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SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE GEORGE W. CLARKE

The House Met at 11:00 A.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. W. SAUNDERS: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from the fishermen of Lower Island Cove, or I can say mostly from. Although the names are from Lower Island Cove, I can say it is mostly from the fishermen of all of Newfoundland. It concerns this new regulation that the Federal Government have imposed on the salmon fishery.

Mr. Speaker, those fishermen concerned have fished all their lifetime, with their grandfathers having salmon nets, their fathers and now themselves. But all of a sudden, this year, they have been told by the Federal Fisheries that they cannot put out a salmon net. Now this is not hearsay, I have been down among those people. I know the people, I know them for thirty years, knowing that they have been salmon fishing. But, because they did not have a licence last year, through sickness or through the fishery officer not being coming into the settlement and issuing a licence to them, they have been deprived of a livelihood that they have earned all their lifetime. I do not know who drew up the regulations. It is one of the silliest regulations in this world. I can agree that we must conserve salmon, but I think, in all fairness to the fishermen, they should have been given a years' notice of what they could do.

Not all of a sudden when a man, this present winter, because he lost his nets last year with the ice, went and bought the new nets, got them ready, he had six nets - that man has a licence for one net, because that was all he had at the end of the year; he lost the rest of them with ice. That man had a partner, the two of them fished together. But, this year their sons grew up, The partner decided he was going out by himself with his son. That man has been denied a licence. That man cannot even catch a salmon. He has got to watch, I will not call certain people what they are, but they are not fishermen. They are not deriving their living

MR. SAUNDERS: by fishing. They are deriving their living by some other source. But they have salmon nets out, and they are taking the bread and butter right out of that fishermen's mouths.

AN HON. MEMBER: Moonlighters.

MR. SAUNDERS: Moonlighters. This is going on everywhere. I had one case where a man last year had to go in hospital and did not go fishing. I had a doctor's certificate saying that the man could not go fishing. That man was denied a licence. I appealed it. I happen to get that one through for that man to go fishing.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SAUNDERS: Living in the outports like I do, mixing with my fishermen, every name on that petition I am their personal friends. I do not go and have to wonder who they are. I know how much fish they got last summer. I know how much salmon they got. I know how much they earned berry picking. I know everything about them. They are solid citizens. But to be denied the right, just to be denied the right to earn a living, by someone, I do not blame on a top Government. I blame it on someone in that little circle. Someone says, we are going to regulate the salmon fishery and this is the law.

Now I think it is time for us, as representing the people of Newfoundland, the fishermen of Newfoundland, I think it is time for us, with our Department of Fisheries, to sit down with someone and say, "look, let us give the boys a chance this year and next year. tell them what is going ahead for next year, give them a years' notice. Tell them what is going ahead for next year. Let them govern themselves accordingly, but for God's sake, look at what we are giving them and say what we are promising them a just society."

MR. I. B. SMALLWOOD (PREMIER): Mr. Speaker, not only do I support the prayer of this petition, but I wish to say that in the time that we have been a Province of Canada this is the most stupid thing Ottawa has done yet. It bespeaks discretion. It baffles the human mind to understand it. It is stupid, and is wrong and Ottawa ought to be ashamed of itself.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not only that, but I say here now that, if 1000 salmon fishermen in Newfoundland would defy this Ottawa rule and go and fish anyhow, the Newfoundland Government would be most proud and happy to defend them all in the courts, if Ottawa is stupid enough to take them into court. It is the most stupid thing that bumbledom, officialdom, bungling officialdom has ever done. It is scandalous. It just begs description.

Mr. Speaker, if you were sick last year, you did not and could not fish, you did not get a licence this year. If you went in for upgrading, under a Federal scheme, and did not go fishing last year, you do not get a licence this year. Last year, if you were a skipper man, you got a licence. If you were a shipped man, employed by a skipper-man, you were told you did not need a licence, so you did not get one. But this year, you do not get one, if you did not have one last year. You were told last year that you did not need one if you were fishing with a skipper, the skipper had a licence. You were fishing with him, you did not need a licence. This year, because you did not have a licence last year, you do not get one. How stupid can they get?

Now everybody knows that Jack Davis is an able and conscientious man. I believe he has been a good minister. He has been one of the best ministers of fisheries, if not the best, since Confederation. But, and he cannot know what has happened. He cannot be aware of it. I do not think for a minute he would -

MR. MURPHY: There is no one to tell him what has happened, only the six M.P.'s in Ottawa.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The six nuisances. The six nuisances. That is what they are. That is what they are. We are not talking about them. We are not talking about them. The biggest nuisance of all does not even go near there.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, that is right. But I am not talking about them. I am not talking about them. The hon. gentleman is talking about them. I am

MR. SULLIVAN: talking about the hon. Jack Davis, Canada's Minister of Fisheries, and I am saying that I think he cannot be aware of it. But surely his Deputy Minister is aware of it. Surely his officials are aware of it. Surely, surely, the news must come to him somehow.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to admit this. I will admit this, that conservation measures have to be taken. I would rather see them put a close season on salmon altogether than restrict the catch in the stupid ways and the unjust ways that they have adopted, the ways that they have adopted. If you have a good purpose in mind, you are trying to reduce the amount of salmon taken. That is a good purpose. It is conservation. Maybe, if it is not done very quickly, there will be no salmon. All right! So you are out to accomplish a good purpose, but why use stupid ways to do it? I think our people would accept a complete closed season in preference to this unjust, this unfair way in which they are doing it. Look, I hope this word gets to Ottawa. I would like to see 1,000 salmon fishermen defy the law, break it and go out and go fishing without a licence. And if Ottawa dares to arrest them, the Newfoundland Government will defend them to the last inch. It is scandalous.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, if I may, of all the balderdash I have ever heard in my life, in supporting this petition was the Premier just now. This Government, Sir, have crawled on their bellies to Ottawa for years.

Now I would like to support this petition and I would urge the Government now, as we have been urging them, Sir, to make strong representation to Ottawa on behalf of our fishermen.

MR. SULLIVAN: I just made it.

MR. MURPHY: You just made it. I thought we made it on February 19, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SULLIVAN: So I did.

MR. MURPHY: I thought we made it on February 19.

MR. MURPHY: I know a gentleman, Sir, who was in my office the other day, brought in 120 salmon nets for fishermen on the Southern Labrador, This man is in the salmon business. What can he do with them? He cannot sell them. He cannot expect the fishermen to pay for them, because they are not allowed to put them in the water. This Government goes along with a lot of balderdash and everything else. And they stand up here in this House urging fishermen to break the law, where the law should never be there. It is a scandal, that is what it is.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, yes, we will defend them.

MR. MURPHY: But, I say now that this Government immediately, instead of going of to Tennessee or wherever they are going, go to Ottawa and do something constructive for this Province. Fight for the fishermen. That is what is wrong with this House, Sir. Because this Government on the other side knows nothing of what is happening in Ottawa and the only bit of news we are getting is what is coming out of the Federal M.P.'s. And I say that, Sir, and I have great pleasure, and the hon. member I know is faced with this thing that is a crisis in his district.

I have very great pleasure, Sir, in supporting the petition. Please God someone on the other side will have guts enough to tell Ottawa where they stand, as far as our fishermen are concerned!

MR. J. C. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the prayer of the petition moved by the hon. the member for Bay de Verde. It is very necessary that changes be made. What is not necessary, Mr. Speaker, is what we just heard a few minutes ago from the Premier. It is very dramatic, advising 1,000 Newfoundland fishermen to disregard the law and challenge the Federal Government in court and the Newfoundland Government will support them and all the rest of that bunkum. Imagine the Leader of a Government inciting the fishermen of Newfoundland to ignore the law.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Defy it, not ignore it, go out and defy it.

MR. CROSBIE: To defy it and ignore the law. What the Government should

MR. CROSBIE: he doing is persuading the Government of Ottawa to change the regulations. If the Premier and the Government have got such influences at Ottawa as they let on, as they intimate in this House day after day and to the people of Newfoundland, if the hon. the Premier has such influence with Mr. Trudeau, as he claims he has. if he is heart to heart and mind to mind with Mr. Trudeau, surely it would only require a small amount of influence or pressure to have the salmon regulations changed. The law does not need to be changed by the House of Commons at Ottawa or the Senate. it just has to be changed by a new regulation being passed or amended.

The thing to do is not to get up in this House and make a grandstand play and say to the fishermen of Newfoundland: "ignore the law."

MR. SMALLWOOD: Defy the law.

MR. CROSBIE: "Defy the law, the Government of Newfoundland will support you, if you do." What kind of an attitude is that of the Government?

MR. SMALLWOOD: It is a right attitude.

MR. CROSBIE: Can we go ahead now and defy any law that we do not agree with? Bill No. 85 - can people defy that law? Will groups of people in Newfoundland be invited to defy any laws they do not like, passed by the Newfoundland Government? And there are certainly some, passed by this Government, we do not like. Will we be justified in going out and saying we are going to defy them? That is not the thing. What is needed is the Minister of Fisheries and the Premier to go to Ottawa and see Mr. Davis and see the Prime Minister, when he gets back, or the Acting Prime Minister and say; "this cannot be permitted to continue. If you permit this to continue you are ruining the salmon fishery and the salmon fishermen of Newfoundland. Here are these cases of hardship. We want these changes made. And, if you do not make these changes, we are going to make a strong public attack upon you, which you will not want." That is the way to get a change, not to ask our poor fishermen here in Newfoundland to go defy the law and all the rest of that. One of the

MR. CROSBIE: worst statements I have ever heard the Premier make in the House.

We certainly support this petition. Mr. Speaker, it is not the fishermen of Newfoundland, who catch salmon, that are depleting the stocks of salmon. What is depleting salmon stocks, what we all know, is the catching of the salmon, by the Danes, of Greenland. They discovered where the salmon go during the winter, or whatever the season is, before they come back to our shores and the shores of New Brunswick and the rest of it and they are taking all the salmon there, before our fishermen get a chance to catch them.

So instead of the Premier making his statement, I would sooner he said that the Minister of Fisheries is going today to Ottawa to see Mr. Davis and his officials and he will not be back until we get the regulations changed. That is the kind of statement I would like to hear.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak very strongly in support of this petition. Three weeks ago, I brought a similar petition from the fishermen of Garnish, about problems they were having over there, the salmon and canning regulations and so on.

I asked at that time, and that was three weeks ago, where is the contact, where is the liaison between the Provincial Government and the Federal Government in matters of this sort? Are the fishermen of Newfoundland living in Outer Mongolia? If the Premier of this Province wants anything he is on the phone in ten seconds flat to Ottawa. And a thing of such importance as this, the first thing we hear about is a protest coming from all over the Island, as a fait accompli. The fishermen are being deprived of a means of making their livelihood and the Government are now only making up to them. Do not the Federal Department of Fisheries in Ottawa consult at all with the Newfoundland Government or is there a fence erected between them? This is so stupid, and then to have the Premier of this Province get up and urge the fishermen to defy the law. I never heard anything so ridiculous in my life. What are we trying to breed, a bunch

MR. FARLEY: of lawlesses? The fishermen would be the ones that would take the paff of all of this. They would be the ones who would suffer, not the Premier. He would make great political hay and this is what he is doing now. Getting the backing of the fishermen, and let them suffer. This is so darn crazy, the stupidest statement that was ever made in this House. I think the Premier ought to be jolly well ashamed of it.

Anyhow, Mr. Speaker. I support this petition most heartedly and most strongly. The only thing about it is, it is so late, it should have been done so long ago. If the local Department of Fisheries, the Provincial Department of Fisheries and the Premier were on their toes this would never have occurred. Now they are trying to shove off the blame on Ottawa. It is our fisheries. The debate which we had here on Wednesday, which the Premier, on his open-line programme, said was the greatest waste of time possible, was the best debate we had in this House on the conservation of our fisheries. Now when a sensible discussion of this sort takes place it is branded as being senseless in aim and foolish. Now this is the type of discussion we want in defense of our fishermen and not this sort of foolishness that comes across in this House.

I have heard petitions from all over the country. Coming in this morning in my car, I heard one from Bide Arm, the same thing. The fishermen are up in arms, and it is time the Government woke up and in fact it is long passed time.

MR. P. BARBOUR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition but I have never heard so much ridiculous belly wash talk in my life, as I have heard from the Opposition this morning. The Premier gave a very intelligent support, lecture in support of the hon. member's petition. Mr. Speaker, I can go a step further to say this, the regulations say that if I have fishing gear that I put into the water last year, and I net get fishing gear this year, I cannot put both into the water. I must see that I have to discard the old fishing gear, put in the new or work the old and not work the new.

MR. HARBOUR: The salmon fishery is now started; the salmon are on the run. The fishermen have to make a living. If something is not done, it is going to be too late because not every day is a salmon fishing day, because of the adverse working conditions. I think that we should do something about it. I know for a fact that certain hon. members on this side of the House have tried to do something about it. When I was in Bonavista South, a couple of Saturday nights ago, I spoke to the fishermen and this came on the carpet. I assured them that when I went back to St. John's I would do the best I could, and I have done that. I have done that. So as far as I am concerned, we should follow it up, before the season comes to an end, and at least give the fishermen a chance to get their fishing gear into the water and catch their salmon.

So I have much pleasure in supporting the hon. member's petition so ably presented by him.

MR. MARSHALL: I would support, obviously, as well, this petition brought by the member, but I would also note that this situation has been known for quite some period of time, and I wonder why something has not been done about it before. There is a lack of co-ordination, obviously, between the Province and Ottawa. I would like to know what measures had been taken before and what direction is going to be taken now. Rather than just histrionics shown in this House of Assembly, what positive steps are going to be taken to protect the fishermen?

Now this should never have arisen in the first place. This situation, this type of regulation that affects the livelihood of so many people in this Province, should not have been promulgated without consultation with our local Department of Fisheries and certainly this situation should never, never arise again. The Government should see that it will not arise.

Also the whole situation should not be in question. The hon. members on this side have pointed out a reason for any conservation measures and strict conservation methods that have been brought in by the Government of

MR. BARBOUR: Ottawa have been because of depletion of the salmon stocks up off Greenland, by the Danes. I wonder now whether the Government realizes the absolute necessity of taking steps, taking strong steps to Ottawa, with respect to conservation. I do not believe it does because, after all, a Government which refuses and is afraid in effect to approach the Government of our Nation and merely to ask that it take strong steps in order to arrange for conservation not only of the salmon stocks but every fishing stock that we have, our basic natural resources, the Government that obviously turns down a request to have this House of Assembly put its seal of approval on such an approach, and a Leader of the Government who calls such an attempt "a waste of time," surely cannot be too concerned about conservation or, if it is concerned, certainly does not know what to do about it.

MR. SPEAKER: This whole debate, which is a debate, has been irregular, to say the least. Under the guise of supporting a petition, we have entered into a general debate on a particular subject, which was introduced by a petition to the House. To debate the matter is not regular. It is permitted to support a petition but to have a general debate on a particular subject, with no notice of motion given, and a general debate in this manner should not be held this way. If the House is satisfied, I have no objection to the hon. member giving an explanation of any points he wishes to do, but he has to have leave of the House to do this.

Motion agreed.

MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. Speaker, it has been questioned, why was not something done before? Well, if we will look back, no one had been notified that this thing was going to happen, not by press, radio or any releases, so this is the thing that has caused all this trouble. The fishermen nor we ourselves have not been notified that this was going to happen. Now if you

MR. SAUNDERS: will look up their records, or radio, you will see that it is just going to bring in a regulation and next year anyone who was not a salmon fisherman would not get a licence. Mr. Speaker, there is the explanation. They did not know.

MR. FODDIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the prayer of this petition, because I think my district is as greatly effected as any other district in this Province. In fact it affects all the fishermen of this Province. This is a recurring problem. There are six boats in my district which are unable to get a licence to prosecute this salmon fishery. One of the persons who owns one of the boats, George Rolles from Burgeo, has appealed the decision with the Federal Government and was turned down on the principle that he had never had a licence. This gentleman had a shore licence for fifteen years, he was one year in his boat, drifting. The following year he was sick and did not get a licence. The next year he licenced his boat under another skipper and the boat was lost. Since that time he has been unable to get a licence. He has defied the rules; he has fished and been ordered to stop. He is still going to fish, I was talking to him last night. I have made a complaint myself, to the hon. Jack Davis, and I feel sure many others have done the same. He must be aware of the problem. I think that something should be done to relieve this situation.

HON. F. VINSON: (MINISTER OF FISHERIES): Mr. Speaker, in supporting the petition, I must say, Sir, at the outset, that it is not fair to be accusing the Department of Fisheries or the Government of not doing anything regarding the new salmon regulations. As early as February, and I stated this in this House

HON. E. WINSOR: before, that we made strong protest to the hon. Jack Davis, objecting strenuously to the regulation that they proposed bringing in regarding the salmon. We all realized. There is not one member in this hon. House, if he is connected with a fishing district, that did not know what this would mean to the fishermen of his district. Sir, there have been so many different complaints from the fishermen and, on every occasion, I, myself, have been on the telephone with Mr. Davis' office, trying to use what little persuasive power I have, as Acting-Minister of Fisheries, to change the regulation. I also requested him to send an official from his Department down here so that we could sit down and he could get around among the Fishermen's Union and the fishermen and find out for themselves. This they promised to do and nothing happened.

Now it is difficult for us to go to Ottawa and force the Federal Government into anything, if they do not want to listen to us, but as far as I can gather the Federal Government is bent on bringing in conservation measures. On one hand we are crying out for the Federal Government to bring conservation measures into the inshore fishery and, on the other hand, we are telling them not to do it in the salmon fishery. So you cannot have your cake and eat it too.

But realizing that, I strongly object, and Mr. Davis is aware of this, that the regulation should not be enforced in one year. It should be done, if it has to be done, over a period of years, to give the fishermen who are engaged in the salmon fishery - Mr. Speaker, in some areas of this Province, (and I am thinking especially of Labrador) the salmon fishery is the only source of fishermen making any money at all, to support themselves and their family. If they are not permitted to salmon fish they have to go ashore and the Government will have to feed them..

All this we brought to the attention of the Federal Department of Fisheries and without going and putting the gun to their heads, I do not know what else we can do. But Sir, I strongly support the petition of the hon. member for Bay de Verde and if there is anything else we can do, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that we will leave no stone unturned because we all realize what a hardship this is going to mean to our fishermen.

On motion petition received.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. CROSBIE: On Orders of the Day, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. the Premier - does the Premier realize at Moscow there were not to be any specific discussions with Russian fishery officials during the Prime Minister's visit?

It was reported by Mr. Davis yesterday that there would not be any specific discussions with Russian fishery officials during the Prime Minister's visit. Mr. Davis said the Prime Minister had been fully briefed on the Canadian problems, on both the east and west coast but particularly regarding the North Atlantic, but there would not be any specific discussions with Russian fishery officials during the Prime Minister's visit. If the Premier was aware of it; why did he mislead the House in the debate on Wednesday?

MR. SPEAKER: That question also should not be prefaced by reading articles from newspapers or magazines.

MP. SMALLWOOD (J.R.): Mr. Speaker, he was so completely and hopelessly out of order, However, I never said that the Prime Minister of Canada in Moscow was going to talk to fishery officials, never gave any hint of it, never suggested it and did not think he was going to.

I knew that the Head of the Government of Canada was going to talk to the Head of the Government of the Soviet Union, not fishery officials.

MR. CROSBIE: The Prime Minister is not discussing specifically, in Moscow, on his visit, fishery problems whatsoever.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I do not know any such thing. He did not discuss it with fishery officials in Moscow. He discussed it with the Government of the Soviet Union.

MR. CROSBIE: Not according to Mr. Davis.

On Orders of the Day, Mr. Chairman, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. Would there be any harm in this House today passing a resolution and wiring the results of the resolution to Ottawa

MR. CROSBIE: in connection with the problems of the salmon fishery? That is the question.

MR. MARSHALL: I would like today, Mr. Speaker, to question the hon. Minister of Health. It is reported that there are problems over in the Port aux Basques area with respect to the hospital facilities there and certain doctors are going to resign as a result of same -

MR. ROBERTS: I will have a statement on it when we go into Committee, if we ever get into Committee.

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON SUPPLY:

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, on page 40, subhead 1011, and we were debating 04-01 when the Committee arose last evening, the vote for the University School of Medicine:

Before we go on with 1011, may I make a brief statement of -

MR. CROSBIE: If the Minister wants to make a statement on the Port aux Basques situation, I would prefer he wait where we can discuss it under District Medical Care.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, in view of the fact that the report was irresponsible, inaccurate, unfounded and incorrect, perhaps I -

MR. CROSBIE: Well District Medical Care is the next item.

MR. ROBERTS: Oh all right then, if we pass this, but I had the impression that we were going to have more talk on that.

MR. CROSBIE: Well if the Minister prefers doing it.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I do want to do it before lunch, because the statement was completely inaccurate, as it was reported on the CBC last night.

MR. CROSBIE: All right, go ahead.

MR. ROBERTS: Very briefly, Mr. Chairman, we can debate it or discuss it then, of course I have copies, there are three, enough for the hon. gentlemen. Last night on the CBC, and I am told it was repeated this morning on their morning newscast, it was said that the four doctors on the

MR. ROBERTS: staff of the Channel Cottage Hospital had resigned. I found this very hard to understand and I did some checking this morning and as I knew already the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. John Ross, resigned. He submitted his resignation several months ago, to take effect, I believe the end of July.

The true situation is this, and really Mr. Chairman, the CBC, to my knowledge, made no effort to check this. They did not say there is a report to this effect. They merely made a statement.

The situation is this - presently on the staff of the Channel Cottage Hospital are Dr. John Ross, the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. J. C. Ray, Dr. Leveson Roberts (who is no relation of mine) and Dr. David Sansome. Dr. John Ross, the Senior Medical Officer, informed us some months ago that he would be resigning. He is being replaced by Dr. Seushill Mallick, who is a graduate of Glasgow University. He also holds, Dr. Mallick this is, the diploma of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology of London. Dr. Mallick's references were Professor R. F. Slater, Surgeon and Chief of the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, and Professor H. W. Baine, a Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatrics in Toronto.

From 1950-1956, Dr. Mallick worked in various hospitals in Great Britain, from 1956-1970 he worked as a Medical Officer with the Department of National Health and Welfare, being in charge of the hospitals at Norway House, Manitoba, later was Zone Medical Director at Sioux Lookout, Ontario, where there is a seventy-five bed hospital. During the past year Dr. Mallick was doing a refresher course in general surgery at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

The Assistant Medical Officer at Channel, Dr. Ray, is remaining in our service. He is highly qualified and he has requested a transfer elsewhere in the service and that, of course, is going to be done.

