

PRELIMINARY  
UNEDITED  
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
FOR THE PERIOD  
3:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1978

The House met at 3.00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, an announcement has emanated from Ottawa within the last hour, I understand, announcing that the hon. Edward Schreyer, former Premier of the province of Manitoba, will be the next Governor General of Canada to succeed His Excellency the right hon. Jules Leger who, I believe, retires at the end of this year. It is the custom in all parliaments in a totally non-partisan manner to extend congratulations to the Governor General Elect and a message of loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen, Elizabeth II of England and the Commonwealth. I would move that the appropriate resolution be forwarded to the Governor General Elect.

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

MR. N. SCOWE: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted and happy to associate myself with remarks of the Deputy Premier. Governor General Elect seems to be an odd term. I hope Your Honour does not use it. The Governor General Select, the Governor General Appointee or something, designated. The Governor General, as all people know in the country, is in fact selected by the Queen, appointed by the Queen on the advice of her Canadian ministers, the Prime Minister to be exact.

We are delighted, Sir, at the appointment of Mr. Schreyer, a man who distinguished himself as a premier of a Canadian province, an NDP premier. I hope that this appointment has the effect of bringing about a change in the NDP party policy as well, since in the past they have not been too much in favour of the Queen being the Queen of Canada, I understand, or her designee

MR. M. SCHE: here, her Governor General here being responsible to the Queen, a personal representative of the Queen in this nation. I hope that effects a change in policy there because I think I speak for everyone in the House when I say that everyone here is highly in favour of the Queen continuing as the Queen of Canada and playing an active role in the constitution of Canada and in fact the Government of Canada.

MR. RIDEOUT: Are you sure, Mr. Leader?

Mr. W. N. Rowe: There seems to be a couple behind me here, Mr. Speaker, who may have doubts.

MR. PECKFORD: Give them time. Give them time.

MR. W. N. ROWE: But I am going to ask the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) to take them outside for a few minutes.

AN HON. MEMBER: The member for the Republic of Labrador.

MR. W. N. ROWE: The member for the Republic of Labrador to take them outside.

But, Mr. Speaker, all levity aside, we welcome this appointment. We think it is good. We think that it is salutary that there be non-partisan appointments like that. We think the Government of Canada, the Liberal Government of Canada has shown its wisdom once more in the individual -

MR. DOODY: By appointing a non-Liberal.

MR. W. N. ROWE: Well, they did not lose their sanity altogether and appoint a Tory, Mr. Speaker. We see they are, Sir, at least half there.

MR. NEARY: That is not the gentleman with all the security contracts here in Newfoundland is it? No.

MR. PECKFORD: The NDP sure have gone Liberal, 18 per cent.

MR. W. N. ROWE: I am glad to see that Mr. Schreyer now following the election -

MR. NEARY: He would not be getting all of the security jobs around various government projects here? No.

MR. W. N. ROWE: I am glad to see, Mr. Speaker, that following the election in Manitoba, Mr. Schreyer will now have a full-time occupation and make a great contribution through the government of this nation.

MR. NEARY: Too bad he got appointed. He could do some research on it.

MR. HICKMAN: (Inaudible) with regard to the Opposition, would be a full-time occupation.

MR. W. N. ROWE: To me, Mr. Speaker, it is an occupation which I hope to see change radically within the next year or so, as far as I am concerned -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. N. ROWE: - this personal representative of that position.

But, Mr. Speaker, I associate myself with the remarks of the Deputy Premier that we send a resolution unanimously supported by this House to the Governor General Select.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Increase of Pensions Act, 1961", and a bill, "An Act To Amend The Fire Prevention Act."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on tomorrow I will ask leave to introduce the following motion:  
WHEREAS unemployment among the graduates of our trade schools of applicable trades for the construction and maintenance of ships in our Province is rapidly increasing ;  
AND WHEREAS many young people in our Province are requiring training and advanced skills in marine related industry and are unable to find work in their chosen field;  
AND WHEREAS the Provincial and Federal Governments are committed to a major expansion in the fishing industry

MR. CANNING: in our Province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador express its confidence in the future of our fishing industry by committing funds to expand existing shipbuilding and repair facilities at Marystown to compete with any docking facilities anywhere in the Maritime Provinces.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Consumer Affairs and Environment.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Department Of Consumer Affairs And Environment Act, 1973."

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

MR. W. N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. the Minister of Industrial Development. Has the government been able to obtain from any reliable source at the present time a financial statement of the financial condition of the First Arabian Corporation, the corporation which has been accepted, as far as the receiver is concerned, in respect of the Come By Chance refinery? Do you have an up-to-date financial statement on the condition of that company?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. DOODY: We have had discussions with First Arabian. It was some months ago now. Subsequent to that, of course, the Kleinwort Benson-ECGD-Kates Peat Marwick group have followed that up and have gone further into it. As a result of the inquiries and the concern of the Province, of course, for the asset out there at Come By Chance and our desire to get it activated, a group from First Arabian are

MR. DOODY:                    scheduled to arrive here in the Province on the 11th, which is Monday, I think. At that time we hope that they will be able to provide us with the answers to many questions, among them an updating on the financial situation of their various affiliated companies, of their various ventures into the business world, both in the U.K., which I understand they have done quite successfully on a couple of occasions in conjunction with the Bank of England which is a rather prestigious financial institution, and in the United States, as well as in other parts of the world. We also hope at that time to get from them the details on other questions which have been raised - the names of their associates, of their directors, what exactly, specifically

MR. DOODY: their financial background is. We understand and have been told that they are a very wealthy organization, that they have tremendous resources behind them; the documentary-proof of that has yet to be presented to the Province. Hopefully on Monday this will be made available, not only to the group from government who will be meeting with them but to the public at large. Certainly we will do everything we can to elicit the information and it is certainly in the interest of the government and of the public that this be made available and we will hopefully find out on Monday, the 11th., exactly what are the answers to the questions which the hon. gentleman has asked.

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, just a supplementary or two on that subject.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. W. ROWE: It is rather surprising that the government would still not be in possession of any financial information and the receiver has perhaps, as I said earlier, cast the die as far as the company is concerned and its proposal to take over the Come By Chance refinery. Did I understand from the minister in an earlier statement to the House, in answer to a question or in a statement of his own volition, that the major asset of First Arabia Corporation is the Commonwealth Bank situated in Detroit? Does the minister know what the major assets of this corporation are?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

MR. DOODY: No, I do not know what all the assets of the company are. Sir, I know that one of the assets of the company is the First - or at least the major interest in the First Commonwealth Bank of Detroit. I did not want to suggest at any time that that is the major asset nor the only asset of First Arabian Corporation. Indeed I am led to believe that this particular bank was a struggling organization in the United States in which



MR. DOODY: a majority interest was bought by First Arabian a year or two ago and which they are now working to bring to a level of competence and a level of profitability which they feel the organization can achieve and which I understand is achievable. But I have never given the impression to this House nor to anyone else that the First Commonwealth Bank of Detroit is the major or the only asset of First Arabian.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. W. ROWE: On the same line of questioning. Mr. Speaker, I have - by way of preamble - I have combed and canvassed a number of financial institutions on the Mainland and the United States with some requests for information about First Arabian and I have to state quite frankly I have come up with virtually a blank wall except a feeling

MR. W.M. ROWE:

given out, or direct statements given out to me by some of these institutions whom I do not mind mentioning to the minister in confidence at some later, statements which I find rather alarming as a member of the House. For example, one of them mentioned that the corporation does not appear to have a very stable liquid position was the statement made, based mainly on the instability widely known of its major asset, this Commonwealth Bank. Now what I am wondering is has the government got in its possession any credit reports or any financial reports, not from the First Arabian Corporation necessarily but from anyone else who has done a study independently- I will say even the company's accountants- to indicate what the financial condition may or may not be of this corporation? Have they canvassed or solicited or received any information from independent sources on the credit worthiness of First Arabian Corporation?

MR. S. NEADY: Only Scotland Yard.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Industrial.

MR. W. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, our concern with this particular organization of course has been its interest in the Come by Chance refinery and its ability to finance the reactivation and the ongoing continuity of the operation itself. As for its operations and dealings in other parts of the world, certainly they are of interest but they are secondary to our requirements. If these people can demonstrate to the Province that they have the financial capability and capacity to reactivate the refinery to make it both creditable and viable, then certainly this Province and the government of this Province will have no hesitation at all in going along with the proposal that they would put in place. Our interest is in the Come by Chance situation and of the ability of a company to take over, to operate and to make a success of that rather unfortunate situation that we have out there now. While it is true that the First Arabian Corporation is

MR. DOOPY:                   one about which very little is known publicly, I have been given to understand that this is not an unusual situation for companies, holding companies, financial groups who get together looking for investment opportunities. Some of the shrouds, as it were, that were surrounding that company hopefully will be taken off when these people visit us on Monday. I might suggest to hon. members opposite that it might be advisable if they to try to get an appointment to see Mr. Tamraz and his associates. They will be in St. John's on Monday.

MR. W. DOODY:

Hon. gentlemen opposite seem

to have little or no problem in contacting other groups who are interested in the goings on in the Province and the activities of the Province and indeed it is their right and duty so to do. I myself have no difficulty in contacting Mr. Tamraz from time to time, albeit we have had to go from New York to Paris to Zurich to London and back to St. John's and on and on again, but he is obviously a very mobile person. That may or may not be a good thing depending on what business you are in. As I said from the beginning, Sir, our interest is in making absolutely certain that First Arabian Corporation's offer is in the best interest of the Province of Newfoundland. It may very well be that it is not, but we have no indication that this is so. We have been led to believe, all the indications that we have had to date both in our discussions with that group, with the receivers, with ECGD, with Kleinwort Benson, with responsible business people whom we have talked to on this thing, including our own fiscal advisors in New York who have looked very carefully at Mr. Tamraz and his associates, have been that we have no reason to feel anything but confidence in them from a fiscal point of view, from a financial point of view. We have also been told that they have good relations with management people who could indeed make the refinery an operating entity which would be capable of carrying on a good refining capacity for an indefinite length of time. We understand that they have the capacity to obtain the raw product which is necessary for the refinery. We have been told, and have no reason to disbelieve, that they have a partnership in the United States who are capable of doing the distribution of that product. We understand that they have associated themselves with a very reputable and well recognized chartered bank in Canada who will act as the central banker for the financing of this organization and of the organization's activities. To us it looks to be very, very encouraging and we have no reason to discredit them, we have no desire to discredit them. We want them to come to us as soon as possible and to demonstrate the capacity that has been suggested to us that they have. We have no reason to discredit them, as

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MR. W. DOODY:

I say, and we do not want to discourage them. We want to get that refinery operating again.

MR. W. BOWE:

A supplementary on this.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary.

MR. W. BOWE:

Certainly no one would want to subject any visitor to the Province, or any industrial visitor to the Province, to the circus which Mr. Shaheen was subjected or any of his associates some years ago in the House by the then opposition. But, Sir, I throw out the suggestion with a genuine spirit: Would the minister not think it advisable that in addition to the government meeting with Mr. Tamraz and his associates when he arrives here, would he not think it advisable for a committee of the House, from both sides of the House, would sit down and talk to him even if it is in camera in order to put certain questions to him and his associates and find out, satisfy themselves on certain vital questions which I know I have as a member of this House and would like to see answered? And quite frankly it is not that I do not trust the government as such but I would like with my own eyes and with my own ears to hear and listen to and see these gentlemen and put some questions to them, members from both sides of the House, in order to see whether these questions which I have in my mind can be answered in a sensible fashion. Is that not a good suggestion, a genuine suggestion that we have a committee of the House interview the gentleman when he arrives in a civilized, decent manner to elicit information for the benefit of the people?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister of Finance.

MR. DOODY:

There seems to be a little bit, something incongruous about all this, asking for a committee of the House to interview Mr. Tamraz and his associates in a civilized and non-partisan manner. I do not think that I could really recommend to my colleagues that a committee of the House be struck to interview or talk to Mr. Tamraz. The people on this

MR. DOODY: side of the House, the committee who are responsible for looking into the situation at Come By Chance and hopefully arriving at a judgement decision as we did with the Ultramar proposal, I think they are far more capable and competent of looking after that sort of thing. They were elected for that purpose and so far the judgements that they have made have been very reasonable and very sensible.

I would hate very much to have this sort of situation occur which resulted in the original refinery deal, the refinery deal which would have found the Province of Newfoundland responsible for a \$600 million debt of a Crown corporation which was done by some of the economic and financial geniuses opposite, but which through good fortune, perhaps, or good luck we managed to get off the back of and now find ourselves -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. DOODY: And now, Sir, if I may have permission to answer the questions that have been asked, I will tell you that it is -

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

MR. DOODY: - that I feel that the people on this side of the

MR. DOODY:

House who demonstrated extreme good business sense in getting out of that Crown corporation at Come By Chance long before the roof caved in on a \$600 million debt which this Province could ill afford to handle and found ourselves now fortunate, if one can call being in the hole for \$47 million fortunate, in not being held responsible as a Crown corporation for that \$600 million mess. The fact of the matter is, Sir, that I find it very difficult to recommend to my colleagues that they include some of that sort of advice into a committee that would discuss the reactivation of the Come By Chance refinery with that group, the hon. group who are opposite. If they want to contact Mr. Tamraz and his associates, as I said, that is certainly their right, their privilege; and I respect them for it and I think it is their duty and they should do it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Before recognising the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir for a supplementary, I would welcome to the gallery on behalf of all hon. members, the Mayor of Bonavista, Mr. Frank Little, and the Town Manager of Bonavista, Mr. Calvin Rose. I know hon. members join me in welcoming these gentlemen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A supplementary to the same minister. If we had the same licence to debate with him about business sense, we would talk about the government's business sense in buying off Burns Brothers, if we want to talk about an issue.

