

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1978

The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS:

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 21, 1978 it was announced in the House of Assembly that Mr. Dennis J. Groom had submitted his resignation as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. Since that date government has quietly and successfully sought a successor to Mr. Groom. I am pleased to announce that Cabinet and the Board of Directors of Newfoundland Hydro have approved the appointment of Mr. Victor Young as the successor to Mr. Groom.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Young is currently secretary of Treasury Board for the Province of Newfoundland. His appointment will be effective Monday, July 24, 1978. I hope to be able to announce a successor as Secretary of Treasury Board in the near future.

Mr. Young joined the provincial government in 1968 in the newly created Treasury Board Secretariate. In that position he was advisor to Mr. Groom, ironically, who at that time was then Deputy Minister of Finance and Secretary of Treasury Board. In 1969, Mr. Young was appointed acting Secretary of Treasury Board and in 1971 was appointed Deputy Secretary of Treasury Board. With the reorganization of the entire government structure in 1972, I asked him to take on the responsibilities of Secretary of Treasury Board and Executive Council. In that capacity he has been the Chief Financial Advisor to government on our annual budgetary objectives related to the Province's \$1.5 billion budget. He is also in charge of all public service

PREMIER MOORES:

collective bargaining, classification and pay system involving 18,000 employees, pension policy for public servants, organization of management systems within government and the government insurance.

For the past two years in addition to his duties as Secretary of Treasury Board, Mr. Young has served as special advisor to myself on a number of critical policy issues including energy development in the Province. One of his current responsibilities is that of Chairman of the Divestiture Committee dealing with potential purchasers of Labrador Linerboard. His membership on Government Boards and Advisory Committees are too numerous to mention in detail but two of his Directorships include Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro and the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation.

Mr. Young has been involved in our hydro and energy policy field for many years. In 1974 he was a member of the group which devised and implemented the Province's acquisition of a majority shareholding in CFLCo and its re-acquiring of the Labrador water rights. In that same year he was a member of an Advisory Group established by government to recommend the organizational reporting structure for the newly created Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Corporation. He subsequently was appointed to the Board of Directors of Hydro in that year. In 1977 he was a member of the Negotiating Committee which held joint talks with the Province of Quebec on Labrador power development and the Upper Churchill contract. Even more recently, he was instrumental in the agreement finalized at the First Ministers' Conference to set up and initially fund the Lower Churchill Development Corporation.

PREMIER MOORES:

Mr. Speaker, I am sure I speak for everyone when I am delighted to say that a Newfoundlander has been chosen for this particular post. He is a person who I have worked with very closely, particularly in the last two years. He is a young man who has tremendous potential for the future, a dedication to this Province, a dedication to where we want to go as a Province. And I am sure all members of this Hon. House wish Mr. Young success in his new duties as they are tremendously important to the future of our Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few brief words on the subject of Mr. Young's appointment to this highly responsible position, perhaps the single most responsible position in the civil service or a Crown corporation connected with the public service in the Province today. Those of us on this side who served in the former administration before 1972 knew Victor Young very well, Mr. Speaker. It was we who put him in at that time in 1968 or shortly thereafter, as Deputy Secretary, I guess, to the Treasury Board at that time. The Deputy Minister of Finance was, I think, automatically or certainly by tradition the Secretary of the Treasury Board as well, although Vic Young did the work with regard to the Secretariate of the Treasury Board. He was the de facto Secretary of the Treasury Board all during my two and a half or so years as a minister in the former administration. We all of course got to know him very well and got to admire him very much for the yeoman service he did for the Province in a very difficult position. The Treasury Board is not the

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MR. W. ROWE:

most popular of institutions, particularly among ministers who are trying to get things done in their departments. But Vic Young did his job with diplomacy, tact and also with a strong will, with a considerable amount of ability and we admire him greatly for it.

He has now been appointed - the appointment has been made presumably, is in effect now - he has now been appointed as the head of the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Corporation. We certainly welcome that. You will remember, Sir,

MR. W.N. ROWE: when Mr. Groom's resignation was announced we on this side called then for the appointment of a Newfoundlander to that position. I do not think anyone demurred on that on the other side. So we are glad to see him appointed to this position. He is a young man but, I believe, a responsible man, I believe a mature man.

Certainly, some of us who are seeking equally responsible positions are no older and I think that he can serve that position very well.

There are one or two things I would like to ask the Premier about this appointment. One, was the position advertised in any way throughout the Province? I cannot remember seeing any advertisement, but that does not mean there was not one. If I did not see it, I assume that there was not one because I do look at the newspapers. Was the position advertised, number one, and if not, why not? And if so, what procedure and what process was gone through in order to come up with Mr. Young, in the first place, and then to secure his appointment? What recommendation procedures, for example, might have been gone through?

Was there any attempt to find a suitable candidate for this responsible position from within Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro itself? To name anybody is certainly invidious, but one cannot help but wonder about a certain gentleman who has, again, served this Province in a very capable and yeoman way over the last number of years in the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Commission, as it was, and corporation as it is now, a vice-president at the present time, I believe. Was he interested in the job? Were there any other people within the corporation itself who may have expressed an interest? In other words, what were

MR. W.N. ROWE: the procedures used in order to come with Mr. Young as the successful candidate?

Also, Mr. Speaker, if the Premier would not mind answering one or two questions with regard to the financial arrangements now of this job. We remember that Mr. Groom was enticed into the position by a fairly liberal, if not to say exceedingly generous salary arrangement, financial arrangement, salary, pension, car, as I understand it.

MR. NOLAN: Five per cent mortgage money.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mortgage money at a very cheap rate, those kinds of arrangements. Are similar financial arrangements being entered into with Mr. Young? And if not, what kind of financial arrangements are being used with regard to Mr. Young? What is his salary, for example? Also, could the Premier indicate whether this is at pleasure, the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council, or whether a contract has been signed between the government and Mr. Young? And if so, would the Premier undertake to table the contract? Now this has been asked a number of times, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier table a contract, for example, with regard to Mr. Cole and the Action Group, and the Premier has not yet done it. I am wondering if the Premier will undertake to table any contract that may be in existence between the government and Mr. Young, and if he could tell us when he is going to table it because we are interested in these contracts. We do not ask for them for something to say; we ask for these contracts because we want to see them and see how the public funds are being spent and looked after by this administration with regard to the hiring of top civil servants and top public servants.

I cannot think of anything

MR. W.N. ROWE: else, Sir, at the moment to ask or to comment on regarding this position, but perhaps as the day goes on and we get into the Budget Speech and the Throne Speech we might have some chat about Hydro generally and Mr. Young's position in it. But if the Premier would not mind answering these few preliminary questions?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, regarding the questions that the Leader of the Opposition asked, the job was not advertised in the Province. We did do a review with the Board of Directors and with the President of Hydro as to if there was a logical successor, that included a review of the personnel at Hydro. And as with deputy ministers and senior executives, if you are advertising, obviously, for a job like that internationally, which would normally be the case, as we had almost by definition insisted that it must be a Newfoundlander, if we could find the right person, as in the appointment of deputy ministers, after proper consultation I felt that it was within my prerogative to appoint a person to that senior position after proper consultation with those who are most affected.

The final contract with Mr. Young has not been finalized. I want to check with the Board before doing that regarding both the salary and the length of time. These are two items that they certainly would have to have discussed with them before the contract is in its final form and I will lay it upon the table of the House when it is signed.

MR. SIMONS: On matter of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: On privilege, the hon. member.

MR. P. SIMMONS: As a matter of privilege, I just want to give notice that at such time as I am able to obtain the appropriate Hansard I shall be raising a matter of privilege. It is in reference to some statements made by the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) on Friday. I made an effort, I might inform the House, to get the information this morning and the Hansard editor is away from the office today and the items I am looking for are locked up in his office. I understand from his assistant, and will not be available to me until tomorrow morning. So it is my intention hopefully tomorrow to raise the matter of privilege.

OPAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. W. DOUE: I direct a question to the Premier, Mr. Speaker. Will the Premier inform the House whether now as a result of his recent visit to Labrador West he has now revised his opinion, or if he is now persuaded that the idea of linking up Labrador West with Central Labrador and the coast of Labrador, in other words, a Trans-Labrador Highway, is not a non-issue, a very important issue, an issue which affects the psychology of Labrador West and is considered to be very important by the people living in Mabush and Labrador City and that it might be in the best interests of the Government to commence construction of such a Labrador Highway immediately.

MR. S. NEAPY: Top priority.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, regarding the trip to Labrador West which, by the way, contrary to any reports, I did enjoy the fact is that the road from -

MR. S. NEAPY: You had a small turnout at the banquet, a very small turnout.

PREMIER MOORES: Well, every table was full.

MR. S. NEAPY: Is that so?

PREMIER MOORES: Yes.

MR. S. NEARY: One hundred people. Was the Premier in a telephone booth?

PREMIER MOORES: The hon. member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary), Mr. Speaker, seems to be worried about the small turnout at the banquet. I do not know if it was a small turnout, or not. That is the Legion who had the banquet and -

MR. S. NEARY: Less than a hundred.

PREMIER MOORES: It was not less than a hundred people, Sir, but forgetting that, the hon. member for LaPoile seems very sensitive about the fact that he was not there to pass out the fleur-de-lys, I suppose. I do not know why he is upset today; but I was not, I enjoyed the trip up there, I met a lot of people, and as for the meeting, Sir, at the executive meeting of the PC Party the next morning there were some thirty-two people there which was a good turnout as well for an executive meeting.

But, Sir, the road from Labrador City to Eastern Labrador is obviously not one that can be started tomorrow morning. We have approached the Federal Government to try to incorporate it into the Trans-Canada system. It is going to cost over \$300,000,000 and if the hon. member from Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons) feels that \$300,000,000 should be spent at the cost of something else, I am sure he will stand in his place and say so. But the fact is, Sir, that it is a very costly road. It is a very costly road and it is one that is going to have to have Federal co-operation in order for it to be built. It is one that we all agree should be built.

One of the things that I found ironic in the trip was the fact that the Quebec road to the Labrador border, as I understand it now and upon checking this morning, is going to take anywhere from five to six years minimum before it is a connection. That means that obviously it is going to take a long while before that is completed. And I wish it were completed, Sir, because the times I have been in Labrador in the past, Labrador West, without any question

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PREMIER WOOPES: the great majority of the people there wanted a road access to the West, and that was the major concern for a long period of time and still is, I suggest, Sir, with a great majority of the people.

I did enjoy it the other day. The frustrations of a place that has had this unfortunate strike for three months, I guess it is now, after a long winter and the isolation and what that causes I can well understand, Sir, their frustrations regarding roads or a great many other things.

MR. W. ROME: Supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary. Original questioner.

MR. W. DOVE: Sir, of course, nobody denies that it would be good to have a road from Labrador West into Quebec. I do not think anybody in Labrador West while I was there, or while the Premier was there, was disputing that need. That is a good thing. But would not the Premier agree that there is no need to spend \$250,000,000 or \$300,000,000 now - we have had a \$50,000,000 escalation within the last week, Mr. Speaker, as the Premier said it was \$250,000,000 when he mentioned the road across Labrador last week - but would not the Premier agree that nobody at this point in time is asking for a super four-lane highway across Labrador, and that the figure of \$250,000,000 or \$300,000,000 is a preposterous figure. That might be reached ten, or fifteen, or twenty years down the road, Mr. Speaker, but at the present time a connection can be effected between Labrador West and

MR. W.N. ROWE: Central Labrador alone for the expenditure of several millions of dollars in fact and that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador should commence that linkup immediately?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: I am sure, Mr. Speaker, with the Federal representation in Labrador and the Federal Government in power in Ottawa that I am sure, Sir, that the application we have for exactly that road will be met with every good wish and commitment.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Well, why do you not just give it all over to Ottawa?

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. STRACHAN: The Premier indicates the cost is \$250 million or \$300 million for the road. We are not arguing the road to the West to Quebec. What we are arguing is the road East, of course, to Goose Bay, and it is a fact that trucks, buses and four-wheel drive vehicles now use the Esker to Goose Bay road. Generally when it is upgraded later on in another few weeks they will be using that as a line of traffic. When people buy buses in Montreal or Seven Islands, they railroad them to Esker and drive down. So in essence a physical link by a four-wheel drive vehicle is only sixty miles away. What we are asking here is surely the Premier, could he tell us whether we are interested in trying to get 2,000 people who are out of work at the moment for various reasons - would it not be possible to either use them or for the sum of a few million dollars make the physical link between Labrador City and Wabush and Esker so that the commercial traffic, if not other traffic, commercial traffic, four-wheel drive vehicles, could manage to drive all the way from Wabush, Labrador City to Goose Bay at a cost of what, \$3 million, \$4 million or \$5 million?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, it would be a great deal more money than that, I would suggest, even for the roughest kind of a road, even a forest access road in the Province costs \$100,000 per mile and a much better terrain than we are talking that sixty miles here. I would suggest, Sir, it would be much more than that. Of course, we say that

PREMIER MOORES: as soon as money allows we would like to see that road done. There is no question about that, Sir.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker,

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker,

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the hon. the Premier, Sir. I suppose in one sense I should be directing it to the Minister of Fisheries, but it is such an urgent and important matter and in view of the fact that I will have representation from my own district over the weekend in connection with the fish war that is going on at the present time and alternative market conditions and so forth, would the Premier indicate if the government have made any emphasis on exploring the possibility of new markets either in Europe or in Canada, cultivating the Canadian market for fish in the event that the United States slaps tariffs on as a retaliatory measure against Canada for kicking the United States fishermen outside the 200 mile limit, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, if people had listened when that Nordsee business was being suggested, they would have realized that there is a company that markets over forty per cent of the fish in Western Europe, in the Austria-German part of Western Europe. That is exactly the sort of contact that this Province has to have. I am suggesting, Sir, that the marketing of fish in Europe is absolutely critical for any increased landings in this Province. It is absolutely critical because forgetting any tariffs the Americans may put on, which I think at this point in time would be a threat but I would be very surprised to see it happen, but forgetting that entirely the American market is a very fickle fish market in that any oversupply and you have a drastic price reflection of just a very small oversupply situation. If the future catches of the Eastern Canadian fishery is going to be marketed, obviously the area for that is Western Europe where fish is eaten much more so than in North America. As a matter of fact, I think last year it was

PREMIER MOORES: six million tons as opposed to 3.6 million tons eaten in North America.

So the fact is, yes, the European market has to be developed. The Department of Fisheries and others are in touch with people who are in the marketing business in Europe. I know the trade, who are the primary ones to look after this have been in touch with people in Europe for the establishment of markets as well. I would suggest, Sir, that one of the things that we have tried to stress in the House and which is very difficult sometimes to realize is that when we talk about Federal responsibility and the differences between them and ourselves in fisheries involvement one of the responsibility that the Federal Government has which I do not think has been stressed enough or been reacted to enough is the business of tariffs. Now we have talked all along about tariff negotiations and I am not talking about the Americans putting on extra tariffs but getting European tariffs reduced like Iceland and Norway did when they were in exactly the same position as we are. The tariff in Europe today is fifteen per cent. Iceland and Norway when they had any bargaining leverage left had that lower bilaterally down to three per cent. I would suggest, Sir, that the Federal Government

Premier Moores:

if we were not in just the mass of GATT negotiations but if we could deal separately with the EEC countries, if the federal government put enough emphasis on it- and I have said this to many of our colleagues in Ottawa, and I have also said it in this House as has the Minister of Fisheries, certainly the business of tariff negotiations is going to be as much as a major impact in our future fisheries development as any other one single issue.

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

MR. SPEAKER : A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman in answering my question Sir, has mentioned the Nordsee thing. Well I guess that is a matter of opinion on which route we take to get into the European market, or to cultivate the Canadian market which is practically untapped, as the hon. gentleman is probably aware. So it depends, Mr. Speaker, on which route you want to take. And I would like to ask the Premier this; has the government considered either setting up a provincial marketing agency- because we have the raw material, and why should we have a middleman? - set up our own provincial marketing agency or ask the Government of Canada to expand the terms of reference to the Canadian Salt Fish Corporation to include all produce of the sea, so that we can market our own product and we do not have to pay huge commissions or be at the mercy of Nordsee and the European companies? Does the Premier consider this alternative in order to reach the European markets and the other markets that are open to us?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I strongly suggest that in the eventuality that a marketing agency was set up, the Nordsees of this world will still have to buy it from them. I mean, I am sure that the hon. member is not suggesting that a marketing agency set up here in Newfoundland go into a store by store delivery in Germany.

AN HON. MEMBER: Not so!

PREMIER MOORES: Of course, you have got to deal through the major companies over there. Also, Sir, I do not think marketing agencies by governments are the most effective way. I think we should provide the opportunity and the incentive to get this done. I think that is government's role. I think for commodity, bulk commodity exports, marketing agencies could probably be worthwhile. But, Sir, I feel very strongly that private enterprise is much better co-ordinating this than are governments.

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

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, then the hon. the member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, again it is a matter of opinion which route we take, at least I personally favour taking expanding the terms of reference of the Canadian Salt Fish Corporation or a new marketing agency. But the Premier mentioned that he believes in private enterprise, but private enterprise has failed so far to tap the other markets that are available in the world. But there a year or so ago, a year and a half ago, the government were contemplating putting the marketing in the hands of two or three big fish plant operators. Is the hon. gentleman thinking along these lines? I believe Fishery Products was one of the companies that the hon. gentlemen were think about, and this would be done, of course, at the peril of the small fish plant operators which should put them at the mercy of the multinationals and so forth. Is this the sort of thing that the Premier is thinking about, putting it in the hands of two or three big national or multinational corporations to market the fish throughout the world; or is it better to take the other route that I suggested and that is the Canadian Salt Fish Corporation to market all the produce of the sea or set up a new Crown corporation to market the fish?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the marketing of two or three large companies in this Province was absolutely and totally a federal dictum at that particular time.

MR. NEARY: No, it was not.

PREMIER MOORES: Oh, yes it was. I beg your pardon. It most certainly was.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon.

FREMIER MOORES: The federal government were going to licence so many people for exporting -

MR. NEARY: That is not what Ottawa told me.

PREMIER MOORES: - products from the country-and that included all parts of Canada,not just here. The business of large distributors being able to do their own marketing is one thing. I would suggest, Sir, that when we talk about the small fish processor in the Province, he is at the mercy of a broker or someone of that sort now. What I would not mind seeing, and what I would encourage,which is not opposed to what the hon. member is saying,is a private marketing agency where they had representation on a central group to market all their products, maybe eight or ten of them,so that they had some input into their own marketing agency where they could go direct and skip some of the brokers which they have to use now. That is certainly something that we would encourage, Sir.

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

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, my question in the absence of the Minister of Forestry will be directed to the Premier, and if Your Honour would I would just like a very short preamble. With regards to the spray programme,and to the Premier,we have long known, and it has been an accepted fact that the one sure way to control the spruce budworm in Newfoundland would be the ideal weather conditions at that the right time of the evolvment of the larvae, the budworm itself; that given the right conditions at the right time, the weather conditions the budworm would either be drastically reduced or possibly wiped out altogether,

Now, Sir, we are having the kind of weather that is detrimental

MR. FLIGHT:

to the evolution of the budworm and I have been told by people that already the weather we are having has had an adverse effect on the evolution of the budworm at this stage and if this weather continues it may drastically reduce the level of budworm. My question, Sir, is— and again let me emphasize that already there are indications that the present conditions with the wet cold weather that we have had has had a great adverse effect on the evolution of the budworm at this stage.

Now assuming, Sir, that this weather continues — I will be presumptuous if the Premier would—but if this weather continues and we do get the ideal weather conditions over the next couple of weeks that would have the effect of drastically reducing the budworm infestation or wiping it out altogether, what is the position of the government with regards to making a decision to call off the proposed spray programme? We are talking about only having a week or two to make up our minds. What are the implications for the government pulling out of the present proposed spray programme, given that situation that I have outlined?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the technical detail of it obviously I do not know. If this weather hangs on, though, I would suggest that no one will be spraying anything because it is pretty unflyable weather. But the fact is, Sir, that I understand that it is being monitored by the scientists and the people who are aware of this in the Forestry Department and other branches as well, and if they come in with a report obviously whatever that report is will be something that will be acted on by the department. But as I say, the detail of how that will be done and the detail of what will be done is entirely up to the minister in this department. I have heard nothing along the lines that the hon. member has mentioned; I have heard nothing to change the present seriousness as we see it now.

MR. FLIGHT: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, assuming again — we have to assume;

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MR. FLIGHT: it is a very important issue and all of Newfoundland, including the Premier and the minister, I hope, would be looking for an alternative to spraying and if we are lucky enough to get the right weather that is our alternative. We have been told that by everybody who have opposed or supported the spray programme. I want to ask this question in view of the fact that we have two weeks left; do we have the capability in this Province, the monitoring capability, to determine weather or not certain weather conditions have indeed reduced the level of budworm infestation or has the kind of effect on the egg count that would give us the ability to call off a spray programme? Do we have that capability or is there a danger that we will spray not knowing that the weather has wiped out the budworm for us?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it the timing of when the spray is to be done is based entirely upon the evolution, as the hon. member says, of the budworm in its reaching maturity. Now as they are monitoring the budworm to see what stage it has reached in maturity, I assume that if there is no budworm to monitor that there will be no spraying programme, but that is highly unlikely, Sir, I would suggest. I would like to think that that was possible, and maybe we would all like to have four days frost and then we would know for sure that it would not be necessary. I mean that if it is ever proven to us that it is unnecessary because of our forestry officers coming back and saying there are no budworms left or there are very few left and it is not serious, naturally we would be in a position to listen. And, yes, there are a lot of people doing just that.

MR. W. ROWE: A supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. W. ROWE: Directed to the Minister of Health on this same question, of course, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister of Health tell us that in the light of the statement made by the Newfoundland Medical Association late last week to the effect that they are completely against, almost

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MR. W. ROWE: unanimously, as I understand the statement, almost unanimously against spraying Matacil into headwaters of rivers or near sources of water supply or near communities, in the light of that considered opinion passed by resolution by the highest professional body in the land, in the Province as far as medical matters are concerned, would the minister tell the House whether he has reconsidering the extent of the spray programme or whether his colleagues are reconsidering the extent of the spray programme, if not abandoning the programme altogether, the extent of the programme, particularly near his own riding, his own district Gander Lake, and the spray that is going on near some of the coastal communities in the Province? Has it been reconsidered?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I might say that the Medical Association did not make any reference to head waters, The Medical Association's resolution made reference to near community water supplies and populated areas. I should inform the hon. House that after speaking with the Medical Association at their luncheon on Saturday at Hotel Newfoundland, I had a short meeting with the executive and the executive of the association are meeting with us tomorrow afternoon. When I say 'meeting with us', meeting with my officials, myself and my officials in the Department of Health, and also the minister and some officials from the Department of Forestry and Agriculture so that

MR. H. COLLINS:

we can show them what we have in mind, what we envisage in terms of a spraying programme, what our plans are in terms of avoiding water intakes in populated areas. And hopefully, Mr. Speaker, after we have done that then we will be able to determine just what is meant by this resolution. Because when they say near community water supplies and populated areas we will want a little more definition of that. We are looking forward to having a good discussion with the MMA tomorrow afternoon.

MR. FLIGHT: One final supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary. The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: To the Minister of Health: Would the minister indicate to the House - as he knows over this past couple of weeks medical experts in the field of medicine have questioned the characteristics of Matacil. They have questioned the adverse effects and they have laid on the line pretty strongly that they have become aware of characteristics of Matacil that they are not prepared to condone, that they think may be detrimental to the health of people or to the total environment or what have you. Has the minister had his advisors, his medical advisors, confirm or deny the alleged characteristics or the alleged adverse effects that Matacil might have on either the long term welfare and health of our people or on the total environment? I am not aware of the minister or his officials having denied or having put the lie, so to speak, to the charges that are being made by medical experts in this Province and their concerns about the various characteristics and the various effects of Matacil.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. H. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, as I have said on earlier occasions, I received my advice from the medical officers in the department and mainly, I suppose, from the Chief Provincial Medical Health Officer, who in turn obtains a great amount of advice and information from the Health Protection Branch of the Federal Department of Health and Welfare and also from the Food and Drug Directorate of that same department, the federal Department of Health and Welfare. I am not sure as to what medical advice the hon. member is alluding to. I think I might know. He is probably alluding to some statements which have been made by a certain physician in Central Newfoundland.

All of the information which that gentleman - if I am provoked I am in agreement with the gentleman to whom he refers - but all of the medical advice which has been given as opposed to the spray programme, having concerns about the effects of Matacil and so on and so forth, all of that information, all of these references have been researched through the appropriate federal authorities and at the meeting tomorrow with the Newfoundland Medical Association we will look at the allegations which have been made by some physicians in Newfoundland, some practicing physicians, and we will also look at the information which we have been provided with from Health Protection Branch, Food and Drug Directorate, Ottawa. And please goodness when that is done then the Medical Association and ourselves will be able to come to the right conclusion.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Conception Bay South followed by the hon. gentlemen for St. John's West, Trinity-Bay de Verde and Fogo.

MR. NOLAN: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. I wonder would the minister be good enough to inform the House whether the Chairmanship of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation which is presently held by Mr. Vivian, is Mr. Vivian's contract about to run out? Does he intend to resign? And if so is the minister going to advertise to fill this position? More importantly, has he already held discussions with residents or citizens to fill that position, namely a civil servant in this building?

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

MR. DINN: The answer to the first question is yes. The second question is yes. The third question is yes.

MR. NOLAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. NOLAN: Would the minister then be good enough to inform the House when Mr. Vivian is going to retire and who the person is who is to be appointed? It has been advertised then? That was a part of my former question.

MR. DINN: No.

MR. NOLAN: Well, I will repeat it.

MR. DINN: You asked whether there were discussions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: He misled the House! He misled the House!

MR. NOLAN: Okay. If I may rephrase it again then. Part of the first question I asked was, was the position advertised. The position was not advertised. I also asked if discussions

MR. J. NOLAN:

were held with any residents of the Province to fill this position and I was even more specific by saying, "Was it discussed with a civil servant to replace Mr. Vivian?" Now I would like to ask if he is going to advertise for the position and if he has already made a decision with his Cabinet colleagues who it is, and when.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs?

MR. J. DINN: The answer of the first part is, 'No'; the second, 'Yes'; the third, 'Yes'; the fourth, 'No'.

MR. SPEAKER: I indicated that I will recognize the hon. member for St. John's West next.

Does the hon. gentleman have a supplementary?

MR. J. NOLAN: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary.

MR. J. NOLAN: I am very interested in the information for the public, obviously. So, again, I will ask the Minister. Will he be good enough to tell us did he say he was not going to advertise? Does the Premier have to coach him? Is he going to advertise this position? Yes or No.

MR. J. DINN: No.

MR. J. NOLAN: No. He is not going to advertise the position. Did he then discuss with more than one person? I mean, what is the method of selection? Would he be good enough to tell us that? Who decides?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, when the decision is finally made the House of Assembly will be so informed. Finally.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. J. NOLAN: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I had indicated that that would be the last supplementary. Having so said, I think in fairness I will recognize the hon. member for St. John's West.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

DR. H. KITCHEN: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed towards the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In view of the rather confused statement in the morning paper with respect to the cost of the new urban bill, can the Minister give a rough indication to this House as to how much taxes can be expected to increase, first of all in the City of St. John's, secondly in other municipalities in the Metropolitan region, and thirdly unincorporated communities therein, if regional government is implemented as proposed and if the regional council carries out the mandate?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the first question was how much the taxes in the City of St. John's are apt to increase. I do not know. I do not think they should increase at all. The fact of the matter is, the regional council will sell water to the City as it will sell water to every municipality and people in the unincorporated areas, when they are serviced, at the same rate. They will all get it for an equal amount, so much per thousand gallons. So I do not know if the taxes should increase. Certainly I do not think they will. I do not see any reason why they should.