MR. CROSBIE: He has asked for a transfer.

MR. ROBERTS: And we have agreed to move him.. Dr. David Sansome, also an Assistant Medical Officer, last November asked to be moved to Gander and again we have been able to comply with his request there.

MR. ROBERTS: Dr. Leveson Roberts has applied for a position elsewhere. I have the feeling, on the advice I am given by my officials, that Dr. Roberts will be leaving our Service in July, although we have no formal notice of it. Dr. Roberts is a Newfoundlander, who is a very fine doctor indeed, but I think he has a bit of the wanderlust. He has been, to my knowledge, in Bay d'Espoir, Buchans and Channel, within the past year or so.

The two junior positions in the hospital will be filled by Newfoundlanders who have just graduated from medical school. One of them is Dr. John Rahl, The other appointment we have not settled but there are a number of doctors in positions and we will be moving one of them in.

I may add as well, that Dr. McSearraigh, I think that is his name, the gentleman who has been up in the Codroy Valley for many years, is now retiring because of illness. We have appointed a new doctor for that practice, Dr. Leigh Clarke, who is presently at Brookfield. He has been there for two year, He now wants to try his hand at District Medical Practice.

The other point I make is that it is quite true to say that there was once a doctor at Rose Blanche but since Rose Blanche is twenty-eight miles from Port aux Basques and there is now a good road between the two communities, there is no longer a doctor there, people look to the hospital.

Now I realize it is a little unusual to make a statement like this, Your Honour, but, in view of the fact that this report did receive wide publicity and in view of the fact that it is such an important matter and in view of the fact that the report was just not correct, I am grateful the Committee has given me the opportunity. If we want to discuss it, I would be happy to, under District Medical, strickly speaking it should come under the Cottage Hospital Vote, which is a little further down the shelf. I do have some copies, if the hon. gentlemen would like them.

MR. MARSHALL: The whole situation, of the resignation of the doctors itself is concerning, but really the main concern to us would be the expressed reasons for their resignation, Now whether those actually are the reasons

MR. MARSHALL: or not is material but not as urgent. But the urgent matter is really the statement that I heard reported to the effect that the doctors, these four doctors, had apparently voiced the opinion that the facilities, the medical facilities in this area, were inadequate for the population of some twelve to fifteen thousand people and as such this is one of the reasons why they were tendering their resignations.

Now that is a matter I would like the Minister to comment on, because he will agree that it is a very, very serious matter; not so much the fact that the four doctors resigned from the hospital, which is serious in itself, but if they resigned, with their medical knowledge, saying that the facilities in this area are not adequate, then it is a very, very serious matter.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I can only say that, to my knowledge, the only one who has resigned is Dr. Ross. I have a long letter, or one of my officials does, from Dr. Ross, why he resigned. I can assure the hon. gentleman that inadequacies of the facilities were not the reason why Dr. Ross is resigning. Dr. Ross is leaving Channel, I think it is fair to say, a very unhappy man. His complaint, as I understand it, is not with us. He is not entirely happy with everything we have done, of course. His complaint is not with us. It is not with the physical facilities. I do not want to go further.

The other three, to my knowledge, have not resigned. Mr. Chairman, I really do not want to comment upon a hearsay report. I have heard the same report but it is quoting somebody. I am meeting a delegation from Channel this afternoon, a meeting which was arranged some months ago or some weeks ago, I believe. Your Honour would be aware of it. We will see what comes up then. But I can also say that, to my knowledge, the medical facilities at Channel, Port aux Basques are comparable to those in any comparable area of the Province. They really are.

The hon. member for St. John's West wanted a question, Your Honour. He asked the number of Newfoundlanders in the medical school and was told as follows: the present first year class has thirty-two students and twenty-

MR. ROBERTS: six of those are Newfoundlanders by birth, three are from other parts of Canada, two are from the United States, and one is from another Country, I do not know the Country.

In second year there are twenty-four students of whom fourteen only are from Newfoundland but, as the Committee will see, the ratio is rising very, very quickly. Twenty-six out of thirty-two in one case, fourteen out of twenty-four in the other. Of the present second year class, twenty-one are Canadians, fourteen of them are from the Province of Newfoundland.

MR. MARSHALL: With regard to 04-01 there is one other point, to which I referred last night, that I would like to bring up to make some clarification on the medical school. It relates to an answer to a question that was asked with respect to the control of the medical school itself.

Now first of all, before I get into the answer on that, may I just outline briefly the reason for this enquiry. As we know, the Brain Commission Report strongly recommended, initially, in its first volume that the University Hospital should be managed by a governing body appointed by the Minister, that is the Minister of Health, after consultation with appropriate authorities and bodies and that the financing of the Hospital should be the responsibility of the Minister. But it is the control to which I want to direct our attention right now.

Subsequently the Dean of Medicine, Dr. Ian Rusted, and other members of the faculty at Memorial, who were presenting a brief to Lord Brain, on the Commission, actually travelled to England about this recommendation, as a result of which volume two was written. In volume two, Lord Brain changed his position completely, as a result of the representations that were received from Dr. Ian Rusted and Memorial University, about control. Because control of the University hospital, as control of any University facility, is a matter of great concern to anybody in the University community and this is what they wanted. After reviewing this recommendation as well as reviewing the report of the McFarlane Committee, the recommendation was changed. In volume two, to state that the University hospital would be under the direct control of the University, which shall be responsible for all matters of

MR. ROBERTS: policy and expenditure. Then this was the main reason or the main content of volume two. It was thought, by the medical faculty and people at Memorial, of sufficient import to actually go to London and bring this up with Lord Brain. I asked the hon. Minister a question as to who would have control of this Hospital and we are told that it is going to be a University Hospital and General Hospital. Obviously it has to be the Government that has control and he assured me that the Government would have the overall control, with people from the University on as well as the Government, and that this had been okayed by the Board of Regents.

Now, although we do not enquire into University affairs, beyond the Board of Regents, I appreciate the fact, I questioned whether or not the faculty of medicine is completely and absolutely satisfied with this because, if it is not, well it is important, it was important enough for Lord Brain to write volume two and if there is going to be any dissatisfaction, we could find ourselves, certainly, in the situation, in the one case, of their being discontent in this medical school, because this is a very important topic to these people, these University types.

We could (a) either find ourselves with a huge plant in which there is discontent and (b) ultimately it could so happen that we would have to have then a University Hospital and maintain the General Hospital as another source or avenue.

So, apart from the fact, I realize what the Minister has said, that the Board of Regents has agreed but I think that, in view of the strong stand taken by the Faculty of Medicine, with respect to Lord Brain's Report, which motivated the writing of volume two of the report and a complete switch in change of his position, Lord Brain's position.

In view of the tradition of the University, people who want independence in their own affairs, I think that, in addition to the Board of Regents, I would like the Minister to be able to assure that this policy of the Hospital being under the ultimate control of the Government, regardless of what representatives are on it from the University, sits well with the Faculty of Medicine and that we are not going to get in any difficulty. I would like him to reply to that and if he has not checked directly, if he

MR. MARSHALL: could check and inform the House afterwards.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I can say this about that: I guess the hon. gentleman says correctly that I cannot enquire beyond the Regents, that they are the body who have been entrusted with the University, and I have a resolution of the Regents accepting our plan that the General Hospital, which would also be a teaching facility so that it would be under control of the Board of the present General Hospital on which the University is represented.

I have not told the Medical Faculty anything, but I think the hon. gentleman has a point. I can say that in my private and informal and relatively formal communications with both Dr. Rusted and Dr. Ken Roberts (again no relation), who is the Associate Dean of the Medical School, each of them understands why the Government takes the position we do take. I think I am quite safe in saying that neither of these two men have indicated to me anything other than complete acceptance. I have not - you know, some of the other persons I may run into on a social occasion or otherwise, the only other thing I can add is that we have a four-man committee, which supervises the detailed work on the project and my own Deputy Minister and the Deputy Minister of Public Works are members of that, Mr. Ralph Moore, the Administrator of the General, who is a very strong and knowledgeable personality in hospital matters, is a member and Dr. Ian Rusted is the fourth member, representing the University. So I think that shows that the Dean, presumably he is okay with the feeling of his faculty.

The other point I would make is that almost all of the hospitals in St. John's now, Your Honour, are closely linked to the Medical School, in any event. We saw in the papers the other day an announcement, jointly, by Dr. Gary Brownrigg, acting as Chief of Staff for St. Clare's and Dr. Rusted as Dean of the Medical School, in which a further integration of the Medical School with St. Clare's, the Roman Catholic Hospital, is now agreed.

I think this is the pattern, probably every Chief of Staff - the present General is chief of a Department at the University Medical School. I know that Janeway is closely integrated. I am not so sure about - well most of St. Clare's, most of the Grace and I know we are working out an agreement for the Mental Hospital, with reference to the teaching of

MR. ROBERTS: most of St. Clare's, most of the Grace and I know we are working out an agreement for the Mental Hospital with reference to the teaching of psychiatric medicine. So you know, this is going to be a problem in years to come. I do not want to go into it now but de facto we could be on the verge of a full blown problem here in St. John's because ^{of} more and more general practitioners, Your Honour, when my father started practicing medicine thirty years ago he had privileges at each of the three hospitals, St. Clare's, the Grace and the General, most doctors did, Now, more and more, it is becoming the practice that doctors have privileges at only one hospital and I think the time will come when many doctors, or some doctors in St. John's will not have hospital privileges at all. This is what seems to be coming on the Mainland and I can see the prospects of it here.

But all I can say, in reply to the hon. gentleman's point, is that to the best of my knowledge, and I have not told every member of the faculty but I keep in close touch with Dr. Rusted. I had dinner with Dr. Roberts two or three weeks ago. We spent an evening together at his home. My understanding is that they are in agreement with our approach, their anxiety is to get the facilities underway and the Government shares that anxiety in very full measure.

MR. CROSBIE: Now doubtless the Minister knows this but it is certainly a fact that the Medical Faculty at Memorial University is gradually acquiring control of the Hospital. I will say that the Faculty at Memorial University School of Medicine controls the Janeway, controls the General Hospital, how much it controls St. Clare's and the Grace I do not know. The new Hospital the Minister is discussing, this General Hospital which will be used as a University Hospital will be even more closely under their control.

Now it will either be the present Minister or some other Minister in the future, in the next two or three years, is going to have a showdown with those gentlemen because, in my view, what happens in the Hospital services of St. John's should be decided by general considerations of public health

MR. ROBERTS: and Government policy not by what a group on the Faculty at Memorial Medical School may want to see happen to them. That is the great danger with this General Hospital being also a University Hospital. It is going to be administered by Memorial University School of Medicine, naturally to suit their requirements for teaching medicine and research, whereas what we will need is more beds for the care of the people who are sick and members of the general public. There is going to be a difference in the interests of those who are administering the Medical School and in the interest of the general health services of this Province, not just in the Hospital that is going to be built and called the University Medical Hospital, the new General, but in these other hospitals as well. I think that that is something that is going to be watched very, very carefully.

As the Minister knows, the Medical Faculty is now the site of policy at the Janeway and I would say the same is true of the General and it may become true of the others, for reasons that the Minister well knows.

But at some point there is going to be different interests between those who want to run these hospitals to benefit the Medical School and the Government which should run them to benefit the general health of the people of Newfoundland, and that time is fast approaching and will be on us within the next two or three years.

MR. FARLE: Mr. Chairman, on (02) just a short question: Will the Minister inform the House what the subvention amounts to in the cases of doctors and dentists and has there been any change in recent years and is there still a requirement that these gentlemen serve part of their time afterwards in Newfoundland?

MR. ROBERTS: The subvention, Your Honour, is \$2,500. a year for students going to school outside their homes and \$1,050. a year in their own home, in other words, in effect, if a student from the St. John's area is going to Memorial. It was increased, I believe, about three years ago, from \$2,000. to \$2,500. There is a requirement that for every year we assist a student he owes us a year in Newfoundland. Half the time must be spent at my discretion, which means effectively the Cottage Hospital District Medical Practices, and the other half the time is in Newfoundland, at his option. I might add that last year we had three young gentlemen and a young lady who cancelled out, and legally we have no power to do anything about it but I think the medical profession, at all levels in this Province, let these younger people know that they took a very, very dim view indeed of this failure on their part to honour a moral commitment, and I think some corrective action was taken.

As far as I know, the nineteen students we expect to graduate this year, under our programme, all intend to honour their obligation to us.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, there is more than a moral commitment, is there not? There is an agreement signed by these students with the Government. Now you cannot force them, you cannot get an injunction and force them?

MR. ROBERTS: I am not going to lecture the hon. gentleman on law because he knows nearly as much as I do.

MR. CROSBIE: I am not finished on the subject yet.

MR. ROBERTS: They have to sign an agreement, but it is not enforceable with an injunction.

MR. CROSBIE: That is what I say, you cannot, just let me finish my sentence. We all know, anybody who is a lawyer here knows that you cannot get an injunction to force a man to work for the Government - but actions can be taken against them for damages.

MR. ROBERTS: Can I deal with that?

MR. CROSBIE: Never mind the TV now.

MR. ROBERTS: No, no, can I deal with that?

MR. CROSBIE: Yes. Actions have been taken against people, who sign these agreements and left Newfoundland and breached, them for damages.

MR. ROBERTS: Last year, Your Honour, we did collect from one young lady who got married. She paid back her entire indebtedness, with interest, \$8,000. Another young doctor, with interest, at ten per-cent, paid his indebtedness over a period of twelve months. Two other doctors worked in Cottage Hospitals for months and months and then, finally, that was not satisfactory to them so they are paying us back their indebtedness together with ten per-cent interest. But that is all we can do. We cannot get an injunction, but we hit them hard and we told them we would sue them unless they repaid the money and they agreed to repay the money.

MR. CROSBIE: Now this is payable at Memorial too, is it not?

MR. CURTIS: Would it not be better if we cut out these subventions altogether and make these loans? If a doctor can come in private practice and get \$142,000. a year, he should be able to pay back his loan and it should be a loan and not a subvention.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, but I do not propose to debate policy with my colleague in the Cabinet.

MR. CROSBIE: This is applicable for a lawyer also, is it not?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, there are -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall the item carry?

MR. CROSBIE: No, not until, give the Minister a chance to answer me.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, do you want to know how many there are at Memorial?

I have it here somewhere. Twenty-six students at Memorial are now receiving assistance under this.

MR. CROSBIE: I mean, if you are admitted at Memorial, there is no problem getting these loans. You just enter into an agreement at the Department of Health.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, sure.

MR. CROSBIE: As long as you are accepted at the medical school, you can go to the Department of Health and you have no trouble financing your way?

MR. ROBERTS: Right. My brother is getting the assistance.

MR. MARSHALL: With respect to all the subventions that have been paid to people who are now graduated, have these people either served their term or else in a few minor—they all have either made cash settlements or are making payments repaying it?

MR. ROBERTS: The answer, Sir, is yes. There was one gentleman in Kitchner, Ontario, named George J. Christ, whom we actually had to take an action against. It was settled out of court, on the advice of our solicitors, and we got a very good settlement. It made an unusual case, the Attorney General vs. J. Christ. It was an unusual reference, you know.

On motion, item carried.

1012(01) - District Medical Care:

MR. CROSBIE: On this item, Mr. Chairman, I would like to discuss the situation at Port aux Basques or to get a bit more information on it. The report that I heard on the radio, that and that report that the Minister made here were not all that much different. What I heard on the radio newscast was that there were four doctors in the Port aux Basques-Channel Hospital and that all of them had either resigned or would be resigning and leaving by July. Now what the

MR. CROSBIE:

Minister says is that Dr. Ross had resigned and is leaving in July, that Dr. Sansone wants to move to Cander and will be leaving in July, that Dr. Roberts wants a transfer and will be leaving in July and that Dr. Ray, I think he said Dr. Ray, is remaining but that Dr. Ray has asked for a transfer.

So you have four doctors now, Mr. Chairman, at the Channel-Port aux Basques Hospital. Dr. Ross, who is a very, very fine doctor and did terrific service at Placentia, I do not know for how many years but certainly six or eight years, one of our finest general practitioners. The Minister says he has resigned all together but the Minister has not said whether he is leaving the Province and I would like him to.

MR. ROBERTS: He is. He is going back to University.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, I hope he is going to come back to Newfoundland eventually, if he is returning to University. So that the report is in substance correct, Mr. Chairman, that you have four doctors there now and by July all of those four are either going to be resigned from the Newfoundland service, as Dr. Ross, or transferred. Now surely this must indicate that all is not well in the cottage hospital at Channel-Port aux Basques. You would not have four doctors all at the same time resigning or asking for transfers if everything was satisfactory at the Channel-Port aux Basques Hospital.

Now when I was Minister and that was three years ago, I was down to Channel-Port aux Basques and they were vastly overcrowded, their outpatients facilities were very limited and obviously something needed to be done there, and I would have done my best to see that something was done there and I think that money was spent there but the Minister can tell us what was done after that. I know that there have been renovations carried out down there since then but, obviously, all of those doctors would not be asking for transfers to other hospitals or

MR. CROSBIE:

leaving the service if everything was all right at Channel-Port aux Basques. Now the hospital is basically, its facilities are too limited for the large number of people they have to look after, That is one thing. As I remember it, the hospital was all right, the operating rooms were all right for just an ordinary operation but if anything complicated came up, -as I remember it, Mr. Chairman, they could carry out simple operations at Port aux Basques but their operating room was not large enough and did not have the proper facilities to do more than that. Therefore, if a patient had to have a difficult operation or let us say there was something wrong with a childbirth, then the patient had to be taken from Port aux Basques and driven up to Stephenville or Corner Brook to be operated on. Now this was causing a lot of worry in the area and I know that there has been tremendous dissatisfaction in the Channel-Port aux Basques area, with their medical and hospital facilities there.

So I would like the Minister to outline for the House what work has been carried out at the Port aux Basques hospital during the last two or three years and what the facilities now are there and whether or not the Department has any plans to make further improvements down there? Because after all, if the Government has the money now to build a hospital at Carbonear, a new one, and one at Port aux Basques, Twillingate and Western Memorial, obviously the money can be found for Port aux Basques, if it is needed. So could the Minister tell us what has been done there to improve facilities, for the last several years, and give us some more information on it?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order! There is a heading here for Cottage Hospitals, with a grant of four million some odd, and this is District Medical. Does the Committee want to do District Medical Care and Cottage Hospitals now or do you want to do District Medical Care and wait for Cottage Hospitals

MR. CHAIRMAN:

to come up?

MR. CROSBIE: I just want to discuss it now because it was already discussed a few minutes ago, that is all.

MR. ROBERTS: If it is in order then, Your Honour, let me make a very brief statement. I have here a copy of Dr. Ross's letter of resignation. I do not want to read it to the House but I will gladly let hon. gentleman see it and I think when they read it they will know why. I can assure the House that Dr. Ross's resignation, as senior medical officer, and he asked to go back to Channel, that his quarrel is not with the Government. He is unhappy about some aspects, yes, of course. The hon. gentleman, having been Minister of Health, knows that that is always so, and I do not want to make it public. I think it is for a good reason, but I am quite willing to let any hon. gentleman see it as a private document. My colleagues in the Cabinet have seen it as well, because it is not marked private. It is a letter addressed to Dr. Collingwood, my medical director. So I will gladly let you look at it.

Let me say one or two other things, Your Honour. The Channel Hospital has undergone some very difficult days. The man who was there for many years, Dr. LeGrow, a very fine doctor, a very fine person, became sick laterally and eventually retired at a relatively young age, on a medical pension. We then had a year when he was on leave of absence medically and the hospital was without a full-time SMO and then we had a year when we had no permanent person and then John Ross asked to go back to Channel, as he had served in Channel before. Dr. Ross was there for a year and has now resigned and has written, as I said, a four page letter putting out his feelings. In that period since I have been Minister, we have dismissed two secretaries at the hospital or shall I say two have resigned, two secretaries at the hospital have resigned. I will not say they are dismissed, as I said that in error and

MR. ROBERTS:

I want to make it clear that they were not dismissed, as they did resign. We have now appointed a new secretary, Mr. Bryson Webb. We had a competition, as we had a good number of good applicants, and Mr. Webb was recommended to me by my officials and we had to give him some special consideration as he is the chief laboratory technologist at the Grand Falls Hospital and a very superior man indeed, I am told. He is taking a salary cut, even though we are paying him a little more than he would normally get, starting as a secretary, and the secretary is the Chief Administrative Officer in the Cottage Hospitals.

We have a new senior medical officer, as I mentioned earlier, Dr. Mallick, and we think that combination will be a very effective one. The only other thing I can say is that we have spent, I do not have the figure, but it is a couple of hundred thousand dollars adding a pediatric ward, improving outpatient facilities and so forth.

MR. CROSBIE: What about the operating room?

MR. ROBERTS: I am not sure about the operating room. I think we would not expect a great deal of surgery to be done in Channel, with the regional centre at Corner Brook, which is about one hundred and twenty miles away. I do not know in detail what has been done with the operating room but I will see if I can get that information.

The other point I will make, in summary, Mr. Chairman, is that the Channel Hospital, through a combination of circumstances, has not had the continuing medical care, at a senior level of direction, that I would like to see and also it has not had the administration that I would like to see. In each case I think we have taken steps and they did not work. I think we have taken other steps which I think will work. I should add that I think that, and this is a point I will make this afternoon when I meet a large delegation from the community, that I think the people of the community can do more, I think they can do

MR. ROBERTS:

much more to make life and work for the doctors in Channel attractive and worthwhile. I do not want to go beyond that, but I do think that that is a fair statement to make, Your Honour, and I do think that if the people of that area would perhaps work in a little different spirit with the doctors, it might make it easier for us. I am not so much concerned about the junior medical officers turnover as we have a very high turnover and always have had.

The hon. member from Gander, I am sure, has seen doctors come and go, at a junior level.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Well, that is a matter of opinion. We will resolve that in due course. But the hon. gentleman I am sure has seen junior doctors come and go, that is the nature of the service but we have had real problems at Channel. The quite irresponsible statement made last night, as it was reported, has not helped any but it has given the Committee an opportunity, at least, to hear a statement from me and there maybe questions now from other hon. members and I will try to deal with them. Meantime, if somebody would carry this across to the gentleman from St. John's West, Okay, my colleague the Minister of Finance is doing it. That is all I need to say right now, Sir.

MR. FARLE: Mr. Chairman, on this District Medical Service, I think this is the appropriate place to ask the Minister some questions on the doctor's residence. I notice there is a vote here for rental for doctor's residences. My only comment is this; I believe, in answer to a question which I ask a short time ago, there is reference to a number of prefabricated houses or these houses which are pre-built at Stephenville, which have been provided for welfare officers, magistrates and doctors. I was in one of these a couple of weeks ago and when I made the inquiry, I found out that the laid-down cost of the thing

MR. EARLE:

finished was approximately \$25,000.

