



PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

**THIRTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF
NEWFOUNDLAND**

Volume 2

2nd Session

Number 24

VERBATIM REPORT

Monday, March 12, 1973

SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

HON. J. C. CROSBIE (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of personal privilege, which I want to raise at this time because it is the first opportunity I have had since I saw this article. This is the "Newfoundland Herald" of March 14, 1973. In the headline, Mr. Speaker, is: "Moores - Crosbie Blowup In Cabinet Over Shaheen Deal." That is another piece of Shaheenery. Mr. Speaker, ordinarily I would not - I will try to ignore whatever is in the press. This is so scurrilous, so scurvy, so lacking in even an iota of journalistic ethics, competence or standards, that I cannot let it pass because unfortunately this weekly has considerable circulation because it has a television guide in it. People buy it for the television guide. While looking at the television guide, they might just glance at the first page and see this blowup. There was a movie called blowup that I once saw and that was a real interesting blowup.

Now the story says: "Informed Herald sources indicate that Premier Frank Moores and Finance Minister John Crosbie engaged in heated argument during two cabinet meetings last week." Now, Mr. Speaker, this was published last week. The week before last, I did not attend any cabinet meetings. I was out of the province. It was not with Greg Power. I was out of the province and I missed the cabinet meetings.

MR. NEARY: Was the minister in Liechtenstein?

MR. CROSBIE: No, but he will be. He is going to check on somebody's bank account there. So, Mr. Speaker, that is incorrect. I was not at any cabinet meetings, one or two or any number that last week.

"The disagreement reportedly arose over the deal respecting a second oil refinery,..." Now, of course, we do not know who the

informed Herald sources are because the Herald made it up in the first place. Then I have apparently - we do not know what that means but it is very carefully worded, "been highly critical of this, which sources say"(we do not know if these are Herald sources or some other sources)"was primarily engineered by the Premier." Then it goes on: " When the Finance Minister voiced his disagreement with the Premier's policy in cabinet, flareups ensued." Well you might know this is oil and gas because there are a lot of flareups in it. There is not a word of truth in it, Mr. Speaker. It is a piece of fiction.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. CROSBIE: This is a very serious matter, please, Mr. Speaker. It goes on, Mr. Speaker: "In essence Mr. Crosbie was reportedly told that" (it is all worded in the usual Herald fashion)"if he did not like the deal, he could leave the cabinet." I mean Mr. Crosbie did not need to be told that. I mean he knew that if he did not go along with the deal or any deal, he would have to leave the cabinet. He has been through all that before. The Premier did not need to flare up like that. I mean he knew that I had ample precedent to go by. Then the story ends up: "Earlier speculation had it"(now this is a wind-up. I mean it is just incredible. I do not know any other jurisdiction where they have something like this. This is unique.)"that the Finance Minister was the main threat to Premier Moores' leadership." Now how can Premier Moores' leadership be threatened when he is already the leader and Premier? This is how it ended up. Now it has no connection with the earlier part of the story but to make the story look better and to have more to it, to have more substance and to be more credible it ends up: Earlier speculation had it that I was the main threat to Premier Moores' leadership.

Now I know it is useless to protest. I do call upon the "Newfoundland Herald" to retract the story and to publish next week a

headline: "Newfoundland Herald Admits Story False In Last Week's Edition - Apologizes Humbly." If they do that, I will forgive them. If they do it, I will also be quite surprised.

Now to sum it up. I looked up in the dictionary this morning, Mr. Speaker, the news is defined as: "information of a recent event or development, especially as reported in a newspaper." Well this was not a recent event or development because it did not happen. Fiction is defined as: "prose work and narrative a form, characters and incidents of which are wholly or partly imaginary." That is true. This is fiction, Mr. Speaker. The characters are true, the Premier and myself but the incidents are wholly imaginary. It goes on to make fiction also defined as, "a deliberate falsehood." This is fiction. It is a deliberate falsehood. It is vicious, which means it is characterized by malice and spite. It is scurvy, which means it is meaningly low and contemptible and there are a lot of other things I could say but I will not. I, therefore, would appreciate the "Newfoundland Herald" publishing a retraction or giving us more details because both the Premier and I would like to know when this happened and how bad the flareup was and what he said to me and I said to him, all of that kind of thing. We would either like an elaboration of the story or a retraction.

HON. C. W. DOODY (Minister of Industrial Development): Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the House's attention to the passing of another prominent Newfoundlander. It appears that at least once a week we have this duty to perform. The gentleman to whom I refer is Mr. Charles Furey who died a few days ago in Harbour Main, a man who was ninety-nine years of age and who had served the District of Harbour Main and Bell Island in the House of Assembly, under Responsible Government, for some time.

Mr. Furey with W. J. Browne, another very prominent Progressive Conservative, worked together for Harbour Main District, under the Responsible

Government days. I would move that this House express its sympathy to the family on the passing of this very great Newfoundlander.

HON. E. M. ROBERTS (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I, of course, wish to be associated with the motion moved by the junior member for Harbour Main.

With Mr. Furey's passing the ranks are getting very slight indeed. Indeed, from memory, the only two members of the pre-commission House of Assembly left alive that I can recall (there may be others) are: the honourable Mr. Browne and of course the honourable Mr. P.J. Lewis. Of course, how could I forget Major P. J. Cashin who is up in his eighties now but is in remarkably good health. He had a birthday last week. He was eighty-three. The gentleman from Ferryland, Major Cashin, is a very long-lived gentleman, politically he had his up's and down's but we wish him many years yet.

Mr. Charles Furey, Mr. Speaker, was elected once in Harbour Main, in 1932, together with the honourable Mr. Browne. They served for two years until the House of Assembly voted itself out of existence in February, 1934. My information is that it was his second try at being elected. He ran in 1928. He stood as the Progressive Conservative candidate in that district and lost the seat. Mr. P. J. Lewis was elected and A. J. Walsh, that is the late Sir Albert Walsh. Mr. Furey was defeated by twelve votes, a very close count. I am surprised that there were not a number of re-counts or judicial petitions.

In any event, with his passing, the ranks again are being thinned. It is a sad duty. When one gets to be ninety-nine, I guess the end is near. With his passing we should recall the contribution these men made. They were a different sort of a politician than we are today, a different breed of politicians. They had different problems but they had the same interests of Newfoundland at heart and they served as they knew best and they did the best they could. So we should remember

them and honour them. We do second the motion. Sir.

HON. H. A. COLLINS (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing): Mr. Speaker, as a result of the very excellent agreement which was negotiated by the hon. Premier with Shaheen Natural Resources Incorporated for the construction of the second oil refinery at Come by Chance, which will be the largest refinery in Canada, this government are very cognizant of the demands that this will make-up on all departments, especially the Department of Municipal Affairs. To assure that the development is to the maximum benefit of the province and to the people who live in that immediate area, I have today appointed Mr. John Alston, Director of Urban and Rural Planning within my department, to study the existing communities in the area, including Clarenville, Sunnyside, Come by Chance

Arnold's Cove and Southern Harbour. The committee will immediately consult with the residents of the region and various government departments involved.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Transportation and Communications.

HON. T. FARRELL (Min. Transportation & Communications): I rise to ask permission of the House to table the following regulations which have been gazetted by my department during 1972-1973.

The Highway Traffic Fees Regulations 1972, February 28, 1972

The Highway Traffic (Snow Clearing) Regulations, 1972
gazetted December 12, 1972.

The Highway Traffic (Snow Clearing, St. John's Area) Regulations,
1972, gazetted December 12, 1972

The Highway Traffic (Snow Clearing, Grand Falls Area) Regulations,
1972, gazetted December 12, 1972

The Highway Traffic (Snow Clearing, St. Anthony Area) Regulations,
1972, gazetted December 12, 1972

The Highway Traffic (Bus) Regulations, 1973, gazetted January 9, 1973

The Highway Traffic (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations, 1973, gazetted
January 9, 1973

The Highway Traffic (Bus) (Amendment) Regulations, 1973, gazetted
January 12, 1973 and attached are fifty-two copies of each of the
mentioned regulations.

HON. H. A. COLLINS (Min. Municipal Affairs & Housing): Mr. Speaker, I have one other release which I think might be of interest to the House, that is that I am happy today to present to the House the projects which have been approved under the Federal Winter Capital Projects Fund which my colleague announced last week in terms of the total amount of money so far agreed upon.

In total there are twenty-four projects comprised mostly of badly needed water and sewer extensions and municipal buildings. The total cost of these projects is in the excess of \$2 million. Under the programme funds are loans to the province by the Department of Regional and Economic Expansion. Labour costs incurred on all projects between January and May are one hundred per cent forgiven and labour costs between June and December are fifty per cent forgiven.

All the projects are highly labour intensive. This is the first list, Mr. Speaker, we expect a further listing within a couple of weeks or three weeks time. It is too much to read. I will table it for honourable members information. These are municipal projects only.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. COLLINS: I can read them all if honourable members would like.

MR. MURPHY: Read them out, let the people know what we are doing.

MR. COLLINS:

Preparation for the installation of sewage treatment plant and general improvements at Torbay complex	\$50,000
Municipal building to be constructed in Torbay	50,000
Completion of municipal recreational center in Southern Harbour	50,000
Construction of municipal building in Town of St. Lawrence	60,000
Construction of municipal building in Town of Pauch Cove	40,000
Construction of municipal building in Town of Old Perlican	50,000
Construction of municipal building in Town of Norris Arm	50,000
Construction of municipal building in Town of Marystown	80,000

Construction of municipal buildings in Mount Carmel, Mitchell's Brook and St. Catherines	\$ 35,000
Construction of town hall in Town of Goulds	50,000
Improvements to municipal parks in Town of Gander	60,000
Construction of a municipal building in District of Conception Bay South	80,000
Construction of a municipal building in Town of Burin	80,000
Construction of a municipal building in Town of Burgeo	50,000
Improvements and extensions to water and sewerage system in Wabana, Bell Island	100,000
Extensions to sewer system in Town of Upper Island Cove	70,000
Extension of sewer services in Stephenville Crossing	130,000
Construction of alternate water supply system from Huxters Pond including construction of new dam and installation of extensions to sewer system in Springdale	150,000
Construction of water and sewerage system in Port au Port West - Aguathuna - Felix Cove	135,000
Extension of water and sewer services in Town of Marystown	300,000
Renovations and additions to water and sewage system in Isle Aux Morts	225,000
Renovations and additions to sewer system in District of Hawkes Bay	50,000

Provision of water and sewer services to the
Vinland Elementary School and seven homes in
Englee \$ 75,000
Upgrading water facilities and major renovations
to existing utility in Dark Cove - Middle Brook -
Gambo 80,000

That is just the first installment, Mr. Speaker, we
are looking forward to another one next week.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move that on tomorrow
I will table a bill, "An Act To Amend The Adoption Of Children Act."

MR. ROBERTS: Inaudible.

MR. MURPHY: Listen to the Leader of the Opposition, he knows it all.

NOTICE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:

MR. MURPHY: I have some answers to some questions here, Sir,
question 6, 8, 16, 78, 108, asked by the honourable member for
Bell Island, I would like to table. There are also copies for the
press, I would like for the press to get their copies please, That
is who want to know, the people. Thank you.

DR. ROWE: I rise to table the answers to two questions, question
no. 75, question no. 101, asked by the honourable Leader of the
Opposition. The answers are tabled for the benefit of the House.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, has Your Honour called petitions yet?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

MR. NEARY: My colleague here has a petition to be presented. I do not
think Your Honour called petitions.

MR. SPEAKER: I called petitions. The honourable Minister of Justice,
made a statement. By leave of the House, if the honourable member
present a petition, Does he have leave of the House?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of the residents of Trinity, Bonavista Bay.

The prayer of the petition is that the Town of Trinity be serviced with a water and sewer system. I am sure in presenting this petition, I am sure the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs delights to see such petitions coming forth because they surely give his department really a lot of work to do and make sure they are kept busy in that department.

Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the honourable minister made a statement in which he said that it would take some \$700 million to water and sewerize all the incorporated areas in our province and possibly another \$700 million to water and sewerize all the unincorporated areas in our province. I believe, Mr. Speaker, if the honourable gentleman were to check back his figures he would find that it is necessary to make a substantial correction, however, so be it! He has made the statement, now I disagree with him. I think the figure is much lower. I believe the figure is within the reach of the Province of Newfoundland.