The answer to the second question of will the taxes increase in the unincorporated areas, there will be no taxes with respect to residents in the unincorporated areas until they receive service: in other words, that was the -

MR. J. NOLAN: Or business tax.

MR. J. DINN: recommendation. Not counting business tax, business taxes apply now within the Metro area. With respect to residents, there will be no taxes until the residents receive service such as water and sewer, street lighting, garbage collection and that kind of thing. When they get those services, obviously they will pay for those services. So there will be no taxes other than what they

MR. J. DINN: have now, and no people in the unincorporated areas will be taxed until they get service.

MR. J. NOLAN: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Final supplementary.

MR. J. NOLAN: I wonder is the Minister in a position to give us any idea of what they are going to sell water for. I mean, he knows now approximately the kind of money that has been put in there from the Federal and Provincial sources, quite a substantial sum, to develop Bay Bulls Big Pond, we know what the City of St. John's, for example, has been attempting to claim per gallon from Mount Pearl. I am just wondering if the Minister has any kind of a ballpark figure now of what we are looking at in terms of gallonage costs, or is he in a position at all at this moment to give such an answer?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, we are trying to determine that. We have about six months of data. The important months are the summer months when we will get a fair reading on how much water is consumed, so we will know in the next couple of months, but it varies from month to month and it varies from twenty-five cents to forty-one cents per thousand gallons at this point in time.

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

MR. F. BOWE: Mr. Speaker, the Premier about a month ago in answer to a question put to him indicated that he would table the contract of the Chairman of the Action Committee, the Action Group, Special Action Group, Bob Cole.

Sir, the Premier has not tabled that within the last month. I wonder now if the Premier is in a position to indicate to the House, Sir, the length of that contract. Is it ten years as has been indicated by some people?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the minister is not here today and I will undertake to get the contract and get it tabled.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. SPEAKER: Motion 11:

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Finance to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Financial Administration Act, 1973," carried. (Bill No. 54).

On motion, Bill No. 54 read a first time ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Order 3, the adjourned debate on the Budget, the hon. member for St. George's.

MRS. MCISAAC: Mr. Speaker, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MRS. MCISAAC: Thank you! I think I have about twenty minutes to go, I am not sure, and that is certainly not enough time to go through my district but I will just pick a couple of items that I am concerned about and another one, the one that I was supposed to start on Friday, was the fishery. I am very much concerned about the fishery in the Bay St. George area. In the spring of the year we have the draggers coming in there or seiners, whatever you want to call them, as I am not very familiar with the name of them, but I have seen plenty of them and they come in and the fishermen are telling me that they are ruining the fishery in the Bay St. George area. Now I am not a fisherman but my father and my grandfather were fishermen and we have quite a few people in the Bay St. George area who are fishermen and will be fishermen for years to come providing the fish is still there. But in the meantime what is happening is the spawning grounds, I am told, are being completely destroyed by those seiners or draggers, whatever, and we are getting to a point now where five years down the road we may not have a fishery in Bay St. George.

It is fine to talk about the offshore fishery, Sure it is good. There are a lot of people making a living from it. But if in the process of establishing our 200 mile limit and looking after the offshore

MRS. MCISAAC: fishery we destroy the livelihood of the inshore fishermen, then I do not see much benefit from that. Because we have a group of fishermen right now in my district who are ready to go on social assistance. They have been completely wiped out, these lobster fishermen now, I presented the Minister of Fisheries with twenty-one letters or twenty-one estimates of damage a few days ago and those twenty-one people were wiped out to the point where I would say about sixty per cent of them will not be able to get back into the fishery this year, and this happens every year at the beginning of the season. We have a storm and lobster pots and everything are destroyed and the fishermen just do not have the financial means. I spoke to the Minister of Fisheries the other day and he said now what the fishermen should do is they should have some backup gear. Now that is easy to say. That is very easy for the Minister of Fisheries to say, that the fishermen should have some backup gear. But the fishermen in the Bay St. George area cannot afford to make a double amount of gear. For instance, if they are going to set 200 pots they cannot afford to go out and make 400. They are very fortunate if they can afford to make 200 as most of them out there are on social assistance up until fishing time or unemployment, because we had no employment whatever or practically no employment. Thanks to Flinkote and a couple of the other smaller industries we have a few people employed, but the fishery could be one of the mainstays in the Bay St. George area if there was a way that the fishermen could survive.

Now the Minister of Fisheries is not in his seat right now and I cannot ask him the couple of questions that I would like to ask him. A couple of years ago - I see he is getting ready to go on the elevator so I guess I will not get the answers to my questions anyway but I will go ahead and hope that he may get around to answering them next week. I understand that, okay fine, I know we had gear replacement programmes at one time and now we do not have them. And this is unfortunate, that the innocent have to suffer for the guilty. But in the

MRS. MCISAAC:

meantime last year the same thing happened; the fishermen got wiped out at the beginning of the season, right at the beginning of the season when they had not yet earned any money and did not have any money set aside to replace the gear that they lost. So the gear that they spent all Winter trying to put together went with one storm. They had no money to go back and replace that gear. I know that the fisherman has a responsibility as well as everybody else to look after himself and protect himself and I am not saying that it is all government's responsibility. I think that the fishermen should be looking for some kind of an insurance scheme that, you know, will protect them but I think that we have to get the provincial and federal governments involved.

Now I may have misunderstood, but I believe that the Minister of Fisheries indicated to me on Friday when I asked him a question, not in the House but privately, that the feds would not go along with it. Well, did I understand the minister that the feds would not go along with it, with the setting up of joint assistance programme, financial assistance programme?

MR. W. CARTER: You are right.

MRS. MCISAAC: Well, see here is the thing: What happens to those fishermen in the Bay St. George area, not only there but all along the coast? They have been wiped out completely. They had no insurance. There is no insurance scheme for them. There is no assistance programme for them. So they lose their gear. Okay. Fine.

MR. W. CARTER: Maybe I should just point out here on a point of order, an explanation, for the statement just made by the hon. member, that there was an assistance programme in the Province in 1977 which have paid out in excess of \$2 million subsidy on groundfish and pelagics

MR. W. CARTER:

to go towards the cost of replacing worn out gear, lost gear, getting new gear. In 1978 we are budgeting for an even greater amount. So we are subsidizing gear. We are assisting fishermen to buy new gear, to replace lost gear and to replace worn out gear.

MRS. MCISAAC: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I think the Minister of Fisheries is taking from my time and he is not relating to the subject that I am relating to at all. This is a completely, entirely different subject. I am speaking solely of the lobster fishery and I do not think that he is referring to the lobster fishery.

MR. W. CARTER: They do not need that. They do not need it.

MRS. MCISAAC: They do not need it.

MR. W. CARTER: Not at the price of lobster, \$1.75 a pound.

MRS. MCISAAC: At the price of lobster, they do not need it.

MR. W. CARTER: Of course not.

MRS. MCISAAC: What would the minister say that it would cost to prepare for the lobster fishery? For instance, will you give me a price, you estimate, to build a lobster pot?

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. Less than ten dollars. The price of three lobsters.

MRS. MCISAAC: Wonderful if you know the source! If the Minister of Fisheries can come up with that source the fishermen from the West Coast and the fishermen from all over Newfoundland will buy their lobster pots from whoever can produce them for ten dollars next year because I know that in my district it is costing fifteen and sixteen dollars to produce a lobster pot. And there is no way in the world - and along with that, furthermore now the

MRS. MCISAAC:

minister indicated and I just had it confirmed, he said the feds would not go along with it. Now I checked this out because this is something that concerns me. The fishery in my area has been neglected for years and years, not only under this administration but as far back as I can remember and under the previous administration as well. Not only the fishery, the whole area was neglected. But the fishery was.

Now we have got one of the best harbours in the world, one of the six most natural, I think it is, in the world. We have got facilities there. We have got a beautiful harbour where boats come in and they come in to shelter. We have got it right there but it has got to be developed. Now the Minister of Fisheries told me that the feds would not go along with this assistance programme to help replace the gear lost by the lobster fishermen last week.

MR. W. CARTER: I did not say that.

MRS. MCISAAC: You did say that the feds would not go along with an assistance programme.

MR. W. CARTER: I said they would not join us in an insurance programme.

MRS. MCISAAC: They will not join you in an insurance programme.

MR. W. CARTER: Not to replace the gear lost last week.

MRS. MCISAAC: Well anyway, I understood from talking to the minister that - I was talking about gear loss when I presented the minister a couple of days ago with twenty-one estimates from my area and I asked what could be done about it, is there was going to be an assistance programme, a financial assistance programme between the federal and provincial governments and the minister said the feds

MRS. MCISAAC:

will not go along with it.

MR. W. CARTER: Right.

MRS. MCISAAC: That is right, is it? Well from what I can understand from the federal Department of Fisheries the minister has not made a request for a joint provincial-federal

MRS. MCISAAC: programme to assist those people, that he has asked for an extension to the season but he has not asked for any financial assistance programme or joint assistance programme. An extension to the season is not going to help the fisherman because where is the fisherman going to get the money? Where is he going to get the money to get back in business? It is easy to say the fishermen are getting \$1.80 or \$2.00 or whatever a pound. They are not getting \$1.80 right now, that dropped. They did get it for a short time. I believe they may be getting \$1.50 or something like that but the thing about it is they are wiped out right at the beginning of the season. And the Bay St. George area has been on the broad of its back since Linerboard closed. In fact, it was practically there before Linerboard closed. There is just no way that those fishermen can come up with the money to replace the gear that they lost.

So here we are with a bunch of fishermen who want to earn a living, who want to be independent and there is no way that they can get any assistance. Now, maybe there is some loan they can get or something like this. Maybe the minister can tell me of some way that they can go about getting a Fisheries Board loan or something. A lot of them did not only lose their lobster pots, some of them lost their boats. I mean, they are wiped out. The only place for them to go is to the Minister of Social Services and this is where they will be heading no doubt, so we have more people on welfare.

I am not saying it is the full responsibility of the provincial government, but I certainly think that something should be looked into, some programme should be set up between the federal and provincial governments and, of course, with the fisherman

MRS. MCISAAC: and let the fisherman contribute too. I am not looking to get the fisherman completely off the hook. He should put something into it as well as expect to get something out of it and I believe that he is willing to do that. But until there is some kind of a policy set up, until there is something done to assist him, he is going to be in the same boat next year as he is this year.

Now, he goes on social services, okay, fine! There are no jobs. What happens to him next year? He may not even get back in the water. There are fishermen out there now who cannot get licences. All right, this may be federal too, but there are fishermen quitting every year and there are no new fishermen or not enough fishermen licenced to take the place of the ones who are leaving. This again is helping to wipe out the fishery and leave people on welfare. They want to work but they just cannot do it because they cannot get licences. And if they get licences, then this sort of thing happens to them and they are gone, they are wiped out, back on social assistance.

There are people in my area, in the Codroy Valley area, in the Robinson's area who have been fishermen all their lives, who have been independent all their lives and would like to stay that way, but they are ending up right in the same boat as a lot of other people out there. There are ways and means to keep them out of it and I am asking the minister if he will look into it, see if there is some policy that can be set up between the federal and provincial governments to assist the fisherman and include the fisherman. Sure, let him pay his share! I have to pay my insurance and whatever, so I am sure that the fisherman

MRS. MCISAAC: is willing to do the same thing.

We have salmon - now, this is on the commercial basis but here we are now with the sports fishery opening pretty soon and I do not know what is going to happen. Of course, this is not the minister's concern or worry, I know, but it certainly is the worry of the administration, and there are salmon rivers in Newfoundland. I am sure that the Minister of Tourism will take a look at this and see what can be done. In the past I have found him to be very co-operative and I have to say this.

MR. CALLAN: Is that right?

MRS. MCISAAC: Yes, I have. When he was Minister of Transportation I tell you we got a lot of new equipment in our area, equipment that was badly needed and we got it through that minister. And now that he is Minister of Tourism - You know, you throw a bouquet where it belongs.

MR. CALLAN: Sure! And lots of rocks as well.

MRS. MCISAAC: He did quite a lot with the transportation problems in our area, with the equipment problems and I hope that he is going to take a look at what is going on with the sports fishery. Because every other year we have had rivers open to the poachers, we have had no wardens - well, not no wardens, we have had a few wardens. That is not what they call them. They do not call them wardens, they call them guardians. There are a few wardens and a few guardians but not nearly enough to cover the rivers. The rivers we have - I do not know how many rivers, I can name them - but we have probably one guardian trying to cover two rivers and there is no possible way that he can do it. Everything is open to the poachers and this is part of our tourist industry, something that could be developed

MRS. MCISAAC: to the fullest, something that every other province in Canada would just love to have, the salmon rivers that we have in our Province.

The tourist potential that we have in our Province, if they had this in other Provinces they would have it developed to the fullest extent possible and we would not have to worry about being bankrupt, or close to it or whatever shape we may be in financially. I would say that

MRS McISAAC: if we are not bankrupt we are pretty close to it.

AN HON.MEMBER: That is right.

MRS McISAAC: But I certainly think that the tourist industry could be developed and could contribute to this Province probably more than any other department over there is contributing.

AN HON.MEMBER: Right.

MRS McISAAC: Because we have got, for instance - well now, we do not have very many swimming pools and stuff, but we certainly have beautiful beaches on the West Coast of the Province. So we have our beaches, but in the last couple of years they have not been fit for use as recreation areas for swimming, picnicing and whatnot - because there were so many whales around, you know, that that was wiped out completely. There was no hope for recreation or swimming in the last couple of years.

But we have another area, Black Bank, that stretches for miles. I know that any other province in Canada would just love to have it, because it is really something. There is a sandy beach that stretches for miles and miles and I bet you there is not one person who travelled West who has not stopped at Barachoix Brook. Now Barachoix Park, Black Bank we call it is half way between Stephenville Crossing and St. George's on the main road. And this is something that the minister, I hope, will also take a look at. He has assured me that he will be coming out to the area shortly after the House closes to go through the district and look at the tourist potential.

MR.CALLAN: Is that right?

MRS McISAAC: The Minister of Tourism, yes, he has. And I think that when he looks at it he will realize that what I am saying is correct, and maybe we can do something with our tourist potential on the West Coast of the Province. We are right there,

Mrs. McIsaac: very near the ferry from North Sydney, and there is the Codroy Valley, one of the most beautiful areas not only in the Province but in Canada. And I know the minister will look at that and, I think, that he may find something that can be done as far as tourism is concerned. And so I will let that go. I do not have too much time left. You know, how much time do I have left?

AN HON. MEMBER: Four minutes.

MRS. MCISAAC: Four minutes. Okay, four minutes. I may get a chance at some other date to touch on the other items that are bothering me, but one is - the Minister of Education is not in his seat, but I am going to go on with the question anyway - I would like to have a couple of questions answered with respect to the Public Tendering Act, and this one concerns the school in Mc Kays and the contract was awarded not to the lowest bidder. First the contract was awarded to - well, the next bidder to the lowest bidder was \$9,200 over. So the contract was not awarded to the lowest bidder. Now I know what the answer, you know, is I mean I know what answer the minister has given, but I am not satisfied with it. When you are talking about \$9,200 to me that sounds like a lot of money. That is a lot of money, especially in this day of cutbacks and restraints, and when we have to lay off teachers, \$9,200 is a lot of money.

Now the only reason that was given, this gentleman, or this company which did not get the contract, which had bid \$9,200 below the next bidder, was that they had not indicated that they could complete the contract within the time. There was no time specified on the tender form, one company tendered that they could complete it in eight months; the company which had the lowest bid indicated ten months. There was no indication in the tender document that time was of the essence, and in order to save \$9,200 of the taxpayers money, all it took was a simple phone call to that low bidder and ask him, Can you complete the contract in eight months rather than in ten months? And the answer would have been, yes, the contractor could have done it, and he told me that he could have done it; but he contacted the school board and they just

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Mrs. McIsaac: passed the contract on to the next lowest bidder, \$9,200 above the low bid. And the gentleman who bid the \$9,200 indicated to them, on telephone, that he could complete it in the time limit required. But the thing was that there was no indication in the tender document that time was of the essence. They were not asked for a completion date. When he was informed as to why he did not get the contract, he said, "I can complete it in eight months and save you \$9,200." But that was not good enough. They passed it on to the next lowest bidder.

Now I am not satisfied with this, and I would like to know

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MRS. H. MCISAAC:

just what is - I am not familiar with the Public Tendering Act but I certainly think when it comes to saving \$9,200 of the taxpayers money and the contractor is willing to, or informs the company, 'I can do it in that length of time' and there was no indication given that time was of the essence, I would like to have that one explained. Now there is a lot more and my time has expired, and maybe I will get back to some of my other problems.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: By leave, by leave!

MRS. H. MCISAAC: Thank you kindly.

MR. SPEAKER (YOUNG): Hon. member for Bonavista North.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. G. CROSS: Mr. Speaker, may I in starting congratulate the member for St. George's (Mrs. McIsaac) on a very good speech indeed. Some of the things that she had to say I wholeheartedly agree with as it affects the fishery, since there are lobster fishermen in my district as well as in hers.

May I say at the outset that I have listened with intense interest to the debates that have taken place in this hon. House since the House first met in March of this year. Certainly I have sat and listened as much as any member in the House since the Budget debate was called a little over a week, or just about two weeks ago.

I would like to say that I agree with some of the remarks that have been made by previous speakers. I am in total agreement with the Minister of Fisheries when he said in his remarks that we should build up our fishing fleets to the point where Canadians are able to harvest all of the total allowable catch within the 200-mile limit. I would also agree with him when he says that until we can catch all the total allowable catch then we must allow foreigners to take the amount that we cannot harvest because there is

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MR. G. CROSS: a hungry world to be fed and we must show that we are a responsible people.

During the past weekend I had the opportunity to talk with some of the people in my district and, certainly, they are concerned as to whether or not there is a surplus of fish. The concern of the fishermen of the district that I represent where the inshore fishery - especially the northern end of the district where the inshore fishery is very important - the concern of the fishermen is that the grounds that they ply and fish from, that the longliners use, are fished over the twelve-month period almost on an hourly basis. The longliners commence fishing in May and up until the end of September they catch fish on the fishing grounds off the northeast coast, especially the Funk Island bank, but after the longliner fishermen have finished for the year then it is that the draggers move in and fish then from the time that the longliners have discontinued up until the time that they begin again. They feel that the draggers rake the bottom and then there is less left for the fishermen, the near and inshore fishermen. And this can be brought out in the fact that when the longliner fishery begins in May and June, the catches are not as great as they are in July and August. The fishermen say that it takes a couple of months for the fish to recuperate and for fish to swim back onto the fishing grounds. Certainly, this makes for a short inshore fishery when the fish is plentiful.

MR. G. CROSS: The member for Lewisporte expressed concern over the herring fishery in his district and I would have to agree with him when he expresses his concern for the taking of too many herring during the spawning season that could deplete our herring fishery. Certainly some of the herring that is caught in Notre Dame Bay as well as in Bonavista Bay is processed in a herring plant in my district namely at Valleyfield because herring are trucked in from all over to be processed both in spring and fall.

The Minister of Mines and Energy in his remarks placed stress on the importance of developing our resources, stress on the creating of new dollars. We certainly know that services are essential but we can never develop a sound economy on the providing of services alone. The jobs created in the service sector are certainly short lived, and when the services are completed unemployment is the result. Certainly providing services cost money with very little return. Developing our resources cost money as well but certainly in a true sense it is the developing of the resources that creates the new dollars which enables government to provide people with services and also it is the employment that allows people to pay for the services that are rendered.

Mr. Speaker, for the next few minutes I would like to compare the spendings of 1972 with the spendings of 1978 in some of the major departments of government. Looking to the two departments where the needs are greatest, I should say possibly and certainly the dollars to be spent should be many. But if we look at what has happened from 1972 to '78, take for example the Department of Education. In 1972 the total spending in education was \$135,176,600. In 1978 the gross spending is \$305,332,500. In 1972 teachers salaries accounted for \$52 million. In 1978 teachers' salaries account for the spending of \$150,900,000. Certainly we can attribute that increase in teachers salaries to two things: first, the increase in salaries to teachers since 1972 and also the increase in the number of teachers. Because we find that the total money for salaries to teachers has increased by 300 per cent, and certainly teachers salaries have not

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MR. G. CROSS: increased by 300 per cent. Therefore there must have been, and there has been, we know, an increase in the number of teachers since 1972.

If we move on to the Department of Health, we find that in 1972, to the nearest million, the budget allocated \$104 million. In 1978 it is \$239 million. In social services in '72, again to the nearest million, rounded off to the nearest million, \$60 million was spent on social services. The increase from 1972 to 1978 has been \$6 million because this present year in excess, just over \$66 million is being spent in social services. So there the increase has not been phenomenal. Certainly we know there has been an increase to the amount

MR. CROSS:

that has been paid to Social Service recipients since that time and I think taking that into consideration we can see that the increase in the number on Social Services has not increased appreciably over the last six years.

In Municipal Affairs and Housing, the spending has gone from over \$14 million to over \$68 million this present year. So here we see that there has been a tremendous spending and a tremendous increase in spending in the services sector over the six year period. but then when we go on to look at the resource development, we find that in 1972 the increase, \$7,833,200 was spent in fisheries, but this present budget this year has increased to in excess of \$25 million - \$25,195,700. Forestry and Agriculture-or Mines, Agriculture and Resources as it was called in 1972-attributed to the spending of \$16,535,000, In 1978, Forestry and Agriculture, putting Mines and Energy in with that department has it was in 1972, shows that there will be a spending of \$62,904,000, again, percentage-wise, approximately 400 per cent of an increase. In Transportation and Communications in 1972 the gross spending was \$41 million; in 1978 the gross spending will be \$122 million or in excess of \$122 million.

So if we total up the total amount spent in resources, in fisheries, forestry, agriculture, resources and transportation and communication, which is coupled with or to the resources because improved transportation certainly is an asset in development, we find that in 1972 in these four departments a total of \$66,639,000 was spent but if we total the spending for 1978 in Fisheries, Mines and Energy, Forestry and Agriculture and Transportation and Communications we find that the increase, that the dollars spent is \$220,650,300, again an increase of upwards of 350 per cent. So I think and I feel from running through these figures and examining them and surveying them and studying them that the emphasis at this point in time and for the past six years is being placed where it belongs, in the development of our resources and certainly in the creation

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MR. CROSS: of new dollars.

And now, Mr. Speaker, I want to speak for a few minutes, just a few brief minutes, on what is happening in the district of Bonavista North,

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MR. CROSS: that great district and historic district. I want to just outline a few of the things that has happened in the district over the last couple of years and to say that the progress, in my opinion and in the opinion of many of the people in the district that I represent, has been phenomenal. There may be people who differ from that opinion, but certainly great progress has taken place over the past couple of years. If we look to the resource sector for a moment again, looking to Greenspond, the old island rock in Bonavista Bay, certainly a smokehouse has been built or renovated, I should say, a building has been renovated that served the purpose of a bait depot years ago but that bait depot has been renovated and made into a smokehouse. True there are only three jobs involved, but last year that smokehouse did make a profit. This year, in fact right now, preparations are being made to construct an icehouse certainly on the island so that the fish that the fishermen catch there can be properly iced, and although in some cases the fish that are caught will be processed somewhere else, that somewhere else is in Valleyfield in the district that I represent. Certainly the addition of an icehouse there will improve the quality of the fish that is caught.

This present Winter the fish plant in Valleyfield again was expanded and two new cutting lines were installed. That has created an additional forty jobs and certainly this is ongoing progress that have taken place additional progress over this year that have been ongoing over the last five or six years. The fish plant in Valleyfield in the beginning when it was taken over by Beothuck Fish Processors was a salt fish operation, but since 1967 salt fish, although it is salted and dried there, the plant has become a fresh fish operation as well. A fish meal plant has been constructed, a crab plant constructed, a herring plant opened and now, like

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MR. CROSS:

I said, in the past Winter the extension of the plant adding two more lines, creating additional jobs, and not only the additional jobs but this expansion certainly leads to more jobs but it also prolongs, if you like, the season and therefore more jobs as well as a longer period of work for the people who work there. So again this is progress in the resource sector.

Last Friday evening when I drove out to my district, I drove over 99 per cent paved road. There is but one mile left of unpaved road surface of the Bonavista North Loop Road in my district. The boundaries of pavement is extended now into the Lumsden area and the final contract for the paving of the Bonavista North Loop Road has been let. Over the past four years approximately

MR. CROSS: 110 miles of road has been paved in that area. This is going to make, certainly, a great difference in the number of visitors and tourists that come to the area that I represent in this hon. House. There is no shortage of things for tourists to do in the area.

I would like to say also that the branch to Valleyfield in the district is presently under upgrading and also the branch that leads to Newtown in the North district. This year the short road to the fish plant and the government wharf in Valleyfield will be upgraded and paved and also the road to the marine centre, which is located in the town of Wesleyville.

In the last couple of years there has been resource projects going ahead, namely, within the blueberry industry. We have in the last two years had four blueberry projects, I call them, within the district involving the clearing and burning of blueberry lands so that we can increase the blueberry yield and also create some new dollars.

I would say that two of these projects were funded by the provincial government and two were Canada Works projects. Last year for the first time blueberries were cleaned in the district, certainly creating much needed employment even though they were just jobs of a short-term nature but nevertheless improvement.

Coming into the services within the district, certain phases of water and sewer are ongoing in the towns of Middle Brook, Dover and Trinity. Three new schools are presently under construction in the district that I represent. There is a new elementary school that will serve the people in the communities of Middle Brook, Dark Cove and

MR. CROSS: Gambo that will be opening this Fall. Also, a new elementary to serve the people of Dover, the children of Dover, will be opening sometime this coming Fall and an all-grade school is presently being constructed in Greenspond and that, I understand, will be ready for occupancy early in 1979.

Since 1976 a new forestry building has been opened in the settlement of Dark Cove and a dental clinic has been opened in Gambo to serve the people of that area.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that much has been accomplished over the past two years and that much remains to be accomplished in the future. I can only say in closing my few remarks that much has taken place, there has been much progress and there has been much that has taken place in the district that I represent. Because when we look back only as late as last December, there were people ready to say that nothing was being done in the district that I represent. With these few remarks I will take my seat, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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MR. W. ROWE:

Mr. Speaker, this is the Budget Speech. It was a long time coming. The members of the House had a long wait, waiting to have an opportunity to say something concerning their districts and concerning the economy generally. It is the Budget Speech, Sir, but it is a little like the Throne Speeches which we have had over the past number of years as well. We know what the Throne Speeches for the last six or seven years in this Province have been. Somebody characterized the Throne Speeches in Newfoundland over the past five or six years as the transference of bones from one graveyard to another, Mr. Speaker. After the first year, 1972, there were some brave words uttered. The people of the Province thought that there was going to be some life, some muscle, some flesh in this government, some action, but it turned out, Sir, that the words uttered in the Throne Speech of 1972 were, in fact, dry and sterile bones and these bones, Sir, these dry bones have been dumped from one Throne Speech into the next Throne Speech year after year after year for six or seven full years. No action, Sir! Programmes, Sir, with the same liveliness as you would expect from dry and sterile bones.

