major repairs because of its fair condition of the pavement. We feel this to be the most opportune time while the paving machinery is in our immediate area. The road is approximately a mile and a-half long.

Mr. Speaker, I support this petition wholeheartedly.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Is it in order, Mr. Speaker, for the honourable and stund Member for Bay de Verde to present more than one petition at one given time? Or do you have to present the petitions separately?

MR. SPEAKER: Well I suppose presenting two petitions at one time is as much in order as one member calling the other member, stund. But anyway I feel the word stund is a little unparliamentary and should not be used. There are other occasions when honourable members have presented two or three petitions at one time, although, I think, yesterday the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy did present one at a time. It is probably a little more proper to do one at a time than two or three together.

MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. HOWARD: If the honourable gentleman on the other side would be quiet for a few minutes so I can conclude my remarks, he can have the floor for the rest of the evening.

I support this petition because two years ago this road was upgraded prior to that it was nothing only a cow path, right now it is in good condition, approximately forty-four feet wide.

I fully support it and urge the department to act accordingly. I ask that these petitions be laid upon the table of this House and be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. M. WOODWARD: Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House support the petitions which were presented by the honourable member, representing the residents of Old Perlican, where he got 100 votes.

The people of Lower Island Cove are looking for improvements in roads. We, Sir, pray that their demands will be met. We trust that Ottawa will come through with the funds to support the five-year road paving programme that this government is going to present to this House and offer to the people of this province later on this year or possibly included in this year's budget.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of areas throughout the province that are badly in need of roads, not upgrading nor paving, but there is one particular area in the province where we have no roads, Mr. Speaker. Although the Minister of Transportation and Communications is not in the House today, I would like to air it to the minister and the Premier, who is responsible, that we, in the mainland section of the province, are looking forward to some improvements in roads this year.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. WOODWARD: We support the petition, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I beg to interrupt the Hon. Member for Labrador North. The latter part of his remarks are not relevant to the prayer of the petition of the Member for Bay de Verde.

MR. B. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition on behalf of the residents of Nipper's Harbour, Snook's Arm, Round Harbour, Tilt Cover and Shoe Cove in the District of Green Bay.

The prayer of the petition, Mr. Speaker, concerns the paving of twenty miles of the La Scie Highway. The year before last, ten miles of this important highway was upgraded and this year an additional ten miles has been upgraded or is in the process of being upgraded

and it is the feeling of the residents in the Green Bay District that rather than go ahead and finish the remaining fifteen miles for upgrading next year that it would be much better to pave the first twenty which will, at least, give them that much paving. It seems that the upgrading projects that are underway really make the road in worst condition than the old road was, especially in the months of February, March, April and May.

It should also be pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that other people use this road besides the communities that I listed. As I mentioned it is the La Scie Highway. The last community at the end of that highway is the Town of La Scie. In addition to that town, we have the other communities of Harbour Round, Brent's Cove, Pacquet and Woodstock, also Ming's Bight, in that area.

In addition there is a very important copper mine on that highway, Rambler Mines, which has two mines now really, the mine at the old Rambler Site as well as the new Ming Mine towards Ming's Bight. Each day the company has trucks on that road carrying the ore concentrate from that mine to the Community of Tilt Cove where it is stored in an ore shed there and shipped from there by ship. Because of the industrial activity that is presently occurring along that highway, it makes it even all the more important.

Of course, too, you have the La Scie Fish Plant and all the communities that are involved in the fishing industry very often truck their fish over that highway to La Scie.

Mr. Speaker, I support the prayer of this petition and ask that it be put on the table of this House and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House, support the petition that was presented by the junior cabinet minister, the Member for Green Bay.

Sir, we feel that there should be far more money spent on roads in this province , as I stated before.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WOODWARD Again, Sir, we appeal to Ottawa to get the necessary funding, not to the Minister of Finance but maybe to the Minister of Fisheries, who is more suited and more capable to carry on the funding of this province than the present Minister of Finance. We will get into that later.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. WOODWARD: We do not fight the federal government. If you did, they would cut you off completely and where would you be then? You have no money of your own.

Mr. Speaker, we support the petition,and again, we hope that the Department of Transportation and Communications will get the necessary funding from Ottawa to put forward the five year paving programme in this province. I trust that they will not neglect to put some roads in Labrador and then pave them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for St. John's South.

MR. R. WELLS: It seems to be a day for petitions, Mr. Speaker. One more, it is a model of gravity and it comes from the citizens of Shea Heights, to read it in full it simply says: 'We the undersigned would like to see an RCMP Detachment stationed on Shea Heights.' That is signed by -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. WELLS: I thank the Minister of Fisheries. That is signed by 375 people. Now this was given to me on September 23, and I,of course, kept it until now until the House opened. It arose, Mr. Speaker, because two or three children were killed and have been killed up there this summer in traffic accidents. The gist of the matter is that somebody who has no more sense of responsibility than to do it, drive all over the place up there on the roads like madmen, particularly at night. There were no police in the area. The RCMP visit from time to time as they do many small communities and unfortunately it is not enough because the irresponsible element in the community go tearing around and eventually somebody is injured or killed.

Now whether or not a RCMP Detachment can be put on Shea Heights, I do not know but I think the prayer of this petition and the emphasis of this petition is that something ought to be done so that policemen are up there more often than they are now, particularly at night when this type of driving tends to occur. I think this is something that is worthy of consideration, whether it should be the RCMP or whether Shea Heights should be taken into the area of the Newfoundland Constabulary, these are matters for the Department of Justice I feel to consider but I think the point underlying it is vitally important. There are areas of this province and areas around St. John's today where there is inadequate policing, especially at night, and especially because there are in this community drivers who are completely mad.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that this be tabled and referred to the Department of Justice to which it relates. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

HON. E. M. ROBERTS (LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION): Mr. Speaker, if I could say a word or two in support of the prayer of the petition just presented by the gentleman for St. John's South. I think it is a very reasonable request. I think in the latter part of his remarks he probably hit upon what I would suggest is the solution. I am one of those who, well certainly no expert on police matters or the administration of police responsibilities, feels that the Newfoundland Constabularly, in the type of work which the honourable gentleman is discussing, I think can do a better job than the mounted police. I realize that we have had some difficulty in St. John's recently. There has been some criticism of the constabularly, criticism which the Minister of Justice feels, and I think with some justification for once, is not entirely deserved. The police were not able to, if you wish, to defend themselves in that sense of the word. The Minister of Justice hesitatingly and after a little bit did raise his voice and perhaps set the matter straight.

I am not sure if putting the mounted police, if in fact they were to do that on Shea Heights would meet the sort of need that the honourable gentleman for St. John's South describes. My understanding of the mounted police, in what little I have had to do with them, they have detachments in two communities in my constituency, is that they do not provide the sort of continuous day to day police presence that most often is called, you know, "The man on the beat," to get a generic name. The mounted police do not seemed to be trained to do this type of work. They do not seem to be programmed to do it or told to do it, they seem to concentrate on a different type of police work altogether.

So in supporting the petition I would suggest to the Minister of Justice, who takes a great number of things under advisement, and there they seem to ruminate and eventually to vegetate and finally to die, that he consider the petition and that he make some answer to it. Not today - he may or may not be in a position to say something today that I do not know but that within a reasonable time frame he make some answer to it and to the people in Shea Heights. Perhaps the people in the suburban areas surrounding the city could be told whether they are going to get increased police protection

through the agency of the mounted police and, if so, by what means

or alternately, they are to get increased police protection from the agency of the Newfoundland Constabulary. Whatever the decision, I think it is agreed and I think it must be agreed, it must be implemented, that we do need a greater degree of police protection in the communities surrounding St. John's. It is more and more an issue that I hear about. It is more and more an issue that, I suspect, we will continue to hear about. It is more and more an issue on which the Minister of Justice and the government should act and act quickly.

MR. AYLWARD: I beg leave to present a petition from approximately 500 residents of the Cape Shore. The prayer of this petition is that the road from Point Verde to St. Bride's be upgraded and eventually paved. The present condition of the road is desperate, Mr. Speaker, in that there are about four or five miles presently under construction. As a result, the residents of the area feel that unless immediate steps are taken to improve the present condition of the piece of road presently under construction, it will be impassable within the next few weeks.

They say the condition of the road has always been poor but presently because of what the residents feel is a lack of adequate equipment by the contractor in the area, the present condition is really deplorable.

The petition is signed by the residents of Branch and Point Lance as well. I know it is of some concern to the honourable member for St. Mary's since on Sunday last we both drove over the road. We can say from first hand knowledge that the submissions made by these petitioners are really justified and that is that immediate steps should be taken, not alone to upgrade it but to improve the present conditions of this road.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask that this petition be laid on the table and referred to the department to which it relates. I am only sorry, in presenting it, that the honourable Minister of Transportation and Communications is not in his seat. I sincerely trust that this will come to his attention and that he will take immediate steps to improve the road.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER (MINISTER OF EDUCATION): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the prayer of the petition presented by the honourable member from Placentia East. As he stated last Sunday we together travelled over that road. Actually we were both attending openings of new elementary schools at St. Bride's and Placentia East and Branch in St. Mary's Bay. Of course there is some quite considerable upgrading going on on that road which honourable members who have been over it will know is a road of many hills, many corners, perhaps one of the most scenic drives in Newfoundland. I think it certainly would be among the most scenic in Newfoundland, very rugged terrain. There is no doubt that with the upgrading going on and no doubt when it is completed, there will be a vast improvement. While the upgrading is going on, then it puts the road in very bad condition.

I think the honourable gentleman from Placentia East may well have put his finger on a point when he referred to this. I do not know. I am not an engineer. It may well be that contractors undertake work in this province without sufficient equipment or they become too thinly spread. They work on lots more contracts than that for which they have equipment. I cannot say that with a certainty. I do not know.

I do know that when roads are being upgraded and not infrequently, there condition is pretty rough. Everybody realizes that while a road is being upgraded, certainly there is going to be quite some inconvenience and it is not going to be in good shape. I am by no means such that it need necessarily be, as it frequently is, during that upgrading. I put it forward. It certainly will draw the attention of the honourable Minister of Transportation and Communications to the petition presented by the honourable member for Placentia East and mention to him as well that in this whole area, whether contractors are sometimes spreading themselves too thinly and whether there should not perhaps be closer regulation with respect to their obligations, contractor obligations during the periods of upgrading.

I am pleased to support the prayer of the petition put forward by the honourable gentleman from Placentia East.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support the prayer of the petition

just presented by the member from Placentia East. This stretch of road,Sir, between Point Verde and St. Bride's in my opinion is the worst piece of road in this province today. I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that the two members who are involved,because it borders on two districts there - it is going to be shifted over, I think, in the St. Mary's - Capes district under redistribution - I do not think the new member for that district should be satisfied with having it placed on the five year programme that we have been getting advanced notice on in the last couple of weeks. I think it should be given number one priority.

The upgrading of that road, the reconstruction of that road should go forward full speed ahead this fall and this winter, Sir.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I am not looking for another district.

Full speed ahead, Mr. Speaker - the road is a hazard to traffic. It is dangerous and something has to be done about it immediately and not given the five year hoist.

HON. A.J. MURPHY (MINISTER OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE): Mr. Speaker, if I may I would like to support this also. It was a sort of a hardy annual for me when I was in the House of Assembly from 1962 up for many years, this particular stretch of road.

There was not a foot of pavement in any of these districts until, I believe, the Conservatives just about took over. That would be in the St. Mary's district particularly.

When I hear these rabid men in opposition demanding that not be done today but yesterday, it really works me up. I was eight years, Sir, fighting for Placentia and St. Mary's when it was in the hands of the great generous Liberals, Sir. What was done? Nothing, absolutely nothing.

I would like to congratulate the members for Placentia East and St. Mary's on urging and on the part of our own Department of Highways at that time to start working in these areas and make these people feel that they are as much a part of this province as any other district, Sir. I am very happy and I support the petition.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MURPHY: What is the "Tractor Driver" saying?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: He can drive a lot better than the honourable member can.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MURPHY: Listen to "Three per cent" over there.

Mr. Speaker, yes I am very happy indeed to support this and to say to these two members that I am sure that when the dollars are available, Sir, that road will be finished. It has been some twenty odd years now since these people have been looking for it. The last two years we have made some progress and we hope to keep it up because if it is a five year programme, it is a lot better than waiting twenty-three. Thank you very much.

REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

HON. H.R.V. EARLE (MINISTER OF FINANCE): Mr. Speaker, as required by the acts of this House, I present to the House the annual reports of the Newfoundland Liquor Licensing Board and the Newfoundland Liquor Commission. I have sufficient copies here for each member of the House. I would commend that in particular the report of the Newfoundland Liquor Commission be read carefully by each member. It does show that largely due to the strenuous efforts and good work of my predecessor, the present Minister of Fisheries, that that organization has been completely revamped and is now, for the first time in history, operating as an efficient businesslike and very, very fine organization. This was largely due to the efforts of the excellent staff which my predecessor was successful in recruiting.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice of the following resolution:

WHEREAS the fishing industry of

Newfoundland and Labrador and of Eastern Canada is in serious difficulty primarily because of the over fishing of the fishery rescource and the resulting dwindling catches of Newfoundland and Canadian fishermen from the inshore and continental shelf waters off of the east coast of Newfoundland whereas a healthy and viable fishing industry that provides a decent living for a fishermen and those who work in the industry as well as a reasonable return for intrepreneurs engaged in the industry is essential to the well being of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador and to the economic life of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: I thank the honourable member. Mr. Smallwood used to help to correct me there too but I have never been able to learn from Mr. Smallwood or from the honourable gentleman from Bell Island.

Therefore be it resolved that this House of Assembly convened supports the efforts of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in conjunction with the Government of Canada -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, they are so interested in the fishery. All they are interested in is partisan twaddle. Just listen now to the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, honourable gentlemen want to debate the fishery. Mr. Speaker, this motion will enable them to debate the fishery. They will be sorry they ever suggested it, their shameful record over there.

Now therefore be it resolved that the House of Assembly convened supports the efforts of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in conjunction with the Government of Canada to devise a scheme of financial assistance for the fishing industry of Newfoundland and Labrador that will permit the fishing industry of Newfoundland and Labrador to continue to operate in a manner that permits the efficient and properly managed company to gain a reasonable return on its investment and the fisherman and worker in the industry to receive fair and adequate returns for his labour. Until

such time as a recovery of the fishing resource on the inshore and continental shelf waters off the east coast of Canada permits a self sustaining industry to operate once again. This honourable House of Assembly convened urges and joins the Government of Canada to take unilateral action during 1975 to control the fishery resource on the inshore and continental shelf waters off the east coast of Canada for the benefit of the Canadian fishery and to take steps to enforce proper enforcement and surveillance measures unless a satisfactory international agreement is reached that permits the same results at the Law of the Sea Conference during 1975.

Mr. Speaker, I invite the honourable Leader of the Opposition to second this motion because there is no reason in the world why it should not be supported by them. In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, I ask for leave of the House to move on tomorrow, whatever it is, the format is, in connection with this resolution. I have some copies here for the opposition and the press gallery. I will expect, Mr. Speaker, -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: I will expect, Mr. Speaker, that unless blinded by partisan considerations totally we will have the unanimous support of the House for this resolution and be able to review the whole state of the fishing industry next week at some appointed day,perhaps Thursday.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Copy cats.

MR. CROSBIE: What is the man talking about? What is wrong with him?

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Copy cats. So, Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in moving that motion and we will have our debate next week and see what suggestions the opposition can come up with.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Justice.

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Automobile Insurance Act."

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TO WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Education.

HON. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a reply to an oral question asked by the honourable member from Bell Island yesterday.

ORAL QUESTIONS:

MR. NEARY: The President of the Treasury Board, Sir, was going to get me some information on the number of civil servants that got the "heave ho" under the governments new redundancy programme. Does the minister have that information now?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Speaker, there were two questions asked by the honourable member yesterday. The answer to his first question which he will recall of course is yes and the answer to his second question: the redundancy board has just been established and as such a committee is meeting to look into other cases which may be redundant. In the meantime replacement of individuals in departments where they can do the most good is being actively worked on. In other words, new positions are attempting to be found.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Bell Island.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my first question today is directed towards the Minister of Industrial Development who seems, Sir, to have developed a short circuit in his magic wand when he opened the -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: When the minister opened the Pyramid Homes, Sir, in Argentia, the minister stated that the number of employees on the payroll would be doubled within a short time.

MR. DOODY: That is wrong, Sir.

MR. NEARY: Yes, Sir. When they had the champagne party, Sir, to open -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please! The honourable member for Bell Island is having a long preamble to his question. I would caution all honourable members that I shall not put up with preambles to questions. They should be very short or I shall ask honourable members to take their seats.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, would the minister care to make a statement on the situation of the Pyramid Homes operation in Argentia.

MR. DOODY: I would be delighted to, Mr. Speaker. The Pyramid Mobile Home factory was opened up with great expectations and very much enthusiasm.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: Excuse me, the honourable member is going to answer this, is he? Go ahead.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. ROBERTS: Would he like me to answer the question for him, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS: The Pyramid Homes -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please! I recognized the honourable Minister of Industrial Development to answer a question and I had not recognized anybody else.

MR. DOODY: Do not be so sensitive. He only got three per cent of the vote. His band was out of tune. He is safe enough until he gets another call from Jameison. Relax!

The story on Argentia, Sir, if those people are sincerely interested and I think that some of them might be, is that the plant was opened with great expectations and with great hope and with great enthusiasm. I still feel and I am sure that the people in that area feel that it will be a tremendous asset to the community. The 150 jobs that were there at that time are still there in potential although unfortunately there are not that many people employed. There were some sixty-four plus nineteen. We have just about eighty-five people who have been laid off because of the sale situation. The sale situation is brought about by the tight money problems, the interest rates and so on which are beyond the sculp of the Province of Newfoundland. It has been stated by the President of Pyramid, Mr. Greer and by others that when the sale situation resolves itself and the people of Newfoundland get the opportunity to buy the homes then the full potential of the plant will be realized. This government has made the possibility a real one. The plant is open. The job situations are there. If Ottawa will give the

people in Newfoundland an opportunity to take advantage of the money that they need, then certainly the jobs will be reactivated.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the same Minister of Industrial Development, Sir, could inform the House if he is still hopeful for a steel plant for Newfoundland as stated in his news release to the Daily News on November 13, 1974, with picture and all, Sir?

MR. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased with the picture. It is a very complimentary one. The statement is of course that I am hopeful. The sad facts of the matter are that the copy of the report which was recently received, received only yesterday indeed, the one that was commissioned by the Department of Regional and Economic Expansion and sent to the Premier's office yesterday uses as its model an area in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Certainly we are hopeful but considering the fact that Sydney has been used as a model we are not all optimistic but we do feel that the Province of Newfoundland has certainly as much claim or probably more so than any other part of Eastern Canada. However we are waiting to hear from the Minister of Regional and Economic Expansion for that answer. We hesitate to condemn either he or my friend's colleagues in Ottawa until we are more familiar with what the story is.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Hon. the Premier would

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon! I am coming back to the President of Treasury Board later, Sir. I wonder if the Hon. the Premier would care to make a statement to the House as he did in the Daily News of November 7 that he was very worried about the I.O.C. situation. Is the Premier still worried about the I.O.C. situation?

PREMIER MOORES: Yes, Sir. The answer obviously, Mr. Speaker, is yes. Any company that is losing between $40 million and $50 million

at this particular time is always a source of worry to this government. It is a source of revenue through taxation when there is a profit and as one knows, in the previous administration they saw fit that the only revenue the province would get from that particular operation was five per cent of the profits as opposed to putting in a proper mineral tax.

In the meantime, Sir, we are concerned and obviously we want to see Labrador City - Wabush those areas that are primarily affected and the rest of the province which is also indirectly affected, of course, we want to see them get on and get on well. We are, Sir, concerned.

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable the Premier, Sir, (this is a supplementary question) care to indicate to the House what steps the government have taken to investigate reports of respiratory diseases among the miners at I.O.C.? If there is any foundation to that and what the government are doing about it.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the government are undertaking together with the company and the union a programme to make sure that safety features are looked after in that particular establishment. The Minister of Health can give a better reply than I can if he should care to do so. He can give it in more detail than I.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable the Minister of Health:

HON. DR. ROWE (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago there was an indication that a certain number of x-rays taken of personnel working at the I.O.C.operation at Labrador in the dust area showed evidence of a certain respiratory disease known as pneumoconiosis or the dust disease. The patients were examined and further x-rays taken, biopsied and definitely diagnosed.

Some of these people had been in the plant some few years. I should say that they are not ill. They are not receiving treatment but because they have these x-ray findings which were substantiated, they have been placed in areas other than in the dust area.

Following this information the Minister of Mines in

conjunction with the Department of Health have arranged for a team from Ottawa, the National Health and Welfare, to visit Labrador City within the next month or two to make specific studies in monitoring the amount of dust although we are assured at the moment that the values which are recorded are below what are termed the threshold values.

In addition to the study being done by expert consultants from the National Health and Welfare, the Department of Mines is aware that recently an institute known as the Trudeau Institute have done a study for the I.O.C. themselves. The matter is under intensive investigation by the private consultants and by governmental officials. I believe the Minister of Mines and Energy can state that the next report is due sometime early in January.

HON. L.D.BARRY (Minister of Mines and Energy): Mr. Speaker, if I could add just a few comments to this: Basically there is some unknown factor,as far as we can determine, that has created this problem.

MR. NEARY: Dust. The unknown factor is dust.

MR. BARRY: I would ask the honourable member not to be facetious about this because it is a serious matter.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. BARRY: Mr. Speaker, as I say, I would ask the honourable member to take a responsible position. I know it is something he does not normally do but he should take a responsible position as we are talking about the health of workers in Labrador City.

This government are determined to do whatever is necessary to ensure that the health of these workers and the workers or employees in any industry in this province is safeguarded.

The situation is, Mr. Speaker, that there has been a standard applied there in dust monitoring. What they do is set a threshold limit value which is supposed to be the amount of dust which any person working in those conditions can safely absorb over his working life. This standard is taken (it is not a standard set by the Newfoundland

Government) from industry experience across North America.

It is possible, Mr. Speaker, that for some reason or other this level is too high at the present time because it could be some particular type of dust situation in Labrador City. Maybe the particles are so small -

MR. NEARY: Iron ore dust, is it?

MR. BARRY: There are other iron ore facilities using the same type of standard, Mr. Speaker. It could be that there is an additional element combining with the silica which is the well known dangerous item and which is the one that is mainly monitored. It could also be that there is an additional element there that may be combining with that to cause the problem. It could be that there is some allergenic reaction because of some other factor like this. These are all the things that are being checked out right now.

Basically we have to determine (1) whether it is a fact that the amounts of dust absorbed by employees in this situation are normally acceptable.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. BARRY: As far as I understand, Mr. Speaker, the problem has only arisen in the concentrator plant itself. Anybody who has worked up there, such as myself.- I worked up there one year in the mill, Mr. Speaker, and the first question I had was: Why are they having this problem in the concentrator plant when everybody knows the conditions, as far as dust is concerned, are much worse in the pellet plant? Well, Mr. Speaker, one possible there right away is that the amount of silica in the dust in the pellet plant is much less than the amount of silica in the dust at the concentrator. Even though there is less dust at the concentrator there may be a higher silica content in that dust.

But, Mr. Speaker, to sum up: the sorts of things that are being looked at are (1) whether this level that is set is an adequate one and a proper one. It may be that there should be a special level set in Labrador City and not the one that has been derived from the experience across North America.

(2) Mr. Speaker, we have to determine whether, if this is normally an acceptable level, there is some other mineral or substance that is,combined with the dust or by itself, causing the problem.

(3) Mr. Speaker, we have to determine whether the type of instrumentation that is being used to monitor the levels of dust is the proper type of monitoring equipment and whether that is adequate.

MR. NEARY: How quickly can the honourable minister get a report?

MR. BARRY: We have put on all the pressure that we can to get this information as quickly as possible. I have indicated to the employees that I am prepared to meet with them and to make a decision as to whether any further enquiry is necessary once we get this preliminary information. As things stand now it appears that we should be able to have this information some time early in January. By that time we will be able to decide where we go from there.

MR. NEARY: I thank the Premier and the Ministers for the answers, Mr. Speaker. I am sure we are all concerned. We would not want to see another St. Lawrence on our hands.

I wonder if the Minister of Health would tell the House if his department is taking any steps to include acupuncture under M.C.P.?

DR. ROWE: No, Mr. Speaker, the department is not taking any action to put acupuncture under medical treatment at this time.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, -

MR.CROSBIE: We could make an exception for the honourable member though. Acupuncture on the head would be very suitable.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. NEARY: Acupuncture on the rear of the minister might light a fire under him and get some action from this government.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. NEARY: Sir, I wonder if the Municipal Affairs, who is hid away behind that coloured map we have there in front of him, could tell us if the government has shifted gears on the new dump as suggested by Councillor Gullage in the "Daily News" of October 3?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing:

MR. B.PECKFORD (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have shifted gears from first to second to high gear to try to get thing resolved as soon as possible.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: Does that mean that the government are still actively pursuing an alternative to Robin Hood Bay?

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, we are actively pursuing a position and a site that will be acceptable to all concerned.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the honourable the Premier (I am sure he is champing at the bit. He cannot wait to get up on this one) care to indicate to the House when construction is going to start on the Burgeo Fish Plant?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable the Premier:

MR. MOORES: The answer is, Mr. Speaker, that we had a session

with a delegation from Burgeo today. We have been in continuous negotiations with National Sea Products, with people from Burgeo and with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. I would hope that within the not too distant future we will be able to give an affirmative answer to that question.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Fogo.