In supporting this petition wholeheartedly, Mr. Speaker, I do believe that the time has come in this day and age that our province should look at all our communities very closely and come up with a realistic estimate of what it would cost to water and sewerize all the province's communities, both incorporated areas and the unincorporated areas. Only in doing this can our province bring these communities into the 1970's.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this petition and I ask that this petition be placed upon the table of this House and referred to the department to which it relates.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. NEARY: Would the honourable Premier care to comment on the reported layoffs at the ERCO Phosphorous Plant in Long Harbour?

MR. MOORES: No, Mr. Speaker, no.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, will the honourable Premier be making a statement in the foreseeable future on the production difficulties and the layoffs at Long Harbour?

MR. MOORES: If there are any, Mr. Speaker, that the government have been informed of or that we are aware of that is of information to this House, we will gladly make that information available as we receive it and whatever department receives this information will make it available as soon as I know about it.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question, has the government had any communication at all with ERCO about - are they aware of any layoffs at the ERCO Phosphorous Plant?

MR. MOORES: No, Mr. Speaker, not officially. It is not a crown corporation and even though we are interested in what is happening there, we know that there have been some layoffs but we have not been advised officially by the company on what the position is.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, would the honourable Premier inform the House if the government is now in a position to make a statement on the downtown development as promised the Concerned Citizens Committee last week

MR. MOORES: Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: I thank the honourable Premier for his answers, Mr. Speaker. Now I would like to direct a question to my friend and sparring partner, the Minister of Industrial Development, concerning the steel plant, Could the honourable minister bring us up to date on what is happening to the steel plant at the Octagon?

MR. DOODY: It is always a pleasure to answer questions for the honourable member for Bell Island, because he is such a bright and responsible member of the House. The situation at the Steel Plant now or at the last information I had, which was on Friday, there were between twenty and thirty employees had been laid off at that time, the others, if the steel that is now in process of being rolled completes its rolling operation, will be laid off this week. In the meantime the security people are being doubled to ensure that there is no damage done to the premises in the absence -

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: No, we are not concerned with Mr. Wilson, as we are with the duplication of what went on at the Dosco premises after the close down over there.

MR. MURPHY: Hear, hear, well said!

MR. DOODY: The situation in there now, as I say, the thing is reaching its close down state. All the employees are being looked after, as you have already been informed. The steps are being taken to ensure that the property is kept in a condition that will be fit for sale.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, Could the honourable minister tell us if there are any serious offers to purchase the steel plant and take it over and operate it?

MR. DOODY: I do not know if we had any serious offers, Mr. Speaker, we have had some offers and they are in the process of being evaluated. We have also had some offers to buy the plant, to dismantle it and to remove it elsewhere. We will be in a position, I would say in a very relatively short period of time, to be able to say whether or not the operation of the

plant will be in the public interest more than the dismembering of it and shipping it away. On the surface the offers that we have had to operate the plant do not look like serious offers.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Transportation and Communications.

HON. DR. FARRELL (MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS): Mr. Speaker and the honourable members of this House, someone just mentioned the weather report, I am extremely disappointed today that I was not asked a question on the weather conditions around the island because I am glad to report they are in excellent condition, Labrador and -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. FARRELL: I beg your pardon, Sir?

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. FARRELL: Prayer as well, Sir, and a number of machines we sent to the Great Northern Peninsula. It is in excellent shape up there. I would like to inform -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. FARRELL: Well due to the machines we took-over the past year, some of them are in desperate shape, old, ancient, creaky, horrible condition whatsoever. But anyway, Mr. Speaker,

AN HON. MEMBER: Like yourself.

MR. FARRELL: I am a bit creaky, I will admit.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that this is the first real opportunity I have had to address this honourable House at any length since I was elected, for the District of Humber East. I had my say on a few occasions and I must say I enjoyed the repartee that we have had, I was quite serious when I just mentioned that I was delighted to inform the House the conditions have improved in all areas of the island. I am sure the members for the particular districts which have been most seriously affected are just as delighted as I am that they are in such good condition today. I hope this continues.

Now as I have said I have not had much say as far as my district is concerned, as far as the long term plans or goals or priorities I felt I have had for my district. I think most of the honourable members know the reason for this. I have been to say the least somewhat ill. I only made it to the House on two or three occasions last year. As a matter of fact, I was thinking of this very recently. I was at a reception with a very old friend of mine a year or two ago who was well in his eighties. It was at a wedding reception in the Corner Brook Area. It was a delightful day as it usually is in that area except certain times of the year. He had a little few words to say. I am sure some of my friends across the floor know him very well.

When he got up to say a few words he said, "I am honoured and happy and delighted to be here today." He looked around and looked at the beautiful weather and he said, "as a matter of fact I am happy to be anywhere today." I feel rather like that. As well as being happy, I am very proud to be here as well.

Before I go any further, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome one of my colleagues to the House. I am delighted to see the honourable member for Labrador South in his seat. When he was seated last, the road in was a little rough, I must say, on the elections there. But I am sure that the good people of Labrador South will not go in want of representation since that honourable member was elected. As a matter of fact, I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming all members to the House, because I was not here last year.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I am one of the last or among one of the last members to reply to the Speech from the Throne. I personally felt it was a very good Throne Speech, it holds a number of important benefits for just about every region of this province, including my own District of Humber East. Mr. Speaker, the Humber region is strategically located and a progressive area of this province with an increasingly important role as one of the vital areas of contribution to the Newfoundland economy.

I say the Humber region specifically, because I feel that these two

sister districts, I will call them, of Humber are intertwined both in their social and economic growth. I am very proud of the fact that I share representation in this district with my friend and colleague the honourable the Premier. Actually I think we share more than just the representation of these districts. We also share an attitude I think I am sure in a general approach for the greatest economic and social development of Humber East and Humber West and as well, of course, of the entire province.

We realize that these districts have a number of common problems and a number of common objectives which are best tackled from a common viewpoint. Mr. Speaker, the economy of the Humber Districts in recent years has suffered as we all know several temporary setbacks including the brief interruption of or I should say the other than normal operations of the Bowaters Paper Corporation. I am now extremely pleased as everybody else is that these minor restraints on our economy which looked so serious at the time were eventually overcome. Particularly in the case of Bowaters, there operation is once again in full swing production.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, our government's continued success in nurturing and developing such resource based industries is of vital importance to the future growth and prosperity of both Humber Districts. I am extremely pleased with our government's innovated and modern approach to the full and most advantageous development of our natural resources throughout this province. Newfoundland is exceptionally blessed with a great wealth of natural resource and nowhere is this more evident than in the richly forested District of Humber East. Here the logging industry is one of the more important sources of employment. With the right approach to this great forest potential, the logging industry can far exceed its present limitations offering even greater employment opportunities to our people in making an even more and greater contribution to our economy.

Now, as outlined in the Speech from the Throne, our government are now waiting the final report and recommendations of the joint federal/provincial

task force on forestry. The report is scheduled to be submitted. I think sometime before the end of this month, as far as I am informed. This to me is very encouraging. I know there are a great many people particularly within my district, including myself, who are anxiously awaiting the release of this report and recommendations to determine the contribution this study will make to the logging industry. Before any long term approach to the utilization of our forest can develop, we must have an accurate inventory of all our forest resources in this province. That is obvious I think to all.

This inventory is in the process of being prepared at the present time and when it is complete I expect that it will be of an immeasurable value to the logging industry.

I am also pleased that our government have adopted a comprehensive reforestation programme to the benefit of our industry. This programme is already in progress in some parts of the province. I am looking forward to the expansion of this programme this year to include the Humber East District.

Now, Mr. Speaker, forest access roads are another vital necessity if we are to fully develop the logging industry in Humber East. We do need more access roads in our district.

These roads permit developers of the logging industry to exploit and harvest extremely rich timber stands in areas that until now were inaccessible and indeed were rotting on the ground in many areas. In the Speech from the Throne it was stated that our government spent more than \$600,000 last year for the construction of forest access roads throughout the province. This expenditure, I am told, is to be substantially increased this year, in the coming year, and I certainly will work to see that the people of Humber East derive the fullest benefits from this worthwhile programme.

Our government's increased involvement in the logging industry has paid off very well. I know that in my own district a number of communities have benefited from this involvement especially the prospering Town of Deer Lake. In general I am very pleased with our new approach to development of this industry. We cannot really talk about the logging industry, Mr. Speaker, in Humber East, without mentioning the great potential of the saw milling industry as well. There has been considerable progress in this industry in Humber East during the past year and we are expecting even more development in the coming year. This will be made possible in great part by the decision of our government to establish a new department, the Department of Rural Development. Although this new department is not yet officially, I believe it has by legislation, that it is now at this time established. It has already been committed to expanding the saw mill industry through provisions of grants and loans under the authority of the Rural Development Board. This will undoubtedly create more jobs for the people of my district and these jobs will be in most cases available near to their own homes.

The new Department of Rural Development is certainly giving added strength to the long neglected growth of our rural communities. Now while on the topic of rural development, I would like to congratulate

my colleague, the hon. Minister of Rural Development, on the completion recently of his very successful tour of the rural regions of this province. The minister should be commended for his personal involvement and commitment in getting out in these rural areas and acquiring a firsthand knowledge of the problems and potential of these communities and the effect that the rural development programme is having on them.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most promising industries in the Humber East District is that of agriculture. There has been some progress in this area during the past but there remains a great deal of work to be done with respect to this industry before Newfoundland begins to realize its full potential in agriculture, and this is particularly important to me. I am very pleased with the announcement this past week or ten days of the signing of the new ARDA agreement with the federal government. This agreement will permit further extensive development of our agricultural resource and I am convinced that its implications for the many farmers in the Humber East District will have had very far-reaching effects. The agreement will allow for the investment of some \$15 million on agricultural programmes over the next few years. I am certainly sure that this will be of major benefit to all farmers in the province including those in my own District of Humber East.

I feel that our government's increased involvement in agriculture and the signing of the new ARDA agreement and our own new farming programme is a reflection of the growing awareness among Newfoundlanders of the potential of the agricultural industry in this province. In the past I believe we have sorely neglected the agricultural industry as a potential major resource and source of revenue to our economy. The high cost of living in Newfoundland and the unbelievable cost of food are finally forcing Newfoundlanders to their feet on this issue. They are now looking to such areas as the Humber Valley to provide part of the solution to this problem.

Obviously agricultural products produced within this province in such potentially productive areas as the Humber Valley provide employment and increase economic benefits to the farmer while at the same time, Mr. Speaker, allowing local consumers to buy local products at a more reasonable price, in light of the fact that there are no costly shipping charges added to their retail sales price. This type of awarding situation can be achieved and I am glad that our government has listed it as one of its chief objectives.

As outlined in the Speech from the Throne we have been very successful in establishing an agricultural complex on the West Coast of the province and this new facility is to be opened later this year. This was a difficult and expensive project but our government felt that its undertaking was of vital importance to the growth of the industry on the West Coast. When opened, this complex will include an experimental farm, an abattoir for poultry and hog processing, an egg grading station as well as soil laboratory. I am personally convinced that this new development can make a great contribution to agriculture on the West Coast. Another idea which I think will prove very worthwhile is the establishment of farm equipment banks as announced in the Speech from the Throne. These banks should significantly increase the capabilities of existing farms and enable the establishment of many new farms.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has ever visited the Humber Valley Area of the West Coast will undoubtedly agree that this is one of the most scenic and beautiful regions of our province. I may be a bit prejudice obviously but I personally feel that it is the most beautiful. With the rolling hillsides, as you all know, the rugged mountains, the beautiful lakes and streams, parks, wilderness, it has a boundless potential for development and one of the greatest tourist attractions in all of Canada not alone our province.

I am very pleased that our government have taken a very important step in harnessing this great potential by recognizing tourism as a valuable resource based industry and establishing it as a full-fledged department of government. In my own district I will be looking forward to a number of improvements in facilities for tourists during the coming year. There is so much on tap potentially in this area that there will be little problem in realizing these improvements. As everybody knows, of course, the Humber region is a well-known haven for sportsmen. Our wilderness, rivers and lakes offer some of the finest hunting and fishing to be found anywhere in North America. In the area of winter sports, Marble Mountain is slowly being developed as an excellent ski area and as a potential it will become one of the finest ski resorts in all of Canada but I should say particularly Eastern Canada. Just a short distance to the north of Humber East we have in the development stages what is expected to be and will be I am sure one of the finest wilderness parks in Canada. It is very encouraging to me to note that the future of the Gross Morne National Park is receiving such careful attention right now by our government. With this type of careful development of the park we can rest assured that the final product will constitute a great asset to the people of this province. As the gateway to the National Park and the scenic great Northern Peninsula, the booming Town of Deer Lake will undoubtedly derive many benefits from the thousands of visitors travelling to the park each year.