MR. DOODY: Buying off Burns Brothers?

MR. SIMMONS: That is what I said, Mr. Speaker.



MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the minister.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: I said if the minister wants to talk about business sense of this administration, I will give him some examples, including buying off Burns Brothers.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!  
The hon. gentleman has been recognized to ask a supplementary from the previous line of questioning with respect to the proposed or possible purchasers of the Come By Chance oil refinery, so questions have to be on that.

MR. SIMMONS: We got carried away by the minister's somewhat extraneous answer, but I realize that is his problem, not mine.

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.  
He has mentioned Mr. Tamraz as a principal

MR. R. SIMMONS: of the organization, First Arabian. Would he indicate whether, to his knowledge, Mr. Gaith Pharon, G-a-i-t-h P-h-a-r-o-n, Mr. Gaith Pharon is a principal of the First Arabian and/or if he is going to be among the group government will be meeting here on Monday?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. DOODY: I have never heard of a gentleman called Gaith Pharon and I have no idea whether he is going to be here on Monday or not. I certainly have no indication that he will be a member of the group from First Arabian. If there is such a person associated with First Arabian it has not been brought to my attention. However, if this gentleman is coming to St. John's I do not know what it would be for. I know nothing about him at all. Maybe he would be very welcome. I do not know.

MR. SIMMONS: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. SIMMONS: I have no idea whether he is coming or not, that was not the point of my question.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) -

MR. SIMMONS: Well there was at the time the Commonwealth Bank transaction took place, I tell the minister, because he was, I believe, the principal involved with First Arabian at that time. The point of my question was to determine whether there had been a changeover in somewhat recent times of the control of First Arabian, but I gather from what the minister has said he is not aware of whether that person will be among the delegation. Is that correct?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. DOODY: To my knowledge the Chief Executive Officer of the First Commonwealth Bank of Detroit is a gentleman named Stickles, Mr. Something-or-other Stickles,

AN HON. MEMBER: Danny Stickles.

MR. DOODY: Danny Stickles, is it? I do not know. He is a delightful little man. He seems to be very capable with lots of money. Lovely man!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile followed by the hon. gentleman for Fogo.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower, Sir, if the hon. gentleman is aware of the savage anti-union movement that is on down at radio station CJYQ since the break-up of CJON radio and television when they branched off on their own, CJYQ radio, the savage anti-union movement that has been going on and now culminating into a movement, into an application by the owners of that station, the owners and operators after spending large sums of money to fight the employees and the union and to intimidate the employees and fight the employees and frighten them and

Mr. Neary: fire some of them, is the minister aware that there is an application now made to have the bargaining unit in that station decertified?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if it is gone before the Labour Relations Board, but it certainly has not come to my department because I am very familiar with the applications in that respect. You know, as far as I am concerned it has not come to the department. It may be before the Labour Relations Board. I do not know.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: I have here in front of me, Sir, reams of documents in connection with this anti-labour movement that has been going on by the owners of that station. I believe, Sir, with the difficulty that employees are having in this Province to get organized, stay organized and bargain, the hon. gentleman should undertake to look into a statement made by Mr. Colin Jamieson, the owner of that station—

MR. HOUSE: Who?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Colin Jamieson. And I realize, Mr. Speaker, the consequences of what I am doing. My name will now go up on the bulletin board down there. No more releases from Neary.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: I understand that, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I must point out to the hon. gentleman and I quote from a ruling of the Speaker in the House of Commons April 20, 1964, and it is certainly germane here.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

A question must be a question, not an expression of opinion, representation, argumentation, nor debate. The question must

Mr. Speaker: be brief. A preamble need not exceed one carefully drawn sentence. A supplementary question should need no preamble. I know hon. members would wish to confine their questions to the rules.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Sir. I was just merely pointing out to the House the discrimination and the censorship that will go on as a result of my asking a few questions for the protection of these employees down at CJYQ radio who are being intimidated, Mr. Speaker. Is the hon. minister aware that one of the owners of that station made a statement last year that bargaining with the union is useless? Would the hon. gentleman undertake to look into the whole situation down there to see if there is anything that this government or the Department of Labour can do to try to rescue the employees from the savage, anti-labour movement that is being carried on by the owners and operators of that station?

AN HON. MEMBER: Who are the owners?

MR. NEARY: I believe one of the owners, Sir, is - we hear him every morning like a bull frog.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: He is just like a bull frog every morning on the open line.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: That is one of the owners.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member may not question private members. The hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned I do not have the information, it has not come in in the last month, I am certain of that. There is no information crossed my desk in the last month. But I will undertake to look for that ream of information, as the hon. gentleman has it.

MR. DOODY: You will not have to, Turn on open line tomorrow morning.

AN HON. MEMBER: Turn on Bas Jamieson.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Fogo.

CAPT. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the same hon. minister but in his other capacity as Minister of Education. The question arises out of a telegram which I received from disturbed parents at Job Batt's Arm and Barr'd Island. The disturbed people or the families are concerned that the school bus is passing their home without picking up the children. "They have always been bused to school and now they have to walk. We want to know why since the bus has to go this way and it is not loaded." Apparently there has been some regulation in force - I do not know whether it is a regulation - but there is certainly some rule now applying whereby buses pass by those students and fail to pick them up. Is the minister aware of this situation? Is there anything he can do to rectify the matter?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I did have a call from the same people yesterday, or one of the people involved. The fact is that has been no change in regulations. The regulations that we have in the department always have been the regulations is that the pupils living outside of a mile, and, if there are more than six, of course, will be bused to the school on the regular school buses. What has happened in the past, of course, down in that particular area when the school buses were not crowded they used to pick them up inside the mile. The school board I think this year made a deliberate decision to not pick anybody up inside the mile because people want to get picked up at three-quarters of a mile, half

MR. HOUSE:

a mile and so on., so the situation is that the board is carrying out the regulations. I promised this lady that I would get in contact with the superintendant in the area who is of course administering that particular district. I have not been able to reach him because I just got the call from her yesterday and I am going to do that. As she described it to me, the board is within regulations and of course they picked people up inside the mile last year which they are not doing this year. So there is no pressure that we can put on for them to pick them up until the regulations are changed and of course we have not any plans to change that regulation.

CAPT. WINSOR:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary.

CAPT. WINSOR:

This telegram, Mr. Speaker, suggests that they are picking up children inside of the mile and they have been doing this all down through the years and all of a sudden it is cut off.

MR. HICKMAN:

They were doing it outside of regulations.

MR. HOUSE:

They were doing it outside of regulations. they were picking them up inside the mile, yes, before, but this year they are adhering to regulations.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, hon. member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, the minister has just indicated that a board, I presume he is talking about the Terra Nova Integrated School Board, was doing something outside the regulations, busing youngsters outside the regulations. Now I understand they have decided to do it within the regulations. I infer from what the minister has said that that is the case. Could I ask the minister then if this new decision is a result of some new directive from the minister's department? Has the minister or his department sought to recover funds from the board for acting outside the regulations last year?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. HOUSE: No, Mr. Speaker, we have not given any new directions whatsoever. But the cases have been in the past where a bus was travelling a route and the bus was not loaded, for instance, a fifty-eight passenger bus carrying forty-five pupils; they come inside the mile and there are a few pupils up on the road and they picked them up. We have never said you cannot do that, but if they came to us and said, "We want a bus to bus these pupils" we would say no. We have not changed our policy at all, the policy has been the same, and I suspect that there are a number of places where pupils are picked up inside the mile when the room is there, when the space is there. There has been no change in our policy and there has been no directives to boards.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. member for St. George's followed by the hon. gentleman from St. John's West and Bellevue.

MRS McISAAC: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and possibly the Minister of Recreation may be involved, whichever minister wishes to answer. My question is concerning the proposal put forward for the stadium project in St. George's. In view of the fact that they have a Canada Works project approved again this year upwards to about \$200,000, I wonder if it is possible to get some kind of a commitment or a yes or no or some kind of an answer for the town of St. George's on this project since they have to either accept or reject the Canada Works project money by sometime in early January? I would like to know where the project stands right now.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. MORGAN: I suppose I am responsible for recreation, or supposed to be. I will take notice of the question and check with the officials in that division which will soon be transferred to the Department of Tourism as part of the Tourism Department. I will check with the officials in the Recreation division and get the information for my hon. friend.



MR. SIMMONS: A point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, my colleague in good faith asked a question of the Minister of Tourism assuming that he was responsible for Recreation. Now he has indicated to the House that he does not know if he is responsible or not. I wonder would the Government House Leader indicate to us who it is is answerable to the House on matters relating to Recreation and if it is the Minister of Tourism to so inform him so that we can get answers to the question? The minister did say to the House quite seriously, Mr. Speaker, that he was not sure at this point in time. Well, if he is not sure, who is the minister responsible to so that we can put the questions to the appropriate minister?

MR. HICKMAN: To that point of order, which it is not. No. 1, it is a fundamental rule known to all parliamentarians, except one, that an hon. minister does not have to answer a question if he does not want to. Secondly, if under the Transfer of Powers Act, which I am sure that again all hon. gentlemen, except one, is fully familiar with, an examination of that would indicate who is responsible.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! Order, please!

There is no point of order and I recognize the hon. member for a supplementary.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please! Order, please!

The hon. member for St. George's.

MRS. MCISAAC:

Mr. Speaker, I will direct my

question this time to the Minister of Municipal Affairs since I understand that the project was forwarded to the Department of Recreation to be returned to the Department of Municipal Affairs and then forwarded to Cabinet for approval or disapproval or whatever. So I would like to direct that question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Where does the project lie right now?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. N. WINDSOR:

Mr. Speaker, the proposal is being

considered by both departments. It is a joint proposal since the two departments share in financing of arena projects. Officials of both departments have looked at or are looking at it. All I can say to the hon. member is that it is being processed as expeditiously as possible. We are quite aware of the deadline on the Canada Works projects and we will get an answer to her as soon as it is physically possible.

MRS. MCISAAC:

I am not satisfied with the minister's

answer and I would like to debate it on the Late Show since I know it has been sitting on one minister's desk for quite some time now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. member for St. John's West.

DR. KITCHEN:

Mr. Speaker, my question is directed

towards the Minister of Consumer Affairs, and it refers to the Virginia Park housing problem. The Homeowners Association down there

DR. KITCHEN: have a major problem in getting their facts together and they need expert help in getting their facts together. Some of that would be in testing the bricks to see that the so-called tests that have been carried out are in effect valid. They also need help in perhaps taking down and seeing what is behind the bricks, to see what is there and they have applied to various bodies for assistance, financial assistance. My question to the Minister of Consumer Affairs is, will he or his department help financially the Homeowners Association to put their case together in a somewhat similar way as they assist, say, the municipalities when they present their case to the Public Utilities Board and something like that? Would the minister answer that question and give them a few dollars to do that?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Consumer Affairs.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, if there is any money in my budget. We are not a spending department to that extent, but I must say that, like the hon. member himself, and like so many more, we were astounded at what is happening in that particular area. I asked all my consumer officials yesterday how far they had gone. We have not had one complaint, tragically. And I say that because we are Consumer Affairs and we try to get out what information we can to educate consumers as to their rights. We have not had one complaint to the present moment about any deficiency of workmanship or anything else. If there is any request made by the member for the district -

AN HON. MEMBER: Sit down!

MR. MURPHY: If the hon. ignorant member would be quiet -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MURPHY: As I say, if there are any requests for any help whatever, Sir, we will certainly do everything in our power -

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

MR. MURPHY: We are not, as I say, a spending department. I do not have that much money but I can assure the hon. member that is there is anything whatever in our power we can do we will certainly help him and I notice that he and the hon. Minister of Housing have agreed to get together to work on this deal and if they want any help from any of my department the help is there for them in any way possible.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. HICKMAN: Order 1.

MR. SPEAKER: Order 1, the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply.

The hon. member for Terra Nova.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, the main thrust of my remarks on Tuesday when I adjourned the debate was that I was not criticizing or condemning the Throne Speech on the basis of its lack of content or on the basis of its lack of substance, although I suggested a good case could be made for this particular position as a couple of my colleagues did very well. But to me, Mr. Speaker,

MR. LUSH: the real point in question in this particular Throne Speech is the credibility of the government. I pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that this government has established a routine, a habit of presenting similar Throne Speeches, similar with commitments and promises to develop this Province, similar also, Mr. Speaker, in the follow up or in the results of these proposed commitments and promises. And what are the results, Mr. Speaker? Record unemployment! That is the result, Mr. Speaker, record unemployment!