Now in my opinion, and I am expressing a personal opinion that these buildings are not entirely suitable for the purpose for which they are being provided, particularly in the case of a doctor. In entering one of them you get the impression that you are going into a glorified trailer. It is not by any means a substantial home, and to cost \$25,000 for such a creation to me is outrageous because I have seen far better homes built by local labour, in the outposts, which cost half that figure, even at today's exorbitant cost. For a busy doctor, who has a number of patients calling on him all the time, if he is a family man, his family are all about his ears in a residence of that sort; the thing is wide open. It is something like a one-level place where everybody is on top of each other and to provide that at a cost of \$25,000 for a doctor, in my way of thinking is completely unsuitable. A young welfare officer, yes perhaps, who has no family or just his wife and himself, it is ideal accommodation for anyone else in that particular position.

But very often, in the case of a doctor, you get a senior man with a family and a residence of that sort is not in any way suitable for them. I have seen some of the doctors' residences which are old but very much more substantial and I cannot for the life of me see them replaced by this type of thing at such a tremendous cost. I would like the Minister to comment as to whether or not those that have been installed are satisfactory to the medical men and are they pleased with them and does the Government think they are getting good value for their money?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, as far as I know, and I have talked to most of our cottage hospital doctors and I have been in some of the houses and I understand the doctors, by and large, it is not to say there are not any problems, of course there are, by and large find the residences

MR. ROBERTS:

quite, quite good. Our senior medical staff, more and more, we are trying to put in new houses that tend to cost \$45 to \$50,000., Burin for example, and we built one at Port aux Basques or Channel. But the junior doctors, who are the younger doctors, I gather find them acceptable. Indeed at Springdale the senior medical officer, Dr. Evans, who, as SMO, would have his choice, moved out of a substantial piece-built house into one of the prefabricated ones. The costs in some cases have gone high and I am staggered to learn that most of these are the basements. In Harbour Breton the basement cost us \$11,000. That is what Public Works had to pay to get a basement built, as there were tenders and all that sort of thing. Basements have been averaging \$5,000. and \$6,000. and the house itself costs, I believe, about \$15,000. and then we have to pay a dollar a mile or something to have it moved.

This year we will be doing some of either, We will be building some houses and we will be getting some of the prebuilt ones. While I am on my feet, Mr. Chairman, I have been informed that the work we did at Channel, the extension, which was completed late in 1970 or mid 1970, including a new operating room and a new delivery room or an obstetrics case room.

But on the houses, Mr. Chairman, as far as I know, now I may get an avalanche of letters and telephone calls from the medical staff, but as far as I know they are generally acceptable. I have a number of sources, at different levels, some officials and some personnel in the medical services of our staff and I gather that they are quite satisfied with the houses. We built, (I have a question I do not have all the information on) I think we have fifty-seven houses now around and about and last year alone we provided another twelve and we have about eight or nine or ten to do this year.

MR. EARLE: Does the Minister think they are good values?

MR. ROBERTS: I have no idea what a house is worth. I built a house at Hogan's Pond and I can tell the hon. gentleman it cost me considerably more than \$20,000.

MR. EARLE: Well, I do not think it was a type of a trailer.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, it is not prefabricated, you know the bank made sure of that.

MR. EARLE: The hon. Minister is not living in something that looks like a trailer.

MR. ROBERTS: No, but on the other hand the hon. Minister does not have a doctor's salary either.

On motion, (02)(01), (02), (03) carried.

1013(04)(01) - SPECIAL PROGRAMMES: Drugs, Supplies and Appliances:

MR. CROSBIE: Under Special Programmes: Drugs, Supplies and Appliances is that with the Department of Welfare or which special programme is that?

MR. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. Chairman, these are mainly drugs. The welfare officers around the Province certify that a patient is qualified under the regulations and this is the vote out of which we pay it. The Committee will note a transfer to other subheads, Half of that money is recovered from Ottawa, under the Canada Assistance Plan, and most of it is drugs. Last year we provided about five hundred thousand prescriptions out of that vote, Your Honour, in addition to about twenty-seven hundred pairs of eyeglasses and we do supply a number of hearing aids. We have succeeded in cutting the cost of hearing aids from \$150. a unit to \$15. a unit, by the simple expedient of going to the United Kingdom and purchasing through their Government there. These cost \$150. and we get exactly comparable facilities or hearing aids at fifteen bucks each. Most of it is drugs and that sort of thing, but the expenditure is gone, just skyrocketed.

MR. CROSBIE: Why is the vote this year estimated to be, apparently a

MR. CROSBIE:

year ago this time the Minister ask for \$1,235,000. but there was actually spent last year, according to the revised estimates, \$1,885,000. which was \$600,000. more and this year the Minister is asking for \$300,000. less than was actually spent last year. Why does he anticipate -?

MR. ROBERTS: The expenditure actually, as of March 31st, was one point seven and three eight millions. By the way I have, Your Honour, actual expenditure figures, as of the 31st of March. The revised figures were done in December, I think, or January. I can only say two things; one we do not really know what it is going to be, how many prescriptions there are going to be and so forth and, secondly, we are now in the midst of some talks with the druggists, under which we think we may be able to achieve some substantial savings at the same time giving the pharmacists a fair return for their part in it. What we are trying to get at is to see if we can reduce the cost of drugs to the pharmacists, and we think we have some ways for that. But it maybe that that one point five eight five request is a triumph of hope over experience, Your Honour, I do not really know. This is the most uncontrollable vote that we have in the Department of Health.

MR. CROSBIE: But if you are receiving social assistance and you need drugs, I think you get a card and, when you go to the drug store, you can charge it. Now I think this was brought up last night too; What about if you are a person who is not on social assistance but low income, you might be working and, let us say, you get diabetes and you have to have a lot of insulin and you have to have a lot of drugs, can they also avail of this programme because, if they cannot it is certainly not very well-known?

MR. ROBERTS: The answer is yes, Mr. Chairman. A person does not have to be on welfare to receive entitlement to drugs. Indeed, Your Honour, I know of a case where a person making about \$8,000. a year received

MR. ROBERTS:

assistance through the Department of Welfare, as it then was, I was with the Minister, with transportation. What it does, under the Canada Assistance Plan, Your Honour, is one's needs are measured, and needs can include drugs, and if it is an expensive and continuing course of drugs, that is taken into account, one's resources are measured and if there is a difference between the two, then, within the bounds of the programme, CAP can help. Indeed for that matter we have a guaranteed annual income in Newfoundland. A person can be working and still get assistance from the Department of Welfare, if his wages do not equal the amount he would be entitled to under social assistance. I gather it is not well-known but it is a fact.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, this is the question -

MR. ROUE (U.N.): Just before the hon. gentleman speaks, could he yield for a moment. Mr. Chairman, I crave the indulgence of the Committee to do something which is, I think, highly irregular and probably out of order at this time in the proceedings, but I have talked to the hon. gentleman or the leaders opposite and my hon. colleague and the Premier and they have all agreed that it would be suitable at this time for me to convey a welcome from the House and from the Committee to some fifty students from the communities and towns of LaScie and Baie Verte, in my district of White Bay South. These students, around, as I said, fifty in number, are from the grade "X" classes at the Integrated High School at Baie Verte and the Integrated High School at LaScie. They are in the charge of Mr. Alf Quinton, who is the guidance councillor at the Baie Verte school, and Mr.

Mr. Rowe (W.N.):

Halfyard, Job Halfyard, the Principal of the LaScie Integrated School Board. The reason, Sir, that I did want to break tradition and make this welcome is because I believe that with the exception of some visits we have had from students from Labrador, I believe that these students are probably representative of schools furthest away from St. John's and from this House that we have had visit us so far during this session. I may be wrong on that. Perhaps my hon. friend - at least, Sir, if not the furthest away then one of the furthest away. I do want to extend a hearty welcome to these students. They are in here today, I believe they came in yesterday. They will be in today and going back tomorrow. They are here to tour the University, the Arts and Cultural Centre, the Technical School and the Fisheries College, with a view, no doubt, to deciding upon their careers in the future, when they graduate from school.

I welcome these students, Mr. Chairman, and I wish them every luck in their endeavours during the present school year. Thank you!

MR. H. COLLINS: Mr Chairman, I would like to join in welcoming the students from Baie Verte and LaScie. I know the area quite well. In fact, first when I started working with the old Department of Telegraphs, I worked in LaScie and Harbour Deep one summer and fall. Certainly it is a great pleasure to see students from the outlying areas come into St. John's. On behalf of my colleagues on this side of the House and on behalf of Mr. Bill Eaton, who is to be the future member in that particular district, I would like to join with the present member in welcoming these students.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, when we departed from the procedure by welcoming with the students, which we all agree incidentally, I was referring to a question which I raised last night on this Drug Supply and so on. The vote, as the hon. member for St. John's West mentioned, is below last year. When I asked the question last night, the hon. the minister said that the cost was accelerating continuously and each year it was going up and up and up. This year it would probably be more than it was last year. Now we find that it is less. My only comment on that is that I hope, if this should prove to be the case, that the department will be more lenient in some of the cases, of the type which I mentioned

Mr. Earle.

last night. I referred particularly to cases of old people who are living on Old Age Pensions, who had very heavy medical expenses indeed for drugs. They find it extremely difficult to cope with the transportation costs to hospital and the drugs. It is only a matter of a week or so ago that I was in the home of one of these people, one of these persons, and they advised me that whereas they could not get assistance for drugs, although both of them are on very expensive drugs and also had very heavy transportation costs, back and forth to clinics and hospitals, their next door neighbour, who was on Social Assistance, was able to afford six big benders a year, regularly. They were wondering how they were over-looked for a mere requirement of drugs whereas somebody else could go out on a terrific toot, as you say. Well certainly this sort of thing would require an investigation. The point I am making, particularly in the case of old and disabled people and those who have very small incomes, I hope that the minister will be able to take a look at it and perhaps bend over backwards to help those people.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, just before we leave it, I feel that the Department of Health or the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation, which does not have a minister in the House at the moment, should publicize this drug policy of the Government a bit more. It certainly is not widely known you can have assistance for this purpose, although you are not a client, as the non-minister of that department puts it. Even though you are not a client of the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation, you can get assistance if you have heavy drug costs and not sufficient income, a low income. You may be working or whatever it is. I think a bit more publicity is needed. The minister of each of those departments is the type to hide himself or not to seek public attention. They should publicize that a bit more and I think it would be very valuable. There are a lot of people suffering because of these drug costs.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, it is not Modest Moxey who speaks to you but I can say nobody ever accused my colleague, the Minister of..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. ROBERTS: Your first political speech, is it Ross?

MR. BARBOUR: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, with regard to (04), there is just one comment that I would like to make and this is the contribution to the Medicare Commission. All throughout the Department of Health Accounts you see Appropriations-in-Aid from Ottawa for the Medicare Plan. When the Medicare Plan was brought into existence, two years ago, we were told that the actual cash gain in Newfoundland would be considerable, for the first five or six years anyway. Then it would even itself out and Newfoundland would then have to pay for this social service that we are getting. But certainly, for the first five years, medicare was to have cost us nothing and indeed we were to have realized money from it. I think the rationale given or some of the rationale was the fact that with respect to district medical care, where you have district hospitals and cottage hospitals, that they would pay a portion of the expenses, medicare bills, therefore the Province did not have to pay it. I have yet to see, Mr. Chairman, an overall statement. I know it is probably there through these accounts but you would have to compare the estimates of previous years as well. I wonder whether the minister could tell us what the exact cash position is now, with respect to the relationship between Ottawa and the Province, with respect to Medicare. Are we still making a net gain? Secondly, whether we perhaps could have some of his officials prepare a statement showing us the gains that we have had over the past two years, what net gains we will have in the future, etc. I do not recall ever having seen it put down on paper, other than having that statement made a couple of years ago.

MR. CROSBIE: Before the minister replies, as the "Father of Medicare" in Newfoundland, the minister will remember, I introduced the Bill and got it through the House...

MR. ROBERTS: I had to do the work.

MR. CROSBIE: Well it was already working pretty well before the minister came on the scene.

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible).

MR. CROSBIE: Pardon. I did not hear that.

MR. ROBERTS: My colleague is assenting over here.

MR. CROSBIE: In fact there was a Cabinet disagreement already this morning. The Medicare Plan, Mr. Chairman, as the minister is going to explain, was never intended to make money for the Government of Newfoundland. The point was that it would not cost the Government of Newfoundland any net increase, it was estimated, at least for three or four years, I think it is still true. It was never that we were going to make money. It was still going to cost us what we had been spending on the cottage hospital service or the children's hospital health plan and so on. We would be still spending money. We were not going to save any money. We could have medicare for three, four or five years without any net increase in the Newfoundland Treasury. I think that is still the position and not that we were going to make any money on it.

MR. ROBERTS: If I get a moment, I will give you the facts.

MR. CROSBIE: The minister, when he gets a moment, is going to give us the facts, so he says.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. John's West may have been the stepfather of medicare, as a Government measure, that the Government of Newfoundland brought in. At that time he was part of the government. He then separated. The point made by him though is sound. In 1968, 1969, the last year before medicare became effective, the last financial year, the Government spent \$4.283 million. (Well it was nearly \$4,300,000) on services of a type that has now been covered by medicare. Those include: children's health, the medical portions of salaries of medical staff in our hospitals, vesperal services for the indigent and so forth. Now that was two years ago. Since then we have increased the salaries substantially and all that. It usually cost \$6 million to provide the services that we provided for \$4.3 million three years ago.

Mr. Roberts.

This year the net cost, to the people of Newfoundland, of medicare, we estimate as shown in the grant here of little under \$4 million. In other words, we are, Your Honour, about \$2 million in pocket. Our people are getting a great deal more medical care than they were before. It would not be correct that we are going to make money on medicare. But it is correct to say that our expenditures, which we would have had to incur, presumably those programmes would have continued, the cottage hospital programme, the children's programme, the care for indigents and so forth, as everything does, the cost would have risen. We are now providing those at less cost. It is less actual cost if you take into account the fact that there are three years in the difference. It is probably in the order of \$2 million that we are ahead. The hon. gentleman, if he can write out the sort of statement he wants, I will ask my officials to try and put it together for him.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, I recall at the time when medicare came in that there was some discussion in Ottawa. There was a fear that Ottawa might change the formula under which this system worked out. If they had taken such a step, it was feared that it would cost the Province a great deal more. I would like to ask the minister, is there is still a danger of that? Have there been any recent discussions held with his counterpart in Ottawa, to indicate that the plan will go on, on the same basis as it is at present, or is there likely to be any change on the part of Ottawa in this matter?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the Government of Canada, as has been announced I believe, through the minister, Mr. Manroe, are now reviewing all of their share-cost programmes, including the two big ones in Health, Hospital Insurance and Medicare. The present plan expires in another two years, I guess it is, that is the legislative authorization from Ottawa. There is no doubt in my mind, Your Honour, that either that plan will continue or a better one will be substituted because I am sure this Province and every other province will have to end the medical care schemes, without Federal contributions. What form it will take, we are talking block-grants, for argument's sake, so much per capita.

MR. ROBERTS.

Ottawa is giving us \$12 million or \$13 million for medicare this year. We could use that far more effectively to provide medical services. If we, i.e., we talked last evening, Your Honour, about physician associates. We cannot pay them under medicare. I do not know what form the programme is going to take. It is under discussion. If I could quote Mr. Pickersgill, the hon. Mr. Pickersgill, who is a fount of a great deal of wisdom, I remember him saying time and time again, "never, never have Ottawa ever ended a programme without replacing it with a better one." That is the whole nature of the Federal/Provincial beef.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, on the question of cost. As the minister knows, the reason why Newfoundland was able to do relatively so well financially, in medicare, was that the grants were based - the Federal Government pays us fifty per cent of the national per capita cost of medicare times the number of people.

MR. ROBERTS: Times the number of insured people.

MR. CROSBIE: Times the number of people in the Province who are insured under medicare. Now the national per capita costs were and I guess they still are quite a bit higher than the per capita costs in Newfoundland, but Newfoundland's are rising.

MR. ROBERTS: No, the national ones are rising.

MR. CROSBIE: Are they rising, too? Could the minister give us the national per capita cost for last year, under medicare, as compared to the per capita costs in Newfoundland? Has he any estimate of the time when our per capita cost may be the same as the national average, the national per capita? Is there any forecast of that? At that time, you know, medicare is going to start costing the Newfoundland Government money.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I do not have the figures here but our per capita costs are over a little half the national cost. Ottawa is putting in about \$13 million this year and we are putting in about \$4 million. So \$13 million is how much per capita? That is \$26. per capita and multiply that by 2 and you got

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\$52 per capita as the national per average cost. Our per capita costs - I am speaking from quick calculation, from memory. When the two lines will meet? I think they will never meet, because the national per capita is rising very dramatically and ours is rising nearly as dramatically, but I think the gap in dollars, in absolute dollars is probably why ...

MR. CROSBIE: Could you give us the figures this afternoon?

MR. ROBERTS: I may give the figures in a few seconds. In 1970-1971, Medicare actually paid us cash. It was \$170,000 back out of the grant we had given them. Actually it was \$169,532, I am told.

MR. CROSBIE: Before we leave this Item (2), Mr. Chairman, it was discussed in the House, several weeks ago here, the incomes of doctors, under medicare and so on - also that there have been abuses. There were investigations made. I just want to point out to the committee that I have been noticing in the "Globe and Mail" during the last several weeks that there is quite a fuss on in Ontario about the same subject. There have been abuses in Ontario and they are finding the same problems in Ontario as we found here. As far as I can see, we dealt with them much more quickly and much more expeditiously here and much more smoothly than they are going to do with them in Ontario. What I want to point out is that these problems are going to arise in all the provinces. It is not because we have some doctors in Newfoundland that are different from doctors elsewhere or patients or whatever, but this is a problem that is going on now in every province including Ontario. I think the minister can confirm that.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, goes so fast when he gets a chance.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, the question I was going to ask was what is unallocated? There is a provision here, \$200,000 as against \$18,000.

MR. ROBERTS: I just happen to have a breakdown of it. The Drug Drop-In Centre, we agreed to give them an estimated \$20,000, that is the Kiwanis one here in St. John's. We estimate that we are going to spend about \$25,000 on a fluoridation programme.

MR. EARLE: Where?

MR. ROBERTS: Anywhere, probably Gander. I announced it some weeks ago here.

Mr. Roberts.

We have made a programme and the Town of Gander will qualify for help.

MR. CROSBIE: This is to assist in putting in equipment, is it?

MR. ROBERTS: And assist in the operating costs.

MR. CROSBIE: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: There are some small grants in here. The Multiple - Sclerosis Society, \$1,000. The Canadian Diabetic, \$1,800. I think they run a summer camp here on the strength of that. We are renting a clinic up in St. Alban's, \$1,2000. That is for dentists to come down from Grand Falls. We estimate that we will need about \$90,000 for our ambulance programme this year. We have also got an item of \$50,000 in, which is our estimate of what we will need for some community clinics. The costs are not covered in other subheads. There is \$11,000 as this states, unallocated in fact. I have no doubt that we will use it. That is, we will help to build a factory in Roncontre or Terrenceville, this is where it comes out.

MR. CROSBIE: Was that \$50,000 for clinics?

MR. ROBERTS: Well we estimate \$50,000 for some equipment costs. There are other places which we covered, hospital insurance and so forth.

MR. CROSBIE: Just shooting for a moment, Mr. Chairman, can we discuss ambulance service later on ?

MR. ROBERTS: Discuss ?

MR. CROSBIE: Ambulance service. Could we discuss it now? The minister said that he had \$90,000 in that vote for ambulance.

MR. ROBERTS: It can be done there or it could be done under hospital insurance. We pay out of both votes.

MR. CROSBIE: Okay then we will wait, because we are past it, I guess. I would like the minister to explain the policy on ambulance service?

MR. ROBERTS: Do you want to do it now or later? I mean I will only do it once.

MR. CROSBIE: I was going to ask a question about dentists but I will not. The Chairman is a speed artist. Once he gets the chance to go on a subhead, look out! On Mental Health, Mr. Chairman, could the minister tell us that once

Mr. Crosbie.

the extension is finished on the Mental Hospital, what then would be the number of beds per thousand units of population in the Province? Last year Dr. Pottle made a speech, in which he pointed out that we only had 1.9 beds per thousand units of population to care for the mentally ill, compared with the Canadian average of 3.5 beds per thousand units. In addition Newfoundland had only half the staff per unit of population in comparison with the Canadian average. The minister has announced that there is to be an extension built on to the Mental Hospital. There are to be some beds at Western Memorial. Now after that programme is through, how are we going to stand up statistically with reference to these figures?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, if we pass this now, I will have the information on that by the time we get to the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, on 1021,-08, Health Care Costs..

MR. ROBERTS: That is a collection of all the Canada Assistance Plan subheads. We arranged the estimates to show the true programme costs. The committee will note there a fifty per cent recovery from Ottawa, that is under the Canada Assistance Plan, Your Honour.

MR. CROSBIE: Last year, Mr. Chairman, under this heading, 1021-08, Health Care Costs, the estimate that was given was \$1,815,000. There was actually \$2,626,000 spent, according to the revised estimates. That is \$800,000 more. This year \$2.4 million was estimated. Why was the difference last year? Why did the minister have to spend \$800,000 more than the estimate?

MR. ROBERTS: This is really the same discussion we had on drug costs. That is or ninety-nine per cent of that figure is the drug cost subhead. So the same answer is applied to the same question. There are two programme subheads, Your Honour. One is the Canada Assistance and the other is Medicare, where we gather in all the costs and show the contributions from Ottawa.

MR. EARLE: What was the actual cost as of the 31st. March?

MR. ROBERTS: I am ashamed to say that I do not have it. On drugs it was \$1.8 millions. I will get that figure and have it. Let us go on with it. I will get the figure and I will give you the actual cost.

MR. MARSHALL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a question and I am not sure if it is among the correct subhead or not? I will ask it anyway. People in the vicinity of King's Cove in Bonavista Bay are anxious with respect to medical services down in that area. I would like to ask if there is any - I noted from the Medicare Commission Report, if my memory serves me correctly, that there are few if any doctors in Bonavista South. I think in the adjoining district of Trinity North or Trinity, I am not sure, the same situation exists. In any event in the King's Cove area there is certainly a need of a doctor's residence or a nursing station or something. We have had this inquiry. Proportionately, there are just as many Tories in King's Cove as were found in Eastport and this is why they are all anxiously awaiting the reply of the minister to this question.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, once again the hon. gentleman is too late. He obviously was not listening to the committee yesterday evening when I announced our programme there. My friend, the member for Bonavista South, was out of bed and had done a day's work before the hon. gentleman even opened his left eye lid. We are going to provide facilities in the King's Cove area and in Trinity, Trinity Bay. These are the two areas where there is a need, in that part of the Province. There is money in the estimates to cover it, under District Medical Care.