I am also pleased that the ancient viking site at L'Anse-au-Meadows is to be reconstructed. This may certainly prove to be one of the greatest, again I am certain it will be one of the greatest historic attractions in all of North America, when completed. I spoke earlier of rural development and the need for greater attention to be given to rural communities in this province. I think that one of the most neglected areas

of rural development is in the area of tourism. So many of the visitors to our province each year are primarily interested in travelling through our picturesque towns and settlements. These are people who have a great appreciation for natural beauty and are interested, as we all know, in getting away from the hurly-burly pressures and the mainstream of things to find this type of attitude. This potential in this specific area has never been realized because many of our rural communities lack sufficient or suitable accommodations for these particular tourists who want that type of attraction. They are not looking for clubs or whatever, they are looking for the quiet life, the beautiful scenery,

the people that you meet, the individualistic approach that they have to life, quietness, relaxing, get them off their tranquilizers sort of thing. Touching on this Speech from the Throne, outline the concept of a proposed new programme which will see a number of hospitality homes licensed to provide this valuable service, we are told by my colleague the honourable Minister of Tourism, that this system has proven successful in many other provinces and areas. We agree definitely that there are a number of areas, in my own district particularly which would be ideally suited to this type of programme.

This new approach to expanding the Tourism Industry will not only increase the value of the industry itself but will more evenly spread the benefit of the tourism dollar throughout the province.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that there exists this great tourist potential. We also should realize that we have a great responsibility to protect that potential and to retain our environment in a pollution free condition is of vital importance to the future of the Tourist Industry in Newfoundland. We have seen the mistakes of other provinces and other countries in this area but because we are not as industrialized as many other regions we are in a position to prevent these same mistakes from occurring in our own province and I think this is of vital importance.

It is outlined in the Speech from the Throne that our government intend to introduce legislation governing disposal of solid waste. I think the people of this province welcome that decision. We realize that anti-pollution measures are needed to prevent contamination of our inland lakes and streams as well as our other tidewater resources. The grave responsibility of insuring protection for our God-given resources while recognizing and developing our industrial potential must always take first priority in our negotiations with industrialists who wish to establish in this province. I know that in my own district of Humber East we have the task of cleaning up some of our water resources which have been subjected very much so to pollution in the past, and this we are approaching at the present time.

Mr. Speaker, one area which has been of great concern to people in almost every region of our province is the provision of adequate medical services. I know that it was the chief priority of the people of my district of Humber East. Proper medical facilities have long been lacking in this district. However, during the past year our government has made considerable progress in correcting this situation. The new Western Memorial Hospital which is scheduled for completion in 1974 will do a great deal to alleviate any medical problems in our area and in our coastal areas by serving the needs of people of Corner Brook and the surrounding districts and regions. Perhaps it is my own involvement in the medical field that has made me particularly aware of this need for improved medical facilities. I am very anxiously looking forward to the opening of this hospital in 1974. I think one of the reasons that I got involved initially in political life is that I have been involved particularly in the West Memorial Hospital, for over twelve or fourteen years, and I may add that we worked hard with the previous administration to get this off the ground, and I give credit where credit is due. This area particularly is of extreme importance to me.

The main thing about it, as far as I am concerned - and we have dealt in the last few days with medical problems and denturists and everything else - but there is no doubt in my mind that this complex is sure to attract many competent new doctors and medical staff to the City of Corner Brook. This is very important because we have lost doctors over the years that are essential and badly needed, right up to this present moment, because of our facilities. This will be eliminated with the opening of our new hospital.

It is only during the past year that the Town of Deer Lake opened its new medical clinic. This clinic had long been needed to serve Deer Lake and the surrounding area. The hard-working people who gathered there in committee, deserve a great deal of praise for their efforts in finally securing this facility.

Mr. Speaker, despite these valuable accomplishments in the district of Humber East during the past year there remains a great

number of pressing matters in this district which require the continued attention of our government through the coming fiscal year. Our province continues to be afflicted with a severe housing problem, shortage and a shortage which is particularly acute in the Humber East district. Many middle income families and most low income families are just unable to cope with the rising cost of mortgages and home construction.

I was bitterly disappointed myself personally that the federal government did not see fit to include in its recent budget any relief from this distressing problem. I was very disappointed, for instance, as were many other people in my district, that the federal government failed to remove the twelve and a-half percent sales tax on building materials particularly in Newfoundland. It is definitely a special area. Everything else is higher than the Mainland, our problems of transportation and rates and freight rates. I think particularly that this particular tax should have been removed for this area, the twelve and a-half, I believe it is -

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Twelve.

DR. FARRELL: Twelve percent tax on building materials. To many it has meant continuing frustration in their attempts to become home owners. Unfortunately the onus is now on our own Provincial Government to institute special programmes to alleviate the housing crisis. I feel that it is particularly significant that the Speech from the Throne noted that the housing problem was not confined to Newfoundland's two cities but it is prevalent in the rural communities around this province as well.

As outlined in the Speech from the Throne, the answer to these problems appears to lie in the expansion of the small mortgage loan programme which has been discussed already.

The companion problem to that of housing is the critical shortage of serviced land which must also be given serious consideration in all areas of our province, urban and rural.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the question of the proposed junior college

for the West Coast has long been a matter of deep concern to the people of both the Humber districts. For the past several years it has been recognized that the present facilities at Memorial University, in St. John's, are no longer capable of meeting the ever-growing demands of our own young people for higher learning in this province. Not only is there insufficient space within the present university structure to accommodate students, but each year it becomes increasingly difficult to find suitable living accommodations for these students in and around the City of St. John's.

I could go into many details, Mr. Speaker, on the cost savings to the people of the West Coast, as far as a regional seat of higher learning, and the economic benefit it would be to the particular area. That has been gone into in much detail already, so I will refrain from that.

Because, Mr. Speaker, there were some questions as to where the junior college would be constructed, I would say that I was nothing short of being overjoyed to hear the honourable Premier announce, a week ago, over the weekend, that construction would begin on the junior college in that city.

Did I say regional college? I am sorry, I meant a regional college, junior college. I am sorry, Sir, for breaking a rule again. Like the honourable member for Bell Island, I am slow in learning.

As I said, I was overjoyed to hear the announcement officially state by the honourable Premier, a week ago, that construction would begin this year.

There is no doubt whatsoever in my mind, Mr. Speaker, that this will prove to be one of the greatest economic, social, educational asset which has ever accrued to the West Coast of this province.

I was also pleased to hear the Premier announce that construction would also begin, this year, on a community

college for the town of Stephenville. Stephenville is a growing town and no doubt this community college will play an important role in its development. Meanwhile, the regional college in Corner Brook will allow local high school graduates to begin their university education at home with less expense and more convenience, while at the same time playing an important role in the social and cultural life of the City of Corner Brook and surrounding areas. I think it will prove to be a tremendous asset to the people of the West Coast and indeed to the people of the province.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable the member for Twillingate did mention in his excellent address that he was a little worried about the Twillingate Causeway and this is the only specific item I am going into. I would like to allay his worries about the Twillingate Causeway. We did such excellent work on the Twillingate Causeway this year that we are away ahead of schedule and although I did feel and I agreed with him at the time, I checked it out technically from an engineering point of view, that at certain tide levels this was below water this apparently from an engineering point of view was quite acceptable and to be expected, this is a settling of the Causeway. We did go at the end of the year and initiate the putting up of the armour rock. We ran into a little difficulty in that because of the date, because we had advanced more in the building of the Causeway in the past year than we expected.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to answer the honourable member to allay any worries he has about the Causeway. Everything is going under hand, there has been very little damage to the Causeway up to the present time.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that every member who speaks in this House is justly proud and rightly so, to speak for the people of his district. I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that no member in this debate is more proud of his district and of his people than I am of the people of Humber East who have been so good to an immigrant, twenty-three years ago, from the Old Sod. Thank you, Sir.

MR. F.J.AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker, I would like first to congratulate the mover of the motion that a committee be appointed to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech from the Throne delivered by the Administrator. Also, I would like to congratulate the member for Grand Falls who seconded the motion as is traditional in this House. I think we were again presented with two excellent speeches which were noteworthy for their content as well as the manner in which they were delivered. I am sure that each and every one of us as well as the large number of distinguished guests who were present enjoyed them.

I would like also to congratulate the honourable member from Port au Port who has been elected as the Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees. With his legal background and with his dedication to impartiality, I feel certain that this particular session will see the affairs of the House well looked after. I understand you yourself, Mr. Speaker, will be leaving us for a short while, but you can rest assured that the House is in good hands. We may have questions about the committee at times but I am sure these will be resolved as well.

I would also like to congratulate all the previous speakers in this debate for the excellent speeches they made and if I may, I would like in particular to pay tribute to the honourable member for Labrador South who represents a new party in this House and who I thought made a very, very excellent contribution to the debate. I feel certain that this honourable gentleman will make a great contribution to the deliberations of this House and indeed be a good representative for the people of that district.

Mr. Speaker, we are here really almost a year since this government was elected and we were elected on the platform that we would as a team approach, pay particular attention to rural development, that new emphasis would be placed on the fishery and that resource development would play a primary part in our approach to the problems of Newfoundland.

I suppose there is hardly any avocation in life where a person

obtains so much advice as in politics, because everybody we meet and everybody we know can tell us what we are doing and what we are not doing and how we could be doing it much better. But I think, Mr. Speaker, every member in this House is aware of his duty both to his district and to his party and of course, to himself.

I am only going to speak briefly on one aspect of that and that is our duty as members of this honourable House to the House itself. I do not think any particular member or any group of members in this House should feel that they have any monopoly on dedication, integrity, honesty or any of these great virtues that we hear talked about so much. I do feel that each and every one of us, as elected members, have a very, very responsible duty to see that the traditions of this House are maintained and that we act as honourable gentlemen in our discussions and deliberations. As we all know, this legislature, under our system of government, when it is dealing with matters within its competence has exclusive jurisdiction and as such, we are dealing with matters that affect the lives of our Newfoundland people and we certainly should conduct our deliberations with dignity and decorum.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, there is a pronounced lack of respect in this province for politicians and in some respects we have ourselves to blame, particularly I think in our conduct at times in this House. I do not purport to be any authority on it, Mr. Speaker, but I did for some years act as a member of the staff of the House and I feel we should do anything and everything in our power to improve the situation here. I would like to make a few suggestions on how we could probably do that.

I think, Mr. Speaker, we should have the utmost respect for you and the Chairman of Committees and whoever else is in the Chair during our deliberations. If at any time, as we will undoubtedly, we find it necessary to disagree with you or the Chairman of Committees on some rulings, I think we should do so in a proper and a respectful manner. I do not think any member of this House should ever hide behind the

immunity of this House. I do not think there is anything as distasteful to the public or to anyone affected by it as to find any honourable members here make any statements about individuals, either inside or outside this House, that they would not repeat outside. I do not think we should infer by innuendo or make statements that we would be afraid to make outside the House of Assembly. I think we should not abuse any privileges that may be extended or any latitudes given to us. I also feel that we should be fair in our references to each other. I know that at times during debate we can be heated and lose our tempers, but I think references to "this crowd over here" and "that crowd over there" do very little I think to create the dignity that people can and should expect to be maintained in this House of Assembly.

I am very, very pleased to see that there is legislation being introduced to repeal a previous amendment to the Revenue and Audit Act. I certainly hope and feel that every member of this House will support that legislation. Also, Mr. Speaker, I think that we as individual members of the House could do the House itself and the district and indeed the province a good service by paying particular attention to the reports of the Auditor General.

The report of the Auditor General, Mr. Speaker, is a report on the audit of the public accounts of the province and it is

made not to the Minister of Finance or to the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council but to the honourable House of Assembly. The Auditor General, under our legislation and indeed anywhere we have the same type of Legislature and Constitution that we have in Newfoundland, acts as the watchdog for the House of Assembly. He cannot be dismissed by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council without the authority of this House of Assembly. He is a very, very important part of our democratic system and I think we, as individual members, should pay very much attention to his report.