AN HON. MEMBER: Right.

MR. LUSH: An unemployment rate that has risen from 10.1 per cent in October of 1972 to an unemployment rate today of 16.5 per cent, a rise, Sir, of 6 percentage points. Six full percentage points, that is the record, Mr. Speaker, of this government. That is performance, record unemployment, a level of unemployment that would not be tolerated anyplace else in North America.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is right.

MR. LUSH The obvious failure, Mr. Speaker, of the government to follow through with any practical action or the lack of any tangible results from promises and commitments of previous Throne Speeches, combined with other factors which I named the other day, such as the total mismanagement and squandering of the public dollars of this Province, government structuring and restructuring which has created a bureaucracy that has completely isolated and alienated the people of this Province from its government; failure of the government, Mr. Speaker, to live up to its previous commitment to embark upon a programme of development based upon spending the public dollars of this Province on an equitable, regional basis. And, Mr. Speaker, you only want to look at today's Packet to see that the government did not follow through with this programme,

MR. LUSH: with this commitment to spend the public dollars of this Province on an equitable basis, failure to develop our natural resources. And I indicated how we failed to develop, particularly, our hydro potential, our fisheries, forestry and agriculture, and I wish I had the time to go into these things in detail today, but I want to move along. And lastly, Mr. Speaker, a breakdown in Cabinet solidarity, a completely breakdown in Cabinet solidarity! Immature and irresponsible ministers who embarrass the few more mature and responsible ministers, ministers who are publicity hounds, ministers who will go to any extreme, Mr. Speaker, to promote and advance their own self-interest, that is the kind of Cabinet ministers we have.

Well, let us say we have one commitment by the Premier now almost brought to fruition, and that is the Cabinet of - What was it the Premier said? Twelve to fourteen? Well, we have it down to that now, but it is not through any deliberate philosophy, it is because the more talented people do not want to join these immature and irresponsible ministers, Mr. Speaker, ministers who are bent on making silly and indiscreet announcements - and the Minister of Health knows all about this -

AN HON. MEMBER: Falling out of bed over it.

MR. LUSH: - ministers, Mr. Speaker, going around with powder puffs and combs and lipstick in their pockets, all ready to get on television any time of the day.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. RIDEOUT: Do not interview me yet because my chin is hanging down.

MR. LUSH: No control in the Cabinet, Mr. Speaker, and for these reasons this government have lost the faith and the confidence of our people.

MR. LUSH: There is no public trust left in this government anymore. Nobody believes this government anymore. Now how will they believe in this Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker? It says very little. But our people will believe less about it.

For years we have listened to Throne Speeches espousing long term plans for the fisheries, five-year plans for the forestry, long term plans for agriculture. Now we have another five-year term for forestry and another long term construction plan for hospitals. And, Mr. Speaker, the only plan that I see any evidence of is the unofficial, unannounced plan of short term industrial closedown. That is the only plan that I see that this government has, and I hope it is not

Mr. Lush: followed up by a short-term reopening plan.

Now, Sir, in the Throne Speech the government was brave enough to try and pat themselves on the back and talk about progress, using some peculiar and questionable measures. For example, they talk about the per capita income having increased to double what it was in 1972. They talk about the purchasing of more automobiles, refrigerators, and washing machines, certainly questionable measures, Mr. Speaker, of progress, things which happen just in the normal process of living, in the normal process of population growth. But, Mr. Speaker, there was no reference to unemployment, no reference to our number one problem, no reference to the 33,000 people in this Province without jobs. And as I said, Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday a government that is bold enough to take credit for the sunshine must also take credit for the rain.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH: And this government must assume responsibility, this government must assume responsibility for the unemployment level in this Province. This government must assume sole responsibility, total responsibility. That is the public policy of any government, to promote maximum employment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH: That is the policy of any government, that is why they are elected, that is the major responsibility of any government, Mr. Speaker. I know what the minister is trying to say, it is this job of this government to submit sound proposals to the federal government for job creation in this Province. And I could go into showing what the federal government is doing with job creation in this Province, the millions and millions of dollars they are spending.

No mention of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that we are the highest-taxed people in Canada. No reference to that. No reference about electricity costs. No mention of this silly cost of fuel adjustment that we find in our bills each month. No reference to that, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, I challenge the ministers today to get up and to take responsibility for these unfavourable aspects in our economy. What about jobs for 1979? How about the people that are



Mr. Lush: Living beneath the low income level, beneath the poverty line, the 52.1 per cent of unattached individuals living beneath the poverty line, and the 16.7 per cent of families living beneath the poverty line. What are they going to do about these people? Are we going to raise the minimum wage for them?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. gentleman's time has elapsed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Ah, too bad!

MR. LUSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: By leave! By leave!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for the Bay of Islands.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I can compete, and I am not going to try and compete with the hon. member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush). And I think it is more important for us to help the poor people of this Province, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: - and that is what I am standing up here for and that is why I am elected.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: But in the closing words of the member's speech he mentioned the closedowns. And anybody in this Province who has any common sense at all knows that these closedowns have come about because of the squandering and the waste of a former administration.

AN HON. MEMBER: No way!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: In fact, why was it done? In fact, for political reasons only.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Will the hon. gentleman, Sir, permit a question?

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I would like first of all to -

MR. NEARY: Is that why York Harbour closed down?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

When an hon. member asks if another will yield, when he does not, then that, of course, has to be taken, and the hon. gentleman continues without interruption. He may yield, but he obviously is not obliged to.

MR. WOODROW: I would like first of all, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate the member for Mount Pearl (Mr. Neil Windsor) who has now become the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and also the member for Naskaupi (Mr. Goudie) who has become the Minister of Rural Development. And also my colleague, the member for St. John's East Extern (Mr. Hickey) who has been given the new post of Housing. I think that in creating this new post of Housing shows the importance that the government are placing on housing in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Now I notice the Leader of the Opposition is gone, I hope he can hear what I am going to say because I have just a little few words for him, that is all. I would like to tell him that after the great victory of the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker in 1958, he was

MR. WOODROW:

travelling on the 'plane to Alberta with Dalton Camp, and he looked at Dalton and he said, "This is the architect." Now there is another architect also which I think the Leader of the Opposition should thank, and I am not saying this to make any hard feelings at all, I think that the Leader of the Opposition owes a debt of gratitude to one Hugh Shea.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Because after all, if Hugh Shea had not run for the leadership of the Liberal Party, the Leader of the Opposition would have had to step down after the first ballot was counted. I do not know whether Newfoundlanders realize that or not. And today the Leader of the Opposition - the hon. Leader, I should say - would be down in his law office. So I want to say sincerely, I think he should thank Mr. Shea for doing him such an honour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: Now I want also to speak of my good friend from Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout). He is outside the Chamber at the present time. He is a hard worker and I think he is going far in the Liberal Party. You will be hearing more of him, in fact, as the years come on. And furthermore, I would say this, that the member for Baie Verte-White Bay - and this is an honour, you can give it to another hon. member as well - he could win under any party label in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and I do feel proud of him.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Now, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say a word about politics in general. Politics, as you know, are becoming more difficult each year. It is becoming more difficult for Opposition, for government and for other splinter parties as well. That is, I suppose, because

MR. WOODROW:

people expect more of us.

And not only do they expect more of us, but also Open Lines are on generally speaking and also television/radio are always after us day in and day out. And they have a right to do so because they are out to protect the rights of the Province and the like. And really what we have to be today, we have to be dedicated people. We can no longer sit back perhaps like many politicians could do in the old days. You have to work maybe fifteen or sixteen hours each day. And furthermore, if anybody thinks that there are any safe seats in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador anymore, I think that he could get a big surprise. And not only that, but the salaries! Many will agree with this that the salaries for MHAs today are so small that it is almost impossible to live on. In fact, many good people who could be attracted to politics and who would do a creditable job for the Province are remaining out of politics because of the mere pittance that they receive. For example, young families have to come, say, from places like Baie Verte and from Buchans and from other places outside the city of St. John's. They have to make great sacrifices. It is not the same for the people who are living in St. John's - and I am not indicating that they have an easy job either - but I think these are really remarks that should be made.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am going to try

MR. WOODROW: to confine my few remarks to the Throne Speech and maybe before it is over I may have time to say a few words about my own district, the district of the Bay of Islands.

First of all, I suppose if I were in Opposition - sometimes I wish I were because really, you know, I could have one heck of a great time. Because the Opposition, I am not undermining the place of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, is to keep the government on their toes and really tell them off and so forth and also their place is to replace government in the next election. That is really the place of the Opposition and that is their right, to try to do that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Now I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Throne Speech, let us use common sense, the Throne Speech is encouraging to our people and I have not yet heard anybody in the Opposition say anything good about it. There must be something good in it, Mr. Speaker. It is encouraging. In fact I think it is the most encouraging Throne Speech that I ever heard and I think what it is, I would say, is a continuation of the policy of the PC Party to develop the natural resources of our Province in order to make this Province a have province.

Now when hon. members speak of repetition in the Throne Speech, things have been repeated from '72 onward, why should they not be repeated? Remember in 1972 the PC Party set out to try to develop the natural resources. So this thing cannot be done in one year or two years or ten or twenty years. And do not forget that a former leader of the Liberal Party, the hon. J.R. Smallwood, his success, the success of his twenty-three years depended on the fact that he was completely repetitious. In fact he repeats things so people would eventually understand him, and

MR. WOODROW:

understand what he was getting at.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think our first great natural resource that the PC Party are trying to develop is the fishery of our Province. And the minister, the hon. Minister of Fisheries, has travelled all over the Province in the last three years, in all kinds of weather. I remember the time he dressed up and visited Cox's Cove. We almost went off the road, in fact we did go off the road, and perhaps the good Lord - well, somebody saved us. And as a result of his visits the great development policy is now outlined. And it is outlined, Mr. Speaker, in the Speech from the Throne.

I would just like to read a few passages. "The regional fisheries development strategy is based on the best data available and our fisheries resource, harvesting technology, processing requirements and markets." Now what better way could the government go about developing the fishery than what is outlined here in the Throne Speech?

"Officials of the Federal Department of Fisheries were involved. The fishermen have been consulted and their views will continue to be taken into account. The Fishermen's Union has been asked for its views. They do not always agree but they have been asked for their views. The Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador will likewise have opportunity to comment.

"The second great major study recently completed

MR. L. WOODROW: was the feasibility of a primary landing and distribution centre." And, of course, as is outlined in the Speech from the Throne this distribution centre is to be established at Harbour Grace. Also, the speech goes on to say, "My ministers will introduce legislation to establish a fishery procurement and distribution corporation to operate the port." Now, Mr. Speaker, I think really this is something. I do not think the Minister of Fisheries and his associates and the Cabinet associated with him just sat back over the last three or four years and did nothing, I think they have set up a great programme for the fisheries in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

And also this speech speaks about inshore ports, for example. Also, there is a programme outlined for the longliner fishermen as well. And I believe and I want to say this, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the Opposition, to all, we cannot fool with our people. The fishery in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is our most important industry and we should throw aside politics when something comes up like this. I am sure, actually, the people for whom the members of the Opposition are working - they elected them - they want also the members to work on behalf of the fishery and I think if they came out and said, "My God, at least the Moores Government have done something. They may not have done everything but at least they are trying and now they are off on a very good programme."

MR. T. RIDEOUT: Did you read my speech?

MR. L. WOODROW: I think that is important.

MR. T. RIDEOUT: I have said that.

MR. L. WOODROW: Very good I say I have mentioned you already.

MR. T. RIDEOUT: And I hope you will mention me again.

MR. L. WOODROW: Oh, you will be mentioned again several times. I wish the government and the fishermen well. I hope the

MR. L. WOODROW: Opposition, the unions will cooperate to give our fishermen a decent living. Gone are the old days. I know about the Water Street gang of merchants, I know about the merchants who lived in Northern Bay and Ochre Pit Cove and, in fact, down on the Southcoast. In fact, they literally bled our people and thank God those days are now gone and I hope they are gone forever, Mr. Speaker.

Now, also, Mr. Speaker, another natural resource here I want to mention - he is gone out of the Chamber now, the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy - I refer to the hydro development of the Province. I think, in fact, that this, really, is one of the greatest single things that has ever happened in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. When you think that, at the present time in the corporation, the Province of Newfoundland has fifty-one shares, fifty-one shares and - I will use the word Canada - Canada has forty-nine shares, and also on the board there are six Canadian directors and there are five Newfoundlanders but the Chairman, the sixth one has two votes, I think that hydro development in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is now in good hands. And I hope that we continue with the development of it because it is going to give many jobs to the people in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. To quote the speech again, "My government has just signed an agreement with the Government of Canada to establish the Lower Churchill Development Corporation. That corporation will be incorporated under federal charter



MR. WOODROW: and we will begin a new phase of development of the massive hydro-electric resources of Labrador. The corporation will be seeking to remove all obstacles to the recommencement of construction work in the Lower Churchill basin. My government is working now to attract energy intensive industries to Labrador as well as ultimately provide a transmission line to the Island."