MR. EARLE: I would like the minister to give us some information. There were reports last year that there was somewhat of a resurgence of tuberculosis throughout the Province. This brought in a bit of a scare. What is the position at the moment? Are there more cases being discovered or are less being discovered? How is it getting along?

MR. ROBERTS: There is no truth in the reports, Your Honour. In 1970, we discovered throughout Newfoundland 236 new, active cases of tuberculosis. The year before the figure was 273. The year before that it was 258. The year before that 240. So it is the lowest ever, actually. Our rate per thousand is still much

Mr. Roberts.

too high. It is forty-six per one hundred thousand. The national average is twenty. So, we are still more than twice the national average? We have nothing at all to boast about, except that we have made immense progress. We did have a problem a couple of years ago, particularly in the Northwest River area, where we discovered a pocket of tuberculosis, but we made arrangements with the ICAF and I understand that the people who are suffering in that area, you know, the extra facilities were made available. There was no research since last year. There has been a reduction.

It has been quite dramatic; in '61 our rate per hundred thousand was eighty-three. It has gone down steadily over the ten years, Your Honour, and it is now forty-six per hundred thousand. Quite a success story.

MR. CROSBIE: On 1034-01, Environmental Health Section of the Minister's Department, Mr. Chairman: There are several points I would like to comment on.

MR. ROBERTS: ERCO would be more appropriate under a later subhead, Industrial Health 1037.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, let us discuss it now - I do not mind, I will leave that to Environmental Health. Environmental Health; this is presumably the case where Olivers Pond would be under Environmental Health.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, among others.

MR. CROSBIE: Or permits, where the Minister's Department of Health Inspection, where they inspect water and sewerage and permits to drill wells, that kind of operation. Now, the Minister said, last night, which I agree with him, that the Olivers Pond problem is a problem of land use. This I think is quite correct, Mr. Chairman. But, the question then is, here we have a situation where the Minister of Health refuses to give a permit for construction of facilities and housing in Olivers Pond Area, because of advice of his officials that there is any health factor involved here, but because he does not agree with the land use contemplated for the Olivers Pond Area. I agree with the Minister that this would be the wrong land use for the Olivers Pond Area. But what this is pointing up really, Mr. Chairman, is that the body within whose jurisdiction Olivers Pond comes, that the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board is not doing a proper job in controlling land use within its jurisdiction.

Here is the situation where the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board apparently is willing to give the developer a permit to develop these lots - summer cottages they are called - in Olivers Pond, they will not be summer cottages they will be permanent homes. I have asked the Department of Health to advise whether there is any objection, on health grounds. The Department of Health has no objections on health grounds, but the Minister has an objection on land use grounds. Properly so, but the real issue is why did the St. John's

Metropolitan Area Board, in the first place, not rule out the application on the grounds that it was not a proper use for the land in this area? I find that the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board, Mr. Chairman, is becoming useless as far as the control of building in the St. John's Metropolitan Area is concerned. It would be just as well to disband the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board; it is not doing its job.

MR. ROBERTS: You can talk about that under Municipal Affairs really -

MR. CROSBIE: Well, yes, I am going to talk about it here, then under Municipal Affairs too. What I am pointing out is that the Minister and his jurisdiction, under Environmental Health, is making the land use decision that should be made by the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board if it were functioning properly.

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister is also acting within the powers on the advice of the lawyers, given to him by law.

MR. CROSBIE: You are right, but the - another point I am going to take up with the Minister is, that is, the people who are advising him on Environmental Health are too soft, in my opinion. They often advise the Minister that a permit can be granted for a septic tank and so on, when it would be - when it is pretty doubtful whether this is so or not. In other words they are not strict enough. My feeling is, in deciding these matters. But if the Minister wants to wait to have this discussed under Municipal Affairs -

MR. ROBERTS: I think that is more appropriate, because it, you know, if the Metro Board is doing a good job or not is really not the Department of Health.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, the point is that the Minister is making decisions that are not based on health considerations, that are based on land use considerations.

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister is acting as part of the Government.

MR. CROSBIE: The Government created the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board. If it is not doing the satisfactory job, why does the Government not attack the problem there?

MR. ROBERTS: That is an "if."

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Minister, under this vote, is there a good liaison between his department and the Department of Highways in clearing up some of the troubles? I referred to it particularly

in talking about this under a previous department, that stagnant ponds and ponds into which garbage is thrown and all this kind of thing are all too frequent in many of our outports. The conditions which are created are literally disgraceful. Now, I have an instance in my district where this was the case, and have approached the Department of Health, who I think condemned the site. The Department of Highways, with the use of a bulldozer and the installation of some large drainage pipes, soon cured the situation. I am wondering how closely the Department of Health works with the Department of Highways, who has to take the initiative in this case and how is it done.

MR. ROBERTS: The answer is that there is the closest liaison, perhaps the best case is the one at Terrenceville or Bay L'Argent or somewhere or -

MR. EARLE: Hr. Mille -

MR. ROBERTS: Hr. Mille, is it? But in any event my officials had a complaint made to them, I am not sure where it came from, it may have come through the hon. gentleman. We had a complaint. I have been keeping an eye on it. It has been straightened out, we have gone to Highways. and Highways agreed to have done the actual work. This happens throughout the Province. We had a case in Middle Brook, Gambo. Mr. Paul, Chairman of the Community Council, or the vice-chairman, whatever he is, was in touch with me, There is very close and very good work and liaison, we get good cooperation from the - the Minister is not here. We get good cooperation from the Minister and his officials.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, 1037-04, this is Industrial Health. It comes here under water pollution, in so far as the Minister is concerned. I raised in the House the other day and I want to raise it again, the question of the Industrial Health situation in the ERCO Plant at Long Harbour, because I think this is very, very serious matter. Since I raised it in the House the other day, Mr. Chairman, we have all received a copy of the submission by the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour to the Government of Newfoundland. That submission was made on May 19. On page 7 of this submission of the Federation of Labour this is stated about Industrial Safety: "There

is still a tendency in the industrial community, to downgrade health and safety considerations. We take serious issue with the lack of a resident medical doctor and adequate treatment facilities at the ERCO plant in the Long Harbour area. The handling of phosphorus and the presence of phosphorus at this plant present constant hazards to health and safety, but adequate first aid precautions are not being provided for." These are quite, I think very serious statements, that adequate first aid precautions are not being provided for.

The same is true for the transport of phosphorus by tank or truck to the plant. Then Mr. Chairman, they go on to say that people at the plant are getting sick and frequently vomiting blood. The situation requires a full investigation jointly by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Labour."

Now, Mr. Chairman, the Government only received the submission two days ago or May 19, today is May 21, two days ago. So obviously we want to hear from the Minister as to what, Has an investigation been started or what steps are being taken to look into this? The labour people say that no resident doctor, that may or may not be necessary, but they say there are no adequate treatment facilities at the ERCO plant. They say the handling of phosphorus at the plant present constant hazards to health and safety. They say adequate first aid precautions are not being provided. They say the same is true for the transport of phosphorus by tank or truck to the plant. They say that people working at the plant are getting sick and frequently vomiting blood. They say a full investigation is needed. I requested that before and certainly would urge it again. In addition, Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned in the House the other day, from people who work at Long Harbour I have been told. I repeat it again because I think it is a serious matter, that in the furnace building it is constantly full of fumes, that is smoke and gas. My informants tell me that employees are being laid off due to the fact that they cannot work in those conditions.

MR. ROBERTS: Just one, I had one fellow to see me, Is there more than one?

MR. CROSBIE: This is from several different people.

MR. ROBERTS: The one I had to see me told me he also has psychiatric treatment, he could not get anybody to pay any attention to him.

MR. CROSBIE: Right. Well, I am paying attention to him, I do not know if it is the same one or not. If it is wrong, and the situation is different I know - Then I am told, Mr. Chairman, that ninety per cent of the time the furnace building floor is covered with effluent water, that is acid water. We all know, as I mentioned the other night, there was an explosion down there a few weeks ago, This could happen again. The main problem, my informants tell me, is the smoke and gas problem. Now, the smoke and gas at the ERCO plant is conducive to lung trouble. You get diseases that are connected with the lungs, bronchitis, various diseases that affect the lungs. There have been people laid off down there, I am told, because they are having lung trouble. The Newfoundland Federation of Labour says that people are getting sick and frequently vomiting blood. As I said in the House the other night, apart from anything else, Mr. Chairman, this is going to be a big Workmen's Compensation problem before too many years are gone.

I know from people who are connected with the Workmen's Compensation Board that this is giving the Workmen's Compensation Board serious concern. I understand that they are to have a meeting or have had a meeting on this problem this month. When the Minister answered a question there a few weeks ago he said that since he had a Federal Official down last summer, to make an inspection of the plant, his official have been back there, but he had not received any representations from the Union or any one involved that conditions there still left much to be desired.

Now in view of what I have said in the House, in view of the Newfoundland Federation of Labour brief, could the Minister tell us what has been done to investigate this situation and the possible hazards to health down at Long Harbour.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, - if it is one o'clock I will make a statement at three? I think we have taken some fairly concrete action and I wonder if I could have back my letter from Dr. Ross because I have

to meet a delegation, I think at 2:00 p.m. If it is one o'clock, perhaps we could call it one, I will deal with this problem at three o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It being 1:00 p.m. I now leave the Chair until 3:00 p.m.

The House resumed at 3:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, a very few words on the ERCO situation that were raised, the problem was raised by an hon. member immediately before the Committee adjourned.

The Federation of Labour, in their brief, made some comments on the ERCO situation. I was not at the meeting of the Federation delegation with the Cabinet but I understand that the Premier at that meeting made the Government's position quite clear. There is no need for us to initiate an investigation into the ERCO problem, Your Honour, because we have been continuously and continually looking at that situation for at least a year now. My own officials are in Long Harbour at least once every two months. More importantly we had Mr. Ross, an Engineer with the Canada Department of Health and Welfare, make a study, a study which I made public very quickly, two or three days after I received it last summer, and we are inviting Mr. Ross to come back and to make another study a year later.

The Company has not only agreed to go along with the recommendations made by Mr. Ross in his study but, I gather from my own officials, have made quite good progress. Some of the recommendations are completely implemented.

I am concerned by what the hon. gentleman says. I am concerned by what the Federations says and I am all the more concerned because I do not have any evidence to go on. The Federation makes some statements, and a brief perhaps is not the place to put supporting evidence but I would be grateful if the Federation of Labour could let me have that evidence. Similarly, if the hon. member for St. John's West has some evidence, I hope he will if he could let me have it I will have it looked into.

I do know that one case has gone to the Workmen's Compensation Board, a gentleman claiming he has bronchitis induced by working in the Plant. I think, as the member for St. John's West says, the biggest problem at ERCO is the air, smoke and dust and gas problem in the Plant, and that is where our efforts have been. The Workmen's Compensation Board have not made a ruling, to my knowledge, as yet.

MR. ROBERTS: Your Honour, whether the illness is work induced and thus compensable or not. I gather their Medical Advisers are going into it for them.

I have only had one person come to see me and that was a young gentleman about twenty-five I guess who told me that he had two problems - one was that he had become ill as a result of being at the Plant in Long Harbour and the second problem was that nobody would pay any attention to him. I heard him out and I said; "well, if you would let me have the evidence, some evidence to go on, I will have it looked into for you and let you know what I find and see what steps should be taken." He said; "well, the only person who has paid any attention to me" (he named the psychiatrist in St. John's)" I said; "oh, what did he tell you?" He said; "he told me I needed some psychiatric treatment," I said; "what happened?" He said; "he is going to look after me," I said; "that is fine!"

I am concerned, I think that if there is worry about the ERCO Plant, that if there is any hard evidence at all, I want to know so I can have it looked into.

Now the other point I would make perhaps on this industrial health matter is this - there has been I think great confusion in the minds of everybody as to who was responsible for what with respect to the health of workmen. Long Harbour is a problem but I can tell Your Honour that St. Lawrence is a continuing concern. The Asbestos Mines at Baie Verte, you know asbestosis must be guarded against. The Iron Ore Concentrating Plant in Labrador City, there are dust problems that must be watched for there.

My colleague, the Minister of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, and I have come to an agreement, our officials are now working it out, the basic pattern of demarcation will be the Department of Health will set the standards. The Department of Health from time to time checks the standards to make sure that they are being observed. In a mine operation it will be the Department of Mines that does the monitoring, depending on individual arrangements. In an industrial situation, I gather it will be my own officials who will supervise

MR. ROBERTS: the monitoring. That is why we put the token for Industrial Health in again this year. The Government of Canada, through the Occupational Health Division of the Canada Department of Health and Welfare, have agreed not only to help us with information and advice but I gather to make available to us some of their personnel, for a fairly lengthy period, because that is what we need.

It is a problem. It is an area in which not enough has been done in Newfoundland. I think that we are now at the point where we can take the steps we need. But certainly I can speak for the Government when I say that if there is any indication by any industry or that in any industry, there are bad conditions and if they will not be corrected by the industry concerned then we will not hesitate to take the appropriate steps.

Last summer when I got the report from Mr. Ross and I sent for Mr. LaPierrier and other officials of ERCO and gave it to them they said; "what are you going to do; what happens if we do not?" "Well," I said; "try me." They said; "well, we are prepared to do what is recommended," I said; "fine, there will be no problem."

But Your Honour, this whole area of industrial health is one to which the public must pay more attention. It will require I think fairly large sums of money, \$25 thousand or \$50 thousand a year. I think we should be doing it.

We only have a token in here now and if the Committee approve it, it is authority for us to go ahead and set it up. I have no idea what the costs will be because I have no idea of the availability of the personnel. I think we have now resolved the jurisdictional disputes and issues and answers and we are now in a position where we can go ahead.

Finally on the ERCO one - I have no evidence, again, that the ERCO Plant produces any menace to health. I have seen a number of statements but I have had no evidence and I do hope, Your Honour, if any member of the Committee or if any person to whom knowledge of the Committee's proceedings may come, any such person knows of any problem caused by or related to the conditions in that or any other Plant, I

MR. ROBERTS: want to know about it so I can take the necessary steps to set it straight.

MR. COLLINS: The Newfoundland Federation of Labour seems to me to be a pretty responsible group of people and if they made those allegations, certainly that must warrant an investigation by the Minister's Department.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not quarrel with the fact that the Federation of Labour are responsible people. I said that we are constantly checking that Plant. But I would hope that the Federation would send me or my colleague, the Minister of Labour, or both of us, the information of the people of the Plant who are getting sick and frequently vomitting blood.

I do not know their names. I have no way to know. But the Federation must have that information; this is on what they base their statement. If they could let me have that information, they do not have to send it publicly, they could send it privately. These are individual patients. I do not want to know their - but I must know so I can start following it up.

The one person who has come to see me about it, a young gentleman, as I said, I think is now on the way towards getting his problems resolved.

The hon. gentleman for St. John's West knows of several. I do hope he will give me the information. I am sure he will. I will have it looked into and I can assure the Committee that whatever needs to be done to protect the health of workmen will be done.

MR CROSBIE: (Inaudible) As far as the opinion of the men is concerned, I had two people in to see me - one connected with the Plant and the other connected with the industry not the Department. They have given me the opinion that the working conditions there are as I have described them. Employees have been laid off due to the fact that they have to work in those conditions. There is a lot of smoke and gas, a lot of water in the furnace room, on the floor, and the Federation of Labour says much the same thing in their brief.

Now, if I can persuade any of these gentlemen to let me use their names, I am quite prepared to write the Minister or have them visit the Minister.

MR. CROSBIE: The trouble is, Mr. Chairman, that when people are working in a Plant like that, they are torn between two conflicting things- one is that they want to keep their jobs. Even though they do not like the atmosphere they are working under, they have got to eat and their families have got to eat. They have to look after their families.

One is that they want to keep their jobs and the other is that if the men, if they let their names be known, they are going to be known as trouble makers, and they are going to be gotten rid of. There are lots of ways you can be gotten off. You can be laid off for all kinds of reasons that may look legitimate. You will never be able to prove it was because you complained about working conditions.

So it is not easy to get them to come forward to give their names. The hon. Minister says that they have a union down there. Well I would now like to ask the union, the United Steel Workers, who represent the men at the Long Harbour Plant and particularly the Executive of the local there and Mr. Parsons, our International representative, to come forward and see the Minister and tell them what they consider the situation to be. Consulting Mr. Parsons will be the Executive of the union local. They must be aware of it and obviously the Labour Federation, what they have in their brief here, must be information given by United Steel Workers.

So I feel it is up to them, and it is up to the Minister to check out what they have alleged in their brief. Now they suggested in their brief that there should be a doctor on the location. I do not know if that is necessary or not. Number two there are not adequate treatment facilities at the ERCO Plant, that is easy to check on to see if there are adequate treatment facilities there.

They say that the transport of phosphorus by tankers is not being done in a safe way and they say people at the Plant are getting sick and frequently vomiting blood. Well this is the labour authorities who put that in their brief and obviously the Minister can ask them: "Who are these people at the Plant that you say have gotten sick and are vomiting blood?"

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Right. I think the Minister should also ask them privately. They say the situation requires an investigation by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Labour. I would like to see such an investigation carried out, whether or not the union local asks for it, and that is all we can do is raise the issue. If I get any more information I will certainly let the Minister have it.

With regard to 1052-02 (01), would the Minister get us some information on the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases - what the position will be when the extension is completed.

MR. ROBERTS: We are not quite to the subhead. I will be back in a second. You can carry on. I can hear outside, Your Honour.

MR. CROSBIE: The Minister, by the way, has not forgotten the per capita costs of Medicare. He was going to get it.

With regard to 1061-04 (01), Hospital Insurance, Mr. Chairman, and the Vote is \$33 million for hospitals not operated by Government and \$7,770,000 for hospitals operated by Government of which there is a recovery from Ottawa of approximately - well it appears now to be a Federal contribution of \$23 million, just over fifty per cent.

Now I believe that the payments to the International Grenfell Association Hospitals are made through this Vote. So this would be the proper place to discuss the International Grenfell Association Hospitals.

In the last several days I have had complaints from residents of Happy Valley, that they are very dissatisfied -

MR. ROBERTS: Is the hon. gentleman referring to a telegram, copies of which have gone -

MR. CROSBIE: This is a telegram of May 21, from Ross, G. St. John.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes he sent me a copy. He sent the Premier a copy. He sent -

MR. CROSBIE: Well I understand that the people in the Happy Valley area, Goose Bay - Happy Valley area are very dissatisfied with the present situation - the Hospital in Happy Valley, which is operated by the International Grenfell Association. I believe (this has only been on the telephone) that

MR. CROSBIE: they claim that there are inadequate resources, over-worked and under-paid staff, that there are inadequate resources and equipment. That there needs to be an investigation to inform the Government what action is required.

They say that their Member has advised them to take action through proper channels. Captain Earl Winsor, Provincial representative, claims lack of knowledge of situation. The previously promised medical survey in trying to take action has submitted the so called "proper channels".

The alleged suffering of the people and children of Labrador: Mr. Ambrose Peddle offer full support. It is a matter of life and death. They have asked the Minister for his immediate assistance.

Now I do not know too much about what their complaint is except they say that the Hospital there is inadequately staffed. There are not sufficient doctors and people cannot get proper medical care when it is required.

Of course the Minister is much more familiar with this situation than we are. I think it was also suggested to me that in some cases the patient had to be taken down to St. Anthony to receive treatment.

MR. ROBERTS: The Regional Centre.

MR. CROSBIE: It is the Regional Centre. As the Minister knows, now that the airport is not paved yet, Dr. Thomas says that he has been promised it is going to be upgraded and paved by the Federal Government this year and next year.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Jamieson has told Dr. Thomas that.

MR. CROSBIE: But that is not the case yet and in the Spring, as the Minister knows, the airport is not usable.

MR. ROBERTS: It is usable again now.

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, right, in the present stage of our weather it is usable. So in any event they seem to be very upset in the Happy Valley area. Would the Minister tell us what this is all about and what he thinks about it?

MR. ROBERTS: I would be delighted to, Mr. Chairman.

First of all Mr. St. John's telegram, copies of which he told me had been sent to such well known health authorities as, I do not mind the Premier and myself and the gentleman from St. John's West and the member for Labrador West, the Member of Parliament but such other health authorities as The "Daily News," Earl Cameron and Charles Lynch. I am reading from the telegram, that is who it has gone to .

When I got this cable, it came this morning, received in the Department of Public Works about 9:45 today and came right straight to me, I asked my Deputy Minister to telephone to Dr. Tony Paddon, who is the Director of Northern Labrador Services for the Grenfell Association. Dr. Paddon was away but my Deputy has since informed me that Dr. Paddon has arrived back in Northwest River and they have been speaking on the telephone. Dr. Paddon is not aware of the circumstances, although I gather he is getting in touch with Mr. St. John and find out what in the devil it is all about.

We think it may be a case where a person had to be sent to St. Anthony for treatment but I suggest that is the correct and appropriate way. St. Anthony has a full staff of specialists. The Hospital in Happy Valley, the Paddon Hospital, named after Dr. Tony Paddon's father, named after Dr. Harry Paddon who spent his life on the Labrador as a doctor, that Hospital is a relatively small Hospital and accordingly it does not have the staff of specialists that are available at St. Anthony.

I can only agree that the air strip at St. Anthony needs improvement and I welcome the hon. gentleman's support. The Government of Canada, as a result of representations made by, among others, the Town of St. Anthony and by Dr. Thomas and the I.G.A. and by me and I had forgotten but quite definitely it is an integral part of the White Paper tabled on behalf of the Government, by my colleague the Minister of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, last year. I had a letter the other day from Mr. Jamieson. Dr. Thomas, I believe, has the same information; have undertaken to upgrade and to put gravel on that air strip this year and then it can be paved next year. That is a very good thing medically and it is a good thing for a lot of reasons.

MR. ROBERTS: As regards the Paddon Hospital itself, I think there is a need for expansion and when we come to the capital items, Your Honour, or perhaps if you wish I can speak on it now, we have made an allocation here which we think will go towards that.

The immediate need, I had my Assistant Deputy Minister and the Director of Hospital Insurance in Happy Valley, early this calendar year - the immediate need is for better out-patient facilities, so we are going to construct those. We estimate about 2,000 square feet, Your Honour, will take care of it. Move some of the out-patient facilities into that, and that will enable us to re-arrange the hospital itself.