And now, Sir, we have the Budget Speech presented by the Minister of Finance. And there was a new technique tried this time, Mr. Speaker. Rather than just dumping these dry bones from one Throne Speech to another or from one Budget Speech to another, we have a new technique tried by the Minister of Finance and the Attorney General. What he decided to do this time, Sir, was to take these same dry, old bones and join them together much like a medical doctor would do with a skeleton, join them together with string, Sir, and hold

MR. W. ROWE: these bones before the T.V. cameras which were in the House, Mr. Speaker, utter some mumbo jumbo, utter some more words, slick and very glib sounding words, rattle the skeleton, Sir, before the television cameras, rattle the same dry old bones again and try to convince the people of the Province about how lively, how energetic, how full of action this government is and this government's programmes are. But, Sir, everybody in this Province knew long before the Budget Speech was brought down, and certainly knows now after this Budget Speech, that it was a skeleton. Everybody knows that this government, Mr. Speaker, is dead. The P.C. caucus is now being referred to, my hon. friend reminds me by his remark, as the P.C. carcass. The government, Sir, is dead and the party which the government represents in this House is dead - the P.C. carcass meets again. However, the government, Sir, which has been through thick and thin now for the last number of months, reminds me of a sailor who is made cute and cunning by many shipwrecks; a sailor who has a certain amount of liveliness, a certain amount of cuteness, a certain amount of cunningness, a certain amount of slyness brought about by the fact that he has survived many shipwrecks. And this government puts me in mind of that kind of an analogy or that kind of an image, because the Minister of Finance did try to give the impression by cuteness and cunning, I suppose, tried to give the impression that the government was, in fact, lively and that the government did have some ideas to express. But, Sir, I had to tell the government - the Minister of Finance and the Premier - that unfortunately for them, the essence, the very essence of being a successful con man, Mr. Speaker, the essence of being a successful

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MR. W. ROWE: confidence trickster, the essence of that is that the people you are dealing with do not know that you are a con man, that the people you are dealing with have no idea that tricks and con artistry is being practiced on them. Once the people know, Mr. Speaker, once the would-be victims of a con man know that he is practicing con artistry or trickery on them, then it makes no difference how glib or how persuasive, apparently, superficially,

MR. W. ROWE:

or how good you may look on television, or how plausible your argument sounds, Sir, that makes no difference because once the people know that a person is a con artist then the jig is up and no matter how skillful or charming or persuasive the con man may be, there is no way he can any longer pull the wool over the people's eyes or peddle his wares to the people. And this is the same position, Mr. Speaker, that this present administration finds itself in now. It finds itself in that kind of a situation. Every now and then it tries to be persuasive, tries to be skillful and charming in the way it presents itself to the public, but the people are wise to their tricks and are wise to their attempts to pull the wool over their eyes.

Let me give you one or two examples, Sir, from the Budget Speech here, of attempts which were made, I would say, to try to give the people an impression that all is not in fact ill, that all is not desperately bad. On page one, for example, the minister says, "It can be said with absolute certainty that budgets brought before this hon. House particularly during the past three years, have demonstrated beyond all reasonable doubt the determination of this government to manage responsibly the financial affairs entrusted to us."

Now, Mr. Speaker, I will be saying something more broadly and generally and in some detail about the government's management of the economy a little later on. But just on the surface, Sir, first of all what an insult it is to the minister's former colleague, John Crosbie, now up in Ottawa, who was Minister of Finance for several years in this House, and who brought in budgets -

MR. DOODY: Three years ago.

MR. W. ROWE: And before. Who was the minister before that?

MR. DOODY: Val Earle.

MR. W. ROWE: Val Earle, John Crosbie, Sir, that is the kind of a government it is, Sir. What an insult, the grossest kind of an insult to John Crosbie, I think I will send him a copy too of Hansard, Sir, as the member for Grand Falls (Mr. Lundrigan) always threatens to do, to indicate to him the grossest kinds of insults thrown at him by this government, "Particularly in the last three years the government has demonstrated its determination to manage responsibly the affairs of the Province" -

MR. J. CARTER: Do not insult your cousin.

MR. W. ROWE: - giving the clear impression, Sir, that when Mr. Crosbie was Minister of Finance, or Val Earle was Minister of Finance, that there was no demonstration of the determination to manage responsibly the financial affairs, and I would agree with that, Mr. Speaker. I would agree that there was desperate irresponsibility three years ago and prior to that in the management of our economy. What I would dispute, Sir, is that over the past three years there has been any change, that there has somehow been a responsible attitude by this government, and as I say, during the course of my few brief remarks I will be making some statements in that regard and providing some evidence.

Certainly that statement flies in the face of the speech by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. Wm. Marshall), who is clear, Sir, clear in his feeling about what has happened over the past six or seven years when he admits candidly, as a supporter of this government, that the Province is on the rocks and it is bankrupt and we have a staggering public debt which is a millstone around the neck of this Province and threatens to drag it down irretrievably; that is what he thinks, Sir, Well, we will get to whom he blames it on, we will get to that, Mr. Speaker, a little later on.

MR. W. ROWE: A little further on, Sir, a little further on, just listen to this, the Minister of Finance, Sir, in his usual way, "It has been a sign of encouragement to me, as the recently appointed Minister of Finance, that we have received the support of the taxpayers of Newfoundland and Labrador for the fiscal measures we have taken." Now, Mr. Speaker, I hope that if the hon. member, who is a good lawyer, ever represents me in court, that he seeks more solid evidence to support my case than any evidence that he may have seen or has in his possession that the measures taken by this government are supported by the taxpayers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

We will not get in, Mr. Speaker, to matters which we have already talked about during the Interim Supply Bill, for example, but a government, Sir, which goes out of its way to hit the people who are least able to pay in this Province, should not claim the support, Sir, of the bulk of the taxpayers of this Province. The CBC poll, Sir, an independent poll of the CBC indicates that the only segment of society in Newfoundland and Labrador today which still has a lingering admiration for that hon. crowd over there, Sir, are the people who are making the top one per cent of the money in this Province, the well off people, people making \$30,000, \$40,000, or \$50,000 or \$60,000 or \$100,000 from their

MR. W.N. ROWE: is no longer operative, here is the statement today.'

Mr. Speaker, that kind of a statement there, "Many proposed programmes which were assessed as necessary by the government a few short years ago may no longer be necessary," the minister, Sir, should have stood up and said, "The government's statements about necessary programmes are no longer operative. The statement we made two or three years ago in order to win elections, or in order to deceive the people of the Province are now no longer operative," A Ziegler, Sir, a Ron Ziegler press statement of the worst order, and we have seen, Sir, on many occasions how this is a breach of faith and a breach of commitment by this government.

MR. NOLAN: Shame! Shame!

MR. W.N. ROWE: Another example, Sir, of double-think and double-speak coming out of the mouths of the government on page (6) of this famous budget document: "If we are to hasten our march" says the minister, "if we are to hasten our march forward we must as a people keep before us at all times the challenge of maintaining the work ethic for which all Newfoundlanders are so justly famous." The work ethic, Mr. Speaker!

Last Summer I remember driving around the Province in the month of July, other members will remember as well, the Premier in one of those visionary statements he utters, under the influence of what I do not know, these inspirational statements, came out and said that the people who are on welfare, the people who are on unemployment insurance in this Province are there, Sir, because they do not want to work, they want to be on unemployment insurance, they want to be on welfare.

MR. W.N. ROWE: would say, Sir, that the Premier's statement of last Summer is much closer to this government's philosophy of government than this gobbledygook, this double-talk that we saw in the Minister of Finance's Budget Speech a few weeks ago. Because, Sir, this government is a government which completely lacks any compassion whatsoever when it comes to the disadvantaged people in our society. Thirty of forty thousand unemployed, officially,

MR. W. ROWE:

upwards of 20 per cent unemployed officially, and in spite of these brave words uttered by the Minister of Finance, the Premier of the Province comes out and states that able-bodied people on welfare or on unemployment insurance are there because they want to be there, because they do not want to work. That is the philosophy, Sir, of this government.

MR. F. ROWE: Over 50 per cent of those under 25 in the work force are unemployed.

MR. W. ROWE: Right. Not one minister of that government, Sir, I would venture to say, believes for one minute the statement by the Minister of Finance about "keeping before us at all times the challenge of maintaining the work ethic"- not one of them, Mr. Speaker. I would say each one of them - and certainly their actions and their programmes indicate this abundantly clearly - each one of them believes rather, I would submit, Sir, the philosophy expressed last summer by the Premier of this Province, and who would be expressing it today if it were not for the fact that there was such an outrage against the callousness of that kind of a statement in a province where a government has allowed unemployment to run rampant.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Premier does not need to -
(inaudible)

MR. W. ROWE: The Premier is setting a good example, is he not, of the challenge of the work ethic.

AN HON. MEMBER: Yes, Sir, one day a week!

MR. W. ROWE: Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I just quoted one or two; there are many others as you go through the document, but the document is replete, it is filled

MR. W. ROWE: with indications and instances of double-talk, double-think, mumbo jumbo, meaningless words, Mr. Speaker, all of which do not represent any philosophy of government whatsoever, but merely represent an attempt to once more con the people, fool the people. But as I said, Sir, you can use all the skillful language you want to, you can use all the mumbo jumbo you want to, but once the people, once your intended victims are wise to your con man efforts, then no amount of persuasiveness, no amount of charm, no amount of words, convincing and persuasive as they may be, Sir, can do the trick anymore, because the game is over. The people now know that these nice sounding words, these sweet smelling words, Mr. Speaker, are not true. Nobody, Mr. Speaker, in this Province, no person in this Province is duped by this nursery tale called Budget, 1978, no one!

It is time, Sir - and I agree with the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) in this regard - it is time, Sir, for brutal frankness as far as the financial condition of this Province is concerned, brutal. Truth and honesty and frankness about where we are and where we are going economically and financially in Newfoundland and Labrador - it is the duty of everyone here, Sir, to tell it like it is - the hue and cry of the early 1970s, tell it like it is. Call a spade a spade. And, Sir, the duty that I have, and members of this House of Assembly who are speaking their own minds have in calling a spade a spade, have to admit in exercising this duty that the present Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Sir, have put this Province on the rocks financially. Why cover it up with sweet sounding words? This Province, financially speaking, Sir, is on the rocks. Essential services cannot

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MR. W. ROWE: even be coped with or dealt with in any adequate fashion. This Province, Sir, is financially on the rocks, and it is that administration that put this Province on the rocks. And that is the monumental task facing any government which takes over from this particular administration, Sir, to try to get this Province off the rocks. Because, Sir, we are on the rocks. We are on the rocks, Sir, as sure and certain as - what was his name? Captain William Martin, I believe, of the Florizel - we are on the rocks as sure as Captain Martin put the Florizel on the rocks off Cappahayden there many years ago, Sir. This Province is high and dry, as my colleague from Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) is muttering behind me here, high and dry

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MR. W.N. ROWE:

on the rocks. And it would be a token of true and honest dealing with the people if the Minister of Finance, Sir, and the Premier of this Province had come out and fairly and squarely indicated to the people where we are financially, on the rocks, and how they proposed to try to get the ship of state, the Province, off the rocks and once more in some kind of a economic deep water. You only have to look at some of the figures presented by the Budget itself, Sir. The government is convicted out of its own mouth when the government puts forward some of the facts and figures, which they do not explain, which they do not say or indicate to the people what they mean, of which they are obligated I suppose by financial necessity in order to borrow money to put in their Budget document. If you look at them and analyze them, Sir, you find that the evidence points clearly to the fact that the Province is not on the brink of bankruptcy, as was the hue and cry back in 1971, but down in the very gulf of bankruptcy.

And I do not want to hear the Minister of Finance stand up, Sir, during this debate or elsewhere or at any other time and say 'Oh, what a violation of patriotism and duty the Leader of the Opposition is now involved in, calling our Province bankrupt, Mr. Speaker'.

AN HON. MEMBER:

What a thing to say!

MR. W.N. ROWE:

This Province, Sir, is in desperate financial straits and it is no good trying to bury our heads in the sand or paper over the great, big, gaping cracks as the Minister of Finance and the Premier have tried to do. Look at exhibit one, Sir, on page 25 of the Budget, "Gross Provincial Product, percentage change from 1974 to 1975 was 12.6 per cent, from 1975 to 1976 was 11.4 per cent, from 1976 to 1977, Mr. Speaker, dropped to about 6.8 per cent, about half of the previous year, and I would venture to say, Mr. Speaker, that this year it will drop even further again.

MR. W.N. ROWE: A constant decline in our Gross Provincial Product. The same thing, Total Personal Income, in the same exhibit, Mr. Speaker; 18 per cent change upwards from 1974 to 1975, 14 per cent from 1975 to 1976, 7.9 per cent from 1976 to 1977. Again an unmistakable trend, Mr. Speaker, downwards, not upwards, but downwards. Per Capita Personal Income, the same thing again; 16.6 per cent in 1974, 12 per cent in 1975 and in between 1976 and 1977, 7 per cent change in Per Capita Personal Income. Again the unmistakable drift is there, Sir, down. Employment, 3.9 per cent change between 1975 and 1976, a 1.9 per cent change in employment, Sir, less than 2 per cent from 1976 to 1977. Again an unmistakable decline downwards in employment. The only thing that is up, Mr. Speaker, is the Unemployment Rate itself which has shown a change from 1974 of 13 per cent up to just about 16 per cent in 1977 and onward; upward again in 1978. Wages and Salaries, Mr. Speaker; again a constant decline from 1974 from 17 per cent down to 14 per cent to 6.8 per cent in 1977.

And, Sir, the clearest indication as to the drift of this government and the drift of our Province financially and economically is given in this Exhibit one, private and Public Investment in millions of dollars; from 1974 to 1975 there was an increase of just over 3 per cent; in 1975 to 1976, Sir, an increase of about 10 per cent, a moderate increase what one expect from a stagment economy, a very moderate increase. And then, Sir, in 1976 and 1977, Private and Public Investment actually decreased from the year before by over 3 per cent, showing, Sir, clearly and categorically showing the lack of faith and lack of trust by private investors in this Province at the present time and by the lack of faith and lack of trust of the government

MR. W. ROWE:

itself as far as investment in capital works and so on is concerned, an actual decrease, Sir, from one year to another. There was \$1,071,000,000 in 1976 and \$1,035,000,000 in 1977 and I would venture to say, Sir, that this year in 1978 we will see either stagnation or an actual decrease again. The clearest indication of a government which is not on the brink of bankruptcy, Sir, but is in the very valley, down in the very trough of bankruptcy as a government trying to lead this Province. Exhibit [I], Mr. Speaker, of the same budgeted document indicates again where we are headed, Exhibit [I] is the Estimated Provincial and Federal Revenues for 1973-1979, the present financial year that we are now in. If you compare, Mr. Speaker, the increase in revenue to the Province from Ottawa, it increased to about \$437-438 million in 1978 which is about a \$68 million increase over last year, money coming into the coffers of this Province from Ottawa sources, if you compare that, Sir, to the increase in the provincial tax sources and other provincial sources which was only \$45 million, Mr. Speaker, again you can see the unmistakable tendency and the unmistakable drift of this provincial government. While the economy of Canada as bad as it is has increased by \$68 million, the revenue from federal sources received by the provincial government, the provincial economy and the tax sources, the provincial tax sources and other provincial sources, yield only \$45 million, Mr. Speaker, even though on any kind of a comparable normal increase they should be about equal, roughly equal, or the provincial increase should be even greater because we are dealing with a slightly larger sum of money. But no, Sir, the increase in revenue from the Government of Canada is greater, much greater, between one and one-half and two times as great as the increase from purely provincial sources last year of say about \$45 million.

This indicates clearly, Sir, now our economy in the Province is lagging and again, Sir, it points out where this Province is

MR. W. ROSE: headed. And no number of brave words, no amount of political mumbo jumbo or slick verbiage, I suppose concocted by McConnell Advertising Agencies for the government, no amount of all of that stuff, Sir, can cover up that fact.

And another very serious fact, Mr. Speaker, as to the political philosophy and the financial philosophy of this government is shown that all provincial taxes without exception are bringing in more revenue this year to the provincial coffers with the exception, Mr. Speaker, with the exception of the corporation income tax, which has in fact decreased from last year to this year, \$24.5 million last year and \$23.5 million this year. Mr. Speaker, I do not know what that indicates to Your Honour but it indicates one of two things to me; one is that this government's fiscal and economic policies are such that they are breaking corporations in this Province and industries which are operating as corporations or, Sir, and I believe this is found to be the case from the budget, the only tax relief afforded to anybody in this Province this year was not to the man making \$7,000 or \$8,000 a year, or the large families looking for dental care or looking for a break on the school books, Sir, the only tax break given by this government in a year of tremendous austerity and financial adversity, Sir, is given to the corporations, corporations, Sir, who did not need the help because it is given to them on a break on their profits, they are given more profits. Those who are less profitable would not get any break from these tax breaks which the government has given corporations, but it is significant, Sir, as a matter of philosophy to know, and the people of this Province should know, that the only decrease in the amount of taxes from last year to this year in all the tax sources, retail sales tax, personal income tax, gasoline tax,

Mr. W. Rowe: mining taxes and royalties, insurance company taxes, all of these taxes, Sir, most of which effect the so-called little man in our society, all these indicate a higher yield this year over last year, except for the corporate income tax which this government, this Tory government, Sir, has given a break to as far as the corporate entities in this Province are concerned.

One other example of a source of revenue is the petroleum exploration source, Sir, which is shown to be down from \$200,000 last year to \$26,000 this year. And I attribute that, Sir - I hope it does go up now that a number of companies have indicated they are going to be drilling and so on. I do not know, I would like to hear the minister on this - but I attribute that drop, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that the Minister of Mines and Energy while consistently hewing to this hard line against the oil companies, I believe, by his arrogant attitude, and from what I can understand from talking to other government ministers and so on throughout Canada who have been at the same bargaining table as this hon. minister, most of the fact that companies decided not to come into this Province to drill for offshore oil this year, Sir, was that they were put off by what they perceived to be a government, not a government which was bargaining in a hard-nosed way on behalf of the people of the Province, but a government, Sir, which was arrogant in its dealings with these oil companies, and sort of a grab-all type of government, a government which gave them an indication that they were not prepared to be reasonable or sensitive to various needs of the oil companies themselves. But, Sir, I will not go into that any further; we will have a lot of opportunity to do that. I just want to draw this philosophical point to everybody's attention that the only tax which has gone down this year is not the retail sales tax, which comes off the backs of the people, or the income tax, which broadly is paid by the large middle class in our society, Sir, but the corporate income tax is gone down because this government saw fit to give a break to what I would say are, in many cases, their corporate friends, the corporate friends of this government.

Mr. W. Rowe: Mr. Speaker, the next exhibit which gives a horrifying picture of what is going on in this Province is Exhibit V, which is entitled the Public Sector Debt, what we know as the public debt in this Province. The total public debt is shown in Exhibit V to be \$2,400,000,000, direct and indirect debt for 1978 by this small Province of less than 600,000. That same Exhibit V, Mr. Speaker, and I notice that the Minister of Finance was not bragging about this in his speech, that same Exhibit V on page 29 of the Budget Speech shows that the public debt of this Province has gone up by well over \$1 billion, a thousand million dollars, in the four years since 1974; \$1 billion, Mr. Speaker, in four years, over \$1 billion, more, Mr. Speaker, more of an increase in the public debt of this Province in four years, from 1974 to 1978, than the total public debt run up by that profligate spendthrift government, referred to by the members on the other side, in twenty-three years from 1949 to 1971 or 1972.

MR. W. ROWE: There was \$900 million of a debt at that time, if my figures are correct. Something under \$1 billion.

MR. F. ROWE: Crosbie said we were on the verge of bankruptcy then.

MR. J. CARTER: On projects committed.

MR. W. ROWE: Projects committed, Sir. The hon. member can speak now when he gets his opportunity. I am sure we will hear. We can expect objectivity and rational and reasonable comments from that hon. member.

MR. STRACHAN: Savoury patch.

MR. W. ROWE: But, Sir, the brutal fact remains that in a four year period, from 1974 to 1978, the public debt of this Province went up by well over \$1 billion; in four years, more of a public debt than was incurred by the administration which preceeded this government in the twenty-three years from Confederation to 1972. That is a fact, Mr. Speaker. Not a fact that has been bragged about or boasted about by the Minister of Finance, but certainly, Sir, one which the people of this Province need to know. What, Mr. Speaker, in the name of all that is decent and honest, what, Mr. Speaker, has this government spent \$1.5 billion on since they took over in 1972? What, Mr. Speaker?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. W. ROWE: But, Sir, I choose to speak in silence and not be interrupted by any hon. member or any elongated baboon or anyone else, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member has the right to speak without interruption.

MR. W. ROWE: The hon. member will have an opportunity to speak about Liberal mistakes, or Liberal commitments, or Liberal promises or Liberal anything else. The simple fact, Mr. Speaker, and this is what the people of the Province are demanding, what happened to \$1 billion and \$1.5 billion, \$1,500,000,000, Sir, spent or squandered or thrown away or squirreled away or

MR. W. ROWE: whatever it might have been, Sir, in the six years that this government has been in office. What happened to the money? To hear that hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. W. Marshall) stand up the other day, Friday, Sir, and try to blame the civil servants of this Province, to get up and say, "The reason we are in such financial difficulty now, we are in such serious economic straits now is because the civil servants gave the government bad advice, Mr. Speaker. That is why."

Mr. Speaker, what a scurrilous way to try to support a government which is bankrupt financially and intellectually, try to blame it on the civil servants. Who are they going to blame next, Mr. Speaker? When the government got in power first in 1972 they had a great time with their witch hunting. As a matter of fact, the member for St. John's East (Mr. W. Marshall) got himself a nickname during that period of time.

MR. NOLAN: He had his own broom.

MR. W. ROWE: 'Witch Hunt Willie' they called him, not a name that I would call him, Sir. I have respect for the man. That is what they called him. So they spent the first two or three years of their term of office in blaming the former administration. Then when that wore a little tiny bit thin and the people of the Province were no longer disposed to accept that nonsense, Mr. Speaker, then they lashed out at the Government of Canada. "It is not our fault that nothing is being done or that the Province is bankrupt, or we have no money, or industries are going down the drain left, right and centre; it is the Government of Canada that is causing all this, Mr. Speaker."

MR. NEARY: That was the Opposition.

MR. W. ROWE: And now, lashing out in their desperation, they put out this bellwether here, as they did in the scandalous Moore - Dobbin agreement, they put out this bellwether to see how that would fly. "See if we can get away with blaming the civil servants for another two or three years. Maybe that will wash with the Newfoundland people. The fact that \$1.5 billion, \$1,500,000,000 is apparently down the drain in this Province over the past six years, we try to blame that on bad advice from civil servants." What next, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, just to refer to one other exhibit in this tremendous document here, Exhibit VII which is a summary of Current Account Expenditure by function, it is called, "Where the money goes," in baby talk so people can understand it. The servicing, Sir, of this

MR. W.N. ROWE: public debt I spoke about, \$2.5 billion, the servicing of this public debt is costing this Province this year \$164 million, \$163.7 million rounded off to \$164 million this year, in 1978 - 79, and will, of course, continue to be as high and continue to go up over the next number of years.

Mr. Speaker, the servicing of our public debt in this Province in this year is the third highest expense of government, third only to Education and Health, \$164 million through out the window before everything else, the third highest expenditure. After Health and Education, or Education and health to put it in their proper order, then comes the servicing of the public debt.

In 1971, Sir, 1972, when this government took over the debt charges at that time were \$44 million, \$44 million, Mr. Speaker. And at that time, in 1971-72, the servicing of the public debt was the sixth highest expense in government by function. And since there are only eight or nine functions which are outlined in this exhibit, Exhibit VII, just about every other function of government had more money spent on it than the servicing of the public debt. Now, Sir, we have arrived, under the tender mercies of this administration over the past six years, we have arrived at the point where the servicing of our debt alone, a \$2.5 billion debt, the \$2,500,000,000 debt, is the third highest expenditure and it is taking 15.5 per cent, or represents 15.5 per cent of all expenditures, Sir, nearly 16 per cent of all expenditures.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I remember being in the government seven or eight years ago when we were supposed to be bankrupt and being told by very concerned public servants and so on that once you started

MR. W.N. ROWE: to reach the level of fifteen or sixteen or seventeen or eighteen or twenty per cent, that range, Mr. Speaker, then anything could happen as far as the government's credit on the bond markets of the world was concerned. And now, Sir, we have reached the point where 16 per cent, nearly, of our expenditure is being thrown out the door on servicing our public debt where it is the third largest expenditure, 16 per cent, Sir, which is undoubtedly causing eyebrows to rise everywhere in the financial markets of the world, as they wonder whether this Province can, in fact, stagger on on a year to year basis.

MR. NOLAN: 'Alex' does not believe that. He would not be able to live with that.

MR. W.N. ROWE: A government, Mr. Speaker, which in the eyes of most credit giving agencies as far as bond market credit is concerned and so on, a government, Sir, a Province which is somewhere between a stagger and a sprawl, a government and a Province which has lost its equilibrium. And that is what the tender mercies, as I say, of this government have brought our Province over the past six years or so.

The 1978-79 debt charges, Mr. Speaker, of which I am speaking are, about twice as much as all expenditure on natural resources, agriculture, trade, industry and tourism put together. In other words, Sir, the money which is going out on the dead to pay for past extravagances.

MR. W. ROWE: We do not know where the money has gone. Has it gone in people's pockets? Where has the money gone, the 1½ billion? We know where some of it has gone and we will get around to that afterwards. We can account for several hundred millions in three or four lunatic programmes of this government which I will speak of in a moment or two, but, Sir, where has the rest gone? Yet the fact is that this money, \$1½ billion borrowed since 1972, Sir, and the servicing of which is on the dead, this amount of money is twice as much as all expenditure on our resource and our industries, all the areas of the economy, of economic development, which produces new dollars for our economy. And we talk about this great thrust, tremendous thrust, develop our natural resources, get an industrial base going, get tourism going, get fisheries going - do all that, Mr. Speaker, and what are the simple facts of the matter? After six or seven years of misadministration by this government the servicing of the public debt costs twice as much on a yearly basis as all the monies expended on our natural resources and on our industrial development and our tourism - \$164 million.

AN HON. MEMBER: And how much was it in 1971?

MR. W. ROWE: Forty-four million, Sir.

The Minister of Finance is a man, Sir, for whom I had infinite respect. I chose him and he chose me, I suppose, in a way when I first got into the articling of law back in 1966. I learned a lot under him then and I learned a lot when he was in the Cabinet before he decided to take a walk, before he decided to purchase himself a skateboard, Sir, and whip back and forth across the House for a while. And so I know, from knowing that

MR. W. ROWE: politics, and the rest of them.

AN HON. MEMBER: Just hanging on.

MR. W. ROWE: And what they are doing, Sir, now? I suppose they get some sense of heroics out of the fact that this last ditch effort of theirs - they are hanging on, they know they are finished. They know they are going to be driven into the water, so to speak, so let us burn our bridges behind us anyway, let us be like the Spartans, Sir, in Thermopylae.

AN HON. MEMBER: Horatio^o at the bridge.

MR. W. ROWE: Yes, or Horatio at the bridge, Sir. Let us put on a last ditch effort and we will all go down on the sword.

AN HON. MEMBER: My party, right or wrong.

MR. W. ROWE: But, Mr. Speaker, in the meantime it is the Province that is suffering. A government, Sir, which gives every indication to me and everyone I have spoken to of being a gigantic machine, Sir, operated by pygmies, a gigantic machine, Sir, that not one minister over there knows the overall operation of, each of them buried in his own little bailiwick, his own little dukedom or his own little department, Sir, a gigantic machine, Sir, operated by pygmies, short sighted pygmies at that, each one only able to see what is before his very eyes. In the meantime the machine is going to wrack and ruin, falling apart, rusting out, and each little pygmy, Sir, operating his own little aspect, turning this little screw and everything going to wrack and ruin.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us look at some of the more brilliant ventures. Let us look at one or two of the more

MR. W.N. ROWE:

brilliant adventures or ventures of this government which has caused such an increase in the public debt over the last number of years. We can account for some of the money, several hundred million dollars, but several hundred million dollars, Mr. Speaker, I defy anybody in this Province to say where it is gone. God only knows where some of the money that has been borrowed by this government has gone, where it has finally reached. We are finding some of it, Sir.

Another indication there today by my hon. friend, who will be disclosing this in good time, of another half million dollar rip-off by this government and their friends, Sir. When he gets all the facts and figures together, he will put it on the table of the House. Another half million dollars, Mr. Speaker, a half million dollars of the public's money ripped off by friends of this government with the active connivance of this government. And when he gets an opportunity -

MR. S. NEARY:

Conspiracy against the public treasury.

