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TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1977.

The House met at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. the Minister of Rural
and Industrial Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I just want to rise and suggest a resolution that could be sent from the House to the senior citizens of our Province who last evening at St. Patrick's Mercy Home put on a display of handicraft where eight of the homes - six in St. John's, one the Pentecostal Home in Clarke's Beach, another the Harbour Lodge in Carbonear - displayed 546 items of handicraft, I believe representing some 200 participants, ranging in age from senior citizens of the younger group to people as old as in their nineties. It was one of the more moving experiences that I have had, along with the Minister of Health and Recreation and Rehabilitation.

The particular contest was the third in a row sponsored by the War Amputees of Canada, the Newfoundland Branch, and organized by a Miss Nancy Night, who was more or less the co-ordinator, a social worker at St. Luke's Anglican Home. I thought it was worth mentioning, Mr. Speaker, because the display represented, really, almost the epitome of the history of our Province, with 546 works of art. That is a skill and represented a sort of a depth of skill that is being regenerated and reborn in our Province today. But certainly, the younger generations and the young family people still have a long way to go to match the skills and the efforts of the senior citizens.

What it did for me, Mr. Speaker, was to give me, really, a reminiscence of the history of our Province, when many of the skills and the artifacts

MR. LUNDRIGAN: and the handicrafts of our people were born of necessity. But it goes much beyond that because I believe what we saw last evening at St. Patrick's Mercy Home was an indication of the kinds of innovativeness and inventiveness and imagination which characterized and still characterizes the people of our Province.

I was a little concerned that perhaps because of the lack of publicity a lot of our members did not know about the event, and I would like to encourage all the members of the Legislature, sometime today, to take five minutes and visit St. Patrick's Mercy Home which is only, literally, five minutes from the Legislature, and have a look at some of the works of art of our senior citizens.

As I say, there were 200 people who participated. There were 546 works of art ranging from every conceivable type of skill, leather, tatting, which is almost a rare skill by Newfoundland people today, all kinds of woollen works, netting and the kinds of things that are peculiar to our fishermen, the kinds of robes and dresses, and I can go on and name literally dozens of indications of capabilities displayed by the senior citizens.

It is a marvellous achievement. The War Amputees of Canada, the Newfoundland Branch, deserve special commendation. It was a very, very entertaining event. The Royal Newfoundland Regiment Band participated last evening, and entertained the senior citizens for a couple of hours. Mr. John Carter was one of the co-ordinators as well, who deserves a word of commendation. Not our own 'John', the member of the Legislature, the P.R. Mr. John Carter. So I was very pleased with it. I commend it to the Legislature and I would hope that hon. members will see fit to send

MR. LUNDRIGAN: a letter of commendation to the sponsors and especially some kind of an indication from our Legislature to the eight senior citizen's homes, that we as Newfoundland Legislators appreciate the kinds of artistic displays that were put on by our senior citizens.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, we on our side would wish to be associated with the words and the thoughts of the Minister of Rural Development in this case. I think these people deserve this type of recognition and it is fitting that we in the Legislature do extend recognition to them on this achievement.

I think it is proper a letter go forth from the Clerk or from Your Honour, whichever is the correct procedure, and certainly it is entirely appropriate that recognition of this sort be given to achievements of this sort. Because so often in this Province, Sir, we tend to concentrate only on so-called public things and these often are not as meaningful or as important to the fabric of life in this Province as is the sort of activity to which the minister referred in his remarks.

Very much part of the warp and woof of life in this Province is the kind of traditional skills. Handicrafts is in many ways a pretentious name. In many ways it is an imposition of an outside value on things which are not done as handicraft or art work; they are done because they are part of the fabric of our life. I know the minister would agree with me on this, that people in generations gone by, and still in many cases today, these - call them what you want - these artifacts, these various types of manufacture are done because they are very much part of our culture, very much part of our way of life.

Something as simple and yet as elegant as a heavy knit sweater, a fisherman's guernsey, or a fisherman's jersey - I do not know whether it refers to one or the other of the Channel Islands, Jersey and

MR. ROBERTS: Guernsey - but these we now talk of as handicrafts, but yet to me they are not something that was done for artistic purposes, they were done instead as part of our daily life. They evolved to meet a need and are very much part of what Newfoundland has been and what Newfoundland is and what we hope Newfoundland will be.

One of the most useful programmes the minister's department has, to my way of thinking, is the programme to encourage these handicrafts. I like to think of them as part of our way of life. I think they are a very important part. And I think it is right that the Legislature should recognize them at this time and in this way, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Industrial and Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, this seems like the morning for praise and congratulations, bouquets. The morning for bouquets. I want to rise to do something that I really intended to do yesterday, but because of the events and the drawn-out legislature before the Question Period I never had the opportunity.

For the last year or more, and maybe going back for the last twelve or fourteen years, I have had some association with the present personnel, and of course, in recent months and years, the present company called Breakwater Books, Mr. Clyde Rose, and the work of that particular organization in this Province.

As members know, Breakwater Books is an indigenous Newfoundland Publishing Company, I believe maybe the first of its kind in the Province, maybe the first of its kind in the Atlantic region.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I want to rise, Mr. Speaker, and move a resolution to commend three facets of that particular operation. Number one, and the very outstanding achievement of Mr. Ray Guy in the -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - in the sense that he won the Stephen Leacock Award for the most outstanding humorous novel of the year, which is the most sought after and the most prestigious award that could be won by any Canadian writer. Now no Newfoundlander or Labradorian needs be reminded of the skills of Mr. Ray Guy, one of our greatest writers, I doubt if there is a person who can read in the Province who is not aware of the skills and his talents. But I do not think anybody expected that he would reach at an early age, he is still a very young man, this level of attainment. I believe that the House should sent a resolution of support and praise to Mr. Guy for this very outstanding way. I believe, he will be presented on July 23 in Orillia with a medal of commendation and sort of reward for that particular achievement.

AN HON. MEMBER: And a \$1,500 cheque.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: And a \$1,500 cheque, as the hon. member indicates.

Now as well, Mr. Speaker, I want to hope that the House can also pay commendation to Al Pittman and Pam Hall both of whom

Mr. Lundrigan.

wrote and illustrated the book called Down By Jim Long's Stage. I do not know how many members saw the book. I purchased copies of the book for the Christmas gifts that I - the few I did sent out - and I have been encouraging members ever since. If I had had the time today I would have tried to have gotten copies for the members of the Legislature one way or another, because it is the first book that I have seen published by our Newfoundland artists.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is it called?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Down By Jim Long's Stage, it is called.

It is published by our own Newfoundland artists and our own Newfoundland publishing company which illustrates and captures for the youngsters of our Province, the children of our Province, the fisheries in a very illustrative manner. What is the series of books the youngsters purchase, the American series? Dr. Suess, is it? Dr. Suess and others. Well, Dr. Suess has not got a patch on Al Pittman. I just wanted to indicate that, because this particular book is a credit to our Province. I hope that the Minister of Education - I have talked with him on this - can find a way - and I am sure that many of these schools have done it on their own - but to find a way to get it into our curriculum. What it does is that it takes the various fish of our Province, the sculpin and the codfish and all the rest of them and put it into rhyme with the illustrations. That book won the best illustrated book of Canada, children's book of Canada. And it is a credit, an absolute credit. I say this with no political motivation at all, but I do feel that it is a big, big step towards capturing for our youngsters something which is very akin to the culture of our Province. And I hope that that particular book does find its way into every school and into the hands of every child in our Province. I hope they come out with a dozen books such as this. And I hope Dr. Suess with all of his talents finds the sales steadily declining in this Province.

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

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, it is a very real pleasure for me to say in behalf of all of us on this side, those present and those away for a moment or so, that we very much agree with the sentiments expressed by the minister. I think Ray Guy's achievement is particularly noteworthy and not in anyway taking away from the achievement of Mr. Pittman and the lady - Mrs. Wall, I believe her name is - who illustrated the Down By Jim Long's Stage book, which is a most interesting and a most enjoyable book.

MR. NEARY: After getting congratulations from this House, he might -

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I was going to go on to say that I read Ray Guy's column every week, as I assume we all do. I enjoy it, sometimes a little more than others. I must admit that when my carcass is being played my enjoyment is not as great perhaps as when somebody else is up in the firing line. But I would think next week's column would be particularly interesting after Mr. Guy has been so honoured by the House. But I believe, Sir, it is proper for the House to do these things, and I think that Ray Guy's achievement is a very great one, The Leacock award, I do not know if I would call it the most sought after award in Canada. That is maybe a little pretentious, I would say to the minister. There are the Governor General's awards and some others of some stature. But the Leacock award is certainly the outstanding award for humourists in Canada. There has never been a Newfoundlander who has won it. The closest we have ever come was that temporary Newfoundland, temporary resident of Burgeo, until the whale was towed up and put in front of his door as an expression of the feelings of the people of Burgeo, Mr. Farley Mowat, who won for his book written about Newfoundland, The Boat Who Would Not Float, which is also a marvelous piece of comic revelry.

Mr. Roberts.

But Ray Guy, while he has certainly taken strips of hide off a number of public men in this Province, Ray Guy has, I think - and I enjoy his writings very much - captured in many of his pieces a very real part of what life in this Province is all about. And he certainly speaks with eloquence and passion and conviction, and I think that this recognition by the Leacock Committee is entirely fitting. And I venture to say, venture to hope that it will not be the last award which Ray Guy will win, either for his humorous works or for his work as an authentic expression of a large section of our Newfoundland culture.

MR. ROBERTS.

Breakwater Books deserve our congratulations. Clyde Rose and his group have done a marvelous job. It is part of the renaissance, you know, the renaissance of the creative arts in Newfoundland; David Blackwood's pictures, the pictures of Christopher Pratt and his wife, Mary Pratt, all of the other artists who have expressed and are expressing with conviction and with eloquence and with passion and with belief what they see in Newfoundland and Labrador and what they want in Newfoundland and Labrador. I think we ought to do more to encourage them. I would like to see an arts council. I think that was an excellent suggestion, and unfortunately it got torpedoed in the intergovernmental rivalries and in petty bickering, but it is an idea that ought to be revived. I would like to see some government money made available for the support of the arts in this Province, the creative arts, the visual arts and the plastic arts and the graphic arts. The \$300,000 we put into The Norma and Gladys, Mr. Speaker - I do not want to get into that particular controversy now - but that sum of money if put into an arts council would, I think, pay far greater boons and far greater benefits for the people of this Province.

So I do feel, Sir, that the House - it is with real pleasure that I support the resolution, and I would hope that the government will have perhaps an opportunity to debate it in due course, that the government will reconsider their refusal to have an arts council, and that we will see an arts council set up, given at least minimal funding. If we can find a half a million dollars, whatever it is, for The Norma and Gladys, we can certainly find a couple of hundred thousand dollars to make it possible for people to express themselves and to express what is a very real part of our culture, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Statements by Ministers.

The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, possibly I should - I guess I do need leave of the House to move a resolution arising out of yesterday's debate on the Terra Nova National golf course. If hon. members agree?

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. gentleman have leave?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move the following resolution, seconded by my hon. friend the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush).

WHEREAS Mr. John Rodriguez, NDP Member of Parliament for Nickel Belt, Ontario made statements which were insulting and erroneous before the Indian and Northern Affairs Standing Committee in respect to the construction of a golf course in the Terra Nova National Park;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Rodriguez sought to put a motion before the Indian and Northern Affairs Standing Committee to reduce the amount allocated for the construction of the Terra Nova National golf course from \$1.4 million to the nominal amount of \$1;

AND WHEREAS outside the House of Commons Mr. Rodriguez suggested to representatives of the press that the Terra Nova National Park golf course was being constructed on land owned by Provincial Cabinet Ministers;

AND WHEREAS these statements are contemptuous and insulting towards this Province and the allegations to land ownership are false and without foundation;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House record a strong disapproval of the attempt by Mr. Rodriguez to breach an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of this Province, and this House requests Mr. Rodriguez to withdraw these offending statements,

Mr. Hickey.

and that he make an unqualified apology to the people of this Province:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mr. Speaker, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Ian Watson, Chairman of the Indian and Northern Affairs Standing Committee of the House of Commons.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. gentleman asked leave to move the resolution, and I presume now that I would ask is the House ready for the question?

The hon. gentleman for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH: It gives me certainly great pleasure to second the motion, Mr. Speaker, put forward by the hon. Minister of Tourism and certainly I think there comes a time when the Newfoundland Legislature and the members of the Newfoundland Legislature must take a stand on these type of remarks made by a gentleman who seems to be quite unfamiliar with Newfoundland, with its needs as is illustrated by many of the statements that I have read with respect to this issue, the Terra Nova National Park golf course. Indeed

Mr. Lush:

it seems as though the member does not know when the park started. Every news press release I read says that the golf course was included in the 1972 agreement which created Terra Nova National Park. Of course, all hon. members know that Terra Nova National Park was created long before that time. And when you get people making public figures, Federal M.P.s making statements of this nature, statements which are erroneous, contemptuous and insidious, invidious, I think it is time that we, that this House let these people know what kind of people we are, that we will stand up for Newfoundland and not let this kind of nonsense take place.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I second the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is a shame that this House has to dignify remarks -

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - like the kind made by Mr. Rodriguez.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: I think, Sir, we are just merely giving notoriety to the hon. gentleman -

MR. SMALLWOOD: And lowering ourselves.

MR. NEARY: And lowering, yes lowering ourselves in recognizing the statements. Obviously what the gentleman was trying to do was trying to point out that in these days of high unemployment, mass unemployment and so forth that here you had the Government of Canada building golf courses in Newfoundland, and, you know, there might be a certain amount of sympathy and support for that kind of thinking that the money probably could be better spent in other ways. There are people probably in this hon. House who would agree that instead of building golf courses so that the wives of millionaires and rich and well-to-do people and high mucky-mucks can go out and spent their leisure time golfing -

AN HON. MEMBER: That is over sympathy.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think, that is the point the hon. gentleman was trying to make, Mr. Rodriguez. But in so doing he - in so doing, Sir, the gentleman has, probably insulted certain people in this Province. I really think that all we are doing is just giving his statement a little credibility, adding a little notoriety to what he had said, but I suppose in one sense we have to do it. We cannot let these things go on. We cannot have insults flung at us from Parliament Hill, I suppose, without some recognition. I feel it would have been better, Sir, if we had taken him to task outside the House rather than giving him the recognition that we are giving him in this hon. House.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Twillingate.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I am going to vote for the resolution, though I regret the fact that it is before us and that we are asked to vote on it. I am going to vote for it, though I deprecate it. The sovereign Legislature of a province of Canada passing a resolution condemning some punk! It is beneath our dignity way below us; we are lowering ourselves.

The Prime Minister of Canada has answered him. That is enough answer, is it not? The issue is not the golf course. That is not the issue. Who but a fool would oppose putting a golf course in a great national park? Who but a fool would oppose that? It is right that we should have the golf course. Anything else that any national park has anywhere in Canada, we should have it also. That is not the issue. The issue is whether this sovereign Legislature of a sovereign Province will solemnly pass a resolution condemning a punk -

AN HON. MEMBER: It is all wrong.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It is all wrong, but I will vote for it, I am sorry the minister introduced it. And if he and my colleague here,

Mr. Smallwood:

my seatmate, if they can agree that this is our sentiment and withdraw the resolution and leave it to the Prime Minister, who has already answered him, the Prime Minister of Canada, I mean.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. minister speaks now he closes the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I did not understand it to be a debate but I would just like to say one word. First of all, I do believe that we have to send some kind of an indication to the particular Committee, the Indian and Northern Affairs Committee, of the concern of the Legislature because the remarks were not specifically referring to only the National Park; they were very specifically implicating by direct comment members of this Legislature reflecting on members of the Legislature, making charges against members of the Legislature. It is an unusual kind of behaviour for a member from another jurisdiction to be reflecting on members of our jurisdiction.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I tend to agree, however, that we have to be a bit careful that we do not over-react to John Rodriguez. John Rodriguez whom I know very well is given to a lot of hyperbole. I believe and I hope when we get the response back we will find from Mr. Watson that this was the nature of his remarks, that he got carried a bit away with his philosophical concerns for spending on issues such as a golf course, for he is a very strong NDP'er from Nickel Belt, but I do believe, and I have to support the resolution the minister is proposing, seconded by the member for Terra Nova, that we cannot allow John Rodriguez or anybody else in another jurisdiction to take pot-shots, make changes within the seclusion and the security of a committee of the legislature of the House of Commons, against members of this legislation without defending ourselves. If we allow that to go unchallenged I think we are almost pleading guilty and this is why we have to send off the resolution. I believe the chairman of the committee will treat it very seriously, I hope our own members of parliament - did I hear the minister say that our members of parliament will be contacted on it? I think they will treat it seriously because this sort of thing does nothing for national unity.

We have a Province that is the newest Province but we cannot John Rodriguez or anybody else from the Prime Minister down to make this kind of charge without defending ourselves.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, just a brief comment. I have a little concern as well that we are recognizing a man who is not too outstanding as a parliamentarian in this country, a man by the name of Mr. Rodriguez. What I would like to see, Mr. Speaker, if the House would go along with this, is maybe not for the House to recognize him and to more or less make him more than what he stands out to be now across the country, this MP, is to have my colleague

MR. MORGAN: the minister and my good friend from the Terra Nova district, these two gentlemen, to travel to Ottawa and to ask to appear before the committee where Mr. Rodriguez made his statement and to have the gentleman put forward the views with regards to the situation. And I would say to go further is to have the committee then, when it is proven by my colleague the Minister of Tourism that the statements made by Mr. Rodriguez were incorrect, therefore have the committee then have Mr. Rodriguez apologize in fact to this government and to the committee that he is now serving on.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I, like everybody else who spoke and did not intend to speak - and I will not be very long - but I mean really the suggestion put forward by the Minister of Transportation is not to just make a mountain out of a molehill, it is to make the Rocky Mountains out of a pimple. I am not calling Mr. Rodriguez a pimple. He is obviously a member of parliament who perhaps shoots from the lip, an affliction not confined to the members of parliament, it is not something that is unknown to members of legislatures. Mr. Rodriguez made some statements - and I am not so much concerned about the golf course thing as I am about the allegations that ministers owned land on which the golf course at Sandringham is to be built. And Mr. Rodriguez did not make anything more specific than that and I think it is proper that we rap him on the knuckles although I do feel very much that the point made by the gentleman from Twillingate has some merit. Indeed I had already formed the intent earlier this day to have a word privately with Your Honour to make some suggestions about this - not just this question but about this entire matter. You know, here it is ten thirty and we have taken up half an hour with matters that, you know, we are in grave danger of becoming an overgrown parish council

MR. ROBERTS:

if we pass resolutions in here taking note of everything -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Are we overgrown?

MR. ROBERTS: Well I think we are overgrown.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We must not flatter ourselves.

MR. ROBERTS: I think fifty-one members is overgrown, I would say to my friend from Twillingate. Nonetheless the thought is a serious one. We have to be very careful that we do not take note of everything and thus take note of nothing. But nonetheless, you know this particular gentleman made some remarks that are offensive and they are unsubstantiated and I think it proper we ought to rap him. But I do not think for a minute it is necessary - I mean, if the Minister of Tourism wants to go to Ottawa let him go; even if he wants to come back let him come back. But I do not think for a moment it is necessary to send the Minister of Tourism up, Why dignify Mr. Rodriguez? Let us just rap him on the knuckles, let him know that we think - I am sorry -

MR. HICKEY: And lose a golf course?

MR. ROBERTS: We are not going to lose a golf course because of anything John Rodriguez says, There is an agreement between -

MR. MORGAN: Why take a chance?

MR. ROBERTS: The Minister of Tourism may not - I am sorry, the Minister of Transportation may not be aware of it, but there is an agreement between the government of this Province and the Government of Canada under which the Government of Canada have undertaken to build this golf course.

MR. NEARY: It is not going to be put in Gander.

MR. ROBERTS: No, it is going to -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The Prime Minister gave a statement -

MR. ROBERTS: And then as my friend from Twillingate says

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MR. ROBERTS:

the Prime Minister, the Right Hon. Pierre Elliot Trudeau, who has a little more influence fortunately on the affairs of this country than does Mr. John Rodriguez M.P., Nickel Belt, the Prime Minister has laid the ghost and put the matter at rest.

Mr. Roberts:

see I am concerned about is making sure that Mr. Rodriguez be rapped on the knuckles. I do not think that we should get carried away, Indeed, I think, we have spent too much time now on a two-bit statement by a gentleman who at least in this respect has been playing second or third or fourth class politics. I think we ought to adopt the resolution, send it off and if Mr. Rodriguez has something more to say we will deal with him. But the thought of going off to Ottawa and making an issue of it before a committee, that is just nonsense. If we are going to appear before a committees in Ottawa we can take more substantive and substantial issues than that, Sir, and that is something I would be for.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. minister speaks now he closes the debate.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I did not anticipate sparking such debate, but however I guess that is the situation. I simply want to say before the debate closes, Mr. Speaker, that with some degree of hesitancy I brought in this resolution not only because of Mr. Rodriguez in terms of what he said about the golf course or Cabinet ministers and land, although that is serious, and I also understand now, but I do not have verification yet, that the gentleman is so irresponsible that he named -

MR. MORGAN: He named ministers.

MR. HICKEY: - certain people including myself.

Now I have not a rock much less a bit of soil in the Terra Nova area or the Sandringham area. It is an absolute untruth which goes to show how irresponsible this gentleman is.

However, Mr. -

MR. ROBERTS: I would like to know where he got his information.

MR. HICKEY: However, Mr. Speaker, I think that hon. members are missing one rather important point. My main reason and my strong belief in bringing this resolution in is not to give credence or recognition to a nobody or a somebody who thinks he is - or a nobody who thinks he is a somebody, let us put it that way - or

Mr. Hickey:

somebody who is irresponsible enough to make statements without checking them. Not that at all, Mr. Speaker, but rather the statements that this gentleman makes about the Province. He is so ill-and uninformed. And it seems that when people, as we say upalong, continue to make those statements about this Province as if it were in Outer Mongolia, we just sit idly by and laugh at it.

Mr. Speaker, as Minister of Tourism who is outside of this Province quite a bit trying to promote this Province and to correct once and for all the fallacies and the myths about the stupid Newfoundland jokes and all the rest about this Province, I am not prepared to sit by and see someone like Mr. Rodriguez stature, and he has stature - we may not agree with his irresponsibility, but he is a member of Parliament, Mr. Speaker, and he is courted and reported by the national press. We are not giving him recognition. The national press, the national media has given him recognition.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is given more now.

MR. HICKEY: And I say so be it, Mr. Speaker, let us give him more, but let us show the gentleman for what he is. And let us show this Province for what it is.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? Those in favour "Aye", contrary "Nay", carried.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Harbour Grace.

MR. H. YOUNG: Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition signed by some 700 voters or taxpayers from the town of Upper Island Cove. Looking over this petition, Sir, I know each and every one of these people's signatures personally and I am sure, Sir, that they are sincere in asking that a water system be installed in Upper Island Cove.

Mr. H. Young:

it is a large community. Probably if this had been pushed they could have had in the area about 2,500 names but I am sure, Sir, 700 names is a clear indication of the sincerity of the people, and the support and the demand for a water system in the town. I could probably say it has been a neglect of the past administration, but I feel, Sir, that this administration should have some responsibility in seeing that the town of Upper Island Cove has a water supply.

I ask the minister or those concerned to give every consideration to this, Sir. I feel personally that after twenty-five years of looking after the faithful departed, I feel it is time for me to bury some water pipe up in Upper Island Cove. I ask that this petition be placed on the table of the House and forwarded to the department to which it relates.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I -

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Speaker, may I speak to this petition?

MR. NEARY: Oh, go ahead.

MR. SPEAKER: When the hon. member rose to speak I thought it was to this petition, not to present another petition. If he is agreeable, then the hon. member for Conception Bay South may speak.

MR. NEARY: I do have a petition to present but I want to speak to this first. I will yield to my hon. friend. I will speak after.

MR. NOLAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank our friend from LaPoile. Obviously I rise to support the prayer of the petition as submitted by our hon. friend opposite. When you have from the community of Upper Island Cove a request in the form of a petition containing some 700 names to provide a water system, again we get to something that is very basic. They are not looking for any luxury item. It is rather unfortunate sometimes that those who have pavement, and water flowing into their homes for years and years, become forgetful all too often of the fact that there are many of our fellow citizens who do not have the basic amenities that we have all come to accept, I suppose, for years and years in some instances, and so it is that in spite of the fact that we hear about various cutbacks and restrictions of one kind or another that here we have these residents out there who have been taxpayers for many, many years with a very real and a very legitimate need. And so I hope that the Minister of Municipal Affairs in conjunction with the council in the area will attempt to - he may not be able to do it all in one year. No one is suggesting that to him. But maybe it is a good time to at least start to do something in this regard. I know my friend opposite, from Upper Island Cove originally, I believe, can certainly understand what I am talking about maybe a heck of a lot more than I do in fact. But here we are looking at a very basic necessity where if you do not have the system such as the one as requested in the petition it has a real effect on the family. I have known people over the years quite well who have had to go and -

Mr. Nolan.

you see, we become so far removed from some of the problems of the people that we all represent. Although I am not the member for the district referred to here, nevertheless it is the responsibility of all members of the House of Assembly to represent not only their district but the people of the Province. And, therefore, it is time we realized that the people of Upper Island Cove, many of whom, I suppose, have to go to wells that are dried up in the Summer, cutting through the ice in the well in the Winter to try to get - the women especially in many instances having to carry water. And so I hope that the prayer of this petition will receive very active and sympathetic report. The 700 names on that petition should be assured now that their request in the prayer of the petition is not merely a formality that we go through in this House, but is a genuine representation on their behalf by the member for their area that we all have to pay attention to. And wherever it is economical and feasible at all, we have to make every effort to see that the prayer of this petition is recognized and acted upon.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a moment to support the prayer of the petition, Sir, because I feel, Mr. Speaker, that at one time in my career that I represented a large number of the citizens of Upper Island Cove. There was a time when we had over close to 400, over 350 men working in the mines on Bell Island from Upper Island Cove. And now the hon. gentleman indicated the other day that they are now starting - or the Minister of Rural Development, I believe it was, indicated that his people in Upper Island Cove are now switching back to the fishery again. Traditionally that was their occupation before they came to Bell Island. But they are always hard-working citizens, Sir, and they are very fine people, and they deserve a water system in that community. At the present time they are carrying

Mr. Neary.

water in buckets, and in the backs of their cars, and that is not good enough in this day and age, Sir. These people have made a major contribution to the economy of this Province. They paid their taxes; they worked hard; they were fishermen first, farmers, some did a little home gardening. I remember they used to leave Bell Island in the Fall of the year to go home and dig the potatoes. And so they are very fine people, Sir, and they deserve better than the treatment they are getting at the present time. And I do hope that the prayer of the petition will be answered in this current fiscal year.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I just want to take one minute to support my colleague, the member for Harbour Grace in the presentation of this petition. Being an Island Cover, and still an Island Cover - I do not think you ever become anything less than an Island Cover, because I still have all my roots pretty well in the community of Upper Island Cove, and get back very, very frequently - the member for Bell Island brought back a lot of memories

MR. LUNDRIAN: which I will refrain from commenting on because they do touch the very roots of the member's and my own existence.

The community of Upper Island Cove is a community that is only now recently coming into its own in terms of its profile, if you want, because for many years the people thought of Upper Island Cove as a very small little town, and maybe a rather insignificant little town, because the people are very modest, very humble people. They are not the types who lead great revolutions and kick up a lot of fuss, as an example, because I would say this is the first time a petition has ever been presented from the community of Upper Island Cove regarding water. Here is a community of 2,500 people-- a community, by the way, the member tells me, that has six welfare cases, 2,500 people, and 2,500 people, Mr. Speaker, who have seen some of the roughest times -- Bell Island, 400 people worked on Bell Island from Upper Island Cove. They would leave on Sunday afternoon, they would come across Conception Bay in small boats.

MR. NEASE: They came over from the North shore of Conception Bay, mostly Upper Island Cove.

MR. LUNDRIAN: Yes, well a lot of them from Upper Island Cove. They would come across in small boats to Bell Island, they would work through until Saturday evening, they would leave and go home, and they would be home less than twenty-four hours. I know people who worked fifty consecutive years and longer in the mines on Bell Island and literally hundreds of them from that little community. Argentina was practically populated with people from Upper Island Cove and you can go around any construction job from here to Medicine Hat to Athabaska Downs, to Vancouver, to New York, anywhere, and you find fellows from Upper Island Cove, very, very industrious people.

MR. NEASE: And skilled.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: And skilled. They can do anything. Tomorrow morning if you went out to Upper Island Cove and wanted to recruit a work force to build Churchill Falls, you literally can find enough people there with the skills to do that kind of thing. Every conceivable skill they have in the community.

Now the problem is with them and with all of us from that community is that we are a little reticent to kick up a fuss, maybe not so organized to lobby as you would see in some of our communities and consequently the kinds of important issues that a lot of communities have been able to draw our attention to have been somewhat subjugated and submerged. The member today I think has done a commendable deed by presenting the names of 700 of our people from the community to indicate here is a community some twenty miles from here the way the crow flies, without water, and a community by the way that is relatively overly populated because it is down in a cove if you want and the distribution of houses is very, very heavy. I am not going to suggest that there is a major health problem but it is certainly one of the greatest necessities and I implore the Minister, as we have privately as we talk in conversations among ourselves from day to day, to treat this matter with a great deal of seriousness because it is a community that has produced a tremendous amount of wealth in our Province and certainly deserves the response that the member from Harbour Grace expects.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Twillingate.

MR. SWALLOW: Mr. Speaker, normally I do not participate in the debate that arises from the presentation of petitions but there are one or two reasons why I do now support this particular petitions, one, that I have a great many personal friends and for many, many years, for twenty odd years, staunch and unchanging and unchangeable friends and supporters of mine and the party that I led in politics. But also

MR. SMALLWOOD: because I suppose of the whole of the Province the one community noted above all others for their wit, for their great sense of humour and their wit, is that very same place. And another reason is a reference by the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) when he spoke of the people going over from Bell Island, going back from Bell Island to Hovet Island Cove and he subsequently amended that to include Harbour Grace and Carbonear and -

MR. NEARY: Victoria.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - Victoria. Victoria was another great source of workers on Bell Island. And then his reference to them going back to dig their potatoes. I am reminded so forcibly of a quaint practice there used to be in elections years ago, when a general election was held, polling day arrived, the party against whom it was believed that the voters of Victoria, Carbonear, Harbour Grace, Island Cove and so on were going to vote, the party that was going to lose their votes endeavoured every time, in every election, to have the boat bringing them from Bell Island back to vote break down half way across the bay. Many and many a time, Mr. Speaker -

MR. NEARY: Was that the Mary Smith?

MR. SMALLWOOD: - the boat

MR. SMALLWOOD: mysteriously broke down. The engine gave out and the boat just wallowed around until about eight o'clock in the night, or at least, say, quarter to eight when it was still too late for the boat to reach land and enable the hardy mine workers to go ashore and cast their ballot against the party that some people suspected had caused the breakdown of the boat. I could tell fifty stories, if there were time, about the marvellous wit of the people of Island Cove. The minister who just spoke - the minister from there - spoke of its being down underneath a hill. It is a cove, you might say, down in a valley and except by sea it is approached from the land down over a steep hill. And the story is about a very portly politician, very stout and heavy and big and very portly who held a meeting there, and it was in the Spring of the year and there was still some snow on the ground, and a small horse and catamaran was employed to haul him after the meeting, haul him up over the hill. And the trouble was that there was only snow in patches along the road. Every here and there the road was absolutely bare. And they sat him down in this catamaran and about twenty-five or thirty men went up with him - they were supporters - and when they would come to a bare spot they would all get down and help the little pony to haul the slide and this great politician up to more snow. And this went on a number of times until finally - Now in the meantime, he sat back in grandeur smoking a cigar and these twenty-five or thirty Island Cove men were passing comments among themselves as though he were deaf, as though he were not there, as though he could not hear a sound. They were passing their own comments among themselves about how big he was and how fat he was and how impossible it was for so small a horse to haul him uphill over this bare gravel. Finally they came to a long stretch of gravel, no snow for hundreds of feet, and they stopped. And the horse was blowing and they were blowing and they were passing comments, and one man finally said, "Well, boys, the only thing I can see is let us gut him. Let us gut him," he said, "and make him lighter and we might get him up!"

Now I would like to be able to polish the story by saying who the politician was. He once occupied a very

MR. SMALLWOOD: important place in this House long before Confederation.

The wittiest people, I suppose, that Newfoundland has ever known - Upper Island Cove.

So let us give them the water - anything they want - for Island Cove.

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

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, I am normally reluctant to get up and speak on a petition from any of the people in Newfoundland for water and/or sewer mainly because we have so many requests for water systems all around the Province, whether the place is incorporated or unincorporated, and certainly in this day and age there should be no community in Newfoundland without a water system. However, everybody knows - and I have said it several times it is one of the reasons why, I am relatively reluctant to get up on a petition - I have said several times we have only so much money per year for this kind of thing and the Province would have to virtually stop everything else to provide water systems to our people. We have some requests down in the department now, Mr. Speaker, that would total something like \$225 million and that would pay for just the requests that we have in, the requests that we know of - not people who need water and sewer systems in the Province who have not even sent in a request. So the \$225 million if I had it this year would probably just result in next year getting requests for another \$100 million or \$200 million. And this year, Mr. Speaker, we are attempting to get water systems in more communities by asking the residents in the areas to pay a little towards the installation of the system in that we are asking the residents to pay for, especially with respect to new systems, that portion from the property line to the house rather than the policy which we had in previous years of going to within five feet of the house. And in this way, Mr. Speaker, hopefully we can get more water systems in this year, or at least more water systems started this year. And as I do not know which systems will be approved by government this year as yet because we do not have the total picture, I certainly hope that Upper Island Cove is one of the communities that come out at the end of the pipe, and all the other requests will be looked after in the next

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MR. DINN:

few years. Thank you very much.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further petitions?

The hon. member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. J. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of the people of Little Bay East in Fortune Bay. This petition is signed by 72 persons and that I would say is about all the persons of voting age in that community. The prayer of the petition is as follows: "We, the people concerned, hereby request that the government department responsible take immediate action in providing some form of breakwater in the outer harbour section of Little Bay East. Our basic problem has been related to government departments in the past with little results from any. In brief, however, we should say our problem stems from flooding which occurs during storms or high tides. This results in heavy erosion especially of public roads adjacent to the shoreline. Many times great loss or damage to property has been experienced by part-time fishermen while store owners experience excessive damage to merchandise. In even worse instances, families have had to be evacuated from their homes for days. Usually the worse storms occur in early Spring and seem to be having worse results each passing year. The shoreline is simply washing away instead of building up or holding on as it did in the past years when fishermen had stages, wharves and their own crude breakwaters to help protect their property. Our appeal is our hope that someone will take interest and show that some concern is being developed so that something will be done soon to rectify our problem."

Now in supporting the prayer of that petition, I must say that I have had this petition for a little while, and I have not presented it. A certain amount of spade work had to be done in connection with it. There are a number of places in my district, Jacques Fontaine, Little Bay East, this one I am referring to now, English Harbour and Coomb's Cove, and there are many others around the coast of Newfoundland experiencing much the same problem. We are not aware

MR. J. WINSOR.

if the tides are higher, are rising higher than they ever did before, but it would certainly appear to be so, and the fishermen are saying so.

Now this does not concern just one department. It is a federal responsibility in some communities, in another it might be municipal, and in another it could be Transportation and Communications. I have had discussions with all three of these departments - both provincial departments and the federal government - and I feel that we are getting somewhere, and the spade work has paid off. I think we are going to combine somewhere along the line the federal government and the provincial departments concerned will be doing something about this. It is a very important matter, and I have had a woman with four feet of water in her kitchen in Jacques Fontaine and very difficult to get her and her family out of it. So these things have to be looked at and looked at before this coming Fall, and I think we are making progress.

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

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

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, in commenting on the petition, the problem in Little Bay East as the hon. member mentioned - there are also similar problems in the communities of Coomb's Cove and English Harbour, and as was brought to light yesterday, the problem in Ferryland. But in the hon. gentleman's district - I have discussed this matter with him - it is difficult to determine whose responsibility it is with regards to overcoming these problems. So what we have agreed to to hopefully next Wednesday, if we can get away from the House of Assembly, is to get down in his district. I intend to travel to his district

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MR. MORGAN.

with him and to hopefully be accompanied by Mr. Jamieson's executive assistant, one of his assistants who is familiar with the area, to travel down and to at least get a report on the situation and see firsthand, and then determine how it

MR. MORGAN: can be rectified either by co-ordination and co-operation with the federal government or a number of government departments concerned provincially. However, Mr. Speaker, we are aware of this problem. It is a serious one and we hope that some corrective action can be taken during this construction season.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask leave to present a petition on behalf of 1,009 citizens in the Channel - Port aux Basques area between the ages of sixteen and fifty, say. The prayer of the petition, Sir, is to request the government to station an experimental boat on the Southwest corner of the Province to train young men in the Port aux Basques area in the fishing industry.

The petition goes on to say, Sir, that due to the fact that there are 1,208 individuals registered with Canada Manpower in Channel - Port aux Basques at the present time, most of whom are young men between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five with no possibility of job opportunities other than the fishery, it is urgent that this training programme be undertaken at an early date as possible, and the training boat would operate with eight or ten men for ten day periods and would have to be a multi-purpose boat measuring anywhere from sixty to sixty-five feet.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in supporting the petition, Sir, I wish to state that in days of mass unemployment of young people in our Province it is most encouraging indeed to have a positive suggestion advanced that will help relieve this dreadful and discouraging unemployment situation, especially among our young people between the ages of say seventeen and twenty-five.

In the district of LaPoile, Sir, there is a large number of young men, most anxious in the wake of the

MR. NEARY: establishment of the 200 fishery management zone to enter into the fishery either for the time being as crew members of druggers or on boats involved in the inshore fishery or ultimately as owners of their own vessels.

At the present time, however, Sir, these young men have no experience, no training. All they have is whatever they got between coming off the production academic assembly lines between kindergarten and grade eleven, that is the only training of any kind that they have. And they have no training at all, Sir, in our traditional industry which is the fishery.

So, Sir, in presenting this petition I ask for the support of members on both sides of the House and encourage the government to make available at an early a date as possible and make available to the residents, the young men in the Channel - Port aux Basques area a fishery training vessel and also, Sir, at the same time create onshore facilities in which they can be taught the other skills that go with successfully pursuing the fishery in this Province, including the care and maintenance of gear and nets and so on. So I wish to lay this petition, Sir, on the table of the House and refer it to the department to which it relates.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. J. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition as presented by the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary). I have for a long time been an advocate of much the same procedure. Instead of taking too many of these young people or older people out of the actual fishing villages in which they work, it is much better to bring some sort of a training vessel in that area and give them a chance to actually work in a practical sort of way on the vessel and learn in the way all our fishermen learned it, the hard way, and a very practical way of doing the job, setting the nets out, getting the trawls out or whatever

MR. J. WINSOR: it may be, learning how to splice a rope which some of our young people do not really know how to do today and the art is gradually being lost. There are other jobs on sailing vessels and any kind of a vessel which they can learn much better in the practical way with old veterans or specially trained persons on these boats. I think it is the right move. I have advocated it many times to bring the training people into the communities. It has been done for me by the Fisheries College. They have sent trawl men down to train our young trawlermen.

Al. Blackwood of the

MR. J. WINSOR.

Department of Fisheries spent one week there and did enough good in that one week to last two or three years, and I think we should have more of this, and a platform for them to work on in the shape of a boat, a good vessel. I think it is a very good idea, and I heartily support the petition.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, in order to address the petition, particularly as it relates to the training, I understand that it is a request for the provision of a boat for some kind of training. I cannot comment on that particular aspect of it although it does seem to have a lot of merit. One thing that I want to point out is that the Fishery College has been very receptive to the communities requesting assistance in training for the various aspects of the fishery. As a matter of fact I believe that last year in a particular area that they made a request. The Fisheries College went into communities and tried to encourage people to go training for various aspects, deck hands, for instance, for deep-sea trawling and that sort of thing. Some times it was accepted and responded to and other times it was not. So I am sure that the Fisheries College will do its best to meet any needs. And I am sure that the government will look very carefully at this kind of thing. And Dr. Ray Barrett, who is the father of the Fisheries College in my estimation, because, I think, he has promoted it - the father is over there, of course, but the father in the modern age.

MR. SMALLWOOD: If the hon. minister will allow me. He must not be unfair to the two predecessors of Dr. Barrett, two magnificent presidents.

MR. HOUSE: Yes, Dr. Hampton. I am talking about the modern day stage, getting into the communities. I might mention perhaps

MR. HOUSE.

here, Mr. Speaker, in addressing this petition that when we talked the other day, and I never had a chance to respond about all the colleges, that the Fisheries College last year - I do not exactly know the number of people that went through but ninety-five per cent of the people that were trained in the Fisheries College last year went back into the work in the fishery and got jobs in either the fishery or marine related industry, and I am very proud of that, and I think this is a marvelous suggestion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Fogo.

CAPT. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, I, too, support the petition presented by the hon. member, my colleague from LaPoile (Mr. Neary). I have been an advocate of such a system for quite awhile now. I believe instead of pumping all of the money that we see in the Fishery estimates into gear and boats, etc., we should be spending more on the fishermen themselves. Because, Sir, with the introduction now a 200 mile limit and the employment rate so low in this Province, the young men of this Province have no other alternative but to turn to the fishery. And they are not going to make a success of it, they are not going to be able to provide a good living for themselves and their families unless they get some special training. And, Mr. Speaker, the fishery today requires special training. It is very technical. It is not like it was years ago that if you knew how to set a cod trap or if you knew how to mend a few meshes of twine and splice a bit of rope, you were all right. But today with the highly technical advances we have made in the fishing industry, it just cannot - we will not be able to avail of the opportunities in catching the fish which will be made available of course by the 200 mile limit unless we have special training for the young men. And, Mr. Speaker, it is amazing to note as you travel around this Province how many young people are very anxious to get back into the fishery. Because as I have said previously, they find no other alternative.

CAPT. WINSOR.

So I think, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Fisheries and the Minister of Industrial Development, all combined, can make a great effort and, you know, push this idea of training our fishermen, our young men, on the spot. Now the Fishery College, I believe, operate a small boat out of St. John's.