His report, Mr. Speaker, that was made for the year ending 31 March, 1972, as it says in the letter of transmittal addressed to the hon. Minister of Finance: "In accordance with the Revenue and Audit Act, Chapter 31 of the Revised Statutes of Newfoundland, I have the honour to submit herewith for transmission to the House of Assembly, the Public Accounts of the Province of Newfoundland for the financial year ended 31 March, accompanied by my report." This is a report for us. If we are going to get good value, we should pay particular attention to it.

The duties of the Auditor General, Mr. Speaker, are laid down in the Revenue and Audit Act. It may be of some value if we were to reflect briefly on what these are. I refer to the report of the Auditor General where he quotes section 57 (1) of the Revenue and Audit Act which says: "The Auditor General shall examine periodically the accounts of all branches of the public service and shall take such further steps as he may deem necessary to satisfy himself that the accounts are faithfully and properly kept and that the monies expended have been applied to the purposes for which the grant was intended to provide." He is to ensure that if we vote and allocate certain funds that it is to be spent for that purpose and if it is not, of course, he reports accordingly to us. If no money is voted and money is spent under

a heading, then the Auditor General reports accordingly and is obliged by Statute to report.

Section 59 (1) of the Revenue and Audit Act: "The Auditor General shall proceed to examine from time to time the various accounts of several departments as provided for by this act; examine and audit the accounts of the province for each financial year and for that purpose, statements with respect to such accounts shall be prepared by such persons as the comptroller may direct." So when the Comptroller or Deputy Minister of Finance audits the revenue and expenditures of the year and passes it on to the Auditor General, he in turn conducts his audit and reports to us.

Now, Mr. Speaker, most matters of course referred to in this particular report do not cover much for which this administration is responsible but deals mostly with (while it is the report for the year ending March 31, 1972) matters that were carried over from previous years. I would like in particular, Mr. Speaker, to make a few brief references to his report and in that respect I refer to page fifteen and page sixteen of his report. On page fifteen he deals with entertainment tax arrears and on page sixteen he deals with certain problems with respect to social security assessments. I will not delay the House by making any detailed references to it but it is very interesting and consoling really for us as members to know that we have such information available to us at our finger tips. If we want, of course, any more, I am sure, upon request, the Auditor General or someone in his department would provide us with it.

We hear so much about the public debt of the province and over the years there was so much debate concerning what amount it really was. At page eighteen of the report for this year, the Auditor General states: "the provincial debt and liabilities guaranteed by the province as at March 31, totalled \$1,124,335,000." This is our national debt. Also, Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General makes reference to certain taxes or the

failure of the government, because it collects certain insurance taxes. Then he deals at some length on page twenty-four of his report with the mining royalties due this province by the Iron Ore Company of Canada. It is inconceivable, Mr. Speaker, that a company as large as the Iron Ore Company of Canada, that has made as much money or has been operating and with such concessions and such privileges, to owe this province the amount of money, which according to the Auditor General's Report is a just claim by the province.

At page twenty-five of the report, the Auditor General states as follows: " At the date of my report in 1971-1972, the audit of mining royalties from the Iron Ore Company of Canada, the matters brought to the attention of the House of Assembly in paragraph 43 of my 1969-1970 report and repeated in paragraph 53 of my 1970-1971 report still have not been disposed of by the Department of Finance."

The Auditor General deals with the amount that this company has been assessed for mining royalties for the years referred to. He says at the bottom of page twenty-five: "My enquiries into the collection of mining taxes and royalties further disclosed that assessment notices issued to the Iron Ore Company of Canada for the years 1956 to 1964, inclusive, accepted as deductible expenses, \$3,956,128 for municipal and school taxes paid to authorities outside the province. Although the assessments were made subsequent to 1 December 1960, these deductions were granted despite a written opinion from the Department of the Attorney General, dated 1 December 1960, that such municipal and school taxes were not deductible by the company for the purpose of calculating royalty payments." In other words, Mr. Speaker, this company appears to be deducting monies which they had spent outside the province from the amounts on which they paid royalties. "The resulting loss in revenue to the province was \$197,806, (5% of \$3,956,128)." He says, "In view of the legal opinion of 1 December 1960, I have not received satisfactory explanations." He goes on: "why the assessments made for 1965 to 1964

inclusive, accepted these deductions and also why the company has not been required to remit royalty payments on the non-deductible expenses claimed in its returns for the year 1965 to 1969."

"It is noted that the legal opinion of 1 December 1960, mentioned above has, in effect, been confirmed by another opinion of the Department of Justice on December 9, 1970. In my opinion adequate provision for the collection of mining taxes and royalties and the prompt examination and assessment of returns submitted by the mining companies has not been in effect." Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a situation where apparently the Department of Justice advises the Department of Finance that the province has a good claim to these funds but for some reason they have not been

collected and I for one can see no reason why a company the size of the Iron Company of Canada will not pay its just royalties to this province. It says, "further to the foregoing paragraphs our enquiries disclose that the Iron Ore Company of Canada has submitted its royalty returns for the years 1970 and 1971. The royalty payment of \$2,226,043 based on the 1970 return is taken into account in 1971 and 1972 accounts of the province and the payment of \$2,458,895 based on the 1971 return is taken into account in 1972-1973." The Auditor General continues, "No assessment notices have been issued by the province on the royalty return submitted by the company for the calendar years 1970-1971. However we have been informed by the Department of Finance that school and municipal taxes in excess of \$2 million and \$1 million paid by the company to authorities outside the Province of Newfoundland and claimed as deductible expenses in 1970-1971 returns, respectively, will be disallowed by the province." But this is for 1970-1971, Mr. Speaker. "Thus, an additional royalty of \$185,000" (and so many cents) "is due to the province on the basis of the 1970-1971 returns."

The Auditor General concludes, "The above mentioned amount of \$185,000 and other royalty underpayments mentioned in this paragraph total" (and this is the total amount, Mr. Speaker) "\$887,391 at 31st of March 1972." This, Mr. Speaker, again I state is outrageous, for a company to owe this province this amount of money.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. AYLWARD: Well I realize, Mr. Speaker, that this matter goes back some time and I am glad to hear that it is in hand. Can we conclude that it is being collected? Are they paying it?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. AYLWARD: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think somebody should conclude that if this money is owed to the province that it should be collected.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Auditor General -

MR. AYLWARD: The Auditor General is not referring to the educational

facilities in Labrador City. What the Auditor General is referring to and properly so is that the Iron Ore Company of Canada should not be permitted to deduct any money spent on education facilities outside of the Province of Newfoundland from revenue expenses, in calculating their royalties paid to this province. There is no question about money spent in the Province of Newfoundland, in Labrador. What the Auditor General is saying is that the Iron Ore Company of Canada is improperly claiming as expenses prior to calculating the royalty monies that are being spent on education outside of the province. That is what the Auditor General is stating.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General refers in another aspect of his report to a matter that will be of some interest, I am sure, to the Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation and that is the expenditures on physical education and youth that were made and I refer to page thirty of that report. Here again, Mr. Speaker, there was a substantial departure from what is considered a prudent and proper way to spend money under that particular heading. In fact I can speak with some degree of knowledge of how the monies under that particular heading were spent in my own district and I refer of course to the recreational facilities at Southern Harbour. But I commend this particular part of the Auditor General's Report to the Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation.

Also, Mr. Speaker, he refers in his report to the trust fund that was set up for retarded children from the sale of the Newfoundland Savings Bank and I did not know, I only knew for the first time that this \$1 million that had been set aside, the proceeds from that sale for this particular worthy cause is apparently now no longer available but has formed part of the revenue for the country and has been paid into the consolidated revenue fund. Again the Auditor General on this particular matter states, and I quote from page forty-five, he questioned the propriety of the action taken by the Comptroller and Deputy Minister

of Finance, that is in paying this \$1 million back to the Newfoundland Exchequer Account.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in his report the Auditor General makes reference to the select committee appointed by the House to consider the report on the public accounts. I think this is a very, very important committee and I sincerely trust that it will be constituted and that it will fulfill the expectations not alone of the Auditor General but of the members of the House of Assembly.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this debate affords a member the opportunity to speak on the needs of his district and it is only one of the two opportunities when we are given this latitude. So like the previous speakers I intend to take the full advantage of this golden opportunity. I would like to refer first to the area of my district known as the Cape Shore Area and that is from - the Minister of Education says, "Hear Hear," because a proportion of his district adjoins mine in that area. Well I refer, Mr. Speaker, to the particular area from Point Verde to really St. Brides but I probably will, since the Minister of Education is here, go as far as Branch. I only wish, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Education and everyone connected with the administration of the public affairs of the province could some years ago have concluded that that road up that shore would have been upgraded and paved. Now and again this of course was started by the previous administration, that is the construction of the highroad from North Harbour to Branch. This is a large new road driven through the wilderness with no communities and no people living between North Harbour and Branch whereas from Point Verde to St. Brides we have a population of approximately a thousand people.

Now, Mr. Speaker, these men and women have lived along this shore for years and years and there appears very little doubt that they will continue to reside there. One of the best fishing grounds I suppose

off the Island of Newfoundland is off Cape St. Mary's and in the area where the fishermen from St. Brides and Branch go to fish. The Community of St. Brides itself has a population in excess of six hundred and along that particular piece of highway I would say there are probably 1,000 people. I can say, Mr. Speaker, without fear of contradiction, that this dirt road from Point Verde to St. Brides is not alone the worst road in this province but it is one of the worst dirt roads in North America.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear! Hear!

MR. AYLWARD: The hon. gentleman says, "Hear! Hear!" and if anyone knows anything at all about that road, Mr. Speaker, it is disgraceful to think that in 1972 a thousand Newfoundlander would have to tolerate the condition of that particular road. In addition it is very, very dangerous, very dangerous. Last year a bridge was built in Cuslett and that bridge was washed out. Now I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the whole life style of the people of that area is centered around Placentia and the Placentia Area and they will always commute more towards Placentia than to North Harbour and Branch. I beseech the Minister of Highways to do whatever he can to find sufficient funds to commence at least to upgrade and pave that particular portion of the road. The people in the area are doing everything, I think, Mr. Speaker, that can be expected to assist themselves. They have up on the shore an association known as the Cape

Shore Development Association. These men and women, representing the small Communities of Cuslett, Patrick's Cove, Branch, St. Bride's and all that area, meet and discuss their problems and try to obtain whatever assistance they can from government.

They have a very, very large number of probably the best fishermen in the province in the Community of St. Bride's. They have a very, very difficult harbour to operate from. The water is very shallow and the wharf and breakwater facilities, which were installed by the federal government, now needs extension and repair.

I realize that the matter is outside the domain of this province, Mr. Speaker, in the sense that it is a federal matter, but there is one matter and that is the fish plant at St. Bride's which was destroyed some years ago and which this government was committed to rebuild. I think that that is a very, very important matter which concerns every man, woman and child on that shore.

I ask the Minister of Fisheries, when he is considering his new programmes and his new policies, not to forget the people of this particular area. The fishermen's committee are in the process of preparing a brief showing the large amount of fish that is caught and transported out of that area. I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the figures will certainly support the proposition that there is sufficient fish in that community to maintain some fishing facility.

Also, Mr. Speaker, that particular area of the Cape Shore has terrific potential in sheep raising. I do not suppose any other area of the province has the potential for sheep raising that the Cape Shore has and we have on that shore now four sheep breeders associations and they are working in very, very close co-operation and every month or so, Mr. Speaker, they report their activities in this newsletter, what is referred to as "The Cape Shore Area Development Association."

But the people in the area are very, very poor. They do not have the financial resources to approach this industry in the manner

in which it should be approached to make it really a viable venture. If this government, which I feel sure they are, are really committed to rural development, Mr. Speaker, and really want to do something, I do not think there is an area of the province that is more adaptable and more challenging than the Cape Shore Area. The people themselves have shown great industry and they are trying to do everything they can with what they have, but their resources are very, very limited.

Really, Mr. Speaker, this is an area where there have been sufficient studies made of the potential for the government to really sit down and the appropriate departments in a co-ordinated effort meet together and decide what can and will be done in this area. There was a proposal submitted, I think to the Department of Community and Social Development, now I suppose the Department of Rural Development, and this was a proposal for the designation of a rural development region under the terms of the ARDA III agreement, the Great Placentia-Cape Shore Rural Development Region.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is an excellent report and it deals quite thoroughly with all the problems and the potential of that area. I commend this report to the appropriate department of government, in particular the minister responsible for agriculture.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. AYLWARD: They submitted this. They did a great deal of work, Mr. Evans who is now I think the Chairman of the Rural Development Authority, I remember attending a meeting in St. Bride's with this gentleman and he discussed this report. Mr. Speaker, personally I was never so impressed with a man who was so committed to the rural development in Newfoundland as this gentleman and I think his ideas were excellent and he seemed to have a great knowledge of what could and should be done in this particular area.