In addition we have assured the I.G.A., we have made arrangements to have a second dentist stationed in Happy Valley, to build a house for him. I believe we have also arranged to have an extra doctor stationed in Happy Valley. I do not put too much precedence in the statement of over-worked and under-paid. They may be over-worked but the pay scales are exactly the same as elsewhere in the Province.

The other thing we are going to do in Happy Valley, Your Honour, is, and I have been in touch with the Mayor of the Community, Mr. Herb Brett, about this, is get the Government of Canada to sit down with us (they have some experts and we do not) to make a study as to the longer range needs: Do we need to put more beds in Happy Valley, if so, what kind? Involved in that is the ever present question of the future of the air base. They have a good hospital up there. If we could get access to that it would solve some of our problems.

In any event, Mr. Chairman, I think we are very much on top of the problems at Happy Valley. The town has grown tremendously since the Hospital was built. We intend to make better services available both physically and by means of more professional and if necessary more non-professional staff.

While I am at it, perhaps I could deal with -

MR. CROSBIE: Could you tell us how many doctors they have?

MR. ROBERTS: I think there are three and a half or four. Now you may say; "what is half a doctor?" You see Northwest River is only twenty miles away

MR. ROBERTS: and I think there may be a doctor who does work at both communities. In addition they draw upon the specialists from St. Anthony, who are up there constantly. You know the psychiatrist, the ophthalmologist, the radiologist and so forth commute back and forth.

The hon. gentleman asked me about the per capita costs of Medicare. I now have that information - 1969-70 actual figures were, National - \$38 Newfoundland was \$23.50. Now I calculated this morning, Your Honour, that the 1970-71 would be around \$50, I was wrong it is \$53 - National, ours is about \$30. Those are estimated figures. We will know in November 1971 what the actual figures were. The 1971-72 estimates figures are National, \$56.50 and \$32, Newfoundland. Hon. members will see that the gap seems to be widening somewhat in absolute terms.

If the Committee wish, Your Honour, I also have figures on psychiatric bed population ratios. I do not know if this is the appropriate place for them. We dealt with 1052, maybe I could be permitted it on 1053, Your Honour.

We now have in Newfoundland, as of March 1971, 749 beds at the Hospital on Waterford Bridge Road, plus another 150, if we include the 13 beds that are about to come into service at St. Clare's, the appointment of a psychiatrist for which was announced the other day.

In addition we have 230 boarding care beds and these are as much a part of our psychiatric facilities as are any psychiatric beds. Adding the 100 to the

MR. ROBERTS: hospital for Mental and Nervous diseases, as the Committee will recall, it is an addition of 100 beds because we are going to destroy 100 outdated and 100 outmoded and useless beds. Our present ratio of beds is about 1.86 per thousand population with the new beds we expect to have 1.93 per thousand population. If you add in boarding care facilities, we will have 2.4 per thousand patient.

The Canadian average, I am told, is around 3.5 per thousand. In other words this is an area, Your Honour, where we still need additional beds. I think you will see that this is an area in which the thrust in Government policy will be to extend the facilities. I think that is the information the hon. gentleman wanted.

MR. CROSBIE: I understand, on the Medicare figures there, the estimate is for the year just ended, the National per capita cost was \$53.00 and the Provincial \$30.00. That would, therefore, mean the Federal Government would pay Newfoundland Government \$26.50 for every insured person in Newfoundland?

MR. ROBERTS: That is correct, yes.

MR. CROSBIE: Which means that we only have to pay \$3.50.

MR. ROBERTS: This is how come we hope to make money on Medicare. We will spend at least that much per capita on our old services and, as I showed the committee this morning, I think, Your Honour, we actually spent more. Our per capita expenditure on Medicare is still somewhat below the national average. The figures speak for themselves.

MR. CROSBIE: Before the item carries, Mr. Chairman, this is a large item. As you know this is all the hospital costs in the Province, except for the direct -

MR. ROBERTS: No, they are in there too.

MR. CROSBIE: They are all in there, yes, it is all the hospitals operating in the Province. Well, the increase this year, Mr. Chairman, over last year, last year to operate, well we will take them both together. The vote last year, \$30,050,100 to operate the hospitals of the Province, Government and non-Government. The vote this year, the minister is now

MR. CROSBIE: asking for \$40,770,700, which is an increase of -

MR. ROBERTS: \$1.7 million.

MR. CROSBIE: \$1.7 million.

MR. ROBERTS: But that does not include staff salary increases.

MR. CROSBIE: They are in the block vote at the end.

Now the point that I was going to ask the minister about is this; that is a very small increase. Forgetting salaries for the moment, although salaries are very important, it appears to be quite a small increase when you consider the increase in prices, the increase in services generally in the last, as they go up every year. What the minister is asking for now is what percentage; about two and a-half percent increase in the vote this year over last year? That appears to be a very small increase, even when we consider the amount that is provided at the end of the Health Estimates for increases in salaries, the block provision at the end, salary adjustments \$3.4 million. When you are considering all of the hospitals that are operated in this Province and all of the employees in those hospitals which must total, the minister would know, 4000 or 5000.

MR. ROBERTS: 6600.

MR. CROSBIE: 6600. It is difficult to see how programmes, for example equal pay for men and women, are going to be implemented in all those hospitals, with the total increase of \$1.7 million plus \$3.4 million for salaries. Would the minister give us his views on that? I notice, for example, that last year the minister spent \$2 million in excess of what the estimate was. The estimate last year given to us as \$29.5 million. The Minister spent \$31.5. That was \$2 million more than the estimate. This is likely to be true this year, I would think.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I would be delighted. The actual expenditure this year, up to March 31, you will notice is estimated at \$31,550,000. It was actually \$31,344,962, which is not bad estimating. My officials I think are pretty good at this.

MR. CROSBIE: No, no, your estimate was \$29,566,000.

MR. ROBERTS: No, but I am talking about the revised.

MR. CROSBIE: Oh, well the revised.

MR. ROBERTS: Because the estimate last year did not have the wage increases in it. Actually, I think, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman is wrong. The increase of about \$5 million, the salary increase plus the increase reflected in this subhead is probably the largest percentage increase we ever had in Newfoundland in a year. Bear in mind, we do not have a substantial amount of new beds coming into operation next year. The two areas of cost increases, Your Honour, are salaries, well they are covered under a separate, and the other component, which is about thirty percent of goods and services other than wages, If they increase at about five percent a year, that is only 1.5 percent of the total amount - if the hon. gentleman is with me on the arithmetic. The money in here will enable us not only to carry on but to expand our services. Within the past few months there has been a little chatter about this, Your Honour, but the committee might like to know we have reopened beds at the West Memorial Hospital. We have opened beds at the Central Newfoundland Hospital. We have put a psychiatric child-care unit in at the Janeway Hospital. We put a post-operative neo-natal unit in at the Janeway. We opened the pediatric unit at St. Anthony. Generally, we have expanded, Sir, We are about to open a new ward at the Gander Hospital.

MR. CROSBIE: What about the heart one at the Grace?

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

MR. CROSBIE: There is a heart one open at the Grace, is there not?

MR. ROBERTS: Not with any money from us. No they are paying for that out of their own funds, the coronary care unit.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, the minister has to provide nurses and so on.

MR. ROBERTS: No they are paying for it out of their own funds, I assure you.

MR. CROSBIE: The Grace is paying it all out of their own funds.

MR. ROBERTS: They are getting no increase from us. They are going to close some of their geriatric beds and open their coronary unit.

MR. CROSBIE: That is the way around it?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. But no extra from us. Really, Mr. Chairman, the amount of money in here will enable us not only to continue to offer the services we now have throughout the Province, but to expand them. It is quite a large increase, That is a twelve percent increase, which is pretty significant.

MR. CROSBIE: What about the new St. Clare's beds, when are they going to be open? That is going to cost extra money.

MR. ROBERTS: We expect them to open in 1972. We expect no new beds to come into service this year.

MR. CROSBIE: At St. Clare's?

MR. ROBERTS: Anywhere in the Province really. St. Clare's is the only project now entrain. I think we have opened all the beds in the Province. One year ago we had a relatively large number still closed.

I think, we have done very well, Mr. Chairman, I do, and staggering amounts of money involved.

On motion item carried.

On motion 1961-02 through 03 carried.

MR. CROSBIE: 1962 - Grants - Hospital not operated by Government. Current Other Services - \$1,253,000. Now this is obviously catch all, what is it exactly?

MR. ROBERTS: It includes such things as, well it is generally to meet the cost of services not provided under Hospital Insurance, for example, ambulance services at the General, salaries of the medical staff at such places as Baie Verte, the I.C.A., the operating cost of the T.B. unit at St. Anthony, generally and then anything else that is not covered anywhere else. But I have accounted for most of the cost here.

MR. CROSBIE: I see \$720,000 comes back from the medical care plan. Some of this then is what, services of doctors?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, for example, we pay the salaries of the medical officers at the I.G.A. and Twillingate and at Baie Verte, through this vote, but, of course, we recover from medicare their salaries, plus thirty percent as an allowance for overhead.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, the minister mentioned ambulance service, when does he want to expand on that? Does he want to do it now or?

MR. ROBERTS: Well let us do it now, Mr. Chairman, I can be very brief. We decided to expand ambulance services, it is obviously very necessary and I was personally very delighted when the Newfoundland Medical Association came out and released their survey, which I think confirmed our decision and showed the needs for it. We announced our decision some time before they completed their survey. Basically, we are looking to two types of service, Your Honour, One is; at the four regional centres in St. John's, Grand Falls, Corner Brook, St. Anthony. There is also a service at Gander. I have some notes, perhaps the hon. gentleman and I could discuss outside about the point he raised last night, about the post-midnight one at Gander. I will send them over to him, the notes I have for my people on it.

In those areas, Your Honour, we look to providing service because they are regional facilities. In other areas, we look toward aiding community organizations, who have just made it possible for their provision of ambulances in Eurin and in Marystown. We have agreed to give grants to the Town Council there. That is where they are getting the money to carry on the service. Throughout the Province we are doing this. Basically, we look to providing the capital amount, either in the form of an ambulance or in the form of enough money to buy one. We look towards subsidizing the operating cost, with the exception of

MR. ROBERTS: labour and where labour is needed or is required we approach each one, you know, on the individual merits of the case.

Basically that is the policy, Your Honour, We can go into endless detail on individual cases, endless detail, I assure you, but that is the basic policy, There are a number of votes throughout that are appropriate and if they are approved, we will draw funds to operate these.

MR. HICKMAN: Will the subsidization of the ambulance in the rural areas be applicable only to ambulances operated say by service clubs or Town Councils?

MR. ROBERTS: That is correct, Sir, we are not looking towards subsidizing commercial operators. The one in Marystown and Burin -

MR. HICKMAN: The one in Burin is private.

MR. ROBERTS: No it is not anymore. No it is not. Mr. Pitcher, in the Burin Pharmacy, they now have contract or are about to have one. I can assure the hon. gentleman that Mr. Wollett and I have been in close and continuous consultation on the point. I have also had representations from the Town Council at Marystown. There are two ambulances, the two communities have made a joint approach.

On motion item carried.

MR. CROSBIE: Could the minister tell us what the new St. Clare's, what the total cost of this tremendous expansion is going to be, are there any revised figures? Also, if he could tell us, I think, he said 1972 before any beds are opened, how many beds there will be and so on?

MR. ROBERTS: The latest estimate I have, Your Honour, is \$13.6 million - that is a substantial decrease. There has been some very fine tendering done on it. I think the committee will notice the revised estimate is somewhat less than the estimate requested and approved last year. The project will provide new operating facilities, new x-ray facilities, laboratory facilities, the new boiler room, dietary, physical medicine.

MR. ROBERTS: We will be getting 220 new beds, Your Honour, About 100 of the old beds will no longer be in use, so the net increase will be about 120 beds. As I say, we expect them during 1972.

MR. HICKMAN: On that same item, Mr. Chairman, the General Hospital, there is an item here of \$1 million for the General Hospital, is that for renovations to the existing General or for the new General Hospital on campus?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the Committee will note the Appropriation-in-Aid down below, of \$750,000. That goes against the \$1 million. This is Health Resources Fund Money. The seed money and hopefully a large part of the cost of completing the plan and the specifications for the new Government Hospital to be built on the campus of the University.

MR. HICKMAN: This is the \$1 million really for planning?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. Yes, it is. We do not expect, Mr. Chairman, to do very much at all by way of renovation and so forth at the General this year. We have some work from last year that is not yet completed, it is in progress.

MR. HICKMAN: The architects are the same firm, Barlow or -

MR. ROBERTS: We have not appointed architects as yet for the hospital, the new hospital.

MR. HICKMAN: There is considerable work done on the old building.

MR. ROBERTS: That is right. There is enough done to show us that we should not spend any more money there, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKMAN: I have forgotten the name of the firm, of the firms.

MR. ROBERTS: Forrester, Weeks, Llewellyn and Davis was not there.

On motion item carried.

MR. COFFEE: 02 - what is the breakdown on this, Mr. Chairman, \$101,700 for the I.C.A. what particular thing is that for?

MR. ROBERTS: It is going to include two doctors residences and an extension to the out-patients facilities in Happy Valley. We are going to build a dispensary at Davis Inlet and then the second of ten annual payment on new

MR. ROBERTS: doctors residences, those are not doctors residences actually, new staff accommodations at St. Anthony. They converted the old hospital. The I.G.A. lend us \$250,000, at low interest rates. We have agreed to pay it in ten annual installments, this being the second.

MR. CROSBIE: That is how you got around it?

MR. ROBERTS: I am sly. Oh, I am sly. I am sly.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, this is interesting, The International Crenfell Association, I think, the minister said - let us get this right, "Loaned the Government."

MR. ROBERTS: It is correct.

MR. CROSBIE: \$260,000 and the Government spend money on renovating the old hospital there to make staff accommodations and the Government are now paying the I.G.A. back.

MR. ROBERTS: That is correct. We are repaying their capital.

MR. CROSBIE: Well, I remember last year some member raised in the House the I.G.A. was going to go under if they did not get more money from the Government. Last year the I.G.A. was giving the Government money.

MR. ROBERTS: That is I.G.A. capital funds, Mr. Chairman. The I.G.A. has some capital funds and they use the interest on it to provide services that we do not pay for.

MR. CROSBIE: Well they are now lending the Newfoundland Government money.

On motion item carried.

MR. CROSBIE: 03 - Western Memorial Hospital. Is there to be any construction this year at Western Memorial Hospital? Obviously an amount of \$250,000 is just for plans. I would gather that there will not be any actual construction this year.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, that depends entirely upon how quickly the architects will finish their work, We have told them to go ahead as quickly as they can.

On Motion item carried.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, there is no vote under Churchill Falls. I wish to move an amendment, there is an omission here, by inserting immediately after 06 and immediately before 08, an item, number 07, Grace Hospital \$75,000. I further move that the subtotal to be adjusted accordingly and that the grand total for the department be so adjusted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Amendment is that item 07 be inserted to read 07- Grace Hospital \$75,000 and that the subhead 1062 be altered accordingly.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman that money will go, together with \$100,000 in hand already, the chimney at the Grace Hospital, I think, needs some attention, and at long last we are going to get it done.

On motion item carried.

MR. CROSBIE: 08 - Notre Dame Bay Memorial. Is there going to be any construction at Twillingate this year?

MR. ROBERTS: Again, Mr. Chairman, that depends on how quickly the architects will finish their work.

MR. HICKMAN: 09 - Conception Bay Hospital. Is it the Conception Bay Hospital or the Carbonear one?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is Carbonear.

MR. CROSBIE: What is the unallocated?

MR. ROBERTS: I will tell you - there is lots of time.

MR. DAVE: On the Conception Bay Hospital, as the minister has indicated, this now just refers to the Carbonear Hospital and naturally we were pleased yesterday with the Premier's announcement, in the House yesterday afternoon. I would like to add a few words before we pass this vote. I would like to say to him, on behalf of the people of the area this hospital to be served, how pleased we were with the announcement of yesterday. We are looking forward to a substantial hospital to be built in the Bay Roberts area. I say this for two reasons; the hospital at Bay Roberts will prove itself, will justify itself, will justify its existence. It will justify the need. I will say that -

MR. CROSBIE: There is no money in this vote for it.

MR. DAVE: The hospital will be provided this year.

MR. CROSBIE: Out of thin air, is it?

MR. DAVE: Not out of thin air either. The next few months will tell whether the hospital will be constructed or not. And it will certainly justify its need. I will say to the hon. Minister of Health that the hospital at Bay Roberts, if given equal chance, will grow into one of the vastest hospitals in the Province. We will have no difficulty whatsoever in filling the hospital beds, if anything, they may reduce the need for the hospital at Carbonear. I know that this hospital has been under consideration for some time, and our local people there have been planning for this hospital and the local doctors there have been planning for this hospital and they are now under active consideration of bringing other doctors to the area, probably to specialize in other fields in the hospital for this part of Conception Bay. I will say further that as time develops the people of Upper Island Cove, the people of Harbour Grace and the people of Bishop's Cove will gravitate to this hospital more so than in the northern part of Conception Bay. The two doctors now at Harbour Grace have indicated that they want to be part of the hospital at Bay Roberts, due to the treatment they have received down through the years, of lack of consideration for their patients at Carbonear. They are disgruntled, they want to form part of the hospital at Bay Roberts and I know that the doctors at Conception Harbour and Harbour Main will as well like to be associated with the hospital there.

I say, Mr. Chairman, that as we received the glad news yesterday that we are going to lend our best effort to make sure that this hospital is a success. We are going to take an active interest in the development of this hospital. I do say to the hon. minister that when these plans are drawn up that ample provision will be made for expansion. The expansion will be needed.

MR. CROSBIE: Five hundred beds.

MR. DAWE: Anyway, plans will be made for expansion and over the next few years we will see if what I am saying is correct or otherwise. I will say we will have no difficulty in providing suitable hospital services. There will be an increasing demand for the hospital at Bay Roberts, as I say, if anything will lessen the demand for the hospital at Carbonear. I was talking to one of the local doctors this morning and he told me, this morning, he would have enough patients himself, just one practice, one doctor himself, to keep forty beds occupied at one time.

MR. MURPHY: Where do they go now?

MR. DAWE: They go into St. John's, very few to Carbonear, some of them at Carbonear and various hospitals in St. John's, and many a time they cannot get the service they require. We are in very close driving distance to the developments at Come-by-Chance, this part of Conception, not just because I am a resident of the particular area, the side of Conception Bay is growing faster than people realize. I will cite just one example, if we could use a yardstick in the district of Harbour Grace, I checked it the other day to see the business activities, would determine by the local banks. I tried to get some yardstick to try to determine what growth of our part of Conception Bay compared with the others. I checked it there the other day, in the district of Harbour Grace, we have one branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia. We have nine employees. At Carbonear they have two branches, the Bank of Nova Scotia and the Bank of Carbonear, and in these two branches they have a total of sixteen employees. In the district of Port de Grave -

MR. MURPHY: Would the hon. minister just wish to correct the "Bank of Carbonear."

MR. DAWE: In the Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Nova Scotia, I am sorry, the Bank of Commerce.

MR. MURPHY: Inaudible.

MR. DAWE: The Bank of Commerce and Bank of Nova Scotia, they have sixteen employees. In the district of Port de Grave we have four

MR. DAUF: branches, three branches of the Bank of Nova Scotia and one branch of the Bank of Montreal and they have twenty-four employees working within the district in the local banks. I just try to use this as a yardstick for the business activity that is carried on in this part of Conception Bay and to tell you what growth will take place.

The Ascension Collegiate at Bay Roberts, which I was actively associated with in the beginning, today we have twenty-eight teachers on the one staff of the school there. When we first started we could not foresee having more than 350 pupils attend this school, when it first began, now we have close to 700 pupils. Mr. Chairman, this will be the typical development that will take place with the hospital in this side of Conception Bay. I would like to put this on record and some of us who may be alive in the future will be able to see who was right and who was wrong, this hospital will prove its worth. On behalf of the citizens of the area, I would like to express our thanks to the Premier and to the Government for making this hospital possible and we hope that when the construction starts that it will be ready for occupancy as soon as possible, as I say, that in the planning stage that ample provision will be made for future expansion.

MR. HIGGINS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to welcome or ask for some comments from the hon. minister arising out of the comments that have just been made, some very interesting comments by the hon. the member for Port de Grave. He has suggested that with the construction of the Bay Roberts Hospital that, because of (I think I will use the hon. member's words) the unsatisfactory service some of the people in his area believe they have been receiving from the Carbonear Hospital, that they, together with the people of Harbour Grace, Bishop's Cove and Harbour Main, will be attracted away from the new Carbonear Hospital and into the Bay Roberts Hospital. This is the position the hon. member puts.

MR. HICKMAN: The hon. member also suggested that, because of the close proximity of Come-by-Chance to Bay Roberts and the development that is going ahead there, the people of the Come-by-Chance area will avail of the new Bay Roberts Hospital. Am I right so far?

MR. DAVE: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman said, the area will continue, maintain its growth, because the people in this part of Conception Bay, they want to live in this part of Conception Bay and the population growth will be maintained there -

MR. DAWE:

I could have added to that that for the last six years we have had a study made and each and every year there have been at least twenty-five to thirty new homes built within the municipality of Bay Roberts, each and every year, and we estimated at least fifty new homes were built in the district as a whole and this trend is continuing. I say that this part of Conception Bay is growing faster than people realize.

MR. WICKMAN: Well, if that is the attitude, Mr. Chairman, we should have the University Hospital on the Burin Peninsula, if it is to the number of new homes going in the district in the run of a year. But why I think it is very relevant is that last night the hon. Minister indicated, and it was a very sensible statement, that the new hospital at Carbonear is being built there for medical reasons only. Now I would assume therefore that particularly the medical staff of the Department of Health and I would assume, but I do not know and the hon. Minister can tell the Committee this, but there was consultation with the Newfoundland Medical Association and various groups of doctors, that in the planning for the Carbonear Hospital those who were doing the planning must have assumed that Harbour Grace, Bishop's Cove, that area, will be served by the Carbonear Hospital. Because I would remind this Committee that, apart altogether from the size of the hospital and from the growth of the Community, there is another very important item so far as hospital services are concerned and that is the strength of the professional staff.