MR. E. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, noticing the Hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications is out of his seat for the last few days, I wonder if he is out of the province, and if so, is there an Acting Minister of Transportation and Communications?

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. the Premier.

MR. MOORES: Yes, he is out of the province. He is due back very shortly, Mr. Speaker. The Acting Minister is the Minister of Public Works and Services.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Social Services, the pocket size Dick Tracey that we have - would the minister care, Sir, to clarify a statement that he made yesterday, just what groups are going to receive this increase that the minister announced yesterday? The minister said that 18,000 families. -

MR. DOODY: You are wasting your time, why do you not speak properly ?

MR. NEARY: Fifty-five persons. Would the minister care to indicate what categories? Are these blind people, disabled, widows, who are they? There seems to be some confusion.

MR. MURPHY: I do not even recognize now. Sit down. Eat your heart out!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, is the minister too arrogant to answer these questions?

MR. MURPHY: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MURPHY: He is not fit to answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I am sure the honourable Member for Bell Island as all honourable members are aware that while they have the right to seek answers from ministers, the minister also has the right not to answer that question if he so wishes.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the minister does not have the right to say that I am not fit to ask a question then I ask the Speaker to direct the Minister of

Social Services to withdraw that filthy, rotten statement that he just made.

MR. MURPHY: If the filthy, rotten member would sit down I would declare to withdraw it.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I ask the House, Sir, to deal with a statement that the honourable minister just made that I am not fit to ask a question, Sir. The minister is unparliamentary and the minister should be directed to withdraw it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

Yesterday there were certain statements made, points of orders were raised by various members and the Chair is not taken too kindly to these things. I feel that the comments just made by the Hon. Minister of Social Services were unparliamentary and I would ask him to retract his statement.

MR. MURPHY: I am awfully sorry, Sir, -

AN HON. MEMBER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MURPHY: I could not in all honesty - if I am going to be honest to myself.

MR. NEARY: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker -

MR. HICKEY: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I certainly agree with the fact that unparliamentary comments should not be tolerated in the House but I do not know if Your Honour heard what the Member for Bell Island said when he went to ask the Minister of Social Services a question. I wonder would he take that back as well? The rules apply to both sides of the House.

MR. NEARY: I do not think it is unparliamentary. If it is, Sir, if it is unparliamentary to say that the honourable minister is an amateur or pocket size Dick Tracey, I take it back. He is not a pocket size Dick Tracey.

MR. HICKEY: No, that is all right ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! The honourable Member for Bell Island seems to have -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! The honourable Member for Bell Island seems to have a way of changing words around which really mean the same thing in the end. I also consider his words to the minister being unparliamentary and would

ask him to unqualify retraction of them.

MR. NEARY: Of course, Sir, as one friend to another, Mr. Speaker, of course I will.

MR. MURPHY: He is no friend of mine.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

AN HON. MEMBER: Here comes the words of wisdom.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder -

MR. CROSBIE: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, if the little Orphan Annie will sit down.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CROSBIE: I will withdraw that, Mr. Speaker. I will withdraw it. I just wanted to draw to the attention of the House, Mr. Speaker, that the question asked by the Member for Bell Island was out of order. Page 147 of Beauchesne: "A question oral or written must not: (a) be ironical, rhetorical, offensive, or contain epithet, innuendo, satire, or ridicule." The member's question was out of order in all eight counts. It was ironical, rhetorical, offensive, it contained an epithet, an innuendo, it was satire and it was ridicule, in addition it was trivial, vague, or meaningless - and for eleven reasons now his question was out of order.

MR. THOMS: He will repeat that again now will he.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I am sure all honourable members are aware that we have thirty minutes for the question period. If honourable members insist on wasting time on trivial points of order or points of order which are not really points of order at all, then it is a complete waste of the question period as such.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, if I could rephrase my question to my honourable friend, the Minister of Social Services. Would the minister care, and I am quite serious about this - people are confused. Would the minister care to indicate what groups of people on social assistance are going to receive this increase? It is a genuine question. Well would the minister care to answer it? He does not know. He has got to wait to get his frightened deputy on television again.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The honourable Member for Bell Island is continuing to make a speech in asking a question.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, could I direct a question to, let me see, the Minister of Education? I wonder if the Minister of Education would care to indicate to the House the communities that will be included under this new school tax authority, if Bell Island specifically is one of these communities?

HON. C. OTTENHEIMER (MINISTER OF EDUCATION): Mr. Speaker, I would prefer to take that as notice and answer it tomorrow because I will want to have a map to be precise there, while the major area obviously is known. There are a number of areas outside of the municipality of St. John's and Mount Pearl. It is a matter in which one obviously would wish to be totally precise, so I will certainly take it as notice and provide the answer tomorrow.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in a lighter vein, I wonder if the President of Treasury Board would inform the House just what instructions have been sent out to various goverrment departments concerning their Christmas parties this year?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! This is certainly out of order, it is not one that demands an urgent answer.

MR. NEARY: Because Christmas is getting pretty close. Well, Sir, could I ask the Premier if he intends to take his road show out of the province any more this year and where he -

MR. MOORES: What road show?

MR. NEARY: The road show that the Premier had in Boston and New York? Does the Premier and his colleagues intend to take to the road before Christmas and where will they be going? And who they will be meeting?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: No answer?

AN HON. MEMBER: No answer.

MR. MOORES: The Member for Hermitage says, the one that backfired in Boston. Mr. Speaker, during that particular weekend he found out what a backfire was really all about. Having said that, I would like to say that this particular

group of meetings we have had in New York and Boston have been very successful. Talking to the financial community potential investors for the province, the likelihood is that there will be no more groups organized until the new part of the year, if then, but an analysis and response from these first two are being analyzed and could be of major significance to the province.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Premier would care to indicate to the House what -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Would the Premier care to indicate to the House, Sir, why it is necessary and what purpose is going to be served by having his own private switchboard on the eighth floor? Does he have a hotline to Ottawa or Moscow -

MR. MOORES: Very gladly, Mr. Speaker, just to give a very simple answer so that the public can phone my office and get any reponse if they would require or care to.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Premier could indicate whether you call the Premier's office by dialing S-E-X-S?

MR. MOORES: I have no idea, Mr. Speaker. The honourable the Member for Bell Island was the man who was out late the other night, not me.

MR. NEARY: Had some stiff competition from the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, who is the Acting Minister of Highways in the House?

DR. FARRELL: I am, Sir.

MR. NEARY: There he is, my old buddy! Would the Minister of Public Works, Acting Minister of Highways care to indicate when all the highway workers that were laid off recently in Central and Western Newfoundland are going to be rehired?

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Public Works and Services.

HON. DR. T. FARRELL (PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES): Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the honourable Member for Bell Island as soon as the work is available and the snow arrives they will all be back at work.

MR. NEARY: They should all be back when the snow -

DR. FARRELL: Yes.

MR. CROSBIE: The same as in your day.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Fogo.

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to that question. Would the honourable minister tell us what criterion we use for laying off highway workers with three, four, and five years and some with fifteen years of service?

DR. FARRELL: As far as I know, Your Honour, at the present time, it is the same as always, seniority would be operative word, Sir.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker,

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: I do not mind, Sir.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Justice would care to comment on a very serious situation in our province, the matter of vandalism and the wave of crime that is sweeping the province. Would the minister care to indicate just what leadership his department is showing in this regard in coping with this very serious situation in our society today?

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: (MINISTER OF JUSTICE): I thank the honourable gentleman for giving me the opportunity, Mr. Speaker. It is with some, you could never, not reputation, but

you can never say that you would do it with pride but I do direct the honourable gentleman's attention to the fact that in the province this year, there is a decrease in vandalism below 1973 and slightly below 1972. In the months of September and October, in the areas policed by the Newfoundland Constabulary, there was a very dramatic down turn in reported acts of vandalism. These are the only statistics that we can use. I have heard the argument that some people do not report minor acts of vandalism but that same situation prevailed in past years.

Insofar as the apprehension of those who commit crimes are concerned, may I draw to the attention of honourable members that we now have in the Province of Newfoundland 800,approximately, police officers. It is by far the largest number we have ever had before in the province. In the City of St. John's, we have in excess of 200 members of the Newfoundland Constabulary, which is 2.02 per 1,000. The national average is 1.35, I think, for Canada. If you look at some of the cities,in Halifax, which have a population of now in excess of 200,000, since they took in the suburban areas, they have 264 officers and men. This will give you an indication.

The other thing I may say: If one follows the press, one will see that a very high percentage of those committing offences have been apprehended and brought to justice and dealt with very fairly and very equitably by our court.

Before I sit, Mr. Speaker, whilst vandalism or crime should and I hope will continue to be the concern of all citizens, I am not very happy about those who attempt to create the impression that our Province of Newfoundland is an area where crime is rampant. The fact is that the National Association of Chiefs of Police keep, through their statisticans a very close watch on Canadian crime patterns annually. When a city or municipality reaches a certain level, it makes,

what they call, the Chief of Police list. You could see the City of Moncton on this year and then next year it is dropped and it disappears. No Newfoundland city has ever come close to even making the Chief of Police list insofar as areas, where there has been a serious increase in crime or where there is serious crime being committed.

I think as Newfoundlanders we can be very proud of that and having said that, may I assure this honourable House that with the two highly trained and highly efficient police forces we have in this province, that those who feel the avenue of crime is attractive, that their chances of being apprehended are exceptionally high indeed, much higher than in other jurisdictions in North America.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is a question I put to the Premier on three or four previous occasions. I wonder if the Premier is now in a position to inform the House if his government has entered into an agreement with Trizec, the people who are proposing to build a hotel downtown, to rent office space from Trizec or if they have entered into an agreement recently with any other outfit to rent office space outside of Confederation Building?

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, first of all that should be directed to the Minister of Public Works.

Regarding the Trizec development, that, because of inflation, is stalled somewhat. We are waiting to see what they do with the City Council and also to have an offer for space. At the present time, as I understand it, there is no commitment at this moment between Trizec and the government. There was an undertaking previously which has expired. At the present time, to the best of my knowledge, there is no undertaking.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary question, if I might, Sir. Could the Premier tell us what the undertaking was?

MR. MOORES: It depended on a great many conditions, Mr. Speaker, which were never met. There was the agreement with the City Council, an agreement with what kind of a complex would go in the downtown area. It depended on a great many things. So the commitment is irrelevant for the simple reason that none of it happened.

MR. ROBERTS: Would the Premier undertake to table a copy of the commitment?

MR. MOORES: There was no agreement as such.

MR. ROBERTS: Well the undertaking, whatever form it took.

MR. MOORES: I would if I could but the fact is that there was just a lot,basically, of verbal - there was some written correspondence but nothing that was definitive enough to establish our position, in fact, one way or the other.

MR. ROBERTS: Would the Premier table what correspondence there was?

MR. MOORES: As I say, Mr. Speaker, I will check with the Department of Public Works, the Minister of Public Works, and see what exactly is available.

MR. NEARY: Do we not deduct the time that is wasted by members on the other side of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: The thirty minutes for the question period has expired.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

Before we proceed with Orders of the Day, yesterday following a ministerial statement made by the Hon. Minister of Social Services, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition replied to it and there was a point of order raised, I think, by the Minister without Portfolio and I said that I would rule on it later after I had obtained a transcript of the remarks made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I since, of course, have obtained a copy of the transcript and I think the point of order was centred around the Hon. Leader of the Opposition questioning the integrity of the Minister

of Social Services. Later the Leader of the Opposition said that he had intended it to be the political integrity of the Minister of Social Services.

However, what the first intentions of the Leader of the Opposition were, of course, are unknown to me. In reading the transcript of his remarks, before he talked about political integrity, and I quote the sentence from Hansard. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition said: "He did not have the courage nor the integrity nor even the wisdom to say that of the $6.5 million increase in allowances .." There was no talk of political integrity. Indeed the word integrity is unparliamentary,in most cases, as far as I am concerned. I would ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition if he would retract that statement, questioning the integrity of another honourable member of this House.

MR. ROBERTS: I have no hesitation at all in withdrawing it. I take it your reference to what I said, although nobody had the courtesy to show me the Hansard, no doubt is an accurate transcript. I assume it is in order though to say that one's political integrity is a matter of debate if not Your Honour should so rule and so we would know.

I have no personal row with the Minister of Social Services. I have a number of political quarrels with him and that is well and good. I meant no personal offence.If the words I used gave it, I withdraw them without qualification, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I think honourable members should be very cautious in using the word "integrity" in practically any context. It can very often be misinterpreted as being unparliamentary and interpreted in the wrong way.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of the House in accordance with Standing Order No. 23 that the regular order of the House be adjourned

to discuss a definite matter of public importance: namely, the high cost of living in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The present administration, Mr. Speaker, have adopted a hands-off, pass-the-buck attitude to Ottawa on this number one problem that is so drastically affecting the lives of our people.