MR. NEARY: Would the hon. gentleman permit a question?

MR. WOODROW: I am sorry, no. I am too interested in what I am saying. I think, Mr. Speaker, that is one of the greatest things and I do not know why the Opposition would interrupt the issue. Do they not want to hear? Are they not proud of this?

MR. NEARY: Would the hon. gentleman permit a question?

MR. WOODROW: I know I am proud of it. I am very proud of it, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Can I ask the hon. gentleman a question?

MR. WOODROW: I am very sorry, Mr. Speaker; in fact I have not got time at the moment. I am trying to give a speech. Now on the ask the Minister of Mines and Energy. Mr. Speaker, again, on the offshore minerals. "In 1978 a strong position taken by my government on offshore and gas exploration was proven to be wise and prudent. Drilling resumed and another major gas strike resulted. Imperial Oil has just announced - and we all heard this - its plans to drill in 1979 and as many as ten operations maybe going on simultaneously. In 1978 some \$40 million was spent by the oil companies and expenditures in 1979 could be close to \$200 million." And then, in fact, you will hear the Leader of the Opposition say this Province is on the verge of bankruptcy. I will be speaking about the present credit rating of the Province. Look at the faith these people have in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. "Through the petroleum regulations my government is well equipped to maximize benefits to Newfoundland in terms of direct employment expenditures on goods and services within the Province. A Manpower Information System is already in place to

MR. WOODROW: match jobs with people. Funds have already been received from oil companies to establish training courses to meet the needs of offshore operators. Companies will be increasing their research and development expenditures in the Province. Nevertheless my government will give highest priority to environmental controls" And, Mr. Speaker, I believe that is performance. I do not think, in fact, they were lying down and sleeping and doing nothing to get all these natural resources on the move.

MR. RIDEOUT: Tell us about the Minister of Tourism.

MR. WOODROW: Also, Mr. Speaker - What do you mean?

MR. RIDEOUT: All the investigation he is carrying on - I would like to hear about that.

MR. WOODROW: I would like to ask you, in fact -

MR. RIDEOUT: How many jobs does that provide?

MR. WOODROW: -if you want to learn Canadian French where would you go? Quebec.

AN HON MEMBER: Paris.

MR. WOODROW: Not Paris. There is quite a difference

Also, Mr. Speaker, in the field of - the hon. member is just trying to get me disturbed and upset, that is all, but I do not mind that - in the field, Mr. Speaker, of rural development a lot has been done and at last our people are being encouraged to remain in the rural areas of the Province, not only remain there but they are given some opportunities, some means of living so that they can stay there." My government in 1970 began a programme of rural development which involved the people of rural areas in planning their economic destiny. Thirty-six rural development associations are now active and they have documented specific areas of potential development. It is a process that is unique in Canada and which is attracting international attention." I do not say, Mr. Speaker, that all these programmes have been successful but many of them have and I hope that they will continue.

MR. WOODROW:

Now another matter, Mr. Speaker, that I just wanted to mention here. I am glad to know that the government is taking steps to reform the matrimonial law and will be tabling a policy along with legislation this session. And I am glad to see

MR. WOODROW: women's rights under the leadership of Lynne Verge and Ann Bell in Corner Brook. They played a big part in this. They were the first ones I called when I heard this in the Throne Speech, and they are extremely happy, and I feel, so are a lot of others in the Corner Brook/Bay of Islands/West Coast area as well. They think it is a good step and it is time it came.

In the field of Education, Mr. Speaker, here again I would like to quote this part: "My government will embark on major new initiatives in Education. We have accepted a recommendation of the Ministers Advisory Committee to introduce Grade XII on a phase basis beginning in September, 1980 with a Grade X class. Details will be presented to this session in due course." Well, I think, Mr. Speaker, that really is a great step for Education in our Province. And not only that, Mr. Speaker, but the many other schools and the like. In fact, you can look at almost every avenue of education and this government has tried to help out in every way. It has not done everything yet that it would like to do, but I am sure that it will continue to help the youth of this Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I feel that the Opposition are going to be glad to hear this, they could not be anything else but glad. Because I am glad and everybody else in Newfoundland is glad. Every person in Newfoundland must be happy. They are happy, Mr. Speaker, over the opening of the Linerboard mill in Stephenville.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Very good! They are happy over something.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible) over the woods operation.

MR. WOODROW: And they do not want to hear what I am saying, Mr. Speaker, because if they did they would pay more attention. But I do not mind - that is up

MR. WOODROW: to the hon. members of the  
Opposition.

I was disappointed, Mr. Speaker, over a statement recently after the announcement by the hon. Don Jamieson, a great Newfoundlander. And this was followed by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. They were a bit worried because they did not think the Canadian Government would wipe off the tax, give the tax concession. You know, it is amazing. During the by-election over on the West Coast which we did not win or you did not win - and I quote what Mr. Jamieson said - he said: "If the Liberal candidate was elected he would be on the government side and he would work to get the mill open." It is now no longer a political tool, thank God, but it is in the hands of a reputable company, Abitibi-Price, a company that my good friend from Windsor - Buchans (Mr. Flight), I am sure, appreciates.

MR. PECKFORD: Beyond reproach. Beyond reproach.

MR. WOODROW: And it is going to have, Mr. Speaker, certainly a big effect on the Stephenville-Bay St. George area, and also its impact will be felt all over the West Coast. And I am delighted, because I am already trying to get jobs out there for the people of the Bay of Islands, and I am going to keep doing that as long as I am here in this House. And I hope I succeed in getting them, because that is what it is all about.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg your indulgence, please. I would like to be heard in silence. Would you mind coming to my rescue?

MR. SPEAKER: (Dr. Collins) Order, please! The hon. member has requested silence in which to make his remarks.

MR. WOODROW: Now, Mr. Speaker, I want also to say a few words - this may be in the line of the Opposition, I do not know - I would like to say a few words on the unemployment situation in general.

MR. LUSH: Now you are getting at it.

MR. WOODROW: Now I am getting down to brass tacks, as the saying goes.

MR. WOODROW:

Mr. Speaker, there are such things as long-term jobs or permanent jobs. There are such things as short-term jobs or temporary jobs. And I feel sure, Mr. Speaker, that everybody, all the members of the Opposition, the members on the government side as well, they understand what automation has done on not only finding jobs in our Province but all throughout the Dominion of Canada. In fact, today, if a young fellow or a young woman, if they do not have a skill or a trade it is almost impossible, as everybody knows, almost impossible to help them. In fact, I have talked, for example, with IOC and people of that nature trying to get jobs, the first thing they ask, "What skills have they got?" In fact, in order today to be a truck driver you need grade eleven. In fact, almost everybody today needs grade eleven to get any kind of a job at all. And when people in the Bay of Islands district come to me and they say to me, I have quit school in grade seven or grade eight. I always tell them, "This was the saddest day in your life!" They should at least go far enough to get maybe a trade in plumbing or maybe in electricity, electronics or what have you.

But I feel, Mr. Speaker, and, of course, you know, the Opposition are asking, "Where are the government going to make jobs?" And they have every right to ask that. In fact, that is their duty. But I think, you know, from what we have heard in the Throne Speech today, or rather what I have quoted and what was read when His Honour was in here, I think that long-term jobs are going to result - The Leader of the Opposition in fact, I do not know what I am to him, he does not want to listen to me. Even if I am in the elevator he will not speak with me. I do not know what he has against me.

MR. SPEAKER:

What is wrong? What is wrong?

MR. WOODROW:

This is going on.

I think his brother is such a friendly fellow he should be the leader maybe. I had to get that little dig in you know. It may wake him up even. I have not gotten him to smile yet even.

MR. WOODROW: Now I should say, Mr. Speaker, that - he will not speak with me anymore now. My God what have I done? These things mentioned, the fishery, Labrador Linerboard mill and others are certainly going to result in permanent jobs. Now I am also very much upset and I have not heard any questions asked on this yet, I am upset that in the Bay of Islands district there are about eighteen or twenty men who were on maintenance, winter equipment last year, they were on snow clearing, and they were laid off this year. And that really is distressing me very much. Now I do not know whether this is happening in the other hon. members' areas or not but I know it is happening in mine but it has not been brought up in this House yet.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not debatable.

MR. RIDEOUT: We are trying to convince the minister to change his mind.

MR. WOODROW: Well I hope he does change his mind, because this is a very serious matter. In fact, unfortunately a lot of these people, unless they can find some temporary job they have to turn to social assistance and that is not too good. That is not too good, in fact, for the people of this Province.

MR. RIDEOUT: Why do you not talk to him?

MR. WOODROW: I certainly have on several occasions. I will keep on talking. I do not know.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have also probably come now to the point where I should say - yes I was going to say, I feel that instead of the two shifts, the two twelve hour shifts, they should have three shifts.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: I go on record in saying this because I feel we have to keep our people working.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words about my own district, time is fleeting on. First of all everybody knows that the Bay of Islands district is



MR. WOODRON: urban and rural. And I am just pondering the urban part because it really - the urban part belongs to the city of Corner Brook. I am very happy to say that RRAP and NIP - I do not have to explain those words because every member knows what they are - RRAP and NIP have played, in fact, a great part in the urban area of the Bay of Island district. In fact next year, 1979, a

Mr. Woodrow: programme costing \$4.4 million will be completed.

And also in this area there has been a lot of money spent from RRAP as well for people to do up their homes and the like, eh? And I understand that the programme will be extended next year to the Mount Moriah boundary. Now there have been nice contour roads made, there has been new water and sewerage installed in the Curling area, and many new lots have been opened also. And I am hoping that the Minister of Housing will give the people living in the area the first chance, he will not let these lots go to outsiders, he will give the people in the Bay of Islands area, or rather in the Curling area, I should say, the first opportunity to buy these lots over there.

MR. FLIGHT: How much are they?

MR. WOODROW: I do not know yet.

And also, Mr. Speaker, I have been dealing during the past Summer, have been talking over with the former Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing the possibility of having RRAP extended to the Bay of Islands area. It is, as you know, extended now to the Bay St. George area, and I am very happy for my hon. friend for St. George's (Mrs. McIsaac) because she must have worked to get that done. Good!

So I am hoping, Mr. Speaker, in 1979 that I will be able to announce that the RRAP programme is extended to the Bay of Islands area.

MR. NEARY: What about your federal member?

MR. WOODROW: Well, I work very, very close with all the federal members, and I think he would probably let me announce it. At least the hon. former member did, the hon. Jack Marshall.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I just want to draw another comparison. The North Shore of the Bay of Islands, part of the district of the Bay of Islands, and I have to smile at this one because really, when you get up and say nothing was done, My Lord, you know, I do not know if the people have a conscience or not. But really! I just want to give you an example of what was done in the Bay of

Mr. Woodrow: Islands, on the North Shore of the Bay of Islands. In 1972 when the P.C. Government took over, in the Bay of Islands first of all, there was some of the main highway paved. And the only thing done over there was the Ballam Bridge. A lot of credit goes to my old friend the hon. Charles Ballam for getting this job done. Now, okay, since that time we have water and sewerage well underway in almost every community. In fact, some communities are more advanced than others. And these water and sewer systems, may I say, are permanent water systems, and they are being done right, and that is the important thing about it.

AN HON. MEMBER: No pork-barrelling any more.

MR. WOODROW: No pork-barrelling any more.

I am hoping in 1979 that we will be able to start good permanent water systems in the community of Summerside and the community of Irishtown. They have systems already, but they are only temporary water systems and they are not as good as they should be.

Mr. Speaker, in the field of recreational facilities I think we have been very fortunate. We have, for example, a very fine arena in the community of Cox's Cove. There has been a fish plant since 1972 built in Cox's Cove, and this year there is going to be another extension built to that plant. It is not going to be built onto the plant, but there will be a separate plant built, and this is giving a lot of employment to the people over there, plus the herring and the like. And also I cannot forget the race track in Meadows. A company over there has been very enthusiastic on this. I

MR. WOODROW: was talking with Mr. Hayward Bragg, he has the contract for snow, and I told him that I would mention this in the House today because he and two or three other members of the company have worked very hard to get this racetrack in Meadows.

Now I would like to ask my hon. friend from Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout), How is that for performance? That is performance! And that is going to continue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. FLIGHT: You are not doing as well as the member for Green Bay (Mr. Peckford) though, I guarantee you that!

MR. WOODROW: Oh, you know, the time will come.

Mr. Speaker, since 1972, the community of Mount Moriah has completed a water system in the neighbourhood of something like \$800,000. And there was a road paved down there this year, the Serpentine Road, at a cost of \$136,320. I think that was the exact contract. And there are also good recreational facilities. At the present time they are negotiating now with the C.N. to lease or purchase a piece of land in the area for a football field and other related sports. So that is not too bad, Mr. Speaker, I suppose. That is something. And also along the shore, continuing on down the South Shore, we have -

AN HON. MEMBER: Five minutes.

MR. WOODROW: - Oh, I will finish in five minutes, do not worry about that - we have very good recreational facilities.