MR. W.N. ROWE:

A conspiracy against the public treasury, a breach of trust, a flagrant abuse of confidence, name it what you will, call it what you will, Sir, it has been practiced by this government.

MR. F. ROWE:

It is so common place now it is not even sensational.

MR. W.N. ROWE:

You cannot even raise a gig anymore. There was a time, Mr. Speaker, when a half million dollar rip-off would have caused the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. W. Marshall) to walk across the House or leave his Cabinet or put private member's motions down looking for investigations. It does not even cause a gig. A half million dollars, what is that?

AN HON. MEMBER:

Not anymore.

MR. W.N. ROWE:

They are so used to it, Mr. Speaker, they have become so callous over the past number of years, they have become

MR. W.N. ROWE: so used to hearing the evidence against them, they do not even mind it anymore, it does not bother them anymore and that is why it is so vitally important, Sir, for the people of this Province to have the opportunity to show what they think of the moral turpitude and the callousness, the moral callousness and the insensitivity of this government and some of the ministers in the government.

Let us look, Sir, at some of, as I say, the more brilliant ventures of Her Majesty's present administration to see where some of the hundreds of millions of dollars which have been thrown away, where they have gone, and why they were borrowed. The BRINCO takeover, the takeover of assets in Labrador of BRINCO cost what? \$160 million.

AN HON. MEMBER: Between a \$160 million and \$170 million.

MR. J. NOLAN: Over \$25 million a year interest.

MR. W.N. ROWE: About \$160 million or \$170 million, I believe, borrowed from the Bank of Nova Scotia if I remember correctly.

MR. NOLAN: Right.

MR. W.N. ROWE: For what, Mr. Speaker? I beseech Your Honour to tell me and tell my colleagues here why \$160 million or \$170 million of public funds was thrown away in the purchase of the BRINCO assets in Labrador? I ask Your Honour or the ministers of this government to tell us and tell the people of the Province what benefit the people of this Province ever obtained from the expenditure of that vast amount of money? An amount of money, Sir, even assuming the takeover was proper, an amount of money which was anywhere from a third to a half too great an amount to pay for those assets.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: The Premier of this Province - civil servants who were involved peripherally or directly in those negotiations

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MR. W.N. ROWE: will tell you, Sir, if you
get them in the right mood that the Premier of this
Province did a hopeless job of negotiating.

MR. S. NEARY: Well, the member for Kilbride (Mr.
Wells) thinks that, too.

MR. W.N. ROWE: The member for Kilbride, we will get to him
in a second. The fact of the matter is, even assuming, Mr. Speaker,
that the takeover of the BRINCO assets in some way benefited the people
of this Province, the amount paid was at least a third too much,

MR. W.N. ROWE: as much as 40 million or \$50 million, Sir, thrown away by the dereliction of duty of those people who negotiated on behalf of this Province.

But, Sir, even forgetting that for the moment, \$160 million for what? What did it achieve, Sir? And as my hon. colleague said, even the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells) admitted in a conversation and will admit in the House, if he cares to talk on the subject, admitted that his own colleagues were off their heads to be spending that kind of money, first of all to take over a private concern which had the most brilliant history of success and performance of any company in operation in Newfoundland. These are the very ones we go in and take over. On schedule and under budget, Mr. Speaker, so go in and whip the good out of that company and give them more money than they need or deserve for their assets, but take it over anyway and achieve nothing. Achieve nothing, Mr. Speaker, nothing for this Province. Maybe hundred years down the road someone will benefit from the fact that we own these assets but, Sir, the benefit could have been achieved in a different way and we would not have done what has been done, namely, to tie up the Province's credit and borrowing capacity so that people now cannot have a ditch with a pipe in it to carry their refuse to the sea in communities of 2,000 or 3,000 people, 1,500 people.

Communities cannot have a little bit of money, Sir, to get a drop of drinking water because this government, in a misguided, idiotic, lunatic attempt to prove something or other, lashed out \$160 million to take over the BRINCO assets in Labrador. That is the consequences, Sir, of that folly. We are seeing that now where you see petition after petition

MR. W.N. ROWE: brought in, desperately brought in by members, particularly on this side of the House, looking for a little bit of pavement, looking for a drop of water to drink, looking for, as I say, a ditch with a pipe in it to carry the natural concomitant of human life to the sea.

No wonder the member for Grand Falls (Mr. Lundrigan) will stand up in his usual mealey-mouthed way and say that petitions are no good. Petition are no good, Sir, I will acknowledge that, petitions are no good, not because they should not be good, they should be good, but because this government is so callous and has so strapped itself in by its stupid and lunatic policies, economic policies over the past few years, that now there is no money for the very essentials of life and ordinary housekeeping in this Province, including hospitalization, for example, adequate hospitalization.

So that is \$160 million there, Sir.

MR. NOLAN: More, if you include the interest.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Well, the interest which has been piled up or paid over the last number of years, that is right, much more.

MR. NOLAN: About \$25 million a year.

MR. W.N. ROWE: But in terms of the capital investment, \$160 million - \$200 million, Mr. Speaker, capitalized. Perhaps the Minister of Transportation and Communications can give us an exact figure, but about \$200 million laid out as a result of the take-over from Javelin of Labrador Linerboard. Would \$200 million be an accurate figure? About \$200 million, Mr. Speaker.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Again I say to Your Honour,
for what? What did it achieve?

MR. F.B. ROWE: Resettlement to Alberta.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Yes, a new resettlement programme, that is what it achieved. Resettlement to Alberta, resettlement to Saudi Arabia, resettlement to Iraq as people desperately grasp after whatever economic opportunities are left in the world having had the rug pulled out from under them by this government on the Linerboard mill. What was accomplished, Mr. Speaker, by that \$200 million fling of public money, now to be closed down by a government which is too timerous to even buck the directives of the gnomes of Wall Street \$200 million!

What would have happened, Mr. Speaker, if that Linerbaord mill had been left alone, left in private hands and it had gone bankrupt? I would say, Sir, that if the thing had been done properly, the way it should have been done rather than arrogantly with Mr. Crosbie aided and abetted by his colleagues moving in there and taking over come what may, if it had been done properly, Sir, we would have had a similar situation to what happened with the Bowater mill in Corner Brook

Mr. W. Rowe: where the original owners and operators of that found that they could not carry on with it, there was either a bankruptcy or insolvency and receivership and so on, and then it passed into-how many hands? - two or three different hands anyway before it had finally got on an even keel owned by Bowaters and is now, of course, the mainstay of a tremendous population in the Corner Brook area. But no, Sir, they were going to do the big thing, the heroic thing here, this government, and the end result was \$200 million more of public money flung out the window with both hands by this administration.

MRS. MCISAAC: That is only part of it.

MR. W. ROWE: That is only part of it, that is right, only part of it. There is more.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are buying the Linerboard wood now on -

MR. W. ROWE: That is right. That is right.

So in any event, Mr. Speaker, I am only choosing sums which can be immediately identifiable to give you an indication.

Now, Sir, let me give you another example. We used to be under the fond delusion that only \$78 million was thrown down the drain in that abortive, premature start-up or start of construction in Gull Island and the Lower Churchill, \$78 million. It turns out now, Sir, from the Budget Speech and other information that \$110 million, \$110 million of public money was picked up out of the Provincial coffers and flung away, Sir, by this government, \$110 million spent on what can only be characterized as an idiotic attempt to get Gull Island going at a time, Sir, when there were no markets, no markets, Mr. Speaker, whatsoever, no financing lined up in any way, shape, or form, and no way, Mr. Speaker, to get the Gull Island power to the market even if there had been markets with Quebec standing in the way, yet this government for some purpose or other, no one can say what, takes \$110 million of public money and flings it away.

Mr. Speaker, that attempt to get that thing started, that Gull Island operation started, Sir, was so idiotic, Mr. Speaker, so lunatic a scheme at that time that even for this government

Mr. W. Rowe: one suspects some kind of skulduggery. Nobody can believe that anybody could have been so lunatic to do that with their eyes open unless they had some kind of ulterior motive in mind, and we have often said what that ulterior motive was, it was a political ulterior motive. There may have been other ulterior motives as well since the attempt was made leading up to an election in 1975 which this government and the Premier thought they were going to lose, and they did not want to lose at all costs. And so in desperation, Mr. Speaker, they take \$110 million of public money, much needed public money, far more than is needed to build the hospitals that the people are screaming for in various parts of the Province, about half as much as is needed to build this super highway the Premier talks about across Labrador, Mr. Speaker. I suppose all of the remaining water and sewer systems in the Province, that are needed in the Province could be built for that amount of money, or nearly, and yet, Sir, people are screaming for basic public services, and here is a government that took \$110 million, Sir, and as good as threw it down the drain. You can only suspect some kind of skulduggery or other because nobody would do it with their eyes open if their motives were honest.

MR. NOLAN: Some day the member for St. John's East will tell us all about it.

MR. W. ROWE: He disagreed with it at the time is right.

MR. F. ROWE: No markets but a lot of votes.

MR. W. ROWE: Now, Mr. Speaker, look at the annual report of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for the year 1977, and what do you see? Contrary to what the Minister of Energy told me in the House the other day, or said on television, that this \$78 million loan is not lost, that it is still there in place and so on, the equipment and so on is all there, no problem, it is not lost to the Province, but contrary to what he said on television, Sir, what do we see in the annual report of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for 1977? And, Sir, given the choice between believing what is in that financial report of Hydro and what the hon. minister had to say, I will take the report any day.

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Mr. W. Rowe: What did they say, Sir? The annual report of
Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for 1977 states

MR. W. ROWE: that the terms of this loan of over \$78 million - that is where the \$78 million figure came from, because that is the loan between the Newfoundland Government and Hydro, the loan from the Newfoundland Government to Hydro, and there was more money spent besides that - but the terms of that loan of over \$78 million, Sir, from the Government of Newfoundland to Hydro is to be forgiven if the Gull Island project is not reactivated by 1980, a year and a half from now. And the Minister of Mines and Energy, Sir, tries to tell the public of this Province, tries to deceive the public of this Province, I would submit, Sir, trying to say that this money was not lost to the provincial treasury.

I would say that this report of Newfoundland Hydro gives the realistic picture and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, by the terms of their loan from the Newfoundland Government of this \$78 million loan is not to be saddled with the repayment of that money if that Gull Island project is not reactivated by 1980, a year and a half from now, which is a frank admission and acknowledgement of the fact, Sir, that that money is gone, irrevocably, irretrievably gone and even the obligation to repay it from Newfoundland Hydro to the Government of Newfoundland, evaporates, goes out of existence if the project is not reactivated by 1980, \$78 million down the drain, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, on these three items alone which I have just described to Your Honour, the Linerboard mill, the takeover of the BRINCO assets, and the \$110 million spent on the abortive start-up attempt of the Gull Island project, amounts to about \$470 million, nearly \$500 million, Mr. Speaker, laid out by this government on these three pieces of lunacy to arrive exactly no where, Mr. Speaker, to arrive at a position where we do not get any added benefits from the Upper Churchill power, for example, in this Province,

MR. W. ROWE: and will not for many years to come, to arrive at a point where the Labrador Linerboard mill is now down and out, unless something drastic happens fairly quickly, and to arrive at a point where the \$110 million on the Gull Island project is down the drain and is frankly admitted to be so by the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro annual report for 1977, which says that the \$78 million loan is to be forgiven in 1980. In other words, it is to be a burden on this Province forever and ever.

Between \$50 million and \$60 million a year, Mr. Speaker, every single year will be required from now till doomsday to service the debt incurred by this government on these three pieces of lunatic action, idiotic and stupid action by this government. Between \$50 million and \$60 million every single year, down the drain, on the dead, to cover just the servicing, not the repayment, Mr. Speaker, do not ever get the idea I am talking about the repayment of the capital cost, I am talking about the interest, the service charges alone. Out of our coffers, before anything else, before any schools are built, before any hospitals are built, any roads are paved, before any water or sewer systems are put in, \$50 million or \$60 million every single year down the drain to service this nearly \$5 billion debt incurred by this government, over the last four or five years.

That takes care of about half of the money borrowed since 1974. It takes care of about a third of the amount borrowed since the government got into power, \$1.5 billion borrowed since then. God only knows where the other \$1 billion has gone, Sir. Nobody knows where the other \$1 billion has gone. But there is half of it, or a third of it rather since 1971, \$5 billion of public money down the drain, costing us between \$50 million and \$60 million a year, obstructing our efforts to try to get credit to put in essential services.

Mr. Speaker, I remember one day in Grand Falls reading the chapter in Richard Gwynn's book on

MR. W. ROWE: on Joe Smallwood, J.R. Smallwood, Dr. Smallwood, I remember the chapter about Mr. Smallwood's efforts to get industrialization going in this Province and Richard Gwynn came to the conclusion that Mr. Smallwood's industrial efforts, many of which were not successful but many of which were, Mr. Smallwood's industrial attempts may have cost the public treasury of this Province about \$10 million. I remember Richard Gwynn coming to that conclusion in one of his chapters, I was there reading the book late at night and I remember saying to myself, I remember feeling rather a little bit stomach sick at the thought that maybe \$10 million had gone down the drain in government's efforts to try to develop industry in this Province, \$10 million, Mr. Speaker, An effort made in good faith, an effort made with great energy, great forethought but still some money lost, and, Sir, that \$10 million was a mere flea bite, a mere nothing compared to the money which has been wasted down the drain, up the pipe, describe it as you will, nothing compared to the money wasted, public money wasted by this government— \$10 million over a twenty-three year period, a half a billion dollars, Mr. Speaker, fifty times as much, if my mathematics is correct, on these three schemes alone, Mr. Speaker, just on these three schemes alone over a period of five or six years. And this government, Sir, tries to pretend to the Newfoundland people that all is well, nothing has gone wrong, everything is okay, that they deserve to have the trust and confidence of the Newfoundland people as far as the administration of their government is concerned.

As we said earlier, Sir, they won an election in 1972 by saying, among other untruths, that the Province was on the brink of bankruptcy. Sir, I do not want to be an alarmist but if there is any shred of decency or honesty left in the leaders of that administration, I am not talking about the member for Ferryland (Mr. Power) down there, he is naive and innocent of the matter, I am not talking about some of the other backbenchers, but if there is any decency or shred of honesty, honest dealing with the people of this Province

MR. W. ROWE: left in the leaders of that administration they would tell the people that they have ruined the economy of this Province, that if we were on the brink of bankruptcy then we are down in the gulf of bankruptcy now at this point in time.

Sir, the public and the media generally should know that just because there are clowns and buffoons in charge of something does not necessarily mean that it is a comedy. It is quite possible for clowns and buffoons to be in charge, Mr. Speaker, and for the matter still to be a grave tragedy and that is how I characterize this administration. The evidence points clearly to the fact that at the very least there are clowns and buffoons in charge, not to characterize it or not to give any ulterior motives to some of the strange and desperate seeming things which have been done. Clowns and buffoons, Mr. Speaker, but that does not mean it is a comedy because it is a tragedy what has happened over the past six years and it is going to continue to be a tragedy as long as this administration holds office, a tragedy of the worst possible proportions.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know how much time I have left out of my ninety minutes but I intend I hope I am given some warning beforehand because I intend before closing my remarks to move a motion of no confidence by way of amendment to the motion that we are now debating.

MR. SPEAKER: (Collins) Perhaps the Officers of the table can inform the hon. member.

MR. W. ROWE: So I will continue with my remarks here now. And leading up to that point in time, Sir - I went over the Budget, Mr. Speaker. Remember now, we are in a very bad period of austerity. I went over the estimates and spent a few minutes on it trying in a very superficial, almost random fashion - because we do not have expert advice at our disposal, all the programmes have not been sifted through by accountants and auditors and so on, but, Sir, a very cursory, superficial attempt by myself indicated where in the present estimates for 1978 it is possible to save this year alone \$3 million of money which has needlessly been spent. Now this is just as I say, a random and cursory effort on my part.

The Premier's Office, Sir, which appears as Heading No. 302 in the estimates shows that the Premier is spending \$538,000 in his office this year, compared to \$170,000 in 1971. Now the Premier in 1970 or 1971, Sir, I did not notice that he was neglected, that he was writing his own letters by hand or anything. We have a very distinguished member of our staff here who was in the Premier's Office and I will not embarrass her by making any further allusion, but I did not notice that the Premier was going around ill-attended. He had \$170,000 to spend in his office in 1970, 1971. The Premier this year has \$538,000. Mr. Speaker, even if you doubled the amount being spent in 1970, 1971 to account for inflation and normal sort of attrition and so on of the dollar, even if you doubled it you could still in that office alone, Mr. Speaker, with any kind of an effort, you could save \$250,000 - \$200,000 in any event - just in that office

MR. W. ROWE: alone. And the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) tells us we all have to tighten our belts, Sir. And here is the Premier's Office showing, itself, the worst possible extravagance, the worst possible example of a spendthrift office in this government - \$200,000 and he could still be as well attended and well looked after as the former Premier, Sir, who when I was a minister, I did not notice suffered unduly.

The Special Action Group, Sir: We have said enough about that already. No. 307 is the heading - over \$1 million being spent on that this year. That would be a saving, Mr. Speaker, if there was any rationality or reasonableness in that government at all, a saving there of \$1 million, Mr. Speaker, money which is being spent without any warrant or merit whatsoever. Not to mention the \$1 million spent needlessly last year. I am not even going to get into that, the money squandered last year on that programme, Sir. But this \$1 million being spent this year on the Action Group which has proven itself to be a complete failure in every way, which has proven itself to be nothing more or less than a payoff to the ad agency of the P.C. Party - McConnell, is it? - McConnell Agencies up there in Montreal, Sir, that \$1 million can be saved, and there would not be one whimper, Sir, and there would not be one belt tightened in this Province as a result of that saving.

Then in the Department of Finance, No. 407, we have entertainment to the tune of \$190,000. Now I do not know what the government is planning to do, refloat the Queen Elizabeth or whatever it was that burned over in Hong Kong or something. Maybe that is what

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MR. W. ROWE: they have in mind, Sir,
\$190,000 entertainment in this beknighted, poverty-
stricken Province.

PR in that department is
\$38,000. Now, Sir, give them \$100,000 entertainment and
the PR, whatever is necessary there, and you have a
savings in the Department of Finance alone, not one of
the larger spending departments by any means, of \$100,000,
Sir, \$100,000 of public money.

The budworm control programme
is costing \$2.2 million less \$800,000 which is going to be
recovered,

MR. W.N. ROWE: so it is a cost of \$1.4 million. Now, it is a matter of opinion I agree as to whether that should be saved or not and whether it could be put to better use by salvage operations and conservation methods and so on and so forth, so I will pass over that for the moment, Sir. But it is there, \$1.4 million being spent and there are very grave differences of opinion whether that amount of money should be spent at all, \$1.4 million of public funds.

The Department of Tourism,
Sir: The Norma and Gladys is costing \$75,000. Now, if that cannot be saved, Mr. Speaker, without tightening any belts! I mean, the lack of priorities by this government which got elected on the hue and cry of priorities - \$75,000 on the Norma and Gladys and hospitals cannot be constructed and brought up to a decent level.

Industrial Development
headed in this House by the Minister of Industrial Development: What can you say about the Minister of Industrial Development? I hesitate to say anything, Sir.

MR. NEARY: Out West Jack Davis was denied -

MR. W.N. ROWE: Yes, Jack Davis did the honourable thing in that particular case.

Industrial Development:
Promotion, Mr. Speaker, \$300,000. Now, Sir, I venture to say that the amount of that money that is going on legitimate promotion, Sir, the amount of dollars, the number of dollars could be counted on the fingers of one mangled hand - \$300,000 for promotion, Industrial Development. Let us get serious for a few minutes in the House. Studies and consultant services, \$400,000. I say, Sir, that that \$700,000, at least half of it, is an outright rip-off and a payment. That money will

MR. W.N. ROWE: eventually find its way into the pockets of friends of this government and the friends of the P.C. Party including, again, our famous ad agencies.

MR. MORGAN: He sounds more like 'Steve' every day.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Sounds more like 'Steve'. Listen to that courageous minister, Sir.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Motor-mouth. Motor-mouth.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order!

MR. W.N. ROWE: The Department of Industrial Development, Sir - I do not wish to be disturbed by a man who does not have the courage of a flea, a man who will take on his government and then -

MR. NEARY: We call him a louse, not a flea.

MR. W.N. ROWE: - sir, be back down the next day by a word from his boss. Mr. Speaker, he does not even have the courage of his convictions so I do not choose to be interrupted by a man for whom I have nothing but the utmost in contempt.

MR. PECKFORD: That is great stuff, boy.

MR. W.N. ROWE: That is great stuff.

MR. NEARY: Watch your time there, 'Bill'.

MR. F.B. ROWE: You have ten minutes - eight minutes.

MR. W.N. ROWE: A rip-off, Sir, of at least \$350,000 by way of - at least that, it may all be a rip-off - but I venture to say that in the Department of Industrial Development there is a minimum of \$350,000 of a rip-off that could be saved to this Province under the headings of Promotion and Studies and Consultant Services. We could save \$350,000 there, minimum.

Transportation, Sir, 1708
in the estimates. Air services: Well over \$5 million

MR. W. ROWE: Environment management and control relating to air, water and soil pollution is costing \$1.9 million. And judging from the attitude of that minister over there every time he is asked a question about trying to save the economy, all of that should be cut out or could be cut out. But I will just pass over that and refer specifically to his abandoned vehicles disposal of \$100,000 which could be saved, because again, there is something rotten in that particular deal -

MR. NEARY: You can say that again!

MR. W. ROWE: - \$100,000 there of public money, Sir, being spent on one of the shadiest deals imaginable.

So, Sir, not counting the \$1.4 million regarding the spruce budworm and not counting the \$1.9 million for environmental controls and air, water and soil and so on, Sir -

MR. NEARY: They sold the car wrecks, you know. They got a deal on the car wrecks.

MR. W. ROWE: - not counting these things, a very superficial, almost random look at the Budget estimates show possible savings this year, Mr. Speaker, of over \$3 million. And a deeper probe, I am sure, with the expert advice available to anybody in government or anybody with a complete knowledge would show savings of tens of millions of dollars - at least \$50 million. I just went through in ten minutes and found \$3 million. If you spent a few days on the project with expert advice and full knowledge of government, Sir, there would be tens of millions of dollars of savings this year alone. And, Sir, those savings do not count at all the cost of servicing our debt resulting from

MR. W. ROWE: the wastage and the stupidity and the squandering and political deceit and the skulduggery over the past six or seven years.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before I get into a few more remarks, I would like to move by way of amendment to the motion we are now debating, which is a motion that Your Honour do leave the Chair, to move, Sir, seconded by the member for Fogo district (Capt. E. Winsor) that all the words after 'that' be deleted and the following words substituted therefor: "Owing to the government's mismanagement of the finances of the Province, resulting in the raising of taxes above the acceptable level, the downgrading of essential public services and a crushing public debt; and owing to the government's misuse of public money, resulting in police investigations, public inquiries and the laying of criminal charges, this House, reflecting the will of the vast majority of the people of the Province, has no confidence in the government."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: It has been moved by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and seconded by the hon. the member for Fogo that all the words after 'that' be deleted and the following words substituted therefor: "Owing to the government's mismanagement of the finances of the Province, resulting in the raising of taxes above the acceptable level, the downgrading of essential public services and a crushing public debt; and owing to the government's misuse of public money, resulting in police investigations, public inquiries and the laying of criminal charges, this House, reflecting the will of the vast majority of the people of the Province, has no confidence in the government."

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

MR. W. ROWE: If that amendment is in order -
and I would assume now that my time is no longer limited
by the ninety minute rule - and, Sir, I have no intention of
speaking for eighteen days, as much as I could very well
speak for eighteen days, there are one or two other
things that I would like to say.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to
speak for a very few minutes on the second part of that
resolution to begin with: "Owing to the government's
misuse of public money, resulting in police investigations,
public inquiries and the laying of criminal charges,
this House, reflecting the will of the vast majority of
the people of the Province, has no confidence in the
government." The misuse of public money, Sir, as against
the mere negligent use of money or the mismanagement of the
finances of the Province, Sir, the misuse, the terrible
misuse of millions of dollars of public money, and in
doing so, Sir, one has to ask this question, a Biblical
question in a way, I guess, Can any good, Sir, come from
a government whose very conception was steeped in corruption?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order.

MR. HICKMAN: The hon. gentleman has been making, including in that second paragraph of the resolution that is presently before the House, accusations that are quite unparliamentary against members of government collectively. Misuse of public funds with the connotation and reference immediately thereafter of criminal investigation and charges, I submit, Mr. Speaker, is very much out of order, it is not too becoming of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition either, when he will stand in this House and either directly or by innuendo, suggest to this House that any hon. member of this House, be it a member of government or anyone else, is guilty of misuse of public funds, and goes on to qualify that so that there can be no mistake about it, that he is not talking about mismanagement, he is not talking about misspending, he is talking about missuse with the criminal connotation that goes therewith. And I say, Mr. Speaker, that under the rules of this House and particularly set forth in paragraph 155 of Beauchesne, that that is a statement -

MR. W. ROWE: What paragraph?

MR. HICKMAN: 155. The whole context of 155, the imputation of false or unavowed motives, to question the honour of one or more of the hon. members of this House, the speaking derisively of other members, that a member has taken a course of action unworthy of a minister, all of these things, Mr. Speaker, read within the context of the decent and responsible rules and courtesy towards - that is so essential in this House. I submit that in this particular case the way in which the hon. gentleman has framed his statement leaves a connotation that is not within the rules. And I have no objection to the hon. gentleman getting up and saying this government is not

MR. NEARY: properly managing the funds of the Province, of the people and that we are not spending it properly, in the sense that it could be spent more wisely, that is a matter of opinion, a difference of opinion, but casting reflection upon hon. members of this House is not within the rules.

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

MR. W. ROWE: To that point of order, Sir, the use of the word misuse is a neutral word. It is a word which can mean anything practically, Money that is not put to its proper use, it is missused, it is money that might have been spent for a purpose that it should not have been spent on, in my opinion. Sir, on the use of the word "misuse", there is no imputation or connotation of anything improper in terms of criminality or anything unparliamentary on the part of a minister of an individual, and second of all, Sir, I am talking about the government as an institution, this particular administration and no particular minister therein, Sir, resulting - Now, Sir, the misuse of public money resulted in police investigations, public enquiries and the laying of criminal charges.

MR. F. B. ROWE: All true.

MR. W. ROWE: Now, Sir, I mean it is a matter of opinion. I would say it is a matter of fact but even if it is a matter of opinion, the fact of the matter is that there have been police investigations commissioned by this government involving the expenditure of money by this government. There have been public enquiries involving the expenditure of money by this government. There have been the laying of criminal charges involving the spending of money, Sir, and it is my opinion that some of the matters involved therein, involved the misuse of public money by the government. But I am not attributing unworthy motives to the hon. member opposite, or his colleagues. I am not imputing anything criminal to the hon. member opposite, or any of them. I am not imputing anything unparliamentary

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MR. W. ROWE: to the hon. members opposite. And Sir, it does not come within I would submit, Sir, the abusive and insulting language portion of Beauchesne, which are words which are unparliamentary and therefore have to be withdrawn per se, just because they are unparliamentary, whether it is true or not. There is nothing there about that, Sir, and Sir, I certainly do not intend to impute any unworthy motives, any criminal action, any mens rea or actus reus, any

Mr. W. Rowe: unparliamentary action on behalf of the ministers of this government, on the part of ministers of this government or any of the colleagues on that side of the House, Sir. I would submit, Sir, that the word 'misuse' is a natural word connoting nothing unworthy in terms of criminality or unparliamentary conduct, and that it is a matter of record that the expenditure of public money which I characterize as misuse of public money has, in fact, resulted as a matter of record in police investigations, public enquiries, and the laying of criminal charges, not against, Sir, any member of this House, persons outside of the House or involving people outside of the House, Sir. And, Sir, therefore I would submit that the point of order is not a point of order, and that there is nothing unparliamentary about what I had to say.