Mr. Speaker, does the cost of living crisis in this province have to continue another year or two to the eve of an election or should the elected representatives of the people here today, at least, attempt to cope with factors that fall within provincial jurisdiction so that the long suffering citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador,Sir,will not have to endure more bleak, hopeless months of misery, completely abandoned by their government to which every Newfoundlander should be able to look for help in their hour of tribulation?

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, a motion of this nature ought to be referred to briefly and then Your Honour decides whether the matter is a matter for debate. This is a matter which is international, a matter which is world-wide; it is a matter certainly which is urgent in itself. I would suggest, Your Honour, that it is

not one that lends itself to the urgency of debate at the particular time.

MR. ROBERTS: I disagree, you will not be surprised to hear, with the gentleman from St. John's East on that point. I cannot think of any matter and I submit there is no matter more urgent to debate in this House than the cost of living and how it affects our people. Nobody pretends that it is entirely provincial or even entirely a national matter. I believe it is an international matter and has international ramifications. I think it is clear and well agreed and well understood.

Even the Food Prices Review Board, in what Mr. James McGrath, the member for St. John's East at Ottawa tells us is an excellent report, even they have made some suggestions about what the provincial government might do. I think it is entirely in order and entirely appropriate that we debate it.

There is no other heading on the Order Paper, Your Honour, under which this matter can be debated. So, I submit, that therefore meets the requirements for the urgency of debate. I submit that Your Honour should allow the motion and then the procedure to follow according to our rules.

MR. SPEAKER: Again, while I am sure the matter of the cost of living in escalation of cost of groceries, etc., is one that concerns all of us, I do not feel that it is a matter that requires the adjournment of the regular business of this House for a debate at this time.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Securities Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Emergency Measures Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Condominium Act,"read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act

Further To Amend The Attachment Of Wages Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Commissioners For Oaths Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Motorized Snow Vehicles And All-Terrain Vehicles Act,"read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Health, a bill, "An Act Respecting The Newfoundland Medical Association And Governing The Practise of Medicine In The Province, " read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Fisheries, a bill, "An Act To Provide A Pension For The Last President Of The Newfoundland Federation Of Fishermen And For Other Purposes," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Income Tax Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Financial Administration Act, 1973," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Increase Of Pensions Act, 1974," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Children Of Unmarried Parents Act, 1972," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Adoption of Children Act, 1972," read a first time, ordered read a second on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Child Welfare Act, 1972, " read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, a bill,

"An Act Further To Amend The Social Assistance Act, 1971," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Department of Social Services Act, 1973," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. MARSHALL: Motion (1).

MR. SPEAKER: Motion (1) to be moved by the honourable the Premier. The honourable the Premier:

HON. F.D.MOORES (Premier): Mr. Speaker, at this time we are dealing with a very important bill before this House. It is a bill that,for the first time in many, many years,really comes through with the fact that we must have fair and equal, proportionate distribution throughout the various districts of our province.

Before going into the detail of the Resolution, Mr. Speaker,-

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Thank you very much. I appreciate that a lot.

MR. MARSHALL: Do not be so foolish.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, in speaking to this Resolution, first of all I would like to apologize for not having the map up to the opposition members until this morning. I thought that it would be attached to the bill. I did not know until I received it yesterday and immediately upon finding it, the map showing the distribution such as this without the colour was delivered this morning. I might say also: that with the census that now has to come with redistribution, the population figures will change substantially in some districts. However, in the meantime, due to the population increases of the last few years, the census figures on this map, the numbers on this map of populations, I think, will probably be increased a little in every district but some districts particularly, the urban districts and the growth districts will be larger than the others.

Mr. Speaker, as I said this bill is very important. It is very important to the way of life of our province. It is going to be very important that for the first time people will on a proportionate basis have equal representation in the House of Assembly.

First of all; when we voted on this Resolution originally, first when setting up the commission, the matter of fifty-one seats was voted on and it was unanimous by both sides of the House that there be fifty-one seats. There has been some question about that since and I would like to remind people as to exactly why the number of fifty-one is important as opposed to the number of forty-two which we presently have.

I suppose people could say that we could do with even less than we have now, however, there are two things to keep in mind, the first not being as important as the second really. The first one means that representation will be able to be done on a more, hopefully more efficient basis. Secondly; I would like to bring to people's attention the difficulty governments can have if they have just a majority and have to form a government and a stable backbench and a stable side of the House.

In the 1971 election, Mr. Speaker, the situation was that originally after the ballots were counted, there were twenty-one members elected from the party that I represent, there were nineteen from the opposition party, there was one Mr. Burgess at the time and there was one seat still under recount.

After the resignation and the various walkathons that happened in this House at that time, it ended up that as we came in here for the first day (a lot of this transpired after we became the government) we came in and after Your Honour had been appointed, we had still one seat under recount, we had twenty on the government side (Nineteen actually, with the Speaker in the Chair) and twenty on the opposition side. Here we were as a government looking at a larger opposition than we were on this side of the House. That is not the reason I am bringing it up now. I am just saying how difficult it can be if we only have nineteen or twenty members, which happened in this case, but taking the closest results you could have which is twenty-two and twenty the other way (One would be the Speaker,) that would leave twenty-one people.

I have said many times before that in order to have a cabinet and government in this province, I said it before and I found out the difference, that it could be as low as twelve or fourteen. I have found since, Mr. Speaker, that that is impossible with the complications, the intricate dealings of government today, the tremendous amount of intergovernmental negotiations, the operations of departments in order to do them properly.

I would say and say in all honesty that fifteen or sixteen

would be the bare minimum if you stretched it to that degree. Well, if you say sixteen people, the Speaker, the Premier, that takes eighteen people, if you had twenty-two in the House that would leave four backbenchers.

In other words, for all intents and purposes, Mr. Speaker, you would have a government by cabinet which I think is very bad. I think it is very unhealthy. With fifty-one members the minimum anyone can have in order to be elected, in fact,

is twenty-seven. Is that a stalemate, twenty-six, twenty-seven? Which leaves an ample number of people for back bench duties which are very important and also a bigger scope to select a cabinet from. So, I think, Mr. Speaker, that the business of fifty-one seats is an important thing for the future that this particular province has at this particular time.

We have been accused as well that this Redistribution Bill is giving seats to urban areas, particularly St. John's as mentioned and continuously. The fact is that the rural seats under this redistribution have been increased and increased substantially. I will be going into that in a much more detail a little later. The fact is that there have been none taken away but as a matter of fact a great many added. As I say I will be dealing with that in some detail in a few moments.

We have been accused of gerrymandering as such. I noticed the Leader of the Opposition on television last evening saying that this government were gerrymandering like never before. Now, Mr. Speaker, anyone who lived in this province for the last twenty-five years realizes just how nonsensical that particular statement is. I think what he meant was he was used to Joevmandering and did not recognize good reform when he has it.

The fact is that now there is no district in the province that will be under 8,000 people with the exception of two, and those two are in Labrador which was done for obvious reasons, the very great difficulty of representing the Coast of Labrador and also the special contribution that Labrador is making to this province and it was decided that a minimum of three and a-half seats should be there. So the two that are under 8,000, Mr. Speaker, are in Labrador, and there are none over 12,000 with the exception of Conception Bay South which is just slightly over.

Previously, Mr. Speaker, when we talk about distribution of seats, we have gone for all intents and purposes from populations of 8,000 to 12,000. It is in that range wherever. Previously we had a district with just about 5,000 voters, we had another district in this province with 34,000 voters.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Now, Mr. Speaker, when you take 34,000 - population, I am sorry. When you take 34,000 people and 5,000 people with one representative each, now

there was where you had really a very unfair representation for the people of the province. The Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues,at that time when that great miscarriage of justice, if you like, of misrepresentation of the people was in fact, it was there, at that time, they never mentioned a word about it. Nothing about redistribution. Nothing about changing what was the very obvious Liberal position that had been established for obvious reasons by the obvious gentlemen and now all of a sudden that we have got fair representation coming in, we see that everybody is upset.

It is a very funny thing to me, Mr. Speaker, that the only time they get upset is when they are not in a position to do very much about it. When they were in a position to do something about it, upset was not allowed.

The fact is that we have been accused of changing, gerrymandering as we have been called, this particular map for the benefit of the P.C. Party. That is wrong. Nothing could be more wrong. The boundaries being changed does not mean that the voter, the same number of voters, if they want, with their political persuasions can vote for any party. Now they will be voting in districts that have fair representation and not just proportioned as they were before and as the Opposition were well used to. If the Opposition is indeed anxious for an election, distribution will not affect the result if most of the people want to support them or if they want to support us.

The Leader of the Opposition has to blame, I suppose, something or someone for what he knows is going to happen. We understand, Mr. Speaker, why he is worried. He has a great deal to be worried about. The Leader of the Opposition has worried about this particular Reform Bill, last evening on television in his own inimitable fashion, I suppose, he made the most ridiculous comment I have heard him make for a long while and that was the fact that he thought they were going to win the next election.

However he said, Mr. Speaker, at that time and he said it very unenthusiastically that he expected this which, of course, I do not see how he could. Because when you realize that at the recent Liberal Leadership Convention,

the honourable leadership convention on the first ballot, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition did not even have fifty per cent of the Liberal votes in this province. He has a very poor chance, Mr. Speaker, of getting a majority of all the votes in the province. Mr. Speaker, it has nothing to do with this bill but I might inform the honourable gentleman opposite now that in the next provincial election, not because of the redistribution of seats but because the people of this province have no confidence in the Liberal Party as it is presently constituted - the people are recognizing the good job that the government is doing. The Liberal Leadership Convention as against the people I have with me -

MR. F. B. ROWE: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MOORES: Yes, boy, go ahead.

MR. F. B. ROWE: Would the Premier mind sitting down on a point of order, Mr. Speaker?

MR. MOORES: I have nowhere to sit, I have my chair gone.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Stagg): Order please!

In anticipating the member's point of order, I think the Premier was straying somewhat from the topic of the resolution and I believe he recognized that.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: A certain amount of leeway is provided.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. F. B. ROWE: This is the first time I have ever experienced the Speaker of the House of Assembly raising a point of order on behalf of a member of the opposition. I was about to mention the fact that the Premier was quite irrelevant. I do not know what the Liberal Leadership Convention has to do with redistribution or what the result of the next election has to do with redistribution. I suggest that the Premier be ruled out of order on the grounds of irrelevancy and return to the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Stagg): The honourable member is quite correct. He is quite correct on two points. I should not have anticipated his point of order, although I was about to rise - I would have risen very shortly. While the remarks were informative, they were nevertheless irrelevant.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I realize that I might have strayed from the resolution and for that I apologize. I could have said it very simply that in the next election they are going to be clobbered. But, Sir, to get back to the resolution.

The changes proposed are not major except in a few areas and in a few areas they are major and I hope that in this particular case I can deal with them, as I say, in just a moment. At the time the royal commission brought in its first report those people who were against it at that time made representation to the commission when they had hearings. Now there were a lot of people, Mr. Speaker, at that time who were satisfied with the first report. The fact that they were satisfied when the changes came in the second report, they had no opportunity to make their representation and they automatically were eliminated from the second set of changes.

Since the second report came in and it was too late to make representation, I can honestly say that there have been literally hundreds of letters of protest, petitions from councils, clergy, a great many segments of society being very, very upset with the fact that they never had a chance after the report was changed to make representation.

At this time, Sir, I would like to say that the commission are doing a very necessary and what I think was basically a good job. I think it was a thankless job in many ways. It is a job that had to be done in the province. Without their particular report, redistribution, in fact, would be impossible if it were going to be done fairly.

However, I do not think that with the second report of the commission that there was enough consideration, I do not think there was enough recognition of the history and tradition to the degree that it is important in our province. The sort of history and tradition I am talking about, Mr. Speaker - as I say, I think it means a lot to our people - in that the second report for instance eliminated the District of St. Mary's as an example, a district that has been there since 1834. It was in the first report but it was not in the second. Before you eliminate a district that was there that long and that basically has the surrounding population that can qualify it, I think that sort of thing should have been studied possibly a little further than it was.

Another thing of tremendous importance which I do not think was given the proper consideration in the analysis by the commission was the community of interest because even though geographically we may have many problems in this province with scattered populations and so on, the fact is that community of interest within a district is terribly important. I will be giving examples of that continuously as I review the districts here. Economic community of interest, transportation through roads, centres

of trade, culture, recreation and all these things that make up the hub of the district or of the community.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that we have reduced some districts population wise because of the tremendous growth potential in those districts. This was done intentionally and I am talking particularly of places which show comparatively low population on this map but which will catch up very, very quickly because the industrial development in these areas is and will be substantial.