The fish plant in the Benoit's Cove area is giving a lot of employment. And I would like to mention that Allen's Limited are very fine corporate citizens. They are not, in fact, trying to squeeze every cent they can out of the government. In fact, there is very little

MR. WOODROW: government money in this fish plant, but they know that if they need any assistance they will be able to get it because they are a good, honest, down-to-earth firm, not like, in fact, some other firms that we heard about over the past year or so in this Province.

Now, also, Mr. Speaker, if this is not performance, what is? Since 1972, hon. Leader of the Opposition, the road has been rebuilt and it has been paved to Lark Harbour. And also, Mr. Speaker, we have the new Blow-Me-Down park in Lark Harbour, which I think is good. I am mentioning these things because, you know, when I sit over here I feel like getting up sometimes and jumping at somebody.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: That is what I feel like. I do not mean physically, you know, but just frightening them.

MR. FLIGHT: Is that the Blow-Me-Down golf course you are talking about?

MR. WOODROW: No, the park.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is flattery.

MR. WOODROW: So, I am telling you, I do not get taken away with myself.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are doing a good job, 'Luke'.

MR. WOODROW: So now, Mr. Speaker, we have in these communities, the communities of Lark Harbour and York Harbour recreational facilities as well. And, of course, about the herring meal plant in York, I am sorry that this plant had to be closed down, but the chief reason it closed down was because of the lack of raw materials. But now there are six herring plants in the Bay of Islands area, and only in the last couple of years, or somewhere around there, nine or ten longliners went to the Lark Harbour/York Harbour area only. And I hope now with the increased interest in the fishing that we will be able to have that plant reopened again, because I think we must get it open. We

MR. MCODROW: must, in fact, have men working and it must be open for environmental reasons as well. You cannot have the offal from the herring floating around on the beaches and the like. So, Mr. Speaker, I think my time has just about expired, but I would like to say I do not know who the P.C.'s are putting in the Bay of Islands the next time, but in any case I want to wish the party luck and God bless everybody. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. E. ROWE: Sir, Speaker, on Tuesday, December 5, the Minister of Tourism stood in his place and unleashed, Sir, one of the most personal and one of the most vindictive character attacks on two members on this side of the House of Assembly, namely, the Leader of the Opposition and myself. Sir, I have never witnessed in my life such a despicable performance in my years, at least, as a member of the House of Assembly, nor as an observer of the House going back to the time when the House sat in the old Colonial Building. Sir, the Minister of Tourism's speech was an example of the lowest and the dirtiest and the filthiest form of personality assassination that I have ever seen, that I have ever read about, or I have ever heard. Sir, on Tuesday, the Minister of Tourism levelled a serious accusation at me, namely, that I had used the fisheries seminar to pressure a person or persons into giving political contributions to the Liberal party. Now, Sir, how exactly did the Minister do this? Sir, he did it in the wildest fashion possible. The Minister uttered from his lips, Sir, a flow of scurrilous statements, innuendo, untruths and total falsehoods. Sir, not one of his statements directed towards me, not one single word, resembled an iota of truth, not one single word. Sir, it was pure fiction, delusion, imagination; I do not know what it was - no foundation whatsoever, Sir, no resemblance to the truth. It was pure fabrication, Sir, deliberate or not, I do not know. Sir, since these charges received such wide coverage through the electronic media and in both daily newspapers and for all I know the satellite newspapers, I feel very strongly, Sir,

MR. F. ROWE. that my integrity and honour are possibly suspect by the general public as a result of the wild ravings of the Minister of Tourism. Now, Sir, I only need refer to the Daily News and The Telegram articles and we have all heard of what has gone on on the radio. Sir, these charges - and I wish the Minister had the intestinal fortitude, Sir, to come into this House and listen to what I have to say, or is he hiding away? - Sir, these charges will not go unanswered. Sir, these charges by the Minister will be proven to be totally false, completely false. Sir, the truth will out. Sir, I am a great believer in the fact that truth is the best defence and I have no fear whatsoever about truth in this instance. The Minister may well before it is all over.

Now, Sir, what exactly did the Minister say in these charges? Sir, I would like to refer to Hansard of Tuesday, December 5, and point out a number of quotations from the Minister. "Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, a certain Opposition member of the House of Assembly at that same conference, at that same conference, guess what he was doing? Guess what he was doing? Pressuring, I repeat, pressuring, not soliciting, but pressuring certain companies to give donations to the Liberal party at that same conference, and I can prove it," the Minister said, "Mr. Speaker, and I can pass it to my colleague, the Minister of Fisheries, the names of the companies, names of the people contacted and a certain Opposition member, spokesman for fisheries, at the conference put the pressure on a certain company, a certain company, at least one, at least one, and I can prove it" - I repeat - "I can prove it to make donations to the Liberal party." Sir, after a point of order the Minister continues on, "Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to withdraw the remark, I am

MR. F. ROWE:                                   telling the truth." I am telling the truth. "The facts and everything I said this afternoon is facts" - are facts he should have said - "and the truth." That is directly from Hansard. And, "I am not going to withdraw, anything I said was the truth." It was the truth. Sir, further on in Hansard, the minister repeats; "What I am saying is that the same people" - the Liberals - "took advantage of the conference to use it for a different partisan reason, to raise funds for the Liberal Party." Then quoting from Hansard, Sir, Mr. F. Rowe, "Mr. Speaker, on a matter of personal privilege, Sir, at the risk of being repetitious, I would like to inform this House, Sir, that I did not approach a single person at the fisheries seminar for the purpose of soliciting." From Hansard, Morgan shoots across; "I can name him." Well, will the minister come into this House now, Sir, into the Chambers and name the person to whom he is referring. I suggest, Sir, he cannot do that. I challenge him, Sir, to put the facts where his mouth is.

MR. F. WHITE:                                   Somebody should speak to him, even the Minister of Fisheries.

MR. F. ROWE:                                   Sir, further on, "My comment" the minister says "is that let those people who live in glass houses not throw stones." Well, Sir, I would suggest that for those people who live in soap bubbles they should not open their mouth because it is going to burst around them.

MR. NEARY:                                   Where is this big bluff?

MR. F. ROWE:                                   "The hon. gentleman" Sir, continuing the minister said, "would not dare call me a liar because I can pass the name of the company along to my colleague, the Minister of Fisheries. I will pass the name of the company along to the Minister of Fisheries."

Will the Minister of Fisheries now, Sir, tell the House the name of that company? I challenge the Minister.



MR. F. ROWE: Has he been provided - will the minister tell me the name of the company?

MR. W. ROWE: Does he know it?

MR. F. ROWE: Does he know it? Does the minister know? Does the minister know the name of the company?

Sir, I go further. Mr. Morgan, "The name of the company, Mr. Speaker, has been passed,"presumably to the Minister of Fisheries. Was that information passed to the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Speaker? What is wrong with the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Speaker? I ask the Minister now if he is a sincere, honourable gentleman, will he stand up and indicate to this House if this information has been passed along to him.

MRS. H. MCISAAC: The Minister of Tourism is out there.

MR. F. ROWE: Does the minister know the name of the company? Does the minister have any proof of what the hon. members say?

MR. F. WHITE: He has to see his PR consultants first.

MR. F. ROWE: Where is the Minister of Tourism, that gutless wonder?

MRS. H. MCISAAC: He is in the room there.

MR. S. NEARY: If he had any courage he would be in but he has no courage.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister of Tourism has escaped. He is hiding away. And the hon. Minister of Fisheries, who is supposed to have the proof and information, is suddenly silent, one of the few times in the history of his political career he has not opened his mouth.

Now, Sir, I can prove that the minister's charges were completely baseless, that they were completely and totally untrue, that they were slanderous if said outside the House, that they were a mischievous attempt at character assassination. Nothing more than that, Sir!

December 7th, 1978

Tape No. 143

RT-3

MR. F. ROWE:

Sir, no minister has stood up here and substantiated the charges and I submit there is only one reason for that, he cannot prove these charges. And I ask the

Mr. F. Rowe: minister who is still outside of the House, Sir, -

MR. NEARY: He has not got the courage to come in.

MR. F. ROWE: -I challenge him to go outside of the House, since he is not in it, and go to the press and repeat these same statements that he made inside of this Chamber. I would challenge him to do it, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: Go on!

MR. F. ROWE: I would challenge him to do it, Sir.

MR. NEARY: What a joke! What a joke! He has not got the courage.

MR. F. ROWE: And see what will happen. Mr. Speaker, I have the proof that the minister was lying or used a terminological inexactitude in this House, Sir -

MR. NEARY: An untruth.

MR. F. ROWE: - a number of them in order to vilify, assassinate, personality and character assassination. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I contacted an individual, the only person who I met at the fisheries seminar with whom the topic of fund raising was referred, the only person at that seminar that I spoke with where the topic of fund raising was referred. Sir, I showed that person a copy of the transcript. Sir, he was sick. He could not believe it when he read the copy of the transcript of the recordings of the House of Assembly. He could not believe it, he was stomach sick, that the hon. Minister of Tourism would say what he had said in the transcript. Sir, that individual informed me, that person informed me that while at the fisheries seminar he did speak to me, I knew that, and because of a news release made some days before by the Liberal Party announcing the formation of a fund raising committee, he asked me how things were going, very simply and we had just a little chat.

Sir, that person also told me that the sole initiative for the conversation was his alone. He told me that. Now, will the hon. Minister of - where is the Minister of Tourism, Sir?

MRS. MCISAAC: Hiding in the back room.

MR. F. ROWE: Where is the Minister of Tourism? Will the hon. Minister of Tourism deny that, Sir?

MR. NEARY: He is just a big chaw mouth that is all.

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

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, the individual also told me that I had applied no pressure whatsoever to him and, in fact, he told me that I did not even solicit or ask for any funds or for a contribution. Now, Sir, is the minister going to come in here into this House and listen to this or what? Is he going to deny it? Is he going to retract it? Is he going to apologize to this House, Sir, for telling an untruth in this House?

MR. NEARY: His tongue is swung from his hips except when he is supposed to be there.

MR. F. ROWE: Now, Sir, how do I know that the person to whom the minister was referring was indeed the person who I was speaking to yesterday afternoon? How do I know? It is very simple, Sir, because that individual informed me that on the very evening following the minister's accusations, the minister himself telephoned the individual who I am talking about. The individual, to whom the minister was referring, was telephoned by the Minister of Tourism and the individual was asked if he had heard the news. The individual did not know what he was talking about. And he was asked by the minister if he was embarrassed or sorry over it. And the individual did not know what he was talking about, Sir, so the minister said, "You will hear it in the news tomorrow, or you will see it in the news tomorrow."

MR. NEARY: Let us get that straight. The minister went and called the fellow that you were talking to?

MR. F. ROWE: The hon. Minister of Tourism called this individual, Sir, and asked him if he had heard the news of what he said in the House of Assembly that afternoon -

MR. NEARY: And was he upset with him.

MR. F. ROWE: - and was he upset with him. Now, Sir -

MR. SIMMONS: Tactics!

MR. F. ROWE: What does the Minister of Fisheries know about this, Sir? Is the Minister of Fisheries going to get up and apologize on behalf of the Minister of Tourism?

MR. W. CARTER: I have no intention of getting involved in that sort of thing, Sir.

MR. F. ROWE: That sort of thing! I would not blame the minister.

Did the Minister of Fisheries receive the information from the Minister of Tourism?

MR. NEARY: Guilty by association.

MR. F. ROWE: I ask the hon. minister,

MR. F. ROWE: did he receive the information from the Minister of Tourism?

MR. RIDEOUT: Who announced the fish plant in Old Perlican?

MR. T. DOWE: Strangely silent, Sir. Strangely silent.

MR. NEARY: Who is the spokesman for fisheries anyway? That minister or that minister?

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, I have never seen such -

MR. NEARY: Chaw mouth or the hon. gentleman?

MR. T. DOWE: - a weakling - I cannot use the word coward - I have never seen such a weakling in my life, Sir, when the hon. Minister of Tourism cannot come into this House and face the truth.

Now, Sir, I can prove what I have uttered to be absolutely true. I have before me, Sir, a document, written by this individual, dated December 6th., yesterday, 1978. Eight points in that document, Sir, and I will read them to the House, into the record of this House.

"1. Today I was contacted by Mr. Fred Rowe, M.R.A.

"2. Mr. Rowe was concerned about statements made by the hon. James Morgan in the House yesterday, December 5th., regarding the matter of Rowe's raising funds for the Provincial Liberal Party at a recent Fisheries Conference.

"3. Mr. Rowe's concern was that the minister (Morgan) accused Rowe of "pressuring," rather than just soliciting for funds.

"4. While I was at the Fisheries Conference, this gentleman says here in writing, "I did meet Mr. Rowe, a long time friend of mine, my parents and family. Because of a news release made some days before by the Provincial Liberal Party announcing the formation of a fund raising committee (including Fred Rowe), I mentioned that fund raising body to

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Rowe and a brief conversation followed. The initiative for having a discussion regarding fund raising was mine alone." This is in a document signed by the individual.

"5. Mr. Rowe applied no pressure to me, and in fact, did not even solicit funds," did not even solicit funds.