Now, the other point is that Your Honour looked at it when I passed it up to Your Honour, and read it out, and saw nothing unparliamentary about it. I fully appreciate the fact that Your Honour can have argument brought to his attention at any time. Your Honour was apparently willing - and Your Honour does not have to wait until points of order are raised before ruling that something is unparliamentary - Your Honour saw nothing wrong with it, ab initio, at the beginning, and it was only after the Minister of Justice had his feelings hurt by reading it that he jumped to his feet and raised the point of order, Sir. I will submit that there was no point of order and that the amendment is entirely within the rules and the procedures and the traditions and customs of this hon. House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: In examining the amendment and the submissions with respect to whether it is in order or not I focused my attention, as hon. members have, to the second paragraph thereof which is in essence an allegation or a series of allegations that the government has misused public money, and that resulting from this there have been investigations by the police, public enquiries, and the laying of criminal charges. I do not see in the amendment any allegation

Mr. Speaker: against any member of the House. I do not see any allegation of corruption, an allegation of criminality, or an allegation of any such nature. I am not aware of any allegation or insinuation that public money has been put and absconded with or used for personal advantage or personal benefit.

The motion before the Chair essentially that - well the motion before the Chair is that the Speaker leave the Chair for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means. That is the formal motion. A number of jurisdictions have altered that and the motion is that this House agrees with the financial policy of the government, from all practical purposes, that is really what the motion on the Budget debate is. And as I understand it, what the hon. member is stating here is that, in his opinion, the financial policies of the government are not proper because public money has been spent in inappropriate ways, and that, again in his opinion, resulting from that certain things have happened.

If I were aware of any allegation of personal wrongdoing on the part of any member, any allegation of corruption, criminality, collusion in either of those, or other areas of unparliamentary expression, then I would certainly rule it out of order, or rule that part of it out of order. But, in my opinion, the allegations are not ones of a personal nature, but a means of stating the hon. member's opinions on the expenditure of money by the government or the financial policy of the government or the budgetary provision or however one wishes to phrase it. That is my opinion, and that being so I am not in a position to rule it out of order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: Thank you, Sir. I was going to launch into a short history of the involvement of this government in matters which could be only characterized as unsavory over the past six or seven years. I am going to save that, Sir, until tonight.

MR. NEARY: You will need a full stomach before you can.

MR. W.N. ROWE: I will save that, Sir, until I have the stomach for it. And what I will concentrate on now is this government's answer, this administration's answer to the perilous and disastrous course which this government itself has the Province on as far as the economics and finances and the economy, generally, of the Province are concerned.

MR. HICKMAN: Old gloom and doom himself.

MR. W.N. ROWE: What is this government's answer, Mr. Speaker? This government's answer is a tired old cliché dragged out by heavens knows whom - must be this McConnell Agency again - this blueprint for development. Premier Smallwood I remember won an election in 1966 on a similar -

MR. S. NEARY: That was maps.

MR. W.N. ROWE: That was maps, blueprint, foundation. We built the foundation now we are going to build on it.

MR. S. NEARY: The Clouter special maps.

MR. W.N. ROWE: We had these tremendous maps, we had this blueprint, this great blueprint for development, Mr. Speaker. -

MR. S. NEARY: Be careful now because I did the maps.

MR. W.N. ROWE: And it was a magnificent piece of work. It was a piece of work which was based on reality. Now they have come out again, this government, with a blueprint for development.

MR. S. NEARY: Everything has been done, everything was done in these maps.

MR. W.N. ROWE: And 80 per cent or 85 per cent of the promises and commitments made on those maps, Sir, was, in fact, accomplished over the succeeding five years, the term of office of that administration.

MR. S. NEARY: That is right.

MR. W.N. ROWE: And now we see the same tired old cliché being trotted out.- I do not know how much the government paid or the PC Party paid McConnell Agencies to draft that blueprint for development but, Sir, they did not get their money's worth. Rather, Sir, it is a blueprint for disaster if anything because, Sir, it is based on pure wishful thinking, the purest wishful thinking, Sir, with nothing by way of reality or the life of our Province, the real life of our Province being involved at all.

The goal of the Province's government is to increase our Gross Provincial Product at an average of 6 per cent per year in real terms. Six per cent per year, Mr. Speaker, in real terms-that means subtracting the effect of inflation - we are going to increase our Gross Provincial Product at an average of 6 per cent per year in real terms.

Now, Mr. Speaker, during the last two years under this present government our Gross Provincial Product in real terms, Sir, was 1.3 per cent. That is how much our Gross Provincial Product increased over the past two years on an average each year, 1.3 per cent and this government is coming into the House, Sir, and asking the people of this Province to believe for two seconds that they are capable, they have the will, the energy, the ambition, the ideas to increase our Gross Provincial Product by 6 per cent per year in real terms over the next five years leading up to 1982. It is a sick joke, Mr. Speaker, a sick joke.

Canada's Gross National Product over the past two years was 2.8 per cent, say, about a little less than 3 per cent. And this government here with their history of mismanagement and neglect and blunders and malice aforethought is

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MR. W.N. ROWE: going to increase our Gross
Provincial Product by 6 per cent per year, Sir, in real terms.
I do not know what that would be including inflation but you
would be talking about somewhere around -

MR. NEARY: Eight or nine.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Or more. 12 per cent, perhaps,
maybe 10 per cent

MR. W. ROWE: anyway per year, including inflation. So, Sir, we have on the one hand this goal, this aim, this projected increase in our gross provincial product by this government of 6 per cent which is laughable compared to their history over the past number of years and the experience that we have with them where we have this grandiose scheme, Mr. Speaker, of what they are going to do, and yet, Sir, on the other hand, the smallness of the government's ambition over the next five years is equally evident. They are going, Sir, to reduce unemployment to 10 per cent by 1982. They are going to reduce the unemployment rate in this Province to 10 per cent, Sir, back to the rate it was in 1973. That is progress, Sir, in ten years of administration of government, reduce the unemployment rate back to what it was in 1973. The unemployment rate, Mr. Speaker, for the record, when this administration took office in 1972 - 1971, in that area -

MR. SIMMONS: January 18, 1972.

MR. W. ROWE: - January 18, 1972. The year before they took office, Sir, the unemployment rate in this Province was 9 per cent. And this government is asking the people of Newfoundland and Labrador to let them go on and administer the Province's affairs until 1982 - ten years, and after ten years of administration of the Province's affairs, Sir, the unemployment rate at that time will be more than it was when the administration took over in 1972 when it was 9 per cent and then considered to be a disastrously high unemployment rate. That is ambition, Mr. Speaker. That is progress over a ten year period for you. And how are they going to do that? How is the

MR. W. ROWE: government going to reduce the unemployment rate down to 10 per cent by 1982? Mr. Speaker, they are going to create 40,000 jobs by that period in time.

Mr. Speaker, you can always tell when a government is floundering desperately around looking for its own salvation. You can always tell, Sir, because it starts to fling around figures, it starts to pluck figures, numerals, numbers out of the air and starts to use those and starts to fling them around to substitute for thought and action and ideas.

I remember when Premier Bourassa's government - happens to be a government which is the same stripe as our party here - they started to get in trouble in Quebec. What did we hear from that hon. Premier? 'We are going to create 100,000 jobs.' That was his goal. And when I read that in the paper I said to myself, Sir - and I am no political wizard, I have some political acumen I hope - when I read that figure I said, 'That Premier is finished! He is gone!' Because as soon as you have a government, Sir, which grabs these nice round figures out of the air and flings them out as pap to the populace - 100,000 jobs, this government here, 40,000 jobs by 1982 - once a government substitutes that, trying to pull the wool over the people's eyes, trying to substitute nice round figures for action and thought, Mr. Speaker, then that government is finished, down the drain. And we saw what happened, of course, in Quebec to the Bourassa government, which I admired in many ways, and certainly, Bourassa I admired in many ways. I had a chat with him there about two or three months ago in Quebec, a man who is very interesting, a dedicated public figure got the

MR. W. ROWE: gears, Mr. Speaker, from the electorate. And the people there put in a government which was Separatist, but that was not why they put them in. They put them in because this government of Mr. Bourassa's was over the brink, it was finished, had run out of ideas, got its fingers in the wringer just once too often. One or two little shady deals - not on the part of Mr. Bourassa, the Premier, but a number of his top-ranking civil servants and colleagues in the government had their fingers in the jam jar, Sir. Inquiries, crime probes, you name it, exactly the same parallel situation, Sir, that we are going through here in this Province. Fling out the figures - 40,000 jobs, public inquiries, police investigations - an air, an odour of desperation surrounding the government. Arrogance - you can no longer explain to the people because the people do not believe you any longer, so, Sir, you have to stonewall. Nixon did the same thing. He had to stonewall, Sir. He had to say, 'No, we are not even going to listen to argument. We are going to spray your water but we are not going to listen

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MR. W. ROWE: to any countervailing arguments against that practice. We are not going to listen to this, we are not going to listen to that, we are just going to go ahead and do it and, Sir, that is the first sign of a government on the rocks and this government is now doing exactly the same thing. Forty thousand jobs by 1982, 21,000 of those jobs, Mr. Speaker, will happen anyway, by the government's own admission, whether there was a blueprint, whether there was a government in existence or not - 21,000 jobs, over half the jobs promised by the creative impulses, the inspiration of this government, 21,000 jobs would happen whether the government lifted its baby finger or not to try to create employment in the Province. Some 6,900 jobs are apparently contingent on Gull Island starting in 1979 including, of course, the work force at the Gull Island site itself which would be about what? - 3,100 jobs I think at peak but somebody came up with the figure of 6,900 jobs contingent on Gull Island starting in 1979; 1,000 jobs, Mr. Speaker, depend on the Labrador Linerboard reopening. There is a creative effort for you, that is how we are going to create 1,000 jobs. By 1982 we will reopen the Linerboard mill which we closed down. And 6,000 jobs, Mr. Speaker, of the 40,000 grandiosely announced by the Minister of Finance, 6,000 of those jobs are jobs in the government or in Crown agencies, additions to the Civil Service in other words, which leaves, Sir, after the 21,000 jobs which would be created anyway and the 6,900 at Gull Island and the 1,000 on Labrador Linerboard and 6,000 in the government that leaves about 5,000 new jobs which this great leap forward by the government is going to create in the next five years, 1,000 jobs a year, Mr. Speaker, 5,000 jobs.

Mr. Speaker, was there ever such a meager, small and mean attempt to deal with the terrible economic difficulties of this Province? One thousand jobs a year, 5,000 jobs are going to be created by this government. Because, Sir, of the 40,000 promised in a deceitful way, Sir, I would submit by the government, of that 40,000 promised as a result they tried to convey to the people of government effort 35,000, Sir, are either not new jobs at all, Mr. Speaker, or are contingent

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MR.W. ROWE: on things happening which are by no means certain or far from certain like the Gull Island start or jobs that are going to happen anyway.

This is a government, Mr. Speaker, which is bereft of all ideas and all actions, a government, Sir, which is waiting for the spark from heaven to fall to save it. If a miracle happens, Mr. Speaker, if a miracle happens, if everything clicks into place unemployment will be ten per cent in 1982. Now there is an ambition for you, Sir, there is an ambition for you. Sir, if I was the leader of that government and the best I could come up with after six or seven years of experience in government was that we were going to decrease our unemployment rate to ten per cent of the labour force, Sir, I would get out in shame with my tail between my legs. Sir, you have to

MR. W.N. ROWE: look at this in its full perspective. The fact is that over that period of time, Mr. Speaker, tens of thousands of young people, young families in this Province will leave Newfoundland and Labrador and will go to Central Canada, go to Western Canada, go to Asia, Arabia, Europe, you name it, wherever there is some economic action, Sir, go to the Tar Sands, go anywhere to find employment and of those left behind, the poor meager few left behind we are going to have an unemployment rate of 10 per cent, a greater unemployment rate than the Province had back in 1970 and 1971, the year before this government took over.

Other matters in this famous blueprint for disaster, as I have called it, Mr. Speaker, because it cannot be characterized as anything else, it is not development. The best you can say about it is that it is just so much excess verbiage, so much tedious reading. But if the government really believes what it says in that blueprint, then it really is a blueprint for disaster. The government says in that blueprint that it is going to spend relatively more on resource programmes, so everybody's ears pick up. They say, Okay, there is \$164 million being spent on our public debt to service that, which is twice as much as is being spent on all resource programmes put together plus industrial development, plus tourism. Then the government says it is going to spend relatively more on resource programmes. It sounds tremendous, Mr. Speaker. A tremendous economic thrust forward by this administration and what does it turn out to be, Sir, when you look at the figures? It turns out to be a 3 per cent increase in resource spending over the next five years. Three per cent is going to be the increase in resource spending over the next five years. This is the

MR. W.N. ROWE: relatively more on resource programmes, Mr. Speaker, a clear example of an attempt to deceive the people of this Province. Such a paltry, pathetic figure being mentioned as relatively more being spent on resource programmes.

Similarly, Mr. Speaker, we are given the impression by reading this blueprint, this great blueprint for development, we are given the impression that there is going to be a tremendous breakthrough in technical training, there is going to be a tremendous breakthrough in the teaching of skills to our young people. That is the impression we are given, Sir. And then you read the words, you read behind the weasle words as they are uttered in this blueprint and what do you see? You see, on page (9) of this blueprint, "Construction could commence on a polytechnical institution this year if DREE funding can be obtained."

Mr. Speaker, Newfoundland and Labrador could be the richest, most prosperous province on the face of the earth if only pigs could fly. Mr. Speaker, if only everyone woke up and found a million dollars worth of gold bullion under their beds tomorrow morning we would be really well off. But the great breakthrough in technical training for the young people of this Province, a desperately needed breakthrough, Sir, because we are graduating only about one-half of the average across Canada with trades and skills and technical training, only about one-half of the average, and about one-quarter of the rate graduated in Ontario and Alberta, the great breakthrough, Sir, is that construction could commence on a polytechnical institute this year if DREE funding from Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, can be obtained.

Mr. Speaker, we have been

MR. W.N. ROWE: hearing this year, after year, after year. Are we ever going to hear the end of it? This government which kicks out at Ottawa at every opportunity, this government which tries - the Minister of Transportation looks at me hard. I will exempt him from my general condemnation because he, every now and then, praises somebody in Ottawa. The Minister of Fisheries, Sir, trying to cover up his own sad tenure of office as minister, the neglect and mismanagement of that department together with the six or seven others who preceded him there, lashes out at Ottawa at every given opportunity. And here we go, Sir! How are we going to get this great breakthrough in technical training? We are going to sit around and wait for DREE funding to be obtained and if we can get that, Sir, construction could very well commence on a polytechnical institute this year. A clear

Mr. W. Rowe: bankruptcy of ideas once more, Mr. Speaker, as far as education and training is concerned.

The mention of Port Labrador is dragged in to this blueprint, and the idea of shipping iron ore in processed form to world markets from Port Labrador. What a laugh I got, Mr. Speaker, when I read that first or heard it read first. What a chuckle, Mr. Speaker! A Labrador programme copied slavishly from the motion put together by myself and my friend for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan), my friend from St. John's West (Dr. Kitchen), Mr. Speaker, who for the first time since this administration took office articulated and put on paper a clear sense of direction for the development of Labrador by any administration, a government, Sir, which had shown its sad neglect of that most important part of our Province, Sir, by its history of dealing with Labrador over the past five years. And what the people of Newfoundland and Labrador, living in Labrador City now thought of this administration, Mr. Speaker, and thought of the Premier, and thought of their member, the member for Menihek (Mr. Rousseau), the Minister of Manpower, what they thought of them, Sir, was clearly evident over the weekend when he went up there. It took my colleague and myself, Mr. Speaker, to open the eyes of this government to the fact that there was a problem, a feeling in Labrador West that Labrador West was being ignored and neglected by this government, that this government was fiddling while Rome burned, that this government was burying its head in the sand while Quebec made its moves to incorporate that part of Labrador economically and psychologically, in every other way into its expanding empire.

MR. STRACHAN: Fishing while Labrador burned.

MR. W. ROWE: Pardon?

MR. STRACHAN: Fishing while Labrador burned.

MR. W. ROWE: Yes, that is right. Fishing, Sir, while Labrador burned, is right.

And they got an idea, Sir, - "Demonstrators kick, pound on car carrying the Premier and the minister." Nobody condones activity, Sir, which has even the threat of violence in it - I understand

Mr. W. Rowe: the Premier enjoyed it so that headline must be a little bit above the true situation. I do not know. The Premier enjoyed his experience. And as I say, Sir, nobody condones even the apprehension of violent activity, but, Mr. Speaker, there was a clear indication, I hope, given to the Premier and to the neglectful Minister of Manpower, the member for Menihek (Mr. Rousseau) district, that this is not a non-issue in Labrador West, that it is a serious issue. And what do we get in the blueprint for development? We get this idea of Port Labrador and a few more things about processing iron ore dragged in, Sir, as an afterthought, obviously. No concern whatsoever about the development of that part of our Province.

Mr. Speaker, also in this blueprint for development mention is made of the reference to the Supreme Court of Canada regarding this Province's claim to jurisdiction over our offshore resources. Early in 1979, Mr. Speaker, in other words, say, a year or so from now there will be a reference to the Supreme Court on this very important issue. Mr. Speaker, I have been listening for six or seven years about this reference to the Supreme Court to get this matter resolved. One can only ask, Mr. Speaker, why has this incredible delay on such a vitally important matter taken place?
Lawyers

MR. W. ROWE: are working on the problem I know, but it is up to the government, the political heads of the government, to spur this effort onward. If you leave a lawyer or a public servant alone, Sir, without any sense of urgency, he will spend days and months and weeks, years on the problem. I wish the Minister of Mines and Energy was here because he has tried to give the impression that he is in total control of what is going on in his department and these momentous issues like our offshore resources. I say here and now, Sir, that he is not in control. We have gotten an example of how that minister thinks and the strange quirks to his psychology by the reading of letters in the House, his arrogance, the way he will use his office to bully constituents or other people in the Province. We now know what he is like, Sir. He has tried to give the impression, and successfully for a while, but I believe he has killed himself politically now, tried to give the impression that he is in control of all these matters. The fact of the matter is, Sir, that there is nobody in control of this very important issue of reference to the Supreme Court of our claim, a joint reference regarding our claim to the jurisdiction of the offshore resources contiguous to this Province. Nobody in control, Sir! And I say here now that these are so many words again, 'early in '79! It was going to be early in '74, then '75, '76, '78. No sense of urgency, Sir. Nobody in control. Instead we have these incredible delays over matters which should be resolved. Because, Mr. Speaker, no - I do not care what assurances are given by Ottawa, or this Province, no company, no corporation which is lashing out tens of millions of dollars to explore wants to do so in an atmosphere of uncertainty. You can give all the ministerial assurances you want, governments change, documents are subject to interpretation, signed documents. We have Premiers who

MR. W. ROWE: will even repudiate their own signature.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. W. ROWE: The Premier will get up in this House, Sir, and say, "Oh yes, I signed my name to that. That does not mean anything. My signature means nothing." So, therefore, the fact that we spent \$300 million exploring over the past ten years is nothing, changed our minds now.

Mr. Speaker, this matter has to be resolved in a legal forum, the highest legal forum in the land and that is one of the reasons why this Province is having difficulty attracting people to spend the money in the exploration for oil and gas offshore, off Newfoundland shores. That is the major reason. People do not care how tough or how firm regulations are as long as they are fair, and as long as they are fair and as long as there is a fair return on their investment. But the companies, the gas and oil companies do not want to lash out the incredible sums of money, or will do so only reluctantly unless there is a clear certainty that they know what they are doing, that the atmosphere is not befuddled and befogged by uncertainty, legal uncertainty, or political uncertainty. And this minister, Sir, deserves to be condemned, and so does the government for the delays in getting this matter resolved once and for all by the highest court in our land.

The PC Party, which finds it easy to lash out the promises, much like this party found it easy, the PC Party in the Province found it easy to lash out the promises prior to being elected. The PC Party states that, "Oh yes, Newfoundland and Labrador will have all the jurisdiction it wants to offshore oil and gas. I would like to see that defined. I would like to see what they mean by that. But even assuming that the party means what it says, federally, certainly if we go by the provincial experience, Mr. Speaker, we cannot believe a word that the party utters with regard to the offshore oil and gas. But assuming they believe

MR. W. ROWE: what they mean. Can this government truly and honestly be waiting - before it resolves this uncertainty, can it be waiting for that eventuality to take place that that party may form the Government of Canada? Is that what they are waiting for, Mr. Speaker, and thereby have a political solution to the problem? Is that what they think? Mr. Speaker, I hope that is not the case. I hope we do not have a government here which is depriving the people of this Province of the benefit of commercial discoveries and development and exploitation of offshore oil and gas hoping for some cheap political gains to be made because of a possible political solution between the provincial government and the Government of Canada represented by the P.C. Party. First of all, I would not give odds, Mr. Speaker. If Nick, the Greek, were asked to bet on it he would certainly give you odds against that eventuality ever being realized. I think it was Nick, the Greek, or it might have been Damon Runyon who once said, 'The battle does not always go to the strong nor the race to the swift but; he said, 'that is the way to bet.' And that is what I would say in this situation, Sir. Federal elections are not always won by the Liberal Party of Canada - we have one or two odd exceptions - but, Sir, if you are a betting man, I would say that is the way to bet. And I do hope, Sir, that this provincial government here is not hoping for some political solution to their problem to materialize before them like a vision. They should get the problem solved, Mr. Speaker, and once the problem is solved, whichever way it goes, you will see an upsurge in the exploration and, hopefully, the development of that tremendous resource offshore. And this government,

MR. W. ROWE: Sir, should be condemned, and that minister particularly, for not pushing this issue. I do not know how long it took to prepare the case which went to the Privy Council in London over Labrador's ownership. I do not know, Mr. Speaker. This has been in preparation now for six years or seven years and it gives every indication of going on for another year or two. Seven or eight or nine or ten years, Mr. Speaker, to present an argument to the Supreme Court of Canada? What is the problem? I will tell you what the problem is, Sir, dragging of heels again, forgetting about the mundane, day-to-day considerations like getting this legal case solved and resolved once and for all, Sir, and trying to get involved in the glamorous political activity. I say that this government should spend the time and make the effort to get this problem solved once and for all, because it is vitally necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on on this subject for a long period of time, on the misrepresentations, not necessarily deliberate, I am not saying they are deliberate, in the blueprint for development and the brazen front put on by this government again, a government which is bereft of ideas and bankrupt intellectually, But I will not go on any further about it, Sir, I have given them one or two examples. It is a government, Sir, which has lost its will, lost its energy. The best it can come up with is to fall victim to the con-artistry of an ad agency which comes up with this brilliant Action Group concept. That is the best it can do, Mr. Speaker, that is what passes for ideas and will to govern and energy these days, just let yourself fall victim to every whimsical piece of nonsense

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MR. W. ROWE: dreamed up by the imagination
of some ad agency to get some payment of public funds
for work done for the government and perhaps the P.C.
Party as well. That is the idea, Sir, that is the
intellectual inspiration that is going on and the energy
and the will to govern which is going on. Sir, if you
were to look at this government in terms of direction, if
somebody said, What is the trajectory of this government?
Sir, you would have to say the trajectory of this
government, Sir, is end over end. It is going in a
direction - I mean, it is flowing along, Sir, with time.

Mr. W. Rowe: He has no choice but to do that, but the trajectory of it, Sir, is not smooth with a predetermined aim in mind, and a target to hit, Sir. It is just end over end, as if

someone took him by the nape of the neck and the slack of the pants and flung him, thumbling end over end.

MR. NEARY: Did you ever see a little group of kids going down a hill that way?

MR. W. ROWE: That is what they are like rolling down hill, end over end. When it comes to trying to get something done, Sir, they show to me anyway, and to a majority of the people of this Province I would submit humbly, when it comes to figuring things out rationally and working rationally on behalf of the government, Sir, they show, I would say, the elementary reasoning powers of a streptococcus - that was for his Honour. His Honour was getting bored up there and I wanted to bring some professional matters into his reasoning processes up there - the reasoning powers demonstrated of a streptococcus.

MR. NEARY: You enlightened the Minister of Transportation.

MR. F. ROWE: For the other members you can say -

MR. W. ROWE: Yes, the other members, Sir, there is no way I could explain what a streptococcus is to them.

MR. J. CARTER: Streptococci.

MR. W. ROWE: Oh, the Latin scholar over there. What kind of an impression do they give you, Mr. Speaker, over there at all? To keep it down to the macroscopic level or the barely macroscopic level, Sir, they look like - I do not know what they look like - they ooze along like amebas or inch along like ticks as far as any sense of direction, Sir, as far as any speed or energy is concerned. There they are, Sir, inching along like a bunch of ticks or oozing along like a group of amebae accomplishing nothing. Moving yes, there is a direction there, no sense of direction. They are moving, Sir, an end over end trajectory, oozing and inching along like amebas or ticks. That is this government, Sir.

MR. W. ROWE:

Now, Mr. Speaker, the motion of no confidence in the government states that owing to the government's mismanagement of the finances of the Province resulting in the raising of taxes above the acceptable level, the downgrading of essential public services and crushing public debt. That is point number one, Sir, and I believe I have dealt with that in some kind of an adequate fashion, how this government's mismanagement of the finances of the Province have resulted in the raising of taxes above the acceptable level particularly taxes for those who do not have the real ability to pay for the taxes, Sir. We saw an increase in the sales tax. The Government of Canada stepped in and helped out with regard to that. That will go on for six months. Then we are back to eleven per cent again.

We saw a good and salutary dental programme flung to one side, Mr. Speaker, again hurting the person least able to pay. We saw the increasing of electrical rates by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro with the advice and consent of this government bringing those costs above an acceptable level as far as most people in the Province are concerned. We see now, Mr. Speaker, an application by Newfoundland Light and Power Company which will have the effect of raising the rates again and this government does not care, Sir, does not show any inclination to help, will allow it to happen, a government, Sir, which because of its mismanagement has allowed the downgrading. They have not even been able to maintain, Sir, the constant flow upwards of essential public service. We see downgrading of public services by

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MR. W. ROWE: this government. We see where medical facilities are not going to be kept up to an adequate standard because this government's commitments to the people of the Province will not be met. And the member for Grand Falls (Mr. Lundrigan) - I do not know where he is now, Sir - how that hon. member -

MR. NEARY: Putting out another press release about the decorum of the House.

MR. W. ROWE: - yes, decorum of the House, Sir.

MR. F. B. ROWE: He is not even here to see it.

MR. W. ROWE: I do not know, Sir, who displays less courage, the hon. the member for Bonavista South (Mr. Morgan) or the hon. the member for Grand Falls in this matter of supporting this government. - a member, Sir, who gets out of the government because he cannot support or stay with a government which brazen-facedly makes a commitment several times over to the people of Grand Falls and then refuses to meet that commitment so he gets out of the government and since that time, Sir, has been sorry about it, slavishly - as my hon. colleague said over the air there on the weekend, I was delighted to hear - slavishly trying to cozy his way back into the government again, cozy up to the Premier. "Oh, it is not the Premier's fault," he said, "that this matter -" Here is the Premier, the Leader of the Government, the man who made the commitment to the people of Grand Falls and then has to say that he cannot keep the commitment, and the member for Grand Falls will say, "Oh, it is not the Premier's fault," Mr. Speaker, hoping, I suppose, that when it has all blown over he can creep back into the government once more.