I am thinking, for instance, of Grand Falls which is starting to grow very rapidly and Burgeo, Bay d'Espoir - I mention that, Mr. Speaker, because the deep water port at Bay d'Espoir has probably the best deep water port potential of just about anywhere in this province. Also in that area, of course, we have the Bay d'Espoir hydro project which can be a back up of any energy sensitive industry that may locate there. I would think that the population in that area will grow substantially.

The district in fact that has been added from the Trinity, Bonavista Bay areas - this is where the district has been added from the one that was taken away in the Northern area as the commission had done originally - is the one called here Bellevue which in fact is the district that surrounds Come By Chance where it is fairly obvious that growth is going to take place comparatively rapidly, a district certainly that could not be carved up because those areas of Trinity and Bonavista Bay which I will be going into in a moment have probably the least representation, population to member wise, of just about any district in the province.

Now, if you take some of the outskirt districts of St. John's, like St. John's East Extern, St. John's North, that is a very inflated example of what can happen. I am talking in the rural districts now, Mr. Speaker. Those districts of Bonavista North, Bonavista South, Trinity North, Trinity South were very, very large population wise, rural districts.

Once, Mr. Speaker, you have made one minor change, the fact is, of course, that then that leads to other changes for population reasons and what have you. As I will explain just a little later, Sir, there are very few major changes. The ones that are I will do my very best to underline and explain.

The one thing I can say, Sir, before going through each of the districts which I intend to do in a moment, is the fact that this will be the fairest method of district representation of districts in the electoral map that this province has ever had. There was no deviation from the twenty-five per cent upwards, downwards leeway. As a matter of fact, by far the majority of the districts are near the average. For the first time we are being given fair representation to all the people of the province.

Now, Sir, what I would like to do is deal with the districts independently and individually so that we can see exactly what we are talking about. This, Sir, is taking some time and it will take some time. The fact is that this particular bill, this particular debate is of major significance to the province in the years ahead.

First of all, starting with the Labrador district of Menihek which was in fact, as we know, Labrador West before - the population there is approximately 11,000, just slightly more than that. I think looking at Labrador and the growth potential of Labrador City, Wabush and possibly Julienne Lake in the not too distant future, when we look at this I suppose it could be easily said that there could be two districts there. For now, I think the one district because of its compactness because of its community of interest, one district would be adequate and will give good representation for the area although, as I say, I think in the next redistribution, I would be very surprised if there were not two districts from that particularly, very rapidly growing district.

There is great potential for a development, as we know - there is no secret to that - and it is in fact the same as the first and second commission reports. So, for those very same reasons, we are dealing with this here now.

The second district of Naskaupi includes in our particular redrawn map here the Town of Happy Valley and Goose Bay and Churchill Falls and Mud Lake. The fact is that this has been put in one district for a very real and meaningful reason.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: North West River.

MR. MOORES: And North West River, I beg your pardon.

There is a major change from the second commission report. It is the same as it was in the first commission report. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that it should be such because that particular district is compact. In fact it has a very great and real industrial potention. With the development of the Lower Churchill - I think the member who lives in Happy Valley would agree - the industrial potential of that particular area, the industrial development with the base being turned over for domestic use, with Gull Island, as

I say with the possibility of the offshore oil and gas, whatever. The fact is that the Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Churchill, Northwest River, Mud Lake area has a future which is very industrial, certainly when you compare it to the coast itself. Actually they will have nothing as a way of life, a quality of life in common with those people living in Coastal Labrador as we know it.

Generally, Mr. Speaker, in the second commission report, the town of Goose Bay and Happy Valley, these two towns were split. The fact is, of course in my opinion, that it is ridiculous to have Goose Bay here split from Happy Valley here, Goose Bay representing this part of the world and Happy Valley representing that part of the world. The community of interest obviously between these two towns is great. The community of interest is one that can only be carried on basically between the two towns.

There are identifiable areas with the same problems and as I know the member for Labrador North agrees, that with the development of Gull Island, the inter-tie that has to be done to the Upper Churchill and from there to Esker, Esker where the rail line brings in the materials to build Gull Island; the Upper Churchill inter-tie, the road communications which have to go to the Lower Churchill, the obvious sea-transport port to Happy Valley - Goose Bay, which has to go into the Lower Churchill. That will mean in fact that that district within itself will be inter-tied by a road link which I think is once again the only part of that eastern part of Labrador that will be totally inter-tied by a road within their own district.

The population there, Mr. Speaker, is approximately sixty-five hundred persons. However, the district is exceptionally important in the future of this province and I think it probably has more opportunity for growth than any other district in the province. I do not think there is any question about that. I would seriously say right now that with all the possibilities for growth there are in this province, and there are a great many, the area that I have mentioned here, particularly the Goose Bay-Happy Valley Area has more potential for real growth than any other section of the province.

So I think in fact that sixty-five hundred people that make up the population there now will very rapidly increase. The district in fact is the same as the first report of the royal commission.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to get to the Eagle District or the Coastal Labrador District, which in fact goes from Mary's Harbour to Nain, if we are talking about communities the population there is forty-three hundred. It is a very small population, by far the smallest of any district in the province. However, the fact is there is a tremendous amount of coast line between Nain and Mary's Harbour, which is approximately four hundred miles. It may be a little more than that but certainly not much. It is a very small number of people but a huge area with great responsibility.

MR. WOODWARD: Saglek? People living in Saglek?

MR. MOORES: People living in Saglek? How many?

MR. WOODWARD: Twenty-one.

MR. MOORES: Americans or Canadians?

MR. WOODWARD: No, all Canadians.

MR. MOORES: Newfoundlanders or Canadians?

MR. WOODWARD: Newfoundlanders.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Are not all Newfoundlanders Canadians?

MR. MOORES: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I shall get back to the subject at hand.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, with the exception of the twenty-one Newfoundlanders that the Member for Labrador North spends time with in Saglek, other than these particular people, to whom I apologize for having neglected them, the fact is that this district is approximately four hundred miles from Mary's Harbour in the south to Nain, the northern most community for all intents and purposes.

Although a lot of people did not realize it, Mr. Speaker, and I do not think most people do is that from Happy Valley around to Mary's Harbour is three hundred miles, from Goose Bay around to Nain is four hundred miles. So in fact by coastal route the old Labrador seat of Goose Bay around to Nain is no larger in fact than the coastal seat from North

Nain to Mary's Harbour. I think that is a fact in actual mileage.

So, Mr. Speaker, we are not saying that the district is in fact larger. It is no larger. The fact is though, Mr. Speaker, that it has a very distinct community of interest. As I was mentioning a lot of people do not realize that, from Happy Valley to Smokey is approximately at the entrance to Groswater Bay is approximately 150 miles. So if you are in Happy Valley going by boat to do the coast you have to go 150 miles in fact, before you even turn the corner to go north to Makkovik.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Rigolet is on the south side, Sir. I was talking about going north that time.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Yes, I was talking about going up the Labrador North Coast. So you have Groswater Bay and turning left to Makkovik, I was not talking about the Labrador South as we traditionally know it.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Rigolet is on the north side.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: So it was always in Labrador South, was it not?

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Always in Labrador North.

MR. MOORES: Now, Mr. Speaker, can we have this resolved over here. It was not south. It is on the north side of the bay but it was in the south district. I apologize for both of you being confused. I am sorry.

MR. MURPHY: The honourable members did not know their districts.

MR. MOORES: Well, they never visited them. It is alright. Mr. Speaker,

for they do not know what they do.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: (Stagg) Order, please!

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, seriously the area that we are talking about on the coastal area part of the Coast of Labrador has very, very different problems than any of the other two areas of Labrador. As a matter of fact this coastal area has problems that as yet remain to be solved. There is nothing of any meaningful action with the exception of appointing another commission and the commission brought in a good report as to what can be done to help solve the problems, preserve the way of life that the people of Eagle or Labrador Coast, if you like, have.

Mr. Speaker, in that regard and I suppose I am straying from the subject again, I do not mean to, that the government's intention to develop the resource development corporation which will only deal with the Coast of Labrador and which will be something of debate later on, is something very meaningful to discuss in this regard.

It is a difficult seat, Mr. Speaker. It presents a great challenge and unlike the unpopular view of, I suppose, many, many people for many, many years, I think that particular district given the opportunity and some assistance has a much greater future than any of us have recognized heretofore.

The next district, Mr. Speaker, the Straits District which represents part of Labrador and the original boundary line put in by the commission for the northern part of the Northern Peninsula. The fact is that this district has a population of approximately 11,600. The fact is also, Mr. Speaker, unlike the Happy Valley Area, the coastal area or many other known, at least today, growth areas, the likelihood of rapid growth in this area populationwise, unless someone can tell me differently, I do not see where the rapid population growth really will come from.

The fact is that the second commission report, Mr. Speaker, the Town of St. Anthony was separated from the Straits District -

MR. WINSOR: It has been since 1900 whenever the boundary was first -

MR. MOORES: Well maybe, Mr. Speaker, the fact that it was separated was the reason that the prosperity on the St. Barbe North Coast and the Straits of Labrador has not prospered more than it has.

MR. ROBERTS: ... the boundary line ....

MR. MOORES: The fact is, Mr. Speaker, I think that having St. Anthony in that particular district gives it a point of focus, a point of recreation, trade, all the trade in this area basically goes to St. Anthony anyway. This should be the capital of this district. I am sure the Hon. Leader of the Opposition who is making these remarks can certainly represent this district in an inimitable style because when he goes to the district he has now he only goes to St. Anthony so I am sure the same thing will apply -

AN HON. MEMBER: That is why he has ....

MR. MOORES: Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I do not mean to get into partisan digs at this point -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: .... talking about. Is that the mutual interest of this district, is lumbering? Lumbering in the Main Brook Area and both sides of the Straits.

AN HON. MEMBER: Do not be making fun at him.

MR. MOORES: I did not know it was possible. Sneer, yes! Laugh, no!

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER (STAGG): Order, please!

MR. MOORES: I think the most important part of this particular redistribution -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Oh, I am sorry, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER (STAGG): This is a very serious debate in order for the Hon. the Premier to be heard it is necessary that he turn away from the microphone at times, and I think honourable members on both sides should be quiet, refrain from speaking unless they have the floor.

MR. MOORES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As I was saying, Sir, I think the most important factor of this particular new seat is the fact that while St. Anthony being the centre of bulk, secondly, the fact that the Straits part of Labrador and the Island Straits section being represented here - the fact that they are together and have one member, I think, Sir, it is very important. Now there will be a great many people disagree with that. The fact is the talk of the Labrador and the Island part of the province being separated, the fact that people have gotten

emotional about one doing the other thing and the other doing the other, I think, even at the start, Sir, of having shared responsibility in a

seat itself, I think it is a good thing. I think it can do nothing but good. I think that at least someone in the House will be able to talk with one voice about two problems which are,in fact, the same and not with any degree of dissension which sometimes happens now.

The fact is, Sir, that -

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I realize that you mentioned a few moments ago that these sort of remarks should be ruled out but I cannot resist. The Member for Bell Island saying that a professor of logic would be needed to sort it out - maybe that is the reason, Sir, he cannot.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: That you?

MR. NEARY: Why do you not join Rowan and Martin?

MR. MOORES: Why do you not? You will have nothing else to do after the next election.

Mr. Speaker, the next district we go through to explain here is the one of St. Barbe which is larger now than it has been in previous elections, with a population of approximately 10,100 people. We will extend it from Port au Choix, or I guess it was Adey's Cove West previously, up to Plum Point and including Plum Point which makes it a larger district. The other thing about this district which is now a very large one, much larger by the way than the one everyone seems to be complaining about in the Straits of Belle Isle Area, is the fact that it is a much larger district physically. Much.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to argue with the honourable member but I can assure him that the coastline here is much larger than the coastline we are talking about here.

MR. F.B.ROWE: Would the honourable the Premier permit a question?

MR. MOORES: Yes boy.

MR. F.B.ROWE: Yes "boy". What does that mean, Mr. Speaker? Can the honourable the Premier or anybody -

MR. MOORES: I did not realize it was the man on the other side speaking, Mr. Speaker.

MR. F.B.ROWE: Mr. Speaker, is the Premier going to retract that statement or what?

MR. NEARY: Great stuff! Great stuff,coming from a Premier.

MR. F.B.ROWE: Is that an honourable thing to -

MR. MOORES: What are you trying to say? Come on and say it.

MR. F,B,ROWE: That is almost as bad as the speech on T.V.the other night, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MOORES: I am glad you watched.

MR. F.B.ROWE: I watched with -

MR. SPEAKER (Stagg): The honourable member has been given the courtesy of leave to ask a question; if he wants to make a speech he will have to request that as well.

MR. F.B.ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I shall ask a question. Would the honourable the Premier indicate to the House the miles of coastline on the Straits section of Labrador and the miles of coastline on the Straits section of the Belle Isle seat. The Straits of Belle Isle seat on the Northern Peninsula, the miles of coastline.