But this report said the outports, and he is talking about the outports in the Cape Shore Area, the outports are located close to one of the most productive fishing grounds in the province, however catching fish is restricted by the small boat technology used and severely handicapped by the absence of a protected harbour anywhere in the subregions.

These two factors limit the length of the fishing season and the size of the catch. The fishing economy will remain restricted until there is a movement towards larger boats and until a safe harbour can be constructed in the area.

This report, Mr. Speaker, in addition to dealing with the fishery, deals quite thoroughly with the potential of the sheep raising and in the report, Mr. Speaker, reference is made to the potential market for sheep in Newfoundland. I would refer you, Mr. Speaker, or honourable members of this House, to this particular report and in particular the statistics that it provides concerning sheep raising. There are a couple of tables here, Mr. Speaker, if you permit me a moment I will find and quote to you.

These are extracts, Mr. Speaker, from a study done, The Development Potential For Agricultural Food Industry in Newfoundland by Messrs. Rozini and Davidson. Extracts from this report are quoted here to justify the great future for the sheep industry on the Cape Shore.

It says, "the per capita consumption of agricultural products in Newfoundland in pounds, we consumed in 1961 3.1 million pounds." It talks about the mutton and lamb requirements for the province. It says; "In 1964 we produced in this province 652,000 pounds, our requirements were 1,000,522. We had a deficit at that time of over 870,000 pounds."

The projection of consumption: "In 1965 it was 1.6 million pounds; in 1970 - 1.8, in 1975 - 2 million and in 1985 - 2.8 million pounds."

"Generally it can be seen from this information that the market exists at present and indeed looks even more promising for the future. Considering the fact that eighty-five per cent of all our lamb is imported, we cannot afford to miss the opportunity for development offered in this field."

Further proof of the possibility is offered from a further extract from the above report, "In sheep, the capability appears to exist for about one million ewes with a farmer value of between fifteen to twenty million and a multiplier between fifty to sixty. At present there are 20,000 ewes generating less than \$.5 million of economic activity. Much of the potential increase lies in lamb and mutton for export or for increased local consumption, in excess of the relatively slow uptrend in per capita consumption."

This report continues, Mr. Speaker, "Sheep raising constitutes one of the greatest economic possibilities for employments and incomes in the agricultural sector of Newfoundland. This is assessed in terms of land resource, capacity for live stock," and it goes right on, Mr. Speaker, and deals with it in a very, very scientific manner.

This Association realizes that in order to do sheep raising on a large scale you will need a great influx of capital to buy equipment and machinery, to educate the individuals in the area, but Mr. Speaker, all this study has been documented and fortified and is now available to the department of government concerned. In addition you have the submissions to the

Minister of Agriculture and Forestry from the chairman in the area and this shows that at present there are something like I think 1400 sheep which have been distributed amongst one hundred or more individuals and they want some funds to buy I think it is 5000 more. But with any proper plan and with proper financial assistance and direction there is no reason not to believe, Mr. Speaker, that this could be the transformation of our economy of that whole region and again I commend it to the government for their consideration.

Now coming down in my district, Mr. Speaker, we have the area of Southeast Placentia and Point Verde and you will recall a few days ago I presented to this honourable House a petition which outlined the problems of the community of Southeast Placentia and Placentia with respect to water and sewerage. Now I am so glad, Mr. Speaker, to see here the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under whose jurisdiction this particular question comes, because as I said at that time and I will repeat again, Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any problem that is as pressing in Newfoundland today in any community as the question of water and sewerage in the Town of Placentia. As I stated, I do not want to delay the House too long on this, that community had the water installed there before the turn of the century, we have there approximately or in excess of 2,000 people living really on a beach. They only have cesspools and septic tanks and there is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, informed sources say that there are leaks in that line. We know that the water pressure now is just over twenty pounds because one of the lines across the gut is broken. We also know since the trade school was built in the town it was necessary to install a pump and when they pump water from the system undoubtedly a vacuum is created. If you have a vacuum you have low pressure and you have holes in the pipe and you have sewerage from homes in the community on the beach, it is only normal and natural to conclude that if that water system becomes contaminated you could certainly have an outbreak of typhoid in Placentia. This, Mr. Speaker, could endanger the

health of all the residents and I again beseech the government to take prompt steps to install a new water supply and this new water supply would of course have the effect of providing sufficient pressure in the existing pipes, if the water pipes were not replaced, to resist any sewerage getting into the water line.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think that the government, really the previous administration neglected Placentia because when its resettlement was so predicated upon the people of the District of Placentia East and in particular the Placentia Area receiving these men and women and their families from the islands in Placentia Bay, the government should certainly have given these towns priority as far as water and sewerage are concerned. Because as I stated previously, Mr. Speaker, and I will repeat again, we had moving into Placentia in excess of 105 families,

AN HON. MEMBER: Freshwater and Dunville.

MR. AYLWARD: Freshwater, Dunville. yes I am glad the honourable member for Bell Island. I only wish that he had been concerned about them then because he was a member of the cabinet and probably could have done something about seeing to it that they would have gotten water and sewerage before the people moved in.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame on them! Shame on them!

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker,

MR. NEARY: We have water and sewerage on Bell Island.

MR. AYLWARD: You have water and sewerage over on Bell Island but you did not get the fishermen on Bell Island from Placentia East.

But Mr. Speaker, the honourable gentleman is correct when he says the other communities, Freshwater for example, I will repeat these figures because they may interest honourable members. Because I think I can justify beyond any doubt that there is no district in this province so affected by resettlement as the District of Placentia East. I refer of course to both the Placentia Area itself and Arnold's Cove and Southern Harbour which I will deal with in a moment.

But Freshwater took sixty-four families with 305 people, Dunville forty-five households with 225, Placentia eighty-five households with 404, Jersey side forty two with 218, Point Verde nine with fifty five, Fox Harbour five households with thirty nine individuals, in all, Mr. Speaker, there are 250 householders from the islands of Placentia Bay, who moved into the Placentia Area, bringing in 1246 people, 1246 between 1965 and 1970.

Now the Town of Placentia itself, Mr. Speaker, had 404 people moved into that town from these islands and probably from other areas but mostly - in five years. There was no extra financial resources made available to the schools to accommodate the great influx of students and in the demands for service land no further financial aid or assistance was given to this municipality.

So I say, Mr. Speaker, the government owe their duty to the people in the Placentia Area for not alone themselves and the great contribution they made to the economic life of this province but also for extending their arms and accommodating the people which they choose to bring in there. As I said this is a top priority and I ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing if he spend any money at all this year, if he spend \$1.00 he should spend ninety cents in Placentia.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. AYLWARD: The water and sewerage, Mr. Speaker, I think is a desperate necessity for the regions which I mentioned previously. In that Placentia Area itself also we have another town of Jersey side, with a population of over 553. They have a big problem there with their main road running through the community, Mr. Speaker, because the children from Jersey side must walk in many cases to school in Freshwater which means that they travel up that very, very dangerous hill in Jersey side. I see to be lucky to have the appropriate minister here when I need him, but I see the Minister of Transportation and Communications here and he drove through that area with me last year and I know he appreciates the danger

and I commend that problem to him for his attention.

The Town of Freshwater itself, Mr. Speaker, as many honourable gentlemen here know, the town really to a large degree was created when Argentia was started and I will deal with that in one moment. But let us have another council, they have a main road running through their community, part of which is maintained by the Department of Highways. This is a very small town with a very low tax income itself and I ask the Minister of Highways to provide for that town what it has provided for every other town in the Province of Newfoundland and that is to maintain the highway through the community. A peculiar situation exists when you run half way around that community. If the government says: "Well, all right we will maintain the road but only to a certain point," This was, Mr. Speaker, again a decision of the previous administration but I hope it will be changed, where the snow plows will come and just plow a part of the highway. Instead of making the whole loop, it will turn around and go back again whereas if they just travelled around the loop they could plow the road. Now that is a very, very small request but I commend it to the Minister of Highways to look after it.

Also, Mr. Speaker, they want a small road to a beach out there which I think would mean a lot to the community and would provide a small park for the area as well as give the town council access to a great source of sand and gravel in the areas.

AN HON. MEMBER: Where about is that?

MR. AYLWARD: It is just down between Argentia really, you go down from the top of Freshwater. It is only a small portion of road.

Dunville, Mr. Speaker, is a very, very prosperous and growing community. Most of our residents there or a large number of them are employed in the Long Harbour Area. They have been very fortunate in obtaining extensions to their water and sewerage for which the residents are very grateful but this area like the whole area itself needs more service land to accommodate people moving into the area.

One thing about Placentia, Mr. Speaker, and I suppose it is not alone Placentia but several other areas of the province and that is the municipal structure. We have four councils there in a relatively small area. It is not for me to say what they should or should not have. But I am glad to see this government appoint, Dr. Whelan is it, to conduct the study into the municipal affairs. I hope that he takes a good, hard look at municipal structure in that respect.

I remember attending a meeting of the Placentia Area Development Committee and the clergy present and several members voiced their objections to the structure itself. Far be it from me to say what they should have or should not have, whether it should be one or two but I think the people of the area should be given the chance to express their opinion on what is best for all. Should we have four councils or should we have one?

I suppose, Mr. Speaker, the criticism of government is as active in Placentia as it is anywhere else. We seem to have too much government really in this country. There are only 20,000,000 people. We have our federal government and we have ten Provincial governments. We have any number of municipal governments and really, in a sense, I respectfully submit that we are over-governed. We could get along with probably a lot less government than we have and in addition to this, of course, we have so many boards that it is almost startling for any small - and I think the honourable member from Fogo mentioned it the other day in his speech - there are so many tribunals and boards that it is difficult for the small man to understand and even cope with in today. Not alone boards, Mr. Speaker, we have the Public Utilities Boards and all the different marketing boards and then we have a new sort of government, I suppose, recently, and these are the authorities:

We have the Urban Authority and the Rural Authority and the Clean Air And Soil Authority and practically everywhere you go you have a board or an authority.

So, it would be a good time to have this problem looked at, Mr. Speaker, and it certainly needs a deep consideration.

Also, Mr. Speaker, in the Placentia area we need recreation facilities and again I am fortunate to see this honourable member here, the Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation. If he does anything else in his term, he will justify restructuring if he builds a stadium in Placentia. Not alone if he builds a stadium, Mr. Speaker, if he only co-operates with the efforts of the people themselves to try and get a stadium. They have worked so desperately over the years

and they were promised not one, Mr. Speaker, but two really.

They would be very pleased to get one.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Where is the fifty thousand for Long Harbour?

MR. AYLWARD: We will get to Long Harbour in a moment. I am only to Placentia but I will deal with that, Mr. Speaker. I would say that the Organization of the Star of the Sea took it upon themselves to pledge fifty thousand dollars to get a stadium for the young people of the area. These men decided of their own volition that it was time for some action. There has been enough talk about it. What can we do? We will make a start. So, Mr. Speaker, they took fifty thousand dollars and then they approached the federal government through local initiative programmes - they were unsuccessful, unfortunately - to get some assistance to just try and get a stadium started. That is how desperate the situation is out there.

I do not think again, Mr. Speaker, that you will find so many young people in such a small area that need some particular type of facility for after hours, after school and we have so many problems today in this province like everywhere else. We talk about drugs and this and that but, Mr. Speaker, we must give the young people something to do. I think that the recreational facilities is one of the best steps, the best expenditures that this government can make. I only hope that the Minister of Finance and the Treasury Board will see fit to give this minister a good vote because I am sure that this is going to be a department of government that will really require substantial funds. I know in my district alone, Mr. Speaker, I could do with three to four or five million dollars.

Also, Mr. Speaker, we need and this is in his domain, a home for the aged. The honourable member for Burin seems to be extremely fortunate. Everything that is on the go he gets one. I am going to enlist - I hope the clergy or interfaith groups in the area will get together and make their proper submission to this government and extract the same commitment and I understand all they want is that they will guarantee occupancy of ninety-eight percent. I am in the process

of having the people study this problem and I hope that they receive sympathetic consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I suppose the basic need in the area like anywhere else or any other area in the province is one for jobs, lack of industry. We can talk about serviced land and serviced land is needed desperately in each community but what we need above and beyond everything, Mr. Speaker, is jobs. Again I think, Mr. Speaker, that a wonderful case can be made for the Placentia area for jobs. You have all these people there in these communities who lived on the base for a period of about - or first of all I suppose, Mr. Speaker, they were really driven from their homes in a sense, the people in Freshwater, when way was made for the base, when the property was taken and they were all moved in there. What can be done for the area now? I suppose, Mr. Speaker, if there is anything that can be done - and I respectfully submit it certainly can - one would think that because of the proximity to the best fishing grounds, I suppose in the island, Placentia Bay, and they have certainly some of the best fishermen, one would think that the fishery certainly is the only industry that could and should almost be crying out for development.