I think that all members will have to agree that Carbonear has one of the strongest medical services outside St. John's that you can find anywhere in Newfoundland. I am a bit disappointed to hear the hon. member's comments, the member of Port De Grave, that people in his area and in the Harbour Grace-Bishop's Cove area are finding the service in Carbonear unsatisfactory. Indeed I would have thought that the reverse

MR. HICKMAN:

was the situation because of the strength of the clinic that they have there. What I would like to know from the hon. the Minister is (1) what planning has gone into the Carbonear Hospital from not only the professionals in the Department of Health but other planning groups presumably MMA and others? (2) In planning the Carbonear Hospital was it assumed that Carbonear would serve Harbour Grace, Bishop's Cove that area as well? (3) In planning the Bay Roberts Hospital was Come by Chance taken into the picture, bearing in mind the suggested policy that there maybe and I think there should be a new hospital in the Come by Chance-Clarenville area?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I quite agree with the hon. gentleman's last statement about Come by Chance-Clarenville. Obviously that is the next area that needs attention in the Province other than the programme we are now on. I do not know who has been involved in planning Carbonear Hospital, the regional facility there. This has gone on long before I became directly or even indirectly involved with the Department. I do not know if the MMA are involved, as I am not sure what they would have to do with planning hospital facilities, but I do know the wide variety of people have been consulted and I do know that the group at Carbonear, which, like so many groups around, is headed by a cousin of mine. It is one of the three hospitals in this Province the chief of staff of which is a cousin of mine. Gus Rowe is my father's first cousin and Dunc Rowe, in Corner Brook, is my father's first cousin and Jim Roberts, who is erratic politically but a very good doctor, is also my father's first cousin.

MR. HICKMAN: Next to the hon. Minister of Education you have more cousins than anyone in the Province.

MR. ROBERTS: There are two loyal liberals there, the erratic is sometimes more loyal than others.

MR. ROWE(F.W.): The hon. Minister and I are now cousins.

MR. ROBERTS: We have tried to keep that secret out of deference to my absent colleague. My colleague's seat belt broke today and he is over at the University representing the Government.

The planning of the Carbonear Hospital really has been, I think, quite detailed. I am not going to get into the merits of the various pros and cons on it. What I had to say on it last night I have said -

MR. HICKMAN: But Harbour Grace and Bishop's Cove -

MR. ROBERTS: I have no doubt in my mind that the majority of the people of Harbour Grace will continue to look to Carbonear for their regional facilities and there maybe many who will go there for district facilities. I suspect the people in and around Bay Roberts and Brigus and Cupids and those communities will look to Bay Roberts for district facilities and to Carbonear or St. John's for regional facilities and the hon. gentleman who is resident in Middle Arm, or Cat Arm he is resident in, that is a suburb of the metropolitan area of Conception Harbour.

MR. HICKMAN: We know who one of the forty patients will be from -

MR. ROBERTS: In any event, Mr. Chairman, I think much more of the point is to do something about the Come by Chance area which to me is the biggest single problem we face in Newfoundland. I think all of my former colleagues and all of the former Ministers of Health would agree on that one.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, in connection with this discussion that was initiated by the member for Port De Grave, let us be quite clear about it. The decision to built a regional hospital at Carbonear is based primarily on reasons of health, medical reasons. That is the basis - everybody who has looked at the question that knows anything about the field recommended it should be done, that there should be a new regional hospital at Carbonear. The decision to built a hospital

MR. CROSBIE:

at Bay Roberts at this particular time and to give it priority is not a health or a hospital decision, it is a political decision and a political decision only. Now whether Bay Roberts should or should not have a hospital, that project does not have the priority, does not meet a need in this Province that is as deeply felt as other areas. The Come by Chance-Clarenville area is one area for example that has far more priority for the construction of a new hospital than Bay Roberts. The decision to build a hospital at Bay Roberts is purely a political decision, purely and simply. There is no one that has ever looked at this problem in Newfoundland, except Lord Brain, recommended that a hospital should have high priority to go to Bay Roberts.

Now it is very nice for a hospital to go to Bay Roberts, grand, and doubtless they will appreciate it but, as was pointed out last night and has to be pointed out again now, there is the Come by Chance-Clarenville, there is the Marystown area that needs a modern regional hospital that, to my mind, would come ahead, in priority, of Bay Roberts. There is the area on the Northeast Coast, from Norris Point right up to St. Anthony, that should have priority; there is perhaps Port aux Basques. I do not know what the exact situation is there now, that should have priority.

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible).

MR. CROSBIE: Bay Roberts is a place that is fifty miles from St. John's, where we have all the fine hospitals we have here; that is fifteen miles or whatever it is from Carbonear and therefore it is much lower on the priority list. But for political reasons that the Government got involved in, that the Premier got involved in, that the hon. member got involved in, there is a decision made now that there is going to be a hospital at Bay Roberts. Well there are no architects appointed for it yet, the function plans have to be drawn up first and whether or not it will ever go there remains to be seen. The last time I spoke to the

MR. CROSBIE:

hon. member about this question there was going to be a plebiscite. There was going to be a plebiscite in Conception Bay, from one end of Harbour Main up beyond Carbonear and down to Baie de Verde, and that was going to decide the question of where the hospital should go, whether it be Bay Roberts, Riverhead-Harbour Grace, Carbonear.

Well that was so ludicrous, that suggestion was so ludicrous that it was dropped. But the Premier, the head of the Government, actually made that suggestion in this House, on the opening day of this session, that there would be a plebiscite to decide this question. Well that was so stupid, so ludicrous, so inane, just so totally incomprehensible and silly that it was dropped and to get around the stupid situation the Government got itself into, the political embarrassment, it has now been decided that Carbonear will have its hospital, the regional one which it should have, and that Bay Roberts will have one besides, just to get around this political imbecility that has gone on for the last four or five years.

Now it is fine if this hospital can be built at Bay Roberts and the Minister can get money and build a hospital, the one that is needed, in the Come by Chance-Clarenville area at the same time and if he can get the money to build one down in Marystown at the same time and fix up what is needed at Port aux Basques at the same time and do something about the Northwest Peninsula at the same time and build Twillingate at the same time and build the new university hospital in Memorial at the same time. If he can do all those things at the same time, if we have all that kind of money, wonderful, grand, but if Bay Roberts is going to be built ahead of the facility that is needed at Come by Chance-Clarenville or that is needed at Marystown or that is needed at Channel-Port aux Basques or that is needed on the Northwest Peninsula, then it is wrong. That is my position and it is not, as the hon. Premier suggested

MR. CROSBIE:

last night; "What do you have against Bay Roberts?" As I said after that, "What does the Minister of Health have against Marystown? What does the Premier have against Marystown? What does the Premier have against Come by Chance-Clareville? What does the Premier have against Port aux Basques? What does he have against the Northwest Peninsula?" It is not whether you are for or against any one place, it is what comes first if there have to be priorities.

So the decision to build at Carbonear is on health grounds but the decision to build now at Bay Roberts is purely on political grounds.

By the way, Mr. Chairman, the relative that the Minister mentioned, Dr. Jim Roberts, is a very sound man, both in the way of medicine and the way of politics, not erratic at all, constant, convinced, dedicated, and the Minister may think his political course is erratic but he will be carrying on.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Will he go Tory?

MR. CROSBIE: He will make up his own mind. He will not be going Joey.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Will he go Tory?

MR. CROSBIE: He will not be going Joey, you can depend on that.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Will he go Tory?

MR. CROSBIE: We are all going Tory if we have to, sure, why not?

MR. HICKMAN: I take it that the Minister's relative comes under "unallocated."

MR. ROBERTS: No, no, under Health Resources.

MR. CROSBIE: Under erratic.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 1062(10) carry?

MR. CROSBIE: 162(10) where is that?

MR. ROBERTS: No, no that is the Deer Lake Clinic.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1062(00) I am sorry.

MR. CROSBIE: The Deer Lake Clinic, is it not? Well, what is (11) then?

MR. ROBERTS: Other Clinics, not yet built, not yet decided.

AN HON. MEMBER: Where are they going?

MR. ROBERTS: We do not know. We have not decided.

MR. CROSBIE: White Bay North is going to be dotted with unallocated clinics.

On motion 1062(10) carried. (11)

MR. CROSBIE: (11) what?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1062(11).

On motion, 1063(01) carried.

MR. ROBERTS: The only vote is (05).

MR. MURPHY: I am just wondering now has that been taken over by -?

MR. CROSBIE: It has, yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I answered a question in the House the other day, it has been. This is a fully. You note there is no net vote here because it is charged back against the hospitals and this provides service to all sorts of hospitals, Carbonear, the General, the Janeway, the will-be St. Clares, as of July or August 1971, Markland, Old Perlican, Placentia, Come by Chance and so forth.

MR. CROSBIE: The Grace?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, this seems to be the place where the Minister takes care of his dirty linens. It looks like now that the whole thing has been put out on a contract and not with a saving but with an added expenditure of \$182,000. a year, is that right?

MR. ROBERTS: No, more hospitals, and costs have gone up. We have put 5.25 million through and we expect 6.75 this year.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We are not washing any more dirty Tory linen and we are not adding any more to it.

MR. CROSBIE: The Tories do not have any linen in this Province, they are scoundrels.

MR. SMALLWOOD: They never had any. They do not even have brains.

MR. CROSBIE: When they get in Government they may have some dirty linens.

MR. NEARY: Do not even have Stanfields?

MR. CROSBIE: The only dirty linen in this Province the Government has, and that is the only Government we have had. But on the Central Laundry -

MR. MURPHY: We will have them drycleaned pretty shortly too.

MR. CROSBIE: They will be all drycleaned, laundred and hung out on the line to dry.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman, could I draw your attention to the noise in the galleries?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will remind people in the galleries that they are not to take part in debate either by motion or sound of any kind.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman your admonition is quite right but I do not see why attention has to be brought to it only on certain occasions. I was two weeks ago, and there were three laughs in the gallery when the Premier was speaking and not a word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! Order!

MR. CROSBIE: No, on a point of order. I am speaking on a point of order. When the Premier causes a laugh, there is no attention drawn to it. The other day we had a petition presented here and people up in the gallery clapped.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was still out of order.

MR. CROSBIE: Yes but did the hon. Premier get up and say they were out of order, Mr. Chairman, tell them they were out of order? We have too much of that.

MR. HICKEY: Tell us the name of the company.

MR. CROSBIE: Now Central Laundry has been -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. CROSBIE: Look, I am on my feet and I would like to speak on Central Laundry.

AN HON. MEMBER: The man only wanted to know the name of the company.

MR. CROSBIE: I am not getting mad at anyone I am just trying to be heard. It has been taken over, the Minister said, was awarded the lowest tender and the company was (something) Cleaners.

MR. ROBERTS: Laundry Services Limited.

MR. CROSBIE: Laundry Services, now are they using the facilities that are down at Pepperrell, owned by the Government, these laundry people?

MR. ROBERTS: That is right, yes.

MR. CROSBIE: The Minister has accepted the lowest tender, I mean, how much of a saving did he figure it was going to be and were all the people, who were employed by the Government when they operated it, are they all being employed now? What is the situation with respect to them?

MR. ROBERTS: I think it was the Department of Supply and Services who are involved in the tender end of it; my people provide the expert end of it. All of the employees were transferred and their pension rights and so forth were all preserved, as we have done with all of our employees. The price, I gather, is the same price per pound or however you measure laundry but there is a provision that any savings below that are split. There is an incentive, in other words, fifty per-cent with us and fifty per-cent with the contractor. I think the feeling of my own officials and the feeling of the officials in Supply and Services is that really a private contractor could operate a much more efficient and effective service than the Government could, with respect to the Central Laundry, so that is why we are trying it. We cannot tell yet, but it seems to be working very well.

MR. HICKMAN: There is not much doubt about that. It has happened with food services.

On motion, 1063(01), (04), (05) - 1064(01), (04): 1065: carried.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, on 1066(01) - Cottage Hospitals, there has been a lot of concern expressed in the area of Botwood, Peterview, Northern

MR. COLLINS:

Arm, Point Leamington, Fortune Harbour, Point au Bay and other areas that are serviced by the Botwood Hospital, in view of the fact that a couple of years ago the Government announced its intention to close the place and then reversed that decision. Certainly there is a great need for the hospital in that area, which services the places I just mentioned and indeed many people from other settlements in Newfoundland, even from the West Coast, come to Botwood sometimes for hospitalization. The doctors there, under Dr. Toomey, are doing a yeoman service in my opinion and I think the Minister will agree.

In view of all of this, I wonder can the Minister indicate to the Committee, give us his assurance that there is no plan to close the Botwood Hospital?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, on a number of occasions I affirmed or reaffirmed the Government's policy and I do so now. We have no plans to close any of the cottage hospitals and that goes for Botwood as well.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, recently representation was made to the hon. Minister, by the Grand Bank-Fortune Town Council and also I think by the senior medical officer in the Grand Bank Cottage Hospital, for an increase in the medical staff in that hospital, from three to four. We have in Grand Bank now a very outstanding young Newfoundlander, as the senior medical officer who has expressed the clear intention to many people that he wishes to remain in the Cottage Hospital service, but he is very, very much overworked. Now I know you can answer that on the Peninsula of Burin, with three cottage hospitals, we have a better doctor-patient ratio than in some other parts of the Province. But at the same time, Mr. Chairman, you cannot escape the fact that if you go near the hospital in Grand Bank you will see a queue of, I was going to say a mile long, but a long queue of people who are there all day long waiting for medical attention. The three doctors are working from dawn

MR. HICEMAN:

until well into the night. They admit themselves that they cannot furnish all the medical services they would like to be able to furnish there or that the plant itself is capable of providing, unless and until they find a fourth doctor for the cottage hospital in Grand Bank.

My concern, apart altogether from the services, is that we have a very good team of doctors in that cottage hospital now and if we do not do something to lessen their work load, they will follow the pattern of practically every other doctor, be he Newfoundland born or from outside this Province. As soon as the two year contractual period expires they take off for St. John's or Grand Falls or Gander or Corner Brook or Labrador City. Now some of this will happen anyway but a few of them want to stay, and I believe that the cottage hospital doctors render yeoman service in dispensing medical health throughout this Province. I am equally convinced that there are no doctors in this Province who work harder and who have a more diversified practice and who have to face more diversified medical problems than do the cottage hospital doctors and the district medical officers throughout this Province.

I believe that the first responsibility of the Minister and Government, when faced with a situation like this, where there is a real threat of losing the entire team just for the sake of one more doctor, and that is to provide that doctor. I know that the delegation were told by the Minister that they were down the list a bit and that whether the fourth doctor is provided will depend on the number of Newfoundland graduates coming out of Dalhousie Medical School this year and the success of the recruitment programme or otherwise. But what I would like to hear from the hon. Minister is whether or not he has been successful in meeting what he admits to be a real need and in finding the fourth doctor for the Grand Bank Cottage Hospital?

MR. HICKMAN:

He is gone to the hospital.

MR. SMALLWOOD: He is listening, do not worry.

MR. HICKMAN: What do we do, adjourn now until he comes back?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Ask something else.

MR. HICKMAN: Here he comes.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, we have added about a dozen doctors to our Cottage Hospital District Medical Practice Complement in the past couple of years and we have added the fourth doctor at Grand Bank, who has only been there for a couple of years.

MR. HICKMAN: The third doctor you mean.

MR. ROBERTS: The third doctor and they are looking for the fourth but we have increased it by one within the past couple of years. The next one in line, I think, will have to be Bonne Bay, particularly because of the Northern Peninsula, the needs there. We have had requests from Botwood, Port aux Basques, Channel and I had a meeting with them before the Committee met today. We have, as far as we know, at least two or three doctors, over and above our present establishment, coming, One is going to go to LaScie, one is going to go to King's Cove, one is probably to go to Trinity, in Trinity Bay, and if we get more, then we will go down the list.

I cannot add very much more to it except that the Treasury Board and the Government have given us unlimited funds in the sense that if we can hire doctors, we have authority to hire doctors and we are providing housing for them. I have no doubt that as many as we get we can use as the demand for medical services, there seems to be no end to it.

MR. HICKMAN: No but the simple answer is that there is no fourth doctor for Grand Bank now.

MR. ROBERTS: I told the delegation that I could not promise them anything at an early stages. I think that Grand Bank was sixth or seventh or

MR. ROBERTS:

eighth on the list and it is strictly a matter of where we need doctors the most that is where they go first.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, were there more graduates from Dalhousie Medical School this year than last?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I think there were. Last year we were short. Fogo was down to one doctor most of this winter and we now have a second one there. Trepassey was without a doctor, we only had one in St. Lawrence and we now have two. It was pretty tight all winter.

MR. HICKMAN: Has the hon. Minister had any difficulty this year with the graduates coming out?

MR. ROBERTS: Not so far and I may say we expect none. I hope we have none.

MR. HICKMAN: As a matter of interest, are there any Newfoundland medical students attending other schools of medicine.

MR. ROBERTS: One, but there maybe a couple at McGill, I do not know, but we did that earlier today.

MR. HICKMAN: That is all right.

MR. ROBERTS: One or two or three that is all, very few.

On motion, 1066(01); 1066(02)(01), (02), (03); 1066(03) carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 1067(01) carry?

MR. HICKMAN: No, wait now you have missed, wait now. Where is the cottage hospital capital grant? (09) is it not? (09)(08).

On motion, 1066(05) carried.

MR. HICKMAN: On (09) generally, Mr. Chairman, would the hon. Minister indicate to the Committee as to what work will be done, other than ordinary repairs and maintenance, on Cottage Hospitals this year? In particular may I direct his attention to a report that was carried in the Press a couple of months ago, following a meeting with representatives from the Town of Burin, where there was an indication that this year, I

MR. HICKMAN:

believe it would be this year, this fiscal year the area between the clinic and the old hospital would be closed in and there would be some landscaping carried out around the new residence.

MR. ROBERTS: We said we would do that and we will, but the main project this year is to carry on with the work at Harbour Breton. There are some other projects we will come to when we touch on the James Paton vote a little further down.

MR. HICKMAN: But Burin will be done this year?

MR. ROBERTS: Well, it is only six or seven or eight thousand dollars, and we said we would do it and we think it is necessary

MR. ROBERTS

I am going on what Public Works tell me, Mr. Chairman. I do not know if Public Works are right. I only know what I am told. Public Works do miracles.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the Paton Memorial Hospital, I am sure that the minister will agree when I say that this hospital is doing tremendous work due to the number of cases which are handled there, both in the Out-Patient Department and in the number of admittances to the hospital. It has always been of some concern to me and a lot of other people in the Town of Gander that the hospital is not getting credit for the work which is being done. We sometimes hear of something which was not done right but very seldom do we hear of the many good things which are done, the many successful things, the many operations which are performed and which are successful. Has the minister ever given any consideration to establishing a public relations officer in the hospital and in other hospitals. I believe the public should hear of the good things as well as the bad things which occur at the hospital.

I would also like him to indicate to me what success he is having in bringing about specialist services in the hospital. This is not a reflection on the medical or paramedical staff. I think they are doing a real good job there but there is a need, as we know, in hospitals today, for more and more specialist services. I wonder would he indicate just what luck he is having?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I quite agree with what the hon. gentleman says about the work of the Paton Hospital. The suggestion about the public relations officer is a good one. If the hon. gentleman could only work on my colleagues of the Treasury Board, who have an affinity for saying no to requests. Actually, we are doing very well with regard to the specialist position at Gander. We have, of course, surgeons on the staff, including particularly Dr. Coxon, the chief of staff, who is a very well-known man. We have a radiologist there, Dr. Wilson. We have an ophthalmologist, Dr. Asgar,

Mr. Roberts.

whom I am delighted to know is working out so very, very well. Gander for all the pressure, The almost incredible pressure on Dr. Asgar - it is one of the best served regions in Newfoundland, ophthalmologically. We are now on the track of a psychiatrist, a doctor who is finishing his training. We expect him to be back within perhaps six to eight months. I am not sure of when he finishes.

MR. COLLINS: Is that Dr. Gough ?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes it is Dr. Gough. Yes, it is.

The hon. member might like to know that we have enough money this year. We are going to increase the staff by twenty. We are going to open eighteen new beds at the hospital. We think that the load is building up. Some of those will be reserved for the psychiatric unit which will be going into service there.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, on 1067-09-8...

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, before we let (07) go, Rentals, Cleaning and Light, this work is being contracted I understand. Does the increase now reflect a new contract which is being signed? What is the reason for the increase here?

MR. ROBERTS: I do not know, Mr. Chairman. I really do not know.

It is a transfer from Public Works. It does not have to be voted so I cannot tell my colleague really. But let me just mention (08), Mr. Chairman. I am particularly interested in that. We have had a lot of requests from Fogo. That amount of capital is destined for Fogo and some of it for Brookfield as well. I do not know if my colleague, the Minister of Finance, who represents Fogo in the House, wants to say anything. I know he has been most anxious to try to get something done there.

MR. JONES: This comes as a very pleasant surprise to me. I do know actually, for a number of years now, the Fogo Island Cottage Hospital has been feeling a pressure, not from the inside but from the outside, in that the administrative offices, the out-patients' clinic, the doctors' examining room and the x-ray facilities have been desperately overcrowded. At one time

Mr. Jones.

it was thought that we should increase the number of beds at the Fogo Hospital but more recently the people of Fogo Island, (when I say the people of Fogo Island I think I can safely say that there was representation from practically every group and organization on the Island)

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. JONES: Not so much because they go more to Twillingate. There is a ferry now to Cobb's Arm. They go into Twillingate. They have reached an agreement for an upgrading of the out-patient facilities and the doctors, laboratory and offices and what have you. I am quite sure, Mr. Chairman, that this will come as very good news to the people on Fogo Island and again I say thank you very much to my colleague, the Minister of Health.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. gentleman and I wonder if he would now like to distribute the press release, which I understand is the surprise which he had prepared.

On motion (08) carried.

On motion total subhead, Department of Health, carried.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the next heading I understand is Head XVIII, Supply and Services. It is relatively a small department. It is on page 75 in the estimates, Sir.

HEADING XVIII - SUPPLY AND SERVICES:

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, 1804-03-01, last year the amount asked for in the estimates for the operation of aircraft was \$1.2 million. The revised estimates show that an additional amount of \$134,000 was spent. Could the minister tell us what the actual amount, spent last year under that heading, was in the operation of aircraft? Would he also just list what is the Government's fleet of aircraft now? How many aircrafts and what kinds?

HON. J. NOLAN (Minister of Supply and Services.): If I may, Mr. Chairman, in response to the hon. member's question; the increase he refers to in one instance is about \$15,000. This \$15,000 approximately is for increased oil and gas charges, I am told. There is also an increased insurance amount somewhere along the line. Perhaps I could give a breakdown, if I may Mr. Chairman? Salaries, \$33,150; Travelling Expenses, \$1,000; Office Expenses, \$1,000;

Mr. Nolan.