Secondly; would he indicate the miles of road in the Straits of Belle Isle District, on the Labrador side and the Newfoundland side as compared with the miles of road in the St. Barbe District. The Premier made the statement that the St. Barbe District was a larger district than the Straits of Belle Isle District. The two factors that he was using were the roads and the coastline. I submit that the coastline in the Belle Isle District is longer than that in St. Barbe District as well as the length of the roads.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the distance from here to here is obviously a longer stretch of coastline except that you go - I must say as he asked about the roads - the road from L'Anse-au-Clair to Red Bay I will admit is in atrocious condition. That I will admit but there is a road there.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: You say there is not a road there?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Well, there is a path. There is what the Liberal Government

called a road when they put it there.

AN HON. MEMBER: More than the Tories put there.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, anyway from L'Anse-au-Clair to Red Bay the only communities in this section of the Straits of Belle Isle, in fact, is connected by a road of sorts. The fact is that White Bay North, I think, with the possible exception of Conche and I am not sure of this -

AN HON. MEMBER: There is a road to Conche.

MR. MOORES: There is a road to Conche?

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Sorry! I apologize. Croque and Grandois does not but basically all these areas are in fact connected by road to the best of my knowledge.

MR. ROBERTS: The Liberals did it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Yes boy!

MR. ROBERTS: I am delighted, Sir, that -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: We know. We are aware of the fact of the -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: And the cost. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to get back to the St, Barbe District here. The fact is that it has been extended up to Plum Point which enlarges the district population-wise by quite a bit. The other thing is, even though there are 10,000 there now, the population of this district should have great growth potential for the simple reason that the national park will be going here,which I think without question, the tourist support trade will lend itself to the growth in population. The zinc mine at Daniel's Harbour will certainly add itself and with the mineral resource potential of this huge area which is now looked upon as having the outstanding qualities that the Baie Verte Peninsula was looked upon to have at one time and still has to a lesser degree, the fact is that this district is going to be, once again, very prosperous and I think the population will grow.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the population?

MR. MOORES: 10,100.

MR. ROBERTS: The original one the commission recommended was 10,034.

There is something wrong with somebody's figures somewhere.

MR. MOORES: Well, it is 10,140.

MR. ROBERTS: This one is 10,034.

MR. MOORES: I think you will notice in the first one that the border ended just south of Plum Point. This one is just north of Plum Point.

MR. ROBERTS: There are more than seventy people living in the area where the change has been made.

MR. MOORES: I can only take it from the census figures we have. The fact is that we are not arguing about thirty or forty people in these districts because the new census figures as the Leader of the Opposition well knows, when they are done they are going to change these figures substantially. I would suggest as I did earlier, Mr. Speaker, that they will be upwards.

The fact is that the community of interest for this particular district, Mr. Speaker,

is much more from Plum Point down to Port au Choix, from Brig Bay to Port au Choix, the traffic I would suggest is much greater in this direction than it is going north towards Nesbit. I am sure that as they come, they will either come to Port au Choix or they will come down the coast to Corner Brook or what area have you.

In fact the community interest for St. Barbe itself is very much in line with the sort of thinking we had. The fact is that this is virtually the same as the first commission recommendation and one which, I think, is basically correct.

The White Bay, Baie Verte Area here once again is very similar to the first commission except that it was cut off here and I will explain why I think that was not really the most sensible thing in the world in a moment. I will admit first of all that the population is 11,900. The awkward section of this district, Mr. Speaker, and I will be the first to admit it, is the section of Roddickton itself - Roddickton, Englee that particular area. Harbour Deep, not so, because they trade I would suggest with Baie Verte now -

MR. ROBERTS: Jackson's Arm and Englee are relatively small.

MR. MOORES: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Englee, Roddickton, Bide Arm, those three communities.

MR. MOORES: Yes, I agree, Mr. Speaker, that that is an awkward section of the district. To put it into the Straits District would have been far too large. To put it into St. Barbe, it did not make sense. Basically the first commission had it this way and that is exactly the reason we put it this way. Of course, by far the largest part of the district is on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

MR. ROBERTS: Would the Honourable Premier permit a question? I will deal with this at some length. The question is with reference to his statement that there have been representations from people to whom the second report was not acceptable, and they did not have a chance to state so publicly - well agreed. Now that is one area

where the commission changed their first report and the second report for just the reasons the Premier has been touching upon. My question, Mr. Speaker, is whether he or the government have received any representation from anybody in the area or anybody with reference to the area for that matter requesting that it be changed back to the first report as opposed to the second report?

MR. MOORES: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker. If we have, I will certainly check it. I would not say so in this case because that is the reason it was changed in the first place. The commission drew it that way in the first place. It was changed back and it will be changed back again.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes.

MR. MOORES: The fact is , Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member well knows, to put these three communities into this area would make that area far too large with the populations.

MR. ROBERTS: Has the commission recommended their solution?

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, if I might say so, the commission was changing this also they put the third seat in Baie Verte, the Baie Verte Peninsula, ignoring the fact that the Bonavista and Trinity Bay Area, those two particularly, have the population and the gross potential that deserve and need the extra seat more than just for convenience or pressure or what have you, representation if you like, that made the commission change this in the first place.

The other change, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that these northern areas from Middle Arm up to Burlington and this particular area, all these communities, in fact,are connected by roads that go into the Baie Verte road itself or into the Baie Verte town itself. Now these people all stay primarily with Baie Verte. They do not come into Green Bay. As a matter of fact anyone representing Green Bay has to go over or go up the Baie Verte Peninsula and then down to the district. It makes inimitable sense as opposed from a community of interest point of view, particularly if applied to transportation

that the people who live on this coast deal directly into Baie Verte itself.

As I said the original commission report - I had two districts in this area, not the three that were aptly suggested. We agree, I do not mean to sound derogatory but we agree primarily because the gross potential in the district that has been added to the District of Bellevue , in fact, in my opinion, has a great deal of more gross potential, unfortunately or fortunately, than the northern part of the province

as this particular time does. I am not saying that in some time in the future that the Straits area and the Roddickton area and the Baie Verte Peninsula, wide spanned - the fact is I think it is recognized with Come By Chance having a deep water port. With Come By Chance developing and the other industrial developments in that area, the fact is that the support area of Bellevue, Clarenville, even Terra Nova, Trinity South, Placentia and so on are obviously areas that are going to grow somewhat faster than the ones I just mentioned.

Mr. Speaker, as far as -

MR. ROBERTS: (First part inaudible) - those people in Roddickton and Englee, not so much Harbour Deep, but Englee and Roddickton and Bide Arm make eminently more sense to make the Straits district larger than the quotient than it would to have them because the man from Baie Verte will have to get in his car and drive down to Deer Lake and go 200 miles north and fifty miles back across the road to Roddickton.

MR. MOORES: We are not talking about Harbour Deep.

MR. ROBERTS: Harbour Deep is a little different.

MR. MOORES: If the Leader of the Opposition wants to talk about that, I will certainly be glad to listen to what he has to say.

MR. ROBERTS: I am talking about it now. I will talk about it some more.

MR. MOORES: Right.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the next district I would like to go through is the district of Green Bay, a population of some 10,300 approximately. That was exactly the same as the last report. It was changed slightly from the first report where that north shore of Green Bay was in the Green Bay district. In fact it makes much more sense to put it into the Baie Verte area for the simple reason, as I said, that is where the community of interest, transportation, recreation, commercial traffic and so on travels. Green Bay itself in fact has remained basically unchanged from the first report. I think 10,300 makes inimitable sense as it is right now.

The district of Grand Falls, Mr. Speaker, is one that I think deserves some comment as such because here we have made one of what I consider the more major changes in the report. It is not major other

than that it is not Grand Falls, Buchans as was suggested but Grand Falls alone and Windsor.Badger, Buchans. The fact is in Grand Falls it was in fact a traditional capital. The Town of Grand Falls was the traditional capital of Central Newfoundland for many, many years. Now, in richest times Gander, of course, has taken a degree of prominence as well but the Town of Grand Falls has always shown the way both industrially and just about any other way as far as real, true, meaningful and dependable growth is concerned in the centre of our province.

We notice that it has a population of just 8,000 people, just over 8,000 people which is very small for that area. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say at this time that Grand Falls has had a most unusual phenomenon almost occur these last few years. The fact was that the pulp and paper company established in Grand Falls - there was no really great significant increase in population for many, many years.

An industrial park was started there a few years ago. It went through phase one. It went through phase two. It is now ready to start on phase three. The fact is for Grand Falls for no obvious reason all of the sudden it started to expand and expand very, very rapidly. The growth potential of the community, both from the demand on housing, the demand for industrial space, has meant that Grand Falls has taken off in no uncertain terms. As we know there is an expansion of the mill plant for Grand Falls as well. I think this put together with the fact that we now have more urban seats in the province - when I say urban I do not mean St. John's, I mean Grand Falls, Gander for all intents and purposes, Stephenville, two seats in Corner Brook.

Grand Falls with its traditional values being the center of cultural activity, recreation activity for Winsor if you like because it was a company town for so long - the fact is that I think now that Grand Falls is well and truly ready to have a seat of its own and give that very, very proud and able district of Grand Falls the singlest representation as the other urban areas of the province have.

In the area of Windsor, Buchans the population is approximately

10,900. It is for all intents and purposes a three town district. I suppose with Miller Town one could say four. We have got Buchans, Badger, Windsor and the Miller Town district.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that this was called Windsor. We have added the historic name of Buchans to that name for a very good reason. I think Buchans has made probably a bigger contribution and received less for that contribution than any particular town in this province, not necessarily for any other reason than the company town

concept which I know at the beginning, I suppose, was appreciated but which since then has been something that neither the company, the government nor the people should feel very proud of.

MR. NEARY: What are you going to do to prolong the life of the mine?

MR. MOORES: Unfortunately we cannot do very much to prolong the life of the mine unless ore is discovered. Naturally, if ore is not discovered the mine cannot carry on.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Everything that can be done, Mr. Speaker, to prolong the life of Buchans, obviously, is going to be done. Everything that can be done to help rehabilitate people, to bring in industry to help the people of Buchans also will be done.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, Windsor, Badger and Buchans are three towns that are, in fact, very industrialized. While people may not realize it, the miners of Buchans, the lumberjacks of the Millertown - Badger Area, the millworkers in Windsor, the fact is that it is a very strong labour area, very heavily unionized with good representation, probably the best labour (I will not say the best) but certainly one of the best labour representative groups in the province. The leadership and the sense of identity that want these people to expand over and above Grand Falls, to have their own presence, I think the community of interest in this particular district makes sense with those particular towns in it.

Mr. Speaker, if there is an example of why there should have been a change in this redistribution map it is the Area of Exploits. The Area of Exploits was one that had the boundary cut off right here just north of Botwood. Point Leamington, Paradise, Leading Tickles, McDonald's Cove, Fortune Harbour, all these areas on both sides of New Bay, all these areas where - in fact, in Lewisporte District, when their roads, their commerce, their recreation, all the various things that they take part in, everything came to Botwood, Bishops and that particular area. They had absolutely no communication with Lewisporte without going through these other major towns. The fact is that Point Leamington, Leading Tickles, Fortune Harbour and so on, as I just suggested, by

definition should be in the District of Exploits. It gives it a fairly large population of approximately 11,800 but the fact is that it is the logical and sensible area for that to be thus.

In Gander the population is 9,400 but I think everybody knows that the Town of Gander is growing very rapidly with big potential, with exceptionally good potential. The fuel problem there has to be worked on to make sure that we are competitive with the other international airlines and airports of the world. The fact is that Gander is growing and growing fast. As a matter of fact, the Gander District has not changed since the first or second commission report nor are we suggesting it shall. It is an area with great potential and it is one that, as I say, we have left as was.

The District of Lewisporte; population approximately 11,000: This will change from the other map for two very distinct reasons. Newstead and Comfort Cove right here on the peninsula which leads directly into Lewisporte would be in Twillingate. The people of Newstead and Comfort Cove, I am sure would love to be associated with Twillingate but also, I know, the people of Newstead and Comfort Cove do not, in fact, trade with Twillingate in any meaningful way.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. MOORES: Yes it was.

AN HON. MEMBER: In the report it was -

MR. MOORES: But it was there before.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh yes. Definitely!

MR. MOORES: The other situation, Mr. Speaker, is that Change Islands was in Twillingate at that time as well. The fact that Change Islands, with the road coming to the southern part of the island, the ferry comes into Port Albert and from Port Albert they come over and once again Lewisporte is the centre of attraction. Even though it is an island between Fogo and Twillingate and New World Island, the fact is that this particular island trades firstly into the Lewisporte Area. The communications are that way, the area of trade and commerce primarily is that way. As far as the fishery is concerned they fish the same grounds as the people out here. In fact, that is the only area of concern and

has no bearing on provincial representation that conflict.

As I say there is no community of interest but Twillingate and Lewisporte

for those particular towns and that is the reason for the change having been made there.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

PREMIER MOORES: No, I said Change Islands and at Twillingate. Their normal course of travel is through Port Albert. They are coming in through Port Albert. The roads are being built now the whole length of Change Islands so that the ferry is just a hop, skip and jump across to Port Albert. The reasoning for that - Pardon?