Now, Mr. Speaker, again we are fortunate here in that we can say to the Minister of Fisheries not alone what we feel you could and should do but we have available and I am sure his department has available to him the report of this study commissioned by the Argentic Task Force and prepared by Messrs. Aven and Haber. This is an assessment, Mr. Speaker, of the inshore fishery potential in the Placentia Bay and St. Mary's Bay area. This again is an excellent document. It documents all the significant and important factors concerning the fisheries. The report was prepared by Messrs. Don Aven and J.H. Haber of the Research and Productivity Council, Fredericton, New Brunswick. This study was made for the Canadian Department of Regional Economic Expansion. So, the Argentic Task Force had this professional study of the potential of the fisheries in Placentia Bay made so that they could see what could be done for this area.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the first part of this report says that the reason for this study was to provide background information which could be used to assess the feasibility of our proposed Fish Processing Complex at Placentia based upon community wharf facilities.

At the time the work was commenced they were asked to include St. Mary's Bay as well as Placentia Bay in the studies and then the study was extended to certain sections referred to in the report as (28), (29), (30), and (31), all of which I know are familiar to the honourable Minister of Fisheries.

Mr. Speaker, this is a report and it deals with the potential fish landings in the Placentia Bay area and tells the Department of Fisheries or anyone concerned with what species of fish and how much fish could be available if a fishing complex were built at Placentia.

Now, they make one very, very significant submission and that I submit is with respect to the possibility for a queen crab industry in the Placentia Bay area. They say queen crab is not presently fished in the area. Exploratory fishing indicates the presence of sufficient crabs to supply a commercial fishery.

It is estimated that the available crab population in Placentia Bay could sustain annual landings of three million pounds. The population in St. Mary's is considerably smaller and could not sustain a commercial fishery on its own. These stocks could augment the potential landing from Placentia Bay, making the sustainable landings an estimated 3.1 million pounds per year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I submit that this is a significant quantity of crabs and could certainly provide the basis, as this report inferentially suggests, for an industry. In addition the report deals with the other ground fish; herring, caplin, shell fish and could and should, I respectfully submit, form the basis for some action in the area by the Department of Fisheries.

Mr. Speaker, the report goes on to say what potential fish landings would be available for a new facility. It might be interesting to quote these figures, Mr. Speaker. It says, "all increase available in cod, 1.4 million pounds from the present landings in the Placentia Area also 6.4 million pounds would be available if so much fish were not salted in the islands of Placentia Bay by the fishermen who return there. When they add them all up, Mr. Speaker, they give a total of 15.2 million pounds of cod fish that could be available for a new processing facility in the Placentia Area.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I certainly feel that with this type of documentation, with the need for jobs, with the professional expertise of the men who prepared this, resources and advice that was available to them, it certainly should form the basis for some action by the Department of Fisheries to establish some facility in the Placentia Area.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the matter is dealt with in some detail on page sixty and sixty-five of this report. It is disturbing, Mr. Speaker, to note that such a large quantity of fish as is caught in this area is

taken outside the area for processing. In fact of the twenty-one million pounds that were caught there in 1970, thirty-three per cent of it was salted; twenty per cent was processed within the area and forty-seven per cent of the cod fish caught in this area was processed outside the area. With such a need, Mr. Speaker, for jobs, with such a potential catch available, it seems only normal and natural to conclude that a start should be made to put some fishing facility in Placentia.

Now there may be one hundred and one good reasons why private industry would not choose to establish in Placentia because certainly, if they are processing the fish elsewhere, they are not going to cut off their own source of supply. The government, Mr. Speaker, are not new now to being in the fish business. They are in it in Burgeo and, of course, there are substantial funds given to other fish entrepreneurs in various parts of the province. With this concentration of population, with their proximity to the fishing grounds, with so many excellent fishermen, it seems normal and natural that this is a development that should be started and started forthwith. As I said, Mr. Speaker, we do not need any more studies. The studies have been done and the potential has been proven. All that is required is action. I again, under our new and energetic Minister of Fisheries, beseech him to have officials in his department to study actively the content of this report and see really, Mr. Speaker, what he can and should do to implement this.

Now one important matter probably that needs consideration with this development of the fishery would be, Mr. Speaker, the situation at Argentia. That is difficult but needs again, Mr. Speaker, some action and needs it promptly. When I was first elected I took a tour of the base with the commander out there, I arranged it, and we looked over the facilities. I do not purport to be an expert on what buildings should be retained or what should not be demolished. Mr. Speaker, it is a crying shame to see any building being demolished in that area that could at some

future time be of some benefit to the people of the province.

AN HON. MEMBER: There is hardly a vacant building left standing.

MR. AYLWARD: That is right. I will deal with that in a moment.

There is hardly a vacant building left standing. That, Mr. Speaker, I submit is disgraceful. When you look at Argentina - we can make such a case, Mr. Speaker, for Argentina. Unlike Harmon Field, of course, where they have the Harmon Field Corporation, that was passed over. That is not done. The Americans state that they still want Argentina. They have a lease for the land in Argentina. But surely, Mr. Speaker, the American Government are big enough, if they are approached and the situation is explained to them, to see that something could and should be done about Argentina, to make whatever facilities there are available to people of the province. As I mentioned a moment ago, when the Americans settled in Argentina, in order to get title to that property, they had to expropriate it and the people moved out of their homes there, to Freshwater, in masses; the whole community moved out to make way. Now admittedly, they were paid.

AN HON. MEMBER: They even moved away, Sir.

MR. AYLWARD: They even moved away. Well I did not know that. Anyway I suppose they did not worry too much, those people. I am talking about livers. But, Mr. Speaker, imagine what would happen today in Newfoundland if any authority, the American Government or indeed the United Nations decided that all the people in any province should move out to make way for a war effort. That is what happened in Argentina. Mr. Speaker, we know that a good steady job, with a pay cheque, at that time meant a lot to these people. But, Mr. Speaker, they had no reason I suppose to conclude at that time that in thirty years time the job would be finished, that they would be left high and dry in Freshwater, that they would be left with no facilities - (I did not mean that pun, Mr. Speaker). But they were high and dry in Freshwater. They are today. Here we have all those people who moved out of their homes and all their fishing premises

and everything to make way for the American Forces. They were probably very glad at the time to get a job. Thirty years after, Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of them without any real source of employment, with their former availability to the sea gone and gone forever. Now we have the Americans there with that base. Now what can be done? I suggested to the government that they should approach the Federal Government at Washington and ascertain what do the Americans intend doing with that base? What are their future intentions? Should they really hold on to the entire facilities that they now have at Argentia? I had a few suggestions here, Mr. Speaker, and I passed them on to the government. I have done it by letter to the Premier. I think they bear repetition. I think that the provincial government should request the federal government to ascertain from Washington what the future of the base really is. Secondly, the province should, in consultation with the United States Authorities, obtain a complete inventory of existing facilities at the base. Thirdly, the province

should take prompt steps to stop all future demolition or all further demolition of buildings on the base.

MR. NEARY: It is almost too late for you, they are all gone.

MR. AYLWARD: Yes, it is late.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. AYLWARD: Yes, I realize, Mr. Speaker, but I suppose it is never too late to make a start. I agree entirely with the suggestion of my learned friend that it is too late, but it is better late than never.

Fourthly I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that if the navy want to retain the base, then the province should obtain adequate assurance that they will maintain existing buildings.

Five; if the navy will not or cannot retain or maintain these buildings, then the province should, in consultation with the United States Authorities, work out some arrangement on the maintenance of these buildings provided it is found that they can be of assistance or use to the province. What they are saying now, of course, Mr. Speaker, is; "Oh the buildings are wartime buildings, they would be no good anyway." The province should or somebody acting on behalf of the province should at least have an opportunity to see if there is anything there that is being demolished that could be of some assistance to the people in the area.

Six; the province should determine what facilities on the base could be of any value in the development of the fishery and immediate steps should be taken to try and obtain title to the property. There are two sides to that base, Mr. Speaker, the northside and the southside. The northside has extremely good docking facilities and facilities that could be available or could be of some benefit, certainly in the future development of the fishery.

MR. NEARY: (Inaudible)

MR. AYLWARD: Yes, but they are only available on a thirty day basis. The present arrangement and I know the Commander of the base and the United States Authorities are very cooperative within their own landmarks and that is, if any industry want to move in they can take a building or buildings on a thirty day notice to vacate.

AN HON. MEMBER: - banjar.

MR. AYLWARD: That is right. Mr. Speaker, what reputable industry could be expected to spend large amounts of money necessary to make a proper development on such a basis? For that reason I think, as I said before, that the province should take steps immediately to try and get some arrangements worked out with the Americans on how these buildings could be obtained or maintained.

Seven; the government should determine what facilities on the base could be of value to individuals or companies intending to service oil rigs. We hear so much talk about the servicing of oil rigs that I sincerely hope that this will become a reality, Mr. Speaker, but again, Argentia and the Placentia Area is in such desperate need of employment it would be a wonderful help to the people if something and some of these facilities could be made available if they were, of course, of any value in that respect.

Eight; an agreement should be worked out with Washington, that if the Americans want to hold Argentia, then probably one side of the base, as I said before, could be returned.

Mr. Speaker, we have the fishermen, we have the fishing potential in the bay, we have the possibility at least of trying to get the facilities at Argentia. With all these, I respectfully submit something could and should be done in that area.

Mr. Speaker, moving up the district to Fox Harbour and the Ship Harbour Area I could say again that we have from Fox Harbour to Ship Harbour one of the worst roads that anyone ever travelled over. I brought (yes, the Minister of Education can smile because he is in a position and probably for one reason or another and I would never know why, nor would I guess, but I am sure that there will probably be a bit of pavement spread in St. Mary's.) If that could spread over, Mr. Speaker to the road between Fox Harbour and Ship Harbour, I think it would fill a great need.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: We are hoping to get someone to move it over.

MR. AYLWARD: But, Mr. Speaker, these men all work in Long Harbour

and they have to use that road. At certain times of the year, particularly in the spring the road is just completely impossible. I have had, as I mentioned in this House during a previous debate, numerous calls from the residents of the area and particularly the priest who is trying to serve the people there, that he just could not get over the road.

We have almost a similar situation in Long Harbour to Mount Arlington Heights. The road was paved last year to Long Harbour but the road from Mount Arlington Heights is still to be, not alone Mr. Speaker, (but this particular portion of highway will have I am told and I am glad to know some action is being taken on it) surveyed but the road built. I hope the road from Long Harbour to Mount Arlington Heights will be rebuilt and paved this year. I know the Minister of Transportation and Communications is familiar with it and he assured me that the new route was surveyed last year and work will commence on it this year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, moving up to the other end of the district, Southern Harbour and Arnold's Cove. These again, Mr. Speaker, are two communities that were almost created as the result of resettlement. In 1965, Southern Harbour had twenty families, today it has 130 families. Arnold's Cove which had about thirty families now has approximately 400 families. Arnold's Cove received the water and sewerage last year. Southern Harbour has a problem and a very serious problem with respect to water.

Again, Mr. Speaker, this is a community that grew almost completely from people who resettled from the islands in Placentia Bay. For any town to grow from twenty families to one hundred and thirty families in a space of just five years is, I respectfully submit, a phenomenal growth, but there is a serious problem in that community as far as water is concerned. First they have difficulty finding water and when they do, Mr. Speaker, the source is contaminated. Two years ago the Department of Community and Social Development had two artesian wells made in the community, one of these wells is

supplying a number of homes but the other well is not being used because the water supply is again not suitable for consumption. People have had to bring water as far as two and three miles to the communities and also, Mr. Speaker, there is a pronounced lack of any suitable land for development and of course, they cannot attempt to develop until they get water and sewerage.