CAPT. WINSOR: I do not know to what extent the training is, but nevertheless I do not think the boat should be much of a problem because I am sure if we can charter or hire boats in Europe or in Scandinavian countries to come over to fish, there must be one over there that is a little obsolete in the fishing purposes itself, but you know, we should be able to pick up a boat and convert her to the proper arrangements for training our young men. I think it is an excellent idea, Sir, and I certainly commend the Minister of Education for taking the action and I trust he will be successful in persuading his colleagues.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. McNEIL: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of the Stephenville Chamber of Commerce. The petition includes 196 business firms in the Bay St. George area. The prayer of the petition reads as follows: "Today, we, the merchants of Stephenville, Bay St. George and Port au Port, were shocked and dismayed to learn of the government's decision to close Labrador Linerboard. This shows us that the Conservative Government of Frank Moores has taken a negative approach to solving a major problem. The government has let down all the companies and individuals who have invested money in the town of Stephenville. The retail store owners of Stephenville cannot understand how a group of competent men who call themselves a government are not capable enough to find a means to keep 600 people working in this day and age. How many jobs are going to be lost indirectly from the retailers of Stephenville not being able to pay their employees? This letter represents firms and employees. The Linerboard mill has brought to Stephenville different people and cultures from all walks of life which have added to the community making it a desirable place to live. Now this is to be destroyed. What must be realized is that these people are not looking for employment in Western Canada as has been indicated. Employment is needed here in the Bay St. George area. A large percentage of Linerboard personnel have erected new homes here, having faith in this government to successfully establish the industry in this town. As merchants, we were optimistic of the mill's future and have large

MR. McNEIL: investments here. The solution, Sir, is not to evacuate all mill employees. We cannot operate our business on possibilities. This entire area needs assistance and the personnel of the mill are just a minority of what must be considered here. The future of the whole Bay St. George area lies in the government, necessitating their decision not to let the area die. This petition presents to you the urgent request of the Stephenville, Bay St. George and Port au Port industrial and business community that first, the Linerboard mill will not be phased out but will be kept open and operating indefinitely, and secondly, your government take emergency action to provide employment opportunities for over 4,000 people who are unemployed. This group is not related to the mill, but unemployed for other reasons."

Mr. Speaker, I support the petition of the Stephenville Chamber of Commerce and I wholeheartedly agree with the Chamber that the Moores government has taken a negative approach to solving a major problem. The government must take a positive approach and energetically seek solutions to the mill's problems and high unemployment in the area. I think the economic well-being can be achieved in the mill's operation, and with the success of the operation we will see human development within our Province in which most of us were born and want to remain in a dignified human way.

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

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

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I do not need to say very much in support of the petition because I think my friend from Stephenville has made the case effectively and with conviction and with eloquence. I simply want to say that all of us on this side do support the prayer of this petition. The matter was debated at some length in the House last week and when the government gathers sufficient courage it will be debated again in the House, because the motion has not been disposed of

MR. ROBERTS: by the members. But I think the prayer of the petition would be echoed, Sir, by everybody, not just in Stephenville but everybody in Bay St. George, and I think that feeling is spreading throughout the Island as people are coming to realize that it is not necessary to close the mill and that the hardships which will result from the government's decision to close the mill will spread far beyond the Stephenville area, far beyond the Bay St. George area. It will spread all throughout this Province.

I think the sort of problems which the hon. gentleman, the member for Stephenville (Mr. McNeil) refers in his remarks in support of the petition, Sir, that those kinds of problems we will hear more and more of, because as the full impact of the decision by the government to close the mill sinks in, I think it will be realized it is going to have catastrophically bad effects, effects which we have not as yet begun to measure. So I hope, Sir, the prayer of the petition will be heeded by the government. I hope they will act upon it and I hope they will change their minds and not close that mill. We do not believe it ought to close, Sir. We do not believe it should close and we know that the government have not made a case to justify closing it, Sir. I support the petition. Thank you, Sir.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TO WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MR. NEARY: Would the Minister of Mines and Energy, Sir, tell the House when we can expect to get a report to a question I asked about free transportation provided by the Newfoundland Hydro Corporation?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! I think it is necessary for a firm ruling on this matter. On a couple of occasions there has been an individual question asked under this routine proceeding and then a couple of days ago there was a series of them. I said at the time that to permit that would in effect create two questions periods and I would therefore require hon members to refrain from asking questions with respect to when they can expect answers to other questions until in fact we get to Oral Questions. So in future under routine proceeding I will not recognize any private member. I will only recognize a person who can give an answer.

ORAL QUESTIONS

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MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I want to give an answer to a question-

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member is up under Answers to Questions.

MR. MORGAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, to give an answer to a question that was put forward yesterday by the hon member from LaPoile and the Leader of the Opposition with regards to a letter that was brought to their attention sent by the Ferryland council. Mr. Speaker, the reason why the letter was not brought to my attention was because the letter was not sent from Ferryland until May 17th. It was received in my office this morning and only this morning; therefore there had not been time to reply. However yesterday afternoon I did contact the chairman of the council at Ferryland, Mr. Alphonsus Kavanagh and told him that my colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and myself would be only too pleased to meet with him today, him and his council, with regards to a problem in

MR. MORGAN: connection with a breakwater or a small breakwater facility on a road which is the council's jurisdiction-it is not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation. They were informed of that in a letter dated April 5th. In fact a letter was sent to me in February and a reply sent back to them in February as well. The engineers were sent out to them; to the area, did an investigation and came back with a report. The contents of the report was sent to the council on April 5th and on the letter of April 5th it was clearly pointed out that the problem was under the jurisdiction of the council and a recommendation was made by me, the minister, asking them to make application to my colleague outlining their problem and the letter referred to yesterday was not sent until May 17th and received this morning in my office.

ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: I will not go back as the Minister of Transportation although it is interesting that both the gentleman from LaPoile and I received the copy of the letter the day before he did, given the fact that all three were mailed at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Mines and Energy and grows out of the questions which I asked him yesterday about the government's submissions or lack thereof to Ottawa with respect to the Lower Churchill development and particularly out of the remarks he made outside the House which are far more expansive and far more informative than the information which he gave the House yesterday. I would ask him, Sir, if he would be good enough to tell the House just what we may expect in way of work at the Lower Churchill project this year, because as the minister has told the news media, and they have reported it faithfully, we can apparently expect a start of some sort on the Lower Churchill project this

MR. ROBERTS: year. Would the minister tell us please exactly what we may expect and whether it is conditional in any way upon any action by the Government of Canada or whether it is a decision by this government to go ahead?

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I did not say yesterday and I think the hon Leader of the Opposition did not hear me say either on the media this morning or last night that I said that the project would go ahead this year. I did not indicate that to the press inside or outside the House.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister is obviously evading it. I heard his remarks and I am not allowed to debate them so I shall not, but can the minister tell

MR. ROBERTS: us whether he expects any work will or may go ahead this year? He definitely made statements to the effect that it looks as if work may go ahead this year. Will the minister please give the House some information?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I did not say that work may go ahead. I indicated that a number of alternatives relating to the development of the Lower Churchill were being considered by both governments and that both governments would be getting together again in the very near future to consider these alternatives. Whether any of these alternatives lead to concrete action being taken in the way of employment opportunities at site in 1977 is still an open question and one that cannot be decided until after these negotiations referred to have been held.

MR. ROBERTS: A further supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Can the minister tell us when we might expect to have some answer whether or not work will go ahead? Yesterday if one looks at the transcripts I am sure one would come to the conclusion that the minister has skated right around the question of whether there were negotiations or proposals. He was playing with words. He is playing with them again today. The fact remains, Sir, that many people are under the impression as a result of what the minister said yesterday inside and particularly outside the House that there is a good chance work may start this year. We are building up people's hopes again. Could the minister tell us when he expects to be in a position to know whether work will go ahead or not and furthermore whether this is conditional upon any action by the Government of Canada or is it a matter within the control of the government of this Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I reject the accusation by the Leader of the Opposition that I am playing with words. I am not playing

MR. PECKFORD: with words. I am trying to give as much information as I can under the agreement unwritten between the two governments as it relates to supposed agreements that might be signed for development within the Province. Hopefully within three or four weeks we will be in a position to sit down with the members of the various federal departments to consider the various alternatives that we have already discussed in previous meetings and hopefully we will be able to indicate with some more clarity and some more definitiveness whether in fact any work can proceed in this present year.

MR. ROBERTS: A final supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I recognize the hon. gentleman for a final supplementary. First I would point out to hon. gentlemen that in posing questions expressions of argument should be avoided and obviously in answering the same is the case.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition, a supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again of course to the minister arising out of the same series of questions, The minister still has not made the position clear. There are going to be meetings in three or four weeks he said to put some proposals forward. Could the minister tell us first of all when we may have some answers as a result of those meetings and next whether the decision is conditional upon proposals being put forward by this government or acceptance by Ottawa or what? I mean, just what is the position in - you know, we can play around with words and I am trying not to so. What I simply want to know is there any realistic expectation, will the work be started on the Lower Churchill project on site this year? That is the question, and if the answer is 'Yes, there is an expectation' then it grows out of this the natural and proper question, Is it conditional upon anything and if so what?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: I do not know when we can expect answers. That depends on the discussions between the two governments. So

MR. PECKFORD: It is impossible for me to give the hon. Leader of the Opposition an answer to that. When we can have an answer as to the realistic expectation of work beginning this year, I cannot answer the question. I do not want to raise hopes as the Leader of the Opposition accused me of doing yesterday. All I can say is that we are proceeding with due diligence towards trying to work out proposals that can mean employment opportunities for the people of this Province based on hydro developments in Labrador. And as soon as we sit down again with proposals that both governments have talked about on two or three occasions already with the federal government to further examine these proposals, then I will be in a better position to give some more information. Whether at the end of this month I will be able to say that the certainty - or there is a greater degree of certainty that realistic expectations are in the ball park for some start this year or be farther along, I do not know. All I can say is what I have already said, that we are trying to provide some employment through the Lower Churchill development as quickly as possible and whether that will be

MR. PECKFORD: this year a lot will depend upon the position that the federal authorities take as it relates to the proposals, and then our reaction to them and whether we can handle it in line with what they say to us.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. gentleman for LaPoile.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. gentleman will not be precluded from getting back to the subject.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Tourism, Sir, and give the minister an opportunity to defend his honour. I would like for the minister to respond to a very scathing and very critical editorial in the Telegram, I think it was, yesterday condemning the minister and his department for not including the Summer Games into this year's advertising from the Department of Tourism. Would the minister tell the House if this was deliberate on the part of his department or if it was just an oversight that the Summer Games were not included in the advertising that went out from the minister's department this year to encourage tourists to come into Newfoundland? .

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I am going to rise to the bait to answer that they way I would like to. I think maybe discretion is the better part of valour. Let me simply say that I have made some unusual efforts to provide a total communication link and a total co-operative link between my department and the Summer Games Committee and the various committees. And before somebody starts - including the Editor of the Telegram - before they start criticizing me or my department they should come and talk to me.

We have co-operated in every respect, Mr. Speaker, to promote the Summer Games. We have distributed brochures with our own. We have run out of

MR. HICKEY: them, we have requested more, we were unable to get them, and that is about all I can say at this point in time. I will check with my staff and will give the hon. member a more direct answer to the questions that he posed.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: Now that this matter has been brought to the minister's attention, and to the officials of the department, would the minister consider recalling the advertisements and commercials that have gone out, or is that possible, and have this matter rectified because it is too good an opportunity for the Province to miss not to have the Summer Games included in the advertising that has gone out from the minister's department? Is it possible to recall the advertising or is it too late to include the Summer Games now in the advertising for tourists to come into this Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Anything is possible, Mr. Speaker, in terms of a recall as long as the thing has not gone to print. If it has gone to print, of course, it is very difficult unless one is going to destroy whatever is already printed. If it means that the plates are done but the work is actually not completed I suppose it is probably a few extra dollars in cost to have new plates done. I do not really know. I cannot honestly or accurately answer the question I am sure to the satisfaction of my hon. friend. I will endeavour to get the answer and find out.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The original questioner, a supplementary.

MR. NEARY: I want to ask the minister, Sir, if these oversights, these commercials and this advertising

MR. NEARY: is prepared by the minister's own officials or is it contracted out and will heads roll because this very important function in Newfoundland this year, event in Newfoundland, is being left out of the advertising?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the hon. member means when he says, Will heads roll? Anything that my staff are responsible for and that they do not do, there is always a form of discipline, I suppose, that may be used or imposed.

I am not quite sure of the advertisements that he refers to, because I do not know the detail of the advertisements he refers to. For example, there are some advertisements in magazines, various magazines like Maclean's and so on, and the advertisements in those magazines are prepared by our advertising agency. They are not necessarily always vetted by my department because that agency is quite familiar with, and for the most part, certainly up to now I can say,

MR. HICKEY.

has been most competent and efficient in developing the image of the Province that we wish to promote.

MR. NEARY: How many missed this one?

MR. HICKEY: I do not know, Mr. Speaker, how anyone missed this one, because there has been that much talk and that much emphasis by me placed on the Canada Summer Games to my officials, to the advertising agency, that I would not have two clues as to how anybody could have missed it.

MR. NEARY: What are the advertising agencies?

MR. HICKEY: I might fire everybody. I might go on a firing kick.

MR. NEARY: Fire the advertising agency.

MR. HICKEY: I might fire the whole works as soon as I find out.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lawisporte followed by the hon. gentleman for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing as it relates to capital works projects for various councils this year. As most members know, Mr. Speaker, the Capital Works Committee was named this year to help determine the projects that would go ahead, and I am wondering if the minister can tell me what projects have been approved so far for councils to go ahead with this year?

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

MR. DINN: No projects to this date, Mr. Speaker, outside of, for example, ones that have already been tendered with respect to, say, Rose Blanche which is a federal/provincial one and there may be one other one that escapes me right now, but none have been approved.

MR. WHITE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, it is just about the first of June. It was the understanding of most members that the Capital Projects Committee

MR. WHITE.

would help speed up the selection of those projects. I wonder if the minister could tell us when we can expect to have them approved and whether we can expect to hear them outlined in the Legislature before it closes?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, I would think that they would be approved in the next three or four weeks, and whether they are outlined in the Legislature or not, I cannot say.

MR. WHITE: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister could give an undertaking to the House as to whether or not the deferred projects will go ahead before any new projects are started in the Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. DINN: Certainly not in all cases, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations. It is with regard to the report of the meeting held in Grand Falls, Monday before last, with American Smelting and Refining Company and Price (Nfld.) and representatives of the various ministries. Would the minister be prepared to give the House an update on that report? What the status of the report is? What is contained in it? And exactly what the status of that report is right now with regard to Cabinet's availability or use or studying of that report?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member suggested, there was a meeting, I believe - last Monday, Monday week, in Grand Falls,

MR. ROUSSEAU.

chaired by my Assistant Deputy Minister of Manpower, who is the co-ordinator of the Buchans Task Force Committee. When he returned I received a written report. - I do not know whether it was Monday or Tuesday of this week. Days have a way of melting into each other now that you do not know which day of the week it is, but it was the early part of the week. I gave a copy of the report to the Premier. I sent a copy to each of the ministers, and I would assume that they have read it now, and that it will hopefully be discussed in Cabinet in the very near future. A position has been developed in respect to the various recommendations of the Buchans Task Force report, and will be considered by government. For the part of the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations, the item in there referred to, that department - the setting up of a committee, that committee held its first meeting in association with this overall meeting on the Task Force on - I guess it was Tuesday, I think, the second day - the meetings were on Monday - I think the second day Mr. Head, the president, the member of the union, the union representative and company officials to set up the committee. They held their first meeting, and I think their next meeting is scheduled some time within the next month or so. They have set a date for it, and that committee will continue in respect to the recommendations, of course, and the other aspects, and other departments. - each department, of course, will consider it and hopefully some decisions will be made public in the hopefully near future.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary by the original questioner.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, the Premier is not here, and he has made an undertaking to this House that that report would be tabled in the House. Now would the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations care to comment on that and indicate to the House when we can expect the results of that particular meeting, not the Buchans Task Force report, the report from the meeting held in Grand Falls Monday past, when that will be tabled in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I think it is fair to say that,

MR. ROUSSEAU: you know, the report has to be studied by government and a reaction to it before it would be tabled; but the Premier has apparently undertaken to table that report and I presume that he will do so at an appropriate time. I think it is only fair and I hope the hon. member would agree that people have to study it and see how it pertains to their department before it is made public and then some reaction as a government is taken to it, and as I say, the Premier undertook to table that. I am certain the Premier will table it in due course.

MR. FLIGHT: One more supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary for the hon. gentleman.

MR. FLIGHT: Relative to the same topic, Your Honour, I want to address the question to the Minister of Transportation and Communications.

The minister has indicated this past few days that he intended to visit Buchans, meet with the members of Task Force or meet with responsible people with regards to transportation problems in Buchans and with regards to construction of new roads. Is that commitment made as a result of anything that came out of the meetings in Grand Falls and therefore contained in the report we are discussing?.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. minister.

MR. MORGAN: No, Mr. Speaker, what I said publicly is that I intend to visit Buchans and meet with the responsible groups in that area, and this is in reply to requests made to me last Fall. In fact, it was my intention to meet with them last Fall. So it is my intention now to meet with them as soon as possible, hopefully around the early part of June - I prefer when the House of Assembly is recessed for summer recess - and I also said I would be making no comment publicly with regards to anything the Transportation Department intends to do or plans to do in that area prior to meeting with them first.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Twillingate.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Education inform the House whether, in view of the fact that we now appear to have a surplus of qualified teachers, many of whom are finding great difficulty in obtaining employment from school boards, he would be willing, not to order, because I assume he has no authority to order, but to request the school boards in the Province wherever they can possibly do it will employ Newfoundland teachers rather than importing teachers from outside the Province, not touching those who are already here and teaching from outside the Province, but additional ones from now on so long as the surplus of teachers exists. I understand that the minister cannot order school boards, but would he ask them in future for awhile, please if they can get a Newfoundland teacher, do so and not bring one in from outside the Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to make any such recommendations. Generally, I think, it is accepted that that is the rule and that is happening. I doubt if there are very many Boards advertising outside the Province for teachers generally. There is one point, of course, we have to bear in mind that there are certain kinds of teachers that are not available in the Province; the two kinds, basically, are music teachers at the present time because the University has not had their course on long enough to produce the necessary music teachers, and the other one oddly enough is industrial arts teachers. It is very difficult to get these not only in Newfoundland but in Canada. As a matter of fact, most of them we have to try to make an arrangement to bring them in from the United Kingdom. I think there is a message getting around that there is a considerable number of teachers in Newfoundland and that Boards should, of course, utilize the Newfoundland teachers first. I have not, as a matter of fact, heard of anybody advertising outside for the genres of teachers that are available in Newfoundland except the Labrador. Somebody brought it to my attention

MR. HOUSE: the other day that in Labrador now there is a French section to the school in Labrador, and presumably they have to advertise in Mainland papers to get the teachers they want for that particular section although there are French teachers trained in Newfoundland, but not quite enough.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary.

MR. NOLAN: I am wondering since we are talking about teachers, native born or whatever, if the hon. Minister could tell us as to, say, the professors at Memorial University. What ratio, what breakdown

MR. NOLAN: would there be as opposed to those from Newfoundland and those from outside. I am not saying we should not have those from outside; in fact, I believe we should. I am just wondering what the breakdown is. How many Newfoundlanders are actually teaching at Memorial as opposed to those from India, Germany, England or wherever?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I do not have that statistic. I do not know if it would be difficult to get or not. I will try to get the figure or the statistic if I can get it. It is very difficult. The other thing is there has been some - the council of ministers in consultation with the secretary of state and the department of manpower in Ottawa - there has been a lot of correspondence on this particular question of foreign academics.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The council of - what?

MR. HOUSE: The council of ministers.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Of ministers of the provinces.

MR. HOUSE: Of the provinces, yes, There has been some discussion about this because the federal government is trying to cut down on the importation of foreign academics when there are people in the provinces of Canada that can do the job that is being requested. They have made fairly stringent regulations. But, the University's policy is to be universal, of course, and to have a good variety of professors from all over the world. I will try to find the figure if I can, Mr. Speaker, to see what percentage we have of Newfoundlanders.

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary.

MR. NOLAN: I would just as a matter of clarification like to assure the minister that in no way am I opposed to professors from other countries and so on coming in. You cannot have a good university without having a good mix, in my opinion. But I think it would be interesting to know the breakdown that I asked for.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. member for Eagle River followed by the member for LaPoile.

MR. STRACHAN: A question to the Minister of Mines and Energy, related to the previous questions on the Lower Churchill. Could the minister tell us whether, or indicate whether himself, or his department, or the administration opposite have had any discussions with the Quebec Government? I noticed in his responses he was talking about the two levels of government in the province here and in Ottawa. I am wondering whether there has been any discussion of any sort concerning the development of the Lower Churchill or any other power developments or concerning a corridor through Quebec or anything at all in that context.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. PECKFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have met with Mr. Joron twice while in Ottawa. I have met with Mr. Rolland Jeroux myself personally and had a meeting just with him when his minister did not happen to be in Ottawa at that particular time. I have met with his deputy and two or three assistant deputies about eight or ten days ago. We are continuing to carry on a dialogue and we are hoping to sort of formalize that kind of a dialogue within the next month. At least this is what I was informed by the other side in the last round of informal negotiations.

MR. STRACHAN: A supplementary Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. STRACHAN: Would the minister indicate whether - and I realize that he did not have a great deal of negotiations previously with the Bourassa regime in Quebec - but could he indicate whether the discussions now were on a more amiable or on a better plane than they were in the previous administration or whether this gives us any hope to the future?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. PECKFORD: It is pretty difficult to be any worse than they were with the former Liberal government of Quebec, that is for sure. Let me say on a positive note, that yes, the meetings have been very

MR. PECKFORD: cordial, very friendly, the whole style of the present administration of Quebec seems to be quite a lot different than the previous administration. Whether the substance is of any consequential difference that remains to be seen as we get into the more formal part of talking to them about common problems. But, yes, they seem to be far more amenable to sitting down and talking about problems that we have as relates to hydro development and other common problems than was the case with Mr. Cournoyer and Mr. Bourassa and other people in the previous government.

MR. NOLAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary.

MR. NOLAN: Since the hon. minister refers to the fact that he is negotiating and talking and carrying on a dialogue with the people of Quebec, which is admirable of course, the minister knows as well as everyone else the main purpose of the government of the province of Quebec is to separate. What I require now is surely any agreements we come to will have certain provisions built in to protect the people of this province should there be any separation in legal fact rather than the threat as we know it at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. minister.

MR. PECKFORD: Obviously and invariably that would be the case. We are now talking to Mr. Jeroux or Mr. Jorgon who are members of a government which is a part of confederation, which is a province. It is on

MR. PECKFORD: those bases that any agreements would be signed as then as a province of Canada. So that therefore any future status different from being a province that Quebec might become in the future would negate agreements because they would have been signed between two provinces of a Confederation.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health, Sir, in connection with the very serious charges that were made a couple of days ago by the outgoing president of the Newfoundland Society of Radiological Technologists when he stated that untrained staff who do not have a clue if anything goes wrong are operating X-Ray machinery in some of the Province's smaller hospitals. The president of the Provincial X-Ray Technicians Association said that yesterday. What is the minister's reaction to these very serious charges?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, for the information of the hon. member my reaction must be guided by a call which I received from the gentleman concerned apologizing for the way that statement was written.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister indicate if the government is going to bring in this sector or if the government have any plans to set up safety regulations in connection with the administration of X-Rays in this Province?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, suitable legislation has now been developed. It has been for some time.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister care to react to the statement made by the gentleman, the outgoing president, that radiation is still a big danger. Nobody can say exactly what radiation is doing

MR. NEARY: to people, he said in an interview during the society's annual meeting, but particular caution has to be used in x-raying small children and pregnant women for fear of genetic damage. Does the minister not think that this is a serious matter and would the minister tell us what is being done about this?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated to the hon. member I do not know if we can always believe everything that is written in the press. But when the gentleman who was alleged to have said this read the item in the press he called me, and also talked with my deputy minister, apologizing for the way things came across and it was not his intention and it did not reflect what he intended to say. With regard to the inherent dangers in overexposure to radiation in the hospitals where x-ray equipment is being used, it is a concern. In other areas where x-ray equipment is used it is also a concern today of people from a point of view of occupational health and, as I informed the hon. member, legislation has now been developed to bring the thing in control.

MR. NEARY: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary.

MR. NEARY: Would the minister indicate to the House whether or not these charges or these serious allegations that were made by this gentleman, whether they are going to be investigated or is the minister just going to accept a phone call of apology saying, "I should not have made the statements that were quoted in the press before I advised the minister"? Obviously there is some foundation to these charges and allegations.

MR. COLLINS: We know what the qualifications of our people in the cottage hospital system -

MR. NEARY: I am not condemning the qualifications, Sir, but these charges are made by a qualified man. Is the minister going to undertake an investigation to see if there are any foundations to these charges, how serious they are and what can be done about them?

MR. COLLINS: These conditions are always monitored in the Department of Public Health and -

MR. NEARY: Would the minister tell the House -

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. HICKMAN: Motion 8.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 8.

Motion the hon. the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture to introduce a Bill, "An Act To Amend The Crown Lands Act." Carried. (Bill No. 57).

On motion, Bill No. 57 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. HICKMAN: Motion 9.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 9.

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Justice to introduce a Bill, "An Act To Amend The District Court Act, 1976." Carried. (Bill No. 59)

On motion, Bill No. 59 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. HICKMAN: Motion 10.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 10.

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Health to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Western Memorial Hospital Corporation Act, 1947." Carried. (Bill No. 60).

On motion, Bill No. 60 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. HICKMAN: Motion 11.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 11.

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Health to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Hospitals Act, 1971." Carried. Bill No. 58.

On motion Bill No. 58, read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

May 19, 1977

Tape no. 2979

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MR. HICKMAN: Order 2 - Committee of Supply.

MR. SPEAKER: Committee of Supply - Order 2.

On motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY:

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

On motion 704-02-01 through to 704-02-05 carried.

Shall 704-02-06 carry?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, before we carry 06, Sir, I think it would be only right and proper that we should heap a little bit of praise on the John Howard Society for the outstanding work that they are doing in rehabilitating ex-prisoners in this Province. I notice that the grant has been stepped up from \$28,500 to \$40,000, and I think that the minister would be remiss in his responsibilities and in his duties if he did not tell the House of the wonderful work of the John Howard Society, both here in St. John's and in Corner Brook. These people, Sir, do outstanding work. They are not getting the financial assistance from government that they should be getting, and they are working under severe handicaps, Sir, in trying to raise money from the public along with the \$40,000 that they will get this year from the government, Sir. But they are doing excellent work in rehabilitating prisoners, and trying to find jobs and trying to look after people after they come out of jail and out of the penitentiary. And I believe that the minister should give us a sort of run down on the work of the John Howard Society.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. gentleman from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) for giving me the opportunity to refer to the John Howard Society. The opening of the Halfway House in St. John's by the John Howard Society is one which in my opinion deserves a commendation of every citizen of this Province. It was with regret we saw the delays in that organization, a society being able to get on

Mr. Hickman

with their programme. There is a very close liaison between the John Howard Society, Mr. John Fagan, the Director of Adult Corrections and his staff, Superintendent Malcolm Squires of Her Majesty's penitentiary and his staff. And one of the reasons why the grant to the John Howard Society has been increased this year, or we are seeking to increase it this year in this vote, is that it is the intention, the full intention of my department and of officials in particular in the correctional field to avail of the facilities that are going to be provided or are in the process of being provided by John Howard. Indeed the official opening, I believe, is on June 6 of the new Halfway House of John Howard.

AN HON. MEMBER: Did you get an invitation to it?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, I did. In fact I believe I have to make a speech in Corner Brook that morning, and I am not sure I am going to be able to get back in time. But I most assuredly have been in close contact with Mr. Terry Carlson, who is a very excellent and capable and dedicated director, executive director of the John Howard Society. The plan is, and the hope is - and I am sure that it will come to fruition - that inmates at Her Majesty's penitentiary, who are out on temporary absence, will avail of, in consultation with

MR. HICKMAN: the authorities at the penitentiary and the director of adult corrections the facilities to be provided in the Halfway House. Now, Mr. Chairman, as hon. members are aware this is only part of the programme of the John Howard Society. They have had a good programme going in Corner Brook, a rehabilitative programme where they have aided ex-inmates in starting up one small business, I recall a couple of years ago, with a repairing and redoing and refinishing of furniture and the very encouraging thing that arises out of all that is that the people who became involved in that have never again run afoul of society. The John Howard Society is one of the organizations in this Province that deserves public support and has not been getting it.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. HICKMAN: Does the hon. gentleman realize that the John Howard Society is hard put to raise by public subscription in the Province of Newfoundland \$5,000? Where do they have the most difficulty?

MR. NOLAN: Do not point at me. I am not -

MR. HICKMAN: No, no, but this is worth saying. I think it has to be said that you go in to the very people who are screaming about vandalism, about breaking into their jewellery shops and you go in -

MR. NOLAN: (Inaudible) - the John Howard Society and the Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: The John Howard Society walks in there and says, 'Are you prepared to give us a \$100.00 so that we can try and rehabilitate some person who is say from a broken home who needs some guidance?' 'No, no, not a nickel, not a five cent piece!' That is the kind of problem they have been having. And I say if there is an organization - a volunteer organization in this Province that deserves massive public support at the individual level it is John Howard Society.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Conception Bay South.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, I regret very much that the hon. minister in his usual way could not even stand up and praise

MR. NOLAN: the John Howard Society, which is deserving of so much praise and commendation, without attempting to shuffle over onto the shoulders of the John Howard Society the massive vandalism that is going on in this Province in a shameful way and he should be ashamed of himself.

MR. HICKMAN: A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! A point of order has been raised.

MR. HICKMAN: That is not only a difference of an opinion, that is totally and absolutely untrue.

MR. NOLAN: If you are going to compliment the John Howard Society do it like a man.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. HICKMAN: I compliment the John Howard Society and I urge people, shopkeepers to give them some money so they can get on with their great task of aiding and abetting those who so often fall afoul of the law.

MR. FLIGHT: - from the City Council who refused -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! I feel it is a difference of opinion and not a point of order and I would ask the hon. member for Conception Bay South to continue.

MR. NOLAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The John Howard Society, as my hon. friend from LaPoile indicated and brought on the response, I would assume, from the minister, is an incredibly fine group. I, as the minister opposite knows, have spent some time, when he was in the cabinet and I was broadcasting, down in the penitentiary in St. John's. I used to check in in the morning at eight o'clock and stay all day, eat with the prisoners and so on and also out on the Boys' - what was the name of it? - Whitbourne, was it?

AN HON. MEMBER: The Salmonier Line.

MR. NOLAN: The Salmonier Line, I spent a day or so out there. One of the most frightening things to be out there was the fact the number of young men who told me - I mean, we are not a very pleasant society in many ways - they would go back to the community; they did

MR. NOLAN: not have a very good reputation. The response within the community was such that they had no-where to turn. People turned their backs on them and in many instances their parents were involved in other things, perhaps drinking or God knows what, and eventually it got so bad - and I did not run into one case, I ran into lots of them like this - it got so bad that it was a pleasure for them to go out and commit another misdemeanour and be sent back to Salmonier where they lived well and with some dignity, but not in the community.

It is pretty sad, you know, pretty sad. Fine young men who if given a chance perhaps, maybe, they would be better off if they were moved out when they come out of places like that, if they do not go home at all if they are not wanted. Shocking. Just frightening. It would break your heart to see it happen but it did happen and I suppose it is still happening. So more power to the John Howard Society. And the John Howard Society are a collectively small group and what we need is the John Howard Society should merely be the catalyst, the spearhead to take all of those of us who are not directly members of a John Howard Society aware of a very great need in the community and maybe some day in an enlightened society we will realize

MR. NOLAN: that if one goes to prison he then pays his debt - he or she - to society. But we are not satisfied with that, some of us; we want to crucify him forever, and it is wrong.

MR. E. WINSOR: Just a question to the Minister: Do the John Howard Society have branches outside the City of St. John's?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: In Corner Brook.

MR. E. WINSOR: They have one in Corner Brook. I think the Minister is quite correct in asking my colleague - you know, the attitude of the public toward a John Howard Society is very discouraging. We all -

AN HON. MEMBER: The people do not get a hand.

MR. E. WINSOR: That is right. This is the point I was just going to make.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. E. WINSOR: Last year or those last two years we have seen what a trying time they have had to try to get a halfway house or some sort of a dwelling in order that they may take those convicted criminals, if you want - I do not like the word criminal, however that is what they were put behind bars for, I suppose - and try to get them and bring them back into society again. It appears that society is not willing to accept them or at least they do not show any interest in trying to help to get them back to our society. So, Mr. Chairman, I thank and I commend the Minister for increasing that vote, and it is too bad that he just cannot increase it a little more and encourage the Society to expand their organization outside of Corner Brook because I am sure there is need of it in Gander and Grand Falls and other areas perhaps.

MR. NOLAN: Is a member who has been charged with a criminal act and has served his sentence, is he permitted to serve as a member of the House of Assembly? If not, we are not in a very good position to go pointing the finger at anyone, are we?

MR. HICKMAN: No.

MR. NOLAN: Unless we are willing to change it.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, the answer to that question is

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MR. HICKMAN:

that he is.

MR. NOLAN:

He is?

MR. HICKMAN:

Yes - he or she.

On motion 704-02-06, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Shall 704-03 carry?

MR. HICKMAN:

Mr. Chairman, when we were sitting on Tuesday night the hon. member from Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) asked me concerning a capital vote, which I realize is not debatable in the Committee, but asked for information concerning a capital vote of \$663,500 under 703-09. I erroneously advised the Committee that that vote was for the Stephenville Correctional Centre. Actually, the vote for the Stephenville Correctional Centre is contained under Capital, under this vote which is Constructions and Alterations 704-09 voted in another department. The other vote, I am proud to say, was for the building of the first Court House to be built in Newfoundland as a Court House only since there was one built in Corner Brook in 1933 which is now used by the CNT, and the earliest one before that was in 1910 in Bonavista. The Court House in St. John's was constructed in 1899 and the one in Harbour Grace, which is still a very strong and functioning Court House, was built in 1870. The

MR. HICKMAN: court house - we had new court facilities provided in Corner Brook and Grand Falls in public buildings along with other services - but this will be a separate court house. The plans and design have been completed. It will be hopefully a model for other court houses to be built in Gander, where we are in the process of acquiring land from the Town Council by purchase or we have probably purchased it by now.

MR. NEARY: Where will it be erected?

MR. HICKMAN: The court house, the first court house in Newfoundland in a half a century or more to be used truly as a courthouse and for no other purpose, is going to be built in Grand Bank,

That courthouse in Grand Bank is being designed to accommodate the District Court Judge for Burin-Burgeo, His Honour Judge Henry Hickman Cummings. It will accommodate two provincial courts to house the magistrates and will also include facilities such as the staff facilities, law library. The tenders will be called in mid-June and the project is due for completion and occupation in the Spring. I simply wanted to rectify that because, Mr. Speaker, under this heading, the Community Correctional Centre at Stephenville, the contract was awarded for it on April 12, 1977 by the Department of Public Works and Services to the lowest bidder, a company called Byers Construction Company Limited. Work has commenced and it is estimated that the work on the Stephenville Correctional Centre will -

MR. NOLAN: That should be a news release, not a report on the floor of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. HICKMAN: be completed within six months. There I should avail of this opportunity to thank the people of Stephenville for the excellent cooperation because this requires a lot of community activity. Last year we had a public meeting in Stephenville, The hon. member for Stephenville, who is a great supporter of this concept, was there and well as was the hon. member for Port au Port. It was unanimously resolved at that meeting that they would -

AN.HON.MEMBER:

MR.HICKMAN: I am talking about under this heading of penitentiaries and corrections and the community correctional centre for Stephenville. Now while I am on my feet I should give the committee the particulars on this particular heading. The building which has been acquired from the Harmon Corporation in Stephenville will contain twelve cells consisting of all concrete blocks for the retention of the more serious cases. On the first floor there will be eleven rooms with double beds and kitchen, dining-room and laundries. On the second floor we will have twenty-three rooms with double beds and there is a third floor that is capable of future expansion.

The building will be completely surrounded by a chain link fence. The completion date, as I say, of the job is Oct. 15, the estimated completion date Oct. 15, 1977. We have made an estimate and this should be of interest to the hon. member for Stephenville because he has asked me this question before and it is only now we have been able to come up with the figures - as to the number of staff that will be required in the community correctional centre of Stephenville. It is estimated that there will be one officer in charge of the chief warden rank. Two head warders, five sergeant warders, seventeen warders, one store clerk, and two cooks. That is about twenty-eight on staff, permanent staff as we can estimate it at this time.

It will certainly do the correctional programmes on the West Coast a lot of good and as I say the whole success of this new concept depends upon what I am sure we are going to get, enthusiastic support from the community.

MR.CHAIRMAN: Hon. member for Conception Bay.

MR.NOLAN: We have now seen a demonstration of how justice works in this province, under the administration of the minister opposite. No one says that there is not a new courthouse needed. I would like to ask the minister how was Grand Bank arrived at? What officials were the ones responsible for saying it should go here and if you

MR. NOLAN: come up and gives me a bunch of names of lawyers, I will not even accept it. I would like to have some recommendation now, placed on this table, as to why it was decided that it goes in Grand Bank. Was it the recommendation of the real member for the area, the member's executive assistant, or did it come from some judicial body, or was anyone consulted in other areas of the Province? I say, 'more power to the people of Grand Bank' and it would be a good thing to have the Court House there. But if he is going to start off with a new program and this will be the first of a number for other areas, it smacks of political patronage, blatant politics on behalf of the hon. Minister in the worst kind of a way. The man has no shame. I know he got a fright in the last election but I did not believe that it made him demented as a result. So I would like to know how the decision was arrived at. We would like to know in this Committee - we would like to know exactly who made the recommendations and we would like to have it tabled here in this House. Now, let the Minister do that.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, it is going to be difficult for me to table the recommendation because in order to table the recommendation and lay it on the table of the House, I will have to go and lie on the table myself.

MR. NOLAN: Ah!

MR. HICKMAN: That is a ministerial responsibility -

MR. NOLAN: Ah!

MR. HICKMAN: It is a ministerial responsibility to choose the seat within the Federal ridings to which District Court judges have been appointed. I was the one that - it was a ministerial decision to choose Brigus. It was a ministerial decision to choose Gander. It was a ministerial decision, I presume, to choose Corner Brook, but that was long before I was in politics; but I can say it was Grand Falls because, again, I made that decision, and let me say I will defend to the death the right to choose and maintain the traditional, judicial capital of the South Coast of this Province, the town that has been the judicial

MR. HICKMAN: capital of the South Coast of Newfoundland for at least one hundred and fifty years where the present Provincial Court is situate in facilities that we have had to rent from the Government of Canada. I make no apology for it. I am proud of it. I will defend it. If the hon. gentleman from Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) feels that there is one person in the ancient and honourable town of Grand Bank, the judicial capital of the South Coast, who has any objection at all to the ministerial decision that I took in the exercise of my ministerial responsibility or if there is anyone that he would dare go down to Grand Bank and face and make the accusation that that was blatant political patronage then I challenge him to do it, and the name of the place where we will have the meeting is in the Partanna School. He will name the time and the place, and I, most assuredly, will do my utmost and I will be ready for the wrath of the Grand Bankers who attack me for having had the audacity to insist that their town continue to be the judicial capital of the South Coast of this Province.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, no one talked about Grand Bank not being the judicial centre and all the rest on the coast. That has nothing to do with it at all. We stand here and we watch the Minister like a penguin over there, ranting and raving, with a fancy tie. It is the only time I have ever seen a rainbow cover up a pot. It is enough to make you sick, Mr. Chairman,

MR. HICKMAN: Any way at all. Get out of your political patronage one on -

MR. NOLAN: when the fact is, every member in this House knows what the - if the hon. Minister had sufficient gumption to stand up for the people who are being victimized all over this Province by vandalism, but then he is always passing the buck. "Oh, it is a Federal responsibility". "It is a Municipal responsibility". The most useless gentleman that every occupied the office of the Minister of Justice now addresses us. It is enough to give you the dry heaves, Mr. Chairman, shocking beyond belief, and then he tries to turn all the

MR. NOLAN: people in Grand Bank against everyone in this House because we catch him at his own slimy little game that he is trying to use in the name of justice. It is enough to make you sick, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKMAN: I have to respond to that accusation. Putting a Court House in Grand Bank is a slimy game?

MR. NOLAN: No, the Minister is playing a slimy game.

MR. HICKMAN: There is nothing sly about that. I am proud, and I repeat, Mr. Chairman, and this is worth recording because it is an historic day in the history of this House that in 1910 there was a Court House built in Bonavista, a building to be used only as a court house; that in 1899 there was one built in St. John's, the one we still have; and in 1970 there was one built in Harbour Grace, which we still have; in 1933 there was one built in Corner Brook, which is no longer a court house, it is occupied by Canadian National Telegraphs

MR. HICKMAN: and I suspect there was one built in Grand Falls about the same time.

MR. FLIGHT: What does that have to do with the Head.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!

MR. HICKMAN: This, Mr. Chairman,

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to remind hon. gentlemen on my right that they must address the Chair when speaking.

MR. NOLAN: Of course, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HICKMAN: This, Mr. Chairman, I repeat, is the first building to be constructed to serve as a courthouse only with facilities in this Province since that time. We have every intention of building similar facilities, and hopefully this design will suit them all in Gander and in Brigus, where we have the other two district courts, and where they are now operating out of facilities that leave something to be desired. In Grand Bank the only facility we have is one courtroom -

MR. NOLAN: Right.

MR. HICKMAN: - that has to be shared between the provincial court and the district court.

MR. NOLAN: Right! It should have been done long ago.

MR. HICKMAN: And that is intolerable. We could not do it long ago because it was only a few months ago that the first district court judge to the District Court of Burin - Burgeo was appointed.

MR. FLIGHT: Let us get on with the Head.

MR. NOLAN: When we get a good member down there there we will have some improvements.

On motion, 704-03, carried.

On motion, 704, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 705-01, carry?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: 705-01, Sir, is probably one of the most important subheads in this whole vote.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: "Police protection: Provision of police protection through the Newfoundland Constabulary and the service contracts with the R.C.M.P."

Straightaway, Sir, I would like to put a question to the minister about the new police drill hall. Is it or is it not going to be constructed this year? It is a shame, Sir, it is scandalous to have the Newfoundland Constabulary housed in the quarters that they have over here at Fort Twonshend. They are old buildings, they are falling down around their ears and they are a disgrace to the Province. I would like to ask the minister if any steps are going to be taken this year to provide the Newfoundland Constabulary with a new drill hall?

MR. HICKMAN: I will reply now if the hon. member will permit.

MR. NEARY: All right, but I want to have the floor when the minister finishes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

MR. HICKMAN: I thank the hon. gentleman and if the Chair would like to note, he yielded to me to answer this question. May I say, Mr. Chairman, and I say this with a great deal of pride and I direct hon. gentlemen's attention to 705-09-02 which is under the heading - still Police Protection, but voted in another department - of a vote that we are asking for \$1,200,000, that is to build the first building ever to be built in Newfoundland to house a force that we as a government are very proud of, the Newfoundland Constabulary.

The new constabulary building will be located in the Fort Twonshend area in close proximity to where the College of Fisheries is now, down

MR. HICKMAN: over the hill behind the government building there. The reason for that is that we do not want to trespass upon the Fort Townshend area itself because hopefully the Government of Canada will in time be persuaded to restore Fort Townshend, Newfoundland being the only Province without a major fort that has been restored by the Government of Canada, and it is one that is capable of restoration.