MR. W. ROWE: And then the member for Bonavista South (Mr. Morgan) who breaks Cabinet solidarity, bolts Cabinet ranks, gets a little slap on the wrist from the Premier and then gets up the next day and makes the same statement again and the Premier does not do anything about it and the member, himself, stays on in the government even though he disagrees with the spray programme. What kind of a government is it, Sir? The people of this Province on a matter affecting their very health, a matter which the Newfoundland Medical Association has spoken out against, spraying Matacil into drinking water and near communities -

AN HON. MEMBER: They never have.

MR. NEARY: Oh yes they have. I beg your pardon, they have.

MR. W. ROWE: The Minister of Health, sure, told us today what had happened. He is going to have a meeting with them. And here we have a government, Sir, which cannot even keep a solid front.

MR. NEARY: Despite Klippert's efforts they still had their press conference against it -

MR. W. ROWE: Klippert did his best.

MR. NEARY: - although they were threatened with their fee schedule by MCP and by the minister - the cutback of their fee schedule.

MR. H. COLLINS: Klippert is not here.

MR. NEARY: Who?

MR. H. COLLINS: Who made what threat?

MR. NEARY: The minister threatened their fee schedule. How dare they come out against the government? Well, that is democracy for you.

MR. W. ROWE: Anyway, Mr. Speaker, they do not even seem to realize, Mr. Speaker, the importance of presenting a united front and solidarity to the people of

MR. W. ROWE: the Province. They do not seem to realize that most people are out there willing to believe and treat their government with some credibility and rely on their government for the best possible action in their best interests. And here you have people wondering whether this spray programme is good or bad. They have the government come out with one thing and so that consoles them and they say, 'Okay, fine,' - you know, it relieves their anxiety and so on. Then you hear a member of that government come out and take a diametrically opposed view, Mr. Speaker, publicly reported on the front pages of every - is this member so desperate for publicity that he will do things like that? Can that be true? Can that be the situation, Mr. Speaker?

And the people in the Province - in Gander I had a lady come into my office the other day with two asthmatic children in her family, asking me, "Do you think there is any hope the government will not spray into Gander Lake?" And I said, "Gee, I do not know. I can only go by what the government itself says. The Premier says, yes, they are going to spray in that area, they are not going to alter the programme. The Minister of Tourism says that he is going to ask his government colleagues to reconsider. So I do not know." I say, "You had better bank on the government spraying into that water supply. You had better bank on that," in which case she said, "Well, then I will have to move my children. I cannot risk it." Scores of various agents, various things which her children are allergic to and

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PM - 1

MR. W.N. ROWE: she does not know whether this government is going to go ahead with this program or not, and realistically so, because she hears one thing one day and she hears something else the next from that hon. minister. And a Premier who tolerates it, Mr. Speaker, and people wonder why, this government wonders why, in its ivory tower, the credibility of the government has evaporated in this Province. They do not realize what they are doing to peoples lives in their arrogance and their lack of concern and callousness. They do not realize that people are trying to live a life of reasonable certainty, that people have problems. They have to go by what the government says and here is a government which does not even have the solidarity, does not even have the united front to be able to announce a program concerning which there are grave misgivings on many people's parts, it does not even have the solidarity, the certainty, the conviction to make a statement publicly without having its credibility whittled away by different ministers making different statements from time to time. The Minister of Health (Mr. Collins), and the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture (Mr. Maynard) in order to get themselves out of a tight situation in Gander undermined the solidarity of the government on the issue. No wonder the member for Bonavista South (Mr. Morgan) felt free to jump up and do the same thing.

MR. F.B. ROWE: He would not reconsider it.

MR. W.N. ROWE: He is going to reconsider it he said to get out of a tight situation.

MR. H. COLLINS: I did not say that.

MR. W.N. ROWE: The hon. minister said it.

MR. NEARY: Forestry, forestry.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Forestry, well the hon. minister did not contradict it. He was there on the spot and probably kept his head down and studied his shoes.

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Tape 3955

DW - 2

MR. S. NEARY: The hon. Minister of Health ran away and got aboard of his plane and came on back to St. John's.

MR. FLIGHT: They are not very welcome back there now are they?

MR. DOODY: That is not true.

MR. S. NEARY: It is true.

MR. W.N. ROWE: What a crew, Mr. Speaker!

MR. S. NEARY: Beating it up to the terminal as fast as he could go.

MR. W.N. ROWE: The Premier would be doing himself a favour - I am not going to give him political advice. Every now and then someone over there gives me political advice which I do the opposite of. It is probably why we are not doing too badly, politically, in the last number of months. But if I could give the Premier some genuine political advice, Sir, it would be to take any minister who undermines the people's confidence in the solidarity of the government and the government's programs, especially those affecting health, take them, Sir, and fling them out unceremoniously, as he deserves to be.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Should not be announcing fish plants.

MR. S. NEARY: Hit him where it hurts most, in his pocketbook.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: If the Premier wants to regain any personal credibility in this Province, if the Premier does not want to see the Wabush experience which he enjoyed so much repeated, I would submit, Sir - without condoning it or without encouraging it - but repeated in a hundred different centers throughout this Province then he would be well advised to get rid of ministers who either do not have the courage of their own convictions or do have some principle but cannot manage to divest themselves of the portfolio or for other reasons whatever they might be. But if he has got any ministers who are uncertain

MR. W.N. ROWE: and creating uncertainty and undermining his own credibility and the credibility of the government, Sir, I say for the sake of good government for the year or two which is left under this administration take those ministers and throw them out and the people would respect him for so doing.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. MORGAN: And keep on flying South to Panama, and Shaheen deals and

MR. W.N. ROWE: What is he -

AN HON. MEMBER: Ah! He is going back to -

MR. W.N. ROWE: Ah! Mr. Speaker, that will all - I would not talk too much about that if I was the hon. minister.

MR. FLIGHT: That is right.

MR. S. NEARY: If I were the hon. gentleman I would not bring that up.

MR. W.N. ROWE: No, Sir, I would not bring up that stuff.

MR. S. NEARY: I would not bring that up.

MRS. McISAAC: He condemned as folly -

MR. W.N. ROWE: I would not bring that stuff up, Mr. Speaker.

MR. S. NEARY: It is all a big misunderstanding my hon. friend did not know what was up at the time.

MR. MORGAN: (Inaudible) wanted no part of it.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I would not bring that up.

MR. MORGAN: Wanted no part of it.

MR. S. NEARY: That is right.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. W.N. ROWE: That is right! A Premier, Sir, who condones, as pitiful a spectacle as he may be, Sir -

MR. MORGAN: (Inaudible)

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Tape 3055

FM - 4

MR. W.N. ROWE: Do I have to listen to gutter
snipes, Mr. Speaker, while I am speaking.

MR. S. NEARY: At least the whole world knew
where I was going that is more than I say for the hon. minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!
The hon. member is having difficulty
having his remarks heard.

MR. W.N. ROWE: That is right, Sir, the gutter
snipe tactics of the member opposite, Sir, are not conducive to
an easy flow.

MR. S. NEARY: Brought back a lot of interesting
documents and gave them to the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter)
to investigate.

MR. MORGAN: You must have given (inaudible) to
your leader.

MR. S. NEARY: No.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. S. NEARY: The hon. member wants silence.

MR. W.N. ROWE: No, I do not want silence I
just do not want to hear from that hon. member opposite.

MR. J. CARTER: Give him a tin of spinach.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. W.N. ROWE: What did he say?

MR. F. B. ROUF: Give him a tin of spinach.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Now, Sir, I am about to launch
into a new subject concerning this general matter which will occupy
about, I would say, twenty minutes or a half an hour of the House's
time after we are finished our supper.

If the hon. House Leader opposite
would consent I would like to move the adjournment of the debate
at this time and call it six o'clock.

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Tape 3955

DU - 5

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. member moves the adjournment of the debate and the hour is now six o'clock. As the hour is now six o'clock I leave the Chair until eight o'clock.

VOL. 3

NO. 70

PRELIMINARY

UNEDITED

TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOR THE PERIOD:

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1978

The House resumed at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The hon. the Leader of the
Opposition.

MR. W.N. ROWE:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a few more brief words about the budget. I do not want to speak too much longer, Sir, because members on both sides of the House want to speak. As usual this government cannot even arrange, Sir, to provide enough time to have a half decent Budget Speech, since we have to have the budget through pretty soon now in order to make sure the people can be paid, salaries can be paid and the services of government can go on. But the minister, the House Leader, has assured the House that we are going to have some time on the Thorne Speech so some of my remarks I will save for then, remarks that I would ordinarily have included in this particular speech.

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I went over the Budget Speech and without getting into any detail on it drew certain valid conclusions, I believe, about that document. Especially, Sir, did I draw attention to the way this Province has been badly served, horrendously served by this administration as far as the financial and economic well being of the Province is concerned. The public debt, a very large portion of which was three lunatic ventures on the part of this government; the takeover of the Linerboard mill, the takeover of the BRINCO assets and especially, Mr. Speaker, the \$110 million thrown away, public money thrown away on the premature, abortive start-up, pretense, regarding Gull Island in the Lower Churchill River.

MR. NEARY:

Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE:

Mr. Speaker, having drawn attention to the fact that the government had mismanaged the

MR. W.N. ROWE: economy and the finances of the Province, I then went in and very briefly dealt with the so-called blueprint that the government had drawn up for the future. Sir, truly that is a laughable document, laughable if it were not so serious, comic, Mr. Speaker, if it were not such a tragedy that this government is so bereft of ideas, bankrupt, intellectually bankrupt when it comes to ideas to cope with the problems facing this Province. That so-called blueprint, Sir, was just so much persiflage, so much camouflage, something to camouflage the desperate situation which this government is in.

Mr. Speaker, I also indicated some possible savings that could be gotten out of even this year's budget. And a very cursory look at the estimates, just going over it almost at random and immediately \$3 million or more spring off the pages as money which is being needlessly spent. And as my colleague from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has said on occasion, as I reiterate here, there is \$50 million, I would say without fear of contradiction, of padding in this budget, of money being spent which need not be spent for the purpose for which it is designated, money which could be saved either to decrease the public debt or to be spent on essential public services such as hospitals and so on, and that again indicates that this government, Sir, does not have the will to govern properly, it does not have the energy to govern, it has no ideas, it has run out of steam. After six or seven years in office it has run out of steam after squandering \$1.5 billion of public money - in six years, one and a half times as much as the previous administration managed to run up in twenty-three years - after squandering \$1.5 billion, Sir, with the Province still in desperate straits as far as industrialization is concerned, and as far as many essential public services are concerned, Sir, this government has now run out of steam

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MR. W.N. ROWE: has no further ideas, no energy, no will to govern and has become arrogant and now merely flings

MR. ROWE: arrogant and now merely flings around figures 40,000 jobs are going to be created by next Wednesday, or words to that effect. Having shown, Sir, that the budget speech gives no hope to the people of this province of future development, future economic salvation, I moved a motion of no confidence in the government, Mr. Speaker, to the effect that the government's mismanagement of the finances of the province have resulted in the raising of taxes above the acceptable level and the downgrading of essential public services and a crushing public debt. Sir, in addition to the mismanagement, we have example after example after example over the past six or seven years of actual misuse of public funds, the misuse, culpable misuse, I would say, Mr. Speaker, of public funds which has resulted in a series of police investigations, public inquiries, and in one instance, and hopefully more in the future if justice is going to be done, the laying of criminal charges against a party. As a result of this mismanagement of public funds and actual misuse of public money, my motion of no confidence states that this House has no confidence in this government or the administration of the government. It is hard not to be negative, Mr. Speaker, when you are speaking of this government or talking about the actions of this government. No one wants to be forever saying what is wrong, but when you have such a fertile field to choose from, so many glaring examples of wrong-doing, impropriety, mismanagement, neglect, lack of concern and negligence of all kinds, it is difficult, Sir, not to be negative or to appear to be negative. But I should stress that it is this government that has been negative and is negative and, unfortunately, any accurate

MR. ROWE: description of the government has, of necessity, to be negative itself. But there are things which can and should be done, Mr. Speaker, of a positive nature; and, as I said earlier, I intend to get into detail, some greater detail, when the Throne Speech - the debate on the Throne Speech is called again - and speak for an hour or an hour and a half on that subject of what should be done in various fields. But I will touch on one or two things now, Sir. First of all, Mr. Speaker, there has to be a recognition by this government or some government, any government in this province, a recognition of the contribution which Ottawa, the federal government of this province and this nation, the contribution to our economy that Ottawa is making. There has to be a recognition of that without shame, Mr. Speaker, or without forever apologizing for the fact that we get money and assistance and economic benefits from the federal government, the central government of this country. Fifty percent of our provincial budget is made up of money from Ottawa and there are other contributions directly from Ottawa, spent directly as a government and also by way of various payments to individuals - unemployment insurance, pensions, and so on. Instead of being ashamed, Mr. Speaker, of receiving help from the federal government of this province and of the nation, Sir, we should be making sure that this province gets more benefit from the federal union that we happen to be a part of. We should make sure that we get our fair share of everything that is on the go in Ottawa and available to the provincial government or to the individuals of this province.

MR. NEARY: We will have to send up a few members next time to fight for us.

MR. ROWE: We have to make sure, Sir, that not only do we have the good members, as the member for Lapoile district (Mr. S. Neary) has indicated, not only do we have the good members, not only do we have a good representative in the Cabinet in Ottawa, whatever party he or she may belong to, but, Sir, the provincial government's presence as a provincial government, the primary government of this province, must be felt continuously and consistently and constantly in Ottawa. This government, Mr. Speaker, and any other government should have a team in Ottawa, not making a visit every now and then as if to a foreign country, an ambassador going up every now and then to confer with officials in Ottawa. We should have, the provincial government should have in Ottawa a team, not of political hacks, not of people who are shoved up there to give them a job, we should have a team of some of our top public servants continuously.

MR. WHITE: Do we have anyone there now?

MR. ROWE: Who do they have there now?

AN HON. MEMBER: I do not know.

MR. ROWE: No one at all.

MR. HICKMAN: There is only one province represented there

MR. FLIGHT: Someone to criticize -

MR. ROWE: We should have, Sir, this province especially.

MR. ROWE: The horrendous and terrifying tales that one hears all the time about money -

MR. NEARY: But we got the skinful of hate -

MR. ROWE: -which is going begging. Who is the skinful of hate?

MR. NEARY: -the skinful of hate up there, Crosbie.

MR. ROWE: Oh yes, he is up there. He has been looking after our interests, turning everybody's stomach, turning everyone against us -

AN HON. MEMBER: I thought Patrick O'Flaherty was going to take care of him.

MR. ROWE: - in the one breath and in the next breath, Sir, making a mark for himself as the court jester, the court buffoon. Mr. Speaker, we should have a representative, or a team of representatives, in Ottawa on a continuous basis, who are always on top of things, Mr. Speaker, not allowing programs to go by without being taken advantage of, reporting back continuously what is going on to this government, reporting back on a continuous basis, getting to know over a period of time all the key politicians and key public servants in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, a liaison between this government and the minister in Ottawa. The minister in Ottawa, as good as he may be at any time, is a federal minister and he is looking after the federal government's broad jurisdiction, Mr. Speaker, and cannot be expected to be looking after our provincial interest here all the time: and we need representatives up there, Sir, not only members of the House who are federal but representatives of this government who are up there putting forward the provincial government's views continuously and negotiating continuously. So, I think that by doing that, by having a team of top-flight representatives of the provin-

MR. ROWE: cial government there in Ottawa that could serve our interests very well and it would be money well spent, and the government would not find itself in a position of not taking advantage of ongoing programs or of being too late about something or of its point of view not being put forward forcefully enough except on the odd occasion when it occurs to a minister here to go up to Ottawa or the premier to go up to Ottawa. It should be done continuously, Sir, taking instructions all the time from this government. I think that would be a very laudable and positive step forward.

MR. NEARY: They had a girl up there, sure. We could not find out who was paying her or where she was up to or anything else.

MR. ROWE: Well, I am not talking about a secretary now. or maybe she was not a secretary, I do not know -

MR. NEARY: No, she was with Intergovernmental Affairs--

MR. ROWE: Yes, well, one person I do not think is quite sufficient. I think we need -

MR. HICKMAN: That lady was working. All provinces were asked to nominate a public servant to serve in the secretariat under Mr. Henry Davis and that lady worked there for two years but she is not there any longer.

MR. ROWE: What I am talking about, Sir, is almost - is obviously -

MR. NEARY: Who paid her salary?

MR. HICKMAN: We did, as I recall. It was the Government of Canada reimbursed us.

MR. ROWE: obviously -

MR. NEARY: Well, this is the first time. It took me three years to find who was paying her salary.

MR. HICKMAN: You never asked me.

MR. NEARY: I have been asking questions in this House about it for three years and now I found out tonight..

MR. ROWE: Obviously, Mr. Speaker, Ottawa is not a foreign country. It is the capital of our country, but there are overlapping jurisdictions, federal and provincial. There are jurisdictions in which the federal government has its own exclusive jurisdictions sphere of power as we have, Sir. Therefore, in that sense, you do need to have the provincial government represented in Ottawa to make sure that our interests are protected in Ottawa, almost like an embassy but not quite obviously, not like even a high commissioner's office, but a team of top-flight people who are there taking shameless advantage of anything that is offering in Ottawa and can be of benefit to this province.

AN HON. MEMBER: Like the Resettlement Program.

MR. ROWE: Yes, like the Resettlement Program, Sir, the one whereby this government is resettling young families in Saudi Arabia, Iran -

AN HON. MEMBER: The Tar Sands.

MR. ROWE: - the Tar Sands of Alberta. That is what we need, Sir, yes Sir, that is exactly what we need. New resettlement program -

AN HON. MEMBER: Thompson, Manitoba.

MR. ROWE: Thompson, Manitoba.

MR. NEARY: Lovely girl

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROWE: Mr. Speaker,

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

MR. ROWE: No, Sir,

MR. W. ROWE: I am getting used to ignorance. A year or two in the House, sir, makes you pretty well accustomed to ignorance and lack of courtesy from that side. Mr. Speaker, that is a positive suggestion which, I think, if properly executed, could net for this province scores of millions of dollars in existing programs and making sure we take advantage of existing programs, stimulating new programs which may have unique application to this province.

MR. NEARY: If anybody did that when Joey was in the House you would be up on your feet, but there they are on their knees.

HON. MEMBER: No, you would.

MR. NEARY: I did not, I never went to his desk while he was in the House.

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, we might have a little order here, on both sides of the House. Mr. Speaker, I intend to get into this too, Sir, when the Throne Speech is called but let me make some preliminary remarks. I think it is a shame, as one of the newspapers pointed out, that this government has not seen to it that there has been a major debate on the fishery during this session of the House. We have had a private members motion down now on Nordsee for weeks which this government was afraid to call, would not call, kept stalling during private members day and, Sir, would not call during a government day; a very crucial issue. No debate on the fishery, one of the mainstays of our economy and a thing which we have to look forward to more and more in the future as benefiting this province and indeed being one of the salvations of this province economically. Mr. Speaker, this government is not going to do it but what should be done is something that has never been done in our five hundred years of history. It has never been done and that is that there should be put together, in the next year or two now, and it can be done, put together an overall, comprehensive plan for the Newfoundland and Labrador fishery dealing with all aspects of it. The Newfoundland government here should take the lead, Mr. Speaker, in doing that. It is immaterial that Ottawa, the Federal Government, may

MR. W. ROWE: in fact have a larger share of the jurisdiction in this question. It is immaterial. We are the ones who are primarily concerned and the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Carter) and his colleagues should put together an overall, comprehensive plan on the proper development of the Newfoundland Fishery.

MR. W. CARTER: It is being done now.

MR. W. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, that Minister should not try to make us laugh here in this House with his sad and pathetic jokes! "It is being done!" Pick up the paper, Sir, and you will see another piece of ad hocery thrown out. Get together - no consultation with anyone! - get together with some minister up in Nova Scotia and then go to the government in Ottawa with a nine hundred million dollar fleet replacement program nobody even heard of before, concocted over cocktails probably one night and laughed out of court in Ottawa. Turn on the radio, another grand announcement made, Mr. Speaker. Every Friday, something else thrown out, ad hoc, unrelated to anything else, no consultation with anyone is being done now. A plan, Mr. Speaker, that is going to have any effect whatsoever and get anywhere in this province, has to be done with the consultation and the cooperation of the Newfoundland Government, the Federal Government, the union representing fishermen and plant workers and, Mr. Speaker, the industry itself, plant owners and operators. The College of Fisheries should be involved, the University, Trades College, various crown or semi-crown corporations which are set up to deal with marine research, cold water research, all of these things, Mr. Speaker. This is what has to be done and if the Minister is trying to convince us in this House or anybody in the public, that this is being done, Sir, he runs the serious risk of losing whatever little bit of credibility he has left

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MR. W. ROWE:

as Minister of Fisheries.

The plan and the aim should be - as I noticed one minister picked up the other day something we have been saying now for the past couple of years - the aim should be to make Newfoundland and Labrador world capital of the fishing industry.

MR. W. ROWE:

That should be our aim, Sir. Now, lest anyone think that that is another grandiose scheme - You know, it is no good, unless we are the best, then it is not good at all - lest anyone fear that this is just another grandiose scheme, Sir, let me hasten to add that I could not care less whether we ever attain, whether we ever reach that aim of becoming the world capital of the fishing industry. What I am saying is that our attitude, our psychology, our sense of direction, our aim, has to be towards making us the world capital of the fishing industry, Sir. As long as we can get that attitude, that frame of mind - If we can get away from the ad hoc attitudes, if we can get away from the thinking that the fishery is, or was, something that you kept going by an injection of funds here, put her up in slings there, keep her going until something better comes along - Get rid of that attitude, Mr. Speaker, and recognize that this something better, in fact, the best, the very best, is our Newfoundland and Labrador fishery. Recognize that and make all our attitudes conform to that view, that is what should be done, Mr. Speaker, but that would require hard decisions. It is not going to be easy. It may not even be popular in some locales and among some people. Hard decisions. Quality controls of all kinds would have to be established. Lots of people would not like that too much.

When you stand up, as I am sure the Minister has done and as I have done on numerous occasions, and watch a codfish being pronged up from the boat to the wharf, pronged from the wharf to the wheelbarrow, pronged from the wheelbarrow probably up to the back of a truck somewhere and down again to the wheelbarrow, weighed, and then pronged up somewhere else, you know, seventeen or eighteen separate darts taken at the one fish it would be lucky if it is in one piece by the time it ever arrives anywhere.

But, the aim, Mr. Speaker, in the Fishery - and as I said I did not want to get into too much detail tonight because I want other people to speak on this debate - But, the aim should be we should aim towards making the quality of Newfoundland fish exported

MR. W. ROWE:

elsewhere, the best in the world.

If it is impossible to attain that status as the best in the world, it should at least be equivalent to Iceland and the Norwegian countries. We should be competing on grounds of quality on an equal basis with those countries.

Mr. Speaker, we will get into all the areas, conservation, and so on, and this mythical surplus that the Minister talks about every now and then, the mythical surplus to be given over -

MR. W. CARTER:

Your friend in Ottawa knows about it.

MR. W. ROWE:

- by way of - My friend? I would not know him if I saw him. This mythical surplus, Sir, that should be given over to joint ventures, as the Minister pushes, or given over to foreign fleets, to Nordsee, or someone else like that, This mythical surplus, Sir, we will get into that as time goes on to see what that is all about. Sir, we should aim towards the technological advances in all areas of the fishery that are foremost in the world. Why should we be lagging behind technologically? As a matter of fact, Sir, if the job had been done right in this Province for the last 400 years we should be the leaders now in all forms of fishery technology. We should be, here, now! Japan should be coming over to us and saying to us, "What have you learned in the past 400 years on the scientific basis?" as should other countries, European, and so on, Mr. Speaker. We should have the technological advances and, certainly, Sir, the fact that we have not done it for 400 years is no reason why we should not head in that direction.

Mr. Speaker, marketing - We now see it takes something like the banning of the U.S. fishing in our 200-mile limit along the disputed zones and so on, and in our own jurisdiction, it takes something like that to see how fragile our fishery really is, depending as it is on the U.S. market almost totally, the fresh frozen fish industry, depending almost

MR. ROWE: entirely on the U.S. market. Of course, everyone has known that but it takes something like that to bring it to light, and now the fear is being expressed that if the United States - Senator Kennedy is talking about putting up the tariffs now because of government subsidies of the Canadian fishing industry. We are in a very delicate situation, Mr. Speaker, with regard to marketing; and this government should be pressing Ottawa and negotiating with Ottawa to find new markets and with the industry itself and, by no means, should it be left to the private industry alone to find the new markets as somebody indicated, I believe, here today, I believe, the premier. The government should be involved. We should be pressing Ottawa continuously to renegotiate downwards tariff barriers for our fish products, particularly processed fish, Mr. Speaker, which is going to be no easy job, but it should be done. We should be doing it all the time, trying to get Ottawa to move in that direction, so that we can get further processing of that product here, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we should be going after the best possible facilities of all kinds. In short, Sir, without getting into detail which I wanted to avoid tonight, we should be aiming as I said towards making Newfoundland and Labrador the world capital of the fishing industry. If we do these things, the minister is obviously very familiar with this, as of 1976 or 1977 federal and provincial studies and various studies showed that if the right things are done with the fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador, the fishery which was worth, I suppose, in 1976, worth about- what? \$125 million.

MR. W. CARTER: About \$150 million in 1977.

MR. ROWE: 1977 maybe \$150 million, yes. In 1976 it was about \$120 or \$130 million. It is a little bit more than the car trade in the province, the car trade in the same year was \$111 million. That was our great fishing industry.

MR. ROWE: But, Sir, if the right things are done, and there is no reason why they cannot be done if we have a comprehensive, overall plan for the fishery, if the right things are done, the studies that I have read and looked at all indicate that in terms of, say, 1976 dollars, somewhere around there as I say, where I read, talked in those terms it was around that year, the Newfoundland fishery can be worth anywhere from \$800 million to \$900 million a year in that year's dollars. As a matter of fact, some reference was made in the budget speech of last year to that very subject. In other words, Sir, a five or six or even more, a five or six-fold increase or even more of an increase in the value of the fishery to this province. Now, Mr. Speaker, just imagine the economic impact of \$600 or \$700 million more a year added to our Gross Provincial Product in terms of 1976 dollars. Just imagine, Mr. Speaker! We are only a little over 500,000 people and that single economic impact alone, Mr. Speaker, without talking about anything else - the Upper Churchill, the Lower Churchill, or rationalization of forest industries, offshore oil and so on and so forth - that impact alone, Sir, would have a tremendous effect on turning this province into what it should be, one of the most prosperous in Canada, when you look at our small population and our tremendous natural resources. The fact that it has not been done over the past hundred years is no indication that it cannot be done. There are a hundred other things, Sir, all kinds of programs which we could get into. Get away from the jerry-built structure which the fisheries presently is, just a jerry-built structure, ad hoc, built up over the years, a bail-out operation here and a shot of cash injected there, and get into something which is a little more rational and more inclusive and involves all the interested parties. I wish this government would do it, Mr. Speaker, and if that government does not do it, then if, as and when we on this

side of the House have the opportunity to do, we will do it, Sir. I am not in the habit of making pledges or promises or commitments publicly to the Newfoundland people because they have had a bellyful of that, but one commitment that we will make is - really only two or three basic commitments that I am prepared to make, Sir, and one of them is that we will strive to make sure that all parties are involved in the bringing together and the compilation and the creation of an overall comprehensive plan for the Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries, all designed as I say to maximizing the potential to make Newfoundland and Labrador the world capitol of the fishing industry.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROWE: And there is another, Sir, just getting away from the fishery for a moment, as I say we can get into it later, especially when the Nordsee debate comes up I hope on Wednesday,

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and when the Throne Speech debate is called again we can get into it once more. One or two things about Labrador which have already been thoroughly canvassed in the private member's motion which I put before the House the first day the House opened.