We have had several meetings with the Department of Municipal Affairs, and the cost of installing water and sewerage is again very, very high and in order to make it financial feasible, Mr. Speaker, the residents are expected to pay a very high price. Even with that, Mr. Speaker, the council and the residents of the community are very serious about their efforts to obtain water and sewerage and in that respect we are now in consultation with the Department of Municipal Affairs trying to have the fish plant in the area approach DREE and obtain sufficient funds to have a waterline installed into the fish plant.

These fish plants, Mr. Speaker, in areas like Southern Harbour, are experiencing considerable difficulty because you have one arm of the federal government telling them that unless they install a supply of fresh water they will have to close the plant. They just cannot get fresh water there. It is the only fish plant in the community, it employs approximately twenty people, it could I am told if operating all year round employ approximately eight people, but that will have to close unless some water supply is found.

I sincerely trust that the Department of Provincial Affairs will in consultation with the Department of Economic Development obtain sufficient funds to install water into that community.

Arnold's Cove, Mr. Speaker, again a town which grew from thirty families in 1965 to over 400 families, one of the fastest growing towns in Newfoundland. This community desperately needs a paved road connection with the Trans Canada Highway. Mr. Speaker, these two communities, I respectfully submit, should obtain or should receive from the government proper consideration now that this new

development is planned for Come by Chance.

One can imagine, Mr. Speaker, the feelings of the residents of these communities when the government or indeed anyone talks about building a new town of ten thousand, one thousand or however many thousand people here. This means more water, more sewerage facilities into a new town and here we already have two towns, one without any water and sewerage,

containing about eighty per cent of people who are brought in to be resettled there. I think that these two communities, Mr. Speaker, with proper assistance from the Department of Municipal Affairs and other departments of government could easily accommodate some of the growth that is expected from Come by Chance.

With respect to Come by Chance, Mr. Speaker, I realize that another opportunity will be afforded us to debate this measure when the legislation changing the original agreement and new legislation is introduced, respecting the new agreement. But as the member for the district in which the refinery is located I was very pleased to learn that the new refinery permitted the government to make new financial arrangements surrounding the first refinery. This new refinery has provided the government with an opportunity, as stated by the Premier, to renegotiate the financial terms of the first refinery. It has also given them an opportunity to obtain a better arrangement for the new and much bigger refinery. I will have further to say on the matter, Mr. Speaker, when the legislation is being introduced to deal with the matter.

The new refinery will mean jobs for individuals in the area and I am very pleased that the development is taking place in my district and I trust that the residents will benefit. There is one observation I would like to make, Mr. Speaker, and that is in my opinion the people who should benefit most from this venture are the people who may or could possibly sustain the greatest loss and in this respect I refer of course to the fishermen in Placentia Bay and in particular the fishermen in the nearby area. There can be no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that there is always of course a potential hazard from pollution and that will be present with these large tankers moving in and out there. Also, of course, the fishermen in the immediate area have to be affected. Fishermen who fished on the Come by Chance shore.

who have trapped there for years and years certainly will not be able to set their traps in this particular area and these fishermen who could possibly sustain a loss should be compensated. Also, Mr. Speaker, the Communities of Arnolds Cove and Southern Harbour, these two communities should benefit and they should benefit by being provided with the municipal facilities to accommodate any influx of people in the area. As I said before, Mr. Speaker, the greatest benefits should be to the people who could sustain the greatest loss and that of course is the fishermen. Common sense and natural justice dicte and demand that these people be given the first opportunity to any good jobs in the area and as I said before,if their fishery is affected they should be compensated. Again it appears ridiculous to me to consider the construction of a new town without providing proper facilities to the existing Towns of Southern Harbour and Arnolds Cove.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this was briefly the needs of my district. I hope that they will receive the attention which they merit and deserve. There are a few matters that I would just like to speak briefly on and I understand the House Leader to say there is "Supply" that we want to finish this afternoon.

AN HON. MEMBER: Castle Hill, it is a good location.

MR. AYLWARD: Castle Hill is a big location. I could speak a long time on Castle Hill. I think I will wait for the budget for Castle Hill. So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a couple of remarks on the Department of Justice and in this respect I would support the efforts of the Newfoundland Law Society and particularly the Benchers in their efforts to have established in this province an appeal court. I feel as a practitioner and certainly as a member of the House of Assembly that the time has come for the Province of Newfoundland to have its own appeal court. As you probably know, Mr. Speaker, I am sure all members of the House, particularly the learned gentleman who have occasion to practice in our court know, we have here a trial division

consisting of the chief justice and three puisne judges. We are, with Prince Edward Island, the only other Province in Canada without an appeal court, and this I think needs correction and I hope that this government will introduce any legislation that is necessary to amend the appropriate act.

I know my hon. friend from White Bay South, in his short period as acting Attorney General, took some steps in that direction and I certainly support them and I know that the present Attorney General feels the same way. I do hope that we can and will in the very near future see an appeal court established in this province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, another matter of close concern to me personally and one of some importance to the province is the question of legal aid. The legal aid system that we have in Newfoundland today was introduced in 1968 by the Law Society and it was administered by a committee of the society and has worked very, very well considering not the limited resources, Mr. Speaker, the absence of any financial resources as far as paying the lawyers themselves were concerned. I want to thank the Attorney General, the hon. member for Burin, for his co-operation and assistance not alone recently but when he was Attorney General before because he did provide us with the office facilities and the means whereby we could pay a secretary. An office was open with a grant of just \$10,000 a year and we received \$10,000 a year for just three years and then for the last two years we received a grant of \$25,000 per year. Not one cent, Mr. Speaker, not one cent of our grants have been paid to any lawyer, certainly not up until last year, for legal fees. Any monies received by the legal aid committee from this government was particularly and specifically to cover disbursements. I think the Law Society deserves a great deal of commendation for their co-operation and their contribution to legal aid.

We live in a society that is deeply committed to improving the material welfare of all, to providing essential medical services and

to ensuring equal opportunity for education. A society so committed should not tolerate the lack of adequate legal representation for those without means to secure it for themselves. In my opinion no person should be precluded by poverty from having necessary and adequate legal services. I am glad, Mr. Speaker, to learn that the federal government has made available such financial resources for legal aid. I know that agreements have been made by the Government of Canada with the Province of Alberta, British Columbia and I think it is New Brunswick for legal aid and of course the system applies throughout Canada and that is that the federal government has agreed to pay to the province fifty cents per capita or ninety per cent of the cost of providing legal aid in criminal matters, whichever is the lesser.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to inform the hon. member that he has only five minutes left.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, I thought I started at 4:30 P.M. I have a few more remarks here. I will not be too long, Mr. Speaker. I was never, as I said before, so pleased, Mr. Speaker, with any piece of social legislation emanating really from Ottawa as I was with the financial assistance made available for legal aid. This province administered legal aid to the needy of the province and we had a yardstick for eligibility which provided as follows: a person who is entitled to legal aid if requiring them to provide legal aid impair their ability to provide themselves or their families with a decent living. Now, Mr. Speaker, the federal test of eligibility,

leaves the question to the provincial agency who administers legal aid to determine who will receive legal aid but the test that is to be applied is as follows - the provincial agency shall determine the financial circumstances under which an applicant for legal aid may be approved as a recipient thereof, but in so doing shall apply flexible rules which take into account whether the applicant can retain counsel at his own expense without him or his dependents suffering undue financial hardship, such as incurring heavy indebtedness or being required to dispose of modest necessary assets.

This test, I respectfully submit, Mr. Speaker, is much wider than the one that is presently in existence and will make legal aid more available in criminal matters to the needy of our province. Under this present plan which the federal government proposes to enter with the province, any person charged with an indictable offence will be entitled for legal aid.

Also, Mr. Speaker, if there is any resident in Newfoundland charged with a summary conviction offence where there is a likelihood that individual may get a period of imprisonment or lose his means of earning his livelihood, then that individual is entitled to legal aid.

This is a great step forward, Mr. Speaker, and one which will mean, as I said before, a great deal to a great number of Newfoundlanders. Mr. Speaker, the people of the province should realize it is not legal aid for St. John's where the legal aid office is or for Corner Brook but for the entire province. So that after the Province of Newfoundland executes this agreement with the Government of Canada, no matter where any man in Newfoundland with an indictable criminal offence, or whether he is charged with an offence punishable on summary conviction, where there is a likelihood that that man could be imprisoned,

he can and will be able to telephone the legal aid office and be entitled to a lawyer.

MR. NEARY: Will the lawyers travel all over?

MR. AYLWARD: The lawyers will travel anywhere, Mr. Speaker.

What has happened is this, Mr. Speaker, the Government of Newfoundland is very, very fortunate to be able to benefit from the fact that there is in existence in Newfoundland today the legal aid committee and we have them, at the request of the Attorney General, again who I commend for his interest in legal aid, and agreeing to act as the provincial agency.

We will then, once this agreement is executed, in consultation of course with the Attorney General and the Department of Justice, make sure that everyone in Newfoundland is aware of this. That is one of the stipulations of the agreement executed by the Government of Canada with the other provinces that sufficient publicity is given to and that the people know that it is available, because, Mr. Speaker, it is not good providing legal aid unless we can make sure that the people who need it most are aware that it is available.

MR. NEARY: When do you propose to do it?

MR. AYLWARD: We propose to do it, Mr. Speaker, in this manner: Previously we wrote the Department of Justice and suggested that the magistrates be contacted, I circularized every magistrate in Newfoundland and advised him, and I will do so again and also the police and even under this particular set up when it is implemented Mr. Speaker, notices should be in the prisons and in the penitentiaries and also one very important aspect of it, and financial assistance will be available, that a person will not have to wait to be really charged in court but if he wants advice and assistance, and that is very, very important, Mr. Speaker, that he should have available

to him a lawyer just by phoning and I hope -

MR. NEARY: Will he be told that by the magistrate?

MR. AYLWARD: He will be told and he should be told by the magistrate and he should be told by the police and I hope the Department of Justice see that this programme gets sufficient publicity that then any man, woman or child in Newfoundland who is charged with a serious criminal offence, no longer will he say, "I cannot contact a lawyer because I do not have any money," he can phone the legal aid office and have his choice of one of fifty lawyers who have agreed so far to participate in legal aid.

This means, as I said before, Mr. Speaker, he does not even have to wait until he is brought before court, and I hope to

have on duty lawyers in the Magistrates' Court on Monday morning and indeed every day in the week, paid for, of course, by the federal government now. When people come up and they only want their cases postponed or they want some advice right on the spot that it will be available to them. I think, Mr. Speaker, that this is a fantastic step forward. It is wonderful for any individual in Newfoundland to be able to conclude when the province executes this agreement that no longer will money be a bar to him. If he is charged with an indictable offence or if he is charged with a summary conviction offence where, if convicted, he would likely serve a prison term.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. AYLWARD: The mean's test. I quoted the test. The test that we have now is: if requiring a person to pay would impair his ability to provide himself or his family with the necessities of life, then he is entitled to legal aid. The federal test - what we should bear in mind, we will still give the test but the federal guidelines are: we should have flexible rules which take into account whether the applicant can retain counsel at his own expense without him or his dependent suffering undue financial hardship. In other words if there is any man, woman or child (well child at certain ages, I suppose and this is covered too, the Child Welfare Act. Legal aid will be provided there) in Newfoundland that is charged with a criminal offence, Mr. Speaker, and does not have the money to pay a lawyer or if paying him he would have to go in debt or he would have to sell something, will be entitled to a lawyer. The federal government will contribute again fifty cents per capita or ninety per cent of the cost.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. AYLWARD: That decision is made by a provincial agency administering legal aid. Mr. Speaker, if I may just take a few moments, I do not want to delay the House but this is of great importance I think to the people

of the province because how many have we had over the years charged with offences who just could not afford lawyers. I only hope that the magistrates in the province (I feel certain they will when proper circulars are sent to them) whenever any one is brought before them for a serious offence, just contact the legal aid office. The only unfortunate part about it is, Mr. Speaker, that this legal aid from the federal government is restricted to criminal matters. There is still the big, wide field of divorce and matrimonial matters, family matters where there is no legal aid available, unless of course the children or one of the parties to the marriage or health is in danger. This is an area which needs a great deal of expansion and I only hope that the financial resources that the province has heretofore made available on the criminal side will all now be diverted to the civil side, so that the people of Newfoundland can expect, receive and enjoy probably one of the best systems of legal aid in this country, apart I suppose from what Ontario has.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to the day when the Attorney General announces that the Government of Newfoundland have made this agreement with the Government of Canada.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. AYLWARD: Well I imagine we will be hearing from the Attorney General when that is available. One other matter, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the administration of justice I want to deal with. This is a matter which has caused me some concern and I think it is a matter which should be corrected and that is: I would like to see introduced in this session of the House of Assembly an act to remove what I consider to be one of the most inequitable situations that prevails with respect to legal rights, the legal rights of a gratuitous passenger. Under our present law, Mr. Speaker, do you realize that if I invite you to accompany me on a hunting trip or to do anything and we go off for a nice drive

in your car (now we will assume for the moment that you are married, that may be a rash assumption and even further still that you have five or six children -

AN HON. MEMBER: That would be more irrational.