The total area of the new constabulary building will be 60,000 square feet on three floors. That is 60,000 square feet on three floors. The ground floor will be used for storage, vehicle inspection and maintenance and vehicle accommodation. This floor will also contain the breathalyzer room and related facilities. The main floor of the constabulary building, which will be the one most widely used by the public, will have a very attractive entry foyer and public waiting rooms. Adjacent to this area is something that I think is long overdue, we are going to have in that building a police museum. This floor will also contain assembly areas and a gymnasium. The floor will also contain all the records for the police, both patrol and traffic muster-rooms, that is m-u-s-t-e-r-r-o-o-m-s, general offices, staff lounge

MR. HICKMAN: and cafeteria, operations and communications centre. We have probably one of the most sophisticated communications of any police department right now and that will be transferred up there.

MR. NOLAN: Were they in it last year?

MR. HICKMAN: That was open last year and providing facilities for accident reporting and investigations. The second floor of the new constabulary building will house the criminal investigation division and their auxiliary facilities and the facilities will include line-up rooms, identification work rooms, a library and will also house the training division for the CIB. In addition the Chief of Police and his supportive staff will be on the floor, that third floor. The planning of the building is progressing very favourably and the architects are now working on the drawings and specifications and the plan is that these drawings will be completed in adequate time to go to tender and commence work by late summer, 1977. So barring any difficulties in design and planning we can look forward to construction starting this year on a new and indeed the first building to house a force, the Newfoundland Constabulary, of which I am sure all hon. gentlemen present will agree we are justly proud. I thank the hon. gentleman from LaPoile.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. gentleman for that interesting piece of information, Sir, and I do hope that the engineers will be able to get on with the job and the consultants and the architects and get the public tenders called and the actual construction of the new building to house the Newfoundland Constabulary started this year.

Now, Mr. Chairman, since the House last met we have a new Chief of Police, Chief John Brown. Now, Mr. Chairman, I am sure that a number of members of this hon. House have been observing the development of the Newfoundland Constabulary since Chief John Brown took over. There are probably some members who

MR. NEARY: are a little bit nervous in the beginning that Chief Brown may rock the boat. I had occasion to chat with some hon. members about the appointment and about the developments since the appointment was made and I think most people that I talked to in this hon. House felt that either the Newfoundland Constabulary would be out on strike the next day or they would respond to the new philosophy and the new techniques and the new disciplinary measures and so forth that would be implemented by Chief Brown.

Well, they were not out on strike the next day so obviously the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary must be responding favourably to the new chief. Now the new chief is a very outspoken man. The Chief of Police, Chief John Brown, has on a number of occasions directly, whether deliberately or not, directly contradicted his superior officer, the Minister of Justice.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: The Minister of Justice, Sir, for the last three or four years has stuck his head down in the sand as far as vandalism and crime and the increase of crime in this Province is concerned.

MR. NOLAN: Shocking, shocking.

MR. NEARY: The minister told me on one occasion in this hon. House that I was doing a disservice to Newfoundland by mentioning the fact that crime was increasing in this Province. And shortly after the Chief of Police came out and said that the crime rate had increased, agreed with me in a report that was made to the City Council that made the minister hopping mad that the minister did not see the report before it was made public down at City Hall. The minister landed the jig and probably had Chief Brown on the carpet.

MR. NOLAN: No, he had his executive assistant dance the jig. He does not have the energy.

MR. NEARY: But the fact remains, Sir, that the Chief of Police, John Brown has borne out, has verified and confirmed everything that I have said in relationship to vandalism and crime being on the increase in this Province in the last several years.

MR. NEARY: and has contradicted what the Minister of Justice has been saying. The crime rate, only there about last week, the week before last the Chief made a speech to the St. John's Lion's Club and said, crime rate is rising and Chief blames the illegal use of drugs. And in this morning's Daily News we had a run down on crime in the city.

MR. VOLAN: Just read it.

MR. NEARY: Yes, Sir, I am going to read it and I am going to have a few cracks at the weak-kneed Minister of Justice that we have in this Province for directing the efforts of the Newfoundland Constabulary in their own way by pointing them in the wrong direction.

MR. VOLAN: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: While we have the trained members, the excellent members of the Newfoundland Constabulary going around, going around, Sir, checking parking meters, trained men, men that could be out trying to solve burglaries and trying to solve cases of vandalism and assault and break and entry and robberies, down, Sir, these men trained at tremendous expense down doing the demeaning tasks of issuing parking tickets, which is a clerical job, which could be done by meter maids as we have heard so often in this hon. House, Sir. And, Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether the Minister of Justice realizes it or not, but this is the thing that undermines the morale of the Newfoundland Constabulary. These men are trained to do better work than be going around issuing parking tickets.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: And it is not the fault of the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary. And if the hon. gentleman will read these statistics in the morning news he will see according to the figures that are quoted here about the number of people who were prosecuted. I do not know what they mean by prosecutions - whether they were prosecuted and convicted or not. Twenty-three robberies, twelve prosecutions, fifty per cent.

MR. HICKMAN: What is the headline?

MR. NEARY: The headline is "Crime in the City". "Crime in the City" that is all it says. There is the headline.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, start reading, Start reading from the beginning.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I cannot read it all. I do not have the time. My time started at quarter past twelve in case Your Honour does not realize it, because I had to start all over again when my hon. friend - Hold, Mr. Chairman, I have twenty minutes following the hon. gentleman who got up and made a speech on the drill hall. Sir, when another member rises, Sir, to speak that gives the other member -

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understood the hon. member yielded to the minister to answer the question and I recognized him next. I then recognized the hon. member for St. John's South and his time will be finished at 12:32 P.M.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, in that length of time I do not really have the time to deal with this very important matter, Sir. But I will have a crack at it.

MR. HICKMAN: Would the hon. gentlemen -

MR. NEARY: Sir, only fifty per cent, according to this only fifty per cent of the number of robberies, twenty-eight, were prosecutions carried out in the courts; and out of four rapes, two prosecutions. Does that mean two convictions? And again an average of fifty per cent. 285 assaults, 195 prosecutions - Pardon me, Mr. Chairman. 219 break and entry only 135 prosecutions, twenty per cent, under twenty per cent prosecutions and I do not understand whether these prosecutions were convictions or not. But always in every case, Sir, a very low percentage of prosecutions. Let me point out to the hon. members of the House, Mr. Chairman, that in the case of parking tickets according to the release the number of prosecutions was extremely high, about eighty or ninety per cent prosecutions in the case of parking tickets. Now why was this, Sir? Why it is,

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, is because the efforts and the manpower in the Newfoundland Constabulary is being steered in the wrong direction. That is why, Sir. And is it any wonder, Mr. Chairman, that the people in this city and in this Province are being discouraged from reporting burglaries and robberies and rape and assaults and break and entry.

MR. NOLAN: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Is it any wonder, Sir, why the rate of prosecutions are so low? The members of the Newfoundland Constabulary are tied up in the traffic court. Just look at all the time that is wasted. First of all the man-hours that are wasted parading up and down the streets on the beat looking at parking meters, and then the length of time it takes to issue a parking ticket and then the length of time it takes to go into court and prosecute. Mr. Chairman, it is not a job for the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary.

MR. NOLAN: It is not a job for a man, anyway.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, and besides that, Sir, besides that it undermines the morale of the Newfoundland Constabulary because people who get parking tickets, Mr. Chairman, generally speaking these people are not law

MR. NEARY: lawbreakers. These people only commit misdemeanours for their whole lives. They are not lawbreakers and they end up hating the Newfoundland Constabulary, hating the members of the Force. That is right, Sir. Mr. Chairman, they end up despising the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary whether they are doing their job or not.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, all these people who are hauled into the Traffic Court, I would say 99.9 per cent of them are not lawbreakers, have never broken a law in their lives, and they end up despising the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary, and it is hard on the morale. Besides that, these people were not trained to do that. They were trained to do police work and law enforcement. I would say the sooner that the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary get taken off the beat and issuing parking tickets - I would say the better.

Mr. Chairman, while I have time, there is something else that I have to say about law enforcement as far as not only the Newfoundland Constabulary is concerned, but the R.C.M.P., and that is the matter of going around in unmarked cars and hiding behind buildings and hiding behind vans to catch drivers who are speeding. Mr. Chairman, Chief Brown said in his opening address, in his opening remarks, when the Chief took over control of the Newfoundland Constabulary that his policy would be crime prevention. Well, do you call that crime prevention, Sir, asking a man, an hon. gentleman, a member of the Newfoundland Constabulary to go and hide behind a building so he can wait until somebody comes along going five or six miles over the speed limit and then haul the siren on, put the red lights on, flicking and flashing, and then haul him in and issue a ticket to him? Is that crime prevention, or -

MR. HICKMAN: Or saving lives?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, or is it true - is there any foundation to the fact that the members of the Newfoundland Constabulary

MR. NEARY: have been issued instructions that they have to bring in so many speeders a day, that they have to bring in so many people a day for traffic violations to increase the revenue in the Department of Justice?

MR. HICKMAN: Nonsense.

MR. NEARY: Well, it may be nonsense, Sir, but the rumour is widespread.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, there are policemen who disagree with the hon. gentleman.

MR. NEARY: There are policemen who have made the statement, Sir, that they are acting under instructions, that they have to enforce the traffic regulations, the parking regulations, and so forth, to the maximum degree. If it is not true, Sir, why is it happening down here at the St. John's Airport where you almost have a police state. You cannot even haul up your vehicle - and this is not the fault of the Newfoundland Constabulary, by the way. It is the fault of the R.C.M.P. and the Security people at the Airport which is almost a police state but they are acting under instructions -

MR. HICKMAN: No, they are not.

MR. NEARY: They are acting under instructions from the Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: They are not.

MR. NEARY: They are, Sir.

MR. HICKMAN: Nor does the money come to the Provincial Treasury.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Justice told us in this hon. House some time ago and boasted about the fact that the R.C.M.P. did nothing, made no decisions without consulting with the Minister in this Province. Here they are with a police state down here at the Airport, and as far as downtown is concerned it is almost a police state. While crime in the City is rising, according to the Chief, and the men should be taken off the beat and put in meaningful jobs, given meaningful tasks by the Minister of Justice, carrying out the kind of work that they have been trained to do instead of down performing

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MR. NEARY:

these clerical tasks, these demeaning jobs of issuing parking tickets, taking up all their time going into Court prosecuting people who violate the parking regulations in this City.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I only have a couple of minutes left. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice if any consideration is being given to expanding the Newfoundland Constabulary outside the City of St. John's. This is something that has been bandied around and talked about now for a number of years, and in view of the fact, Sir, that the cost of the R.C.M.P. in this Province - by the way, who are paid more wages and paid more in salaries than our own members of

MR. NEARY: the Newfoundland Constabulary for equal work, which I think is unfair, and should be rectified at an early date as possible. Is there any plans to expand the Newfoundland Constabulary outside of the city of St. John's? I would submit, Mr. Chairman, that one of the first areas to which the Newfoundland Constabulary should be expanded or included in their jurisdiction should be Labrador West. I am not saying this, Sir, because we should have an army on the border between Quebec and Newfoundland but at least, Mr. Chairman, we would assert our independence. If we had men in Labrador City and Wabush on the border, on the border towns, the twin border towns, with the Newfoundland Constabulary, the insignia on the shoulder, - the same as we have on the other side of the border, the Quebec, Quebec P.P. the O.P.P. on the other side of the border - not because we want to declare war, not because we have to defend ourselves, but merely to assert our independence. The RCMP could be taken out of there and they could be put to use to carry out their responsibilities for which they were trained. I think it would be a great idea, Sir. I believe the minister should give that serious consideration. There are other places in Newfoundland. What about Corner Brook? They have a municipal contract. What are the chances of getting the Newfoundland Constabulary moved into Corner Brook? If we are going to have these excellent facilities that the hon. gentleman spoke about, then this may be the opportune time to think about expanding the Newfoundland Constabulary in other areas of the province.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I realize that I have not too much time left to respond. But may I first, the hon. gentleman for LaPoile got up and he started to read an item in this morning's Daily News, Thursday May 19, 1977 concerning crime in the city of St. John's. He started off by alleging that there was an increase in crime. Now let me read the first paragraph of this statement. "The crime record of the city of St. John's showed an overall improvement in 1976 over the

MR. HICKMAN: year before. But it was still substantial and police obviously have their hands full in trying to deal with it.

MR. NEARY: But only in traffic -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, let me read from the report for 1976.

Because the hon. gentleman from LaPoile places great emphasis on the breaking and entering in the crimes against property, let me deal with this report which was referred to in the Daily News this morning, very briefly. Break, entry and theft business premises, there was a decrease of seventy-nine offences in 1976 as opposed to 1975. Break, entry and theft, dwelling houses, a decrease of fifty-one. Break, entry and no theft in business premises a decrease of twenty-two. Break, entry and no theft in dwelling houses, a decrease of twenty-four. Break, entry and no theft schools, a decrease of seventeen. Break, entry and attempted break entry in business premises, a decrease of nine.

Now I know the Newfoundland Constabulary like to share my view that there is a long way to go yet before we reach Utopia, but may I draw this to the attention of the Committee: I would say in every jurisdiction in North America today, unfortunately, there is a gradual increase in crime which seems to be tied in with the increase in population. The fact that in 1976 in the city of St. John's there was a slight decrease in crime, whilst it does not allow us to become less vigilant it should be a sign of some encouragement and I take issue with what the hon. gentleman says with respect to the attitude of the public towards the Newfoundland Constabulary. I say without any hesitancy that never in the long history of the oldest police force in North America, namely, the Newfoundland Constabulary, have they stood so high in the esteem of the people they protect as they do today. I commend them for it. I commend Chief of Police John R. Browne for the tremendous leadership he is showing. He is one of Canada's outstanding police chiefs. He is not only recognized in the province of Newfoundland but he is recognized on the national level. Their programmes of training are first class. Tomorrow afternoon it will be

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1b-3.

MR. HICKMAN: my honour once again to go over to Memorial and attend the graduation of another group of police officers, members of the Newfoundland Constabulary who will have successfully completed their three year community relations programme.

MR. NEARY: What are you going to do, put them on parking meters?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. gentleman will also refer to a speech made by Chief Browne to one of the service clubs, I think Kiwanis, where he

MR. HICKMAN: pointed out a very interesting thing with respect to parking meters; that the city of Moncton, I think it was, decided to use non-police officers for parking meters and had to go back to the police because they found that a law is a law and you do not start distinguishing between one or the other.

The hon. gentleman also referred to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Their report for 1976 came out yesterday. Criminal code offences -

MR. NOLAN: Did the members of the House - Is this privileged information? Do the members have copies.

MR. HICKMAN: Would the hon. - Mr. Chairman, I wonder -

MR. NEARY: Would the minister permit a question?

MR. HICKMAN: May I finish this first?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. NEARY: Obviously the minister will not permit a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

MR. HICKMAN: I have an obligation to answer the questions that were first raised by the hon. gentleman for -

MR. NEARY: Well how come Mr. Chief Brown said crime rate is rising, look, to the Lion's Club.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! I would ask the hon. gentleman to kindly regard the Chair.

MR. NEARY: I only wanted to ask the minister a question.

MR. HICKMAN: The report of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Newfoundland - criminal code offences in areas under RCMP jurisdiction decreased 1.6 per cent during 1976 compared to 1975. Now, Mr. Chairman, the other thing is that in 1976, and this is very relevant, criminal code solve rate stands at fifty-six per cent and that is more than comparable to the national average. So let us not, Mr. Chairman, by any stretch of the imagination convey to the people of Newfoundland that we do not have in this Province two very, very strong police forces - the Newfoundland Constabulary and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

MR. HICKMAN: Now, Mr. Chairman, again as a matter of interest to the public of Newfoundland and to the committee, that the total number in 1977 the total number of police officers - public servants in the Province of Newfoundland as members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police under the policing contract was 474 of which 428 were members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and forty-six were public servants.

MR. NOLAN: Are you going to table that?

MR. HICKMAN: These are the ones that come under the Provincial policing contract and the municipal contracts covering Corner Brook and Labrador City.

MR. NOLAN: Are you going to table that? -

MR. HICKMAN: In addition, Mr. Chairman, and this is relevant because it is also a police presence. there are 195 with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Newfoundland who are not under the provincial contract, the costs of which are maintained and paid solely by the Government of Canada. Of that 195, some 163 are members of the RCMP and these are police officers and the other thirty-two are public servants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The time is up.

MR. NEARY: Thanks very much. Too bad, we were just getting warmed up.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, there is an amendment to 705-03 that is amendment and supplies. I would move that the estimates be amended by adding thereto the sum of \$75,000 and then the total at the end will be altered accordingly.

On motion, Item 7 - Justice, all items, carried.

On motion, amendment carried.

MR. HICKMAN: Now Industrial Development - Head 16:

MR. CHAIRMAN: Industrial Development - the hon. minister.

MR. LINDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much and to the House for the opportunity of presenting a few remarks on the Industrial

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Take 2089

JM - 3

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Development estimates for this coming year. What I hope to have happen in this next four hours, Mr. Chairman, is to get into

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the estimates in a little bit more detail than we did, say, the Department of Rural Development, which tended to have gotten into a debate and, of course, which indicates the need for debate, as well. I enjoyed the debate on Rural Development very much and I would say that it is unfortunate that a lot of our time was spent on matters in the House that cannot be taken up with departmental debate. The resolutions that we have on Wednesday afternoons, the Private Members' resolutions, perhaps it might be appropriate sometimes for us to dispense with a resolution more quickly and get into some others which have a departmental basis. The unfortunate aspect, of course, of sometimes getting into a debate when you have such a limited time, four hours on a department, is that you do not get the opportunity to get into your votes and to give the Minister a chance to express what is happening and to get the House to critically analyze what is happening in a particular vote in a department.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Industrial Development, although the term indicates some kind of a magnificent, great department, is a relatively small department of Government. It is, I think, by far the smallest department of Government, if I am not mistaken on that. I am just thinking as I look across the desks at my colleagues here, I doubt if there is another department that even comes close to it in terms of the manpower. We have only sixteen professional people in the Department as positions of management and staff, not including the stenographic capability we have, and we are not at all dissatisfied that the Department has emerged to the state it is today in terms of size because it is a relatively new thrust in the Government. Formerly - I do not believe I am saying anything too controversial to say that we did not have in the Government until recent years a Department of Industrial Development. We had what was called a Minister of Economic Development and -

MR. NEARY: We had a Department of Industrial Development before you even went into politics.

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RT-2

MR. LUNDRIGAN:
LaPoile (Mr. Neary).

There you go. There is the expert from

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am going to refrain today from getting involved in the kinds of cut and thrust with the hon. member.

MR. NEARY: You are going to get hammered anyway, so you might as well.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is one thing I will never worry about, Mr. Chairman, because the hon. member knows, having talked about his friends from Island Cove earlier on today, that even he does not have the courage to really get into the heavy cut and thrust of debate with the old Island Cover because he can give it as well as he can take it. So I am not a bit worried about that. I would love to spend about the next seventy-five hours on Industrial Development and let the member, the Bell Islander, show his wit and I think I will compete with him. I will make a good effort.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Industrial Development is a new thrust in the Government. It is a small department and it has grown to the stage now of having capability in a variety of directions.

MR. NEARY: It has become the 'shut-her-down' department.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I believe this year 1977 will see the Department of Industrial Development get properly airborne having had the foundation laid the last two or three years in terms of staff and in terms of capability. I am pleased that this year - if the hon. members will glance right at the end of the estimates they will see an indication there of Vote 1508 - Reorganization \$150,000 which is really an indication there that the Government have decided to expand. That vote there, by the way, is not the entire amount of dollars that will be spent in expanding the Department of Industrial Development.

MR. SMALLWOOD: To what end?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I would say that by the end of 1977 that we will have much more capability than we have had in the past, building on the foundation that we have laid.

Now the member talks about which new industries -

AN HON. MEMBER: And where are they?

MR. NEARY: Show me one new industry.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, we have talked about that and unfortunately I do not want to get involved in a great philosophical dissertation, but every time the member talks about what new industries

MR. LINDRIGAN: and we will talk about these new industries in the next little while. He gives the impression that the responsibility of the government and of the department is to create industries -

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. LINDRIGAN: - as if the government are responsible for collecting taxpayers' dollars, hundreds of millions of dollars and taking the dollars and going and starting industries.

'r. Speaker, I want to refute that categorically right off the top, right from the start, because the government's responsibility is not to start industries.

MR. NEARY: It is not their responsibility to shut them down either.

MR. LINDRIGAN: The government's responsibility is to reinforce private enterprise, facilitate and encourage private enterprise, the business community, to start industries. If the government are going to take the total responsibility for industrial development in the Province and in our economy, then we have not to change our whole system - want us to control the entire economy? - and I believe, 'r. Speaker, we have gone far enough in this Province in having government control and government input into industry.

Aubrey Mac this morning, one of the persons I admire the greatest in the Province, I try to pick Aubrey Mac up every opportunity I get, in one of his quins this morning before his song he said, "The one way to make crime not pay is to have the government run it." And I thought that was the cutest quin I have heard for quite some time. This is the way to ensure that crime does not pay, to get the government to run it and that perhaps is the way I would like to respond to the hon. member from LaPelle (Mr. Neary).

'r. Speaker, the past year 1976 has not seen the kind of growth in our economy that we would have liked to have seen. It has not seen the employment growth that we would have liked to have seen. We have had about a 1.2 real growth in the Gross

MR. LUNDRIAN: Provincial Product in the Province, net growth, and this year 1977 we expect to see an increase in that general growth in our economy and this is our own prediction and of course somewhat substantiated by the Conference Board and other agencies that predict the development across our provinces throughout Canada. We expect nevertheless to see a continuing unemployment problem and I would say without - I do not think I am being overly frank when I say this either, that we will have for a number of years unemployment problems in the Province as we have had in the past.

Last year we created around 6,000 new jobs but unfortunately we had the labour force grow basically to the same extent. This year we expect the labour force again to grow by about 6,000 and it would be optimistic of me to say that we will have the employment opportunities grow to the extent that it will offset the fact that 6,000 new people will come into the labour force. And the past twelve months we have seen modest growth in investment by the public and private sector; nevertheless there has been in excess of \$1 billion invested in our economy in capital and machinery investment by the private and the public sector.

Mr. Speaker, in the last five years, using two figures, there has been a growth of roughly from \$300 million to \$400 million of public investment in the Province. Looking at the gradual growth for the last five years from \$300 million to approximately \$400 million in the past twelve months in public investment and there has been from around \$600 million to around \$700 million growth in the private investment in the Province in terms of capital investment and investment on machinery and the like to make up a total of in excess of \$1 billion on an annual basis. Even at that rate, Mr. Speaker, predicting ahead for 1977 we will see at the best an even-Stephen situation with respect to private and public investment in real terms. There will be an increase in the gross expenditures of capital investment in our Province but

MR. LINDRIGAN: In actual real terms this, counting for inflation, will see pretty well an even-Stephen situation.

So looking ahead for 1977 we expect and will see, we feel, an upturn in the economy. We will see an increase in the Gross Provincial Product in real terms. We are not expecting to see any tremendous improvement in the unemployment picture unfortunately, but Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize, and this sounds almost like getting back to the Prime Minister's comments of years ago when I remember him defending the unemployment problems across Canada, but I want to say that the national economy will have to see some kind of improvement before we will feel the full impact of it in this Province.

Politically it is nice to get up and talk and wrangle on back and forth about the unemployment problem and the opportunity we have or the initiatives we can take to do something about it. In a real sense the Province does not have the levers, it does not have the capability to make a massive impact on the unemployment in this Province. Even if it does intrude through capital expenditure through the construction industry, through the various services that we are providing, it still cannot accommodate for the fact that we have 30,000 people unemployed and that is using the Stats Canada figures and I agree with comments which have been made that this is the least number of people we have employed of course and it is the seasonal problem that we are faced with at the moment.

But the Minister of Mines and Energy who is an avid reader of the Ottawa Letter which is a good synopsis of the Canadian scene passes me a resumé of

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the unemployment picture across Canada, and he was quoting for me earlier today some of the problems that we have in other parts of Canada and it is amazing and very disconcerting that you see some of the heavily industrialized parts of our country with unemployment problems so significantly high - British Columbia for example, the unemployment picture in Victoria, 10.3 per cent - Vancouver, 8.1 per cent. Hamilton is mentioned here somewhere - Halifax, 8.1 per cent - Saint John, New Brunswick, 11.5 per cent - Quebec, 12.7 per cent - Montreal, 8.8 per cent, and you can go right on through Hamilton - even Hamilton, 6.9 per cent - St. Catherine's-Niagara Falls, the great triangle development area, 8.2 per cent. We have a problem across the country with unemployment. I would classify unemployment as the most significant problem we have. The Government of Canada, of course, have taken the approach that inflation is the most major problem. I believe the policies of the last couple of years in Canada have reflected on the fact that inflation is considered by the central government as the prime problem. I remember, in 1969 the government of the day then, the same government did the same thing basically, classifying inflation as the most major problem and tended to go into a period of - what would you call it? of constrained restraint, clamping up and restricted expenditure especially in the development sector, and I believe that kind of approach has tended to find its way into the government policies of the present government today. And I am not able to argue strenuously that the policies are not the proper policies, but I am concerned in our Province where unemployment is, without a doubt, the central problem that some of the constraint and restraint policies, the type policies if you want, tend to create more unemployment than normally would be felt.

We have had our problems in 1977 - 1976 rather, as a result of the coming to grips with some of the heavy industry in our Province. The unfortunate circumstances at the Come-By-Chance Oil Refinery certainly was not anything that helped us at all.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We lost 600 full-time jobs. We have maintained a few jobs in some kind of a maintenance role in Come-By-Chance, but I believe except for ERCO which tends to get hit too hard too frequently, that whole area would have really suffered very significantly more than it has already.

The construction industry which certainly has not been at a stand-still - I have indicated that in the past twelve months there has been growth both in the public and private sector in terms of construction investment dollars - nevertheless, we have seen in the Avalon Peninsula in particular, some downturn in the economy, some downturn in the opportunity because a large population sector of the Avalon depends on construction jobs. And I can speak from personal experience there, where most of the people that I know personally on the Avalon are people that are involved in construction activity.

On the West Coast we have had our problems. I am not as pessimistic and gloomy about the future as sometimes is indicated to the House and has been indicated even as early as the Question Period or the Petition Period today in the Legislature. The government have taken a fairly firm decision, but certainly, and I can speak with some awareness of the Lab. Linerboard situation although I have not participated in the debate which we will have, hopefully, back on again for further discussion, that these kinds of decisions are not terminal and they are not the end of the road. And there are lots of areas, as the Premier indicated in his detailed remarks, for levels of optimism without being overly optimistic.

The fisheries, of course, as the Minister of Fisheries has indicated - and the Premier in a magnificent presentation yesterday - is a great and real area of opportunity for the Province that has not been realized to the extent that it should have been. I tend to think from years of experience in Ottawa and here with fisheries that it is only now that we are coming into our own in the realization that that great resource has to be the mainstay of the economy of our Province.

The woods industry has had a significant amount of success in the heavily industrialized parts of our Province.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: in the Grand Falls and Corner Brook and related areas in the 1976 season.

In the sawmill industry there is reason for concern in the larger industry, the larger sawmill industry which is an area that I hope to get involved with in some detail as we get through the estimates.

The mining sector - the Minister of Mines and Energy will go into some detail - has had some fruitful developments and tends to be on an upward kick in a very significant sense in terms of investment and output and shipping during the past season.

The hydro situation, Mr. Speaker, will be dealt with by the Minister of Mines and Energy. Our departments work

MR. LUNDRIGAN: very, very closely together on these particular areas. There are things that cannot be discussed in detail at the moment, the minister alluded to yesterday and today, that will be unfolded throughout the 1977 season.

In terms of the offshore oil and gas situation, this is one of the areas of greatest potential. It is still potential, it is still not proven to the point where we can expect the kinds of guarantees. I would not take out a mortgage on what is going to happen offshore, but certainly it is an area of tremendous potential. The Norwegians are the model for the world, perhaps, in the way they have handled that particular resource and how in the matter of a few years from now they will have reached the state of financial stability perhaps unheard of in the Western World where I believe they will be in a total position of non-debt. Of course this is the result of good management of their resources.

Now, Mr. Chairman, these are just a few general comments that I have been able to make here. We will get involved in the estimates. All the votes are there. We have the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation. I want to give a tremendous amount of information to the House on that particular Corporation. Nodco - I want to get involved in. I would like to touch on Pelcon, the shipyard, the various pseudo corporations that we are involved in, the Burgeo Fish Industries, the various aspects of international exposure that we have had in the past year, some of the promotional activities we have been involved in, and some of the new votes that are here which hopefully can be utilized this present year in getting some market and development attitude.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the member for Burgeo -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bay d' Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Want to adjourn the debate?

AN HON. MEMBER: As a matter of fact it is just as well.

MR. SIMMONS: You want to go home and have lunch do you?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes.

MR. SIMMONS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to do either. 'Graham' can you cover what you want to cover before one?

MR. FLIGHT: No.

MR. SIMMONS: No. Mr. Chairman, it is nearly one o'clock and if it is the wish of the Committee I would just as soon adjourn the debate right now and start my few remarks this afternoon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it agreed?
The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: If the hon. gentleman does not want to start his few remarks.

MR. SIMMONS: No. no, I moved to adjourn.

MR. NEARY: There is no such thing as adjourn unless it is the House.

MR. SIMMONS: No, I said with the leave of the Committee. So if the Committee is going to continue -

MR. HICKMAN: It is agreed.

MR. SIMMONS: It is agreed eh?

AN HON. MEMBER: Right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion is that I do now leave the Chair.

MR. SIMMONS: Good try, 'Steve'.

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

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1977

The Committee resumed at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I listened very attentively this morning, Sir, to what the Minister of Industrial - is there something wrong, Mr. Chairman? -

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: - I listened very attentively this morning, Sir, to what the hon. Minister of Industrial Development had to say in introducing his estimates, and I must say, Sir, I was not any more impressed with the remarks of the hon. gentleman than I was when the hon. gentleman introduced the estimates of the Department of Rural Development.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

I wonder would the hon. member yield for a moment?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

I would like to welcome to the gallery fifty-two students from Glovertown Regional High School, Glovertown, accompanied by their teachers, Mr. Stone, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Holloway. On behalf of all the members, I welcome you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I hate to have to stand in this hon. House for I do not take any pleasure or any joy in it at all having to condemn a minister for being incompetent. And, Mr. Chairman, there are so many ministers in this administration who are incompetent! You know, I know it sounds like a broken record every time I get up and say it. I could start at this end and go all the way right down to the curtain, Sir, and I could name eight or ten ministers who I feel in that administration are completely incompetent. Others, Mr. Chairman, have too much of a workload, too heavy a responsibility, and as a result

Mr. Nearv.

we see one minister now who had to leave the House and go away for a rest - because of the heavy burden of responsibility resting on the shoulders of that particular hon. gentleman.

But the fact of the matter is, Mr. Chairman, that this administration, that the Minister of Industrial Development and his colleagues have not produced one idea, have not produced one industry in five years. And as I indicated the other day, Sir, to the House, the former Premier of this Province, the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood), better known in Newfoundland as 'Joey', went around this Province with the golden shovel, and now this crowd are going around with the golden padlock. This is the 'shut-her-down' government that we have, starting with the steel mill down here at the Octagon. That was the first industry to get the axe. Shut her down! And then, Mr. Chairman, came the Come By Chance oil refinery. Apart from a lot of other small industries in between, after getting a little practise and rehearsing with the smaller ones, like the steel mill down at the Octagon, then they tackle the big one, the Come By Chance oil refinery. Shut her down, they say. And now of late it is the Linerboard mill at Stephenville. Shut her down! Get out the golden padlock and lock up the doors. They have not produced one new industry and not only that, Mr. Chairman, they created an atmosphere in this Province, in North America and in the international business world that would discourage business and industry from coming in to this Province. And why do I say that, Sir? I say that, Mr. Chairman, because of what they did to one of the best corporate citizens that we had in this Province, the BRINCO and the Churchill Falls Corporation. They kicked out the best corporate citizen that we had in this Province, BRINCO. And in so doing, Sir, they did a tremendous amount of damage to Newfoundland's reputation in the international business world.

MR. PECKFORD:

Cut out your nonsense.

MR. NEARY: I do know what I am talking about, Sir.
And as a result of this, Mr. Chairman, this kicking out of
BRINCO, this forced takeover of BRINCO, a lot of the moneybags
in the world, a lot of the money people, like the de Rothschilds
and the other big money people who were so interested in Newfoundland
and coming in and investing money to develop Newfoundland, have
now shied away., And the business people throughout North America
and throughout the world will not have anything to do with Newfoundland,
afraid that if they come in and establish a business or an
industry that it will be nationalized, and they will be kicked out.

MR. LUSH: They have lost their credibility.

MR. NEARY: The government has lost its credibility, as
my hon. friend says. I am sure that my hon. friend today will have
a few words no doubt to say about industrial development with
all these young people sitting in the gallery from my hon. friends
district, from the community of Glovertown, who will be interested
in knowing that as a result of this administration, of the way
they have handled industrial development and the development of this
Province, that we now have record unemployment in Newfoundland and
Labrador.

MR. NEARY: We have higher unemployment in Newfoundland and Labrador at the present time than we have ever had in our whole history. What an indictment of an administration, Sir, that came into power pretending that they were the new broom that was going to sweep clean, and a crowd that were not going to go to Ottawa begging for handouts. And but for Ottawa today, Mr. Chairman, but for the handouts that are coming into this Province from Ottawa, Sir, in the form of unemployment insurance benefits, old age pension, family allowances, veterans allowances, DREE grants, fisheries research, public or federal public works, LIP, Canada Works, Young Canada Works, but for all the money that is coming in, Sir, via these programmes that I mentioned, social welfare programmes and the like, but for the money that is coming from Ottawa we would now, Sir, be a disaster area.

There is an emergency situation in the Province as it is, Sir, because of the lack of imagination, the lack of initiative and the incompetence of the minister and the administration.

MR. MORGAN: Everybody is incompetent according to you.

MR. NEARY: No, Sir, I started off, if the hon. gentleman had been here, by saying that all ministers are not incompetent, but a good many of them are incompetent and that makes for a very weak administration. And so, Mr. Chairman, I have nothing, Sir, but strong condemnation for the Minister of Industrial Development and for the administration for their lack of imagination and their lack of initiative in forcing ahead with the development of this Province and for destroying our reputation in the international business world.

Some time ago, Sir, last year and the year before, the administration decided to do a little promotion of Newfoundland natural resources and try to attract industry to come to this Province, and they went down and held a couple of dinner meetings, down in the United States. We have not been able to get much information on the cities and the result of these promotional banquets. All we know is that when the

MR. NEARY: hon. the Premier and the Minister of Finance, I believe it was at the time, when they arrived at these banquets they were presented with subpoenas to appear in the courts in the United States for various and sundry reasons. But we have not been able to get the details of these banquets and dinner meetings, Sir, that were held so far to date and the names of the cities in which they were held and the number of guests in attendance and the benefits received by this Province in return for this expenditure. And I hope that the minister will now tell us if we can expect any dividends from spending the taxpayers money down in the various cities in the United States wining and dining the industrialist and the business men, if this Province will indeed receive any dividends in return for this extravagance and waste or was it just an opportunity for the ministers to get out of the House and to get out of the Province during the cold weather and get down in the warmer climate so they could hobnob with the big industrialists south of the border.

Mr. Chairman, I hope too, Sir, that the minister is making notes. I hope the minister will tell us about the cost of producing a film titled Newfoundland Today. What was the purpose and the content of this film and what use has it been put to? I think I know who the producer of that film was, Sir, I believe it was a bit of political patronage for a gentleman by the name of McLean, Mr. George McLean, I believe, was the gentleman who got his thirty pieces of silver for arranging the production of that particular documentary.

AN HON. MEMBER: Was that for the big fishery?

MR. NEARY: No. This is a hangover for the last couple of years and the film which cost a substantial amount of money. I do not know how much. The minister so far has refused to give the House the information even though back in April-or in March, rather, I put a question on the order paper asking the minister to give the House the name of the individual or company that was paid for this film.

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Tape 2995 (Afternoon)

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MR. NEARY: And the minister no doubt will tell us that it was George McLean in actual fact who was paid for this film. I do not know who produced it, I do not know if the name of the individual or company, but I do know this, Mr. Chairman, I do know this, that public tenders were not called, that this was a little bit of political patronage passed out to one Mr. George McLean that we have heard so much about over the past several years.

MR. SMALLWOOD: McLean has gone broke you know.

MR. NEARY: I had not heard, Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend, the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) says did I hear that the hon. gentleman's firm has gone broke. No, I have not heard that. But I do know that the hon. gentleman up to say a year or so ago had left a lot of outstanding bills and outstanding debts in this Province, bills that had not been paid. But I do not think it was the result of not being paid by this administration, because I understand that Mr. George McLean on more than one occasion went into various ministers and various government departments and got advances on his money, without even doing the work. A scandalous situation, Sir.

And, Mr. Chairman, I suggest to the Minister of Industrial Development when we were doing the other department that comes under the minister that we should abolish the Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation and abolish the Rural Development Authority and use the federal funds that are available, use the services and the facilities of the Federal Business Development Bank instead of using provincial taxpayers' money, here we have a ready made situation.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: It is crazy.

MR. NEARY: It is crazy? It is not crazy, Sir.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: It is so.

MR. NEARY: It is not. It is a pretty -

MR. PECKFORD: You do not know what you are talking about.

MR. NEARY: I do know what I am talking about, Sir, and if I do not I would like for the Minister of Mines and Energy, who seems to be getting various parts of his anatomy in the wringer these days to get up and straighten this out.

It is, Sir, a very sound piece of advice; abolish the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, which is set up primarily for pork barrelling anyway. That is all it is, Sir. It is an outfit set up whereby if the ministers and the administration and the government in power cannot direct the Federal Business Development Bank or other agencies to give loans

MR. NEARY: and grants and so forth to their buddies and to their friends and to whoever they want to give them to, then they set up their own organization. And that is the main reason why the Rural Development Authority and the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation were set up.

There was no need of either one of these authorities, Sir, or loaning agencies. Here we had the Federal Business Development Bank with all kinds of federal money available to business and industry in this Province and what should have been done, Sir, was that the minister should have been astute enough to appoint one or two counsellors in each one of his departments to work along with applicants, to help people make out applications to get loans from the Federal Business Development Bank, instead of using the provincial taxpayers' money.

And not only that, but the minister would also be well advised, Mr. Chairman, to enter into joint ventures with business and industry. The minister this morning sort of threw out a challenge to the House and said, "Let us have a philosophical discussion during the estimates of the Department of Industrial Development to see if government is interfering too much with the private sector. Let us have a full fledged debate," he said, "let us lay it all on the table of the House to find out if government are sticking their noses in when they should not be sticking it in."

Mr. Chairman, I do not think I have to say to thinking members of this hon. House, Sir, that business and industry have failed to a certain degree, and I am all for private enterprises. I am sure most members of this House are for private enterprise but this is an industry, Sir, that has failed to develop this Province. Our own people who have become millionaires, and we have more millionaires per capita than any other Province of Canada, than any other place its size in the whole of North America; we have more millionaires per capita than any

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Tape No. 2996

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MR. NEARY: other Province of Canada but they will not
reinvest their money in this Province and if I was the minister
ever time the Board of Trade came to me or came to the administration
and said, "What are you going to do to develop this Province?
What are you going to do to prop up the construction industry?"
I would turn right around and say to the Board of Trade
and the businessmen, "What are you going to do? What are you going
to do? Are you prepared to build a dragger this year and to
build a dragger next year to help us develop our fishery? Or
are you going to take your money and

Mr. Neary.

invest it in stocks and bonds and clip the coupons every year and go down in Florida and lie on the beaches and soak up the sun. "Are you prepared to reinvest your money in this Province?" That is what I would do if I were the minister. And then I would also say to the minister that there is nothing wrong with entering into joint ventures with business and industry and this brings me back to the Federal Business Development Bank again where if these people come and they need money, they have an idea, they need money to get started, they do not have the initial capital, it would be perfectly all right for the provincial government to put up the initial capital if they needed some help. But then send them to the Federal Business Development Bank and get the bulk of the money from the Federal Business Development Bank which is federal money.

Now the hon. minister and the administration may have to go up to Ottawa and have a talk to Mr. Lessard, the hon. Marcel Lesard to try to get him to get the Federal Business Development Bank to change their attitude, because the whole trouble with that crowd over there, Sir, is that they have gotten off the rails, that they started to give their money out for bistros and cabarets and for night clubs and for booze joints and for that sort of thing. That is what they have been spending their money on, loaning the money out, and not only that, Sir, but they started to restrict the loans to small loans instead of getting into big loans. And the minister would be very well-advised to take a look at this situation and not hesitate at all to enter into joint ventures with business and industry in taking advantage of the money that is available from the Federal Business Development Bank to develop and to build up and to create industry in this Province.

So I would say, Sir, that we have no choice in this Province- but to step in to the private sector, get in with both feet. What choice do we have? Business and industry, if we leave them alone, if we leave them alone, Sir, the whole Province

MR. NEARY.

will grind to a halt. We now have as a result of that crowd, we now have the highest unemployment in our history.

MR. J. CARTER: What hon. crowd?

MR. NEARY: I am not talking about - I am talking about the moneybags. I am not talking about the hon. gentleman's crowd over there. They are an honourable crowd. The other crowd are a dishonourable crowd.

And, Mr. Chairman, if you leave them alone, Sir, they will ruin the Province.

MR. NOLAN: Gimme's.

MR. NEARY: They have the gimme's. They come to the government with the gimme's. So we have no choice, Sir. What choice do we have? Either government goes off and starts the industries themselves and then turn them over to private enterprise, or enter into a joint venture with business people, with business and industry to try to fill the vacuum, to try to make up for the lack of initiative on the part of the business community in this Province. So there is a positive suggestion for the minister to think about. And the minister promised already that he is going to give us a run-down on the Marystown Shipyards. Well, Mr. Chairman, I know my time is up and I am just getting warmed up. I am not even in full flight yet, Sir. I will have to come back and have a few more remarks after the minister is finished.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Industrial and Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First of all, Mr. Chairman, I want to say that aside from the few little political points the member made, which is natural for him, especially with your film and your things like that; he did get involved in some areas of discussion of some importance, and the last point being the presence of private initiative, free enterprise, private business in this Province verses public enterprise. And that is an area I would like to see other members comment on, because

Mr. Lundrigan.

it is one of the biggest dilemmas we have today. How do we sit back as government with the limited financial resources we have, with the high level of unemployment, with the lack of industrial development, with the lack of a good economic base, and wait for the private sector to develop the economy? Do we sit back? Do we enter further into private business than we have? It is a big question, and I do not mind telling the hon. House that some months ago in the early Spring, in January or February, when we had our priority discussions with Cabinet for a week, day after day, that was one of the most fundamental questions that we had to grapple with, whether we should continue, or even increase our intrusion into the private sector of what is normally considered the private sector of an economy. And I am sure the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) has some very strong feelings in that regard.