But, Sir, just looking at the Upper Churchill Falls for a moment, if we could get back our fair share of the Upper Churchill value for this Province, a fair share, and there is no reason why we cannot - as I said, I will be going into some of this in more detail in the Throne Speech - but just looking at that for a moment, if we could get back one half the value of that tremendous enterprise, which is worth about \$1 billion a year in value, if we could get back \$400 million or \$500 million worth of value to this Province in the run of a year, Sir, and you add it to a rational development of the fishery which I just spoke of, you would have, Sir, overnight - well, overnight in ten years, which is overnight in terms of our history, in ten years, Sir, you could have a doubling or tripling of the Gross Provincial Product here. You could have, Sir, from these two sources alone, if the right action is taken and the right decisions are made and the right psychology is brought into play, and the right attitude of governments is brought in and a government with the determination to work day and night at solving these problems, from these two sources alone, with our small population of less than 600,000 people, Sir, we can have by anyone's yardstick one of the most prosperous provinces in the whole of Canada. And these words, I know, are cheap and easy to say. But, Sir, I believe fundamentally that this can be done if the right attitudes are present and if the right actions are taken and the right decisions are taken. And we can have, Sir, something which we have not had yet and we can have for the first time in our history, a province of prosperity and, Sir, the pride and dignity which comes from economic prosperity. We have always had pride and dignity in this Province but very often it has been a pride and dignity associated with hardship and suffering and unmitigated problems of mere survival.

Mr. W. Rowe.

We have had our share of that. We do not need to go through that any more. We do not have to prove anything any more to anybody. But the pride and dignity that comes from having prosperity, full employment - the shock would probably knock us all down - but the full employment, Mr. Speaker, that kind of pride and dignity a man or a woman knowing that they can go out and work and make a good livelihood for themselves and their families. That kind of thing which I think can be done. And if I did not think it could be done, Mr. Speaker, I would not be near this House of Assembly beating my head against a brick wall, catcalling across the House here back and forth -

MR. NEARY: Taking all kinds of abuse.

MR. W. ROWE: Abuse, Mr. Speaker, and flinging out the abuse and taking the abuse. What is the point of it all unless you have some greater aim in view, unless you have some higher aspirations than to sit here opposite these hon. gentlemen as beautiful as they may be.

MR. NEARY: And flung out of the House for doing your duty.

MR. W. ROWE: The only place in the world, Mr. Speaker, where you are flung out for telling the truth is this House. Tell the truth here and you are thrown out for three days, not particularly pleasant or pleasurable, Mr. Speaker, at all. So why would anyone be in here unless they believe, I hope fundamentally, that these things can be done. I am prepared to believe that there was a time when the Premier and some of his friends over there believed that as well, but for a reason which I will touch on in a moment. They are not disenchanted, disillusioned, the good is gone out of them, and they never made the right efforts, and they have now let the opportunity slip from their fingers. I do not think they will ever have the opportunity again.

Mr. Speaker, even more important than these two matters I spoke of, the fishery and the Upper Churchill power and other matters as well which we will be getting into in future

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debates, the Throne Speech and so on, even more important, because I believe it must precede it in terms of time, it must precede it, is the need, Sir, a crying need to clean up the political life of this Province, restore, Sir, honesty, decency, dignity to the political life of this .

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Province. Sir, I believe there is only one way of doing that. I have said it publically on numerous occasions and will continue to say it, Sir. I think, Sir, that if we had laws in this Province controlling, drastically controlling election financing and political financing and party funding and financing, Sir, we will have in one fell swoop wiped out 99 per cent of the possibility of political corruption in Newfoundland and Labrador. And I think, Sir, that this government which made the promise in 1972 and every year thereafter and is now threatening to bring in something during this session of the House and if not this government then the next government, Sir, I think that this government or the next government must bring in a law which limits the amount of money which any corporation or any individual can give to a political party or a political candidate, limit it to a size which can be truly considered to be a contribution or a donation to the political process and not an investment for the future, \$50,000 or something flung into the coffers of a political party. Who would call that a donation? That is an investment, Mr. Speaker, from which that particular corporation or individual wants to get a return in the future and therein lies the corruption and the corrupt practices.

There has to be a limit set on the amount that any one can give to a political party or to a political candidate. There has to be a limit to the amount which any party or candidate can spend in any political process whether it is an election, a dominating convention, a leadership convention, you name it. There has to be a limit placed on the amount of expenditure. And, Mr. Speaker, there has to be complete disclosure of party funds, where they come from, what they are spent on, complete openness and disclosure by all parties by law of expenditures and revenues. A breath of fresh air, Mr. Speaker, a beam of sunshine into political financing in this Province would, as I say, wipe out 99 per cent of the possibility of political corruption. That is what must be done in this Province.

MR. W. ROWE:

Let us not have, Mr. Speaker, the examples which we have seen over the past six years or so involving this administration. Let us not have them happen in the future in any administration which I may have the honour to head or any other administration. This administration, Sir, as I indicated earlier today, you have to ask can any good, as I said in this biblical quotation more or less, can any good come from a government whose very conception was steeped in impropriety, whose very birth was in sort of a mean and scrubby way involving a former member of this House of Assembly that we are all aware of and concerning which the truth will emerge one of these days. Can any good come from that, Mr. Speaker, a government whose very conception is based on at least hanky-panky and perhaps serious skulduggery? And so sooner was this government in power, Mr. Speaker, than we had strong evidence that immediate action was taken by at least officials of the party to which this government belonged, if not people higher up, to

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obtain political contributions in a most unseemly and improper way. The government, as I say, was scarcely in power in 1972 when, according to the evidence laid on the table of this House and concerning which there is now a police investigation—and hopefully Mr. Justice Mahoney will be digging into it as well in his public enquiry—when according to the evidence it started with Scrivener and the Health Science Center and the Carbonear Hospital, Mr. Speaker. I have heard stories and every member of this House has heard stories, and we have seen affidavits and we have heard reports from various people, evidence from this fellow Davidson and the executive assistant of a minister of the Crown who for some strange reason or other sits in his place day after day here and does not utter a word, evidence, Sir, of arm twisting and promises of favours and squalid uses of public and party funds.

This is all now culminated in a police investigation as it should have and should culminate further in a public enquiry on its own merits because it certainly warrants it. Then, Mr. Speaker, not long after that we see the grossest mismanagement and negligence and, I would submit, Sir, worse than negligence and mismanagement regarding the operations of the Department of Public Works. And we saw a police investigation in that particular area as well and that has now resulted, as I said in my motion, resulted in criminal charges for fraud being laid against a gentleman who can only be characterized as a great friend of ministers of that administration. I will say nothing else, Sir, because it is a matter which is now under the auspices of the Supreme Court.

Public enquiry going on, Mr. Speaker. This government gets up and actually boasts about the public enquiries and police investigations which have been going on. A public enquiry now going on regarding at least disreputable conduct and perhaps illegal conduct by various persons in the general operation of the Department of Public Works. Example after example, Sir, which I noted down here

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and which I will not even refer to half of. But, Sir, certainly example after example of chicanery and slipperiness, opportunism and shoddiness of all kinds and lack of political principle manifested by certain individuals, Sir, in this Department of Public Works which is now being investigated.

Then, Sir, we saw in this House and this is where I referred to earlier about being thrown out of an institution for telling the truth in that institution, we saw this unholy matrimony as it has been referred to between the government and Mr. Dobbin outside the House, agreement between the Premier and the Minister of Public Works signed by the Premier and Mr. Dobbin for a \$70 million office building with \$20 million built in profit, Sir. What Premier in the world, Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister or Premier, would have the face to stand up in a House of Assembly, in a Parliament, and say that his signature means nothing on a document and get out of allegations of denying that a certain thing has in fact taken place, an agreement or an arrangement had been entered into, get out of denying that that had in fact been the case earlier by saying that, "My signature means nothing on a document, meaningless." It is too low to talk about, Mr. Speaker.

I will say this, Mr. Speaker, it takes more than expulsion or threats of expulsion and will take more than expulsion or threats of expulsion to get me or my colleagues here to shut our mouths about this kind of skulduggery and chicanery and breach of trust. The government, Sir, which is too frightened to allow an investigation, a public enquiry, into this whole area

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of dealings between the government and Mr. Dobbin, because they are afraid of what it will turn up. An area, Sir, in which two ministers of this government, the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells) now and the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) now, two former ministers, did not have the stomach, Mr. Speaker, to stay in the administration because of what was going on between the government and this particular gentleman and other persons as well. And, Mr. Speaker, the same thing applies to this whole area of air transportation in the Province. My hon. friend, the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) - I will be bringing forth evidence a little later on to show certain aspects of wrongdoing there. But this Sealand helicopter's deal between the government and, again, this great friend of the government, Mr. Dobbin, has given every indication of a cooked up deal that should be scrutinized and looked at, because it is the people's money which is at stake here. And, Sir, I am hearing all the time evidence, Mr. Speaker, a very unsavoury set of circumstances concerning that. I will not say any more at this moment.

But, Mr. Speaker, besides that, besides these examples of breach, I believe, breach of trust involving public monies, the use of public funds, we have also seen political impropriety, political corruption, I suppose, of the worst order as well. We have seen ministers who will make any kind of a promise or a commitment at any time heedless of whether it can be met or not, certainly an abuse of people's trust and confidence, will make a promise or a commitment, Sir, knowing at the time that it cannot be met, will write down a commitment on any old scrap of paper - I saw it in Twillingate district, and my friend from Lewisporte saw it as well - will write down on any old scrap of paper, on an envelope or anything, a commitment, Sir, sign it, Premier or a minister sign it, give it to people. Commitments regarding hospitals have been made, commitments during elections

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and by-elections, a government, Sir, which does not seem to know what a base thing it is really to take advantage shamelessly of people's natural trust in the word and the commitment of the government.

We saw the Come By Chance refinery, the promise of a second refinery during the election when the government knew or should have known that this refinery was bankrupt or on the verge of bankruptcy. Example, after example, Mr. Speaker, of corrupt practices, politically especially and in other ways as well. And that is why I say, Sir, that if we can bring in these laws, bring in laws governing the operation of political parties and the financing of political parties so we do not have these sort of deals or the suspicion of deals being made so that the party or members of a party can benefit in a way which may not even be illegal, Mr. Speaker. That is the point; it may not even be illegal. It may be within the letter of the law if not the spirit of the law. What I am saying is let us define by law the operation of political parties, political candidates so at least we know, Mr. Speaker, if public money is used in a manner which is outside these strict and stringent laws that at least the person involved is breaking the law, is a crook, and will be dealt with accordingly. And this is an area, Sir, where I am not one of those who believe that morality can be legislated. I am not one of those people who believe that morality of any kind should of necessity just transposed into law. But when it comes to politics, Mr. Speaker, and the operation of political parties - and this is where we have fallen down on the job - when we come into that area, Sir, then the morality needs to be legislated and the operation of parties and the financing of parties and the funds of parties

MR. ROWE: and where the money comes from and where it goes, all should be open to scrutiny, open to public scrutiny. And let us make sure that if any money is received by any elected person or any party person that does not fall within the legal methods of receiving such money, then that person is guilty of a crime and at least we can separate the honest politicians from the crooks, Mr. Speaker. I believe this will have the effect of raising political morality in this province because people will expect-not now as you hear so often that "Oh, well, everyone is in there to line their own pockets in any event". That is how brutalized the political morality is, not only in Newfoundland, but everywhere. At least then, Sir, people will learn to expect high standards of honesty and high standards of conduct involving finances, especially, from their elected public servants and public people, and that is what we should have, Sir. Now, Mr. Speaker, as I say, when the Throne Speech is called, I intend to get into a number of these matters in a little more detail. Let me close here now and allow somebody else to speak by saying, as I have mentioned in my motion of no confidence in this government, that this government is guilty of mismanagement of the worst order, mismanagement of the finances of our province which has resulted in the downgrading of essential public services and the imposition on our people of a crushing public debt with \$164 million every year on the dead just to pay the interest and service charges on that debt. I believe honestly, Sir, and sincerely that this government has misused public money and this misuse of public money has resulted in, as I have said, police investigations, public inquiries and, in one case, the laying of criminal charges, and that, Sir, these matters looked at separately - these two matters looked at separately or together have to point out and indicate to any reasonable

MR. ROWE: person, either outside this House or inside this House, Sir, that this government does not deserve the confidence of the House. I believe this government has lost the confidence and trust of the overwhelming majority of the Newfoundland people because of the shenanigans, because of this mismanagement and neglect and lack of concern and negligence and this positive misuse of public funds, I believe it has lost the confidence and trust of the vast majority of the Newfoundland people. Sir, that lack of confidence, that lack of trust, should, Sir, if there is any justice, be reflected by a vote in this House, a vote of no confidence by the members of this House in this administration. Thank you, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. member from St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I thank the members of the opposition for that applause, but I somehow get the feeling it was not directed towards me. It is always a great pleasure to follow the leader of the supposition because he leaves himself so wide open. It was a very good speech. It was a somewhat peppery speech and he does, I would suggest, have the small-man syndrome; but he is not a small man in any way, he is considerably over four feet. I would think that there is no need for him to be quite so aggressive. The hon. gentleman had unlimited time but fortunately for members on this side he did not have unlimited gall so he finally did sit down. Now, he suggested that the economy of this province is on the rocks. I would like to suggest what short memories the hon. gentlemen have on the other side and what little consideration they have for saving the government's money. It is my understanding that their quarters on the fifth floor reflect tremendous opulence. In fact, it is difficult to walk

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MR. J. CARTER:

through the thick carpets down there.

I have not heard a single member of the opposition complain or even deplore something that is going on right under their very eyes; namely, this intersection down here by Long Pond that is going to cost considerably more

MR. J. CARTER:

than half a million dollars. I deplore it. I think a lot of people deplore it. It is something that we got involved in with the City; it could be done for a lot cheaper and I think just because the former Minister of Transportation is a bit swarthy, this is not Iran. Even in Iran, the Shah of Iran, I am sure, would not spend a half a million dollars on an intersection. So, if the hon. gentlemen are so concerned about saving money they certainly do not put their money where their mouth is.

Now, I would like to, in the short time allowed me, Mr. Speaker, realizing that the Budget Speech and any amendment thereto is a pretty freewheeling debate, I would like to jump around a bit and I will discuss various topics probably not in the best order but as they spring to mind.

I object to the Leader of the Opposition taking any responsibility for a bill that may come before this House either this Spring, or early next Fall, dealing with political contributions. As I remember, that was a resolution that I sponsored in this House that received unanimous approval and the three important aspects of that resolution were that political contributions be subject to a declaration; in other words, that candidates declare what they received, how much they received and where they received it from; also, that political contributions be subject to some limitation to be decided upon; and furthermore, if a government could afford it that political contributions be subsidized to some extent by the government. This would do away with a lot of the practices that members complain about.

My experience has been, and I think other hon. gentlemen will agree with me, that the biggest costs in political campaigning are, first, printing and press and T.V.; then, paid help; and then, miscellaneous and, of course, miscellaneous can cover a host

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MR. J. CARTER: of things. However, it should be possible to run an election on an individual district basis for a relatively modest amount; there is no need to spend excessive amounts. I suppose in the outlying districts the biggest expense is for transportation, not only for the candidate but for his supporters, and getting the people out to vote on election

MR. NEARY: Could we have a quorum call?

MR. J. CARTER: We have a quorum, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: No, we do not.

MR. SPEAKER:(MR. YOUNG): A quorum call has been requested.
Call in the members.

MR. SPEAKER: We have a quorum.

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

MR. J. CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is quite obvious that the gentlemen opposite could not stand to hear about political contributions and the possible act to reform the same and it was on that note that they all left the House. So by their actions I think you can judge them. I do not listen to what they say, I listen to what they do, and listening to what they do, they leave the House the moment anyone suggests that there should be any declaration, limitation or anything else on political contributions. And of course the history of the last administration shows that they did not care how they got their contributions and I do not think they cared how they spent them and of course they did not care what they spent them on or who they spent them on and as a result they got a very motley lot elected. However, enough of that.

Still jumping around, but before I forget it I would like to pay particular credit to the recent announcement of Mr. Vic Young as being appointed the Chairman of Newfoundland Hydro. I understand that he will be sorely missed by Treasury Board but nevertheless I cannot think of any person more qualified to handle the very complex corporation that is Newfoundland Hydro. And I am sure everyone in this House who knows him, and I think everyone in this House does know him, wishes him well.

DR. KITCHEN: What is his salary?

MR. J. CARTER: I have no idea what his salary is but I would say this, that that particular gentleman would earn any salary that was given him.

DR. KITCHEN: Yes, so did Groom!

MR. J. CARTER: I do not agree about that. I think the hon. member for St. John's West is being very unfair. Dennis Groom was one of the finest gentlemen that came here. He had three attributes: he was affable, and he was diligent, and he was sensible. And if

MR. CARTER:

can get those three attributes combined in any one man then I say he is worth three salaries.

MR. NEARY: You recognized a sucker when you saw one.

MR. CARTER: The judgement of the gentleman's worth is the fact that he can and does and did step back and forth into jobs that pay just that same amount. You cannot get talented people like that for any less. You just cannot get them. Now the hon. gentleman would not understand that because he cannot understand a person, you know, working that hard or being that deep a person. He is used to shallow, lip servers. But there is no doubt about it that there are some people in this world who are worth a considerable amount and who give value for the money that is spent on them. I think the two gentlemen whose names have just been mentioned are two such.

MR. NEARY:I neither inherited money and neither did I marry into it.

MR. CARTER: Who married into money?

MR. NEARY: I do not know. If the hat fits the hon. gentleman, wear it.

MR. CARTER: Who married into money? He gives me a great compliment.

MR. NEARY: It is true.

MR. J. CARTER: Quite untrue, Mr. Speaker, quite untrue.

The member for St. John's West (Dr. Kitchen) I appreciated his speech. I thought it was very good although I feel that he tends to take the extreme view and I do not think that the House of Assembly is the place for extreme views. I understand that he feels very strongly about some of the situations he outlined but I wonder if upon thorough investigation they can be as bad as that. I have seen a tremendous improvement in conditions in the last twenty years and I thought that those conditions that he described no longer existed. I would be very unhappy and very surprised if they were quite as bad.

DR. KITCHEN: I can show the hon. member such dwellings.

MR. J. CARTER:

All right, I will take him up on that. I will take the hon. gentleman up on that because I had thought, in my going around I had thought that most of those situations were eliminated.

There has been quite a bit of talk about the capital value versus rental value and of course regional government and what regional government will do.

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MR. J. CARTER:

I have read the Bill, as have other hon. gentlemen, and mostly I approve. But, there is one point I would like to make about it and that is at the same time I sponsored the resolution for election reform the hon. member for Kilbride (Mr. R. Wells) sponsored a resolution in favour of 'a house for a house' legislation. That is to say, a person whose home is taken by some expropriating authority shall be reimbursed to such an extent that he will be able to move into another home without any loss of capital value. Now, simply stated, it is this:- A person may be living in an older house that is worth on the open market no more than, say, \$10,000. The expropriating authority may say, "Well, because we want this badly because this road has to go through here we will give that person \$15,000, \$5,000 more than the house is worth." But, the person who gets the \$15,000 may not be able to get a house for anything less than \$30,000 unless they are prepared to move way out of town because there may not be any \$15,000 houses within reasonable distance of that place. Now, I am suggesting that when this Bill is discussed, that when those particular clauses are brought forward - and I would be quite happy if a member of the Opposition would second any motion that I might make or any amendment that I might make - that we clearly put into that legislation that anytime a family home, that is a domicile, a place where people live - not a business, not a rented house but a place where people live - is expropriated that the person receive an amount of money sufficient to enable him to get into another house in more or less the same neighbourhood. Now, that is all I am saying. It will happen very rarely, it will cost the Government very little, but if Joe Smallwood is writing his dreary memoirs in some drafty attic and he is wondering why he is not the Premier anymore, I can tell him. It is because people were afraid of him and the reason they were afraid was they were afraid they were going to be expropriated. Now, the old St. John's North that I had the honour to represent was a very large

MR. J. CARTER: district, yet, wherever I went, on New Pennywell Road, out in Portugal Cove, out in the watershed area, up in Mundy Pond, people were afraid of being expropriated and they were afraid that their home would be taken and they would only get a fraction of its replacement value. They knew that their houses were not worth all that much. They knew that. Some of them had built them there without any proper permit years ago and they were very modest houses, they did not have services, they did not have a full basement or any basement, they were drafty, they were built to sub-standard level but, nevertheless, they were home. I still remember an old man practically bursting into tears, saying, "I have lived here all my life, I hope I will not be thrown out." You know, I really felt very strongly about that and I would be prepared to go to any lengths, any necessary lengths to see that such an amendment gets clearly written into our legislation. I think hon. gentlemen across, although they may have their disagreements with me, I sense that they fully agree with those sentiments and I think the gentlemen on this side -

MR. NEARY: A person would receive a home for a home?

MR. J. CARTER: A home for a home.

MR. NEARY: That is our philosophy.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the Murphy bill.

MR. NEARY: What Murphy bill?

MR. J. CARTER: This does not mean -

AN HON. MEMBER: 1964 for

MR. J. CARTER: This does not mean a generous amount for a home: it means enough money to get another equivalent. Now, it could be a tarpaper shack that is only worth \$500 and yet if the people are not looking to sell it, if a road has to go through there, those people should get enough to live in a decent house in the same area, and I do not care if that is \$30,000. An extreme case could for a \$500 shack a person gets \$30,000. Now, that is a very extreme case and I do not think it will happen, but I could certainly see a person with a \$10,000 house getting \$20,000 so that they could move. I am just using these figures arbitrarily but I think all hon.

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MR. J. CARTER: gentlemen know what I mean and I will not sit here and let that particular bill go through without sponsoring such an amendment. I now appeal for definite support from both sides of the House in view of the fact, particularly -

MR. NEARY: Will you vote for the non-confidence motion?

MR. J. CARTER: The hon. gentleman is playing legislative gymnastics; I am trying to be serious.

- In view of the fact, particularly, that this resolution went through unanimously, freely, completely, some years ago. So, I feel very strongly about that and I would appreciate support from all sides. And, of course, Bill No. 50, the Regional Government Bill, when that -

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the expropriation clauses?

MR. J. CARTER: Pardon?

MR. NOLAN: The expropriation clause.

MR. J. CARTER: The expropriation clauses - they should be written in absolutely clearly, because that regional authority -

MR. NOLAN: You will believe in the appointment of the board members, not elected.

MR. J. CARTER: At first. I think there are some appointed and some elected. I do not think that that is a big issue.

MR. NOLAN: Oh, no!

MR. J. CARTER: Oh, it is big enough.

MR. NOLAN: How about changing the Metro Board thing. You were against the appointments on Metro Board. What is the difference there now?

MR. J. CARTER: It is big enough. It is perhaps big enough to make a good debating point, and I am certainly prepared to debate it. But it is a minor point compared to the one I am presently trying to clarify.

Now one of the values of the regional government or county council, I suppose you could call it, will be that they may be able to bring some sort of sense into the tax structure. At the moment St. John's has a rental value, and I think that that rental value could be changed into capital value in five minutes because you merely relate rental value to capital value.

MR. NOLAN: A regional board is not supposed to -

MR. J. CARTER: Again, they are not to meddle in the affairs of a particular municipality, but I think that they can certainly lead the way in forward municipal government. And I would like to see the capital value, and I think most gentlemen would like to see the capital value all throughout the municipalities in Newfoundland. Mount Pearl has it as I understand. And, of course, it means, Mr. Speaker, that for a landlord it is worth the person's while to build, to rent. In the city of St. John's it is not worth anyone's while to rent unless they just happen to have a piece of property that they have no use for. It is just not worth their while. Thirty-three, thirty-four per cent of the rental value goes as tax. So it is

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not just worth their while. As a result St. John's is very short of good rental accommodation, and that could be changed with the stroke of a pen. And I think hon. gentlemen here are derelict in their duty if they do not support such a change.

MR. HICKMAN: The Fraser Royal Commission looked into that a few years ago. How does a city make up for the loss of money?

MR. J. CARTER: I do not think there would be any loss in money, because the fact of the matter is that there are very few people who will not go in for apartments now, because they do not pay, but you will see a great flurry if the government, if the administration, want to give the construction industry a shot in the arm. I can suggest no better way than encouraging the city to change from rental value to capital value as quickly as they can, because they see such a flurry of apartment buildings, good apartment buildings that the City Council would be spending most of its time issuing permits.

MR. NEARY: But is that up to the city?

MR. J. CARTER: Sure it is, but the government could encourage them.

MR. NEARY: Is it underway now?

MR. J. CARTER: It is underway but they are dragging their feet. I say it could be done in five minutes; just relate rental value to capital value, just pick a formula. And I can think of no better way to give our construction industry a very badly needed shot in the arm.

While we are on the - again I will jump back to the Newfoundland Hydro and the Newfoundland Light and Power, electricity generally. The member for St. John's West (Dr. Kitchen) and myself spent many interesting hours sitting in on the Hydro hearings and a number of very useful points were made at those hearings, I thought. And one of these was that a change in the rate structure

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might take the burden off the small consumer who finds it very hard to pay. And there was one case of a lady who voluntarily came in and pointed out that her electric bill was greater than her mortgage per month, mortgage payment per month. Now the Newfoundland Light and Power want in to check it out, I understand. I have not heard how they made out. They did suspect that there was a considerable heat loss there, that the type of construction the house had was very open. But I would suggest a very minor project with very major implications that the government should build one house using the most advanced technology available today, say, using a heat pump to show just

MR. J. CARTER: how cheaply a person can live electrically - really good insulation, none of this R-2 that the TV program promotes but R-14, R-16, heat pump perhaps built so as to maximize any possible heat from the sun and just build in a favourite location. I think although it would cost the government a few dollars, I think it would be a fairly minor expense; eventually they could sell it, but I would like them to take the trouble of sitting down with Newfoundland Hydro and Newfoundland Light and just show the people what can be done, because I understand that modern building methods and modern insulation can make electric heating extremely cheap and this is a suggestion, a positive suggestion I have for the administration and I imagine they could - I am sure in fact - that once this particular house was built, it could be sold with very little loss, maybe some small loss. because it would be experimental, a prototype, they would be doing things for the first time so it may cost a little more to do it. But I would suggest they would recover 70-80% of the money they invested and it would be a very interesting experiment.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. J. CARTER: Well, I am suggesting a heat pump which is developed; it is a bit of technology that has already been developed. It is a little more expensive than conventional heat, but it is much cheaper. Out of one kilowatt hour, for instance, in raw heat, just turned into heat in a heater, you get about 3,400 B.T.U.'s, but using one kilowatt hour of electricity to operate the heat pump, you get 10,000 B.T.U.'s, so you get a 4-1 saving, and this is using the Newfoundland Light and Power figures which I do not have any reason to dispute and it would make a very interesting experiment. So, I suggest that to the government.

MR. J. CARTER: Another point I would like to make while I am on my feet and that is the member for Lewisporte (Mr. F. White), I think, suggested TV in the House. Now, again, I think it would be expensive and perhaps unnecessary to have television in the House at all times, but it would not be beyond this House's power or capacity or anything else to just pass a resolution - it would have to be unanimous, I understand - to allow television to come in whenever it felt - whenever the news media felt - there was something worth televising. In other words, I presume they could bring their television camera up on the press gallery and point it down, use the zoom-in lens and get the, I suppose that most members would be within range of the TV cameras on either side.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. J. CARTER: No, I am merely suggesting that the TV stations -

AN HON. MEMBER: (In audible) qualifications

MR. J. CARTER: and the radio be allowed to come into the House as the public are allowed in. The public do not have to ask any permission to come. As soon as the strangers are permitted, Mr. Speaker says, "Admit strangers", then the press could come in with their TV and radio if they wanted to. Now, most of the time I suggest they would not want to, but there may be the occasional -

AN HON. MEMBER: Perhaps never want to.