Operations to these, February 28, \$844,120; Operations in March \$92,000; Helicopter charters that we have \$398,050; Purchase of aircraft, \$204,000. Hon. members may recall that we made an arrangement, through the kind co-operation of EPA, to purchase an aircraft or two and, through their help and assistance, we do have the aircraft now in our possession. The figures I just quoted, incidentally, for purchased aircraft, \$204,000. They total \$1,573,320. Less rentals, \$152,000 which gives us \$1,421,320. The vote, as per estimates, was \$1,271,500. There was a special warrant of \$150,000 involved. The total then from that basis was \$1,421,500. If I can just mention something about capital, for the information of hon. members, Mr. Chairman; The expenditure capital for 1970-71 was \$204,000. The purchase of aircraft is as follows: A "Canso" water bomber, \$115,000; one turbo beaver, \$130,000; one turbo beaver of \$105,000, totalling \$350,000. Advanced payment by M.N.A.R., that is Mines, Agriculture and Resources, from 1969-1971 that is \$146,000. Capital requirement of Supply and Services for 1970-71, \$204,000. I am wondering if this explains in some detail or completely what the hon. member presented in the form of a question?

MR. CROSBIE: Yes, that is all right. The Government Otter, what does the minister think that costs to operate a year?

MR. NOLAN: I do not have the figure immediately available. I would be quite happy to dig out the information for you as soon as possible Mr. Chairman.

MR. CROSBIE: When the aircraft is used, does the minister usually have to give a reason?

MR. NOLAN: Yes, perhaps I could give you the explanation or the rationale, if you like, Governmentally on this operation of this aircraft and that is that any minister requesting an aircraft or aircrafts is assigned the aircraft, whether it is my colleague, the Minister of Community and Social Development, the hon. the Premier, the Minister of Health and they, themselves, are responsible then for the operation or usage, if you like, of the aircraft concerned. The hon. member for Gander stated in the House last Monday that a helicopter had been

Mr. Crosbie.

used by the hon. the Premier last weekend, to go to Gander and return. The hon. member for Gander alleged that it was for political meetings. The hon. the Premier said that it was for public business. Would the hon. minister be able to tell us whether this was for public business or not and what explanation the Premier gave when he used the helicopter?

MR. NOLAN: The hon. the Premier, to the best of my knowledge, did use the aircraft on public business. He had to see certain people in that area, on Government business. It was for Government business that the aircraft in question was assigned.

MR. CROSBIE: There were three political meetings that he attended, according to the member for Gander.

MR. NOLAN: It is very difficult. It all depends on how you want to interpret it. I could be out in any community tomorrow on public business and, as I have been when I was in Municipal Affairs, I must admit, as minister at that time, I visited a community at one time by plane. While there, a political group asked me to meet with them. As a matter of fact it was not even a Liberal group. I met with them for a few minutes, as I met with other people in the community who asked me. It was not on any matter directly affecting the department with which I was associated. So you can split hairs about it. I mean my purpose for using the aircraft and I am sure as all my colleagues, on public business, if while they are in the area some Liberals should approach them, I do not see why they should ignore them.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, on this, the committee will recall in the House that I brought forward a question to the minister, about three weeks ago, with reference to the hiring of staff for this group operating the aircraft. They all came in from Montreal and the allegation was made by my informant that there were people available here in the Province, mechanics and this type of thing. I think the minister replied at the time.

MR. NOLAN: Yes, I thank the hon. Leader of the Opposition for reminding me. I

Mr. Nolan.

do have a note here on it. The hon. Leader of the Opposition is perfectly right; there were three people who did come in from Montreal. As to the question, why local people were not employed for that particular job, it was not a permanent problem that we have. It was a temporary one. People who were available, As I am sure the hon. Leader of the Opposition will appreciate, you will not find as many people. As is often the case, not only in aircraft but in other business they will not accept a job for a week or two or three, they are more interested in a six-month employment or perhaps hopefully permanent employment. I am attempting to do something on aircraft operation.

I think at the moment, just to bring the hon. Leader of the Opposition and other interested members up-to-date, we may have about thirty-two out of thirty-eight employees in the aircraft operation who are Newfoundlanders. One of the problems that we do have or I should say some people have who are associated with the aircraft operation, is indeed water bombers. We have captains, i.e., for all of the aircrafts. But the co-pilots and I should point out, too, Mr. Chairman, that the captains operate all over the world. They did this when they were operating water bombers, i.e., with EPA. They follow the forest-fire season, if you like. They work here in Newfoundland during the forest-fire season. Once they finish here, they go on to Australia to Chile and other areas. This has been happening for some years. One of the problems that I see, which I would like very much to do something about, is that the co-pilots that they have, who are Newfoundlanders I understand, are finished also. This has always been the case, following the forest-fire season. What is needed, in my opinion, and which I am anxious to do something about, is to find employment for these people who are normally laid-off following the forest-fire season. Upgrade them, I think we should try to keep these men on permanently. I know in one or two instances we have actually made jobs, if you like, to hold on to one or two of them. But that is not enough. I would

Mr. Nolan.

like to hold on to the group, if I can, to upgrade them. Perhaps there might even been some assistance through manpower to help me in that way, through some Federal funds. But one of those days we are going to lose a captain, hopefully, not in the aircraft, but anything could happen. I would like to see the Newfoundland co-pilots, who operate the water bombers and do quite a fantastic job, upgraded so they can step in and take over as captain. That is my ambition and I hope it happens.

MR. MURPHY: How many?

MR. NOLAN: Five co-pilots, all of them Newfoundlanders.

I wonder if I could, Mr. Chairman, give just a little information on the Twin-Otter, utilization of the aircraft, for the benefit of the hon. members who requested. In the past year the utilization of the aircraft would be something like this: The Twin-Otter, known as DMR, 537 hours, 6 minutes; Turbo beaver, 617 hours, 38 minutes; another two turbo beavers, in one case 840 hours, 27 minutes and still another 414 hours, 57 minutes. We had two super-cubs. There were 256 hours on one and 137 hours on the other. Perhaps I could go on to the water bombers, the cansos, of which we have five. There were 106 hours on one, approximately. There were 112 hours on the other. There were 97 hours. There were 92 hours on another and 87 on another. We have four helicopters which we lease or rent or charter on a yearly basis, I would assume. They were used: 617 hours for one, 811 hours for another, 319 hours and 111 hours. On air ambulance flights, i.e., the twin otter, 117 hours, 47 minutes, covering about 17,700 miles on air ambulance flights. The turbo beavers, 811 hours. That is 113,618 miles. The helicopters 146 hours for a total of 14,650 miles. A canso, 3 hours, 350 miles. I assume in this instance we used the canso water bomber for an air ambulance flight. The super cubs, 17 hours, 1,725 miles.

If I may go on, for the information of the House, in the forest-fire fighting, during the 1970 season, Mr. Chairman, our water bombers flew a total of about 227 hours and they dropped 1,249 loads of water (One load weighs 8,000 pounds) on a total of 62 fires. We were most fortunate last year.

Mr. Nolan

We did not have the type of season that we were prepared to handle and we, of course, are not making complaints about that. I do not need to remind the members of the House that this flying of water bombers is a very hazardous occupation. We did have an accident last year but no loss of life involved. I reported it immediately to the press, at least as soon as it happened. I should tell you this, Mr. Chairman, that in the course of operations our two super cub aircraft suffered severe damage in wind storms and each were declared by the underwriters to be a total loss.

Now it so happens that we were planning to get rid of the two super cubs because they were not very flexible. I think they could carry (I know the hon. Leader of the Opposition is interested in this) maybe one person in addition to the pilot. They were not at all - pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. NOLAN: If he were a small person. Often times we need a little more room in an aircraft for say photographic work and so on that we were in need of. They just did not work out. Now the information I have was to get rid of the two super cubs for approximately \$8,000 to \$9,000 each. As I mentioned, we had, as a result of storm damage, the loss of two aircrafts in question. As a result of that, rather than getting \$16,000 for the two aircrafts which we intended to sell, what we did was, through the insurance settlements we realized from the sale of the damaged aircraft an amount totalling over \$25,000, which was deposited to the Exchequer, consequently there was no financial loss involved.

I do not know what else I could give in connection with this loss, but we did very well. We are going to get another plane. This was sort of a fortunate loss. There was no loss of life involved. Financially we profited some, as I tried to indicate. Rather than \$16,000, we have the insurance money of about \$25,000, plus we sold what was left of the damaged aircraft. We realized something from that.

MR. MURPHY: Just a thought, Sir. I know it must be difficult sometimes for the department to write up an account of the charter, whether it be for pleasure

Mr. Murphy.

or Government business or politics. But it strikes me, the Premier's trip to the icefields, was that by our helicopter? What area was that charged? Was it politics, public business or pleasure?

MR. NOLAN: Public business. I am not sure exactly how the Premier - he did not check his route with me. I would think that his pilot checked with the tower. But anyway he went, I believe, to St. Anthony. He may have gone out by an IGA plane or skis or anything. I just do not know.

MR. CROSBIE: Has not made any representation to Ottawa since. That was in the paper the other day.

Mr. Chairman, a question was asked on that public business, in Ottawa yesterday. The answer given was that there has been no representation, from the Premier to Ottawa, about the seal fishery, since he was out on that jaunt. That is how much public business was involved.

The Gander business was political.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, on 1805-01, this is something that arose which I am not familiar with. It is only from what I heard and read in the papers. With reference to a petition which was presented in this House a couple of days ago, I understand that the hon. minister, actually who is the member involved, and the Premier had photographs distributed to a group of - a hand-picked group, I should say. I do not know if they are in this gallery. I did not see them. They were told to sit here because they could see the Premier across the House. This was with reference to the arterial road. I am just wondering if photographs were distributed and if they were done in this department here at Government expense? I just read it. I do not know. That is all I heard. I wonder if that actually happened?

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of implications, if you like, involved in the hon. member's question: (1) Who drew up the - there has been some reference to the fact that I, myself, or someone may have had something to do with the drawing up of the petition. I did not. The first time

Mr. Nolan.

I did see the petition was shortly before coming to the House. I do know that the hon. the Premier had received a copy of the petition and that a number of copies were made. They were not made, I assure you, in this building, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MURPHY: Is there not such a thing as photographs taken by Government employees?

MR. NOLAN: No!

MR. MURPHY: There were not?

MR. NOLAN: No!

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, on Transport Services, I think this is the motor vehicles that are operated by the Government. I have had a question down now for two years, Mr. Chairman, which for some reason has not been answered. I want to draw the minister's attention to it. The question this year asked: "During the period from April 1, 1969 to March 31, 1971, were any motor vehicles owned by the Government, loaned to or used by any Cabinet Minister of the Government? If so, to which Cabinet Ministers and for what periods of time during the said two years?" The next part of the question was: "If such motor vehicles are owned to any members of the Government, do the Government meet the operating expenses during the period when they are on loan?" The last part of the question was: "During the same period from April 1, 1969 to March 31, 1971, were any of these motor vehicles loaned to or used by senior Government officials of the rank of Assistant Deputy Minister and up? If so, to what senior officials and for what period or periods during that time? What was the mileage travelled by each of the officials in such Government motor vehicles during the said period?" Now I asked the question also last year, relating to the previous year. It was not answered last year, for some reason. It was tabled in the House I believe on April 5, this year? It has not been answered to date. Could the minister assure me that he will answer that question before too long?

MR. NOLAN: The hon. member's slightest wish is my command.

During the period from April 1 - I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. On this particular question -

MR. CROSBIE: What about going Liberal? I see there is Dr. Noel Murphy and there is a certain radio performer, Merv Russell, and others.

It is all right to go Liberal, is it not?

MR NOLAN: While the light holds out to burn

MR. NOLAN: I would not like to go through this long detailed question and answer on this. I have a copy of it, which I will be most happy to pass on to the hon. member. There was only one official of Government involved in connection with part one of the question, that was Mr. Stacey, who is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Economic Development. He had the car for some time, a couple of days or so, as it is listed here in detail, as requested by the hon. member, on Government business, and I know the business he was on at the time. If, perhaps, we could have the information passed along.

MR. CROSBIE: Right. The question was on the Order Paper. That is the answer to it, is it?

MR. NOLAN: Correct.

MR. CROSBIE: What about Cabinet Ministers and so on?

MR. NOLAN: Correct. We fail you not.

MR. CROSBIE: It took two years.

On motion: item carried.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, we seem to be making such splendid progress Head IX, page 37, Department of Public Works. I think when we get that done we will knock off for the day, Your Honour, we will take the weekend off.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Heading IX - Public Works, page 37. Shall 901-01 carry?

MR. MARSHALL: Specifically, on the general vote is the first. This relates to the contract, the construction contract at the Science and Engineering Building at Memorial.

The hon. the minister was questioned about this contract that was given, the extension and additions to this building. It was given without the benefit of tender. His reply was to why it was not put out on tender, and his subsequent tabling of a letter by the Vice-President of Memorial

MR. MARSHALL: University is, I feel, really a very flimsy excuse for not having called tenders in the first place. It is true that the Vice-President indicated at the time that there was an urgency to construct this building, to have the building completed and ready so that students could be accommodated within the time limit.

However, the early, first sentence of the letter indicates that the Vice-President had bought this up to the minister or the Government before this time, that this was not the first representation made by Memorial for this building. Now it is either one or two things, either the usual lack of planning that calls in haste, or it was the desire not to call public tenders, because public tenders have not been called many, many times in the past by this Government. As a result of this contract there was a representation by the Construction Association, requesting the minister to have tenders called in future to which the minister acceded. So I think we can take it as given that if the Construction Association took it upon themselves to make this representation that they viewed the giving of this contract, without the calling of public tender, as a matter of some concern and alarm. That is the first thing.

The second thing, in order to look at the matter further, I would like, I do not know whether the minister has, but whether he could furnish us with the actual and exact square footage of construction involved.

HON. J.R. CHALKER: (MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS): Mr. Chairman, several weeks ago, possibly months ago, I thought I gave a very good explanation of why it was satisfactory to me.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And translucent as well.

MR. CHALKER: Translucent, of course. About this Engineering Building, I thought everybody was satisfied. They asked me why I did it, and I told them why I did it. Now I recommended it to the Cabinet to be done. And, under similar circumstances, I would certainly do it again. It is better for me, Mr. Chairman, to have everything on tender. At that time

MR. CHALKER: you did not have to use your brain, you did not have to do anything at all, it was just a matter of passing over the envelope.

MR. MURPHY: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: If the hon. gentleman, Mr. Chairman, will just remember that, as I said just a short while ago, God must have been on our side when I negotiated because, with the strike that held us up for a month, that building would not have been good for use this year. As they made such terrific progress on it, that will be open and ready in September.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: I do not remember windfalls from Ottawa. I remember some other parts of the district. The other question, Mr. Chairman, was?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: Oh, I would not be able to give you that out of my head, Mr. Chairman.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: Most things, but that is quite new and I have not had the chance to study all of the details of it. But, I will get it for the hon. member, Mr. Chairman. No trouble at all, I will make a note of that and have it for you on Tuesday.

MR. FICHTMAN: Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of things that I would like to hear from the minister on this building. It had been public knowledge for many, many months, probably years before that this building was required by the University, this addition to the Science and Engineering Building. But, I have heard from some of the staff at Memorial that there is another problem which relating to that building, which may be a fault of the first designer. The original design, mainly for this building, has strength, and the hon. minister is the expert on this, of fifty pounds per square foot. That is something less than the strength you require, for say an ordinary office building, taking a minimum number of people in

MR. HIGGINS: and out per day. I think libraries require 100 pounds per square foot and it goes all the way up to buildings of this kind, Science and Engineering, which are required - the request for this extension was, to my understanding, to enable the faculty to install and use some pretty heavy equipment in the Science and Engineering Building, and the original design for that building was suppose to call for a strength of 230 pounds per square foot, as opposed to fifty. Now they find that the building has been completed, that the need still exists for space for the equipment that was suppose to go into the Science and Engineering Building to carry the programme they had in mind, because of the design of the building, and that it is primarily office space that they have their now and maybe some classroom space. I would like to hear the hon. minister on that.

Secondly, in last year's estimates the hon. minister, my recollection is, estimated that the cost of this extension would be \$1,400,000 and some odd thousand dollars, \$1,499,000, I think, it was.

But in any event I submit to this committee that was a very realistic estimate because when you are building an extension to a building, you do not have to face the cost of excavation and footings and that sort of thing, which is a very heavy part of the cost. The hon. minister, in his very lucid statement in this House a few weeks ago, said that suddenly this was thrust upon him and he had to work for thirty-six hours continuously, with the contractors.

MR. CALFEY: I do not believe I said that.

MR. HIGGINS: Within thirty-six hours of pretty hard work and tough bargaining with the company that he had chosen to do this work and the company he thought was best equipped to do the work, a very satisfactory price of \$1,999,000 was concluded.

Now I do suggest to the hon. minister that even if for the first time the University said; we must have this started now and the tenders were not realistic. the tender calls were not realistic, that ordinary prudence should have demanded another thirty-six hours in the hope of saving that half million dollars in keeping it within the estimates.

MR. HICFAN: The other thing, Mr. Chairman, I would like to hear from the hon. minister is whether or not when the plans were being prepared for the Science and Engineering Building, which was over a period of time, many months the architects were working on it, were these plans made available to the various large construction companies in the Province capable of doing this work, to enable them to complete a short tender call when once the final plans were approved by the minister? The obvious reason for that was to eliminate any delay so that a tender call could be made without any embarrassment to the University, in the hope of saving the Government some money.

MR. CHALKER: Mr. Chairman, first of all, all those buildings erected by the Department of Public Works or under the supervision of the Department of Public Works, whether it be a hospital or Science and Engineering Building or a magistrate's house, the architects who designed those buildings do so in fullest co-operation with the authorities concerned. For argument sake, with the Engineering Building that was checked thoroughly with the engineers at Memorial University. As regards to the strength of the building, I feel quite sure that the engineers in my department and the architects, as well as the engineers in the Memorial University, must have agreed to it or we would not have built it. The same thing applies to hospitals. There are two new hospitals to be erected, one in Carbonear and the other in Bay Roberts. Before we do anything, after we call for an architect to design it. He works more in conjunction with the officials of the Department of Health, on the layout of the hospital, before the plans are turned over to us, to look after the engineering and construction of the building. So when the plans are finalized by my department, they are first finalized by the department concerned for whom we are building the building.

With regard to saving the \$400,000 on this negotiated contract. I doubt very much we would have saved it. I say that building today would

MR. CHALKER: cost, if we put it out on tenders today, would cost considerably more than \$1,900,000 and odd thousand we are paying for it now.

I was asked, Mr. Chairman, if my department have distributed the plans? I cannot answer that question but I will certainly find out.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: We do in most cases, I can assure you of this.

Also, Mr. Chairman, the University, if we accede to all their requests there would be no other building going on in Newfoundland. Nothing at all. As a matter of fact, some hon. gentleman is going to move an additional \$1 million for the quadrangle at the University, for the extension of other buildings to be started this year, which are not in my estimates. All those things, particularly the University, they are growing so rapidly, Mr. Chairman, that we just cannot keep ahead of them. I have been against the prefab buildings, but they come down here crying and begging for them. I think personally that it would be better we waited, but then, if you get the people from all over the Island; "why cannot our kids go to school?" They have got them up there now, they will last about ten years, possibly if we have sufficient money in two or three years, we will tear them down and put up proper buildings. But that is a necessity which I, myself cannot overcome.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. minister could give us a progress report on the new Faculty of Engineering Buildings?

MR. CHALKER: Can I give you a report on it?

MR. HICKMAN: A progress report.

MR. CHALKER: It is one month behind, as of last week, due to the strike, but my Deputy Minister -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: Which ever one is on a month ago, I do not know. There are so many now I could not even tell. Which new building?

MR. HICKMAN: I am not talking about the Engineering Building, but the buildings that are required for the new Faculty of Engineering, you know,

MR. HICKMAN: to make it a graduate course.

MR. CHALFEF: What have we done with that?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, how far have you progressed on that, because there is a time limit on that too.

MR. CHALFEF: I cannot say offhand. I could not say it personally. I can get the information for you.

MR. HICKMAN: Tenders will be called on that.

MR. CHALKER: Tenders will be called on everything that it is possible to call tenders on, I can assure the hon. gentleman, Mr. Chairman, because it is easy for me to do it.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, just a question on buildings generally, which are built by his department. I wonder if he could inform the House what the procedure is, first of all in the selecting of architects. Who selected the architects? Has there ever been any competition called among architects on various jobs, or is it just given to some particular architect and he is asked to go ahead and produce a set of plans, on any of the buildings which we had built or contemplate buildings? Is the competition of architects called for? Similarly, when the plans have been prepared and specifications drawn, I presume they are approved by his department. Does he then submit the plans and drawings in detail, together with the estimate of cost, to the full Cabinet? And does the Cabinet know exactly what is going into these buildings and all the necessary details? And is every minister given an opportunity to ask a question about the buildings, as to why they are being built in such and such a way, why are they costing us so much and all of this sort of thing? Or where are the decisions made?

MR. CHALFEF: It is surprising the hon. member asked that question, because he must be familiar with the way the Department of Public Works operates. If it is anything for the University it is steered to us through the Department of Education. We go ahead with our plans, at their request, and they are approved by the Department of Education and by Memorial University. It is then brought to Treasury Board for approval of the cost. Then it

MR. CHALKER: goes to Cabinet for final approval. If the Cabinet wishes at anytime to see the plans and specifications they are there readily available for them. But I do not know if anybody have asked to see them yet, in my thirteen years in Public Works. But they are readily available, there are many copies of them down there.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, and this has been brought to my attention, it is suggested that I raise it in committee, that in drafting specifications and this is not peculiar to Government, architects seem to have a habit quite often of writing into the specs. certain equipment and thereby tying the bidder down to buying particular type of equipment.

AN HON. MEMBER: Vocational schools.

MR. HICKMAN: I do not know about the Vocational schools, but the suggestion has been that the specifications that are being used in public buildings, (I use the word "public" in a broad sense) during the past two or three years or more had the effect of excluding the brick that used to be manufactured out there the other side of Clarendville. When Shaw took it over, and I am told by engineers that true there was some discoloration of brick at times but the brick was of very fine standard. But eventually, as more and more specs. were being written, whether those who were paying for it realized it or not, the Newfoundland product was being excluded. Not excluded per se, there was nothing in there saying you shall not buy Newfoundland brick nor anything in the specification saying, you shall buy Shaw brick from Halifax or brick from Montreal but, when you read the specification, the only way you can comply with it will be by buying a particular type of material.

The same thing applies, I am told, with respect to windows or window frames or boxes or something that are manufactured by a company in Montreal. The specifications again have had the results of depriving the one or two, I do not know how many - I know Mark Gosse and Saunders Howell can do some of the work.

MR. CHALKER: Steel window work?