A couple of things which I would just like to mention, the mention of the film by the member, a film which maybe I should show the Legislature and let them see some of the things that we are advertising and using abroad. That is a small little question. I would like to clarify it. We started some two years ago to produce a film that we are using in our promotion of

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the Province and I would like to, later on in the debate, to indicate other areas of promotion that are involved in the various trade missions, the various expositions that we were involved in. The most recent one was in Texas just a week ago, and previous to that we were in Calgary, previous to that in Norway, previous to that in Germany carrying on an ongoing kind of international exposition on the Province as to how you relate the expenditure with the direct return. It is an impossibility; every province, every jurisdiction, every sovereign area, even though we are part of Canada, must have some kind of an international involvement and some kind of an international display and an international PR effort. As a matter of fact my own feelings are - and sometime this year if we can put it together I am hoping that for the first time in our history we will have some across the sea and across the Atlantic European presence even if it is an individual that we can contract with to try and provide some direct and on the spot liaison with the European countries, because it is my feeling that we cannot sit back and just allow the economy to be governed by the competency - and I say the competency of the federal government with its industry, trade and commerce and external affairs. It is incumbent on us as a Province to still promote ourselves in the international communities, As a matter of fact, only twenty-five years ago we were totally responsible at that time for all of the international relations around the world as a Province, or as a jurisdiction without any subservience to the federal system.

On the film, Mr. Chairman, the film that we are using throughout the world right now, cost the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador \$79,927, It was produced over a period of in excess of a year, It was produced by a company called "Look Here Productions Limited." That company is owned by McConnells Advertising and there is no connection to my knowledge with Mr. McLean. Certainly I am sure it does not, I am absolutely certain it does not have any

Mr. LUNDRIGAN: connection with Mr. George McLean. There was a competitive quotation received which was in excess of that amount of money from another company as well. So even though there was no public tender, as the member indicated, I do not think there will ever be a public tender called if you are going to produce a film or anything of that nature but it is customary to ask for some proposals.

Now, Mr Chairman, that film has been shown fairly extensively but it will be used much more extensively in 1977. It has been shown for example, the Italian news agency has been exposed to it, a German news agency, Drilling magazine, the London Economics magazine, Metro Works magazine, Engineering and Mining journals, Industry Week, Distribution Worldwide, Oil Daily, Parts and Sights, Counsel of Norway, The German Chamber of Industry and Commerce Incorporated, The Japanese Trade Council in Ottawa, members of the fair and trade section - that is the same group, the Department of Industry Trade and Commerce, the London High Commission has been aware - Mr. Paul Martin's staff in London. It has been shown in Calgary, Dusseldorf, Houston, Stavanger at the various fairs that we have had, the various expositions that we have had, and I could go on. There are quite a number of other kinds of areas that we have shown this film.

We are very proud of it, It needs a bit of updating at the moment and perhaps we will modify it somewhat for 1977. It is one of the tools that we are using to try and show the world that we do have a number of avenues -

CAPT. WINDSOR: Would the minister permit a question, please?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Certainly.

CAPT. WINDSOR: Before the minister takes a seat: Is there anything in that film pertaining to the seal fishery? If not, you say you are going to get it updated and perhaps this is a good opportunity to bring in something to contract the unfavourable publicity Newfoundland has been receiving

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Tape 2998 (Afternoon)

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, we have a specific plan and as a matter of fact at this moment I am hoping to be able to put together something that will be accepted by government to work with our own publishing company in the Province to work out one avenue of publicity for us in the world community.

AN HON MEMBER: What publishing company?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Breakwater Books, but I have not got it to the point where I can announce it to the hon. legislature at the moment. But this particular film capitalizes on the fishery but it does not specifically get involved in any sector of the fishery. It is not a film just saying to the world - this is the seal fishery, this is

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the herring fishery. It is a film saying that we are a resource based economy with some challenge and great opportunities that are relatively undeveloped. So it is really reflecting on the institutions we have and the resource base we have in the Province.

And, Mr. Chairman, about the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, which the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has raised. I have to totally disagree with his recommendation. I have privately, sort of tit-a-tat if you want, talked about it, about the concept he has in his mind.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation is not like the Federal Business Development Bank. The Federal Business Development Bank is really almost a regular bank, the old IDB. It sort of took on a new image or tried to take on a new image some year and a half ago after a couple of years of real heavy controversy. I was part of that controversy in another jurisdiction at that time because I did believe that the IDB was too conservative, much too inclined towards the service sector and not very willing to risk - much too anxious to close in on a company that had a particular problem with indebtedness or a little backpayment problem and the like. and the FBDB reformed itself, took on what is now called a Federal Business Development Bank role. Recently, a month or so ago when the Minister of Small Industries, Mr. Len Marchand, was visiting the Province, I had the occasion to present to Mr. Marchand my feelings that the FBDB are still not - and I say for the records - still not performing the role. They are still too conservative, they are not inclined towards the resource sector at all where the risk is, and where the opportunities are, the big opportunities as well.

MR. NEARY: Thirty per cent of the loans went to night clubs and cabarets.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I do not have the statistic, but I do know and I can say to the hon. member that the bulk of the loans, the heavy bulk of the loans is in the tertiary industry, the service sector, and anybody can get a loan if you have lots of security from the FBDB.

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

And I am publicly indicating that I am not satisfied with their role.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation is not a bank at all. It is a lending institution of last resort. Just to give the history of it to hon. members, it is a programme that is 50/50 cost shared on an operational basis by the federal and provincial government. In other words, we jointly pay 50 per cent - each of the two governments - for the operations, the administration of the corporation. I might say that the mandate for the corporation runs out in July of this year, 1977, and we are now in the process of renegotiating the particular programme because it will have to be given an extension. So you look at, in the estimates, the Newfoundland and Labrador Development votes, you will find that we are budgeting as if there will be an acceptance by the federal government of a continuation of the role of the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, possibly with an expanded role, certainly with an increase in the ceiling that is now placed on lending. For example, the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation now cannot lend to an industry that has more than a million dollars of capital requirement. If a plant costs \$1,100,000 - \$1.1 million for capital requirement, the NLDC cannot get involved with them. That is too low. It might have been adequate four years ago. It is inadequate in 1977. We hope that can be increased. And right at the moment, as a matter of fact, I am discussing with a company - the Newfoundland and Labrador Development and ourselves - with a company that has a capital requirement of \$1.3 million, and we are out of the ball game with them even though we think their concept is an excellent one. So that is it in a nutshell. The Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation has the capability of doing what the member of LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is saying already - to enter into partnership with industry - because there is a provision for the Newfoundland and Labrador Development to do two things; number one is lend as a lender of last resort - I emphasize that - a lender of last resort. So a lot of the industries we get involved in are industries that normally the banks

MR. LUNDRIGAN: would not lend to, normally FBDB would not lend to. That is the number one fact to keep in mind. Number two fact to keep in mind -

MR. NEARY: FBDB would not loan the money, then that business must not have had much of a chance.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Well, I do not agree with that. I think the FBDB is too conservative and if we have to sort of use the same yardstick we would not lend hardly to any industries in this Province.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the second thing is that the -

MR. NEARY: Hogwash! That is hogwash!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation are also able to take an equity with a company. If the hon. House will look at vote number 1503, there is \$800,000 in there in equity fund. That \$800,000 is an amount of money which allows the NLDC to take an equity, to buy into to a small extent - not adequate enough - to a small extent an equity, an involvement in preference shares with a company,

Mr. Lundrigan.

buy back from NLDC as they become profitable, and I think that concept is excellent.

MR. NOLAN:

Would the member permit a question?

Some agencies that are loaning money to business, it has been said by a number of people recently that I have heard, and I am sure the minister has heard, that sometimes the amount loaned is enough to get them in trouble. They just do not have enough to get her off the ground and to continue. Maybe you might provide sufficient funds to get the business going, but if you have any difficulty in many instances in a short period following that, you will go to the wall very quickly. So I am wondering how the minister sees this problem?

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

I agree with the member. I am sure there are examples of where we could say, you know, if I wanted to debate it and take the opposite side, I could say, No, he is wrong. But I tend to think in general terms that there is not enough, especially working capital, floating around for a lot of Newfoundland industries. The banks are very loathe to get involved with working capital unless there is hard security. And the banking system in our country - Len Marchand, we talked very frankly, I would say he would agree with me - has not been the instrument for development that we should have in this country of ours. It is left too much up to governments, too much up to the taxpayers' dollar. And the taxpayers cannot provide all of the kinds of funds that are required for industrial development in our country today. And I feel myself that the banks are much too conservative, and are not flexible enough. Perhaps it is incumbent on governments to grapple a hold of banks a bit more, even though they tend to be free of government ostensibly, and make banks more instruments for development and especially in their kinds of policies respecting interest rates and matters of this nature.

Mr. Lundrigan.

Now, Mr. Chairman, just to mention the equity that we are able through the NLDC to put into private business in provincial dollars, we have committed - and we are putting the last of the money in right now, as a matter of fact a bit more than we are committed to, \$2 million in equity that we are able to purchase into private business. The federal government put up around \$20 million four years ago, four and one-half years ago, for the lending body, NLDC.

I will just give a little run-down on the performance to date, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I might mention in passing that the new Chairman of the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, Mr. Frank Nolan, a young Newfoundlander with a tremendous amount of experience and background knowledge, has been the new chairman since the beginning of the new year. Unfortunately Mr. Frank Spencer, who was the father of the Development Corporation, resigned to take up a post on the West Coast of Canada.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not the father.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The father in the sense that he was the first president of it.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Nonsense.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Who was the father of it?

MR. SMALLWOOD: I was.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, I should have guessed -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Was I not?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman -

MR. SMALLWOOD: I put it there.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I am getting around to giving him a nice little bit of a pat on the back, and I was going to make him the intelligence behind it, the originator -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The originator, therefore the father.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the mental thinking, the patriarch, whatever words you would like for me to come up with. The person who got the thing off

Mr. Lundrigan.

the ground was the first president and who gave it the initial impetus was Mr. Frank Spencer. And Mr. Frank Spencer was a man of great energies. And I believe perhaps the hon. gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) might have been responsible -

MR. SMALLWOOD: I agree with that.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - for giving him the -

MR. WHITE: He was out here last weekend, by the way.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: So let us not try to take anything away from Mr. Spencer while still giving -

MR. SMALLWOOD: I would not want to do that.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: the proper credit to the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood). And I think he deserves that credit.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Spencer was out here last weekend.-

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Right.

MR. WHITE: - getting some markets in Notre Dame Bay.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Right.

He has a great interest in Notre Dame Bay, a great interest in Notre Dame Fisheries which he feels is one of his achievements even though he does not again want to take anything away from the initiative of Mr. Lew Eveliegh.

MR. WHITE: We will talk about it during the debate.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Okay, fine.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I would just like to put a few statistics on the record. Since the NLDC was formed we had 243 applications that have been received for funding in the last four years.

MR. NEARY: Can we have a list of names?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I will give some information along these lines thanks to the prodding of the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary).

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MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We have had 151 applications approved. That is sixty-three per cent of those that were eligible. We have hundreds and hundreds and hundreds that were not eligible, enquiries requesting sort of supervision in an industry, visitation in an industry, Let us have a look at the business. But of the formal applications we had 151 approved, seventy-two rejected, Nineteen of those approved did not proceed. And of the total approved 132 started. The approval rate is as follows: in 1973-1974, thirty-five companies received _____

MR. LUNDRIGAN: assistance from the NLDC. In 1974-75 forty-two companies; this is an interesting statistic, 1975-76 twenty-one companies, that was a real down turn. And Mr. Chairman, it suggests again a reflection of the lack of confidence in that year. 1976-77 towards the end of the last year we have had a real up turn, we have had thirty-four, granted it is not up to the level of 1974, but in 1976-77 we had thirty-four applications and a lot of these came in towards the end of the year.

MR. NEARY: And Mr. Ralph has had four or five of them.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, I will give the full information on that in a minute.

MR. NEARY: All right. And so will I when I get going.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We were quite pleased with the performance recently, the number of people who have shown an interest in getting back again at the business. This year we hope to be able to have a couple of offices opened around the Province to decentralize somewhat and to get more of an active role than we have been in the past because -

MR. NEARY: Another bureaucracy.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - we feel that the NLDC has a very significant role to play.

I will just give a run down, Mr. Chairman, of the number of industries; forty-five of those industries were in the manufacturing sector, twenty-seven in the fisheries sector, twenty-one in the forestry sector, ten service, six mining, four agricultural, seven others. I give these statistics just to indicate that the bulk of the activity of the development corporation -

MR. NEARY: What category did the drive-in theatre come under?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: If there is a drive-in theatre, Mr. Chairman, that might have come under Tourism.

MR. NEARY: I see.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Let the hon. member be a little bit fair now. If he is going to look at 132 applications that were accented, funded and people went ahead, there is bound to be a number, there might be a dozen, fifteen or twenty that are controversial or do not quite fit in with what hon. members might say -

MR. NEARY: How does the drive-in theatre fit in with the terms of reference?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I do not have a clue.

MR. NEARY: I see. Neither does anybody else.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, we had a job creation direct as a result of the corporation the last four years of 1,989 jobs. That is the number of jobs that have been created. The total -

MR. SMALLWOOD: How many? How many?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: 1,989. The investment per job, operating investment and equity investment, not the loan, the operating and equity investment per job -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Who determines that?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: By the corporation. The investment by the corporation, now that means, Mr. Chairman, what we invested in equity and what it cost to operate the corporation was \$1,875 per job.

The operating expenses - this is the expenses of the corporation to operate it, per job, was \$1,161, of which the Province paid half.

In New Brunswick, Mr. Chairman, the operational cost per job by the New Brunswick Development Corporation was \$2,923. In British Columbia it was \$1,143, roughly the same as our own. We are happy and satisfied that the operational cost per job during the lifetime of the development corporation has been relatively low. That means the total administrative cost for the corporation divided by the total number of jobs that we

MR. LUNDRIGAN: have created during that particular period. The number of projects that have failed, Mr. Chairman, is 4.7 per cent. That is the absolute failure. That is not the number that may be back on their payments or in some difficulties and might in fact fail.

MR. SMALLWOOD: But folded.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: But folded totally is 4.7 per cent representing 8.4 per cent of the investment by the corporation.

MR. NEARY: What about Green Bay Mining?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is a failure, and that is a loss. That is the biggest one.

MR. NEARY: How much is the loss?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I can give the figures on that in a few moments.

MR. NEARY: Is it \$1.5 million?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, it does not mean that it is gone, dead, finished forever -

MR. NEARY: It is gone. Yes. Gone forever.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: No, I would not say that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: It was a move to bail out the member for Green Bay.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The copper markets are improving -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Who is the member for Green Bay?

MR. NEARY: Beckford.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The copper markets are improving. The copper markets when the mine came on stream were absolutely, just as the companies started to get airborne using the yardsticks of what the copper prices were on the world market, looking very good, all the prognoses were that it would be an up-turn and it entered into one of the worst slumps we have ever had in the copper market.

Now I can speak with a little bit of knowledge on that because I was fooling around, as I have for years, as a stockbroker downtown, Merrill Lynch Royal Securities, and I always have been a close

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Tape No. 3001

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: sort of a vigil - what is the word? I have kept a close eye on the stock market for years and years and years because it is one of my greatest hobbies. I went and lost a few dollars and I have made a few dollars, Mr. Chairman, but I am no rival yet with Howard Hughes and his friends.

MR. WHITEY: Not as much as your buddies.

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Tape No. 3002

EC - 1

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

What was that?

MR. F. WHITE:

I said, not as much as your buddies.

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

That is right, that is right. My buddies have done really well.

Mr. Chairman, I just would like to give the figures on what has happened with the Development Corporation in the last number of years dollar-wise, just a quick run on the investment so far. The total investments that have been made through the Development Corporation with companies that they have been associated with so far has been \$27 million in the last four years.

Mr. Chairman, if I can take thirty seconds I will just give this quick list of figures because they will provide some basis for further discussion. We have had \$3.9 million of private money have gone into the companies, private equity. We have had \$1.7 million in round figures - millions of dollars of equity by the NLDC - that is our own corporate equity that we have put in indirectly ourselves - \$1.7 million. Members will notice that we have had \$1.5 put up in the last fiscal years, but we have actually granted or committed some that is not yet drawn down. It amounts to \$1.7 million. We have had - in loans, \$16.8 million have been put out by the Development Corporation. We have had other government grants, mainly DREE, of \$2.6 million associated with these companies and we have had other sources of involvement with the companies of \$2 million for a total of \$27 million - in essence, from the Development Corporation \$1.7 million of equity - \$16.8 million of loans in the last four years. Now I will go on beyond that as we continue further and I will give some of the names, I will give the list of last years companies and -

MR. NEARY:

I have given out half the list anyway.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Chairman, the real question yet to be answered - I thought it would be answered in Committee - is the very question that one of my colleagues put to me this morning. I said, "It appears Industrial Development is about to be called. What kinds of things

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Tape No. 3002

EC - 2

MR. SIMMONS: ought we to be saying?" And my colleague replied, "Well, what does the department do?"

MR. WHITE: Exactly.

MR. SIMMONS: What does the department do? We have heard the minister -

MR. NEARY: It shuts down businesses.

MR. SIMMONS: - We have heard the minister indicate that the Minister of Mines will tell us what it does insofar as energy is concerned, and the Minister of Fisheries insofar as fisheries is concerned and so on down the line. But we know that, Mr. Chairman. What we do not know we will find out under the appropriate estimates. But I do not particularly believe that this Committee period ought to be taken up particularly in speeches from the Minister of Mines and Energy or the Minister of Fisheries on the programmes of their departments because the time will come within their estimates to tell us about their particular programmes. Right? Now I realize there is going to be some overlap, Mr. Chairman. But it does raise the very interesting question -

MR. SMALLWOOD: There ought to be more than three members on the government side in the chamber. There really ought to be, obviously. Industrial Development?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I am just stepping out for a moment.

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, but not only the minister. There are other members.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, now one could make a long, long speech on what the department ought to be doing, but if the minister decides to return to the House, I would rather have him in the House for one or two things I intend to say and do, I hope.

What does the department do? What does it do? Now perhaps we should, as the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is intimating, perhaps we should really ask whether the department is called by its right name even. And if we look at the estimates there is an interesting new entry this year - 1504-07, Mr. Chairman. Now this, remember, is the department which would promote the development of industry in this

MR. SIMMONS: Province. Let us read its mandate, Mr. Chairman. The mandate of this department according to the estimates here - the responsibilities of the department include determining the industrial development opportunities that exist in the Province and the development of these opportunities by attracting new industries, by attracting new industries into the Province and by encouraging the development and the expansion of existing industries. That is the mandate, Mr. Chairman - it is fairly clear - to attract new industries and to encourage the development and expansion of existing industries. That is what the mandate of the department is defined as. And yet, Mr. Chairman, we have an interesting new entry under 1504-07. Would you believe it? - Not promotion, not expansion of industries, not encouragement of new industries - nothing like that. The head is called Industrial Shut-downs -

Mr. Simmons.

Industrial Shut-downs. And that, Mr. Chairman, if this department stands out for one particular thing in the last year or so, it is as the 'Department of Industrial Shut-downs.'

MR. NEARY: The 'Department of Moth Balls.'

MR. SIMMONS: The moth-balling department, the undertakers' department, the industrial shut-down department. Its only profile, Mr. Chairman, in the public eye is as a shut-her-down department. Well, not quite. One other characteristic stands out: The minister, if we were looking for another title for him other than the 'Minister of Shut-downs', I suppose we could call him the 'Minister of Concealment of Information' - the 'Minister of Concealment of Information.' And he does that equally well whether he is in Industrial Development or Rural Development. Indeed the two have become so mixed one wonders why the government does not go the full step and at least call it one department, because it is not really functioning as two separate departments anyway. It is a very confused issue, at least publicly. But one thing that is characteristic, that is common to both departments, is the ability to conceal. It must be a deliberate plot, Mr. Chairman, to conceal information. And the minister indicated to the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) that he will give information. Mr. Chairman, I will give the information. We have created in the Opposition this year 5,954.5 jobs and two of them are in Tourism, and five in hairdressing, and fifty-four in funeral parlours. And I submit to you, Mr. Chairman, that the information the minister gave is just as authentic as what I just gave you. Who knows there are 1,989 jobs? I do not believe it, Mr. Chairman. I just do not believe the minister. And he might just as well stand up and say, 54,000 jobs. Because we have already found on other matters that the kinds of figures that the Premier gives about unemployment are very different than what we get from other sources on the same subject. The kind of claims we get

MR. SIMMONS.

from that side of the House about job creation are very pie in the sky, very unrealistic when compared to the reality of the situation. Nineteen hundred and eighty-nine jobs, my foot! Does that include the twelve week jobs that are being created to get people off welfare and on to federal unemployment? Does it include the jobs that were created through loans from the Development Corporation that lasted only a brief period of time and then folded? I mean, you just cannot say 1,989 jobs unless you say for what period, what were created for a five month, seven month period. Some of the jobs being funded are seasonal in nature. Have they been fractionalized through so that they are equated as half jobs or five-twelfth jobs? Nineteen hundred and eighty-nine jobs! Are they all twelve month jobs? Are some of them three month jobs? Were some of them - those people - out of work two months after they were hired because of a situation such as had happened down in Argentina, the Pyramid Homes? Is he counting that as jobs created? Well, try and tell the sixty or eighty people down there who have worked there that they have got a job today. Try and tell them that they are among the 1,989 jobs. Try and tell the people in Bay d'Espoir, in my own district, who were employed because of loans from NLDC on logging operations or loans from the Rural Development Authority, which I realize is another department, but it makes the point, try and tell these people that they have jobs today, and they will not exactly agree with the minister. So what is included in that 1,989 jobs?

Look, Mr. Chairman, I talk about concealment of information. God knows the fight we have had during the past four years in this Committee to get information on the Rural Development Authority.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: And now the same thing, except, thanks to the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), the federal minister called a bluff

Mr. Simmons.

of this minister and forced him to do what the law requires, to let the taxpayer know how his money is being spent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: They have no choice now, Mr. Chairman, but to give out the information as to who is receiving those loans and for what purpose, and that is the way it should be. And under the former minister, the former member for Trinity South, who used to sit just down here in the Chamber, he at least gave the information. Now he got rapped on the knuckles by his colleagues in Cabinet for doing it after, but he at least obeyed the law. He at least did what the law required and gave information to the taxpayers of this Province through their elected representatives.

MR. NEARY: He forgot to leave off the funeral parlours and the hairdressers.

MR. SIMMONS: Well, he gave it all. At least he gave the whole bit of the information. But now we are getting very screened information. Now I will be accused in a moment by the minister, if he is in style today, which he probably is -

MR. NEARY: He is in a better mood.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is all right.

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Tape 3004 (Afternoon)

AH-1

MR. SIMMONS: if he is in full flight today he will come back and say I am talking in generalities, so I will talk now in specifics, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: A bit testy today.

MR. SIMMONS: No. I am just being a bit factual today.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: They must have had a caucus.

MR. SIMMONS: A bit factual. Pardon! Had a caucus, or never had one?

MR. NEARY: He is taking encouragement from the Labrador Beat.

MR. SIMMONS: Well you tell me. No, we never had a caucus today, Mr. Chairman, this is my natural self you are seeing today.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Alright.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, in my own district Burgeo Fish Industries are involved in a new plant construction, and as a member for the district and also as the party spokesman on Industrial Development I went after some information. I phoned a senior official in the minister's department on March 2nd asking for a progress report on the Burgeo fish plant project - on March 2nd.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I hope he did not give it to you.

MR. SIMMONS: No, because he was acting under instructions from the minister not to give information, and that is exactly my point. The minister has gone through both his departments and issued instructions to conceal information, not to give out information, and the minister in that respect is breaking the law. He is a law breaker in that respect

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I know I can get on a point of order and rule him out about the lawbreaker, but let him go on.

MR. SIMMONS: Now the minister is going ruling people out. That is one of his other responsibilities, he is being chairman in his spare time. He may just as well, he has so little to do in Industrial Development. Only several tens of thousands of people are without work, but what does he care?

Now, Mr. Chairman, if he will let me continue on this one. I phoned one of his senior officials on March 2nd asking for a progress

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Tape 3004 (Afternoon)

AH-2

MR. SIMMONS: report. I was told that he would check and call me back. On March 22nd I wrote him to remind him - twenty days later I gave him - I wrote him and I said, "You will recall that I spoke to you on March 2nd requesting a progress report on the Burgeo fish plant project. You undertook to obtain the necessary information and get back to me. I would appreciate hearing from you concerning this matter." That was March 22nd. I know that the letter was received in that officials office because we spoke to his secretary to make sure she had the letter. He was out of the Province on the day the letter was written, I found out after, but he got back in the Province on April 2nd. And it is now May 19th and I am still waiting, Mr. Chairman, for that particular bit of information. And I say, Mr. Chairman, it is no accident; it has nothing to do with business at all, it has nothing to do with a letter that got lost in the rush somewhere, it has to do directly with the policy of this particular minister to hamstring our efforts to get information.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I believe that is a less than honourable approach on the part of this minister or any minister of the Crown, to deliberately hamstring our efforts to get information, information which according to the law is our right anyway and which according to the law he should be making public.

Now we heard the minister at the beginning of his address give the usual apology about why we do not have full employment. The fact of the matter is that the minister is out of touch with the realities of the situation, he has abdicated his role as minister of this department completely. And I have to concur with my friend from LaPoile - he used the right word - incompetence. The minister is just incompetent; it is that simple, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Sure. I know I am incompetent.

MR. SIMMONS: He is incompetent, the minister is unable, the job is too heavy for him. That is witnessed by the fact that when you ask

MR. SIMMONS: questions relating to Industrial Development be they about Come By Chance or Stephenville, who answers? The minister? He does not even know what is going on, he is not even on the board. Who answers the questions? The Minister of Finance, the Premier, the Minister of Manpower, anybody but the Minister of Industrial Development. Now, Mr. Chairman, if anything should come under Industrial Development in this Province certainly lord it is Labrador Linerboard and it is Come by Chance. But the minister does not have a twit, does not have a click, not a half, not one tenth of a clue about these projects. I suppose he should not, the way he handles the bit of information he has, the dangerous way in which he handles the bit he has and make no wonder. We would know nothing, we would not even know yet, Mr. Chairman, that it was decided to close Lab Linerboard if the minister were managing the information; we would not even be told in this particular point in time.

MR. NEAPY: He cannot be trusted.

MR. PECKFORD: Resign, Lundrigan!

MR. SIMONS: Well, Mr. Chairman, that is what we were really going to ask, that he resign.

MR. FARRELL: Resign! Get out!

MR. SIMONS: We would ask that he resign but instead, Mr. Chairman -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Foolish little boy!

MR. SIMONS: Mr. Chairman, I believe it is important. It is not funny at all and I wish the minister would get the message. We have a department here for which we are lashing out several millions of dollars, Mr. Chairman, and that is the best we can get from the minister, a silly three-year-old giggle.

Now, Mr. Chairman, there is only one way, and I would move, Mr. Chairman, that this Committee reduce that minister's salary to \$1. I move that the minister's salary be reduced to \$1.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: No problem there.

MR. SIMONS: You do not need a seconder, Mr. Chairman, and if you like I would call the question on that one so I could have a few more repar's.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: There is no point in that. I have two votes and I had one passed the other day.

MR. SIMONS: Question! Question!

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman -

MR. SIMONS: Oh no, we want to get the question.

MR. POSE: There is a motion before the Chair.

MR. SIMONS: Yes. Yes. Yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Why so? Why?

MR. WHITE: Because we have a motion before the Committee.

MR. SIMONS: Question! Question!

MR. SMALLWOOD: No! No!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, I am going to -

MR. SIMONS: Mr. Chairman, I am not finished talking.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I already got paid my salary in Rural Development and got it passed the day before yesterday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! I understand a motion is before the Chair. Does the hon. member for Twillingate wish to speak?

DR. FARRELL: Some hon. members -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question before the Chair is that the -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: On that question -

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am now putting the question. The question is put as an amendment. The motion before the Chair is that the hon. minister's salary be reduced to \$1.

The hon. Minister of Industrial Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, I second that motion, Your Honour.

MR. SIMMONS: No. No.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I am just wondering from His Honour if there is a seconder needed in view of the fact, Mr. Chairman -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I have got my -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! A seconder is not required in Committee.

Is the Committee ready for the question?

The question before the Chair is that the hon. minister's salary be reduced to \$1. All those in favour signify by saying "Aye", all those against "Nay." I rule that the "Nays" have it.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, we would like to have a recorded vote, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS: Well, Mr. Chairman, if that is it, Sir, I move that the Committee -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! The votes in Committee is not by division but it can be recorded, counted by numbers.

All those in favour of the motion signify by standing;
all those in favour of the motion.

All those against the motion, signify by standing.

I declare the motion lost.

The hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I raise two points of order in turn. My first, when the vote was taken, Mr. Chairman, the member from Humber East (Dr. Farrell) was sitting in the Premier's seat, therefore should not be counted in the vote because he did move after the voice vote. He was not in his proper place in the House, Mr. Chairman, and his vote should not be counted for that particular reason.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. PECKFORD: To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: To that point of order, when the vote was taken the hon. member for Humber East (Dr. Farrell) was in his rightful place when the vote was taken, contrary to the specious point of order raised by the hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons) and

Mr. Peckford.

his vision should be just a little impaired.

MR. SIMMONS: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. The member for Humber East is an honourable man. Would he indicate where he was sitting when the voice vote was taken?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Oh, come on!

MR. SIMMONS: I distinctly saw him in the Premier's seat.

MR. PECKFORD: I never -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: On that point of order.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, would the member indicate where he was sitting at the time?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS: I am on the point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is a foolish point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

Only one hon. member may address the House on a point of order.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I am suggesting to clarify this matter on my point of order that the member for Humber East (Dr. Farrell) be asked to indicate where he was sitting. I remember seeing him in the Premier's chair at the time we took the vote. The Minister of Mines indicates he remembers him being in his own chair. I would trust the President of the Executive Council to indicate where he was.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, on that point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!

I might point out to members of the Committee that whichever way this question is settled, it would not make any difference to the total vote.-

MR. SIMMONS: I have another point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: - as there is a difference of two. But, of course, it would make a difference to the recorded vote.

MR. SIMMONS: There is a precedent anyway.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: But you could also vote from anywhere in the Committee.

MR. PECKFORD: But to the point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: My statement in reply to the point of order raised by the hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons) was that when the vote was taken - now what I meant by that was the physical vote was called - the hon. member for Humber East (Dr. Farrell), the president of the Executive Council, was in his rightful place in this Chamber. And that is the vote that made it sixteen to fourteen. It was not the vote, the verbal vote that was counted. The vote that was counted was the physical vote which gave sixteen to this side of the Chamber and fourteen to the other side. So obviously there is no point of order -

MR. SIMMONS: Well, Mr. Chairman, one -

MR. PECKFORD: - or the point of order is not valid.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman -

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask Your Honour for a point of clarification. Is it not a fact that when a vote is taken an hon. member must be inside the bar, inside the door, where he sits is immaterial? -

MR. SIMMONS: Oh, no!

MR. HICKEY: - until -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, no! Oh, no!

MR. HICKEY: - Mr. Chairman, I am simply asking for a point of clarification, so let hon. members let Your Honour decide.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HICKEY: I am asking that when a vote is taken, a voice vote, not a standing vote, a voice vote, it is my understanding - and there are a number of precedents here to show this - that if an hon. member is inside the door, within the Chamber, inside the bar, then he

Mr. Hickey.

may proceed to his seat and be counted, a voice vote, he can shout up there "aye" or "nay" while he is standing?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: No, no; 'Tom'!

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, to -

MR. HICKEY: Could we have a ruling, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

So as not to hold up the work of the Committee, I think I will raise the Committee briefly to check on the procedural point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point of order has been raised whether an hon. member's name, or whether he can be recorded as being in favour or against the motion put from the Chair if he is in his seat or not at the time that the question was put.

Having consulted our Standing Orders, it specifically states, "No member shall be entitled to vote in any division unless he was in his place when the question was put." Which means, of course, the converse also; that a member who was in his place at the time of the division can have his vote recorded. It is my understanding that the hon. the President of the Council was in his place at the time of the division and therefore, according to our Standing Orders his vote could be recorded.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. MORGAN: What do you mean?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, he questioned the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

It has been clearly determined that at the time of the division the hon. the President of the Council was in his place and his vote was accordingly recorded.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I do not mind the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir having his little fling, I rather enjoyed it. But I certainly do not enjoy the comments that will necessarily challenge the Chair which he has just made across the House. I suggest to Your

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Honour that he should be immediately forced to withdraw these remarks.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NOLAN: To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for Conception Bay South.

MR. NOLAN: The hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir at no time stated that he was going to challenge the decision of the Chair, at not time, and therefore the point of order is specious and irrelevant.

MR. FLIGHT: Like the minister.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!
I would suggest that we should not get into this to any great degree. I did hear the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir comment in a derogatory fashion upon the ruling made and I would ask him therefore to withdraw any derogatory remarks.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: To the point of order, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: It is already ruled on.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak to the point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have made a request of the hon. gentleman.

MR. MORGAN: Withdraw.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I think I can explain and withdraw and do whatever else you want but I want to speak to the point of order as is my right in this Committee.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The ruling has been made, withdraw.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!
The point of order has been

MR. CHAIRMAN: spoken to by two hon. members.

I have accordingly undertaken to rule on the point of order so the point of order itself is finished and I have requested therefore, arising out of the ruling, that the hon. the member withdraw any derogatory remarks he made on the content of the ruling made by the Chair.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I so withdraw.
I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member has withdrawn and rises on a new point of order.

MR. SIMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have a right as a member of this House and a member of the Committee to challenge the Chair anytime I want to do so, in a proper way. I also have my eyesight, which is fairly good. I know where the member for Humber East was sitting. No ruling from the Chair, Mr. Chairman, can change my memory on that point. And at such time, Mr. Chairman, as I want to challenge the Chair I shall do so in the appropriate manner. That was the exchange that took place between me and members opposite that I would challenge and I would do so in the appropriate manner. My withdrawal a moment ago shall in no way abrogate that right which is mine as member of this House.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, this is the most scandalous conduct that I have witnessed since I have been a member of this hon. House. Mr. Chairman ruled that the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir withdraw his challenge of the Chair which he did. Having withdrawn his challenge of the ruling of the Chair he immediately raised a point of order which Your Honour asked, was it a new point of order, and said that he will if he so desires challenge the ruling of the Chair. There is a very clear, well defined procedure to be followed which must be followed immediately following the ruling

MR. HICKMAN: of the Chair and it cannot be done by any comments or any remarks by any hon. member.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HICKMAN: It is simply that an hon. member rises and says he appeals the decision of the Chair, but it must be done immediately. It was not done immediately, the time is lost, and once it is lost I say the comment by the hon. gentleman arising out of this latest point of order is unprecedented in this House and I ask Your Honour to take the necessary disciplinary action.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! Order, please!

The hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir, as a result of the previous ruling, was asked to withdraw any derogatory remarks as to a ruling given. It is my understanding that he made that withdrawal. He also then made further remarks which presented a somewhat hypothetical

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MR. CHAIRMAN: that he may at a latter stage challenge a ruling. I do not propose to rule on hypothetical cases. Hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: What a gentleman! Boy oh boy oh boy!

MR. SIMONS: Say what is on your mind.

MR. STRACHAN: Mr. Chairman, in studying the Department of Industrial Development's estimates -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: If I have to get out of this chair I will not leave a stitch on you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! I understand that the -

MR. NOLAN: Point of order, Mr. Chairman!

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order has been raised.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, you are sitting approximately about five feet from the hon. member for Grand Falls. Unquestionably you just heard the utterance that he would not leave a stitch on the hon. member from Burgeo. Now, Mr. Chairman, unless we are going to turn this into a Playboy Bunny Club, I suggest that the hon. member be made to withdraw immediately that remark.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: On that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. minister speaking on the point of order.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: On that point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is making comments back and forth across the House. He has just indicated his dissatisfaction with Your Honour and he has appropriately taken the action not to everybody's satisfaction. He then called across the way whether I would engage with him in debate and I very, very dramatically and demonstratively and definitively indicated that what I would do when I get on my feet regarding the hon. member. I am not intending to go across and do a strip act for him, Mr. Chairman. But I intend to launch a few verbal broadsides that hopefully will give the hon. member a message that he has not gotten clearly from this Legislature in the past couple of weeks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! A point of order has been raised as to the remarks of the hon. minister. I find that the remarks were of an interrupted nature. But I do not feel that they were unparliamentary so I would ask the hon. member for Eagle River to continue.

MR. STRACHAN: Mr. Chairman, in discussing the estimates of the Department of Industrial Development and looking through the estimates, I would like in particular and we will probably get to it if we ever get to the subheads, but I doubt it very much in particular I would like to look at the whole philosophy of Industrial Development with regards to NORDCO and various other related activities. The relationship between the department and OSA - the Offshore Services Association - and the lack of movement, the Lack of incentive that I feel the department has not developed with regards to certain areas of possible development within this province.

In referring to this, I refer to some types of development and since we are discussing Industrial Development we are discussing the types of development related to oil and gas development if that ever should come about. I will use examples of oil and gas development in this province so far to show some of the points and point out some of the things I think have gone wrong, or I feel should be corrected almost immediately. It is well known, and I think if anyone listened to Rev. Norman Swan the other night it is well known in any discussion about any development, industrial development in this province, what we have to do is develop very quickly expertise and a spinoff or spinoff industries and expertise availability within this province of experienced technological people of capabilities and capacities to get into the sphere of it and be there ahead of the game because if you are not there ahead of the game and you come later you will get absolutely nothing.

What I am concerned about here is that in this development there seems to be too little a number of people, a small group of people only within this province who are involved in this kind of development who are given any kind of encouragement, small as that encouragement may be.

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MR. STRACHAN: There is a problem, and the minister knows the problem that we have the same group of heads of people on almost everything OSA or NORDCO or various other groups because there are not in this province. There is not a tremendous industrial base or people who are involved in this kind of thing to get into it. So with the result they were talking to the same group of people all the time.

What I am concerned about is that much of the development that is taking place so far has been development which is being given outside of this province, development which has gone elsewhere,

MR. STRACHAN: and I believe it could have been development encouraged in this Province.

I understand some of the work being undertaken by NORDCO and some of the things they are getting into - towing icebergs, drifting ships, to establish ice thicknesses and drift of ice and so on like that - tests which are done as far as iceberg scouting is concerned, and various other things. But that is almost done in an academic sense, almost in an academic way, and is not done with any kind of vigour or drive to make sure that we capture some of the spin-off industry that should be captured if this Province is going to get any foothold right at the beginning. I think -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: In any case it is a jurisdictional question.

MR. STRACHAN: I understand the jurisdictional question. But I think that if we are going to sit back and wait for the jurisdictional question to be the question which dictates whether we are going to get into this kind of spin-off industry ahead of the game so that we are ahead of it - I do not think we can legislate totally that industries must be located here. I think we can do a certain amount of legislation, but there must be an atmosphere, an encouragement, a real drive and an incentive and a far more encouraging atmosphere than there is at the present in order to make sure that we are in a position to take care of these kinds of things.

I could, for instance, use a typical example of the construction of a hydraulic clip which I feel should have been done in this Province and it was not. A hydraulic clip is - Essentially what happens is that any drilling rig or semi-submersible rig which drills for oil has real problems in the iceberg alley Labrador and the Labrador Current, with the result that when the ship is positioned or the semi-submersible is positioned and an iceberg is located drifting towards them then it has a certain time to move everything, release its drilling mechanism and move position, let the iceberg pass by and move over. Now there has been some work done in towing icebergs

MR. STRACHAN: by NORDCO and other groups and so on and related groups, of towing icebergs out of the way, some of it not very successful especially with larger bergs which create a real problem. What happened here was that the oil companies wanted to devise for the Labrador Current and for Northeastern Newfoundland, they wanted to devise a very quick method of releasing the ship so they could wait until the last minute or a reasonable time and then move quickly and move back into position quickly because the costs of drilling ships and semi-submersibles per day - every hour you are away from the drilling mechanism then it is money lost and they cannot afford that kind of thing. What happened was that the company involved contracted with a company in Seattle and then the clip was made in Los Angeles, brought to the North Sea and tried out experimentally in the North Sea, and then last year brought over for the first time, and this clip was used on a semi-submersible as a part of Oogland last year off Labrador.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is this hydraulic clip? My argument is that if we are going to get in -

MR. STRACHAN: If I can explain it briefly - a semi-submersible may have anything up to ten anchors, very large anchors, laid out to keep it in a fixed position. These are very heavy anchors, and of course, if you have to take up all anchors and move, this is a time-consuming business for every iceberg that comes very close. So, what they wanted was an hydraulic clip on each anchor line, halfway down each anchor line, on the ten anchors or how ever many anchors you have out which are controlled from the bridge of the ship so that the Captain can push the hydraulic buttons and the clips release, the ship can move off, the remaining hawser underneath is buoyed so that it floats to the surface and after the iceberg passes the ship moves over, hooks on again to the hydraulic clip and the ship is very quickly in position again. And this is very important. The thing that annoys me is that there is a lot of this kind of development. That is only one; I can cite a great deal of other developments which are taking place specifically and specially for the Labrador Coast and for the

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MR. STRACHAN:

Northeast Coast of Newfoundland in the field of oil-drilling and oil development. What is happening is that these companies are going elsewhere. Just a simple idea of an hydraulic clip, I am sure is not that difficult. It is a fair bit of engineering technology but it is not that difficult to try to devise such a system and put it into place. What is happening is that the expertise

MR. STRACHAN: for Labrador has been developed in France, Norway, Britain and the States and has not been developed in this Province. So if we go too many more years down the line what will happen is that as the developments become more sophisticated and the demands become higher then what we will have is a situation in which the oil companies will have no choice whatsoever and the people within this Province, the companies and industries involved will not be able to come anywhere close to applying themselves to this kind of technology and take part in it.

Now you can say that we are waiting for the jurisdictional question to be solved before we can legislate this kind of thing to the oil companies, but I believe that is almost waiting until the horses go out before you bolt the door. The thing should be the atmosphere of encouragement to people to get into this kind of technology. To me it is scandalous, for instance, that the ice reinforced supply vessels which supply some of the rigs off Labrador were built by the Robert Allan shipyard in Vancouver, and to me it is amazing that these kind of vessels that we require and which we can develop expertise and strategy development on is developed elsewhere and is not developed in this Province. I feel that this is a thing that the Department of Industrial Development should really get into, is that if we are going to take a rightful place in the developments that happen here we have to get in at the ground floor, right at the beginning and make sure that we develop the expertise and these little small pieces of equipment and as we become more sophisticated and the needs become more sophisticated then we can apply ourselves in this Province and keep building up our industry. And this is where I think that much of what is being done is okay, but I still say that what we are encouraging in this Province is encouraging major companies and corporations or companies within this Province, especially many of the St. John's oriented ones, and I admire them for what they are trying to do but in many ways they are really ten per centers; really they are far more concerned in being

MR. STRACHAN: the fronts for Seafort Engineering of Britain or an engineering company or corporation from France or an engineering or oil corporation from the States in which they are the fronts in this Province and they will take the top ten per cent of whatever the percentage is but they will not get actively involved boots and all into a development which is of major importance in this Province.