MR. AYLWARD: But, Mr. Speaker, this is a serious situation that you would find yourself in. If you were injured - if I were driving along the highway and we were going fishing or going indeed anywhere and you were injured in that motor car with me, in order for you to recover, you would have to prove not alone that I was just negligent but you would have to prove that I was guilty of gross negligence or what we call

disregard for -

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. AYLWARD: Yes. So, Mr. Speaker, in other words a passenger in a car in Newfoundland today, if he is injured in an automobile accident or even worse again supposing he is killed and the estate tries to recover, they have to prove not just that the driver was negligence but they have to prove gross negligence and that in this day and age, Mr. Speaker, I think is just unbelievable and unjustifiable. I do not know what the situation is in other provinces, Mr. Speaker, but it is almost impossible to advise and direct plans. A client will come into you and ask advice, he was injured in a motor vehicle accident and there is no doubt about negligence in your mind, but if the individual who is seeking your advice was standing on a highway and was struck by the same driver you would tell him, oh, there is no doubt you have a cause of action. But he says he is a passenger and you will say: "Well boy, you have to prove gross negligence." It is a problem for the courts, Mr. Speaker, it is a problem for practitioners and it is almost I say impossible to properly advise clients on what their rights are. I cannot see in this day and age any real justification or reason to maintain that. I ask the Attorney General to introduce legislation in this session of the House of Assembly that would repeal that particular provision of the Highway Traffic Act.

MR. NEARY: Does the honourable member mean if you are driving down the Trans Canada and you pick up a hitch-hiker and they get in with you and they are killed?

MR. AYLWARD: Not alone a hitch-hiker, yourself, supposing as I have said before, the Leader of the Opposition or we will even make it better our House Leader suggests that he will drive you home this afternoon, you know, and you are injured in that car, in order for you, if you survive to report the accident yourself, or if you die for your wife to report the accident, you would have to prove that he was guilty of gross negligence whereas if he were driving along the road and just struck you, he would have to prove ordinary negligence.

MR. NEARY: You think the honourable member would have insurance covering that.

MR. AYLWARD: It does not matter about insurance, he still has to prove gross negligence, Mr. Speaker, there is no justification in this day and age. I think the late Mr. Justice Winter made a wonderful decision on it some years ago, but of course, under our system of law it is what we call stare decisis. A judge has to follow it in certain cases, but they have no difficulty in distinguishing it.

The late Mr. Justice Winter I will submit gave one of the real treatise on gratuitous passengers and rights of individuals. If only the Department of Justice and the draftsmen in that section were to study that and bring forth legislation, Mr. Speaker, even based upon what the learned judge, the late Mr. Justice Winter, said, it would mean so much to the people of this province.

I could tell this honourable House cases upon cases where grave injustices have been resulted to men, women and their families because of this terrible provision in our law. As I have said before, there is no justification for it. If the same accident happens and you are a paying passenger in a car, you will get paid and there is no real reason for it and I again beseech the Attorney General in this session to remove that obvious inequity.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there were a couple of minor matters that I wanted to mention there, but I received some notes here so I will just see what they are saying.

MR. W. N. ROWE: Well you are driving your partner mad.

MR. AYLWARD: Well he does not have far to go, does he?

AN HON. MEMBER: Time, Mr. Speaker, his time is up.

MR. AYLWARD: I only hope, Mr. Speaker, that the matters which I mentioned concerning my district will receive the attention which they merit and deserve. Also that this last reference which I made to the provision of the Highway Traffic Act this is an important matter, Mr. Speaker, and I

do not think it is one that should be just, I do not know what action a person takes to get action on a thing like this but it seems so obvious and I am sure all the honourable members of the House of Assembly, when they see fit to study it, will certainly see that it deserves to be repealed.

So, Mr. Speaker, considering the fact that the House Leader wants some money voted and the hour is getting late, I will just conclude my remarks. I have some other items here but I will leave them for the Budget Speech. I thank you for your attention and I would like to thank the other members.

MR. SPEAKER: Before the honourable House Leader continues, a few days ago I accepted with reservation and under advisement a resolution from the honourable member for Bonavista North. I would just like to say with one minor change in the resolution we have accepted it and it will be on the Order Paper.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the honourable the member for Port au Port I would like to adjourn the debate.

Motion that the debate on the Address Reply be adjourned, carried.

On motion that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the resolution for the granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN:In respect of the remarks of the honourable the member for Bell Island, the Chair rules as follows:

Order 44 (A) of the Standing Order states; the Standing Orders of the House shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole House so far as may be applicable except the Standing Orders as to the seconding of motions and limiting the number of times of speaking. I have taken advice and consulted authorities, namely Erskin May, eighteenth edition at pages (594) and (718), Beauchesne, fourth edition, page (203), citation 242 (1).

The motion under debate is that \$6,675,000 be voted to the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation by way of Interim Supply. The remarks of the member are in effect a speech to the motion and not a question as such and are in order in so far as they relate to the request for supply contained in this motion. The minister in speaking to the motion may deal with any matters appropriate to the motion.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I would say that is a fair ruling. So, I presume then that I am permitted to carry on.

We were dealing with, as Your Honour pointed out, Head VIII, Social Services, \$6,675,000. Now in respect to this vote, Mr. Chairman, I would like it if when the minister is discussing this matter he would answer a few questions that I would like to put him concerning this particular vote.

In respect, for instance, to the extra ten dollars a month fuel allowance for the months of November, December, January, February, March and April which were implemented two years ago; I would like to know

if there is any provision in this Interim Supply vote, Sir, to continue this allowance beyond the end of April or will the allowance revert back to the fifteen dollars a month which is normal for people on long term assistance for the remaining months of the year?

Also, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a few words about the food rates. In view of the increase in the cost of living in the province and in view of the recognition by the Government of Canada that people on old age pensions should be entitled to an increase because of the increase in the cost of living, I would like to know if there is any provision in this vote to increase the food rates for adults and for each child in the family? I would like for the honourable minister to tell the Committee what the rates are at the present time for food for each adult in the family and for each child?

I would like also, Mr. Chairman, for the minister to tell us what the clothing allowance is for - I do not know if the minister is making notes on this or not

I would like to know what the clothing allowance is for each adult at the present time and each child in a family. I would like to have the rates for short-time and long-term recipients, Sir. I would also like to know, Mr. Chairman, if there is any provision in this vote to provide household maintenance utilities allowances for people on short-term assistance. I do not know whether honourable members are aware of the situation at the present time, but only those families on long-term assistance receive household maintenance utilities allowances of twenty-five dollars a month. There is no allowance for people on short-term assistance.

I have always been puzzled myself to know how these people even pay their light bills because they do not receive a household maintenance allowance. Only those on long-term receive a household maintenance allowance, and what the government intends to do about this. If the minister has made any provision in this vote to take care of the household maintenance allowance, the equivalent to what those on long-term assistance are receiving.

What is the clothing allowance? I would like for the minister to tell us what clothing allowance rates are at the present time for both long-term recipients and short-term recipients. I would like to have it broken down to know what adults receive on long-term assistance and children receive on long-term assistance and what adults receive on short-term assistance and what children receive on short-term assistance. I would like for the minister to tell us whether children below school age and dependents above school age in families on short-term assistance are entitled to this allowance. If so, how much?

The minister already told us, Mr. Chairman, the total number of cases I think for

MR. MURPHY: (First part inaudible) I have new figures.

MR. MURPHY: New figures. Well before I comment on that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to have the new figures because I have a few questions that

I want to put to the minister on that. Perhaps the minister would care to comment now and then when I get the figures I can discuss the other matter, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, with reference to what rates will apply and so on and so forth, as a minister I do not think I am in a position at this time to disclose what may be the policy of this government but that will be brought forward in our budget.

At the present time we are talking about rates and possibly I may have some notes here. If there are any further ones that I have not I will be only too happy to get them. I am now preparing a complete paper on all these things for the actual budget itself and I have some notes here, but if they are incomplete I will accept and as a matter of fact, I believe there may be questions on the Order Paper. If not, I will be only too happy to get them.

With reference to the first one which I think was the fuel allowance, the maximum allowance for fuel which was twenty dollars a month for January, February, March and April and fifteen dollars a month for the remaining months of the year. We increased this on February 1, 1972, this government did increase it an extra five dollars a month and in Labrador an additional allowance up to fifteen dollars a month for the winter months.

Here, Sir, if I may, I would like to, before I go any further, pay tribute to my colleague the former minister of this department who went in there and did such a tremendous job since January 1972, of cleaning up the department. From what I understand, San Francisco after the earthquake was a heaven and a paradise compared to this department when my honourable colleague moved in. Notwithstanding, he did it for the people of this province. We have heard a lot of lip now from a former minister with all this stuff. I have answered one question so far and I have some more answers here.

We are not hiding anything at all from the honourable member, we are not hiding anything. If you want to give me notice of any

questions I will be too happy to have them and I will get the answers for you. The fuel allowance is looked after by this government by an increase, a very generous increase which took place in February 1972. In April, there was an additional grant for food for each adult in the family from thirty dollars to thirty-five dollars a month. We also increased the clothing allowance in certain cases depending on the merits of the case, which I think was a very forward step in this department.

Previously, anybody who had a mortgage on a house and was stricken through no fault of his own and forced on social assistance,

we paid, we gave them an allowance of money to pay the interest on that mortgage but he could not get any money towards paying off the mortgage. This was brought in by this government where we make an allowance of, we increased it, the maximum amount was \$50.00 a month and we increased this to \$100.00 a month and includes the payment of interest and principal, which is something revolutionary, because we have a case of a chap here where, in all good faith, when working bought a house on his own and was paying a mortgage. Next door to him there was a person who was on social assistance and we were paying perhaps \$100.00 or \$120.00 a month for this house whereas the guy who owned his own home we would only pay him the interest on his mortgage. Now he receives a \$100.00 a month until the time that he gets back to work and is able to pay it himself or until the house is paid off. Now I think that is a very revolutionary step and was brought in again by my hon. colleague, the former Minister of Social Assistance.

Clothing was increased, food was increased. There were also allowances of earnings for a single person to earn up to \$30.00 a month and \$60.00 a month for a family of two or more persons which was not income that was charged as income, actually it was allowable income. The foster home rates were increased. Child welfare allowance was increased. I do not know if there are any other questions that have been asked but if there are and you want definite answers I will be only too happy to get them.

But basically, Sir, there were great strides made forward in increasing the allowances to all people during the past year in 1972 and as I say the whole thing is being prepared now. If the hon. member wants them now I can get all the answers to his questions. As I look now these are based on our present rates, this bit of money we are looking for and as I say there is allowance for April and May. If there is anything else that - I was going to give him the correct figures - long-term assistance for the month of February 15,643 cases, short-term 9,345 which would be the basic receiving general assistance but there

is another number of 2,900 receiving assistance of some kind whether it might be hospital care, ambulance care, perhaps building supplies and this sort of thing. So basically we can say that there are 15,643 long-term assistance cases and in the area of 9,500 short-term.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. MURPHY: I did not get the total number but there would be, the figure would be about 91,000 people altogether, 91,000 persons. To figure it out there is eighteen per cent of the population that are receiving assistance either long-term or short-term from the Department of Social Services.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I might say in passing that these figures are much higher than they were say about a year ago this time. The figures a year ago according to the annual report of the Department of Social Services and Rehabilitation were short-term assistance 8,747, the number of cases 8,747 at the end of March 1972.

MR. MURPHY: Perhaps there was. I am not arguing. The gentleman asked me for the figures and I just gave him them and now he wants -

MR. NEARY: This was the period ending March 31, 1972 which was the period when the previous administration were in power for most of that fiscal year. The new administration took over on January 18, Mr. Chairman, and they carried out the affairs of this and all the other departments up to the end of March and this report is for the -

MR. MARSHALL: If I may, I would like to move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

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

On motion the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 13, 1973, at 3:00 P.M.