MR. NEARY: What a - Where is that slimy -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! I must point out that if the hon. members sitting on the same side as the hon. member for Trinity-Bay de Verde (Mr. F. Rowe) persist with that type of interjection I will be required to get a retraction. It is unparliamentary. Only one member is recognized as speaking and it is difficult to hear everything that is said or perhaps to identify from whence it comes. But I would suggest that they not interject and allow the hon. member to continue.

MR. F. ROWE: I repeat, Mr. Speaker, "5. Mr. Rowe applied no pressure to me, and in fact, did not even solicit funds.

"6. Mr. Rowe has shown me a transcript of the remarks made by Morgan yesterday. I draw your attention to Morgan's comment about having one specific example of a company to whom such "pressure" was applied.

"7. Because of a conversation between myself and Morgan subsequent to the Fisheries Conference about Rowe's and my discussion on fund raising, I must assume that I am one of the individuals referred to in the transcript. Furthermore, because Morgan called me at home yesterday evening to see if I had heard "the news" and if I was upset by it, I can assume that I may be the one individual that he assumes will form the "specific example" he needs to prove his allegation."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. F. ROWE: Now where is the minister, Sir?

MR. NEARY: Disassociate yourself from that  
(inaudible) member.

MR. F. ROWE: A total and complete set and  
parade of falsehoods, untruths, not even half truths, total  
untruths by the Minister of Tourism, Sir, completely untrue.

MR. NEARY: Is that signed?

MR. F. ROWE: That letter is signed, Sir, by  
the individual concerned.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. ROWE: Living proof, Sir, that the minister  
told a series of complete untruths in this House of Assembly.

Now, Sir, I call upon the Premier  
of this Province or in his absence the Minister of Justice for  
the resignation of the Minister of Tourism.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, has this administration sunk so  
low, Sir, are they so dejected and rejected, are so afraid of members  
on this side of the House that they will allow one of their colleagues,  
a Minister of the Crown no less, Sir, to resort to the lowest form  
of character assassination, to rumour mongering, to the telling  
of falsehoods in the House of Assembly.



MR. F. ROWE: in a futile attempt to discredit the Leader of the Opposition, myself and any other member over here. Sir, I know they are desperate over there but I did not think they were delirious - despicable display, Sir.

MR. NEARY: Can you give us a resume of that document again?

MR. F. ROWE: I will give a resume.

MR. W. ROWE: Who signed it? Who signed the thing?

MR. NEARY: Just drive it home. The Minister of Fisheries probably would not believe it.

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, the individual who I was talking to was sick to his stomach and mind yesterday, sick to his stomach and mind. He read this information; Sir, he has a respectable business in this Province; he is a respectable man; he is doing business, Sir, business with the government -

MR. NEARY: What?

MR. RIDEOUT: What was that?

MR. F. ROWE: - business with the government, and he is a sick man today, Sir; he is a worried man, a worried man but, Sir, he was so upset, so astounded by the untruths of the Minister of Tourism, and I have to hold out my hand in great respect for the gentleman. He says "I cannot stomach this. I cannot accept that; it is not true." He said "It is a lie. It is not true. I have to deny it. It is not true". And he has his business on the line now, Sir, as a result of having the courage, having the courage to speak up and support the truth when the truth needed to be supported. I respect the gentleman, Sir, and I will say to this administration that if any reprisals are taken by this administration, Mr. Speaker, that they had better not be against that firm. It had better be against the hon. - well, I will not use hon. - the Minister of Tourism -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. F. ROWE:

- for having issued falsehoods in this chamber.

MR. NEARY:

Disassociate yourself from him. He is going to drag you all down in the gutter, down in the dirt and the slime.

MR. F. ROWE:

Sir, the saddest thing about all of this, the saddest thing, the saddest thing about all of this, Sir, is that while this administration and certain Cabinet ministers are supposed to be administering the affairs of this Province we have a certain member conducting witch hunts, making false accusations for the sole purpose of political survival and self-preservation. So, what is politics coming to in this Province with such despicable actions on the part of a Cabinet minister, a minister of the Crown, Sir? Sir, is the administration - are hon. members opposite going to continue to tolerate such behaviour on the part of the Minister of Tourism? Are they going to continue to associate themselves with him, a man, Sir, who will resort to the lowest form of gutter politics to try to score a few quick political brownie points? Sir, it turns my stomach; it makes me sick when I have to sit in the chamber with the same gentleman.

Sir, the Minister of Tourism is a person to whom the means, no matter how low and how dirty and how filthy, the means justify the end. Sir, he is a menace to politics in this Province, a complete and total menace.

Now, Sir, I have laid the facts before this House, I have caught the Minister, Sir, in a bold-faced untruth in this House of Assembly, a bold-faced series of untruths -

MR. NEARY:

Documented.

MR. F. ROWE:

- I have documented with proof,

Sir -

MR. RIDEOUT:

Signed.

MR. F. ROWE:

- signed - a signed statement, Sir -

MR. W. ROWE:

By a person doing business with

the government.

MR. F. ROWE:

- by a person doing business with the

government, and I repeat, Sir, if there is slightest

evidence of this administration doing any harm to that

company it will be heard loudly and clearly throughout

this Province. There is only one simple action that has

to be taken, Sir, there is only one simple action that has

to be taken, the Premier of this Province, Sir, has to get

rid of this menace, this menace, and at least get rid of

some of the dirt on the other side of the House of Assembly.

Sir, it is a sad day when I have to get up and reveal a

MR. F. ROWE: Minister of the Crown as being a teller of untruths. It is a sad day for the people of this Province. Sir, who in the name of Heavens in this Province is going to listen and believe one word that the Minister of Tourism is going to issue from here on in? Sir, I sincerely hope as a result of this disclosure, Sir, documented proof, signed evidence that the minister told a number of untruths in this House that we will never again see such despicable behaviour from any member opposite.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear!

MR. W. ROWE: Are you going to table the letter?

MR. F. ROWE: I do not know if I will table the letter or not, Mr. Speaker. The hon. gentleman is a worried man. The hon. gentleman is a worried man, Mr. Speaker, a very worried man. He has got a business to worry about. I do not wish to table the letter, Sir.

MR. NICKMAN: You must if requested.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon.

MR. PECKFORD: It has to be tabled.

MR. F. ROWE: It does not have to be tabled.

MR. NEARY: That is up to the Speaker.

MR. F. ROWE: No. No. I met with the Speaker and gave him the courtesy of seeing this. I do not have to table this, Mr. Speaker. The hon. gentleman wants me to table it.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! I cannot deal with hypothetical - People are begging the question. If they put a question they have on their minds specifically for a ruling, I rule.

MR. F. ROWE: I do not want to table this.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, if my hon. friend will allow me? This is privileged information, Your Honour, and therefore we do not have to.

The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: My point, I do submit, Mr. Speaker, there is no such thing as privileged information. It is only the privilege of the House, and I am sure that Your Honour has ruled on several occasions that if an hon. member of this House reads from a letter or publication he must, if requested so to do by an hon. member, table it. That is the rule and I can recall being victimized by that when I sat opposite one time when I read - I was not even reading a letter, I was reading from a magazine, and victimized is not the word, but that is the rule.

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

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I would submit, Sir, that in the circumstances of this case, as my hon. colleague has said, is a gentleman who is so concerned that the truth be told he would not mind appending his name to a document, completely giving the lie to something said by the Minister of Tourism, but, Sir, he is worried. He is doing business with the government. He has a company which is doing business publicly and he does not want his name, necessarily, to be bandied about.

MR. NEARY: Hear, hear!

MR. W. ROWE: Now my hon. colleague was forced to protect his own integrity and honour by reading the substance of it, Sir, but I would say that we are not under any obligation here, under the rules of the House, to table that particular document, nor should we.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Kilbride.

MR. WELLS: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker. I mean, I have no wish to bring any embarrassment on anybody but at the same time we have been through this in this House many, many times and not only has Your Honour ruled that public documents, but private documents, any document referred to by a member must be tabled. Now, if it is going to be sauce for the goose it has to be sauce for the gander. I do not think there is any doubt about the obligation

MR. WELLS: on the Chair.

MR. NEARY: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear the hon. member and then I will be prepared to give my decision.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman who just took his seat, Sir, who spoke on this point of order, on numerous occasions in this House has given us a lecture on both sides of this House, but mainly directed to this side, that names must not be bandied around this House of innocent people and we have agreed with the hon. gentleman. We have agreed. Now the hon. gentleman is asking my colleague to breach a confidence and a privilege, to table a document with a name on it so that the name can be bandied about, so that there can be repercussions against the hon. gentleman. For instance, will my hon. friend guarantee the person who signed this -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: - if the document is tabled, that there will be no recriminations.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please! I can only hear brief submissions relevant to the point because there is a specific point of order before the Chair.

MR. NEARY: We submit, Your Honour, that this is a privileged document that members of the House do have special privileges and that my hon. friend gave an undertaking, as I understand it, I thought that is what I heard him say, at least that is the impression I got, and the understanding is that the content of the document would be read and my hon. friend is prepared to put that on the table of the House and just blank out the signature. And I think that members should agree to that. That should be the procedure is to be followed.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I had indicated that I would be prepared to give a decision after the former speaker and I think having said that

MR. SPEAKER: I should leave it at that. Actually, the precedents in our House are quite clear; when an hon. member reads from a document the House has a right to be put in possession of that document which, in fact, means tabling it. Last year there were a number of instances where an hon. member. I am not speaking about ministers tabling official documents, where an hon. member quoted from documents and we had quite a number of them tabled. / Certainly the precedents and rule in this House, according to our procedures, is clear and that is that the matter, now that it has been raised, must be answered in the affirmative and that is that our precedents require the tabling of anything that is read from by a private member. X

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of sadness that I am forced by Your Honor - not forced by Your Honor, I abide by Your Honor's ruling - but I am forced, Sir, by hon. members opposite to have to disclose the signature and the name of a person, a respectful person, who is running a respectable company, to have his name tabled before this House because he had the courage to put in writing the truth, which was a complete contradiction to what a Minister of the Crown had uttered in this House of Assembly. Sir, a person whose firm is doing business with this administration, a legitimate business - nothing wrong with the business he is doing with this administration. Sir, I call on hon. members opposite and the administration in particular, to continue to do business with this particular firm, do not cut them off, do not cut them off, Sir! There is only one person who deserves to be cut off in this province as a result of all this and that is the Hon. Minister of Tourism (Mr. Morgan) who raised the issue in the first place - a series of falsehoods, untruths. And I commend, Sir, in sadness, the courage of the gentleman who provided me with the information that enabled me to prove that the minister - if he said it outside of the House it would be a lie, if he said it outside of the House it would be slanderous, using the immunity of the House, Sir, to get away with the sort of thing he got away with is

MR. F. ROWE: an abuse of this House. Sir, I  
regretfully table the document.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! I must inform all  
members what matters are to be debated at five thirty. First matter;  
notice given by the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) arising  
from a question asked of the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Hickman).  
Subject matter: Whether there will or will not be reduction in  
the Provincial Social Assistance Program as a result of adjustments  
in the Family Allowance Program. Second matter; notice given by  
the hon. member of Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) arising from a question  
asked the hon. Minister of Transportation (Mr. Sinn). The subject  
matter: Alleged lack of protection to vessels in the Labrador  
Coast, especially during the months of November and December. Third  
matter; notice given by the hon. member for St. George's (Mrs. McIsaac)  
arising from a question asked the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs  
(Mr. Windsor) with respect to the St. George's Stadium Project.

The hon. member.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, Sir, was one  
of the saddest days that I have experienced in the House of Assembly.  
Sir, it is



MR. F. ROWE: one of the saddest days, not only because the personal life of the Leader of the Opposition was questioned by innuendo, suspicious questions were asked without any answers or proof by the Minister, not only because my actions, my honour and my integrity are questioned and accusations were levelled at me without one atom, one atom or molecule of proof, but more importantly, Sir, the decorum of the House was lowered last Tuesday, was plunged to the lowest level in the history of this House of Assembly, Sir. The very person who complains inside and outside of this House about the poor behaviour of hon. members, the negativity of certain members, was the very person, the very person who lowered the dignity of this House and was caught in a bold-faced untruth, series of untruths.

Sir, the hon. Minister of Justice, the Acting Premier, and I would ask him to pay attention, has no choice but to demand the resignation of the Minister of Tourism because, I repeat, he is a total menace to politics in this Province and I hope as a result of his resignation that things may return to normal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I want first of all to offer my very sincere congratulations to the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply, my hon. friends from the district of Kilbride and, of course, from Grand Falls. Both hon. members made, I think, excellent speeches in both content and in delivery - two very, very fine speeches.

Mr. Speaker, I want to spend a few minutes talking about something that is, I am sure, very important and topical to most members in this House, certainly to most Newfoundlanders, and that is the matter

MR. W. CARTER: of our fishery development plan as announced by me some days ago at which time we outlined our plan for the future development of what, I am sure, is Newfoundland's most important resource, certainly one of our most important resources, in that of the fishing industry.