And I feel very strongly that what we are seeing is a stifling of the economy and a stifling of some things which could develop in this Province by what I call the ten per centers who are content to sit in their office as agents or agencies, content to sit there and cream off the top or cream off their percentage they are okay. We are talking about large sums of money here, very large sums of money involved in industrial development and I think that we should be in there more aggressively, not just as fronts for Seafort Engineering, a company from Britain or another company from elsewhere, We should be in there so that we are developing within this Province the expertise and we become the experts at it. I think if we are going to continue with our pocr-mouth attitude that we cannot become experts at this type of thing then we might as well look to other companies and other countries for their expertise.

For instance, it is well-known that France knows more about cold ocean research, that France knows more about handling ice, that France knows more about oil exploration and ice filled waters than any other country in the world, and that is a statement from the oil journals. I think that this is crazy, that here we are in the position that we are in this Province and if we are going to get anywhere it will take us five, ten or fifteen years to build up this expertise. But we should make sure that in all industry and all oil related industry that we know what is going on. I am sure this department did not know that four vessels were being contracted or wished to be contracted to supply the oil rigs. We should get in there so that we will know what is going on and we know

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MR. STRACHAN: we can select some parts of the developments that we think we can do in Marystown or elsewhere and build up so that we build up the expertise and can therefore grow. Because unless we do that the next thing is going to be asked is really sophisticated technology with which this Province and all of us will not be able to compete.

For instance, it is known that Eastcan is now I believe under contract to Technimar and are now using an English Channel system for burying well heads forty feet under the seabed. As you realize one of the real problems in the oil industry is the fact that icebergs scouring provides

MR. STRACHAN: a danger to all mechanisms on the seabed. What they have devised then is a mechanism which scoops up the soil from the seabed and moves it outside - it is affixed to the drill of the ship, the drill rod - and this then is scooped out until a hole eighteen feet wide by forty feet deep is dug in the seabed. Into this they will then sink the wellheads. And this is specifically being done, specifically being done for the Labrador Coast and Northeast Newfoundland. It is being done by a company outside this Province. It is a very sophisticated rig but this is a type of sophistication that they are moving on and we are not even on the ground floor. I think that what we require is something far more aggressive, and I think something required outside political lines, and I agree with this system of NORDCO but I do not think there is sufficient money, I do not think there is sufficient drive or sufficient incentive to make sure that we get in there boots and all and grab every little development, every small, little development.

I know that Prothon - is it? -

or that group who devised that electrical contact -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Pelcon. Pelcon. I will give you the -

MR. STRACHAN: Pelcon. My stuff is downstairs, my files.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is all right.

MR. STRACHAN: - Pelcon who devised that little mechanism, it is heralded as being a great development and I wish them all the best. I think it is tremendous. It is only one of a few small ones, and I think as long as all we are going to get into is these dinky little developments, valuable as they are, but if we are not going to get into the large developments and make sure that we can get these developments done within this

MR. STRACHAN: Province, utilizing the shipyard at Marystown, utilizing expertise which is available here - the engineers in this Province can do it, I believe they could very easily devise hydraulic clips or hydraulic mechanisms and get into these kinds of things. If not, we can certainly bring them in initially and train people here and then let them go if they wish to, but at least develop this kind of expertise. Because what is going to happen is in ten, fifteen or twenty years time, when an onslaught comes on top, if there is oil and gas in commercial quantities we will be wiped out totally, everything will be brought in. All the supplies will come from outside, all the technical expertise and all the technology and we will have nothing.

I really feel strongly about it. If you go elsewhere to other countries, you can see exactly that. What has happened is unless you are prepared to get in there boots and all then you will be wiped out totally, down the drain and all we will be left with is dinky little pieces of development which are big in themselves, they may be a few million dollars worth, but they are not the large developments which could take part in a programmed way with sense in a long-term programme. I am not talking about grandiose schemes, I am thinking of something programmed on a line to get into this. Otherwise what will happen is we will have a few ten-percenters who will take the cream from the front men and we will have a little engineering thing, complex, but we will not get in there with the proper kind of technology and developing the proper expertise which we do have in this Province. If we just get off our backsides and develop it aggressively instead of always crawling around and feeling obliged to these corporations who come in here and try to

MR. STRACHAN:

lash it on top of us.

I feel very strongly about

that. Unless we are going to do it, unless we are going to do it, then, and I cannot see any way of doing it being down here in Industrial Development, I cannot see where the department is really moving aggressively. I think they have tried a few things but they have crippled along. I still think they are crippling along. I think it is time they should open up and become more fully fledged, get more money in there, make sure that the corporations get more money in there, the corporations who are going to utilize facilities here and there are mechanisms elsewhere in other countries in which they have been asked to do that.

That has happened, for instance, in Greenland where the corporations are asked to put money into developments in which they take part in Greenland. And if they can develop that kind of technology in Greenland, in a place which is far more isolated than this Province, then I cannot see why it cannot be done here. So I would like to state to the minister in a philosophical tone here on this kind of development, that I feel that there should be something set up and I will be talking about it later on, of an independent corporation or a corporation within this Province which has the freedom from political ties and the freedom from governmental ties to be able to get in there boots and all and try and compete and try to get some of the facilities into this Province.

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

Mr. Chairman, I will just respond very briefly. I know the hon. the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) is very anxious to speak and I am anxious to listen to what he has to say.

I will resist in total the temptation to get involved in a verbal fling with the

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: member for - wherever it is, he is not in his seat, he left immediately as the member for the Eagle River constituency (Mr. Strachan) rose in his place, which is the level of courtesy that he usually manifests and that, maybe, speaks for itself.

I am excited about what the member for Eagle River has to say. He usually has, even if he is not precise in what his comments are, even _____

MR. LUNDRIGAN: if he does not have all of it defined you would not expect him to. He is a member without the backup of a department. He cannot -

MR. STRACHAN: And I do not have the time.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Sure. And again, as he says, his time limitation is a problem. But he definitely in his thinking is heading in the same direction as we are as a government. There might be a difference in the timing that he might specify, that he might think we are not going rapidly enough and he is right when he says we yet have not built up in the department the capability that we would like to have. We hope in 1977 to very, very seriously expand our capability in this field and to find ways and means to take the initiatives that he is taking. I will differ with him on one point and that is the business of getting every last nickel, every last cent from the kinds of spin-off things that happen offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. The member will know that even in Norway today, where they have total state control. where they have totally intruded into the industry and successfully, despite the aggravation of the industry initially, even Norway has had trouble in capturing a lot of the spin off even by forcing administrative offices in their own contry, even by forcing all of the onshore activity that supplies the offshore activity and every kind of a conceivable industrial production activity, even there they have had trouble and the French, for example, have still retained a considerable spin off effect from offshore oil and gas throughout the whole world.

Now I would like to make a couple of comments, first of all on NORDCO. I appreciate his comments on NORDCO. NORDCO is a government corporation, Federal-Provincial, that was set up some three years ago with \$5 million that was put forward 90-10 dollars the Federal-Provincial Governments to try and find ways to identify the strategies we could come up with for getting the most benefit from our resources, to find ways that we could get in on the initial, even the consultant type activity that is necessary in relationship to

MR. LUNDRIGAN: offshore oil and gas. It has been getting off the ground. We have an excellent board. Mr. Jan Furst, our president, is a very active and energetic individual. We have just had two new members added to the board that I would like to announce publicly here today, Mr. Lew Etchegary. The hon. member for Twillingate might know Mr. Etchegary, the brother of the person we all know, Gus Etchegary. Mr. Etchegary is a native of the Province. I believe he is from St. Lawrence and he is working with Trans-Canada Pipe Lines at the moment in an executive capacity, a very influential Canadian: And Mr. John Sheppard - now members will recognize the name Mr. John Sheppard who is the executive director of the Science Council of Canada. Along with the other members of the board we have been able to attract some very competent people on our board and today it is moving and progressing very well. I will give information and more details as we get into the discussion.

Now last year NORDCO, with thirty-five people employed in the corporation, Newfoundlanders employed in the corporation was able to do \$1 million worth of work, the most of which I cannot even comment on, which is the case for two reasons; number one, we are trying to keep NORDCO as independent from being looked on by the world community, the investment community, the oil community, as a political wing of a government. We are trying to allow it to remain as independent from government as possible. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, a lot of the work that NORDCO did last year is work which is private work done for private corporations, the work and the results of which is very, very confidential. If we are going to do work for a conglomerate like Eastcan naturally they do not want us to be spreading whatever we know about it across the pages of the newspapers.

So consequently it is retained and we will continue to retain a rather low profile in many ways. And I appreciate the member in his remarks for giving me the chance to say a few words about it as well. Last year we did, the total contracts that we negotiated last year under NORDCO was \$979,628 and that went from

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: iceberg towing tests, for iceberg profiling, water sampling for hydrocarbon, technical equipment repairs, seismic data collection, Arctic transshipment and supply base study which they worked with us on, development for the offshore structures. That was a major project last year, and really that in itself should be the essence of a debate in the legislature at some given point, especially some time at the end of this session or later on in the year because we have a tremendous amount of information compiled in the ways that we can take advantage of any kind of heavy construction activity that might be forthcoming in this Province in the future.

Now we have spent last year in excess of \$300,000 in putting together not a study, but a programme of information and facts and seismic data and engineering data and aggregate data, population data

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: and towing channel data and tide data and current data, all the kinds of information that many companies, world companies, are looking for. We have had several of the largest companies involved in these construction activities that have worked with us. We have had our local companies that have participated in a practical way as well, and As Hoyer Ellefsen, for example - and members are aware of As Hoyer Ellefsen, the great, very, very progressive Norwegian company that is the most progressive in their country in this area - have been very intimately involved with it. As a matter of fact they have, on their own initiative, carried out a tremendous amount of research, have spent a lot of their retained earnings in doing research on activities that will be developed in our province should that resource find its way into a productive capacity.

We can go on down the line of things we have done. We have worked with Mines and Energy in doing some work for the Cabot Strait study, which is something that members will want to know more about in the future as well, and acoustic anchor releases, ice investigations, everything from the Bell Island oceanographic study and other kinds of things that I cannot comment on in detail any more than I can just itemize them as I have done in the past few moments.

Mr. Chairman, it is going to be difficult for us, and I will mention this to the member, to get the full spinoff effect from the industry without some kind of jurisdictional control, some kind of control or some kind of latitude which enables us to impose ourselves on the companies. Members will recognize, Mr. Chairman, that many of these conglomerates and these companies are more powerful financially, and in terms of their intelligence that they have about the world they are living in - the oil world, if you want - than governments, including our own federal government. It is going to take all of the ingenuity and all of the trust and the force and the attitude of the hon.

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: member and all of the rest of us together to match wits with—even with the departmental strength, even with legislative control, even with expertise through corporations—to match wits with a lot of these heavy industries, this heavy artillery in the oil world. In the next few days, in the next few weeks—I better be careful not to sort of prejudice the case of the Hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, there will be some evidence given of the positions we have taken, the ways that we have defined in our own position how to take advantage and how we will, through our own legislature, take advantage of the spinoff from oil and gas.

There has been a tremendous amount of work done. In the last year I have had, the members of my staff working with members of the staff of the Minister of Mines and Energy very quietly, unobtrusively, without a lot of fanfare, have put in a tremendous amount of work in trying to find ways and means and regulations and legislation eventually that can impose themselves on the oil community in a way that would give us the greatest benefit.

We are even now only starting, Mr. Chairman, but there is a tremendous opportunity. All of these things are the marine related industries that we feel therein lies the future of our province. We talk and the member talks about Marystown Shipyard, I would like to suggest that members visit Marystown shipyard. I would say that out of the fifty-one members there is not ten members here who recognize that we have one of the best work forces in the world, with a technical expertise and a capability to compete with the Norwegians and pretty well rob from them construction activity while their yards are down. This is what we have done in Marystown.

I have next week the Ambassador to Canada from Norway visiting and I hope he will visit the yard and have an opportunity to see what we have and I am looking forward with the Minister

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: of Intergovernmental Affairs and others to meet him and talk about our mutual relationship that we can carry forward in the future. But our Marystown Shipyard is an area this year where we have taken advantage of some of the opportunities as they relate to the marine industries of our province. x

You know, it is not all gloom and doom. I get really fed up to the teeth when I hear people like the member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir stand here today, a thankless member where last year in his own riding in the community of Burgeo this province spent \$4 million trying to build up the facilities to provide a future for a community of 3,000 people. This is the kind of thing that makes me angry, and I have to be careful I do not get off track. Now Mr. Speaker, talking about marine related activities, I could give a full run down, I could spend the next six weeks talking about ways that we have in the past years tried to develop a base, a foundation with small industries marine related industries, strengthening our development department to see if we can get gradually off the ground again, gradually off the ground, We are not going to solve the unemployment problem in the next six months or the next six years. It is going to take us almost a generation with our industries and our fisheries and our marine related activities to get the province fully airborne. She has never been airborne, not since 1497, or since 973 when the Vikings came here, never been fully

MR. LUNDRIGAN: airborne, and it is going to take us years and years and years with all of our collective capacities, Opposition and Government, of one party or another, to become airborne.

Now, Mr. Chairman, let me just go on and touch on another thing which is relevant to the member's comments and that is Pelcon. He mentioned Pelcon and I am going to suggest to hon. members that they visit Pelcon and have a look at what is going on. When we talk about marine related industries, most of us can think about the fisheries, which is the most important. Most of us can think of the fisheries. We are now starting to think about activities such as the offshore oil and gas and the construction activity and the spin-offs and supply bases and the like. It is a new kind of thing for us, is it not? We almost have to see it to appreciate it.

Now we are starting to think, We just provided funds through the Department to assist the University and the Fisheries College to try to get a school of naval architecture going in our Province. We have put the dollars forward so that the team can be put together to draw the resources, Federal and Provincial resources, in place to have a school of naval engineering. -

MR. NEARY: We have that already.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Naval engineering. And I recommended it to President Morgan when I was talking with him. I said, "Mr. President, when we are discussing naval engineering and we get down to the nuts and bolts, keep in mind a young Bell Islander, Don Hussey". Does the member know Don Hussey?

MR. NEARY: Yes, indeed I do.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: He is twenty-seven or twenty-eight. I taught him in high school on Bell Island. Right now, one of the outstanding naval architects in the world with the Canadian Navy. He travels around all over God's half acre -

MR. NEARY: He was practically a next-door neighbour.

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MR. LUNDRIGAN: Is that a fact? Now, young Don, I am very proud of him, and this young Newfoundlander has found his way today into the high ranks of the Navy of our country, lecturing in naval architecture. I should try to get him back home and bring other people who are Newfoundlanders back into the school because we are going to find the need in all of our engineering fields relating to offshore oil and gas, to have the capability here. If we do not get the engineering capability at the University, this naval engineering, then we are going to be left out in the cold. All of the big dollars will be offshore dollars, and the only dollars we will get will be the construction dollars.

MR. NEARY: There was another Bell Islander who was in charge of a shipyard one time for the Royal Canadian Navy out in British Columbia who left the upgrading school in Stephenville, Lou Bown. He was a Lieutenant-Commander. He was in charge of a shipyard at one time.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: What was his name?

MR. NEARY: Lou Bown. He was in charge of the upgrading school in Stephenville up to recently; he just retired. He retired from the Navy, came back and took charge of the Vocational School.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, let me just move on. This is an exciting area and we will get into it. I just throw these out so that hon. members can get a little grasp of some of the imagination that is behind some of the programs of the Government.

MR. NEARY: It all sounds good but there is no action. It is all talk and no action.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I just told some action in several areas. I mentioned the shipyard, \$21 million in Marystown this year. Proud of it! \$21 million worth of construction activity! Three hundred and fifty-one jobs on the average at Marystown shipyard this year! \$4 million worth of repair work! One hundred and thirty ships repaired in Marystown this year! A little bit proud of it!

MR. NEARY: But you have to give the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I mentioned \$1 million for a variety of activities that were done through NORDCO. Let me mention Pelcon, a private company with a measure of Government involvement. Pelcon is something, Mr. Chairman, that is one of the most exciting concepts that ever hit the Province; very, very low profile at the moment but not going to be low profile for very much longer. At the present moment Pelcon has forty-five people employed. Most of the people are employed out at Octagon Pond. Octagon Pond, is it? The old Octagon Pond industrial site. Forty-five people - thirty-eight of these are Newfoundlanders. The principals were people who came from Ottawa basically. Mr. John Weston, a scientist of renown, had an idea, tried it here and there and never got off the ground, We were willing with the Federal Minister of Trade and Commerce, and DREE, and Newfoundland and Labrador Development and Industrial Development to provide a lot of the back-up capability. There is a team of a dozen businessmen from the Province who pooled their resources, their financial resources and they have allowed the -

MR. NEARY:

Is that Jack Pratt's operation?

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

that is another one, I will tell about that one too - they have allowed the company to spend two full years in research and development, very expensive years, to develop an underwater electrical connecting system. If members can imagine two beer bottles - every member pretty well can imagine two beer bottles - with, coming out the extremities, the ends of them, a wire, a cord, and the bottoms clamping together with nothing more than the two surfaces touching. Members can imagine that. Well, this is the sort of - in a very crude way - the kind of system that has been developed. Within the bottle, if you want, is the technology which enables the current, once the two phases are brought together, to

MR. LUNDRIGAN: flow without any kind of connecting prongs. It is looked on by the world as a revolutionary means of conveying electricity, one of the most exciting things that has ever been done in the Province. I was carried away with it, the department was carried away with it before I got involved in the department. We have been able to move with them and get to the point where they have secured contracts. They have forty-five people employed now. We have provided some back-up capability, financial and otherwise which I do not want to specify at the moment, but I will later on.

The company has started to build a new plant in Donovan's Industrial Park. The plant will be completed this Summer. When the plant gets off the ground the first phase of employment there will be 112 jobs in that particular manufacturing enterprise. A lot of the output of the plant is a very, very confidential kind of, and classified kind of sales, if you want, which I am not at liberty to discuss with the hon. House. As a matter of fact, I have been very selective in most of my comments even to my colleagues about it.

This company has been working with some of the foremost people in the world, in the U.S., with the British, with the French and the Dutch. They have come up with the system they have, Mr. Chairman. There is a world market. There is no market here in the Province at the present moment. It is high technology.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it patented?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Oh yes! Oh yes, it is very much patented for quite some time and it is very high technology. The company has the jump on all other

MR. LUNDRIGAN: companies in the world in its field. We feel, and the business community that are aware of it and are participating, that it is the first major breakthrough for the Province in the area of secondary technology, high technology related to marine industries. If it gets airborne properly, if it gets the response that it is getting on a continuous basis, it could end up being a tremendous boost for the industrial base of this Province.

The level of provincial involvement dollarwise is fairly major in many ways, but certainly would not be considered anything in the area of your Come by Chance or your Lab Linerboards or anything of that magnitude, but certainly it is a concept, Mr. Chairman, that will create in the next decade, as we see it and hope, a momentum in this Province that will be world renowned, of some world renown. I would say that the people in Norway today, the people in Texas, the people in Calgary are more aware of it, maybe, than the people in our own Province, because in many ways, to them it is more relevant.

At the same time, I guess, one of our big weaknesses is that as a government we are not bragging enough about the things that we are associated with. If I were to have done what would have been done, what I would have done about six or eight months ago when we put together a package to give some level of government support, I would have called a great press conference. But we recognized that it was very important for this industry to have its level of independence and to be able to stand on its own feet in the world community that it engages with. As a result of that, Mr. Chairman, I guess the hon. members across the way are right when they say that there has been a low profile unnecessarily by this government.

MR. HICKMAN: Rise the Committee. It is now five o'clock.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and have directed me to report having passed items of expenditure under Head VII Justice, with some amendment, have made further progress and ask leave to sit again.

On motion report received and adopted, Committee ordered to sit again presently.

MR. SPEAKER: It being five o'clock I now inform hon. members of the three matters which will come up for debate at five-thirty. First the hon. the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) arising from a question asked the hon. the Minister of Transportation and Communications and the subject matter, the

MR. SPEAKER: plans of Canadian National to abandon its rail freight service in Newfoundland and the economic and social consequences there of.

The second matter, the hon. the member for Windsor - Buchans (Mr. Flight) arising from a question asked the hon. the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations; the subject matter, the recent meetings held between Price (Nfld.), ASARCO, and the government of the Province:

The third matter, the hon. the member for LaPoile arising from a question asked the Minister of Justice and the subject matter, special plans for approximately 18,000 skilled and semi-skilled workers who are unemployed in the construction industry.

On motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

The hon. the member for Twillingate.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that some of the fun of this debate has rather dissipated and I must confess that I feel that anything I say, and for that matter, pretty well anything that anyone says in this debate is wasted breath, wasted time, and love's labour lost.

I know that if I were the Minister of Industrial Development in this Province today I would have many a sleepless night. I would think of the thousands of young men and women who are graduated each year in Grade XI, and I would think of the large numbers of the young Newfoundlanders who come each year out of the eighteen vocational trade schools, and I would think of the many hundreds who come each year out of the College of Technology, and also the many hundreds who come each year out of the College of Fisheries, Navigation,

MR. SMALLWOOD: Marine Engineering and Electronics, and I would think of the thousands who have come each year out of the university numbering somewhere in the vicinity of 25,000 young Newfoundlanders each year, 100,000 every four years. I would try to find out what happened to the 100,000, or to the 25,000 a year. I would fancy that perhaps 10,000 in the four years would get jobs as teachers, and doctors, and dentists and engineers and accountants and civil servants and clergymen and so on, most of them being graduates of the university. And I would fancy that in the same four years there would be about another 10,000 of the 100,000 who would get jobs in the fishery and on farms, and in the tourist trade, in the woods industry and driving taxis and trucks and buses and getting jobs in the police force and jobs as salesmen, and in taverns and as barbers and in beauty places and in hotels and so on, another 100,000 in the four years, 25,000 a year. That would be 20,000 jobs, new jobs. Maybe not new occupations, but new job holdings, 20,000 Newfoundlanders getting jobs in the four years, out of a total of 100,000 and that would leave you 80,000 young Newfoundlanders to find work every four years, 20,000 a year; 5,000 a year getting jobs and 20,000 a year not getting jobs, 80,000

MR. SMALLWOOD: in a four year term without work. If I were Minister of Industrial Development I would be gravely worried about that. I would not sleep easy, especially if I remembered some of the jobs that have been lost in Newfoundland at Fort Pepperrall. I think something like 1,300 civilian jobs were lost when the Americans pulled out. At Bell Island another 2,300 jobs. At Stephenville, that is the Americans, when they pulled out that was 1,100 civilian jobs, Newfoundland civilians. At Goose Airport in Labrador at least another 2,000 Newfoundland civilian jobs. Longshoremen here in St. John's dropped from 3,000 to fewer than 1,000, a loss of 2,000 jobs among the longshoremen of St. John's and I would think that a great many jobs were lost, longshore jobs in Botwood and in Corner Brook. And I would remember the loss of jobs of 10,000 loggers in the last twenty-odd years, 10,000 loggers due of course - Although in the same period the cut, the harvest of pulpwood has increased greatly. It has not doubled and perhaps it is not half as high again but not far from it. And while the harvest of pulpwood was vastly increased the number of loggers decreased by 10,000. That was 10,000 jobs lost. In the mines, the various mines at St. Lawrence, at Tilt Cove, at half a dozen other places, the number of mine workers who have lost their jobs, at least another 1,000 men. Argentia, another American base, something of the order of 1,000 or more men which gives you a total, Mr. Chairman, of over 20,000 jobs lost, jobs that were there, that we had and that we do not have now, 20,000 lost jobs and of these around 5,000 will probably never come back because they were the jobs of Newfoundland civilians on the American bases at Goose, Stephenville, St. John's and Argentia. 20,000 jobs gone and we see now lately, another 500 jobs, good jobs averaging \$14,000 - \$15,000 a year at Stephenville and another 500 jobs direct employment inside the four walls of the mill at Stephenville in grave danger of disappearing not counting 1,200 or 1,300 other Newfoundlanders cutting the pulpwood for that big paper mill.

If I were Minister of Industrial Development faced with the necessity in the next four years say of finding 100,000

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MR. SMALLWOOD: young Newfoundlanders, male and female, looking for work, looking for employment and realizing that in the normal course of progress, the normal course of development, assuming that we get the normal course of development in this Province that 20,000 might be the very maximum number of jobs out of the 100,000 that needed jobs. And I would worry, I would wonder and worry about the 80,000 because I cannot see Newfoundland progressing, I cannot see Newfoundland being in a sound position economically, financially, socially, if 20,000 young Newfoundlanders, having cost this Province something between \$20,000 and \$30,000 each

MR. SMALLWOOD: to be brought to the point where they could take a job if they could find one. I cannot see Newfoundland continuing much longer to be in a position to spend well above \$250 million on education only to have most of them who benefit from that education go off to build up Ontario and built up Alberta and build up British Columbia and build up other parts of the world. I cannot see Newfoundland affording that.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman uses the figure of 100,000 -

MR. SMALLWOOD: In four years.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Four years. Coming into the labour force?

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, not coming in, unfortunately, I wish they were, but wanting to come in.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Coming in as the labour force or coming in plus the unemployed that are already there?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Take any four years in the last ten years.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Take the next four years.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Take the next four if the Minister likes.

There are about 25,000 persons who have come out of Grade XI wanting to get a job, who have come out of the eighteen vocational trade schools looking for a job -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Some of them are the same.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - and some of them - there will be a duplication there of course. Coming out of all these institutions, about 25,000 a year, 100,000 every four years; 5,000 of them coming into the labour force each year, 20,000 in the four years.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is right.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That leaves 80,000 young Newfoundlanders who have cost this Province, that is to say their parents and the Government - the Government insofar as the Government pays the costs of schools, the parents insofar as they pay the cost of the food and shelter and clothing for the students - costing close up to \$30,000 a year each by the time they are available to take a job. I say we cannot afford at the present, fantastic yearly cost of keeping our

MR. SMALLWOOD: school system going now over \$250 million a year, from \$3 million a year to \$270 million in twenty-eight years, equalled in proportion by no province of Canada. I cannot see that continue unless the Minister of Industrial Development, not alone, not as a lone wolf, not as an individual in isolation from everyone else, not that, but as a member of the Government, a member of the team, a member of a band of ministers - unless he can produce industrial development after industrial development, one after the other. If he does not, I do not see how he can sleep easily at night when he thinks of the fate and the future of this Province.

Mr. Chairman, I do not suppose there is anyone in this chamber who does not advocate ardently, very ardently, the use of every last way and every last means that exists or can be made to exist to create employment, not only in the fisheries, but every aspect and every branch of farming, every branch and every aspect of forestry, of mines in the ground, of water power, every way, the tourist industry, everything we can think of to create employment. I do not suppose there is anyone that would be opposed to that. So let it not be thought for one moment that the person who is speaking to the Committee at this moment and who is responsible, primarily responsible, for setting up seven or eight loan boards to lend money to people to build tourist places, to start co-operative movements, to start industrial plants, to start fishery development, to start anything that would create work and employment - let no one suppose that this present person speaking is in any shape or form or degree unenthusiastic about anything and everything under the sun, big and small, that will create employment for our people because jobs, jobs, jobs

MR. SMALLWOOD: are the greatest need if this Province is to survive, jobs and more jobs and ever more and more jobs; and the question of course is how, what jobs, how and when. Now every job, even a little enterprise and I encouraged the minister I think he was here yesterday when I said, so he gives loans from one section of his department, the rural section he gave loans to - what was it? 900 enterprises or 900 loans or loans to little enterprises that created - was it 900 jobs or something of that nature?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: 900 loans for 4,000 people.

MR. SMALLWOOD: 900 loans to enterprises that gave jobs to 4,000 persons and about thirty per cent of them approximately have failed, not due to the minister's fault or the government's fault but the fault of the enterprises, the entrepreneurs who borrowed the money and even they might not have really been to blame. It might have been nature itself. Who knows? I said do not be discouraged because thirty per cent of them failed. Keep at it. Try and try and try again and if you do have an unfortunately high porportion of failures it is too bad but one must not get discouraged. Every little thing, every job is a miracle in Newfoundland. Every job created is a triumph. Every job that is created in this Province is a defiance of history, it is a defiance of nature, because if you were to follow nature and certainly if you were to follow history for the last five hundred years we should not be here anyway. We should all be up in Ontario or even preferably out in British Columbia, for that matter across the border down in the United States. We are here for 500 years battling against nature itself.

So every job that is created is a victory and I do not say it because I do not feel that any little enterprise is to be despised. It is not. It is a triumph. It is a victory. But if the minister thinks for one minute that Newfoundland is going to be saved by having a lot of happy fishermen and happy loggers and happy labourers I would like to disabuse him on that. Get an industry, an industrial enterprise that employs 500 men in it at \$14,000 or \$15,000

MR. SMALLWOOD: or \$16,000 a year each and what is happening is not just that they get the jobs, that they earn that money, that is not all that is happening. What is happening is that thousands of others are thereby helped in greater or lesser degree to get a half decent living.

I pointed out here the other day that the soft drink plants here, that the biscuit factories, the bakeries, the margarine plant, all kinds of plants in this Province employ people who never saw a codfish in their lives and who would turn up their nose at the smell of a good healthy fish flake or fish stage without realizing they are getting at least a part of their living from cod and from pulp and paper and from the mines in Labrador and from every other industry in the Province. That is the wonderful multiplier effect. In the United States it is seven to one because the United States has the most efficient industrial machine on the earth. It is so efficient, their productivity is so high that that industry can support a population of seven persons for every one that is engaged in the industrial economy. In Newfoundland it is far less than that, far fewer, it is about two and a half to one. For every productive job in this Province, be you a fisherman, a logger, a factory worker, a miner or something of that nature, for every one that is employed in Newfoundland today there are two and a half other Newfoundlanders getting their living as doctors or nurses or shop workers or office workers or taxi drivers or barbers or what have you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The hon. member has about a half a minute left.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Half a minute. Well that is really enough. I mean I really do not need half a minute. I did not need anything.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What I am saying is a sheer waste of time. I say it and I will keep saying it until I die. In the name of God! get industry for this province. Get all of the little ones that you can. But get big ones. One big industry is good for farming, it is good for the fisheries, it is good for the everything: One Come by Chance, - one Stephenville, one Grand Falls, one Buchans, one Corner Brook - they are worth an awful lot to the economy in the future of this province.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief in what I have to say. I know that politically to hear our hon. friend from Twillingate enunciate jobs, jobs, jobs, is a sort of amusement. Some people have heard it over the years, used in political campaigns and so on. But it is no joke in this province. However you go about looking at it, whether it is in small industries - five, six, seven, eight jobs - or in large ones, however you cut the cake, the fact is, as I have said in this House before, that one of the major problems facing this province at the moment is - no matter who denies it opposite - is resettlement.

The resettlement I refer to is to Alberta, it is to Halifax or Moncton, it is anywhere but here. It is alright for my friend opposite to say that government has spoiled people and so on. I have stated this myself on many occasions. But one of the functions of government is to provide opportunity, in conjunction of course with entrepreneurs. This government has not provided opportunity. This government arrived in office by deceit: Look back over your speeches, re-read them, your press releases. What promises you made! The new political and economic Jerusalem - as soon as they got rid of the man who was referred to as 'the dictator.' That was the big problem that faced this province. You were to cleanse, you were to do it all. What have you really done in terms of real productive things for this province? I know there are economic factors world-wide and nationally that may have halted some progress. This I will freely

MR.NOLAN: admit. Reference today to the attitude of the banks, made by our friend from Grand Falls, absolutely right. When I was a boy growing up, as most of you were, if you went to the bank to get a loan you could get it provided you could prove you did not need it. You were not allowed in the manager's office. Banks were forced to get into the competitive business the way they are today, mainly because following Confederation in this province in came the loan companies; lawyers, anyone at all, were loaning money and making it accessible to the people who needed it. The banks were a failure. They were shamed for pure economic reasons. But they have no heart, there is no heart in the banking system in this country, provincially or nationally. No heart at all. All they mind is grabbing your money and making money on that. But they have not demonstrated to me, and the government of Canada, for that matter, has not demonstrated to me that they are prepared to take a good hard look at the banking system in this country and make more money available at reasonable rates to produce jobs and enterprises in this land.

Why is it, Mr. Chairman, in a country that is now threatened with separatism and so on that we as Canadians seem to oftentimes take what we have for granted. Oftentimes apparently we do not have the knowledge, the will, but there is certainly something lacking in a great country, perhaps one of the finest in the world, not because I am a citizen in it, but it is acknowledged what disturbs always is to find that there are people in countries in Europe and other places as well who look upon Canada as a great land of opportunity. As a great land for development. A great land where they would like to live. The ones who seem to notice it least sometimes are Canadians. This is shocking to me. Shocking beyond belief.

Now let us take a look at what our citizens do in terms of investment and in terms of the willingness to make their

MR. NOLAN: country grow, to make it propser and to make it far more advanced industrially than we are at the moment.

How many Newfoundlanders have really developed this province?

How many? It is alright to get here and criticize and cast aspersions on the John Doyle's and the John Shaheen's. This is fine, makes for good political chaff and so on.

MR. J. CARTER: They were riffraff.

MR. NOLAN: Well maybe they were riffraff. That is in the estimation of the hon. member opposite who I suppose is an authority on riffraff. But that is his department and well he may if he wishes.

The

MR. NOLAN: fact is the hon. member for St. John's North I say is a producer. He is a man who gets out and tills the soil, cleared the land and carried one heck of a lot of rocks off that land as I recall.

MR. SMALLWOOD: He produces far more there than he does here.

MR. NOLAN: Well, he is a producer and no-one can deny him that. As a matter of fact he is one man I am not going to tangle with, I will tell you, because from my own knowledge of him as a young fellow I think he got disturbed one time because there was a horse lying in the cabbage patch or something and rather than follow in the normal procedure he reached down, grabbed the poor beast and moved it out of the way, and he is strong enough to do it.

AN HON. MEMBER: He might have done that, but not now.

MR. NOLAN: No, no, he is -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Sometimes he still slings horse product, in this Chamber too.

MR. CANNING: I hear he pays the bare minimum wage, is that right?

MR. NOLAN: No, no, Politically he is all mixed up but otherwise he is a producer. I wish we had fifty or a hundred like him. I mean let us not be so narrow as to overlook, because you might have some political differences with a man, the fact that he has made a certain contribution. It is true, I understand, that he sent a sample of his product, I believe either by himself or the hon. Mr. Crosbie, off to Russia in a tidy package, but the Russians apparently have not been flooding him with orders for savoury. But we do not look down on him like that. More power to him.

MR. MURPHY: China.

MR. NOLAN: China, was it? Well the Chinese would not accept -

MR. HICKMAN: With the hon. member's permission we will rise the Committee now.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and made some progress and ask leave to sit again.

On motion, report received and adopted, Committee ordered to sit again, presently.

MR. SPEAKER: It being 5:30 P.M. a motion to adjourn is deemed to be before the Chair. The first subject matter for debate is the report of the CN's plans to abandon its rail freight service in Newfoundland and the economic and social consequences thereof.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, both the Federal and Provincial Governments across Canada are concentrating these days on urgings connected with the savings of energy by their citizens. A great deal of publicity has been given to the importance of home installation. That is one thing, Mr. Speaker. Here in this Province we are negotiating terms of agreement for a resurfacing, a major Band-Aid treatment to the Trans-Canada Highway where most of the unsatisfactory condition; the dangerous condition of that highway at the present time has been occasioned by its unpredictable, at the time it was built, use of transport trucks. It was never built for these monsters of the road.

Now, Mr. Speaker, once the surface has been repaired are we going to permit it to be destroyed against by these gas and diesel fuel guzzling monsters? Mr. Speaker, I would urge the hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications to study immediately the advantages of converting as much as possible of the transportation of goods across our Province to the existing railway. Also should be studied the matter of what has to be done to upgrade the railway service so that it truly meets the needs not only of the businessmen of this Province but also of the consumers themselves. The amount of energy saved by removing gigantic mechanical monsters from our highways and shipping by rail could prove to be one of the

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MR. NEARY: best possible arguments for not only ensuring the
continuance of our rail service, Mr. Speaker, but also for improving
and extending it. The savings in damage to the Trans-Canada Highway
alone might very well pay for modifications and changes necessary
to update the railway right of way

MR. NEARY: and equipment across this Province, something that has never been done, Mr. Chairman, by CN as they apparently consider themselves only the caretakers for this Province instead of settling down to the realization that it is an integral part of their responsibility as the national, confirmed by Federal Statute, railway service.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member of Transportation and Communications.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, in reply to the question or statement, unlike the hon. gentleman I am not going to use a prepared statement. The statements made recently by officials from the Ministry of Transport in Ottawa regarding the possibility of abandonment of our railway system in our Province were very annoying to us here, in fact, I imagine, to all Newfoundlanders, because the railway system in my view - I have said it many, many times publicly - that the CNR rail freight activity should be upgraded every way possible. It was indeed with pleasure I noted a few days ago an announcement by CNR in the Province here that they are carrying out a major upgrading of their rail facilities, the track facilities, from St. John's to Whitbourne. No figure was disclosed with regard to the amount of funds being spent, but at least it is a beginning.

Mr. Chairman, the unfortunate thing is that the 'user pay' concept or policy of the Federal level of Government over the past four or five years has seen a substantial diversion of the movement of goods from the rails to the road primarily because of the fact that MOT said to CNR, "You must increase your revenue and reduce your losses throughout the country" and that includes areas like Newfoundland and the Atlantic Region. Because of that the CNR had to increase their rates, and they were increased four times in eighteen months, approved automatically each time by the CTC. Because of that the rail freight rates in Newfoundland are

MR. MORGAN: beyond the reach, in most cases, of the business community, and the business community is finding that the most economical means of transport is motor transport and the most satisfactory mode of transport to them is the truck, and because of that they are using that mode. There is nothing that Governments in Ottawa or we can do to change the minds of the business community except for one thing, and that is to increase subsidization or to subsidize the losses of CNR in this Province to enable them to reduce their freight rates and to make them more competitive with the existing mode now used, in this case the tractor-trailers. Until that is done, I am convinced that the tractor-trailer industry will be further increased, will be further patronized by the business community and it is beyond the control of both Governments in that regard.

There is substantial damage being done to our roadbed of the Trans-Canada Highway by these heavy vehicles and there must be corrective action taken. That is recognized by all hon. gentlemen of this House of Assembly and by all Newfoundlanders who use the Highway. Even that - if that occurs over the next five or six years, I am convinced and I am sure my colleagues are also, all of us, that the CN Railway must remain in this Province. It should be used primarily, in my view, for the movement of bulk shipments; bulk shipments should never be on the Trans-Canada Highway. It will prove to be an economical mode of transport and I am convinced that it should remain and it must remain a viable operation in the Province as a mode of transport to be used by Newfoundlanders.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next matter for debate concerns the recent meetings held between Price Newfoundland, ASARCO and the Provincial Government. The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring the hon. House up to date on a situation that has existed this past two weeks. On Monday a week ago, roughly two weeks tomorrow or Monday, the union in Buchans organized

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MR. FLIGHT:

and sponsored a meeting with Price

(Nfld) Top people and ASARCO top people. Prior to inviting the top management from Price and ASARCO the union invited the Premier and in the event of his absence, that he could not make it, they asked

MR. FLIGHT: the Cabinet members to attend.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that not one Cabinet minister attended that meeting.

MR. PECKFORD: The House was open.

MR. FLIGHT: It was indecent. Pardon me?

MR. PECKFORD: Not when the House was open and all the rest of it.

MR. FLIGHT: The House was open, Mr. Speaker, and the House is open today and there is at least three or four Cabinet ministers - the only minister who needed to be in this House was the minister who was doing his estimates.

MR. PECKFORD: And we got a blast for not having everybody here today and we would have got a blast for going to Grand Falls.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, the fact is not one Cabinet minister attended. Now, Mr. Speaker, the attention that the government has given to the Buchans Task Force Report up to this point is disgraceful. I cannot think of a better word, 'disgraceful'. It has been in the hands of Cabinet for ten months, going on eleven months and not one minister to date, apart from the Minister of Municipal Affairs has addressed himself to it. I have said all this before. His activity with regards to this is not going to mean one iota in Buchans. Now, Mr. Speaker, 600 men, it is not going to mean a thing, 600 men are about to lose their jobs in that town.

MR. PECKFORD: Are you in favour of -

MR. FLIGHT: I will tell the minister what I am in favour of when he brings his estimates in.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance in the Budget Speech made this statement: "Recently announced results of exploration for new mineral reserves in the Buchans area have been quite encouraging and indicate that activity there will probably continue well into the 1980's." Now, Mr. Speaker, the people from Price (Nfld.) and Asarco put to the lie to that statement in that meeting, put the lie to it. In the presence of ADM's and in the presence of top civil servants they indicated that they had said

MR. FLIGHT: nothing that would put any minister of this Cabinet into a position to say that. They further reiterated and said that given the present rate of production in the Buchans mine, given the known ore bodies, given the known deposits, based on the cost of exploration, based on the cost of production, based on all the evidence that they have and all the factors, that there is nothing within a twenty-five mile radius of Buchans will increase the life of that mine by one day. They do not intend to bring those ore bodies into production. Indeed according to them they cannot bring them into production.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister indicated in answer to a question this morning that his ADM, Mr. Bob Langdon did not chair the meeting. He was there as an observer because the minister could not make it.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I said co-ordinate it.

MR. FLIGHT: He did not co-ordinate it either, Sir. He had nothing to do with the meeting at all, nothing, other than to sit there and listen to what was being said and report back to the minister.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Premier indicated here earlier last week that that report would be tabled in this House and it is useless apparently for me to stand up and give the results of the meeting. I have done that now, Mr. Speaker. I have indicated that Price and the companies concerned have told everybody that the mine will curtail over the next two years and close out in 1979.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is incumbent on the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations and the Cabinet to table that report, accept the facts and point out in this House, tell this House and the people of Buchans what they intend. According to the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) today we are talking about 1500 to 1600 jobs two years down the road.

MR. FLIGHT: That is 550 jobs and they are primary producing jobs. They are not service jobs. Now if the figures being bandied around here today are right, we are talking about 1600 to 1700 people who will be out of work two years from now. And the time has come for the Cabinet to stop playing coy with the Buchans Task Force Report, stop sloughing it off as though it was no importance, get the report that came out of that meeting in front of this House and indicate to the people of Newfoundland and to the people of Buchans what they intend to do about it, because Mr. Speaker, to this point the performance of Cabinet and anybody involved from the government point of view with the Buchans situation, with the Buchans Task Force Report recommendations, with the results of the type of meetings I am talking about, has been disgraceful.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to correct a statement that I am alleged to have said, and if I said it I correct it now. Mr. Langdon went out, when I spoke about his involvement, as co-ordinator of the Task Force Report, if I said that he was chairman of the meeting that was a mistake and I retract that.

They had a meeting in Grand Falls two weeks Monday coming. The report has been given to me as I said earlier this week.

Mr. Rousseau.

It has been distributed to all members of Cabinet. There was a statement made, by the way, and not correct, that my colleague, the hon. Minister of Forestry and Agriculture, who was my predecessor as Minister of Labour, that the topic had not been raised in Cabinet. That I asked him about, and that was an incorrect statement by the press. He certainly did not say that, because it has been before Cabinet. It is right now before Cabinet. And hopefully within the next few weeks that some statements will be made on it. Now, you know, I would like to say one thing about this, because I told the people in Stephenville the same thing I am going to say now, that the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations is not a policy-making department. I am not trying to slough anything off, but I do not intend to continue taking the flack. These are policy decisions made by other departments. And if anything should happen in Stephenville, the same thing will happen. The Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations will again co-ordinate it.