MR. HICKMAN: Maybe steel windows. But whatever it is, there is only one company that can comply with the specification with respect to windows. Now I am not blaming the minister for that, do not get me wrong, but I am told and the only experience I ever had was a few schools that they built when I was Chairman of the School Board, if you do not sit on the architects, the next thing you get a standard form of specification that has the unfair result of excluding certain other materials and regrettably it seems to be the Newfoundland-made materials that get the axe every time, as a result of these specifications. I would like to hear the hon. minister's comments.

MR. CHALKER: Mr. Chairman, I will not answer about architects by the hon. member for Fortune. Presently, I think just about every architect I know, working in St. John's and throughout Newfoundland today, basically what we do: the Deputy Minister, in co-operation with the department concerned, which, take the biggest building department, would be Health, agree on an architect or a series of three architects, three firms. It is my choice then, in conjunction with the Minister of Health, to pick out the one which we think is the right. This is not done on a personal bases; it is done on a bases, what we know about the firms, and we make a terrific investigation into them, and it is in that way alone the architects are hired. Sometimes I may, in a small job, pick the small architect or an architect who is capable of doing it. There are some even here in Newfoundland and, unfortunately, I say there are certain big jobs that I do not think and I do not want to think it, but I am led to believe that they are too big and too great for our local contractors, our local architects.

MR. EARLE: Inaudible.

MR. CHALKER: No, I would not say. No! No! I do not think so, no, not since I have been there, and I do not think before I was there either.

Now, I think, the other question is about local products. If we hire an architect to set up plans and draw up the specs, and if we do not follow these specs, it is just as well for us not to hire them, basically.

MR. CHALKER: But I always insist and insist, I suppose more than anything else, that local products be used at all times— although there are some local products here that are not up to standard. We tried it in every way possible, and every person that has a contract I call them personally and asked them to be sure that they employ as many local people as possible and use as much local material as possible. That is all I can do. I cannot go and destroy the specs.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I am told that Shaw Pelly brick disappeared from the market because of the public inspections.

MR. CHALKER: No, no, I think we had trouble with, I do not know if it was Shaw Pelly brick, one brick we had, we could not get the right colour to suit.

MR. HICKMAN: It used to turn white.

MR. CHALKER: That is right. You see it down here on the Trade School. It is quite noticeable there, especially in the spring of the year.

MR. CROSBIE: It is true here that this building is not Shaw Pelly brick.

MR. CHALKER: No this is all imported.

MR. CROSBIE: But the white is coming out here.

MR. HICKMAN: This has something to do with the climatic conditions.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Chairman, I will not comment very lengthily on the answers given by the hon. minister, but I do disagree and I could pick them to pieces, but I will not do so, I will not try to embarrass him. Only one illustration will suffice. I think that when buildings are supposed to be passed by Treasury Board, I know from personal experience that in at least one instance a building was already under construction and the first the Treasury Board knew of it was when a special Governor's warrant was requested for a payment of a bill.

MR. CHALKER: I assure the hon. member that does not happen now.

MR. HICMAN: Anyway, on the new Engineering Building, before the hon. member of the Opposition starts, there will be public tenders called, because there have been lots of notice. There is Federal money involved. I would like to hear the hon. minister state publicly now, public tenders will be called, because there has been no lack of notice and the plans I know are ongoing.

MR. CHALKER: Mr. Chairman, I said that a dozen times.

MR. HICMAN: No, but you said, if possible.

MR. CHALKER: Yes, but I still reserve the right in the case of an emergency.

MR. HICMAN: There cannot be an emergency there.

MR. CHALKER: There can be an emergency.

MR. HICMAN: You got too much notice.

MR. CHALKER: That does not make any difference, there can still be an emergency, and I still reserve the right, as Minister of Public Works, to advise the Cabinet that I think this contract should be negotiated. But I will say that there will be very, very few in that, it would be only definitely in case of an emergency. Because it is so easy, as I say, Mr. Chairman, the greatest thing I could say to my Deputy Minister; everything goes out on public tender. Then two weeks later he comes in; "look, we cannot get this ready in time, because we got to start here. we got to do this, the hospital wants it." So, what do you do? Sit down and say, "let them wait?" No, of course, that is what I am there for. That is the reason I am a good minister, I am intelligent and I get things done.

MR. HICMAN: Mr. Chairman, I still think you should have been a Sunday school teacher.

MR. MORPHY: Mr. Chairman, I was rather amazed at the minister's statement with regards to tenders, He is about the only one, I think, in all of Canada and all the Governments that feels that he can get a better deal

MR. MURPHY: by not calling tenders. But there is one question that I would like to direct to the hon. minister and I do not know if the actual buildings are in this vote or not, but these are these vocational schools, these five vocational schools that are being built. We were told that tenders were being called, but we discovered that the tenders were called for the basements, the concrete work, which is only a minimal part of the cost of these buildings. I have been informed, true or false, perhaps the minister might correct me on this,

that his deputy-minister went to England with Mr. Lundrigan and selected the type of building that would suit the Public Works. Apparently, Mr. Lundrigan just went ahead, bought the type of building, a kind of pre-fab building. As I understand the deal was completed in England for these buildings. Mr. Lundrigan is just coming back now, with all these buildings complete, going to put them on these concrete slabs, whatever it is. As a consequence, when tenders are called it is just a joke because the only tender called, as I say, was for the concrete slabs.

Apparently this deal was completed, This is the story I have heard from several sources; that the deputy minister of Public Works accompanied Mr. Art. Lundrigan to England, they picked out the type of building, there was no price or anything else. He just said, "here it is boy, you buy these now, you go back and erect these on the five slabs that tenders are being called for." It is like, buying a train, if you like, at a price, without tenders being called. Then perhaps you might, you know, call tenders for two ton of coal to drive the train. It seems to be so stupid, in my opinion, when this Government is talking about calling tenders

Here is something that is going to cost in the area, I think, eight to ten million dollars. They call tenders, I think the whole tender is about one million and a-half dollars, to put down the substructure. The rest was going out. just whoever comes in, Here we have an outside contractor working with the deputy-minister, who is responsible for all this. They go over to England, I do not know who paid the deputy-minister's way whether the Government did, I do not know whether Mr. Lundrigan did or perhaps the Government paid Mr. Lundrigan's way.

MR. CHALKER: I do not think they did.

MR. MURPHY: There is a very close heart to heart feeling towards each other, with the Government and Mr. Lundrigan. Possibly, when we talk of monies for various things, and the Government has not got it, you know, I think it is apparent to a great many people that our monies,

MR. CHALKER: I can answer it when -

MR. MURPHY: I know the Premier will give it a very lucid explanation, like he did with the half million that went, between June and October last year, on this building at the University. Everything was grand, a million and a half dollars. Next thing we see in the paper, in October, \$1,996,000. The hon. minister, while he was talking, was jingling his bit of cash, perhaps he is very wealthy. He has a few shekels there to shake. But I do not think the people of Newfoundland can afford this type of thing, just to pass it out to friends of the Government.

The hon. member for Burin was speaking of certain type of windows, I know. I do not know if it is happening now. There is a company here in St. John's, manufacturing aluminium windows, they told me over the years they could never get a contract, it had to be a certain window from Montreal. It was rather a coincidence to me that the agent for that was somewhat less than an enemy of the Liberal Party

MR. CHALKER: That is not so.

MR. MURPHY: That is not so? All right! I will give you his name if you want it. Now, I understand he is working with a Crown Corporation that this Government is putting up - it is people in the Province not the Government - putting up millions of dollars. Quite frankly, I fail to understand, just fail to understand why the Minister can say that he did not have time to call tenders. There are ten or fifteen companies - whoever they are, I do not care who they are - if one can look at these specs, or whatever you want to call it, give a price in a week, I am sure that the other four or five could be given a copy. It is only a matter of taking them off on a machine. To say now - the Minister is so proud of himself - he did this. If he had to wait it would have cost more money because there was a strike in the interim -

MR. CHALKER: Would not have the building -

MR. MURPHY: That is a darn poor excuse, for wasting a half million dollars of the people's money.

MR. CHALKER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to put the hon. Leader of the Opposition right on these Vocational Schools. Mr. Chairman, I did come in

here, asked for I think \$800,000, for an outside shell for those five Vocational Schools. We have started in this particular process. We have what they call a project management team, the first time we have ever had it in Newfoundland, it is working out exceptionally well. Private companies, I forget their names now, but I am trying, I do not know what the name of the company is. With regards to the Vocational Schools - the project management, what happens, they take over the entire project. They take the entire project from the architects. They appoint the architects actually. They engineer the whole building, give me, as Minister of Public Works, every two weeks a progress report on the entire operation. If we did not do that we would have to employ ten to twelve ^{additional} engineers with all the work we have on this year. When the job is over we would be left with them.

AN HON. MEMBER: How many engineers?

MR. CHALKER: I could not say, probably three or four. I said one job. We have about ten jobs to do this year. We hope to get a project management team for the Memorial University hospital. It will save us a lot of money and will bring out cost - this I will explain in a minute - this cost on the Vocational School they have kept right within the target of the money to be spent on them. But answering your first question, \$800,000, I think was the amount allocated for the outside shell of those five buildings. We set this up in our project management deals. Then we were informed by Atlantic Design Homes that they wanted additional money. I think \$300,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: (inaudible)

MR. CHALKER: Well, they were the ones making the shells. That is the ones we sent to England for, you see. I reported back, through Cabinet, the project management said then he thought he would get the conventional building built just as cheap. I asked him to make the necessary investigation, which he did.

Now, we put the first part of the building out, that is the slab, on tenders. I do not know who got them, personally. One person, I think it was Parsons, I forget the name of the rest. Everything in this is going to be called by tenders. The next is steel. I think the steel tender was called

from the two local people here in this Province, one I think J.C.Pratt the other was McNamara Construction. I think that tender was in the vicinity of \$400,000. I believe it went to J.C.Pratt & Co. Tenders will be called for all the mechanical trades as they come up. I have the project management report in my office at the present time. Exact dates are called in each tender. I think one is probably today, another probably two weeks hence. This I might say, is like, with every good report from the construction company, this -

So, everything in the Vocational Schools will be under one hundred per cent tender.

MR.HICKMAN: - (inaudible) .

MR.CHALKER: No prime contractor. Well, it could be a prime contractor if his bids were the lowest on all the five schools, but not let out to one prime contractor.

MR.HICKMAN: It really works you know, exceptionally well. It saves a lot of money. But say, project manager will call, say, bids for the school in Springdale, for mechanical. Then, plumbing, (mechanical is plumbing) another for steel, another for the brick work, another for site clearing. So you could have five different companies. So there could not be a prime contractor anyway, could there?

MR.CHALKER: No, there could not be a prime contractor unless the one contractor got them all.

MR.CROSBIE: They supervise them all, all the -

MR.CHALKER: They supervise the whole lot - we do not have any men in the field at all, actually.

MR.CROSBIE: What happened to the \$300,000 the Minister was telling us about? It was \$800,000, they wanted \$300,000 more.

MR.CHALKER: Well, they just did not get it. I suggested to Cabinet, I recommended to Cabinet that - I brought up the details to Cabinet, of the project management, where they thought they could do it just as cheap. They said, "well, go ahead."

MR.HICKMAN: On this project management theory which has been used in other provinces, I think for a long, long time, with a great deal of success. Now the hon. minister indicates when the Medical School gets under way he is thinking of doing the same thing, having a project manager. May I remind the hon. minister the policy that is followed in the other provinces, not quite the question of this fixed fee, the fee is fixed but there is a contract and the Ministers' of Public Works in the other provinces will call for bids from project managers,

MR.CHALKER: Not in all cases -

MR.HICKMAN: For instance in this province, right now, fortunately we have two or three resident companies, with -

MR.CHALKER: One I know of actually -

MR.HICKMAN: Well, I can give you two others, one is Fenco -

MR.CHALKER: That is not this -

MR.HICKMAN: Oh yes, the other one which was on the job at Churchill Falls, resident in this Province is Shawmont, with a battery of engineers that would fill half of this building. I would hope that when the hon. minister reaches the stage where plans have been finalized for Memorial that there will be public tenders for the management of the project. I will bet that he will save a half percentage point on the fee - half percentage point on Memorial University will be several millions of dollars, by simply calling tenders from - it is not a big industry but it is one that -

MR.CROSBIE: The Minister will not be there then, you know, you will be able to look after that.

MR.CHALKER: I may not be there but I will certainly be in this building - Mr. Chairman, I think my hon. friend from Burin has not got this straight yet. Project Management Team to operate properly should be called in as soon as the idea of a building is going ahead. They then advise us the type of architect to get for that building. They work then in conjunction with the architect to get all the specs necessary, according to what we require. They do all the work with the architect. This is new to me but -

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, the architects, the faculty of medicine, the appropriate officials at Memorial University have been working on the plans to come up with a Medical School that will meet the requirements of the medical faculty. When that is completed, then you go to the project manager. Why would you have a project manager on the design?

MR. CHALKER: I do not know if I have the report of it here, I had it here somewhere. I think, in conjunction with other officials of my department, the one firm working presently or did work on the extension of the Toronto University, specialist in University Buildings. You will get other people who are specialists like architects or specialists in hospitals. Now, this gentleman, we had a meeting the other day about several hours, he was not interested at all. This is the chap from Toronto, unless he was employed before the architects. I may be smart but I can understand his point of view, he is in it right from the very start of the scheme. We have control over it. It is a thing that can save us millions and millions. I wish I had known more about it ten years ago, but I did not. You cannot let everything out, Mr. Chairman, it is absolutely impossible, absolutely impossible to put things out, everything. Yes, this Vocational School, sure. But when you are dealing with bodies, human beings, you are not, because a firm like Shawmont got the best, they may be a terrific firm but they may not be the one that is required for this type of building, may be too small, they would not be interested.

AN. HON. MEMBER: (inaudible)

MR. CHALKER: Oh yes, we are just finding out now, I bet you I have had visits from about twenty people the last two months.

Items 902, 01-02 carried.

Items 902 -09, -01 to -05 carried.

MR. CROSBIE: Item 911-01. I presume, Mr. Chairman, this is a vote that the Security Staff comes under in the minister's department. Do you want to discuss them now or is there some vote later on? The long hours and relatively low pay the minister is paying them, will I discuss it now or do you want me to wait for another item? the hon. minister's department I believe is

in charge of the security personnel or the watchmen or I am not sure what they are called technically. But the minister needs to check into improving working conditions there, I think, because the security personnel, that function when the House of Assembly is meeting, had to put in a tremendous amount of overtime and apparently do not receive any extra remuneration for it. It seems to me that if the minister's personnel are required to spend, you know, rather than an ordinary working day perhaps twelve or fourteen hours, when the House is meeting, then they should get something extra for it. Does the minister's department pay overtime at all in situations like this? Can the minister assure the House that he will look into this problem and see if some overtime should be paid?

MR. CHALKER: Mr. Chairman, as far as I know there is nobody that works with the Department of Public Works overtime does not get paid. If it is, this is the first I have heard of it. I think ours run a forty hour week. I think it is standard. You take the carpenters here, under a union, which we have nothing whatever to do with, I mean as regards the union, we pay the union rates of pay. Our own personnel here, there is the Minister of Finance, in conjunction with myself, set up the wages appropriate for the various people. If there is any person that has not received overtime and has worked overtime, as far as I am concerned he will get it.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Chairman, what I am referring to is the guards that you have upstairs and the guard on this floor right here. When the House is meeting from eleven to one in the morning, three to six in the afternoon, eight to eleven in the night, they are here all during those hours plus whatever other hours they are supposed to be here. As I understand it, they do not get any extra compensation at all for it. According to the minister's statement -

MR. CHALKER: Probably they get time off, I do not know.

MR. CROSBIE: No, I do not think they do. I am asking the minister now if he will check this out because, if his policy is that the employee of his department do get overtime if they work over forty hours, then these gentlemen should too. After all it is a long day for anyone. It is more

interesting for members if they are allowed to talk. This side we are allowed to talk, members opposite a lot of them are bored, or not allowed to speak. The guards of course are in the same category, they cannot speak. So, you know, the member for Trinity South has nothing to say, he is not allowed to.

MR. STRICKLAND: We are allowed to, You are wrong, absolutely wrong.

MR. CROSBIE: Very much discouraged.

MR. STRICKLAND: No, we are not, never was in my life.

MR. CROSBIE: If the minister says a word he will be accused of obstruction. But anyway, the guards outside, Mr. Chairman are -

MR. STRICKLAND: (inaudible)

MR. CROSBIE: The hon. gentleman should get up and speak if he has something to say not be mumbling in his beard, The minister, he is not allowed to say a word.

MR. NEARY: There is enough hot air here now -

MR. CROSBIE: The minister for non-persons just spoke. So would the minister agree that this will be rectified?

MR. CHALKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will see, I do not believe it has happened. If it has happened, it will be rectified.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, I am glad the hon. member broached it. I understand that some of these are working as long as seventy-two hours a week. I would like the Minister of Labour, if there is such a gentleman, to investigate it.

MR. NEARY: Investigate what? Would the hon. member mind repeating -

MR. MURPHY: Seventy-two hours a week, without overtime. The security guards in this building.

MR. CHALKER: I do not think it is so. I am not quite sure, I will certainly check on it.

Items 01 - 06 carried.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, 911-03, Maintenance of Public Buildings and Grounds, shown in Appendix 11, page 82-83. There are many questions arising out of - this is a substantial vote of \$2,149,000, which incidentally is down

by about \$500,000 from last year, which calls for some explanation anyway. There are certain areas here that I would like to question. The first thing is we see here repairs and maintenance to the Newfoundland Liquor Commission is \$24,000. Rentals, cleaning and light etc. for the Newfoundland Liquor Commission \$315,600. I would like the minister to give specific details of these amounts, breaking down as to which buildings they apply to. Then again we have, down at the very bottom- we have Public Works, in public buildings and PBX Rentals we have the matter of rentals, cleaning and light etc, indeed throughout all of this item of rentals cleaning and light etc. Indeed throughout all of this item of rentals, cleaning, particularly the cleaning, is this done on contract and, if it is done on contract, are tenders called? Are they renewed each year? Every year they are renewed!

MR. CHALKER: I cannot say what buildings that we clean, because those are votes from other departments, Mr. Chairman, that is left to us, to look after the various buildings. There is a special vote for this building. A special vote for places in Pleasantville and all over Newfoundland. Special votes for the Government Building in Flowers Cove. Special vote for one in Clarendville and all over the place. I could not say, I do not know if each one would be designated as a particular heading, I do not know but I will certainly find out. I do not think they are. With regard to tenders for cleaning, there is a public tender. We call them once a year. I think one year we let it go two years; usually it is once a year. It is let to the lowest bidder in all cases except where the opinion of my staff the people cannot do it for that amount of money. Then we call them in and ask them to withdraw the contract. Now we have had that. the building close by here where first put in a ridiculous bid, we just could not do it. I am advised by the personnel of my department what exactly it would cost to clean a building. My hon. colleague here tells me that the guards and security get paid overtime.

MR. CROSBIE: He promised us he would investigate it. The cursory investigation

that has just been made is not satisfactory. You have to go to the horse's mouth.

Shall the Item carry?

MR.CROSBIE: -03 there? I was going to ask the minister why is it a half million less this year? Why are maintenance of public buildings, you know, going to cost a half million less this year than last year?

MR.CHALKER: Actually Mr. Chairman, we started last year having our buildings (I do not know if it is a good idea or not, but still it saves a lot of money) cleaned twice weekly or every second day, instead of every day. We cut that thing about in half, not exactly in half.

Shall -04 carry?

Shall 911-05 carry?

MR.CHALKER: Harmon Corporation, That is rapidly becoming a - this is really starting, another few years, to pay for itself actually, through rentals and maintenance which they carry out for various other firms out there and sales of buildings. They are really doing - Mr. Alexander I believe is the manager of it out there, in conjunction with my deputy-minister. He is bringing it down rapidly every year.

Shall -06 carry?

MR.CROSBIE: That \$93,000 for C.A.Pippy Park Commission. How could that be it is only \$7,200 now?

MR.CHALKER: There is another vote for that, Mr. Chairman, further down in the - Yes, we have it last year, then it was under a Board and the Treasury Board recommended that the Park continue under Public Works. We had it, I think Mr. C.R.Bell was the Chairman of it. Personally, I would like to see an organization like that has been appointed; should take over the spending of the money.

MR.CROSBIE: I do not understand the explanation. Last year, with the C.A.Pippy Park Commission or, I see, the Minister is spending the money directly so the \$7200 is just say for office expenses of theirs or something like that.

MR. CROSBIE: instead of last year. They used to get a grant.

MR. CHALKER: That is right.

MR. CROSBIE: Well the Power Commission, does it have any personnel of its own? It does not have its own employees does it?

MR. CHALKER: They have an office staff, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Peckham is the head man there. I think he has an office staff of two, or possibly one, I am not sure. We pay the wages but it comes under the control of Mr. Bell and his Committee.

MR. CROSBIE: The amount spent in Pippy Park this year, I think the figure was in another vote. When we asked a question under Education, the Minister said there was two million odd dollars to be spent on Memorial University, under Capitol Expenditure. The Minister said a million and a-half of that I think was on site services in the Pippy Park.

MR. CHALKER: I did not say Pippy Park, I do not believe. I said site services in Memorial University's North Campus, Mr. Chairman, and we have a vote here somewhere for around \$300,000 for the acquisition of land.

MR. MARSHALL: With regard to 912-01 (01), there is half a million dollars here that is not transferred to the other Departments. Could the Minister tell us what that is made up of in bulk?

MR. CHALKER: I do not know, Mr. Chairman, as a matter of fact. I can get that answer though.

MR. HICKMAN: With regard to (04) on this report on the Expo buildings.

MR. CHALKER: Again.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes. Steel is very slow and rotten.

MR. CHALKER: It must be getting old, like some other people.

Yes Mr. Chairman, as far as the construction will go. We hope to have the one at Corner Brook, not at Corner Brook at Grand Falls, I think about July 15th.

On motion total Department of Public Works carried.

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

MR. BARBOUR: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and have passed estimates of expenditure under the

MR. BARBOUR: following headings : heading X, XVIII and IX. Amendments to item 1062 and total Supply and Services all items, Public Works.

On motion report received and adopted.

MR. CURTIS: Your Honour I understand that our hon. friends would rather not meet on Tuesday morning, therefore I propose to move that the House adjourn until 3:00 Tuesday afternoon. I do that because I understand from my hon. friends that probably Wednesday, which is ordinarily Private Member's Day, may be available so that we can do some Government business, probably Legislation, so on that understanding, Mr. Speaker, I move that the remaining Orders of the Day stand deferred and the House at its rising do adjourn until Tomorrow Tuesday at 3:00 P.M. and the House do now adjourn.

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

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