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

PREMIER MOORES: Yes, the fact is with the road coming down to the end of Change Islands, the ferry is going from that particular location to Port Albert, next year hopefully. I am not sure if the honourable member would not suggest that,if it is going to be done next year, that it should not be taken into consideration now.

The district of Twillingate and I know the honourable member will be pleased with this, first of all, it is not a large population, 8,400. As I say it is slightly low population wise. It is a compact district. It is an important district. This is where it comes back to the tradition in history I was talking about, Mr. Speaker. The district of Twillingate as such, that name as such, was established in 1834. It is the type of district - as there are no definitive community of interest areas around. I think it certainly is a district that deserves merit in standing on its own. I think it should be recognized as such.

The area of Fogo with a population of 10,300, that along with Burin I guess, Fortune Bay, Ferryland are the oldest districts in the Province, 1832, the very first one was the district of Fogo.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Always Liberal.

PREMIER MOORES: Always Liberal. Well, Mr. Speaker, that is probably why they insist on being so original. The district as it is now is virtually the same as the commission report, the only difference being is that the cut-off line is at Cape Freels where we turn into Bonavista Bay, as opposed to being just north of Lumsden where the commission had it drawn, Lumsden, I think, has been traditionally in Fogo district and that was changed back to that because Cape Freels seems to be a more logical

cut-off point rather than a line which was drawn north to Deadman's Bay. Bonavista North -

MR. E. WINSOR: Sir, what is the logic behind Horwood, north and south? What is the logic of taking Stoneville and Horwood and putting them in Lewisporte district as well? What is the logic behind that? I cannot see it. Horwood, that is in the Dog Bight -

PREMIER MOORES: Over here.

MR. WINSOR: Yes.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, do they trade in Lewisporte or do they trade -

MR. WINSOR: Well, they trade in Gander, not so much Lewisporte.

PREMIER MOORES: They do in Lewisporte and Gander.

MR. WINSOR: They trade all over.

PREMIER MOORES: The reason was, Mr. Speaker, is because that side of the bay once you get past Victoriaville, in the Horwood area it was suggested that to make the population close again, looking at the population ratio, there is not that many people there as the honourable member knows, 10,900 here, 10,200 here, it was basically to have the community of interest in Lewisporte or Gander and not just be put into Fogo as such. I did not think it was a very major change.

MR. WINSOR: It might have evened up. Instead of having 10,900 in Lewisporte, you might have had 10,450 in each.

PREMIER MOORES: I think it must be realized, Mr. Speaker, and we must not get into a debate on this, Fogo Island fishery has some future as it does along this coast. The fact is the development of Lewisporte as a distribution centre will give an increase of population at a much more rapid basis in the Lewisporte area than it will on the coast. I think that is a fair comment to make.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

PREMIER MOORES: Secondly, Mr. Speaker, to get on: Bonavista North with a population of approximately 9,900, this district is virtually the same as the commission's. However, as I say in Lumsden being referred back up above,

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The second report.

PREMIER MOORES: The second report. The second report was approximately the same as the second commission report.

Terra Nova: There is a substantial change in the district of Terra Nova. In the commission report it had a dipping over into Smith Sound and taking the north side of Smith Sound from Harcourt out to Burgoynes Cove. The fact is that the community of interest in this area does not overflow into an area which has Clarenville very much as a central location as opposed to Glovertown and the other towns that take a part here.

We felt that the best thing to do was to include it with a population of 9,500. Just over 9,500,

included, stopped shorter at Bonavista Bay. The reason I say that, Mr. Speaker, because now we come to the District of Bonavista South which once again is just quite a change in it. The reason I would like to refer to Bonavista South and Trinity North is they have been changed as opposed to Clarenville on the map. You will remember the chain that ran across to Crates Cove across to British Harbour, if I remember correctly, the fact is that if there was ever a district that never did have the same community of interest it was that of Bonavista South as it had been divided at that time. I do not think there is any secret, and I do not think it should be that the people in Bonavista, in that particular part of the coast, the people in Catalina, Port Union, Port Rexton, Trinity and so on - there has been tremendous competition between these two parts of the world for a long while. Because of that competition I venture to say that both groups in both areas have prospered more than would be known. The fact is that we had more complaints from -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: No, there is one other,but mostly a lot of complaints, let us put it that way, Mr. Speaker, from this particular district than just about anywhere else and it was quite incredible. The fact is that the Bonavista shore dealing with Bonavista, Elliston, Mayberly , Spillars Cove as well - these towns basically deal with Bonavista for once again recreation, for trade or whatever it happens to be. The whole way of life on this Bonavista Coast basically is much better represented by Bonavista South as such than it was by having it chopped off the way it was before. Equally in Trinity North, Port Union, Port Rexton, Catalina, Trinity, Bonaventure Peninsula that goes out there, the southside of Smith Sound, Random Island and Shoal Harbour and Georges Brook and so on. Clarenville is obviously the centre there. It was suggested that the name be Clarenville as well. The fact is that it was felt very strongly that it should be Trinity North, as much as we admire the Town of Clarenville the fact is in that particular area they felt that Trinity North was the traditional name and the name should be retained.

Now, Mr. Speaker, once again in this area of Clarenville there are 8,200 people, which one could say I suppose is low for an area of that sort.

The fact is that the growth potential of that area as somewhat of a dormitory town, if you like, for the Come-By-Chance developments and so on. It is growing very rapidly. I would be perfectly surprised if in the new census that this figure is not in fact a great deal more than it is now.

Bellevue which in fact is a new district because the extra district that was picked up from dropping one from this particular neighbour, Straits Area, the new district that was picked up in fact was the Bellevue District. There was an extra district included in this area down here, because as I said the population of Trinity and Bonavista Bays were very densely populated and particularly in the Clarenville Area the possibility for growth is substantial.

So the District of Bellevue is chosen here which takes in, in fact, I suppose, which is the greatest support communities to the Come-By-Chance Development, from Dildo in the south over to Swift Current, Garden Cove, North Harbour and Placentia Bay, Southwest Arm -

AN HON. MEMBER: He is really making a fool of himself today.

MR. MOORES: Why is that?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: I am sorry.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Have you got a problem?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: .... I am glad you appreciated it.

Bellevue, Mr. Speaker, as I said is a new seat to replace.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: The rame came from the park.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, you know I have got to sit here and listen to the honourable Member for Bell Island saying that the first brain transplant did not work. You know what do you say to a man like that, when you are trying to go through redistribution.

MR. NEARY: Carry on.

MR. MOORES: What I can say, Sir, is that the redistribution transplant for Bell Island may have worked.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: That is all right, Sir, but we got the right head to do it on.

HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MOORES: As I said, Mr. Speaker, the area of Bellevue in fact has great potentials.

The Trinity/ Bay de Verde Area here is pretty well the same as the previous commission report. Once again they have the spin-off activity economically from Come-By-Chance and that particular area.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Bay de Verde/Trinity, this area here.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: I did not say it was the same as any report. I said the same boundaries have been cut off from the dropping of the Bellevue Area which was picked up against the population here.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Right. Well there are 8,500 there, Mr. Speaker.

Carbonear is virtually the same as the last commission report. Carbonear once again being a district that has been there for a long while. It has been expanded to Lower Island Cove which

in fact was the old Carbonear district of Carbonear and Bay de Verde for quite some time. In fact it went down further but now Lower Island Cove to Carbonear there is an adequate population of some 10,600.

Harbour Grace has been changed in that Shearstown and Butlerville have been dropped from the Harbour Grace district and put into Port de Grave. I think, Mr. Speaker, that anyone who knows that area -

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: No, that is not the same.

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Well, talking about Shearstown, they even have the same community council, the same town council and -

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: The same accent.

MR. ROBERTS: I was always told it took care of Harbour Grace. Does the Premier agree with that?

MR. MOORES: It may have made the difference at one time, Mr. Speaker.

In Port de Grave district, Mr. Speaker, the major changes have been that commission had Whitbourne and Markland in the Port de Grave district. To my mind it makes much more sense to put Shearstown and Butlerville in there and Whitbourne and Markland, which in fact have always been associated with Trinity Bay, into the Bellevue seat.

Harbour Main and Bell Island - now, Mr. Speaker, that takes some degree of expansion as far as remarks are concerned. The fact is that in Harbour Main, Bell Island there are a great many reasons that were taken into consideration before this particular change. First of all the commission on the second report had Harbour Main in with St. Mary's. The fact is that the industrial workers really, mostly who live in the Harbour Main district and the fishermen of the St. Mary's district in fact had very little in common as far as the community interest was concerned.

For many years Harbour Main, Bell Island was a district off to itself. As a matter of fact from 1932 to 1955, in fact, Bell Island and Harbour Main was a district.

MR. ROBERTS: From 1932 to 1949, there were not a great many elected members

then.

MR. MOORES: No, but that is how long it was.

MR. CROSBIE: They are mostly appointed.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the south shore of Harbour Main has grown tremendously during the past few years. Unfortunately, the population of Bell Island has declined with the closing of the mines. It is unfortunate that Bell Island does have the seat as it always did but because of population reasons it was obvious that it could not retain that without being added with -

MR. NEARY: Why do you not come clean, boy,and tell the truth. Do not be making a fool of yourself.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, you know, the honourable member for Bell Island asked me to come clean and tell the truth. On what subject?

MR. NEARY: On why he changed Bell Island back to Harbour Main.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The honourable member's mother is from Gallows Cove.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the honourable member for Bell Island came from somewhere.

This particular one of Harbour Main, Salmonier was not logical. The other thing it would have done, of course, was taken away the traditional seat of St. Mary's which I felt to be very wrong as did the government. Harbour Main, Bell Island - there are a lot of people in Harbour Main who in fact worked on Bell Island for many, many years, I think it is true to say. There are a great many people who are related back and forth between Bell Island and Harbour Main. In fact, with the exception of Portugal Cove - but if we take St. Thomas, St. Phillips and the other communities that were included, in fact Portugal Cove, a community of interest yes but in the others no for traditional reasons and because of -

MR. NEARY: My son. every man down in St. Phillips worked on the coal boats on Bell Island one time. Do not be so stunned, boy.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!

MR. MOORES: Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the honourable member for Bell Island looks forward with great anticipation and glee to a fight in the next election on Bell Island.

MR. NEARY: I certainly do.

MR. MOORES: That is good because I was awfully afraid, Mr. Speaker, that he would commit himself to another district.

MR. NEARY: Wherever the Premier runs that is where I am going to run. I am going to run against him. Wherever the Premier goes.

MR. MOORES: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that is a good idea. Wherever I go, he goes because I, as he brought it up, Sir, if you will permit me for one moment, I went to Humber West because the previous Premier was there but at that time I had made the leadership of our party. I would suggest that maybe he try to get the leader of his party to do the same thing rather than the three per cent effort, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: I will, as soon as I clobber the existing Premier.

MR. MOORES: Three per cent "Neary", anyway. I am sorry about that, Sir. I apologize, withdrawn.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: What does he mean by that? One minute what?

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Let us get on with it, Mr. Speaker.

MR. MOORES: No, I am enjoying the gentleman, Mr. Speaker. He cannot help himself.

The St. John's East Extern -

here, the fact is, for all intents and purposes a rural district, Mr. Speaker, even though that name has gone by for years but Torbay, it comes down now, and includes parts of Portugal Cove, Pouch Cove, Bauline and the Shoe Cove, Outer Cove, Middle Cove Area.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Great traditional names go back to 1602, I think.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, to call it Avalon North, Mr. Speaker, would be ridiculous because Avalon North, I would assume would be the Avalon Peninsula.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: I was hoping for Torbay and Outer Cove.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, the other problem, Mr. Speaker, in which community do you change it over? Cape St. Francis would probably be a very good idea, Sir, but St. John's East Extern is what it is called.

Equally, the Mt. Scio District has been extended to include St. Phillips and part of Portugal Cove with a population of 10,700. Pleasantville, 12,000; there are some minor changes in that district but they are minor. The fact is that Waterford, Kenmount, St. John's North, St. John's South, St. John's East, St. John's Centre, St. John's West are in exactly the same as was recommended. Mount Pearl -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, they must be very minor, Mr. Speaker, because in fact there is no change to my knowledge in any of those .

The Town of Mount Pearl, for an urban riding, people could, I suppose, say that it is low. Population is 9,500. The fact is that the new town development in Mount Pearl with the development of, as a dormitory town if you like, with people working in the St. John's Area, with the Industrial Park in Donovans, Mount Pearl will, in fact, be growing very rapidly.