For our part we have formed the committee that was suggested to be formed by the report. The question of all other aspects come under the policy of each individual department. Of course, it is a government decision, and all of it is an attempt made to tie it as a complete government decision.

The Premier made an undertaking that he would table the report. The Premier made that undertaking, and I would assume that when it is discussed - and I would hope that the hon. member would give Cabinet the opportunity to discuss it before it is tabled - that it would be tabled. The hon. member was at the meeting, and is undoubtedly aware of all the facts that are contained in that report. So I can understand the feelings of the hon. member in behalf of his constituents of Buchans. Certainly he would be less than serving his constituents if we did not fight for the implications that are carried in the Buchans Task Force Report. All I can say is that it is now being considered by government, and as soon as

Mr. Rousseau.

government is in a position statements will be made, either a joint statement by the Premier or individual statements by ministers. I am sure that the Premier will table the report in due course. And, of course, everybody then in the House and everybody across the Province will have some indication of just what happened at the meeting two weeks ago, Monday coming.

MR. SPEAKER: The next subject matter for debate refers to the approximately 18,000 skilled and semi-skilled workers who are unemployed in the construction industry.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the figures which I read into the records of this House derived from Canada Manpower sources indicated a tremendous over-production in trained workers in the construction industry for skilled trades and also unskilled workers in the construction industry in this Province. This over-supply, Mr. Speaker, of 6,347 skilled tradesmen and 11,442 unskilled workers have very few opportunities on the drawing board to employ their skills in the immediate future. My suggestion is, Mr. Speaker, that before another vocational and technological training era is launched in September, which is only about four or five months from now, that a committee of this House be established to investigate and report on the whole matter of training in special skills in this Province, and the possibility and advisability of retraining some of those already certified in trades for which there is no present demand nor foreseeable demand in the immediate future.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) made the statement in reply to my original remarks a few days ago that no matter whether employment is available or not, all training is good. I agree, Sir, that philosophically all that is good. But there are degrees, Sir, of goodness.

Mr. Neary.

It is highly debatable, Mr. Speaker, whether the individual who has struggled through a trades training course, even if he is maintained by Canada Manpower and unemployment insurance benefits and social assistance allowances, whether he will feel better at the completion of his nine months or two years course, feels much better as far as his morale goes when he discovers that all this training, all this efforts have resulted in his still being unemployed. Mr. Speaker, we have to consider not only the waste of training time, instructional time, institutional time and the harrowing effect on the morale of individuals, but also the possibility that there exists challenges in this Province to vocational training that are not recognized at all by either the institutions of this Province or their training prospectuses. In my own district, for instance, Mr. Speaker, of LaPoile, shortly we are to have a federally funded

MR. NEARY: communications centre, but no effort has been made as yet to train personnel to man this Centre. The present outlook is that they will have to be imported from elsewhere. Why not train local residents for these jobs, Sir? The federal government is spending a great deal of money these days urging us all to conserve energy, particularly in the matter of heating oil for use in homes. The recent Ener-Save survey was at least a token of their interest in this respect, but so far, Mr. Speaker, nothing has been done to train technicians to determine the actual heat loss from our present homes - the points at which heat escapes through walls and through roofs and doorways and windows and window frames and so on. Why not a programme, Sir, that will tie in with federal energy propaganda to train technicians to measure heat loss in individual homes and also to add to their diagnosis a prescription as to the type of insulation that can best be used to remedy the situation.

There should also be widespread training in locations throughout Newfoundland in the skills of insulating. The average homeowner is ill-equipped to do this on a 'do it yourself' basis. Proper insulation essential to the problems of Newfoundland perhaps more than any other province because of the climate we have here, Sir, demands skills that do not exist in the average homeowner's programme today.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that in the area of vocational training we have many opportunities to improve the situation and that these main improvements can be brought about by the establishment of a special committee of this House to investigate thoroughly and report on the whole matter of vocational training - its track record in the past and its opportunities in the future.

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

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, one thing that the Late Show innovation has proven beyond all reasonable doubt is the wisdom of short speeches, and that the forty-five minute speech in the Address in Reply is as useless and as outmoded as last year's snow. The debates that we have seen here on Thursday afternoons, and today is no exception, are of

MR. HICKMAN: very high calibre, obviously well researched and very much to the point, and if we could only have the same in the Address in Reply, bearing in mind that we are still into the longest session in the history of this House, I think it would do a great deal for the people of this Province.

The problem raised by the hon. gentleman from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is not capable of simple solution. I am sure that there is right now in this Province an oversupply of certain trades - men and women who have been trained at public expense in our vocational schools and in the Trades College. But the kind of response and versatility and mobility that is envisaged in the hon. gentleman's question and motion, I suggest, may not be capable of working into any kind of meaningful curriculum. Obviously, the Trades College or the vocational schools cannot switch from one year to the next, to use as example, to bring in a programme to train certain people in the skills of insulation or how to do it yourself.

No one wants to see anyone in Newfoundland who desires to remain in this Province - and I say that and I draw it to the House's attention that I believe fifty per cent of all Canadians, sometime during their working years, move from one province to another. It is a tremendously large number who do move - but those who want to stay in this Province will find it disappointing as we do if they are unable to find gainful employment in their particular trade. But if, for reasons of economics or geography or world-wide recession, Newfoundlanders have to move abroad, Mr. Speaker, I would rather see them leave this Province highly trained in particular skills than simply walking away from here with nothing more than Grade VIII or Grade IX education. And surely, in the Canadian context and bearing in mind that our vocational schools in the beginning were conceived by the government of Canada and funded to a large extent by the government of Canada, in the Canadian context we do have an obligation to see to it that

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Tape 3026 (Afternoon)

AH-1

MR. HICKMAN: Newfoundlanders as Canadians are equipped to be able to compete with their fellow Canadians wherever they may be in this nation. This does not gainsay at all, Mr. Speaker, the need to respond to permanent employment as was done for instance in what was considered at that time to be permanent employment in Come By Chance when there was a massive retraining programme. That kind of response is very, very necessary and that kind of response I know our vocational schools are capable of giving.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: It is deemed that a motion to adjourn is now before the Chair. Is the House ready for the question?

Those in favour "Aye", Contrary "Nay", Carried.

I leave the Chair until eight o'clock this evening.

PRELIMINARY

UNEDITED

TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOR THE PERIOD

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, May 19, 1977

The House resumed at 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

On motion that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

Hon. member for Burgeo-Bay D'Espoir.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, how much time do we have left in these estimates here?

MR. SIMMONS: Do you want to say something?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Approximately one hour and fifteen minutes.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Sir.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, just to pick up on a few of the comments from where I left off this afternoon when I ran out of time, I listened with some interest to the minister when he began his remarks earlier today because I am one of those many people who genuinely wonders what the Department of Industrial Development is doing. Now we got in response to that question the usual tirade from one who knows everything, one who assumes that nobody else knows very much, and that may well be true. But it is all aside from the issue, Mr. Chairman. The minister in responding late this afternoon made reference to the Burgeo project. Mr. Chairman, this committee as I see it is not particularly any kind of a penance committee, it is not in particular a place where you give grateful thanks for the benevolence of a kind dictatorship, it is not that kind of place, Mr. Chairman. It is a place where we analysis the votes of - or the proposed votes of the various departments. And at the appropriate time I will do what has to be done in grateful

MR. SIMMONS: recognition of a benevolent government that has done such wonderful things for Burgeo.

But, Mr. Chairman, before I can even begin to do that, as full as my heart is of gratitude, I would like to know some of the facts. And while the minister lectured me, as he is so capable of doing, about how ungrateful I am about what the government is doing in Burgeo, he ignored to tell us, to tell the committee whether the refusal of his official to give

Mr. Simmons.

basic information on the Burgeo project whether that refusal was just a neglect of duty on the part of the official or whether it was a result of a direct instruction from the minister to avoid giving information. Now, Mr. Chairman, I believe that that is a fairly serious issue. I am an elected member of this House, the same as everybody else here, and I believe the least we can ask of our paid officials, our public servants -

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, is the hon. gentleman going to continue?

MR. SIMMONS: Oh, yes, there are several people speaking. I was just giving them a chance. I can appreciate the minister has got to do some last minute orchestrations, but if you would do it more quietly.

MR. J. CARTER: In my opinion, silence is beautiful.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I am concerned about this issue of a senior official in government refusing - or not refusing, but avoiding to give the information. I was not asking for any top secret information. And I believe I have a right to have that particular information. And I would like, at least, for the minister to indicate to us why the information is privileged or why I could not obtain it. I did get it, mind you, eventually because the minister issued a press release a couple of weeks after. Now what I want to know, Mr. Chairman, is whether that official who carries a title in the department, not an executive assistant, so he is not a political appointee as such, not as such - and I want to know, Mr. Chairman, whether these senior public officials are behaving as public officials first and only, or as political hacks? What happens, Mr. Chairman, when I ask information of a senior public official? Does he yield to his political, his partisan political instincts and advise the minister in that capacity, or does he do as he ought to do and either give an indication as to why he cannot

Mr. Simmons.

give the information or give the information. I think it is a very serious matter, Mr. Chairman, when elected public officials in this Province are being denied access to information. What we need here is a freedom of information act. We need the kind of act that has been just introduced into the Nova Scotia Legislature where it will be against the law, specifically against the law - I believe it is now against the law de facto - but I would like for it to be specifically against the law for officials to suppress such information or to act on the instructions of ministers who tell them to suppress such information or to act on the instructions of ministers who tell them to suppress or to withhold such information. And we have all kinds of examples. I bring it out here, Mr. Chairman, because this minister and his two departments are most blatantly identified with it. He takes pride, gleeful pride in refusing the information on Rural Development Authorities. His counterpart, the Minister of DREE, has set an example for him in relation to the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation. And I would hope he could apply that example to his dealings with the Rural Development Authority. I hope he would apply it to his dealings with his officials in his departments so that they do not continue to withhold or to refuse to give information to me as a member and to other members of this House. It is a shocking set of circumstances. I believe the minister ought to at least give some answer for it, some reason for it.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the matter is considerably more serious than that. I suggested this evening in my few comments that the department might well be called the Department of Industrial Shut-downs, because that seems to be its main function.

MR. SIMMONS: It might well be called the department for the concealment of information, for it seems to spend a fair amount of time doing that as well. As a matter of fact I looked around to see what the department is doing in accordance with the mandate which is spelled out here in the estimates, to attract industry and to help expand present industry, and I must say I am very much at a loss to know what the department is doing in that respect.

Mr. Chairman, the department, largely because of the minister, lacks any public profile at all. And I would suggest that there are two or three departments of government which must have some public image. One of them obviously is the Department of Tourism, because it in part is involved in the same kind of job that the Department of Industrial Development is involved in, the job of promoting Newfoundland, promoting her opportunities or her attractions. And yet this particular department, although it has a total staff of thirty-two people at a considerable cost to the taxpayer; this particular department has no profile at all. You would hardly know it existed except sometimes it is appended to the minister's designations when they refer to the Rural Development Minister, and almost in brackets, Industrial Development. It is about the only time you hear anything from the department whatsoever, particularly since this particular minister took over.

Now I do not know what it is, Mr. Chairman; perhaps he has so little ranking in the pecking order. I did mention this afternoon that for some reason the Premier is seeing fit to exclude him from all the important involvements in terms of industrial developments. You heard nothing about him at all on Stephenville. He never even said a word in debate indeed. We stood here and we talked for a week about Linerboard. Not a single word from the Minister of Industrial Development, not a peep, not a single word, not a syllable at

MR. SIMMONS: all for the entire week -

MR. WHITE: Scandalous!

MR. SIMMONS: - from the Minister of Industrial Development.

Now what is Linerboard? Is it Fisheries?

Is it Tourism? Is it mining? If anything it is industrial, hard core, first rate industrial development in this country, it is Labrador Linerboard and the Minister of Industrial Development, What a charade! What a charade! And do not bother, Mr. Chairman, to ask him any questions about the Come By Chance issue. He knows nothing about that either. Do not ask him anything about Lower Churchill.

MR. FLIGHT: Buchans.

MR. SIMMONS: He knows nothing about that. Do not ask him about Buchans or St. Lawrence because he knows nothing about that. Do not ask him anything about Marystown, He pretends to know something about that, but the version of the facts he gives in this House is not necessarily the full version as I am beginning to learn, as my friend from Burin - Placentia West (Mr. Canning) can attest. What a charade, Mr. Chairman. Any wonder why I was constrained this afternoon to move the resolution? If only we had been a little more to the point and could have gotten the vote as expeditiously as the vote is often taken in this Committee, we would have had not fourteen to sixteen for the motion, Mr. Chairman, we would have had about fourteen to three. Because about two minutes before that the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) noted that only three members on the government side were present in the Chamber and it was on his particular solicitation that some of them dragged their butts in here for a few minutes, although their minister, the Minister of Industrial Development was holding forth just a few moments before on what should be an important subject, the subject of Industrial Development.

MR. NEARY: I thought for a while the minister was going to vote with us.

MR. SIMMONS: The minister did the craziest thing! For about thirty seconds this afternoon he announced to us across the floor that he was going to vote with us, then he was going to abstain because of conflict of interest, and then he was standing voting with the government. And of course what he was demonstrating is that he would do whatever was safest at the time. He was prepared to vote with us as long as his salary was not effected but he said, How many do you fellows have? And it dawned on him, it dawned on him because nobody told him that sixteen was more than fourteen, it dawned on him that perhaps he was in trouble over there.

No public profile whatsoever, Mr. Chairman, no visibility, just a nothingness, a nothingness anymore than a sometimes title. He even gloated in telling us today that his salary really comes from Rural Development. Well I am glad it does. He certainly deserves no salary in Industrial Development, and it is perhaps appropriate. And the Committee made a good decision this afternoon in retaining the salary because I hope that means that now we can put somebody else in Industrial Development. I hope that the Premier will now

MR. SIMMONS: separate the two portfolios as they were meant to be because they are two portfolios which have not very much in common at all. They are not in direct conflict obviously, since they are within one administration, but the emphasis are very different in Rural Development and Industrial Development and in some respects they can be argued to be in conflict. How one person can wear both hats at all successfully I do not know. How this particular minister can wear them at all successfully of course I do know, he cannot.

So we did not make a bad move this afternoon when the committee decided to hold on to the salary which perhaps one of my good friends on the other side, one of these fellows could have at least a heart, an understanding, a feeling for Newfoundland's unemployment or employment needs will be appointed to Industrial Development, perhaps my good friend from Bay of Islands, (Mr. Woodrow). He certainly a man who is heard from very often and would do an eminently better job than is being done now.

AN HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: The member for Bay of Islands and the many others over there, the gentleman from Mount Pearl, the gentleman from Naskaupi have been looked over so many times perhaps it is time, now that the present minister has loused up the job so bad - he loused it up in complete, unadulterated fashion, loused up the job as completely as anybody ever could as though he were on a deliberate assignment to botch something. If somebody said to him, "Take this and botch it," he could not have done it any - better is not the word; he could not have done any more a complete a job than he is doing. So I would say the member for Bay of Islands, the member for Mount Pearl or the member for Naskaupi, all of whom have been looked over, could be put into that portfolio and would do at least a better job than the minister is doing and hopefully a fairly successful job, because, Mr. Chairman, it is a job that needs to be done. How much do we have to say it,

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, to get the message through to that minister and that administration that Industrial Development does not consist of developing a rational as to why something does not work because 'Joe Smallwood' happened to have started it? There is more to Industrial Development than that; there is a lot more to it than sitting down figuring out ways to convince the public that it cannot work just because the former Premier happened to have started it, whether it be the steel mill or Come by Chance or Lab Linerboard or Upper Churchill - you name it.

MR. J. CARTER: It has three strikes against it just to start with.

MR. SIMMONS: I am in a good mood tonight, 'John! I will not even answer that. You noticed that I did not particularly name the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter) as one of the possible successors to the present minister. We have real selectivity over here. We know the qualities of the backbench over there, we have real -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, when will this hon. crowd learn that Industrial Development consists more than just shutting her down.

MR. WHITE: They have no feelings.

MR. SIMMONS: Now, 'Graham', boy, work with me, not work against me, for the Lord's sake, at this hour in the night.

MR. J. CARTER: Would the hon. member permit a question?

MR. SIMMONS: By all means, yes, indeed.

MR. J. CARTER: Does the hon. member suggest, or any hon. members on the other side suggest that there is any hint of blame that can be attached to this government for having Come By Chance closed down. If there is any hint of blame? I would just like to hear that.

MR. SIMMONS: Well, I cannot answer for all but I can answer for me.

I not only believe, but the public records show that the version of the facts which the Premier had was not being told the public just before the September 1975 election. Indeed in Clarendville he took on quite a public stance to the contrary, to the effect that the operation was about to expand. I believe the Premier and Mr. Crosbie, who was then a minister, were in possession - not only in possession of key information,

MR. SIMMONS: but were in a position, because of having that information many months before to have taken some initiatives which they did not take.

MR. DOODY: Pay out some \$600 million.

MR. SIMMONS: No, no! No, no!

MR. DOODY: That is a serious question.

MR. SIMMONS: Yes, yes! And I hope I gave you a serious answer.

There is not time, because my twenty minutes are essentially up, there is not time right now to respond more fully but, yes, to answer the member for St. John's North, I feel from the limited information I have that there were initiatives that could have been taken many months before. See, I feel generally about this administration - and I have to say it publically, and it hurts me to have to say it because I have respect for most of the people in that administration - but I feel genuinely that it is a lack of will, that the main problem is inertia, that they do not care.

MR. J. CARTER: But Come By Chance could not pay their bills.

MR. SIMMONS: That is the problem.

MR. SIMMONS: They got caught with their pants down on Labrador Linerboard because they cared too late.

MR. J. CARTER: But Come By Chance, they would not pay their bills, their oil bill.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I realize my time is up and I will probably get back at it a little later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I will not take very long, Sir.

I just want to reiterate a few remarks that I made this afternoon, Sir, and to confirm or verify what I said about this administration being the administration that is shutting everything down, Sir. For the first time in the history of this Province we have a heading, subhead number 1504-07, Industrial Shut-downs.

MR. WHITE: That is right.

MR. NEARY: A heading entitled, Industrial Shut-downs, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MCNEIL: That will be a permanent heading, too.

MR. NEARY: And that subhead I would submit, Sir, next year will be the full length of the page of the estimates, Industrial Shut-downs. This is the crowd, Sir, that is going to shut everything down in this Province. They started with the -

MR. J. CARTER: Is it our fault -

MR. NEARY: Yes, it is. Mr. Chairman, you cannot be on the golf course all day and run the affairs of this Province. You have to be in your office, especially in this day and age, Sir, in a time of record unemployment, inflation, a high cost of living, all the problems that we have in this Province, that you cannot stay in bed half the day and be on the golf course the other half and run the affairs of this Province the way that they should be run, and look after the affairs of this Province.

From the Premier down, Sir, ministers have to take off their coats and roll up their sleeves and spent more time in their offices trying to cope with some of the problems that are facing the people of this Province today.

MR. WOODROW: I thought you said the Minister of Social Services should be out in the field, so do you think he should be out in the field as well as in the office?

MR. NOLAN: A point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order has been raised.

MR. NOLAN: The hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) to the best of my knowledge, in spite of what the hon. member says, did not say the Minister of Social Services should be out in the field. I said it. So, I mean, if the hon. member is going to challenge the hon. member for LaPoile at least let him make some desperate attempt at accuracy, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PECKFORD: To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. PECKFORD: To that point of order, First of all what the hon. member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) said does not constitute a point of order. Number two, he was responding to statements made by the hon. member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Woodrow) who was out of order because he was making the statement from his seat and had not been recognized by the Chair.

MR. NOLAN: Hear! Hear!

MR. PECKFORD: From both points the hon. member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) should wake up so that he can be aware of what is going on in this hon. House until eleven this evening.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, to the point of order; In part I can agree with my hon. friend from Green Bay. I perfectly agree with him in his reference to the statements from the member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Woodrow) that he was sitting in his seat, that I can concede. However, it is always difficult for me to hear statements from the member for Bay of Islands since to me as one who is charged with the responsibility of this Province—we are dealing with the oil companies, there is a book known as The Seven Sisters. I will look upon his as the eighth.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! I think that the points raised are ones of clarification and to some extent interruption rather than points of order that need to be ruled upon.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I wish hon. members, Sir, on the other side would grow up. Mr. Chairman, I do not want to talk too much about the Marystown Shipyard because I am sure my hon. friend, the member for Burin-Placentia West will have a few words about the shipyard, but seeing that I have in front of me, Sir, the list of members of the Board of Directors I want to draw to the minister's attention that at least two if not three of these gentlemen are non-residents, they do not live in the Province. Mr. Rennie is still on the Board of Directors. I do not know if Mr. Rennie -

MR. HICKMAN: And worshipped by every man, woman and child -

MR. NEARY: Well the hon. gentleman may be worshipped, and the hon. gentleman should worship the people of this Province for giving him such a generous pension when he left here

MR. NEARY: and such a generous separation pay when he left. I would like to know what contribution the gentleman is making now to the shipyard. Should his name be stricken from the list of the Board of Directors now? What about Mr. A. H. Crosbie?

MR. J. CARTER: How ungrateful was that earlier statement?

MR. NEARY: How ungrateful was what earlier statement?

MR. J. CARTER: That Mr. Rennie should be kicked off the board.

MR. NEARY: I said, "Should he be stricken from the Board of Directors now?"

MR. J. CARTER: Of course not.

MR. NEARY: Or does he attend meetings? Does he have any input? Is he making any contribution to the shipyards at Marystown?

MR. J. CARTER: Even to suggest -

MR. NEARY: I am asking the minister. I am not asking the gentleman that got the flick out of the Cabinet, that got kicked out by the Premier - not asking that gentleman. That gentleman can no longer speak for the Cabinet or for anybody, for that matter. What about Mr. A. H. Crosbie? Is that gentleman still a resident of this Province?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: You mean Bill Crosbie? Are you kidding?

MR. NEARY: Is he still here?

PREMIER MOORES: Who ?

MR. NEARY: No. I was told Mr. A. H. Crosbie.

PREMIER MOORES: Bill Crosbie?

MR. NEARY: I was told he had moved to another province. I do not know if it was correct or not.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The hon. member is way out of touch.

MR. NEARY: I am way in touch, Sir, way in touch.

The hon. gentleman is the one who is out of touch. I am talking about being out in left field, Sir. The hon. gentleman will be out to pasture after the next election.

Mr. D. Wilson, of course, that is a political appointment - Mr. Don Wilson. Mr. A. Barclay - I presume that is the present manager of the - Mr. I. Cowan - Mr. A. J. Roche is the civil servant - and Mr. E. A. Patey and the hon. John Lundrigan -

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Let me see how many meetings they had last year - one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is that from a reliable source, that information?

MR. NEARY: That information, Sir, came as a result of a question that I put on the Order Paper back -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: That is what I wanted you to tell.

MR. NEARY: - back in February and it is one -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - that I gave you.

MR. NEARY: I asked the minister - let me see - one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight - I asked the minister eight questions on the Order Paper and I got one, two, three, four, five - I got five answers back. There are still three to be answered.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I gave you one today.

MR. SIMMONS: But how many of them should be public anyway?

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, this crowd are not going to make any information public unless you can pry it out of them. And so far I have put 185 questions on the Order Paper this session of the House, and I think so far I have got back about thirty-five per cent. And the House will close sometime in June, and I will predict now, Mr. Chairman, that the House will close and fifty per cent of the questions that I have asked will not be answered. I asked the Minister of Energy one there a few days ago about the free bus service provided by

MR. NEARY: Newfoundland Hydro from the city up to the Donovan's Industrial Park, and the minister has refused to give me the information to this date. It is mischievous. I am told, Sir, that it is costing the taxpayers of this Province \$30,000 a year to transport the workers of Newfoundland Hydro from the Avalon Mall, Philip Place in to the -

MR. PECKFORD: To a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: - Donovan's Industrial Park.

MR. PECKFORD: The question as to whether or not I, as the Minister of Mines and Energy, answer the question that was asked me verbally by the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has very little relevance to the minister's salary under Industrial Development, and to continue to debate it as the hon. member is doing is, in my opinion, not relevant and therefore he should be asked to get on with the business that is relevant to the Department of Industrial Development. Thank you.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, it is quite obvious that the hon. minister opposite is attempting in his own elusive style to avoid answering a very simple and basic question - a question, may I add, that I am surprised that the members of the press of this Province have not already picked up.

The hon. member for LaPoile -

(EXTRANEOUS NOISE)

MR. NOLAN: Is that the mating call of the member for Burin or what is it?

MR. RIDEOUT: That is Grand Bank (Mr. Hickman), by the way.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Grand Bank - that is right.

MR. HICKMAN: Either they are making advances or trying to calumniate me.

MR. PECKFORD: There will be no mating call.

MR. NOLAN: No wonder you would smile, Mr. Chairman.

But anyway the member has asked on any number of days for a very simple piece of information and he has been turned down, and it is very relevant to the debate, Mr. Chairman, because unfortunately, the minister whose estimates are presently before us, apparently, whether because he is

MR. NOLAN: sitting next to the hon. member or not,
seems to be influenced by the same type of arrogance that we have seen
displayed. And I feel that it is wrong, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PECKFORD: Wrong? What is wrong?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Let us get on with the point of order.

I want my estimates debated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point of order related to the relevance of getting information from the hon. ministers. And whereas the information sought or alluded to did not specifically relate to the head under consideration, the whole topic of getting information, I think, was being gone into. I would, therefore, rule that the hon. member is not out of order, although I would ask him not to pursue the mere mechanism of getting information to the exclusion of consideration of matters under this heading.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Chairman, hon. members now have managed to use up about six or seven minutes of my time on points of order, Sir. So now I am going to throw out a few questions that I would like for the hon. gentleman to answer when the hon. gentleman stands again in his place. I would like to get some information on the Gander Development Corporation. Last year we spent \$100,000 on this organization. This year we are estimating that it is going to cost \$200,000 to operate the Gander Development Corporation. We know nothing about it, Mr. Chairman, nothing in this world. The minister today in introducing his estimates told us nothing about the Gander Development Corporation. Is it successful? Is it working? Is it doing anything? Is it just another monkey on the taxpayers' back? Is there any evidence that there is any justification for it being in existence at all, apart from being a political tool for the administration? Is it doing anything? Has it done anything for the airport town and for Gander International Airport other than to lash out fat salaries and travelling expenses?

MR. J. CARTER: Are you asking me that?

MR. NEARY: No, I am not asking the member for St. John's North (Mr. J. Carter), Sir, because the hon. gentleman would not have the information. And when the hon. gentleman did have a chance

Mr. Neary.

to get the information, he blew it and he got the heave ho, the Royal Order of the Boot, and that is why the hon. gentleman is sitting down in that corner. The next time he will get closer to the rail, I predict.

Two hundred thousand dollars is a lot of money. What are they doing? What are the terms of reference? Who are the members of the Gander Development Corporation, and what do they do to justify their existence? How many are on salary?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Nobody.

MR. NEARY: Nobody on salary.

Well, Sir, I would like to take a look at the expense account. Can the minister table the expenses, how the money is spent?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The precise amount spent?

MR. NEARY: How the \$100,000 was spent last year, and how they propose to spend the \$200,000 this year? And then, Sir, I would like for the minister to tell us about Ralland Forest Products. Ralland Forest Products is a company down in my hon. friend's district, down in Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir, that is into the Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation I would say for \$1.25 million.

AN HON. MEMBER: No way!

MR. NEARY: Yes, Sir, it is well over \$1 million, Sir, well over \$1 million.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I gave the member the information.

MR. NEARY: And the hon. gentleman better check his figures, because I have them down in my office. I did a lot of research on the Newfoundland Development Corporation, as my hon. friend knows, and I discovered that the con-artists are hovering around the Newfoundland Development Corporation trying to milk as much as they can out of the Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation. They managed to find the way to discover a milch cow when they were public servants, and now they have turned to the

Mr. Neary.

Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation. Well over \$1 million has gone into Ralland Forest Products Limited, and now we see another \$375,000 here for capital. I would like for the minister to tell us what that is all about. Have they given up now on the Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation? Has the Newfoundland Development Loan Corporation cut off their credit? What is their pay back record? Is Mr. Ralph still the president of that company or has he weaseled his way out of it and gone on to greener pastures? I hear he is going to write a book now about how not to start a lumber business in Newfoundland. Well if there is anybody, Sir, more qualified to write a book on how not to start a lumber industry in Newfoundland it is certainly Mr. Ralph who has gotten out of the Newfoundland Development Corporation \$1.5 million, involving two companies, Ralland Forest Products and Roland Forest Products out in Gambo.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to, before we run out of time, I would like to get explanations for these things. And let me see what else I want to ask the minister before I take my seat. I asked the

MR. NEARY: Minister this afternoon to tell us if they intend to have any more of these dinner meetings down in the United States, south of the border. The minister told us this afternoon about the film that is being shown around the world entitled: Newfoundland Today. The minister admitted that the film had to be upgraded. It has already cost the taxpayers \$79,000. It has been shown in just about every country in Eastern Europe. Could the minister tell us if this film is accompanied by a civil servant? Is it shown by an advertising agency? How does the film reach its destination? Who makes the arrangements for it to be shown? Are there any agency fees involved? Is there a representative of the minister's department who takes the film in the box and carries it around the world and invites people out to have a look at it and screens it? How is the film shown? Is it sent off to the mail? The minister did not give us any details, just listed off the countries where businessmen have seen the film. Tell us how it got there. How much expenses were involved?

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to get personal with the hon. gentleman, Sir, That is one thing that I do not do. It is one thing I do not do in this Hon. House, is get personal. I would debate the issue. I do not hit the individual although I think the hon. gentleman, and I am quite justified in saying this, is completely incompetent in his portfolio as Minister of Industrial Development.

AN. HON. MEMBER: You never get personal! What is that?

MR. NEARY: No, that is not personal Sir; that is a statement of fact. The hon. gentleman has not produced one new idea, has not produced one new idea. There have been no new industries created. They have the golden padlock now. They are going around the Province and instead of turning sods they are putting the padlock on all the doors, on all the industries in the province. They have no new ideas. No new plans for development. Is it any wonder, Mr. Chairman, that the people of this province are discouraged, disillusioned, down-hearted, and dejected, because they feel, Sir, that their government have let them down. As the hon. member

MR. NEARY: for TWillingate said this afternoon, we cannot afford to look a gift horse in the mouth. It does not make any difference what kind of an industry comes along, whether it is big, medium or small, that we should embrace the opportunity to establish any kind of a new industry in this province. That means, Sir, that the government may have to get more involved in the private sector than they are at the present time. I do not think the administration should hesitate at all.

MR. NEARY: That is not being a socialist, Sir. Private enterprise has a role to play. Private enterprise has a role to play, Sir, but so far private enterprise in this province has failed to create the work and the job opportunities that are needed for us to cope with the unemployment problem that we have in this province. The big businessmen, the high mucky-mucks, the money bags in this province, the millionaires so far have refused to reinvest their money in this province. They would rather take it and go to Monte Carlo or go to Las Vegas and play the slot machines or go down and live in their estates in Florida and soak up the sun on the beaches of Florida out of the money that they have taken out of the people of this province.

Therefore, Sir, we have no choice, the government has to step in. Whether we enter into joint ventures with industrialists and business people, Mr. Chairman, that remains to be seen. But so far Sir, the only industrialist, who have shown any -

MR. J. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, a point of order. The Red Rooster's time is up Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I prefer to take Your Honour's advice rather than the advice of the hon. clown from St. John's North, Sir, who got the flick out of the Cabinet for being so Victorian in his thinking.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! The point is not a valid one on which I need to rule.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, this government has no choice but to get in to establishing industries, enter into joint ventures do whatever they can to try to develop the natural resources of this province and if they have to get in and invade the private sector let them get in with both feet.

My hon. friend from Kilbride can get up all he wants and talk about how people are too lazy to work and they should be doing this.

MR. NEARY: and we have lost our initiative. It is all right for the hon. gentleman to get up and talk like that. I would like to see the hon. gentleman out unemployed today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! The hon. member's time has now elapsed.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Your Honour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had hoped - the few words I have to say on this debate I had intended to wait until the proper head but it is obvious that we are not going to get into the heads of this department. I understood the minister to say when he was introducing - shortly before he introduced the department, that he intended to go right through the heads and have a few words. He has spoken three or four times in the debate -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: He has gotten involved in most of them but you have not recognized it. We have talked about NORDCO?

MR. FLIGHT: We have not gone to the heads, Mr. Chairman. Most of what I have heard -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We have talked about Newfoundland Development Corporation.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Chairman, -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - Gander Development Corporation. We talked about Ralland Forest Product

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is attempting to say something. He is not one who monopolizes the times of the House and even while I address this point of order the hon. member continues to interrupt. Could he not be heard in silence, surely, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! Silence has been requested. I understand the hon. member wishes that be so and the House will accord him that courtesy.

MR. FLIGHT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, As I was saying I missed some of the minister's presentation today but what I have heard to this point in the hour, and there is only less than an hour left, is grandiose plans that will bear fruit for Newfoundland eight to ten years time. But I would like to remind the minister, Mr. Chairman, that we have

MR. FLIGHT: today problems, we have now problems in this Province. The Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations pointed out today very clearly that the implementations — for instance, take the well-worn Buchans Task Force—that the implementations of those recommendations is now as far as he is concerned as co-ordinator of the thing a departmental policy and therefore the responsibility of the ministers concerned.

Now, Mr. Chairman, one of the major recommendations of the Buchans Task Force was that "the task force recommends the establishment of a Buchans Development Corporation to co-ordinate, advise and execute social and economic activities necessary for the survival and future prosperity of Buchans and its residents." Now to date Mr. Chairman, the minister has refused to appoint that development corporation. He has refused to recognize the fact that in two years the operation as we know it in Buchans will have gone, the mines will have curtailed and possibly shut down. He refuses to recognize the fact there are 550 men presently employed up there, and that going on the figures that the hon. member for Twillingate pointed out today, that we are looking at — if the two to one spin off, the multiplier effect is right—then with the shut down of the Buchans mines we are looking at approximately 1,500 people going out of work in this Province. I am not saying they are right, but if he is right those are primary productive jobs, 550 right now working underground.

Now I listened today to the minister when he was waxing eloquent about Upper Island Cove, the pride he has in Upper Island Cove, the contribution they have made, the fact there is only six families on welfare out of 2,700. Well I will tell the minister there is only one family on welfare out of 3,000 in Buchans.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. FLIGHT: And , Mr. Chairman, when he refuses to appoint an development corporation he refuses to recognize

MR. FLIGHT: this fact. There are no entrepreneurs in Buchans. There is nobody in there for that. The task force report has recommended what can be done there, but every man in Buchans is working, has an eight hour day producing. And he is a workman working with his hands and he is not thinking in terms of developing some industry that down the road would create employment that we are going to need up there. So why the minister refuses to appoint a development corporation I cannot understand, and I want to hear him say so when he stands up to speak. And as far as cost is concerned, Mr. Chairman, there are people in that town qualified to serve on such a corporation for no pay. There may be a per diem if they have to come to St. John's, but for no pay, it will cost them nothing. The minister has to recognize that we are sixty-seven miles removed from the Trans-Canada and there is not one government office situated in Buchans, not one. Where does a person in Buchans, who if he does have an idea that he thinks industrial development could help him with, what is he supposed to do? Come to St. John's and tell the minister or tell the minister's department? Why not have an industrial development corporation in Buchans? It cannot hurt. It worked well in Stephenville. The heads of ASARCO and the heads of Price (Nfld.) have told us within this past ten days that that industry will close and the minister is going to have 500 more people to worry about.

Now that is a problem we have to face now, Mr. Chairman, and not be concerned with some of the statements we have heard.

MR. FLIGHT: I agree with the Minister that the things he talked about today, five years down the road, will bear fruit for Newfoundland. Fine! But what do we do while we are waiting? What do we do while we are waiting for the offshore oil to come in?

Most of one twenty-minute speech the Minister made today was based on what would happen when we brought in offshore oil. Can the Minister stand up and guarantee this House that we will ever bring in offshore oil? But I do know we have a thriving community with 500 people employed right now, and that Cabinet have been told that they will not be employed in the industry they are in right now two years from now, so what is the Minister going to do about it and why is he refusing to appoint a Buchans development corporation?

Mr. Chairman, the refusal by the Minister to appoint that development corporation is just another example of the callousness that this Administration places on the Town of Buchans and what is happening there. For two years they have been told about it. They spent \$200,000; some of the top resource people in this Government, in all the administrations of the various departments, serve on that task force, thirty-five to forty people from the Town of Buchans, Sir, for nothing other than again the per diem they would have received in the event they had to leave town to come to St. John's or attend meetings. By refusing to acknowledge the one - when that report was made, when that recommendation was made, Mr. Chairman, it was made on the assumption that there would be some form of authority still existing in the town after the task force gave up, after they had finished their job, something to give some continued life to the efforts of keeping the town alive. The Minister has refused, and one of his resource people went to a meeting ten days ago and said that the Minister does not believe in industrial development corporations. Well, Mr. Chairman, I am asking now that the Minister reconsider that and he set up, or justify to the people of Buchans why he refuses to set up a Buchans development corporation.

MR. FLIGHT: As I said, by continuing to ignore it and refusing to set it up, in my opinion, is insulting the people who served on the Buchans task force report, is showing a complete disregard in this respect for the people of Buchans. We have no way - the Town of Buchans have - if there is potential in there to develop, who is going to coordinate it? Is the Minister going to send a resource man down to Buchans to live there? There are no Crosbies in Buchans who can take a man and say, "Look, we understand there is a potential development down there; go down and spend a month or two and look at it".

We want a development corporation in Buchans, Mr. Chairman. That is the least we can ask. So, I want to hear the Minister justify his refusal of appointing a development corporation. And again, I will point out to the Minister, if he is concerned about industrial development in Buchans then he had better set up a development corporation or he had better send some of his resource people in there and make them available to anybody who wants to develop in there, because of the 550 men living in that town right now, they are all working, eight o'clock to five o'clock, six o'clock to two o'clock, four o'clock to twelve o'clock, twelve o'clock to eight o'clock. They are not the type of people who will go out and look at potential investments. They are the type of people who will go to work for somebody who can come in there and provide them with a job.

Mr. Chairman, that should be enough on the Buchans development corporation.

There are a couple of more questions I want to ask here. My hon. friend from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) mentioned the Ralland Forest Industries Limited, Now, I understand - I do not have the complete details, Mr. Chairman, but when the hon. Minister stands up I would like for him to tell this House what he knows about a company headed up by Mr. Ed Ralph, who is in the process right now of negotiating, and practically has completed negotiations on a

MR. FLIGHT: hardwoods industry for Central Newfoundland.

He has negotiated with Price (Nfld.) for all the hardwood rights on Price (Nfld.) holdings. Now that is a vast lot of hardwood and, Mr. Chairman, I will tell the Minister that with that agreement go the rights of the people who over the years have made a living cutting birch on Price limits. I asked the question in the House here months ago, and the Minister of Forestry indicated to me that his people would make sure that the rights of people, the historical rights of people, who had over the years earned their living and fed their families by cutting hardwood on Price (Nfld.), who had permits from Price (Nfld.), that those rights would not be affected. Well, those rights are

MR. FLIGHT: going to be affected, Mr. Chairman, and I would suggest to the minister that some of the rights being affected are people that his department have set up financially and made loans to, Rural and Industrial Development. And I suggest, Sir, to the minister that this should not be permitted; he should not permit it. There is nothing wrong with a birch or hardwood plant in Central Newfoundland - I am all for it - but if there are four or five people who historically over the years have had cutting rights on Price (Nfld.) limits then there is no rhyme or reason why they should lose these rights in favour of another company starting. Ralph does not need all the timber, the hardwoods, off Price (Nfld.) properties. So I am wondering if the minister is aware of that great industrial development we are about to see. The birch is not going to be processed in Newfoundland, It is going to be shipped to markets, plank, raw material shipped out to be processed in Europe. And I am wondering if the minister is going to be prepared to stand up there and suggest that in that type of agreement the rights of people already making a living utilizing the birch this past twenty years, who have got markets, who sell to American Smelting and Refining Company for timbers they use in the mines - are those rights going to be protected? Or is somebody who is in a position to go to DREE or to go to Europe and get markets, in a position to walk in and say, 'Too bad, you guys! You work your hearts out this past ten years, you have made a living, but now you are no longer welcome on Price limits.' I do not think Price should have that kind of right. Birch has been surplus to Price's needs this past fifty years, and I do not think that Price or Bowaters or any other company should have the right to decide who does or who does not cut wood that they have said is surplus to their needs on their limits. You are not allowed to cut anything on Price (Nfld.) limits unless Price (Nfld.) says so. You are not allowed to walk on their limits if they do not say so. So, Mr. Chairman, I would like for the minister to indicate when he stands up whether or not this new company is getting any funding from the Newfoundland

MR. FLIGHT: Development Corporation.

MR. HICKMAN: All I have heard for twenty years is we have to find a company to harvest the hardwoods of Newfoundland.

MR. FLIGHT: I agree. Find a company to harvest the hardwoods of Newfoundland, but do we at the same time agree then that we ignore the people - In case the Minister of Justice is not aware, we have had people harvesting the hardwoods of Newfoundland. We have families in Central Newfoundland who have lived off the profits on the hardwoods in Newfoundland -

MR. HICKMAN: I have heard of the stroke of Industrial Development genius when the hardwoods plant was put out at the Octagon -

MR. FLIGHT: Yes.

MR. HICKMAN: - surrounded by hardwoods -

MR. FLIGHT: But they did it with the blessing of Price (Nfld.) because Price was prepared to allow them to go in and cut. Price wheels and deals in the permits. But these people have been cutting birch under permit from Price (Nfld.). Now, Mr. Chairman, I suggest that the rights of the people who have been doing that over the years be protected and that they be permitted to continue to cut on Price properties. So, Mr. Speaker, that in my opinion, like I said, is now problems and I would like to hear the minister respond to it when he stands up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Kilbride.

MR. WELLS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to make a few remarks.

Rather than on the detail of some of the industries that have been spoken about in the past few minutes, I would like to talk, as this is the general portion of the debate, the part on the minister's salary, I would like to talk about the overall situation with regard to industrial development that we find ourselves in.

You see, we talk here in the House about creation of industry as though industry is something that you could go and just make and decide, "Well we are going to have an industry here," and put it there with an expenditure of a certain amount of public money.

MR. WELLS: See, if we think, Mr. Chairman, along these lines we are forever going to be doomed to what we have now, and worse. Industry is created not because government decides to create it, but because someone with money to invest - be it a corporation an individual or whatever - sees that there is an opportunity to make profit. That is what industry is all about. Wherever government gets involved with very, very heavy investment - you see it in Nova Scotia in the heavy water plant, you see it all over Canada, unfortunately,

MR. WELLS: and we have seen it here in Newfoundland - wherever you get heavy government investment you get failure. Now I am not 100 per cent right when I say that, but I venture to say I am 80 or 90 per cent right. So that what we have to create if we are ever going to have any industry is a climate whereby investors - and investors now are corporate investors, they are large corporations and medium sized corporations - are going to have to see there is an opportunity, there is where we can make a profit for our shareholders.