As hon. members know, we did have a conference in the city on September 13 and 14 attended by a large number of fishermen from around the Province, fishplant operators and other people with an interest in the fishing industry. The purpose of the conference, Mr. Speaker, was to give us an opportunity to brief the fishermen especially, and others in attendance, on our plans to develop the fishery over the next six years until 1985. The delegates, all fishermen, were selected by the various fisheries committees around the Province, very democratically selected by committees that were elected by the fishermen themselves. Of course, in the Province, as most members know, we do have a large number of fishermen's committees. In fact, I believe, around probably 120 such committees. When we first conceived the thought about having the conference, one of the problems, of course, confronting us was how do we select delegates to attend the conference, delegates that would be representative of the various sectors of the fishing industry and representative of the various regions in the Province where fishery, of course, the fisheries play an important part? The most logical and the most democratic, I think, was the way adopted by my officials and that was to ask the various fisheries committees, committees of fishermen, to select by one means or another delegates from their respective areas to visit our fisheries conference and to represent them.

MR. W. CARTER: The conference was made up of workshops attended by fishermen only and, of course, I think there was a very good reason for that. I view the fishermen as probably having the greatest interest in the fishery and consequently I considered it my duty to inform them first of our plans and to give them a chance to study our various proposals and documents pertaining to our fishery development plan and to get their views on it. The suggestion was made during the conference that maybe the fishermen were asked to come to the city to rubberstamp a development plan and that they were not given sufficient time to have an input into the formulation of our policy. Well, Mr. Speaker, my rebuttal to that is quite simple in that during the past two and a half or three years we have

MR. W. CARTER: travelled the entire Province, held numerous meetings with the fishermen, fish plant workers, community leaders, at which time we listened and I hope learned from the fishermen as to what they wanted, as to what their views were with respect to the future development of their industry. So the seminar that we held a few days ago, well on November 13th., was, in fact, a wind-up of numerous meetings and other means of consultation with our fishermen over the past three years. So I think most people will have to agree that the time for talking has long passed in terms of fishery development and now, of course, the time is here for action, and that is, of course, what we intend to do in the months ahead with respect to fishery development.

The conference, Mr. Speaker, touched on a number of very important items, having to do with the two very comprehensive reports commissioned by the Department of Fisheries, the Provincial Government, one, of course, having to do with the Kellogg Report, the report into the feasibility of establishing a central, or at least a primary landing and distribution port and, of course, the second study having to do with regional development of our fisheries around the Province. The second study was conducted by people within the Provincial Public Service, within the Provincial Department of Fisheries and others that were seconded to the study by us some - well almost two years ago.

The Kellogg Report, Mr. Speaker, dealt mainly with the matter of establishing a primary landing and distribution port. Also, it dealt with the problem of the seasonal fish plants. It addressed itself to the problem of finding ways and means of providing a continuity of supply of raw material to the large number of fish plants that by virtue of the fact that they are depending almost entirely for their supply of raw material on the inshore fishery, these plants are forced to close their doors and to pay off their workers once the inshore fishery terminates for the year. That, Mr. Speaker, is a very unhealthy situation and as far as we are

MR. W. CARTER:

concerned as a government it is an unacceptable situation.

In the Province we do have a large number of fish plants. In fact, there are 145 altogether and about 130 of these are seasonal operations. A large number of the seasonal operations do have the capability of operating on a year-round basis but for one very important fact, of course, that being the matter of getting sufficient raw material to keep the plants operating for period beyond the normal inshore fishing season.

Any operation, Mr. Speaker, any business, whether it is a service station, grocery store, drug store, or anything else, that operates at only thirty-five or forty per cent of its true operating capacity cannot really be economically viable, nor can it make the kind of contribution that it should and, in fact, could make to the communities in which they are operating and in the Province, of course, in which they are operating. And that is why we view the matter of seasonality in terms of fish plant operations as one of the obstacles that we must overcome and overcome very shortly if we are going to allow these plants, or enable these plants to remain viable and to be able to compete successfully against

MR. W. CARTER: countries that have, in fact, overcome that problem. I remember some months ago having a discussion with the Vice-President of the Nordsee operation in Germany. We were talking about the Newfoundland situation, the lack of productivity, or at least the seasonality of our fish plants, and that gentleman informed me that any fish plant owned by their company that was not operating for 80 per cent of its capacity would be closed; they would not consider it feasible to continue to operate a fish plant that had less than 80 per cent operating time. And when I told him in our Province in many respects, in many cases, in fact, in the large majority of cases, that our fish plants were only operating at about 35 per cent of their capacity he was flabbergasted to say the least, and expressed the view that these plants could not possibly be as economically viable as they should be nor could they make any meaningful contribution to the Province or to the people that work in them. So, Mr. Speaker, the matter of the primary landing and distribution port will by and large, we think, help overcome that very serious problem.

We announced at the fisheries conference our intention to establish by January 1, 1979, a provincial crown corporation. This corporation will be responsible for the acquisition by one means or another of fishing vessels, maybe by way of charter, by way of purchase, or by way of construction, of fishing vessels that would be able to prosecute the offshore fishery and, of course, in so doing maybe displace foreign ships that still frequent the waters within our 200-mile limit. The mandate of the Crown corporation will be to administer the primary landing port, to assume responsibility for the distribution of fish

MR. W. CARTER: to fish plants after the seasonal fishery ceases in the Fall of the year and to generally administer, like I said, the affairs of the primary landing port and to obtain additional supplies of raw material to our otherwise seasonal fish plants. We believe, Mr. Speaker, that this concept will work. In fact, we know it will work, and the study to which I referred a moment, the Kellogg report, backs up that proposition, that the matter of landing fish by deepsea vessels, holding it in storage in the primary landing port for later distribution to our seasonal plants is, in fact, feasible and can work. These vessels, Mr. Speaker - I am not suggesting, Sir, for a moment that the Newfoundland Government through its Crown agency will immediately launch a program, of, a massive building program of ships, these ships will be chartered; in fact, may be in some cases chartered for short periods from existing companies - Canadian companies, where their ships might have some down-time during certain times of the year, but nevertheless the ships are available; charters are available: we have established that fact, ships that are capable of penetrating the ice-infested northern waters and again capable of fishing at a time of the year when most of our Newfoundland trawlers would not be able to go in the northern areas where the fish congregate.

Mr. Speaker, there are some very important and exciting things happening in the fishing industry in this Province, and I think the prospects are indeed bright for the people involved in our fishing industry. I am happy in the sense that I believe now that our Province has taken the lead in Atlantic Canada in terms of fishery development and in terms of gearing up for the regenerated fish stocks that, according to the scientists, will be increased by more than 350 per cent by 1985. I get some pride in the

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MR. W. CARTER:                    knowledge that other provinces  
in Atlantic Canada are looking upon our fisheries development  
plan as being a very forward plan and, of course,



MR. W. CARTER:

I am told too that they look upon it with some envy.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that if the Newfoundland fishing industry, the Newfoundland government, the private sector combined, do not start now to plan for the future, to plan for the time when our fish stocks will be regenerated, that we are going to lose the right to those stocks. We all know that the terms and conditions under which Canada unilaterally declared the 200 mile limit, while it gives the coastal state Canada first crack at that resource, that is the fisheries resource, it also provides that any surplus, any fish that is surplus to our own catching effort, or needs, must be allocated to foreign countries. In fact, this year, 1978, we see in the Northern areas 35,000 tons, 70 million pounds of codfish being allocated to foreign countries because the, at least in the opinion of the federal government, Canadians, Newfoundlanders, Nova Scotians, could not demonstrate their ability to harvest the entire total allowable catch. And if that is allowed to continue, as indeed it will if we do not start now to provide for the day when the fish stocks will be increased, then we are going to be forced to defer to foreign countries and, of course, that can be devastating for a number of reasons.

One, if the foreign countries are allowed to increase their catching effort and their production, from our Canadian waters then, of course, that will lessen the need for them to purchase fish from Canadians, from Newfoundlanders. So I think it is very important that Canada, the Atlantic Provinces, especially Newfoundland, do whatever is necessary, gear up to whatever extent is possible to ensure that as little of that fish as possible is taken from our waters by foreign vessels that will, in fact, I suppose, be in competition in the marketplace with fish caught by our own fishermen. That is something we must avoid at all costs.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, there are a number of areas of concern to us in the Province. One, we are not satisfied with the amount of fish that is leaving our shores in an unfinished state. Too much of our fish, of our raw material leave in a frozen cod-block state. Of course there are reasons for that as most members know. It is not a simple matter, Mr. Speaker, of providing ways and means of finishing the product. That is not the problem. If that were the only obstacle, the matter of buying equipment or developing techniques to cook and to process the fish to its final stages, then that would not be difficult to overcome. But the big problem, Sir, is the matter of tariffs. As the House knows, members know, there is a very high tariff on finished products going into the US. In fact, the tariff is so high that any company that got involved in final processing would find themselves in a very serious situation in terms of trying to compete with the American market when it comes to selling the product to Mrs. American Housewife.

Other countries too have tariffs. The EEC, the European Common Market countries, they have a very high tariff on finished products going into their countries. That is why, Mr. Speaker, it is awfully important that we keep impressing upon Ottawa, people who are involved in the GATT negotiations, the importance of trying to modify, to scale down the amount of tariff that is presently in place in terms of fish products going from this country into the various other countries where the tariff barriers exist. But there is a market that I believe we should start looking at, and I am not satisfied that we have done all we can toward developing this market, and that is of course the 23 million Canadians, our fellow Canadians, where there are no tariff problems but many of whom eat fish, not as much as the European people, we all know that Europeans probably consume

MR. W. CARTER

four times as much fish as the average North American but they do eat a certain amount of fish and that is one market that we are going to be going after in the months ahead and doing all we can to promote the sale of our fish to Canadians living in our sister provinces. That is why in our development plan we have announced certain initiatives that will be available to people who want to get involved in secondary processing. We will be, for example, in the matter of leasing government owned facilities offering companies that want to get involved in secondary processing special arrangements, some top priority in terms of leasing these properties to them. We get little consolations, Mr. Speaker, or joy out of seeing our herring, for example, leaving here in barrels at x-number of dollars a ton and going into factories in Scandinavia or other European Countries and coming out at probably a couple of dollars for four or five ounces. That is not the way to build up a country and certainly it is a very serious impediment right now in this province to the improving of our economy which is so important, of course, to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make brief reference to the suggestion that is widespread in the province, it has bothered me to some extent, but I make no apology for it, and that is the matter of our relationship with the Federal Government. It has been reported, not always with justification, that the minister in Ottawa and I are unable to see eye to eye on things, that we are at loggerheads, that we are maybe spending too much time arguing and disagreeing with each other. And, Mr. Speaker, I want to say this, given the circumstances under which we both operate, considering the mandate that we have, he, as a National Minister of Fisheries concerned with the fishing industry in all of Canada and, of course, as a Provincial Minister of Fisheries my first responsibility must be to the Newfoundland fishermen, I have to be more parochial than he does, and I make no apology for that, and that is why it is awfully

MR. CARTER: difficult at times to avoid clashing in certain areas. For example, I do not think Newfoundland can afford the luxury of being thrown in with an Atlantic Canadian, Atlantic Provinces Fishery Plan, I believe there are areas where we must and, in fact, can cooperate with our sister provinces in Atlantic Canada but I do not subscribe to the philosophy, the theory that we should let Ottawa do all of our thinking for us and that we should be prepared to be lumped in with all of the other Atlantic Provinces because what is good for Newfoundland, in terms of fishery developments, might not necessarily be good for Nova Scotia.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I have to -  
it is five thirty so I will move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: It being five thirty, motion to adjourn is deemed to be before the House. First speaker, the hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in reply to my question yesterday put to the acting Premier concerning his government's policy of action on the increase in family allowances granted by the Federal Government, the minister stated that the Provincial Government had not yet decided on their policy. Now may I point out, Mr. Speaker, that it is morally wrong and a disgrace to this House if the Provincial Government repeats on its action taken last time the Government of Canada increased dependents allowances or the family allowance. On that occasion, Sir, this government simply and disgracefully clipped welfare recipients allowances by the amount of the increase distributed

MR. NEARY: by Ottawa. Now, Mr. Speaker, we all know the reason for the increase in family allowances. It lies in recognition, Sir, of the impact of inflation on the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar. Any repetition of such past action by the Provincial Government, Sir, is aimed at negating and cancelling out the effort of the Federal Government to provide our struggling social assistance families with some sort of bulwark against escalating basic living costs. Since, Mr. Speaker, we have the word of the Acting Premier that his government has not made up its mind yet on its future course of action in this very important matter, may I most urgently implore him and his colleagues to disregard the mumbo-jumbo formulas worked out by the bureaucrats in the Department of Social Services last time and leave alone the family allowance increases contributed by the Federal Government and forego the temptation to rob of a few paltry dollars those unfortunate families in our Province in Newfoundland communities who can so little afford to be the objects of such obnoxious, Scrooge-like tactics, as I have implied, Sir, are demeaning to the entire House as they are to the decision-makers on the government benches.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I can only repeat what I said yesterday, when the question was asked by the hon. gentleman, that fortunately the Government of Newfoundland has some time available to ensure that when it arrives at a final decision, it has already been considered, in fact, it has been considered some time ago, that it would be one in the best interests of the children and mothers of this Province.