The name, Mr. Speaker, of Goulds, Blackhead, was changed I think for obvious reasons. The Blackhead is now no longer, it is Shea Heights.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Usually called Kilbride-Shea Heights.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, the new name of Kilbride, I think, Mr. Speaker, takes in the area itself and is descriptive of it. One thing I would like to say at this time, Sir, just turning away from the map for a minute: There is a lot of talk about eleven seats in the city of

St. John's. I think we should look at that for what it is. That is absolutely incorrect, any more than Bay of Islands now is in the City of Corner Brook or Windsor is in the District of Grand Falls. I think one is as bad as the other. The fact is that in St. John's right now under redistribution, there are seven seats actually within the city limits of St. John's. There is one seat that is urban and rural. There are three seats, Mount Pearl, and I am sure the people of Mount Pearl, Sir, would agree with the fact, that they are not a St. John's seat. Mount Pearl, Kilbride and a large part of East Extern and a large part of Mount Scio, in fact, are not city seats as they are popularly referred to.

Mr. Speaker, Conception Bay South, has a population of 12,000. That is very nearly the same as the commission report. I think now it goes out and includes St. Thomas and part of the Thorburn Road, Empire Avenue and Blackmarsh Road coming back that way but for all intents and purposes it is the same.

Placentia has a population of 10,300. Once again it has a real growth potential because of the Come By Chance influence, Long Harbour influence. I cannot say that I am pleased that that is the sort of influence we have here because of the tremendous pollution situations provided, because there is a tremendous amount of money, it eats up and the subsidized energy contract. The fact is that it is there and quite a few people work there on the base. Contrary to what people are saying, hopefully, industries that will be successful, industries like Pyramid Homes and others will be established, as they were in Stephenville over the years, in the Placentia Area.

Burin, Placentia West: population of 11,700. I think that district is exactly the same as the commission in both reports, if I remember correctly.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Inaudible.

PREMIER MOORES: Before going over there, Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer to Ferryland District which has remained in place . Like the first commission report again, it is there.

It is a traditional seat that has been there for many, many years. If I remember correctly, it was the same as the other, 1832.

St. Mary's - the Capes, it has been called that, Mr. Speaker, and reinstituted because of its traditional and historic and community of interest in all these particular areas. It is a fishing area primarily. It is an area that has three of the most famous capes in the province, Cape Race, Cape Pine and Cape St. Mary's. The fact is that St. Mary's - The Capes, traditionally and historically, I believe, is very important to have as a seat with representation in any legislature in this province they have.

Grand Bank - that district here remains the same as the commission report, changed in the second report to include Garnish, Frenchman's Cove, Grand Beach which I think makes inimitable sense as the road connections are that way.

Equally, Fortune, Hermitage - I think, as I am sure the member from Hermitage will agree, that the name Hermitage should be included in the Fortune Bay area because Harbour Breton, Hermitage, Seal Cove and these areas are now part of that particular district.

Burgeo, Bay d'Espoir, a population of 8500 is the same as the commission had it drawn. However, there is a very different situation, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to growth potential. As I said earlier, Bay d' Espoir has probably got more potential on the island part of the province than any other one particular area. Burgeo, a town that was being allowed to die will not be allowed to die. I think primarily that district is a good one and the commission had it as it is. The name of La Poile , rather than the community in this particular area - it used to be Burgeo, La Poile. The fact is that second section is now going to be called La Poile.

St. George's remains in the commission report with a population of 9800. The district of Port au Port, the Peninsula, remains at 8900. Once again, Mr. Speaker, it has a great potential, because of the Labrador Linerboard Mill, as a dormitory town because the bases once again have shoots here as well. Also, Mr. Speaker, because of the tremendous limestone deposits which will in fact lead to a cement

processing plant here in the not too distant future.

Stephenville remains the same as the commission report and will continue to grow.

Humber Valley, this district here - I had great qualms when I looked at it first, seeing it going up as far as Jackson's Arm in White Bay. It is the same as the commission report. I do not mean political qualms, I am talking about area to cover. It is a large area. Pardon!

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: The district makes a lot of sense.

MR. MOORES: Yes. But the fact is,it is a district of Humber Valley which I think is good.

Bay of Islands district has a total community of interest, a rural district which very heavily relies on employment in the Corner Brook area. Humber East and Humber West and Corner Brook East and Corner Brook West, as I say, is also very important.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it has been mentioned on many occasions that urban areas and rural areas are being discriminated against. First of all I would like to say of all districts we have here, the whole shebang if you like, population between 8,000 and 9,000 in the total context, the districts between 8,000 and 9,000 there are eight of them, eight districts that have that many people. Between 9,000 and 10,000, nine districts. Between 10,000 and 11,000, sixteen districts. Between 11,000 and 12,000, fifteen districts. One slightly over 12,000 - Conception Bay South as I mentioned before.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, it is 12,030. I was talking about any substantial amount. I am sorry about that.

Naskaupi and Eagle of course are less than those figures. I would like to repeat them, Mr. Speaker. From 8,000 to 9,000; eight. From 9,000 to 10,000; nine. From 10,000 to 11,000; sixteen. From 11,000 to 12,000; fifteen.

I think the distribution as such of population is fair. I think it is fair so that people do have representation with the numbers that are voting in the district.

The other part that I think is worth mentioning, Sir, is

this great increase in urban seats we were talking about our people have been talking about and the opposition argument in this particular regard which I think can be proven to be absolute nonsense. In fact the urban seats that there are, Grand Falls, Stephenville and Mount Pearl, Gander - and you are stretching a point here because you have Glenwood, Benton, and another few towns as well, that is all I guess in Gander - St. John's West, St. John's South, St. John's North, St. John's East, St. John's Centre, Humber East, Humber West, Pleasantville, Menihek, Labrador City, Wabush, Waterford, Kenmount which is fourteen out of fifty-one seats that

in fact are urban, fourteen out of fifty-one. Mr. Speaker, let us not kid ourselves the fact is that the tendancy of population to move into cities in the last few years is not something that anyone can avoid, this just happens to be a fact of life in a great many areas.

Now the ones that are urban/rural, if you like, which has some urban participation and some rural, you have, St. John's East Extern, I suppose, you stretch it, Bay of Islands, and you are certainly stretching it there but a part of Curling is in that, Mount Scio, Kilbride and Humber Valley which once again starts at Humbermouth and, in fact, I suppose, you could call it urban/rural.

But, Mr. Speaker, if we look at the districts that are not urban by any sense or stretch of the imagination, Port au Port, Burgeo, Bay d'Espoir, St. Mary's, the Capes, Ferryland, Bonavista South, Trinity, Bay de Verde, Twillingate, St. Georges, Fortune, Hermitage, Harbour Grace, Trinity North, Bonavista North, Terra Nova, LaPoile, Placentia, Carbonear, Port de Grave, Bellevue, Fogo, Windsor, Buchans, Green Bay, St. Barbe, Grand Bank, Burin, Placentia West, Harbour Main, Bell Island, Exploits, Lewisporte, White Bay, Baie Verte, Eagle, Naskaupi, Concention Bay South and the Straits. I do not think, Sir, anyone -

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: It is a region, Mr. Speaker. It is a part of a region as such. The fact is that Harbour Main is also in that district now, so maybe I will make it urban/rural with Bell Island being the urban part and Harbour Main being the rural, if it makes the member feel any better.

The fact is, Sir, the same as the commission report these districts here for all intents and purposes, twenty-nine remain the same, fifteen had what in fact were very minor changes and there were seven with major changes.

The seven, Sir, with major changes were: St. Mary's being put back on the map, so as to speak, White Bay, Baie Verte, the Straits, Naskaupi and the Eagle. Naskaupi was taken from having the traditional Labrador North and Labrador South seats. It was now the industrialized area, a potentially industrialized area of Happy Valley, Goose, with Churchill, Northwest River and Mud Lake, and the coastal part of Labrador.

But the fact is, Sir, that of the five I mentioned, St. Mary's, White Bay, Baie Verte and the Straits were nearly the same as the first commission report, Naskaupi and the Eagle were exactly the same as the first commission report. The two areas of Harbour Main, Bell Island and Bellevue I have mentioned as to why we think and why we thought it was significant to have them changed as they were.

Now, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. NEARY: If you would do it with a straight face.

MR. MOORES: I will probably do it with a straight - I think it is marvelous. I think it is just wonderful that your relations can get together with you again.

Mr. Speaker, the fact is that as I mentioned before we have increased -

MR. NEARY: You have got a rude awakening....

MR. MOORES: That is right. That is nothing to what you are going to have.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. MOORES: Ah, that is good boy, I am delighted!

Mr. Speaker, we have increased the rural seats in this particular redistribution substantially. We have been accused of taking rural seats away in this effort. That is absolutely not true. You cannot look at a map where you have thirty-two what are, in fact, rural seats. I think it was five that were urban/rural and fourteen that were, in fact, urban. I do not think it is fair to say that when you look at it that way that we do not have fair distribution in the province. The fact is, with the numbers of people that are in each district now, we have that fairer representation than we have ever had before.

The commission, as I said before, has basically done a good job. The commission did a veoman job, Sir. It was a lot of work. There were a lot of things that had to be taken into consideration. However, as I mentioned before, I do not think enough effort or enough consideration, I should say, was given to the history and tradition of our province in making judgments. I do not think, in some cases, possibly because of the pressure of so much to do that they realized how much they mean in certain parts of Newfoundland, and as

I say I refer particularly to an area like St. Mary's which had been in their first report, was no longer existed in the second report and had been there since 1834. I think it was wrong. I think if that had been even known before the people of that district and others would have been very upset.

The other point I mentioned, Sir, the reason for the changes, the community of interest. I think that is very important. I think the community of interest possibly is the most important reason to have a district so that people who live in that district have problems, have concerns that the member himself, he can represent in a proper manner. You must take into consideration the economics, the transportation and communications, the centres of trade, culture, recreation and what have you. All these things have to be taken into consideration, and in this particular redistribution map here, Sir, I think they have been.

Changes in the main have not been major except in the few districts, as the ones that I mentioned, by the result of a great deal of protest is the reason that it was not looked at in this way. A tremendous number of protests, as a matter of fact,

from the district of Harbour Main we had as an example, letters from the council of Holyrood, Marysvale, Knights of Columbus, town councils of Holyrood, Harbour Main, Conception Harbour, Colliers, parish priests, private individuals, letters and even petitions. That was just one district. Mr. Speaker, it happens to be correct but this happened in quite a few areas, so it was not a matter of just doing this on our own. It was a matter of listening to a great many people who wrote in protest and trying to take as objective a view as we can.

I do not think we have gone away from the commission findings too much. I think for instance in the Area of Exploits, as I said, the community of interest in Point Leamington, Leading Tickles, Cottrell's Cove, Fortune Harbour and these, it only makes sense that they be in with Botwood and Bishops in the one district. They will slightly reduce the districts where growth potential is and I am talking about slightly reducing the populations in these areas. As I mentioned Grand Falls was one example, Burgeo, Bay d'Espoir another example because of the tremendous potential with the present hydro facility there, the deep water port and the development that will obviously I think, Sir, well I cannot guarantee it but I certainly expect it will take place there, added the District of Bellevue because of Come by Chance and because of the representation in the Trinity Bonavista Bay Areas that were needed.

What we have done, Sir, is given people fair representation for their very first time and certainly in modern history reviews the twenty-five per cent of the formula that was given and in fact most of the districts are very close to the average itself.

I think it is a good resolution, Sir, and I think the opposition in the main, I am sure they will have objections, I am sure they will have a great many comments to make but I would hope that they would appreciate the fact that this is not, to use the popular if they should like to, gerrymandering as such or is it "joeymandering".

The fact is that it is a resolution that is based on the community of interest of the districts. It is a resolution that is based on the historic

and traditional rights of our Province. It is a resolution that we think makes inimitable sense and will give the people of this Province for the first time, in recent years, representation for every part of the Island, an equal representation.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Labrador South.

MR. M. MARTIN: Would the honourable the Premier allow one question before he closes the debate. The general statements made regarding the justification for these boundaries being where they are as it obviously applies to the Island of Newfoundland in the Premier's mind, is he satisfied at this point that they also apply to the Districts of Labrador, in Labrador?

PREMIER MOORES: At the present time I am, Mr. Speaker. The Western Labrador seat, I would much prefer to listen to the member in commenting on this and hear his opinion. The Western Labrador seat, I think, is self-identifiable as a logical seat in itself. With the potential of Goose-Happy Valley, as I said, and Churchill but particularly Goose-Happy Valley, North West River, Mud Lake, that area has a future which is basically an industrially based future. The coast: there are several points that I have come up with. The coast identifiable as a unique entity in itself, Mr. Speaker, and certainly something that - I did not think it was part of this debate but there are certain movements underway now, actions being taken right now that certainly I will only too gladly make available to the member for Labrador South or to the member for Labrador North as to the various things we are trying to do to plan for next year and for the future in that area.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I will move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Leader of the Opposition adjourned the debate and will get the first opportunity to proceed next day.

On motion, that the House at its rising adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, December 2, at 3:00 P.M. Mr. Speaker left the Chair.