Now this comes to the whole national policy with regard to industrial development, because what Newfoundland at the tail end and on the periphery is suffering, is just what Canada is suffering vis-a-vis the United States and other developed countries.

Our national policies are not, Mr. Chairman, conducive to industrial development and that is the brutal truth of it. You see, in Canada we have now allowed ourselves to become uncompetitive. Our wages have risen above the wages of the U.S., our social services, which require massive taxation in order to maintain them, are above that of those of the U.S., practically everything that requires government money, and the needs and lists are endless, requires massive taxation so that we are rapidly arriving at the state in Canada where private individuals cannot accumulate the money that is necessary to put into investment in industry.

You see, you talk about investment and it may be thought popularly that that comes from giant corporations. Sure there are wealthy individuals, there are wealthy individuals in Canada, but the point is that when you talk in the staggering figures that are necessary now to float a modern industrial enterprise, even of medium size, you are not talking about one or two people, you are talking about hundreds of

MR. WELLS: people, and the point is if you are going to tax a people, literally, off the face of the earth, which is happening in Canada, how are we ever going to put together the capital to develop anything? And this has been the problem of Canada in the last twenty years, that the development capital is not coming from private individuals as it ought. The only capital that is left now in Canada, for goodness sake, is the capital that is accumulated by people like insurance companies, and they are having a rougher time.

MR. NOLAN: Would the hon. member permit a question?

MR. WELLS: Sure.

MR. NOLAN: I am just wondering, I am sure the hon. member is aware of it, but does it not concern the hon. member, as I think it does me, I know it does, that Canadians generally invest more in other countries such as the United States than they do in their own country?

MR. WELLS: This is the very point that I am making. If we do not have a national development strategy, in other words, a strategy that can allow a person to invest and make a dollar, if it is not going to be done in Canada he is going to invest - the same person, if he has any money, he is going to invest it in the U.S.

As one member on this side said to me when we were discussing this problem a little while ago, capital goes where it is well treated. And let us face it, it is very much better treated in the U.S. and a lot of other countries around the world than it is treated in Canada. So this is part of the national policy. I would hate to stand up here and advocate that Canada, that the country of Canada, the national government would come down here and float industries.

MR. WELLS: They would fail; they would fail just the same as government industry fails pretty well everywhere you look. But the point is that we have to create a climate, a climate where individuals can make a dollar and that is where you will see investment.

But what did the Canadian Government do in a young country such as Canada which is trying to develop industrially? What did they do in 1972 but go any put a capital gains tax on, the very thing that is going to and is, there is no question about that, and has, limited severely the kind of investment that we are talking about and wanting so badly. For Heaven's sake, let us get rid of the idea of thinking government is going to do it. Government will do it and it will fail.

Now taking Newfoundland and what I would be interested in hearing the minister comment on, because there is not much we can say here that is going to affect national policy, I regret to say. That is one of the tragedies of Confederation, that we are so small in relation to the rest of the country. We have seven members in Ottawa and fifty-one members sitting down here in a little House and between the fifty-one and the seven and the Senate and all the rest, unfortunately and sadly, Mr. Chairman, we do not count for a row of beans. That is one of the sad things that I cannot find the answer to. I do not think there is any answer to it. We have no more say, no more impact in what happens in Canada than the town of La Scie has in what happens in Newfoundland, probably not as much. And that is one of our tragedies too. So we are going to have to be very persuasive if we can toward the development policy for the Province.

MR. WELLS:

And this is what I would commend to the minister for his consideration and the consideration of the government: Obviously we have taken a stand on offshore oil and gas, we have

MR. WELLS: taken a position on the Lower Churchill which we are trying to get developed and which is coming into difficult circumstances at the moment.

I would suggest that the Government consider as one alternative, saying to the Government of Canada, "Look, it is no good your hoping to solve this matter piecemeal", because there is no question the Government of Canada wants to solve the offshore oil thing, and I think we have taken the right position on that. But, we should say: "Look, if we are going to do anything in Newfoundland, there has to be a composite development plan. There has to be a plan and we will not settle in any way on offshore oil until we settle on the Lower Churchill; until we settle if necessary, if it is too expensive to bring the power to Newfoundland, which it ought not to be but it might be, then we want some sort of corridor elsewhere. In other words, will you behave as a country behaves, not as a series of Balkan states, and will you help us develop?"

I mean, after all, they are talking about getting gas from Alaska and from the MacKenzie Delta down through Canada. If a corridor is possible through Canada to get American gas from one part of the U.S. to the other part, surely to heaven, in God's name, a corridor is possible through the Province of Quebec to let Newfoundland electricity or natural gas, or whatever. Are we living in one country or a series of Balkan states before 1914? Now, that is what bothers me about being a citizen of this country and it bothers me very much. So, I think we are going to have to go to the Federal Government, and I commend this to the Government and say, "Look, you are not going to settle with us on one thing until you settle with us on a variety of things". And maybe, we should even have the courage to go into the Social Welfare field and say, "Look, do not think you are going to settle on reducing Medicare, or something like that, the payments with us until you settle on these other things".

MR. WELLS: We are a Province for better or for worse, And with all our faults here in Newfoundland, we are still a people although we are part of the Canadian Nation, and I think we have to demand certain rights, and if necessary, we are going to have to be prepared to hang tough. As I said the other night, and this speech is really only a continuation of some of the ideas I expressed then, we are going to have to be prepared to sacrifice, if necessary. We are going to have, I suspect, to make it so awkward with the Federal Government even on things like Medicare, on Welfare, on all sorts of things. In other words, they are going to have to learn, I suspect, Mr. Chairman, there is no good thinking they can make piecemeal agreements with us on all these things because we might have our hands out and we might want this or that. They are going to have to, in my view, make composite agreements to take industrial development into account also.

If we need corridors to export our power that is, what we do not need of our power - or to export natural gas if it ever comes to that, which we hope it will, then we must have them because if we do not, it is no good thinking we are part of a country. We are not part of a country if that is what is going to happen to us; we are just a little isolated state here, just a pawn, a place where you can sell goods made in Central Canada. As I once said in a speech here in this House last year, and I feel, unfortunately, for all the money that is coming here from Federal sources - they treat us, as I put it, like you treat a drowning man. You put your hands under his chin to keep his head above the water but you do not pull him out. That has been our tragedy in the last twenty-eight years.

So, as I say, I do not want to take up any more time. It is obvious the other members want to speak and the Minister wants to respond to some of these things. But I believe, above and beyond everything else, it is going to come to this that

MR. WELLS: we - talk about Rene Levesque at war with Ottawa - we are going to have to be at war with Ottawa one way or another before this is over. As I see it we are going to have to put together industrial development, fisheries development, even the social schemes, all into one package and say, "You have to work out the lot with us or we will work out nothing with you", and let the chips fall where they may. But it is coming to that, or otherwise, Mr. Chairman, this Province is going to die.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Thank you very much to the hon. member for giving me the last few minutes to wrap up the debate. I apologize to the hon. member for Placentia West (Mr. Patterson) who wanted to say some things especially about Marystown, and again, that is one of the problems of having four hours for such a number of issues.

Mr. Chairman, the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells), unfortunately speaking late in the debate, touched off maybe the most interesting comments that have been made today. He is in a very unique position, of course, as, having been a member of the Government for a number of years and now sits in the position as a backbencher, he is able to be very analytical, and sometimes perhaps, a little bit more adroit in his comments than a lot of us are, to be quite frank about it. I appreciate his comments because he has put his finger on the nub of a lot of the most central problems facing the Province.

A lot of the issues raised by hon. members across the way and in the House today have been fundamental issues, fundamental to their regions, to their

MR. LUNDRIGAN: constituencies, to their towns, and of course very important. But I believe that at some future point it is going to be worthwhile for the members of this legislature to have a debate along the lines of the member from Kilbride that he just touched on so that we can get some of our thinking clarified because members can point fingers at me as the Minister of Industrial Development, the Minister of Rural Development, at the Premier, at the government about some of the lack of opportunity in our Province and we can defend ourselves. We can brag about some of the achievements. We can talk about the numerous small industries. We can talk about some of the success their is. We can feel badly about the failures but the fundamental issues facing the Province today, the fundamental areas of development potentials are unfortunately, some of them are largely beyond the capability of the Province to do it on its own.

When I became involved in industrial development eighteen months ago, almost two years ago, we had developed over a two year period with a small staff an industrial strategy almost entirely based on the availability of hydro power. Roughly a year ago we had to back away from a project for a variety of reasons but I do not think it is any big secret to anybody that we could not afford to carry on the financing of that major project. With that project we would have been given one of the biggest bargaining levers the Province has ever had within our grasp, within our midst, within our control so we could have bargained heavily with industry that might have wanted to have established within our midst.

The member this afternoon from Twillingate talked about big business. He said you can have all your little industries, and he was very dramatic about it, talked about the hundreds of little industries around the Province. Every little industry is a miracle. Every little industry is a job, is a miracle. He went on to talk about the fact that we are living here is almost defying geography, defying history, defying the elements and the like, and I had to agree, and then he went on to say but you cannot live on

MR. LUNDRIGAN: little industries. You have to have a big industry. The member for Kilbride sitting behind me said, Yes, but at what cost? At what cost do you provide a job? Do you just take, you know, \$50 million tomorrow morning and go out and say we are going to start a big industry? Who does not want to start a big industry? Who does not want to have people with \$15,000 - \$20,000 - \$25,000 jobs? There comes a saw-off point where you can take the taxpayers dollars and artificially stimulate the economy. But we have some big bargaining points. One of them unfortunately still unresolved and that is the offshore position that we have taken and we are going to resolve that one. The other one is the hydro. That is one that should have been resolved. We should have been right now well into the development of that particular project with or without the Upper Churchill. We should have been able to find a corridor if we needed export. We should have had power coming on stream in three years so that we could have bargained with companies.

I could go on right now if I wanted to be demonstrative and I can list down about six or seven major projects that we could have off the ground in this Province, almost having tenders called tomorrow morning for heavy industry if the Province so desired, given the input of power, not cheap power but long-term available power. We do not have the power. That is no secret. Fisheries, again I will say with no disrespect to our colleagues in the Federal system that there has not been a close enough kind of inter-relationship between the Federal and Provincial systems in looking at the commercial aspect of fisheries. Sometimes I get the feeling that we are here on our own and if we get lots of LIP, \$25 million in LIP, lots of whatever the rest of the things are we should be relatively satisfied.

MR. NEARY: We get lots of lip around here -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: If we had today a different kind of philosophy, sometimes emanating from our Federal counterparts with respect to the major development opportunities, transportation policy - I am not going to be satisfied no matter how much road work we get because

MR. LUNDRIGAN: we have to get back into the subsidy system. Not necessarily, and I will raise this question that I will throw out for hon. members, not necessarily to increase the amount of subsidies on the goods that are coming into our Province but the question, how much subsidy is being paid on goods coming into the Province and what is it doing for a manufacturing sector? In 1949, with no subsidies on the import of lumber in the Province, - as a matter of fact, under the tariff we produced fifty million board feet of lumber, 1949 -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: and the last five years the province have put in with the - about \$1.5 million from DREE, the rest from development corporation and the Newfoundland Industrial Development Corporation, Rural Development we have put in about \$11 million. into the forest sector. We are producing less lumber today than we did in 1949. Largely to a considerable expense because we cannot compete with a lot of the imported mainland lumber. Is it because they are better than we are? Is it because it is better lumber? To a large extent because the Federal Government makes it very, very propitious, very, very easy for the mainland lumber to find its way into our province. The whole system of trade between the central Canadian system and ours has to be questioned. Now these are big questions they are not going to get us off the topic of unemployment. They are not going to solve our problems for us. But with these issues we have to come to grips.

We do not talk about them in the House. It is a little embarrassing for me tonight to have to almost take up the hon. member for Kilbride's theories and philosophy to debate, because I never got hardly a clue from some of the hon. gentlemen.

MR. WHITE: Answer some of the things you were asked.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I will answer some of the things that I was asked. First of all the member for Burgeo got up and gave me two twenty minute lectures, said I was breaking the law because the industry department officials - he never wrote the minister - he wrote the officials, he phoned them and then he wrote them. He said he did not give us the information, the minister is breaking the law, he has coached his officials not to give me the information, he accused me of. Then he said a week later the minister goes and announces the tender. What was he looking for? Some more information in the tender, I never announced it until a week after he told the House tonight. After he enquired.

MR. SIMMONS: The minister announced the tender had been called. I suggest that announcement was prompted by my call to his officials.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, is not that something? Did anyone catch on to what the hon. gentleman said? His omnipotence! Did anyone catch on to what he said? God Almighty, he sits there from Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir. He phoned up the department and asked for information on a tender which I was going to release to the press and they did not give it to him. Terrible officials! If the officials had given it to him I would have given them the royal boot. I have smart officials. I might be a stund minister, but I sure have smart officials, Mr. Chairman. The minute the officials start to kowtow to that kind of nonsense to the hon. member they are in trouble, I guarantee you that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SIMMONS: A point of order, Mr. Chairman. For the record Mr. Chairman, what I requested was not information; it was in a tender. I read it in the record this afternoon. The letter reads as follows: "You recall I spoke to you on March -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman,

MR. SIMMONS: I am speaking to a point of order Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please! The hon. member is speaking on the point of order.

MR. SIMMONS: I asked both by phone and in writing for a progress report. Now the minister just indicated, Mr. Chairman, that he instructed his officials not to give that information.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Never said any such nonsense. I never ever instructed them. They are smart. On their own.

MR. SIMMONS: The minister just said that. He said if he gave the information he would give them the royal boot or something to that effect. Mr. Chairman, my point of order is - I believe it is in contempt of the House for a minister to do that kind of thing or even admit that he is doing it. I believe it is a violation of the privileges of the House for him to do that. He is clearly in breach of the law once again that he would instruct public officials along those lines to refuse information on a public project. It is just outrageous. Then the member for Kilbride - nodding - is -

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! I do not think a point of order is at issue here that I, as Chairman of the Committee, can rule upon whether the hon. minister is performing certain duties or not. I do not think the Chairman of the Committee has to rule on that so I would say that there is nothing that I can say to that.

MR. EUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, I hope by now that the hon. member from Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir is starting to get the clear impression that there is people around who really maybe do not trust him all that much, including the hon. minister. Maybe he is getting that impression.

MR. SIMMONS: He refused to get the information for me.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, I did not give anyone any direction about not giving information to the hon. member. I did not give anybody any information, but I am really proud of my officials.

MR. SIMMONS: You said you would fire him if he gave it.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: If my officials gave information about a tender call that had not been released by me they would have been in grave difficulty. Mr. Chairman, a few questions: the Marystown Shipyard and the two Board of Directors. I have ten minutes. I am going to give some specific information in response to the variety of questions.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: John Rennie resigned recently from the board, very unfortunately. He is living in Scotland, He has not been able to, as I indicated in my response to the hon. gentleman, travel back and forth across the Atlantic, He still takes a deep interest in the yard, he talks to the yard frequently and to our department. That is a very regrettable fact. He is not going to be given the fling; he has resigned, very unfortunately. We regret that because Mr. John Rennie was the inspiration and the soul of the Marystown shipyard.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Bill Crosbie, who is a person that I have developed an admiration and a love for as a Newfoundlander, suffered a severe illness some months ago and he has kept up his activity until very recently and he also has resigned. I should take the opportunity to offer my appreciation to these gentlemen, Bill Crosbie who was very active. He took a real pride in, not only the shipyard, but in all the industries that we ever asked him to have any dealings with, a gentleman of renown.

Mr. Chairman, regarding the Gander Development Corporation; the Gander Development Corporation was funded a year ago. When it got off the ground, or started to get off the ground, Mr. Jim Lewington, who is perhaps the most knowledgeable person in our Province in the area of transportation, got involved as the president. He knows his way around the world in the transportation field. Even though we funded the corporation last year, the revised estimates show \$100,000, he has refused over a period of a year to take a nickle for his salary. He is worth anywhere from \$30,000 to \$40,000. He refused to take a cent. I believe he is taking a dollar to make it official which is a bit

MR. LUNDRIGAN: embarrassing for me to have to admit it because he is certainly worth his weight in gold. He spent, I would say, about three months of his time in the last year on the road, travelling around the world, for a man who is getting up in years, throughout the U.S., throughout Europe, the airline capitols of the world, knocking on doors, dozens of trips back and forth to Ottawa. He has one big weakness and that is he refuses pretty well to deal with the press. He is an industrial man and has a reluctance to interact with the press which has cost us what could be good publicity for the Gander Development Corporation.

In the last year as a result of his activities we have had a 30 per cent - and even people of another political stripe will give Jim Lewington credit for the fact there has been 30 per cent higher landings at the Gander International Airport in the last twelve months.

MR. NEARY: Thanks to George Baker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Thanks to George Baker too, okay. Thanks to George Baker, no problem. We have had the East Germans landing there, we have had the Poles.

MR. NEARY: The Gander Development Corporation had absolutely nothing to do with it, a fact that the minister -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The member should get that out of his system. He has a bit of goodness. Unlike the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons), who tends to have a sort of malignancy about his personality, the hon. member has some good in his attitude and once in awhile if he can recognize there are other people in the world with a bit of soul as well, like Jim Lewington.

MR. SIMMONS: "Steve", there is hope for

MR. SIMMONS: you, boy.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, the Poles are landing there, which is a new achievement. You know, I was in Gander in 1961 when all the airlines started to move out and every day, down at our old watering hole, we would hear the boys coming in from up the street saying another company is moving out. They are starting to move back in again -

MR. NEARY: George Baker got them back in again.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - a lot with the Poles. The Russians have started to land there of late, we have had the Czechoslovakians starting to land again. Arrangements have been completed recently for the Danes through Copenhagen to have about sixty landings in Gander starting June of this year. And if things go right in 1977, there could be another 30 per cent increase in the landings there, a major achievement.

We have just written the federal people, by the way, and this is the sort of thing I should be talking about every day in Ministerial Statements, but we do not flex our muscles enough, we have just written the Federal Department of External Affairs indicating total support for the move to have the Russians turn around their crews here of right now because we have control of the resource. It is no longer a management problem. They could turn around their crews here. If the federal people will allow the Russians to turn around their crews in St. John's and land for repairs it is going to be a marvellous boost for the shipyard here in this city, the docks here in this city. It will also mean a tremendous amount of traffic through Gander.

One of the hang-ups now is the security problems of having the usual staff and

MR. LUNDRIGAN: people at Gander. But these are the kinds of things that the Gander Development Corporation have been doing.

Now the member for Naskaupi (Mr. Goudie) raised a question to me and intended to put it on the record about the Goose Bay Development Corporation, which has gotten off the ground. The Goose Bay Development Corporation is the quickest thing that we have seen airborne in my department for quite some time. I am very pleased with it.

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

During the past number of months, Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs and his counterpart, Mr. Marcel Lessard, signed a \$9.8 million agreement for the Goose Bay/Happy Valley/Western Labrador area, and these projects got overlooked in the shuffle. Actually there is, Mr. Chairman, about \$1.3 million going in from the Provincial Government, \$3.8 million for the Wabush Industrial Park, \$2.8 million for the Northwest River Bridge, \$2.2 million for the dormitory at Happy Valley, \$500,000 for offal and sewerage facilities in the community, street work of \$500,000, there is a neighbourhood improvement program of \$750,000, a program evaluation requisition which is normal in all DREE programs of \$200,000, and \$385,000 for the Goose Bay Development Corporation. That corporation, under the presidency of Mr. Larry Fahey, has gotten airborne; they have defined their program; they have hired a very competent, outstanding individual as a development officer, an executive director, and we think that they are really on their way. They have worked with us now in getting off the ground with a study which is going to look into the feasibility of a sawmill program for the area. There have been several sawmill programs over the years in the Goose Bay/Happy Valley or on the Coastal Labrador area. As a matter of fact, I can go back and speak with some personal knowledge of some sawmill activity in Labrador which is one of our family pursuits.

In any event, Mr. Chairman, I indicate to the member for Naskaupi (Mr. Goudie) right now that Project Management and Design have been chosen to do the analysis. There were two submissions, both of them were very good. We have chosen this one. It is going to cost us a little in excess of \$100,000. We could have had it started a little bit earlier but we tried to get in under the planning agreement of DREE. Unfortunately we were not successful there, but we are going with it now as a total Provincial project.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I will just touch on the Buchans Development Corporation. Do not write off the Buchans Development Corporation as the member negatively did. I am a little disappointed in the member, Mr. Chairman, who stands up and he sets up something and then attacks it. If it can be shown - and let me just chastise members a bit about development corporations - you do not just move in and throw money at a development corporation. Frequently, governments, in order to respond to insoluble problems, will refer to a committee, do a study, do an analysis or have it put under a development corporation. If the development corporation concept can be proven to me by any group of people within or out of Government that the concept can add any kind of economic stability and future economic stability to Buchans, then it will get total support from me. If it cannot be -

MR. FLIGHT: The Task Force report recommended it ten months ago - ten months.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, there is a recommendation in the Task Force report; I am quite aware of it. I am not rejecting it. I am saying I am yet not in the position to be able to confirm it or not confirm whether the concept will be adopted by Government. Mr. Ed Ralph gets kicked around every day by the -

MR. NEARY: Are you going to table a list of the loans to the Development Corporation?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: You never gave me a chance yet. You took all my time.

MR. NEARY: You can lay them on the table of the House.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I will do it on Ministerial statements with pride and dignity.

MR. SIMMONS: That will be a new one!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ed Ralph has put together an exciting concept about hardwood. It is the first time in the Province that any businessman has put together the concept that Mr. Ed Ralph has. It has been before the Development Corporation. There has been an indication from us through the Development Corporation that we are willing to put funds behind the project if it can be shown that

MR. LUNDRIGAN: there is a clear market response.

MR. NEARY: What is the -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We are not yet aware of the full information on that but there have been six or seven months work gone into it. It is not going to interfere with the private operators. The hon. member can rest assured on that point which is a big concern of his, and he has made that point clear in his remarks here this evening.

Ralland Forest Products, Mr. Chairman, would now have been bankrupt if it had not been for the fact that the Government has put \$200,000 worth of working capital behind the company in the last five or six months, and are asking the House for \$375,000 of preference shares. The member asked -

MR. NEARY: It is up about \$1.5 million now.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The member asks why it was done through the Development Corporation because the - through the Government rather - the Development Corporation did not have the mandate to do this. Further, it has been around \$900,000 that has gone into Ralland Forest Products. A new company bought out Ralland Forest Products. It is under new ownership. The debt that was put in by Newfoundland and Labrador Development is still there. The former owner, Mr. Ralph did not take it with him.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: He took a very small amount of money when he got out from the company and new owners took over.

MR. NEARY: He should not have been allowed to take a cent, not a cent, not a penny.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: And, Mr. Chairman, that is still there well intact, well protected -

MR. NEARY: He should not have been allowed to take anything.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - and one of the conditions, Mr. Chairman, as I finish off,-

MR. NEARY: Are you going to table the list now?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - one of the conditions of the company getting the preference monies was that it did pay off certain debts that were owed to government, such as SSA taxes, monies that were put in as working capital through Newfoundland Hardwoods, and some \$40,000 back monies to the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation.

MR. NEARY: How much did Ralph take when he left?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: And I will give the member a list of all of the companies that got money from the Development Corporation last year -

MR. NEARY: Put them on the table.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - and, you know, if I had been half the minister I should have been I would have stood up with about twenty-five press releases in the last month and bragged about some of the progress we made.

MR. NEARY: I had to pry the information out of the minister through Ottawa.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please!

On motion, Head XV, Industrial Development, without amendments, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing -
Heading XIX.

The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, let me say first of all how proud I am to be one of the members of government this year and how happy I am

MR. DINN: that the Premier of the Province saw fit to ask me into his Cabinet in September and how proud I am of the programmes that have been put forth by the previous Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing since 1972.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: -and the ministers that preceeded him.

Now, Mr. Chairman, there has been much said in previous speeches in this House as to what has gone on since 1972 in Municipal Affairs and Housing, and there has been somewhat of a connotation put on this administration that some of the projects that went ahead went ahead because they were in PC districts and nothing happened to districts of the other side of the House. So, Mr. Chairman, I intend right now, because I do not have the programme in place for this year as yet, but I intend right now just to go through some of the projects of past years just to indicate to hon. members opposite where the money has been spent and they can judge for themselves, and the people of this Province can judge, as to whether or not the money was spent equitably and based on need, for, Mr. Chairman, we represent all of the people of Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: Now, Mr. Chairman, just let us recap, if we will, 1975. In 1975 water and sewer projects a total of \$26,334,000 spent. PC districts, Mr. Chairman, \$14,226,000. Liberal districts, \$12,800,000.

MR. MORGAN: Now you are hearing the charges!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: So, Mr. Chairman, that may indicate just a little -

AN HON. MEMBER: Who says so?

MR. DINN: Says the minister -

MR. MORGAN: Are you calling him a liar?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: PC districts, \$14,226,000 - Liberal districts, \$12,800,000. So, Mr. Chairman, that is 1975. Now there were lots of projects cancelled, Mr. Chairman, a point made abundantly clear by the hon.

MR. DINN:

member for Lewisporte (Mr. White), lots of projects cancelled,.....

Mr. Chairman, but the dollars show where the projects were carried out. Let us forget about the deferred and the cancelled ones, and we have something like 180 projects requested for this year and some projects will be deferred. We will not spend \$225 million. Some of them will be deferred but, Mr. Chairman, they will be done and they will be done equitably by this administration and it will not take long.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: Now, Mr. Chairman, Municipal Capital Works projects - let us just have a look at that. Government guaranteed loans, year - 1975 number of municipalities - 89; water and sewer \$26,334,000; government guaranteed loans - financing for Municipal Capital Works projects - \$21,124,000; road reconstruction and paving - \$4,540,000; government guaranteed loans - \$189,000.

Let us have a look at 1976 with respect to water and sewer. The past year, where did all the dollars go? Obviously they all went in P.C. or in Tory districts - that is the charge that has been made, in Tory districts in 1976.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. DINN:

Well, let us have a look at the figures.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. DINN:

Let us have a look at the dollars.

MR. F. WHITE:

What did you say?

MR. DINN:

Let us have a look at the dollars.

MR. F. WHITE:

We cannot hear you.

MR. DINN:

They cannot hear. Well, you will hear before

I am finished.

MR. MORGAN:

When those guys go on radio!

MR. DINN:

There is none as deaf as those who will not hear, Mr. Chairman, none as deaf. 1976 - let us have a look at it - Tory districts - \$12,490,000, Mr. Chairman; Liberal districts \$7 million. There were some projects cancelled, there were some projects deferred, but we spent the money and we spent it as equitably as possible.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. PECKFORD:

Which party is in power, by the way,

Liberal or P.C.?

MR. DINN:

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am a little bit reluctant to give some of these figures in this hon. House tonight. I am a little reluctant and I will tell you why - because it is possible, it is just possible that hon. members on this side of the House are going to say, 'What in the hell are you spending this money in these districts for?

MR. DINN: Why do you not spend it in Tory districts? You are being accused of it anyway.'

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: What are the number of seats in the House? Anybody know the number of seats in the House? Can you count? Do you know who won the election in 1975?

MR. MORGAN: They do not know who won.

DR. FARRELL: They do not know who won the election.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: They do not know who won the election yet; they are still not aware.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: Special grants. Do you want to have a look at the special grants? Well, let us have a look at the special grants for 1976. Where have all the special grants gone?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: 1976 - all gone in the Tory districts is the charge. Well, let us have a look at it. 1976, special grants to municipalities - \$259,512, Tory districts, \$275,896, Liberal districts. 51.5 in the Liberals, if you can do your little bit of -

DR. FARRELL: They are not able to do any arithmetic, Jerry! Go on, Jerry!

MR. DINN: 48.5 per cent in the Tory districts. Oh, is this not terrible? Because you have Grand Falls, because you have St. John's, because you have this, because you have that! Just sit and listen for a little while and you might learn a little something.

MR. MORGAN: People are laughing at you across the Province for those charges.

MR. DINN: The whole Province, the whole Province is laughing - laughing at you. There is absolutely no foundation, in fact. The figures are there available for any hon. member to come down and have a look at.

Now, Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

MR. DINN: The hon. member on the other side is asking the other hon. member if I am on drugs.

MR. PECKFORD: Yes, he said it. I heard him.

MR. DINN: Yes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, 'Is he on drugs or not?' and I will ask him to retract that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SIMMONS: I will clarify that, Mr. Chairman. I am so astounded, because here we are, supposed to be hearing an explanation of how the money is to be spent in the forthcoming year, and we are hearing a litany of what is supposed to have gone on in the past, answering some pseudo charge that I had never heard anybody on this side make yet, but he keeps speaking of it. I was just looking for some rational explanation whether, you know, the man was strung out, half asleep or what. I mean, he is in a daze of some kind. Why does he not get to the point and tell us how he is going to spend the money that he is asking for? That is what the job is in committee right now. And I would suggest he get quickly to it.

On the other hand, Mr. Chairman, if I have offended him in any way, I was just struggling for an explanation, because he is normally a reasonable fellow and he is doing things tonight that are very unreasonable and irrational.

MR. DINN: The only trouble is -

MR. SIMMONS: So I will withdraw, Mr. Chairman, without -

MR. DINN: You cannot take the truth.

MR. SIMMONS: - qualification. I will withdraw.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman -

MR. DINN: He has withdrawn.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, the point of order is finished.

MR. MORGAN: I am making a point of order, Mr. Chairman, and the point of order is that the hon. gentleman just said that the hon. minister is replying to a statement which

MR. MORGAN: was not made by the Opposition.

Mr. Chairman, the point is that the hon. minister is defending the charges that were made against this administration publicly on openline shows and the news media throughout the Province in the last three days by the spokesman for Municipal Affairs in the Opposition, and he is replying to them by giving the facts.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: To the point of order, Mr. Chairman. That may or may not be the case, of course, and the minister will have his opportunity to reply to whatever charges, real or imagined, that he is aware of. But this, Mr. Chairman, I submit, is not the place to do it. We are to hear from the minister - the whole reason for this exercise is to hear how the government proposes to spend the money they are asking for. And in the last few minutes as we listened to the minister, in sixteen minutes now, we have yet to hear one word as to how he proposes to spend the millions of dollars he has asked for, not one single word.

MR. MORGAN: By replying to the allegations and charges.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, he may want to reply to them but it is out of order for him to do so at this particular time.

MR. CHAIRMAN (J. Winsor): As I understand it there is no point of order, it is just a difference of opinion between two hon. gentlemen. I would ask the hon. minister to continue.

MR. DINN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: That is three strikes in a row is it?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN (J.Winsor): Order, please! Let the hon. minister continue.

MR. DINN: Now, Mr. Chairman, let us go down through 1976 with respect to subsidy payments, paid on water and sewer systems throughout the Province. In 1976 the total amount of dollars for P.C. districts \$3,530,599. Now these are subsidies in respect of which this government pays on water and sewer systems. In 1976 for hon. member's, opposite, districts \$3,939,794. Now I am almost scared to bring this up tonight because, obviously, hon. members on this side of the House are going to say they are being cheated. Fifty two per cent, fifty-52.7 per cent, Mr. Chairman has been spent in Liberal districts -

DR. FARRELL: These are the ones that had been neglected for twenty-three years.

MR. DINN: These are the neglected ones, yes, the neglected districts in this Province. Forty-seven point three per cent in P.C. districts. These are facts, these are dollars. Any hon. member opposite can come down to my office and get these facts.

DR. FARRELL: They were neglected for twenty-three years.

MR. DINN: And just in case the hon. the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), may feel left out, I will give him -

MR. NEARY: I did not make any charges.

MR. DINN: No, I know, but I would like to give you, I would like to inform the Committee -

MR. NEARY: The minister is getting off on the wrong foot with his estimates. The hon. gentleman is only inviting disaster.

DR. FARRELL: Never mind.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, when I listen to advice from the hon. larynx from LaPoile, that is when

MR. DINN: I will get out of here.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Do not start name calling or getting personal because the hon. gentleman may pay dearly for that kind of remark.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, may I have silence? I know they do not like the truth over there.

MR. CHAIRMAN (J. Winsor): Order, please!

The hon. minister has asked for silence. He has a right to silence.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. the member for LaPoile's - let us have a look at that from 1972 to 1976. Revenue grants \$687,000; special grants \$200,325; short-term loans \$21,000; long-term loans \$995,000. Thousands and thousands of dollars. Burnt Islands -

MR. NEARY: What is it in Burnt Islands?

MR. DINN: In Burnt Islands \$86,133.

MR. NEARY: For what?

MR. DINN: From the Water Services Division to connect seventy-six homes to the industrial water system.

MR. NEARY: In Burnt Islands?

MR. DINN: In Burnt Islands.

MR. NEARY: You got to be kidding!

MR. DINN: I am not kidding. No, I do not kid. I never kid, Mr. Chairman, in this House.

MR. NEARY: There is not a home hooked on to the industrial water supply in Burnt Islands.

MR. DINN: Unincorporated areas.

MR. SIMMONS: (Inaudible).

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, I will allow the hon. the member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons) when I am finished, to ask any questions that his little old heart desires.

DR. FARRELL: Or his little mind.

MR. DINN: Unincorporated areas, LaPoile
\$41,835 from the Water Services Division to supply
water -

DR. FARRELL: Hooked up illegally.

MR. DINN: - to thirty-five families.

MR. NEARY: These were left there on the
industrial water supply. Ottawa paid \$2.5 million for
that.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, just let us have
a look at what is coming up for the hon. member.

MR. NEARY: Ah, Rose Blanche.

MR. DINN: Two million -

MR. NEARY: Ottawa, \$2.8 million.

MR. DINN: - eight hundred thirty-five thousand dollars.

MR. NEARY: Thanks to Ottawa.

MR. DINN: Ottawa.

MR. SIMMONS: Up along!

MR. DINN: Fifty per cent from Ottawa, \$1,400,000 from here, Mr. Chairman, from the biased, from the low, the biased administration. We could have said no.

MR. NEARY: What are you getting all worked up about?

MR. DINN: I am not getting worked up. I am not, Mr. Chairman, I am not even started. I am not even started, Mr. Chairman. I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am absolutely and totally proud of the little group of people that I have down in Municipal Affairs and Housing, that is looking after 304 municipalities in this province and doing a fantastic job.

HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: The water services -

MR. SIMMONS: They make the minister look awfully good.

MR. DINN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, making the minister look awfully good, awfully good! Proud of them, Mr. Chairman. Totally proud of that little group of individuals on the bottom floor that are working their guts out for this Province. Productivity fantastic!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: Without leadership.

MR. DINN: That is a matter of opinion, Mr. Chairman. That is a matter of opinion. Pure conjecture. Pure conjecture. The hon. member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir is getting information that is -

MR. MORGAN: Everybody is incompetent in his view. Everybody in the House is incompetent in his view.

MR. SIMMONS: No, not everybody, not everybody.

MR. DINN: The hon. Minister of Rural and Industrial Development, Mr. Chairman, put him in his rightful place many, many times and he will probably do it many times after tonight.

MR. SIMMONS: Can you believe it? He has got to be strung out.

MR. DINN: Now, Mr. Chairman, hon. members opposite, hon. members opposite, Mr. Chairman, may not be getting the total picture because we have not been giving it to them in baby talk. But, Mr. Chairman, if you look at it, just a little bit close this year the increases in Rural Development, the increases in Industrial Development, the increases, Mr. Chairman, in Forestry, the increases in the Fisheries budget this year and, Mr. Chairman, with Newfoundland and Labrador Housing this year, Mr. Chairman, I am absolutely proud to stand here in this Legislature and say that we have a new programme this year called Rural and Remote Housing. We are calling it programme No. 2. and, Mr. Chairman, it will provide housing for the lower income people in our rural communities because we cannot send them back to the boats if we do not provide the amenities of life.

HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DINN: So, Mr. Chairman, this year in communities of populations under 2,500, all the Tory districts, we have populations under 2,500 this year we are starting a new programme.

MR. SIMMONS: Ottawa.

MR. DINN: Like not St. John's, -

MR. FLIGHT: Central Mortgage.

MR. DINN: - who have ten, not Grand Falls, where we have a member, not Corner Brook, Mr. Chairman, the new programme is not for all of these. They are Liberal districts - are they not? Any Liberals in Grand Falls?

MR. FLIGHT: What about subsidized houses -

MR. DINN: Any in St. John's? Are there any Liberal districts in St. John's?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: Now, Mr. Chairman, this year -

MR. STRACHAN: What about Coastal Labrador?

MR. DINN: And the Coast of Labrador. We are going to look after the Coast of Labrador this year. You can look at just about

Mr. Dinn:

every programme there and relate it to Labrador. We are not forgetting Labrador. Just go down through the estimates and you see the odd \$500,000 for Goose Bay, and you see the RRAP areas that have been announced for Southern Labrador. You see the water and sewer going in. You see it going in incinerators for the coast of Labrador, Mr. Chairman, coming this year. All of the little communities, the Tory districts, all the little communities under 2,500. Oh, they cannot take it, Mr. Chairman, look they are down a little bit in the mouth! They are down a little bit in the mouth, Mr. Chairman. They cannot really take this. Right? 2,500 people, all these communities Mr. Chairman will be able to avail themselves this year of the new housing programme.

MR. FLIGHT: Central Mortgage and Housing.

MR. DINN: The new housing programme, Mr. Chairman. Just for the benefit of the hon. member for Windsor-Buchans, who is not in his seat, and should be in his seat if he wants to speak. He should be in his seat if he wants to ask questions, and I will yield to the hon. member. But just for his benefit, Mr. Chairman, I will explain what this programme is all about, because he may not know. I sent him a little brochure that explained it to him, and a few other things. Mr. Vivian, Mr. Chairman, is the Chairman of the Housing Corporation who reports directly to me, -

MR. DINN: and he is doing an excellent job also, and also the members of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to report the hon. minister's time is up.

MR. DINN: Oh, I was just getting in stride, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. FLIGHT: Give it to him! Give it to him!

MR. SIMMONS: That is shocking, 'Jerry', boy. Shameful! Shameful!

MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, I must congratulate the Minister on his fine presentation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WHITE: It is exactly what we expected. Now I notice the minister was true to form and, Mr. Chairman, we really though here that the minister, being a new minister in the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, would stand up tonight and tell us exactly what the great new approaches were going to be with respect to municipal government and the continuing development of municipal councils throughout this Province. We fully expected that by now the minister would have had some new directions developed and some new philosophies developed, some new goals and so on, but we have heard nothing, Mr. Chairman, except a litany of defences from the hon. minister.

MR. MORGAN: Get on with it now.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, can I have silence over there please?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please! The hon. member has requested silence.

MR. WHITE: So, Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, we fully expected an outline of the new directions that the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing was going to take under this young new minister. Obviously the department is continuing on in its old ways. We heard nothing, Mr. Chairman, not one word about the Whalen Report, about the Whalen study that was presented to government, Mr. Chairman, back in September, 1974, nearly three years ago. Not one single word did we hear from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing with respect to that. The Urban Region Study, Mr. Chairman, that there has been so much said about in recent weeks, not one word said about that tonight. The Patterson Report, Mr. Chairman, that has been in the government's hands

MR. WHITE: for many, many months and not one word said about that.

Mr. Chairman, we want to hear some answers from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. We just do not want defences and facts, you know, the figures that he outlined trying to defend some of the charges that were made in this House. We want to know what sort of direction the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing is going to take under this present minister. I mean, is the Whelan Royal Commission Report considered in the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing to be a total and complete waste of time, as has been suggested? Is it generally considered to be a waste of money and a waste of effort, or are we going to see something come out of that report and something come out of that study? Does the government have any direction with respect to the Urban Region Study, the City of St. John's and the many communities that surround St. John's? Is there any thought being given to the situation confronting Grand Falls and Windsor in that area where you have a town on the one hand that is one of the most progressive in the Province and on the other hand you have a town adjacent to Grand Falls, Windsor, that is far behind the times in terms of municipal services?

Mr. Chairman, we also want to know about the way that water and sewer projects are allotted by the Provincial Government. We are not interested, Mr. Chairman, in whether they are allotted on the basis of Tory districts or Liberal districts. What our concern is, Mr. Chairman, is that they are allotted on the basis of need in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WHITE: You know, we hope that this government, the members of this government use more criteria when they are deciding the various water and sewer projects. We hope they use more of a criteria than, "Oh, We better give the Liberals a few and give ourselves a few," as they did in 1976 with double the amount of money going into Tory districts and about four or five times as many projects, Mr. Chairman, as was

MR. WHITE: illustrated by me in this House sometime ago. We also want to know, Mr. Chairman, about the special grants that are given out by the Department of Municipal Affairs. We would like to see a list of all the special grants that have been given out for the last few years. We would also like to know, Mr. Chairman, whether or not this antiquated system of giving out money to municipal councils is going to be changed in any way and developed into some kind of proper policy.

Mr. Chairman, these special grants have been in effect in this Province since 1942 when it was started as an emergency fund for small councils. It has been in effect ever since that date, 1942, with very little change except ~~_____~~

MR. WHITE: the change that was brought in, I am not sure if it was by the former Minister of Municipal Affairs in the sense that they developed a finance committee within the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing. But the system of special grants, according to municipal authorities, and I cite one particular authority that was carried out by John Crosbie, Mr. Chairman, when he was Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, undertook a study and he said at the time that the special grant system has been in effect in Newfoundland since 1942 with very little change except the change that was brought about I think by the hon. member for Green Bay (Mr. Peckford) but I am not sure, where a finance committee now decides the basis on which special grants are given out. But I am not even so sure -

MR. SIMMONS: He brought it in.

MR. WHITE: He brought it in, I think, yes. But I am not even so sure that that is the way it should be done because the minister can overrule that or he can attend the meetings or he can have influence on his officials so really, Mr. Chairman, that system is open to all kinds of abuse, the system of special grants in this Province.

Now I have not got the answer for the way it should be done. I do not have the expertise to talk about that, Mr. Chairman, but the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing does, and I would say to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that he should start developing some new approach, some new kind of special programme, some policy with respect to the dissemination of special grants in this Province. It is no secret that special grants go up considerably around election time.

The same goes for water and sewer projects, Mr. Chairman. Last year in this House we tried to get from the then Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing a list of water and sewer projects that were going to be going ahead this past year.

MR. WHITE: It never came out. It came out sometime around the end of June, after the House of Assembly closed. This year we were told that a new Capital Works Committee, again established by the former minister, at least thought up or brought into play by the former minister, was going to be set up so that the water and sewer projects could be decided earlier than was decided in years gone by so that tenders could be called earlier and so the projects could be started earlier. Here we are, Mr. Chairman, nearly the end of May, and I do not know if the Capital Works Committee has done their job or not. If they have then the minister and his colleagues certainly have not done their job. Again I wonder about the system or the Capital Works Committee so-called; sure, they can do some work but again, Mr. Chairman, the decision will be made by Cabinet and I just wonder, and I would like for the minister to talk about this a bit, exactly what the Capital Works Committee does, how it functions and what power it has to recommend the going ahead of certain water and sewer facilities.