MR. NEARY: You only have till the first of January.

MR. HICKMAN: We have fortunately, I think, longer than that. Also, Mr. Speaker, I wish the hon. gentleman would do a little more research and he would

MR. EICKMAN: find that the mumbo-jumbo this time, if there ever has been mumbo-jumbo, seems to be emanating from Ottawa, because in one minute they talked about the increase in family allowances and in the next minute, in the next breath they are talking about a tax credit of equal amount to those whose income is less than a certain designated sum, so I simply want to ensure this House that when the decision is finally made by this Province I am sure that it will be satisfactory and totally acceptable to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

MR. SPEAKER: The second item for debate, the hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. IAN STRACHAN: Mr. Speaker, Canada has one of the greatest coastlines in the world and certainly one which has the most ice and ice problems in the world and what we are faced with, of course, in Labrador is a situation where we feel that the service provided by Ottawa and the requests made by this Province have been inadequate as far as providing icebreaker service and protection for vessels on the Labrador coast is concerned.

I am prepared to take my swipes at Ottawa and have done so. I have been in touch with Ottawa many times over the last two or three years and before that, what I see happening within the Province is that we are quite rightly asking for a great deal of upgraded services as far as air-sea rescue is concerned in this Province, but mainly on the Island, and what we have forgotten to do is to study the problem in Labrador because it is an unique problem, a very different problem, especially in the months of November and December and at the beginning of the break-up during May - May, June and July - in which vessels are

MR. STRACHAN: plying through multi-year ice, and like the Carson can run into some problems. Last year the Eouavista was pushed inward for a distance of some miles by this ice. The only reason why there is no tragedy on the Labrador coast is because of the seamanship and heroics of the people who go there. I must commend, for instance, three weeks ago the mate of the Zernatt who, if he had carried out that exercise outside the Narrows here, would have been awarded a medal for bravery - heroism - for doing what he did after losing two boats underneath him and finally taking the third boat to manage to rescue the crew of his vessel off Nain. Similarly, we have run into problems in which vessels plying the coast have had no protection whatsoever from the icebreaker service. We see small icebreakers such as the Tupper which are not designed for the Labrador coast, are useless, an absolutely pathetic example of trying to put icebreakers on the Labrador coast when larger vessels should be constructed especially for that kind of service and should be stationed year-round on the Labrador coast or certainly during these periods of time, November and December when protection is required, when people at sea need protection,

MR. STRACHAN: need communication and need assistance not only from ice. One of the problems that we have with the vessels plying out of Newfoundland is that many of them are older vessels with cold water intakes which, of course, once they take in slush through their cold water intakes seize up the engines and, of course, run into other problems. So what we are faced with here are problems in which little is being done by Ottawa and little is being done by the Province in demanding Ottawa and demanding that we get that kind of level of service on the Labrador coast with icebreakers. It is sad to me and shocking to me that we must rely on a Danish fishing vessel the Solesberg of tremendous icebreaking capabilities, the highest in the world, to try to do the jobs which we feel that vessels belonging to Canada should be doing. When we get vessels of 3200 horsepower with special bows constructed to come over here and split sheet ice, coming from Denmark and Norway, when we have no vessels available in Canada then I think it is disgusting, it is absolutely pathetic. I feel that the government of this Province has a responsibility upon itself to make aware, to the people in this Province not only the problems of the Island part but the very difficult problems we face in Labrador and to make these through a concerted effort to Ottawa and make sure that Ottawa wakens up to the idea that we do not have to rely each time on pressing the panic button and getting action then. We do get action when we press the panic button. But without radio communications, when a ship going down has to send its distress signal to Norway and back into Canada in order to get it relayed on, then the radio communications within the Labrador coast, the marine communications on the Labrador coast are pathetic. It is a terrible situation and I feel sure that in the year coming up with more and more fishing vessels going there we are going to see serious tragedies, really serious tragedies occurring with on one able to help. These vessels rely on themselves and themselves alone and they realize full well that if they are in trouble they have very little help coming from anywhere, they must get out of it by their own seamanship or by pure luck, as in many cases. I feel that



MR. STRACHAN: the minister and the government should take it upon themselves to make this forcefully, present it to Ottawa this case, to shout as loudly for this kind of icebreaking service as we shout for the coastguard or air-sea rescue service being located in this Province. And I will join with them in this case here because I feel that this matter is a matter which is far more than partisan politics, it is a matter that is very, very serious. These people should be commended for fishing in the conditions in which they are fishing and plying the coast. The skippers of the vessels, the captains of the vessels I have the greatest respect for but they have absolutely no protection whatsoever. It should not be a matter of having to ask for it. When you are in trouble it should be there, every year there, to assist these vessels to do their job.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Transportation.

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, first of all I thank the hon. member for bringing such a serious situation up in the House of Assembly. Unfortunately or fortunately, I do not know which, fortunately in the case of the Newfoundland government, unfortunately in the case of the federal government the questions that we seem to be getting now, the enquiries that we get from the members of the Opposition seem to relate to those responsibilities that are placed in federal government hands. They seem to have run out of steam with respect to questions, with respect to the fisheries on that side because they know that we have planning done for that, they have run out of steam with respect to questions in Mines and Energy because they know we have a plan for that, they have run out of steam with respect to questions on Transportation and Communications that are our responsibilities because they know we have plans for that and now they are asking us to build icebreakers to go to Labrador. Now, we cannot afford to build icebreakers, nor it is our responsibility to build icebreakers but we have, Mr. Speaker, made numerous requests to the federal government with respect to air-sea search and rescue not only on the Island but on Labrador, we have, Mr. Speaker, made requests with respect to icebreaking facilities

MR. DINN: off the Labrador coast. The latest request went by way of the Premier of the Province, the Minister of Mines and Energy, the member and new Minister for Labrador, the best minister that Labrador has ever seen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: And, Mr. Speaker, we have had this hon. minister totally involved in it and myself totally involved.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. DINN: And not one month has passed. The latest time was about two or three weeks ago when the hon. Allister Gillespie was down here to discuss with the Minister of Mines and Energy, the Minister of Rural Development and the hon. the Premier

MR. J. DINN: of this Province, it was requested at that point in time by the Premier soliciting his support to get icebreaking facilities not only in the Lake Melville area but an icebreaker for all year round stationed in Newfoundland so that we could look after the problems not only of the island of Newfoundland but the problems of the people of Labrador who rightly and justly deserve the service of icebreaking facilities and search and rescue and all the things the Federal Government should be providing that they are not providing for the people of this Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not mind the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) bringing up things and trying to point out what my responsibilities are. That is all right. He has responsibilities to the people of the Province and especially of Eagle River, and I would like for him to lay upon the Table of the House the numerous pieces of correspondence with respect to icebreaking facilities in Labrador that he has addressed to the place where it should be addressed to, and that is the Minister of Transport in Ottawa and anyone else up there who can help him and help us to get the services that we have requested on numerous occasions, and just lately about a couple of weeks ago when the Hon. Alistair Gillespie was here to sign the LCDC agreement with my colleague, the Minister of Mines and Energy, the Premier, and the Minister of Rural Development. So, I say to the hon. member for Eagle River that we are attempting to look after all of our responsibilities and I would ask him during Question Period to address questions to us with respect to our responsibilities, if he has any left, because it seems to me we are looking after most of them, and to address those that pertain to the Federal Government to the Federal ministers involved.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

On the third matter, the hon. member for St. Georges.

MRS. H. MCISAAC: Mr. Speaker, my question or my dissatisfaction is with the reply from the Minister of Municipal Affairs with respect to the St. George's stadium proposal. Now, let us see them transfer that one to the Federal Government. I do not think that one belongs to the Federal Government. So, let us see how you are going to squirm out of that one after about five or six years of stalling the people of St. George's, the Bay St. George area when their youngsters do not have a place to skate or any type of recreation whatsoever out there. Nothing! Most of them the closest they have ever gotten to a hockey game is to sit down and watch it on television. And nobody in here seems to care about it. This has been submitted year after year, and three years in a row now - this is the third year that we have had a Canada Works project approved for this stadium. Now, are we going to get it this year or is the Department of Municipal Affairs and the Department of Recreation going to sit on it, and sit on it until it is too late to avail of the money that has been made available from Canada Works?

We have approximately \$200,000 committed. The people of St. George's, the Stadium Committee have to know what is happening before the 1st of January, either that or let the funds go back again for the third year in a row. I do not think that the people of Bay St. George or the people of St. George's district deserve that sort of treatment. They have a stadium in Stephenville but that cannot accommodate the people from my district. And from Stephenville Crossing as far west as the Highlands if the youngsters want to skate, get out and flood a little bit of property at the back of their house, skate on a little lake, a little pond or anywhere that they can find a little bit of ice that is not too rough to skate on. But I do not think that the youngsters in St. John's are skating out in the backyard. I do not think they have to get out in the streets and play hockey in the middle of the street. I think it is shameful to let this thing go on year after year. We have sent in proposals to the Federal

MRS. H. MCISAAC: Government for Canada Works projects and three years in a row we have had them approved, and three years in a row now -this will be the third year now unless it is approved. Maybe by this time it is approved by Cabinet. I have been getting a runaround on it. I was told by Municipal Affairs months ago, "Oh, send this in, get the town to send another document in, we need more evidence." It has all been sent in here. I have talked to Municipal Affairs. They are quite happy; they have all the material together, all the information they need from the town of St. Georges,

MRS. MCISAAC:

all the commitments they need. I was told this. The project was forwarded. Prior to that I was told the \$300,000 that was formerly approved by the Department of Recreation was still available. Now this week I was told, oh this was withdrawn and this had to be approved again. Now, I mean, let us get our facts straight. Either the \$300,000 is there or it is not there, one or the other. Municipal Affairs told me a couple of days ago that they forwarded the project, the complete package to the Department of Recreation because it had to be a joint agreement. Well I understand that. They told me they forwarded it there. Recreation Department said they received it about three weeks ago. Municipal Affairs said they sent it out five weeks ago. Nobody seems to know where it is. Sir, I could not find out where it is. Maybe the minister can tell me. I hope he is going to tell me that it was approved, maybe in a Cabinet meeting this morning. But I certainly think that the people of St. George's do not deserve this runaround.

We were caught in the freeze in 1975, I think it was, and the freeze was lifted in 1976 and we were to get a stadium. We had top priority then for a stadium. Well now it is 1978, well we can almost say 1979 and we do not have a stadium, and the Canada Works money may again have to be returned this year. That is, to my way of thinking criminal, to think that there are so many youngsters out in the Bay St. George area, out in my district, who just do not have any recreational facilities whatsoever and nobody in here seems to care.

I have stood here time and time again in this spot since I have been here in 1975 and every time I have stood up I have said the same thing and I am getting to be ashamed to rise in my place and harp on it. It is nothing but repetition.

MR. NEARY: The blame is not yours my dear.

MR. MCISAAC: No, but I feel embarrassed to have to get up every year and rap the government about it. Now if there is going to be an election next year maybe this is the time to do something. Do you want to win the district back or do you think that you cannot win it back by putting a stadium there? I will resign to get a stadium in St. George's.

MR. NEARY: What?

MRS. MCISAAC: Yes I would, to see the youngsters off the streets where half of them are going to be killed or out skating around the back yards.

MR. NEARY: Resign and then run and win it back again.

MRS. MCISAAC: Yes, resign and get a stadium and then I will run again and win it back.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. MCISAAC: Maybe it is because you feel that you have not got a chance of wining it back, you think that it is a waste of money to put it there. Well I tell you one thing you will never win it back if you do not put it there. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. N. WINDSOR: Some support. Let us indeed get our facts straight, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member mentioned the federal government. I think she should remember that several years ago as she pointed out, there was some funding made available, approven in principle based on the approval by the federal government of a local improvement programme, a LIP grant which was never forthcoming and as a result it never went ahead. The hon. member also said that we have been several months waiting on this. The hon. member knows very well that my predecessor wrote the town of St. George's, the council out there on August 10, requesting further financial information and requesting a formal motion of council that they would be willing to accept the financial responsibility that comes along with owning a stadium. The reply for that came October 12, simply a telex stating that the town has agreed formally by motion of council to accept the financial responsibility and the debts and so forth. There is still information coming in. The latest information, Your Honour, came on

MR. N. WINDSOR: November 27, seven days ago for their financial information, notwithstanding the fact that we have been working on this all along, but there is still information coming in. My officials have been negotiating or dealing with this, discussing this constantly with officials of the Department of Recreation. As late as yesterday they were discussing it, and we are proceeding with as much haste as possible and I can only say to the hon. member as I said earlier this afternoon, and as I told her yesterday and she knew all this information before she asked the question this afternoon, that we are dealing with it as expeditiously as possible and she certainly will get her answer as quickly as we can give it to her.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion before the House is that the House adjourn. I understand that there is agreement that we adjourn until ten and sit from ten until one o'clock tomorrow. Is that correct? Agreed.

The motion before the House is that this House now adjourn. Those in favour 'aye', contrary 'nay' - carried. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, at 10:00 a.m.