Mr. Chairman, there are a few more things that we want to know about. For instance, we want to know why under one of the branches of the minister's department, namely the Water Services Division that I consider to be one of the better branches of that particular department, why it is possible to install a water system, underwater services in unincorporated areas, in areas that do not have councils, for about one tenth the cost of installing a project in an incorporated area.

Mr. Chairman, in some of the communities in my district it has cost almost \$3 million to install water and sewer facilities, almost \$3 million in one particular place. It is estimated to cost \$1 million in another place and \$1 million in another place, where they have councils. In some smaller areas, not necessarily smaller either, Mr. Chairman, a bit smaller, they

MR. WHITE: are doing and carrying out water projects at the present time, started already in one particular place, they have a grant from the federal government, a Canada Works grant of \$100,000, they are getting some advice and assistance from the Water and Services Division and I can guarantee you, Mr. Chairman that a project will be installed for \$100,000 or \$125,000 that will be as good and efficient as a project that is going to be _____

Mr. White.

installed in some of the areas that have municipal councils for \$1 million. And I just do not understand why all this money is being spent to provide water facilities in areas that have municipal councils when for one-tenth of the cost they are installing water projects in areas that do not have councils. And, Mr. Chairman, as the Minister of Mines and Energy at present knows, because he was the minister who gave out the money or approved the money for the project that went ahead in Loon Bay, and that Loon Bay project is finished now - I do not know what it cost, about \$35,000 or \$40,000, Mr. Chairman. It is a perfect project. The same is evident at Port Albert in my district, another project that cost \$30,000 or \$40,000 and yet communities of approximately the same size, only a few more families, where they have municipal councils, it is estimated that the projects will cost in the vicinity of \$1 million, and that is for water, Mr. Chairman, and some partial sewer.

I just wonder sometimes, and I would like for the minister to answer this - and I do not want to get into a battle and a fight and a row with the minister. I do not know why he came on like he did when he stood up here, because I thought we were going to have a fairly sensible and good debate on Municipal Affairs in this Province since we did not have one last year, and we did not get to the estimates of Municipal Affairs and Housing last year. - we want to know why the Water Services Division in some respects cannot be designed to include areas that have incorporated councils? Why must it cost so much to put a water project in an area that has a council when it costs so much different to put water in an area that does not have a council, about one-tenth the cost?

AN HON. MEMBER: Consulting engineers.

MR. WHITE: Yes, of course, it is consulting engineers, and I am coming to that, Mr. Chairman. I feel that the system of consulting

Mr. White.

engineers that has been used in this Province is nothing short of a rip-off to the taxpayers of Newfoundland. We hire consulting engineers to design projects. We hire them to represent us, the people, to keep an eye and to watch over contractors who are installing those particular services, and then we pay them ten per cent of the cost, or whatever percentage of the cost, so that if the cost escalates then we can pay them a little more than they had bargained for in the first place. So the system of consulting engineers is something we would like to hear more about. I know that the department under the former minister, at least, started a programme of hiring engineers in the department, which we thought was a pretty good move to try and eliminate some of the waste that comes about as a result of people who are supposedly the watchdog for the government but yet at the same time with a vested interest, Mr. Chairman, in what they are doing.

Mr. Chairman, I do not have a lot of time to go into all the notes I have made with respect to Municipal Affairs and Housing, but we also want to know if the department is going to assist at all some of the many towns and communities that have local employees with very little training, who are crying out for training. It was a recommendation of the Municipalities Federation, Mr. Chairman. It was a recommendation of the St. John's Board of Trade who presented the statement of policy to government just a short while ago in April. And we would like to know, Mr. Chairman, if any assistance at all is going to be provided to some of those town clerks and town managers who have very little training and are crying out for some kind of direction in the managing of their local government. We also want to know, Mr. Chairman, if the department is going to assist at all in trying to promote pension plans for some municipal employees. I tell you, Mr. Chairman, that recently a gentleman retired from a municipal government with twenty-seven years service and they had a dinner for him and gave him a lawn chair, and that is the only thing the poor guy got out of it

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after twenty-seven years slaving for a municipal council in this Province, no pension plan whatsoever, and all he got was a lawn chair. We want to know, Mr. Chairman, as well, what the present policy is with respect - if there is a policy - with respect to the incorporation of new towns and community

MR. WHITE: councils around this Province were told that the policy is sort of vacillating from one extreme to the other, one day there is a freeze and the next day there is going to be more incorporations - we do not know. There are areas in my own district and areas throughout the Province that are crying out for incorporation and they would like to know if they can be incorporated, yet we cannot seem to get a definite policy on whether there is going to be further incorporations or none at all or some.

I notice that in the budget I think there is \$10,000 cut out for the incorporation of new towns and communities in this Province. I think that is what was there and if that is it, Mr. Chairman, then there is not going to be very many new towns incorporated during the next year or so. We also want to know in the area of housing, Mr. Chairman, about the \$600 new ownership grant, which was a good thing, a lot of people benefited from it, and now it has been discontinued by the government. We wonder if there is going to be any kind of programme to go ahead with that kind of step because in our view it was a good one.

And I am sure the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells) Mr. Chairman, will be interested in knowing whether the minister plans to bring in legislation with respect to the house for a house expropriation that was brought up in this particular debate on a number of occasions. I got a clipping here from the Daily News in 1973 that the member for St. John's South at that time but now Kilbride says that he is disappointed that two sessions of the legislature have passed without implementation of Premier Moore's stated policy of house for a house expropriation. So we wonder, Mr. Chairman, whether or not that is going to be brought in during this present session house for a house expropriation. It all started a few years ago up on the Shea Heights area when people were losing their homes and so on and not getting a value in return.

Mr. Chairman, there is another matter that I would like to bring up and that is with respect to fire fighting equipment.

MR. WHITE: I do not know if the minister has given any thought to this at all, but at the moment the only people in this Province, the only towns, the only communities that can get fire fighting equipment or any help from the government with respect to fire fighting equipment are those that, again, have community councils or town councils, on a fifty-fifty basis. There are lots of town and communities that have no municipal councils, They cannot avail of this programme, they cannot get fire fighting equipment, and we would like to know if any kind of programme is going to be coming up with respect to that. So, Mr. Chairman, instead of the minister getting on with a litany of defences with respect to how projects were given out and where money was spent and how it was spent and so on we would like to have some answers to the many questions that are confronting municipals councils in this Province. We would like to have some answers with respect to what the government intends to do about the Whelan Commission Report, if anything. We would like for the minister to tell us the honest truth about that, whether or not, as I have heard it suggested, that the Whelan Royal Commission Report is generally considered to be a waste of time by many people in Municipal Affairs and municipal government in this Province, generally considered to be a complete waste of time.

And, Mr. Chairman, one other point I make because I know my time is running out. We would also like to know about the proposed new grant structure that was talked about in the budget, whether or not this government are going to force the property tax on every small town and community in this Province and how they propose to change the present revenue structure of municipal councils in Newfoundland to enable councils to at least be able to provide a few more things in their particular areas.

I am sure, Mr. Chairman, I will be having a few more things to say and some of my colleagues will be speaking on other matters as the debate continues.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Chairman, I would like to be able to get up and yell out phrases across at the other side of the House and pay some compliments like the minister did in his opening speech. Mr. Chairman, number one, that hon minister, for whom up until twenty minutes ago I had great regard, co-operated with him, kept in touch with him a few months ago since he was made minister, I was very sympathetic towards him because he had been left such a mess from the previous three or four years. I do not think any man ever had to take over a department which had such a mess left behind as I think the three - I believe it was three previous ministers, if not there was two. Mr. Chairman, I did not like his tone, He got up and he yelled across here

Mr. Canning.

and I can assure you that I can look at five gentlemen now who are not feeble-minded. We do not want to be yelled at.

We do not insult across the House. We do not interrupt.

We got them over there who interrupt, - terribly, terribly.

Sometimes I tell them, For Heaven's sake, stop interrupting.

But there are some of us here who do not deserve that. A fellow gets up in a department a few months, the mess that he had to take over, and he starts yelling across here, and then puts up this foolish argument, give him his figures, so much more spent in the Liberal districts. First of all he did not say, Well, now there are ten of the members in St. John's.

MR. WHITE: Eleven.

MR. CANNING: St. John's got eleven. There are eleven members in St. John's. And the outports have given them their water and sewer a hundred years ago, most of their -

MR. NEARY: And the their fire departments and their police departments.

MR. CANNING: I mean, you know, if the taxpayer - if the money we are getting is producers' money, the new dollars coming into the Province, if that is what is doing it, if that is what is turning in tax, there is none produced in here. They are just living off the producers of the Province.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I think it is an awful way for the young minister to start off. I am sorry. I feel sorry for him that he should start off like that with his yells and his roars. We have got a couple of fellows in this House now who are doing the same thing. And I can assure you that they will not be here another election, because it is not the proper way to carry on. The people know about it. Mr. Chairman, I have got some great respect for some ministers over there and men over there, the greatest respect. I would not yell at them if the government changed tomorrow and I became the Minister of Municipal Affairs, I would not yell across at the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells). Because the other night I made several attempts to get on my feet

Mr. Canning.

to explain, well, at least, the resettlement of Placentia Bay, and the hon. Chairman caught the hon. gentleman's eye before he caught mine, and he got up and everything he said about resettlement was right on the dot. It was true. Because he had mixed around among it, he reads, he was out around, and he knows what is going on, not people who have never been on Merasheen Island or never been on Tacks Beach and do not know what happened out there. He knew it. He had it in a nutshell. He told this House, and it is the first time I have heard it. Probably others told it when I was absent. It is the first time I have ever heard in ten minutes telling you why the centralization.

But, Mr. Chairman, to start off like that!

I am going to give that hon. gentleman a story. I do not know how much he knows about it. But I am going to give him a story of water and sewer in places where there is no water in the district of Burin - Placentia West. Mr. Chairman, the Department of Municipal Affairs in the last five years have left that district so disillusioned, so disgusted, that the councils - when I went back after I got in, - I visited the councils, I met with them, I asked to meet with them, I went in with them, I never met such a crowd of disillusioned, disappointed, disgusted in some cases, group in my life. Ten councils that I personally had encouraged to be formed and were formed, and I had helped them along, co-operated with the ministers of the day, and they are making great progress. But, Mr. Chairman, in the municipal fields, part of the settlements in Burin - Placentia West, they have almost stood still, with one exception which is a good story. Mr. Chairman, I know the district. I know what went on for the last twenty-seven years out there, even the three years I was out. I used to go back and see my friends of twenty-three years, and I knew what went on so I know that every word I am going to tell in this House tonight is the truth, and I challenge anybody to ask me outside the House or debate it or prove it, and I will prove it.

Mr. Canning.

Mr. Chairman, the first place is the settlement of Epworth which I have mentioned here before, and I am sure that the hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. Hickman) would agree with me, I know he will, it is one of the most independent, finest settlements in all Newfoundland, hard workers. I do not know if they have ever received relief even in the 1930's there, never. It is one of the relief-free places in this Province, the very best of people you could find. They have been asking for the last two years, May we form a community council? But up until this present moment, it is, no. They have not been _____

MR. CANNING: allowed. Now I do not know if the hon. minister - I do not want to be hard on him, he is there less than a year, he does not know what is going on there yet but he is trying to find out; if he wants to find out about my district he will come out, and I think if I asked him he would come out. But anyway, that is number one.

Next you come to Loons Cove, and everything that I said about Epworth I can say about Loons Cove. We have not got enough unemployment up there to get a LIP grant. We could not get one. Last year I tried to get one and I was up against a wall. You know why? One unemployed man in Loons Cove, so we did not qualify. Of course they say to me, "Look, if we were on the dole here, if we were lazy," they say, "we would get a LIP grant." "Well", I say, "yes, that is true. But you are not lazy, you are not on the dole, I am proud of you and we will see what we can do in other areas."

MR. HICKMAN: Does the hon. gentleman think Loons Cove should go in with the town of Burin?

MR. CANNING: I will let Loons Cove decide that. I believe in areas coming together, yes.

Loons Cove, these people I just mentioned, independent people, everybody working, all producing - they are not civil servants, they are not working in stores on Water Street, they are producers, they are working in fish plants or they are on the Grand Bank or they are on the fishing grounds off Burin. Mr. Speaker, they were promised that there was \$1 million coming by that government in 1975, a few months before the elections. They said, "Yes, sure we are going to spend \$1 million. What is more this year, 1975, we are going to spend \$200,000." What they were looking for was to get the first phase, to get into a polluted area which I will come to in a moment. They have not gotten a dollar since. They got no decision since, I do not think. I do not know what the minister will be able to do this year. He has

MR. CANNING: my sympathy because he has not got the money. We have run up against it.

But anyway I hope he does get on and clears up the pollution. They have pollution there. There is a brook running down there. There are sewer pipes out into the brook, running down the river. Where do you think it is running? Into the children's playgrounds, into the youngster's playgrounds, that is where it is soaking up. X

Now, Mr. Speaker, Burin is next and I am going to make that brief because I have spoken of it here before. There was a great water and sewer system put into Burin, in the extension of Burin, a marvellous one, one that I referred to here as a Cadillac one, put in in 1974-75, coming up for the elections. Mr. Speaker, there were five different companies went in there, five companies got in the year before the elections, finished up election year, five of them. Some of them never did water and sewer before, and then of course they had the consultants, these fellows that I said here can wiggle figures around and make a \$500,000 project \$1.5 million anytime and justify it.

But, Mr. Speaker, they completed it. There is nothing wrong with it. It is a good system. There is one place called the Green Hills, the new area, there was no need of them going in there. There are enough miles between Burin and Salt Pond and on up the road towards Winterland to put 20,000 people without ever going up to Green Hills. Up there there are lots now, but far too expensive for anybody to buy. There is nobody living there. One lot taken. The others now cannot go in there, it is too expensive.

Mr. Speaker, it is over \$3 million. I do not know how much DREE, there is a lot of DREE in it, it was in the hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs in his district, and a lot of money went in there.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, there was an overexpenditure, they call it, an overrun of \$200,000. Now first of all it will take me more than twenty minutes but I will justice to the Department of Municipal Affairs, because number one I will say, that the top men whom I have dealt with down there while I was there were the finest civil servants we have in Newfoundland, the best. The deputy minister he has got is one of the best. You can go on down the line. I have not been in there lately. I have not seen the assistant deputy minister. But I am afraid there was a few left down the line that could make excellent assistant deputy ministers or deputy ministers or ministers. They are there thirty or forty years. They know Newfoundland inside out. They know their work and they do it and do it well. But I heard there was a political appointment, some fellow who had been in the field for two or three elections was taken in, put in above those other fellows who spent their lifetimes there, dedicated men, and I hope he is a good man, I do not know him or I have not even met him. But I

MR. CANNING: probably will, I hope he is. Anyway, Mr. Chairman, I will touch on Marystown again, and I have not missed either settlement yet except the small ones, one or two small ones.

MR. HICKMAN: Port au Bras.

MR. CANNING: Port au Bras .They have not reached the water and sewer stage there yet. I guess they will be after me for it. Well that is Burin. That is in Burin but they have not got the water and sewer yet.

AN HON MEMBER: That is a major problem.

MR. CANNING: It is a big problem there, yes. I kind of got tricked on that because, with all due respect to Burin, my first official invitation to attend anything was at Burin one night. They had a meeting there and I was given the impression during the meeting that the water and sewer had been completed in Burin. There were some plaques handed out and I was delighted for I did not know. But then I found out there was a place called Kirby's Cove and Collins Cove who were in Burin council since it came into existence, had no water and sewer, they were bringing it in there in the backs of their trucks, and they are bringing it yet, but I really think that the minister is going to look after that this year. I hope he is he as been told about it, he is familiar with it and I believe he will try to remedy it.

But anyway the thing about Burin is this: Five contractors went in there, it was election year, \$200,000 over-expenditure that the 3000 people of Burin got to meet, unless they do like I have advised them to do and I have told the council and I tell the people do not accept it. Contractors over expenditure, overrun for \$200,000 after they had spent about \$3 million.

MR. HICKMAN: I am not concerned about the overruns but the contracts were let not in an election year-in 1972. I was the member then -

MR. CANNING: Well it was finished up in the year of the election.

MR. HICKMAN: Probably so but it was right after -

MR. CANNING: It was not very much done 1972 or 1973, the work was
done in 1974 and 1975. That is when he went in there in 1975.

MR. HICKMAN: No, no.

MR. CANNING: Five contractors in one area, waste, squander and what
not and not looked after. And more than that, this is what the hon.
minister had to take when he went in there - he had to take that project and
he could not give me the cost of it or his department could not, or he
could not give it until a few months ago; they could not tell it.
It was suppose to be \$80,000 overrun one year, the second year was
\$100,000, about three or four months ago I was told it was \$200,00
but it was not made up. I do not know how they got away with it
and I heard some more stories about invoices that were signed and
came in that went on down to the department somewhere and some
civil servants signed them and got on in and paid for. If that is
true, I do not know, but it does look a bit fishy.

Mr. Chairman, in Marystown I have informed the minister in the
last few days - he knows of it awhile ago - I have had in the
environment people ever since I got in, right away I think one of
the first things I did, water and sewer flowing out on the ground
in the town from one end to the other of Marystown proper part
of it is just polluted. I do not know if it is the fault of the
council not making a proper approach, if they have not got the
money or if it is the department, but all I know is it has to be
corrected if it is not we are going to have an outbreak of disease.

So I did not like the minister screaming across here, I did not
mind when he looked down that way but when he looked up this way
screaming I did not like it a bit. Now, Mr. Chairman, I come into
another area. Down in Rushoon, this is another settlement of mine
with about six or seven hundred people there, about two years before
I was defeated I got what I have argued ever since was a grant of
\$50,000. The purpose of the grant was to come down the side of a
river with a sewer line where people had moved in. The grant was put

MR. CANNING: in the bank at Marystown - the Bank of Montreal, the grant I call it but they argue it was not, it was meant to be a loan. There through the fault of the council, the council was not too active - I got after them to get going with this sewer and they just kept putting it off - it was there until the Tories came into power; they got it, they stuck another \$20,000 or \$30,000 on it and of course it is charged up to the people, they are paying for it. Now they are paying for the grant that I say that I got because as people moved in from the bay and went there we got under the moving grant. Now that is probably debatable, perhaps it can be argued, perhaps I can be proved wrong but that is the assumption I had and that is what I understood

Now, Mr. Chairman, again there is pollution there. They went and they put a water line in, I guess a sufficient one, but there is pollution there, it is terrible, with sewer lines out through the brook, which the \$50,000 was meant to do at that time and could have done it, it was sufficient then but now it will probably have to be \$200,000. And it was not done and now - the salmon river, I do not know if it is registered at the moment but it always was - I caught salmon on that river - and there is pollution flowing out through,

Mr. Canning.

down along by the school, the youngsters playing in the river, I suppose, and out in the mouth of the harbour. Then, Mr. Chairman, in Parkers Cove again there is the same thing. On the eve of the election in both places - they were at it when I was campaigning, finishing it off, and there is another pollution, another \$70,000 or \$80,000 or \$90,000, something like that. Just out to get the votes, and left behind them pollution. Mr. Chairman, I guess my time is about running out. I have not looked at the time, but I imagine I am almost twenty minutes. Anyway those are the highlights of it. Mr. Chairman, there are other things I could tell. All I know is that the towns in Burin - Placentia West stopped progressing in 1972, the day I walked out, the day the Liberals were defeated. The progress of those towns as far as Municipal Affairs is concerned they stopped their progress. I take it that one thing they did, if I have another minute, was that they - it is a beautiful town, houses there are \$70,000, \$80,000, \$40,000, you name it, they got them there - what they did for those houses, one whole street, just water. Mr. Barry got the waterline.

MR. MORGAN: Where is this?

MR. CANNING: Up in Creston, up among the good people of Creston, a waterline, no sewer, no sewer for Marystown, no. It was sewer that was the first thing we corrected here in St. John's twenty-odd years ago. Topsail Road had pollution out there, a health hazard out there. The provincial government came to the aid of that twenty-three years ago.

AN HON. MEMBER: - Liberal Government.

MR. CANNING: In 1973-1974 -

AN HON. MEMBER: - Liberal Government - in St. John's.

MR. CANNING: In 1972-1973, somewhere around there, the Tories go in to the growing town of Marystown which had grown from 3,000 people after the shipyard went there, the industry went there and the new fish plant, grew from 3,000 to 7,000 people, and they put a waterline through with \$40,000, \$50,000, \$60,000, \$70,000, \$80,000 houses.

MR.CANNING: And I hope it does not happen, but I will give
another five years, ten years, and you will have a mess of
pollution there that they will probably have to quit and leave
those houses.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is the truth, the whole
truth; I will stand by it. Everything I have said here I will
go out and I will tape and you can give it to the province tomorrow
and anybody can take me up on anything. I will meet it.

AN.HON.MEMBER: Creston (inaudible).

MR.CANNING: The south west of Creston up in Marystown is the place
where the Tories built their bridge three years ago and the minister
is going to do the job for me this year and he is going to connect
it up to the road. That is another story I will tell. I will
tell the one of the bridge in the middle of the river, for three
years with no road to it. It is going to be joined up this year,
I hope.

MR.CHAIRMAN: Hon. member for Bay of Islands.

MR.WOODROW: Mr. Chairman, I would like first of all to say that
I am happy to be able to speak in this debate. I would like at
first to congratulate the minister for presenting his estimates
in no uncertain terms. There was a lot of things he could have
said if he had the time but I hope that they will be said in the
course of the debate. I would also like to congratulate the
member for Lewisporte. He spoke from the heart and as he feels
about it, being a member of the Opposition this is his duty. Not
forgetting of course the member from Burin-Placentia. I feel
certain that he spoke equally sincerely also. We will be hearing
from our hon. friend from LaPoile in the near future, we hope.
I would like for them to give me the opportunity now to have a
few words to say.

Mr. Chairman, the question I would like to ask, and
this is the important question, What was done in the field of
water and sewerage

MR. WOODROW: before 1972?

AN HON. MEMBER: What?

MR. WOODROW: I know what has gone into the district of Bay of Islands. Hearing the petitions from across the House, and in fact not only across but on this side as well, it only goes to prove that there was very little done before this administration took over. Why was something not done for example starting in 1949? I remember when I was in fact moving the people off Woods Island -

AN HON. MEMBER: Resettled.

MR. WOODROW: Of course resettlement, yes. In fact water and sewerage was unheard of. In fact it would be an insult to speak of water and sewerage. So it is nice for people to get up and repeat the things that were not done, but let us be honest and frank about it, let us be sincere, because I do feel that if we, all of us, not matter what side of the House we are on, if we would be a little more sincere, I believe that our constituents would be more proud of us. In fact sometimes I would like to see the constituents in fact of all the districts if it were possible for sixty per cent or seventy-five per cent of them to come to the House of Assembly and hear their members -

MR. WHITE: Bring in TV.

MR. WOODROW: I believe when the next election came around many of them would be shafted.-

MR. WHITE: Bring in televisions.

MR. WOODROW: I can assure you of that.

MR. SMALLWOOD: On both sides.

MR. WOODROW: Of course on both sides. I am not being biased. I am being -

AN HON. MEMBER: Bring in the television 'Luke'.

MR. WOODROW: Well perhaps that will come. I know it is being talked about. Now granted there are a number of settlements without water and sewerage. In fact the cost would be exorbitant.

MR. WOODROW: I suppose if we took all the money that is budgeted for the Province for 1977-78, I wonder if that would supply all the communities with water and sewerage. I doubt if it would.

So let us face it, Mr. Chairman. We have a long way to go and I hope that we will get there as quickly as possible because I do feel that when it comes to the matter of water and sewerage we are not talking about a luxury for people; we are talking about something that is of the greatest necessity for all the people in our Province and especially for the people in the rural areas.

Now I would like in fact to commend the administration for what they have done in the field of local government. I think really a lot has been done in this field over the past five or six years and to my mind it gives the people in the rural areas, it gives them an opportunity not only to take responsibility for their own community but to be an active and a good citizen in their community.

It is really amazing years ago how shy people were in fact in many communities. In fact they were simply unable to express their views or express themselves and you can go now in almost any community in almost any place in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and find a great change in our people. People are really able to express themselves and I am sure that having local councils has in no small measure help to out this important facet in the life of our people.

Really I suppose we have to say, Mr. Chairman, that a lot has been done but there remains a lot - but we have to come here as

MR. WOODROW: politicians. We were sent here by our people. We were elected. So it is our place to work for our people.

MR. NEARY: Is that true? If the hon. gentleman did not have to tell us we would never know.

MR. WOODROW: It is our place -

MR. MORGAN: You need somebody to tell you what to do.

MR. WOODROW: Yes, I would not expect anything else from the hon. member.

MR. MORGAN: He told you what you were supposed to do. You asked, did you not?

MR. WOODROW: So then it is up to us to try to work to the best of our ability to try to get the things that are needed most in our communities. And God knows, Mr. Speaker, that water and sewerage is a necessity. I know it is a necessity in the Bay of Islands district. I will point out in a moment a few of the things that have been done. But I think what we have to bear in mind is the high cost. No one can underestimate the high cost of pipe and pumps and whatever else goes into water and sewerage - the high cost of consulting engineers and the like. And speaking of consulting engineers, I always feel that we should make use, for example, of local engineers. For example, if there is a local engineer in Port-aux-Basques, I feel that we should lean more towards him getting the work in Port-aux-Basques than an engineer in Corner Brook or in Grand Falls.

MR. NEARY: Give up public tendering!

MR. WOODROW: No, not give up public tendering, no. I think, after all would you not think we should lean towards giving a Newfoundland firm a contract rather than giving it to a firm on the mainland?

MR. NEARY: I am all for it.

MR. WOODROW: Of course you are.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: Yes, absolutely.

Burden Engineering has been recently awarded a contract to do some work in the Bay of Islands district in the community of Meadows.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I also feel that we are

MR. WOODROW: getting more organized in this field.

And as I said, Mr. Chairman, and I say it again, it is only maybe in the past five or six years that we really have been emphasizing the importance of water and sewerage. So it does take time to plan and get things on the rail, as the saying goes.

And also, Mr. Chairman, in the field of housing, for example, a lot has been done. I am going to mention a couple of things, if I have the time, that happened in the district of Bay of Islands in the rural - what do you call it?

AN HON. MEMBER: Urban.

MR. WOODROW: - in the urban part of it, and in the rural part as well, in the field of rural and native housing.

Mr. Chairman, perhaps maybe I am a little bit more fortunate than others - I do not know - but at least I can report that in the community of Mount Moriah - I have the facts and figures here before me. I could even table them if the hon. member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) disbelieves what I say.

MR. NEARY: No. I know the gentleman knows all about the ten commandments, and I do not believe the hon. gentleman would tell a lie, not even a little white lie.

MR. WOODROW: I am glad to say, Mr. Chairman, that a project was completed in 1975 in the community of Mount Moriah which, as you know, is on the boundary line of the city of Corner Brook, at approximately \$700,000. And in Benoit's Cove - which is certainly a - favourite place of mine, a place where I spent twelve and a half years, and I know every rock down there, I know every name and I suppose everything in the community - and a preliminary engineering study is presently being carried out. Most of this section of the community is adequately serviced with water. Some areas, however, are having problems with sewerage. The estimated cost to install a partial sewer system is \$77,580.

MR. WOODROW: read now the thoughts in the mind of the member for Hermitage, is it?

MR. J. WINSOR: Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. WOODROW: Yes, Fortune Bay. I can sort of read his thoughts, I believe, as he looked over that time. It is a funny thing, he always follows me in the debate. I do not know whether he is going to do it this time or not and I got a feeling that I know what he is going to say.

Mr. Chairman, there are still places in the district of Bay of Islands that have not water and sewerage. But just think of the cost of York Harbour alone, a very small community. This community is not serviced with a water and sewer system. The estimated cost to install a water and sewer system is approximately \$700,000 and that is in fact a community where there is hardly any rock there at all and it is a level community.

Summerside; again, it is not serviced with water and sewer and the cost estimated for this community is \$400,000. Now from St. Mary's Bridge, this is the urban part of the Bay of Islands district and this is looked after by the city of Corner Brook and every house in that part of the district has water and sewerage. I feel sure the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is glad to hear that.

MR. NEARY: Between the Liberals and Tories.

MR. WOODROW: In many cases since 1972 and do not forget that. Since 1972 -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

MR. FLIGHT: There was nothing done in Central Newfoundland.

MR. WOODROW: No, it is in the district of the Bay of Islands. It is the urban part of the Bay of Islands district.

MR. FLIGHT: Used to be the Premier's district.

MR. WOODROW: What difference does that make?

AN HON. MEMBER: No, I am just saying -

MR. WOODROW: But I am only saying this, and the Premier - is the Premier not allowed to get water and sewerage in his district?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: I feel sure the hon. member is speaking in good form. Now I am also very glad to say that -

MR. NEARY: I think we have a sorrowful district.

MR. WOODROW: That will get you any place.

I know in fact what is happening out in LaPoile at the moment. I can tell you a few things. Of course I can. So, you know, give us a chance. Give us a chance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MORGAN: Join the PC Party.

MR. WOODROW: Absolutely! Take up your bed and walk over.

I am very glad to say, Mr. Chairman, that in the 1976-77 Capital Works Programme, \$341,000 was allocated for water and sewer projects in Cox's Cove. Approximately \$200,000 of this amount is still not spent to date, but it is proposed to build a dam and install main lines in Cox's Cove this year.

Now really what I am interested in is getting water by gravity, because you know with the high cost of electricity this will certainly eliminate the cost of using pumps and the like.

Have I much more time left, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Three or four minutes.

MR. WOODROW: Very good. However, again to give you an idea of the cost, Mr. Chairman, the total cost estimated, the cost of the system that is for Cox's Cove is \$641,000. However at present there is a partial system there and in the community of McIver's. We have a very good start on McIver's. Approximately \$125,000 has been spent in this community over the past years but the total cost of the system is \$504,000.

MR. WOODROW: In Gillams, \$130,000 has been spent in this community over the past two years for water and partial sewer system. The total cost estimated for the system is \$470,000. Now also Irishtown has received \$35,000 in grants over the past couple of years for installation of water and sewerage. At present about thirty homes are serviced with water; the total estimated cost of water and partial sewer system is \$560,000. Now, Mr. Chairman, as far as I am concerned I would like to repeat again what I have said before, that we have fifty-one districts and I do believe that it is - and frightfully so, it is up to every member, even the member for Conception Bay South who is always throwing a little dig over at me once in a while, it is up to every member -

MR. NOLAN: A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WOODROW: I do not want to get him upset, Mr. Chairman, do not want to get him upset.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order has been raised.

MR. WOODROW: Oh that is terrible.

MR. NOLAN: Surely the hon member will have to admit if he is going to make remarks like that if I do throw digs occasionally they are kindly and charitable.

MR. WOODROW: Oh thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want to mention, Mr. Chairman, because it falls under Municipal and Housing, in the field of housing I am very glad to relate that a NIP programme is presently underway. Now this is costing \$4.4 million and about half of this, granted, has been funded by Ottawa but it is now in fact underway. In fact only a few days ago a contract was awarded to Pinsent Construction. And also the Rural and Native Housing which the minister already mentioned is taking root in all communities in the Bay of Islands district and I feel that this is a step in the right direction and it is going to help the people in the rural areas in the communities of the Bay of Islands district.

So, Mr. Chairman, I am glad to be able to have the opportunity to take part in the debate because I think perhaps this is one of the most important and most needed projects in every district throughout

MR. WOODROW: the Province. I think we should - if we had really good common sense, a good understanding-I think we would even try to keep this above politics. We would try to work in fact for our districts and try to get water and sewerage for our districts because after all what is needed more than a cup of water for people to drink.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Chairman, I had intended to make an effort to rise earlier to get into the debate, but I had to go out and look for a few earplugs to protect my ears against the cannonading volleys that came over from the minister. I had not intended to take this particular line, Mr. Chairman -

MR. MORGAN: Oh, no, no!

MR. RIDEOUT: I had not intended to take this particular line, Mr. Chairman, to begin a few remarks. Maybe a little later on in the debate I would have. But I did not intend to do it at this particular moment. But of course, the action -

MR. WOODROW: Refrain from -

MR. RIDEOUT: Now, Mr. Chairman, we listened to the member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Woodrow) in silence - at least I did.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: And I would assume he will do the same thing. Now, I was saying, Mr. Chairman, I had not intended to take this particular route at this time - maybe a little later on in the debate I would have, but not now. But of course, the route, the stance, the tone of debate taken by the minister left one with not much choice if you were going to get involved in this particular debate on the minister's salary. The minister, Mr. Chairman, for a new minister coming into the House of Assembly for the first time to present his estimates, I believe his presentation was shameful to say the least. The minister, Mr. Chairman, should have come in humble and lay out before us what he intended to do in the Department of Municipal Affairs, what new directions we could expect to see from a new minister, what new leadership we could see from a new minister, but instead of that he came in with political guns, firing out of both barrels, shoving it right across the House as if

MR. RIDEOUT: somebody were going to get scared and run off, as if the so-called facts that the minister flung across the floor could not be argued or refuted. Oh, he came in with both barrels blazing, Mr. Chairman. So in that light, I suppose

MR. RIDEOUT: we will have to blaze back. The minister told us sometimes, Mr. Speaker, sometimes -

MR. FLIGHT: A cap gun -

MR. RIDEOUT: A cap gun, yes. Well, that will be the same as what came over. The minister told us that in 1975 there was \$14,226,000 spent on one project and another in PC district.

MR. WOODROW: \$14 million.

MR. RIDEOUT: In Liberal districts he said there was \$12,800,000 something like that. I wrote down the figures as he was calling it out. So it was fourteen to twelve, somewhere in that category. And, Mr. Chairman, that was close, really close. It was not the two to one spread we saw the next year because, Mr. Chairman, 1975 was election year. Every district was up for grabs in 1975. You know, be it the district of Baie Verte - White Bay or Bonavista North or South or whatever, every district was up for grabs. So the sharing -

MR. SIMMONS: They were buying them all then.

MR. RIDEOUT: Yes, there was an effort to buy it all then. Of course that backfired, nineteen people ended up on this side of the House. But there was an effort to share it more equitably in 1975 and of course, Mr. Chairman, that is borne out by the figures that the minister mouthed himself to us for 1976.

MR. FLIGHT: What about the -

MR. RIDEOUT: Well that was a sort of an appendix, a supplementary estimate that was added on a little later on.

Mr. Chairman, in 1976 the minister told us that there was \$12,490,000 spent in Tory districts and \$7 million in Liberal districts. Now do you see what has happened, Mr. Chairman?

MR. SIMMONS: No election.

MR. RIDEOUT: Two to one, no election in 1976.

The funds instead of being a couple of million dollars in the difference were now down to two to one, twice as much spent in Tory districts as in Liberal districts.

MR. MORGAN: You do not realize you lost the election.

MR. RIDEOUT: Now hold on now, Mr. Chairman, the hon. lip from Bonavista South is lipping again. But we will get around to that principle.

Mr. Chairman, the minister did not tell us out of the \$7 million that was approved for Liberal districts, over \$3 million went in one particular district. I am sure the need was great and it should have gone there, so you saw what projects were approved for the rest of it. Over half of it went in one particular district. Nobody is complaining about that. The need was there and I am sure the member in that particular district was grateful.

AN HON. MEMBER: Windsor-Buchans - \$3 million. And I could not get any money -

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Chairman, I did not say Windsor-Buchans. No, Mr. Chairman, I said in one particular district and if the minister wants to guess he can look behind his colleague and I am sure he will get the information faster than I will. But that was a fact. The minister, Mr. Chairman, very alertly talked about dollars. The minister talked about dollars, Mr. Chairman, but he did not talk about projects. Water, sewer and paving projects for example in 1976 not approved, deferred in other words, ten in PC districts, Mr. Chairman, ten deferred in PC districts out of the whole list I just saw before me. How many were deferred in Liberal districts? Forty, Mr. Chairman, forty. Four to one. That is the equality, that is the equitable sharing that the minister sent across the floor in the canonading way that he did. That is way, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the minister from Bonavista South should remember the

MR. RIDEOUT: old saying, Sometimes it is better to remain silent and be thought a fool of than open your mouth and leave no doubt about it, and he has been doing that this last number of days.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: Capital projects approved, Mr. Chairman, in 1976-1977. I just looked at the ones that were not approved. Capital projects approved, sixty-two projects in all, Mr. Chairman. Forty-eight in PC districts and fourteen in Liberal districts. Did you hear that, Mr. Chairman? Thirty per cent in Liberal districts and seventy per cent in Tory districts!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: And the great volleys, Mr. Chairman, the great volleys came across the floor from the hon. minister. He was going to run us out of the House in shame because we called it political. He was going to scare us under our seats. That is what he was going to do.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the minister from Bonavista South asked, Do they know over there who won the election in 1975? Oh, we know who won the election, Mr. Chairman, but does this House, this government know the basic principle of democracy! That is the greater question. That is the question, Mr. Chairman. Does this government know the greater principal of democracy that you cannot have government without Opposition? Do they want fifty-one members on the other side? Is that what we have, Mr. Chairman? Is that what they want?

MR. MORGAN: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order has been raised.

MR. RIDEOUT: I needed a rest, 'Jim'. Thanks.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman I think is correct - he needs a rest. He mentioned earlier that he thought it was damaging to the eardrums, that our colleague was talking too loud.

MR. RIDEOUT: If you do not like it, get earplugs.

MR. MORGAN: Would he keep his tone down? Would he keep his tone down one little decible?

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Chairman, to that point of order. I do not intend to keep my tone down a decible. In fact, I will raise it if I feel like it.

MR. MORGAN: Do you want to rule on that, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know if there is any standing rule or precedents that would lead me to have to rule in terms of decibles, so I am forced to ask the hon. member if he would continue.

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Chairman, I thank the minister for the interruption because I did need a drink of water. He must have sensed that.

MR. MORGAN: The Minister of Health must have regulations to protect us.

MR. SIMMONS: The minister should know all the health hazards.

MR. RIDEOUT: Oh, yes. Well, we will get into that under the minister's estimates.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. RIDEOUT: Now, Mr. Chairman, they ask us who won the election in 1975, and I ask the hon. ministers opposite do they know the first basic principle of democracy before they ask a foolish question like that. And that is, that you must have Opposition as well as government. What would happen if we had fifty-one members on the other side of this House - not the P.C. Party, but any party, I do not care who it is. And if we are going to have Opposition, Mr. Chairman, let us at least not penalize the people who voted for Opposition members. That is contrary to the basic principle of democracy. It is contrary to what this country is built on and to what all the Western democracies are built on. And then they say, does the government make decisions on

MR. RIDEOUT: who won elections. That was interjected by the Minister of Transportation, insinuating that government makes decisions on who wins elections. In other words, you are out in the cold, boys. It is too bad. We will do it two-to-one though, even though it is split in seats it is far from being two-to-one, we will do it two-to-one just to keep the boys off our back. But we will not do it two-to-one in deferring projects though, Mr. Speaker, we will do that four-to-one. We will do that four-to-one, and we will not do it two-to-one in projects we approve either, Mr. Chairman. We will do that thirty per cent to seventy per cent. That is the argument. What a scandalous way, Mr. Chairman, to justify a few dollars. Then they talk about the \$7 million that went into Liberal districts compared to the \$12 million into Tory districts. They do not talk about the towns, they do not talk about the rural seats that are represented by this side of the House, they do not talk about \$1.5 million it takes to get a water system in one community. And they get up and a minister sends it across the floor and brags about how close the dollars were. Oh, they were close in 1975, Mr. Chairman, no doubt about that. They were close. They were close, Mr. Chairman, in 1975. They were two-to-one in 1976. And then, Mr. Chairman, the minister gets up and brags - blows off about the 1976 subsidy payment. Let us have a look at those. He said, \$3,530,000 some-odd dollars went into Tory districts - \$3,939,000 some-odd dollars went into Liberal districts. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister and I would like to have him tell us how long those projects are in place and which of those subsidies were paid? My goodness, that could be a water system put in Baie Verte in 1950 by a guaranteed loan by this government. It could be a water and sewer system put in St. John's back in the late 1940s or early 1950s paid by a guaranteed loan by this government. What a stupid way, Mr. Chairman, to use figures. And then the hon. minister expects us to glutch that type of stuff - political poppycock - nonsense! And they get up with that kind of stuff and expect us to glutch it. He says 1976 subsidy payments. I would say the minister's department had no choice but to pay them. Most of them, I would submit, Sir, were on projects

MR. RIDEOUT: that have been completed years and years and years hence and which the minister's department had a government guaranteed loan and they must pay the subsidy payment anyway. And they will pick it up, Mr. Chairman, for years and years and years to come. I know some projects in my district that started back in 1969 - 1970 that had forty year outfits on them - whatever you call it - forty years. So the government of this Province is going to be paying a subsidy for forty years.

The minister mentioned more money went into subsidies in Liberal districts than Tory districts. Well, that is right. That is the whole point. The projects have been ongoing for years. It indicates that if you did not pay the subsidy that somebody would be defaulting on their bonds and the minister would be up the creek without a paddle.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. RIDEOUT: That is what it indicates. The minister had no choice.

MR. FLIGHT: It indicates the minister is not -

MR. SIMMONS: The minister has deceived the House.

MR. RIDEOUT: Oh, of course "deceived the House!"

There is no doubt about that. The figures were jockeyed around, jollied around to make it look as rosy as possible.

AN HON. MEMBER: Not a chance.

MR. RIDEOUT: Now, Mr. Chairman, I want to get on - pardon?

MR. HICKMAN: The member from Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir is harassing you. He is out of order.

MR. RIDEOUT: Now, Mr. Chairman, I want to get on

MR. RIDEOUT: to some of the comments by the hon. member for Bay of Islands. Listening to the hon. member for Bay of Islands -

MR. FLIGHT: The next Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. RIDEOUT: Well, I thought he was going to be Minister of Industrial Development today but that does not seem to be materializing.

MR. FLIGHT: He said somebody did not thank him.

MR. RIDEOUT: He did not thank me so I have to get on to him. He riled me by not thanking me before I spoke.

Mr. Chairman, the member asked what was done before 1972. What has been done since 1972? And he tried to list off a few water and sewer projects in his own area. What was done, he said, it looked, he said, as if there were no water and sewer projects built before 1972.

MR. WOODROW: Not in the Bay of Islands.

MR. RIDEOUT: That is what it looked like, he said. Well I say to the member, Mr. Chairman, where were all the roads built before 1972? What about the rural electrification? What about the schools?

MR. MORGAN: We have doubled the roads.

MR. RIDEOUT: Oh, the minister has doubled the roads in five years! We had to build the roads and now all the minister has to do is go pave them and he cannot even do a good job at that. He cannot even keep up with that. What about the vocational schools? What about the university? And the member has the gall, Mr. Chairman, the gall, Mr. Chairman, the first declared Liberal candidate in Newfoundland has the gall to get up and ask what happened before 1972.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, in this moment of quietude may I move that the Committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again.

MR. RIDEOUT: I will finish with the member tomorrow, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and directed me to report having passed

MR. CHAIRMAN: estimates of expenditure under the following heading -
XV - Industrial Development, all items without amendment and report
having made further progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

On motion the House at its rising adjourned
until tomorrow, Friday, May 20, 1977 at 10:00 A.M.