MR. J. CARTER: Perhaps never want to, but there might be the occasional debate, like the budget speech, like the Speech from the Throne, the press are allowed in under special motion. Now, I take full responsibility for blocking the particular motion last year to allow TV or cameras into the House at a particular time and, of course, I do not regret that one bit and I would do it again and again and again. Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: Does your conscience still bother you?

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MR. J. CARTER: Not at all, not in the least. The honourable gentleman whose publicity I think I blocked, I do not think he ever did a decent thing in his life as far as this House was concerned. I used to see him in action and, as far as I am concerned, he was a disgrace to Newfoundland, and I think the gentleman should be just forgotten about, better forgotten about. I see two gentlemen in this House, members who are not only prominent Liberals but prominent Confederates in that they were - the honourable gentleman for Burin-Placentia West (Mr. P. Canning) was here since 1949, and I believe the member for Fogo (Capt. E. Winsor) has been here almost that long, not quite, and I am just wondering if they have any regrets particularly in the - considering how badly served we are on the Gulf ferry. I wonder if those two hon. gentlemen would not consider making a special presentation to Ottawa sometime or through their federal member, the appropriate federal member, because I think no one will dispute the fact that Newfoundland is very badly served by the ferry service. The ferry is unpredictable, it is slow, it is cumbersome, it is expensive. I say

MR. J. CARTER:

the ferry system is cumbersome, slow, expensive, you know, uncomfortable. The Argentia ferry only operates for a short period in the Summer. It is even more expensive and more slow. Trying to bring in goods, people and services to this Island of Newfoundland is the most frustrating experience and most people as a result fly. And what about the not inconsiderable number of people who do not like to fly for whom flying is an unpleasant experience? Now they are put on the horns of a dilemma. On the one hand, flying is unpleasant and possibly dangerous; on the other hand, the Gulf ferry and the drive across country is most unpleasant and frustrating and delaying. And they are put on the horns of this dilemma and I suggest to hon. members that living on this Island requires, you know, a fair degree of sacrifice. And it is particularly difficult to get off in a hurry. Our weather is unpredictable.

I think it was in the last session that I made mention of a private letter that I happen to have that was written in 1905, I believe, and in it the writer describes how many ways she can get to Newfoundland from England. I think there are about eight different boats going at different times. And she describes how she can get to Halifax and then back to St. John's or she can go to Boston and then back to St. John's, and this in 1905. And her letter, in fact, and it dates stamped, both she dated it and when it was received it was stamped and dated and her letter got across in less time than the letter takes today to get from England. So I suggest that in the last seventy years we have not made all that much progress and I would recommend to the two hon. gentlemen whom I mentioned that they take a particular interest in representing this anomaly to Ottawa.

I think I have covered most of the points that I wanted to cover, Mr. Speaker. Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: A quorum call.

MR. J. CARTER: No quorum again?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I would ask the Law Clerk to count the House.

A quorum is present.

Order, please!

If the hon. member will permit me, I have a ruling to make, and this is the most opportune time to do so. This is somewhat ancient history so perhaps I should just call to your mind that it did relate to certain remarks that the hon. member made and if it is your agreement, I would take his withdrawal as negating the point of order. Is that your agreement?

AN. HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

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

MR. J. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I thank the members of the Opposition for giving me this opportunity to collect my thoughts and review my notes and to put my speech in better order and perhaps they will honour me with a couple of more quorum calls before I am finished.

During the Leader of the Supposition's speech, the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), I think, suggested that, you know, the Portuguese boats would not be very welcome in St. Lawrence and in talking over privately with the Minister of Fisheries he said that, you know, perhaps the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) should come down to St. Lawrence. In fact there are a number of places I would like to suggest hon. gentlemen try out their wings. The member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) might, for instance, consider going to a public meeting on Bell Island and see how he is received. He might try going down to St. Lawrence. Perhaps the Leader of the Opposition could try going to White Bay for a meeting. He might even try going to a meeting in Twillingate. It might be interesting. And then the minister - I said that this would be, you know, disastrous for most of them. I said - I was speaking to the Minister of Fisheries - I said, "Now, where else

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could they go that would really get them into trouble? " He said, "I would like to think that they would get into trouble going to St. Mary's - The Capes." So I would like to suggest perhaps they could try down there.

MR. W. ROWE: Get on with it.

MR. J. CARTER: The Leader of the Opposition was very good before supper, but I think he seemed to go off the track after supper. I often wonder what it was he had for supper. He suggested that, you know, members could get thrown out for telling the truth. I would like to suggest that he does not care what he says as long as he pronounces it correctly. I do not know.

To be serious though, Mr. Speaker, to get back to a couple of points, the Leader of the Opposition made some substantive suggestions for saving money, and he managed to scrape up \$2 million or \$3 million. I do not think it would be hard to show how this administration could save considerably more than that, and I am not trying to be partisan about it. One of the biggest - I do not have the budget before me - but one of the biggest single items is the Newfoundland Medicare Commission. And I would suggest that medicare has failed in that it does not do all the things people had hoped it would do. It is not comprehensive enough. And yet because it pays one hundred per cent of what it does pay, it is expensive. In other words, people do not have to pay their doctor's bills any more. They do not have to pay their hospital bills except for private rooms. But here is a suggestion that members on both sides of the House might like to consider and that is that if medicare were replaced by a much expanded system that would cover everything that had anything

MR. J. CARTER:

to do with medical expenses: That would be home care; it would be hospital care, doctors bills, prescriptions, drugs, dressings, eyeglasses and false teeth unless they are supplied by denturists and every possible medical expense. The catch being that people would have to pay the first, say, one per cent of their taxable income first and then on receipt of bills above that all expenses would be paid. Now people are not afraid of the niggling little medical expenses. It is the great big medical disasters for which Medicare provides no coverage whatsoever, an aged parent having to be looked after at home, a paralyzed person, a person who has been severely injured in an automobile accident and requires a long period of rehabilitation, medical rehabilitation. Medicare will cover the direct medical costs but not the costs that I call paramedical. I think that there is something like \$35 million to \$40 million set aside for Medicare and I would suggest that if you had a revised Medicare programme that covered all these contingencies with the except of a small deductible, namely being, say, one per cent of your taxable income, and anyone can afford that, then not only would the fund far less than \$35 million or \$40 million be required to give this kind of coverage but that everyone would breath a great sigh of relieve and you would not have the terrible burden that some families now have.

I know whereof I speak because in my particular district this is probably the biggest problem that one comes up against and it is the quasi-paramedical expenses. For instance, we have three doctors on our side and I think they will all agree that for an elderly person, a pensioner, it is not at all unusual for them to have to spend fifty dollars a month on drugs. That is the minimum and these do not have to be exotic drugs - diabetic, asthmatic, someone with a heart problem. There are certain heart pills. I do not need to go into the realms of pharmacology to convince members that the amount that is spent by an elderly person in just

MR. J. CARTER:

plain drugs aside from anything else is considerably more than they can afford. And I think that a revamped and a revised and an expanded Medicare programme would not only cover all these contingencies but I suggest it would be a lot cheaper on the government. I suggest that the government could finance such a plan for far less than the \$35 million or \$40 million that is presently spent on Medicare. And there is a considerable saving. Everybody benefits and I would very much appreciate if the members would think this through and think through the implications of this and perhaps later on we can perhaps really do something about it. I think it is the kind of programme that could bring all party agreement. We snip back and forth at each other. It is part of the game. It is part of the format of the House but there are times when we can be serious and there are times when we can co-operate and I think that this is one of those times.

So on that point, which I think we have to have some agreement on, I will cease. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CANNING: The hon. member for St. John's North, Mr. Speaker, I could not hear anything. I mean I could hear him but he was not saying anything. The last two or three minutes he did come through with something. While he was speaking and every time he gets up to speak I wonder to myself over here, you know, "Why he is here?" Then I say to myself, "Why do the people elect him? Why would they elect him and send him in?"

MR. NEARY: When it is wet outdoors he cannot get in the savoury patch so he comes in here to punch in the day.

MR. CANNING: And what does he tell them when goes out into these elections? What he is going to do for them, you know, what contribution is he going to make to justify their electing him?

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MR. CANNING:

Here now - how long am I here? - three years. I am here longer than that. I will soon be here twenty-six years and I have seen a lot of people come and go. I have seen quiet people in the House

MR. CANNING:

who did not make very many speeches. I saw people who made poor speeches. I saw it all, I guess. I never thought I could sit in a House with a man in the House like that for three years. He has said nothing, he has contributed nothing, he has not talked about his district, what he represents, And then he telling,

I believe it was the Leader of the Opposition and the member for LaPoile, (Mr. Neary) where they should go, or something. Well, there is one thing I am going to tell him:- For God's sake, do not come outside the Crossroads because there is no place out there for you. Now, I can assure you, there is no place outside the Crossroads that ever sent anybody into the House who talked such nonsense, a little bit of humour, nothing to it, you know. I know he does not like the previous administration; he just hates it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. CANNING:

That is enough. He is gone.

If he stays out during the next election his district is not going to miss anything.

Mr. Speaker, rising tonight I would like to be in a better mood. I would like for my morale to be a bit higher, I would like to be able to make a good speech on the Budget. I would like to have found something in it to talk on but instead I find myself almost wishing that that could go away, that that was never written. Mr. Speaker, I really have come to a point in my political life where -well, to a point that I thought I would never come. After being twenty-six years in this House representing my native district - after twenty-three years, and each year I could get up and defend the government of the day. I certainly could defend them, I could defend their policies, I could defend the progress we were making, I could defend the amounts in the Budget, the amounts for each department, I could make my suggestions for my district, but I am to a point now where I am like the people in Newfoundland, my morale is down. I hardly think it worthwhile to get up. We have come

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Tape No. 3975

RT-2

MR. CANNING: to a point in this House and in this Province where people have lost all hope. Perhaps I have had a terrible failing all my life. The kind I have been, if I were in the government or in the opposition, wherever I am, and I have had a criticizing opposition. I always tried to persuade myself there was something good about it, I always thought, you know, I would get more pleasure out of complimenting them for something they had done, I never enjoyed bawling out people, disagreeing with people, and I am one who, really, before I lose hope in anybody - I just have lost hope, there is no hope there. When I say something that is not nice across this House to the Government as a whole, to a minister, to an individual member, I tell you, when I say something that is not nice when I bang them, I do not enjoy it one single bit because by my having to say that we are losing something and that man is in a position where he should not be. It is unfortunate that he is there and I just wish it was a different system, or a different person, or a different minister who was there so that my problems, or my district, Newfoundlanders, or Canada, would not lose anything. So, I am not made of that type but I have come to a point now where I can lose my patience, I even can break rules, I even get turned out of the House, and I was hoping I would never come to that point.

AN HON. MEMBER: Telling the truth.

MR. CANNING: Telling the truth. Telling the truth.
Mr. Speaker, I was delighted when I went back to my district. A lot of people said to me - I was really quite proud of it - They said, "Well, you know, you were turned out of the House down there but we said something must be going wrong when you were turned out of the House. We do not think you are that type."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CANNING: Most of the men said, the men I met said, 'You do not use the word, 'untruth!' Well, boy, what we think about you is, if you called somebody a bloody liar he is damned well a bloody liar."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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Tape No. 3975

RT-3

MR. CANNING:

Anyway, be that as it is. No, Mr. Speaker,

I stand up tonight disappointed, disappointed with the way we are in
this Province, what has happened in the Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker,

MR. P. CANNING I have to look back now because the next couple of years I am in this House I am going to play politics, what they call politicking. One time I had the belief that the best politics you could play was none - no politics. I played that and it worked. I thought the best thing to do when I go out on election was not to promise people - make any promises - I never made one in my life. I thought it was the best thing and went out in the district running even against an opponent even in the last election. The nicest thing for me to say about him was to say nothing, which I did and, of course, it paid off. Mr. Speaker, now if I do not play what you call playing politics and I do not criticize the government. I am afraid people will get fed up with me. They say "What are you doing in there? You know things are wrong, you know what is happening in the district, you know how they got in there, you know how they carried on since they got in and for God's sake speak up, stand up and speak up and get them out." Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what I am going to do as of now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. P. CANNING: When I go to my district, and I go to something like a Kiwanis dinner, I am not going to play politics-up until now, But I had the experience some time ago to be at one of those meetings, played my part, congratulated that great society, what do you call them, that great club that we have there that has done wonders for the place, and there was this gentleman there from this House, from the other side of the House. I was quite nice with him, played no politics and I found he got up and I was expecting he was going to do the same thing and the last sentence was a whopper - a beaut. He ended up by saying, by praising the area and something and then he said "One thing I can assure you that if we get a synchrolift in St. John's, it is not going to do you people here any harm".

AN HON. MEMBER: Who said that?

MR. CANNING: Well, it is a man I am going to be talking about in a moment. I am not going to name any names, but we got a heck of a mess up there with water and sewer - not water and sewer anymore. I cannot talk about water and sewer. All I have got to talk about now is water lines we were promised to have. We have gone out of that, sewer. That went out when I went out for a little while.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. CANNING: Do not snigger.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. CANNING: I am disappointed for more reasons than one. Number one is I am honest and I say this - I have said it here before - at the end of the 23 years when I went out, when I got put out or did I go out - I wonder did I get tired and did I really believe in a change or something after that length of time, perhaps I did if I told the truth - perhaps I did not work hard enough - you would not have to work very hard to get another 40 votes in some corner - if you made one dirty political speech you probably might get 120 - but I did not make it, perhaps that is why I went out. But anyway, Mr. Speaker, I look back at the history of this Province and I know it - I can remember fifty years of it or more - and I look at the 23 years right here in the House - I look back at the type of men who came into the House in 1949. Some men have come in who did not get through high school - I do not know if we had any, well we had one or two who really had seen a university. Myself, I had never seen a degree-conferring university, but it was not very long before we did. We have had a very good job of an equal opportunity, educational opportunities before I left the district for a short while. I could go into the home of a widow with children and tell them that things are much better, that we have done well and your

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Tape 3976

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MR. CANNING: children today got the same advantages,
the same opportunities as the sons and daughters of lawyers
in St. John's or merchants in St. John's or

Mr. P. Canning.

anyone else. So, Mr. Speaker, when we had this new crowd that came into the House, some of them from the university, young, the younger generation, I was hoping they would come in with younger ideas, newer ideas and perhaps - I was not getting very old, but there were people who went out with me who had reached the age of going out, some of them over that. I thought it was really a time to move on. I had great hopes but, Mr. Speaker, but I never saw the reality. I never realized those hopes. Because what I have found since I came back, what I have seen on the other side of the House, that those who passed through the university, I do not know if the university did any good. Perhaps it would have been better if we had never got one. I do not believe in that, but sometimes it would make you think so.

MR. W. ROWE: Educated beyond their intelligence.

MR. P. CANNING: No. I have my - what I mean by education, what I mean by learning, I got to separate the two, learning is to get a book and learn everything that is in it. Even a lawyer can do that, you know, get lawyers' books and read and learn the law inside out. Education is far beyond that. You can be educated without any learning. So perhaps that is what we have, educated people in books but not very much knowledge of the problems of the country or the things in the world and not a great understanding of the people who put them here.

Mr. Speaker, if I remember the campaign when the time had come, I remember things went abroad like this", that Smallwood is a dictator. They are a bunch of rogues. They give out contracts without calling tenders -

MR. NEARY: Grafters.

MR. CANNING: - it is graft, Let us in, we want to clean it up." They guaranteed that they would clean it up. Never again would there be a tender call without the public seeing it, wave it before the world. The time had come. It came, Mr. Speaker. It was a sort of brainwashing, because a lot of the youth, a lot of

Mr. Canning.

the kids in the school, perhaps even in the university, a lot of them believed it. I could feel it in the air when I was going around. They really thought there were all sorts of robbery going on, and they thought that it was going to be cleaned up.

MR. NEARY: If you tell a lie long enough somebody is going to believe it.

MR. CANNING: It was repeated so often over and over again that it was believed. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, like I say, I still did not lose hope in them. They went in on an awful wave, a terrible wave. Hate! I saw youngsters who started to hate Joey Smallwood. Then they got in, and of course we know what happened. Some of them, Mr. Speaker, are in the House now. Some of them did not get back. Some have gone on to Ottawa. My candid opinion is that every effort they made, every move they made, they wanted to destroy what the other government had done in so many things. They wanted to make the people forget that it ever existed, that anything, any good we had around us, you know, it was always there, it fell or something. They were a group - there were people among them, not all of them, who came in with a vengeance, a vengeance against Joey, and well, it was just vengeance, hate and whatnot.

MR. W. ROWE: Witch hunts. Remember all the witch hunts?

MR. CANNING: Well the witch hunts I am coming to.

So anyway, Mr. Speaker, I was almost persuaded that there had been some terrible things done. Then I heard of the raids, the raids in their houses, mounties breaking in here and there, breaking into Joey's offices, taking Joey's papers, his private papers and everything. You know, I got uneasy. I mean I did not think people could do it unless there were something wrong.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Oh, ch!

MR. CANNING: A lot of the province stood still. My God, this is true?

MR. NEARY: Manipulating the police. Political persecutions.

MR. CANNING: That propaganda, you know. The people said to themselves the propaganda, they said, My God, did that man who brought this Province out of poverty, the man who did so much, the man who built hundreds and hundreds of schools, the man who built four thousand miles of road in - I was going to say twenty-three years, but it was long before that - you know, the man who led us out of isolation and gave us electricity for the first time

MR. CANNING:

and so on and so on: Was he like that? I think you almost had him persuaded. And what did we find? Mr. Speaker, we found two things, one or the other. They either found something that was wrong, some conniving that was going on, some graft that was going on. They said to themselves, this is a good way to do it or they found nothing. But they did not come out and clear the man they crucified.

MR. NEARY: They tried to ruin his reputation and a half a dozen others besides.

MR. CANNING: He came into this House and for the two years and a half he was here they were over there scarred stiff, afraid to point at him, crawling to him. They were not allowed to mention his name or say anything to him. When 'Morgan' one day was ignorant enough to start off on it, he was shut up. I wonder did he ever get his papers back?

MR. NEARY: No, he did not. They still got the notes from his grandchildren. The Minister of Justice still has them on his conscience.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: The Minister of Justice knows all about them.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, the people of Newfoundland know that now. The people are thinking differently. They know -

AN HON. MEMBER: 'Alex' does not mix with that crowd.

MR. CANNING: No, I cannot. You know, I just hate to think it. I hate to think that he does mix with them. If he is it is a darn shame.

MR. NEARY: What a thing to do. He will never live it down.

MR. CANNING: I think there is a lot going on that the hon. gentleman who you are teasing should have the courage to do something about either inside the party or from outside and come clean about it.

MR. NOLAN: The Minister of Justice.

MR. W. ROWE: Lay charges or clear the man's name.

MR. NEARY: One of these days when the former Premier passes away he will be the first upon his feet paying tribute to him. Just watch and see how long it will be. If we live long enough to be in this House

MR. NEARY:

I can see him now getting up.

MR. CANNING: If he would do that in my day I would even appreciate that.

MR. NEARY: Well he should clear him while he is alive for the damages done.

MR. CANNING: But, Mr. Speaker, there is a big change across this Province. The Liberals, those who voted the opposite in that 1971 election - now, Mr. Speaker, I could go into that, what happened there. I sat in on a caucus. There was a nervous character next to me. He had become very nervous, a very worried man, did not know if he was going or coming. I was sitting there and he was sitting here. He was quivering. He did not know what he was talking about and I asked him what was wrong with him one time. Oh, nothing wrong. By-and-by somebody asked him that they heard that he was going to sell out. No, he said, never going to sell, but I knew by the nerves there was something up. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I will not comment on him because he is one of the sad facts in history, political history, that should never have happened. Yes, the resignation; I was just shown now the poor fellow had it in his pocket then.

I sat here in the House when the Premier had it in his pocket.

MR. NEARY: That is right. The biggest conspiracy ever contemplated on the public Treasury.

MR. CANNING: And he had it in his pocket.

MR. W. ROWE: Used the Lieutenant-Governor.

MR. CANNING: Anyway, Mr. Speaker, now with the way things are going in the Province, the way things are looking up today and the situation in my district today and what has gone on in my district since I went back there, Mr. Speaker, number one -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

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Tape No. 3979

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MR. NEARY: The Premier sent it. I do not know who brought it. A messenger brought it.

MR. CANNING: Number one, Mr. Speaker - They are distracting me. I am back into my district -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CANNING: First of all - I cannot tell you to shut up because I might get kicked out for that. Would I? Is that unparliamentary?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, number one is, I am glad to stand here tonight and be able to say after twenty-six years that in my district, my district itself, I believe, particularly my own, my part of the Burin Peninsula is the most prosperous area with a future, with a potential, with a future as it is, a good future, but then at the same time in other directions, I may say, or temporary directions, things are not too good. The morale of the people - They are saying this - I never thought it would come to it. People say to me - This is the truth. I imagine a lot of the members over on this side of the House heard it and I do not know if the others did, or not - They are asking me, "How do you get rid of a government without an election?" Serious minded people who are not out making politics, they are worried, they are concerned. "Is there any way? What do you do?" I have to tell them, "No. Unfortunately, no. They are in, they have their time." "Well, how long? When do you think the next election will be?" Well, I do not know, but they can run to 1980 whatever it is, they can run to the bitter end, and I would say that chances are that is what they are going to do because they know, I think, that Government now knows if they go they are going to get wiped out. If they think they made a clean sweep in 1971, boy, let them go back tomorrow and I tell you it will be cleaner. We will make a cleaner one, and the people have to do it.

Now, something else. Good old St. John's. The Tories - You see a few of them over there, the bitter Tories, just Tories - For some reason or other they are hardly confederates, you know,

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RT-2

MR. CANNING: they do not believe in Confederation yet, they do not want to be part of Canada even - not many of them now.

AN HON. MEMBER: He misunderstood it.

MR. CANNING: He misunderstood what? I was not referring to him.

MR. NEARY: Pip Van Winkle over there is one of them.

MR. CANNING: Imagine the poverty of the district, the problems in 1949, the poverty in this town when Water Street fell in the water and everything down in slums. My God, I was here, sure it was not a fit place to live, and I used to be glad to get off to Merasheen Island to get rid of the dust and the dirt, and get out and get a bit of fresh air during my holidays.

MR. CANNING: We cleaned it up. We cleaned it up and it grew and it is five times as big. I would go to the bus when I was at University, go to the end of Freshwater Road - not to the end of it, just in to the end of Merrymeeting Road. That is as far as the bus went and I had to walk down to Monchy Street, woods in behind, a beautiful city that grew and if we did not have Confederation, and if we did not have a Liberal government it would not have grown, that is one thing sure. I mean, what is happening in the last seven years? No growth. No growth in my district in the last seven years. It has gone back. We are falling back. This year we are going to be short of teachers. Now, Mr. Speaker, what we have is, I would say, the most prosperous area. Nothing has come from the Provincial Government to make it more prosperous, nothing at all. The bit of extra pavement but that is over mud and it is going to have to be dug up, it should be dug up now. The councils are farther in debt, their taxes are higher, the community councils are having a hard time of it. The worst of it all,

MR. CANNING: what I find up there I would call it apathy. They are not so much interested anymore, they are not looking for things. And do you know the reason they are not looking for things? Because they lost hope, they have lost hope. I bet the minister, the hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. T.A. Hickman), I bet they do not come to him so much. I bet they have given up hope.

MR. HICKMAN: Too busy building shopping centres.

MR. NEARY: No, building courthouses on the Minister's cousin's land.

MR. CANNING: No, that is quite alright. I am going to take it up for that courthouse. I do not think that is fair. I do not know if it is his cousin or not, but I am going to tell you the difference in the two men. I am going to brag again now - I am going to come out the better with him. Mr. Speaker, I made - it does not relate to this House - I made it outside the House. The hon. member had said that they will never get that hospital over there. I do not know why he said over there when he should have said we will never get the regional hospital for the Burin Peninsula. If he had been fair he would have said that. He did not. He made that remark in Grand Bank to a few people, "No, they are not going to get it. You are okay here; you will do something with this hospital? We will keep it going and what not. And I would not doubt but he was the cause of the rumour where we are going to close those hospitals, phase them out or something. Anyway, one day, Mr. Speaker, I got a phone call from the lawyer, a friend of mine. He said to me "Did you hear they are building a courthouse over in Grand Bank?" and I said "Yes, I heard it". He said, "Are you not going to object to it? And I said "No", and I was serious. I said "No, I am not going to object to a courthouse in Grand Bank. Why?"

MR. CANNING:

He said "They are putting it over in Grand Bank, they are not putting it in Marystown". And as the conversation went, and I have not seen him since so I have not told him not to tell that he did not say this, so if anyone checked with him and I am sure the hon. member knows who I am talking about. And I said, "Why not Grand Bank?" and of course, he is not belonged up there, he is a stranger, nice fellow, fine lawyer, good name, well liked, getting married next month, settling down there, all sorts of respect. But he could not understand it because, I guess, he had heard it around, somebody said it should not be going to Grand Bank. I said, "Look, it is the proper place. The magistrate has been in Grand Bank for years. It is one of the oldest towns." I told him what the town was like - independent people. I said, "Why not build it in Grand Bank? Why say Marystown? I think we have enough built here, have we not? We are doing alright." That was my reaction. I am sorry to say that the hon. friend over there is not that way. He is not made that way when he is talking to them. But still perhaps if the two of us got together and tried to decide on something he may agree with me. They have lost hope because there are things happened under this Tory regime that were not happening before. The councils: I will give Marystown as the example. Marystown today is something like the government - it is practically broke, it is bankrupt. Mr. Speaker, why it is bankrupt is this: when the government changed, when they went in on that wave or shortly afterwards, we unfortunately had a council at Marystown. Most of them are outsiders who have come there, some of them are only transient. I believe they are leaving now, but anyway, they were a Tory council and they got in with the Tory member. They had some good times: they used to go skidoo riding and what not, and they sort of

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MR. CANNING: got led up a tree. So they started a stadium and, of course, it got put over on them. They had to find most of the money and they took it on, a government responsibility. First of all, I believe that the two members at the time fell out. I believe one of them wanted to put it a bit central somewhere but they could not haul it near enough to either of their own districts so that did not pan out and perhaps the hon. friend across the way, my neighbour, perhaps he was a wiser one. He did not have anything to do with it because they could not afford it under the existing policy of that government for stadia. Anyway, but they were always getting

MR. CANNING:

They worked more on the bank. They got approval to borrow. I do not know if they were mixed up and thought they would be backed by the government when they got approval to borrow from the bank, but anyway they went to the bank too often. When I got in, the very first term I was here, I was talking to the Minister of Municipal Affairs one day and I discussed with him, I said, "You know, look, are you going to go on giving approval for them to borrow? You know that they have gone to the end of the rope". I knew they were. He said, "No, we cannot. They are so we stopped it." Then he left and left an awful mess behind him as far as municipal affairs is concerned, he left an awful mess across the Province. Anyway the new minister got in and I went in and told him the same thing, our difficulties, difficulties in the different councils, community councils and he seemed all right. But anyway the first time he went up there they want approval for \$100,000. I do not know what this was for, I suppose to try to finish a stadium or to do something else. He gave it while he was there. He did not come back for approval or anything like that. But anyway by the time he got out of the place I was told that Mr. So and So last night approved another \$100,000.

Anyway the council have gone down pretty badly. This year at one time, I even read in the paper, we went up and they said they were going to sell the town hall. It was up for sale. The land was up for sale. I said, "Where is it going? Who is buying that?" They said, "There is a fellow coming in from Montreal to start a shopping center." First they said they were going to get \$80,000 for it and I said, "Well, that is nonsense." But then that went up a little bit. The figures went up somewhere around \$300,000. I believe they thought they could sell it. So I said to the people-I trusted the Premier and government - I said, "Oh, no! They cannot sell that site, that beautiful site. You are not going to sell your town hall. You really have to get the approval of the government for that. So, you know, this cannot happen."

MR. CANNING:

They said, "No." But anyway it came in the paper the next day a report. I think it was in quotation marks that the mayor had said he was going to sell it. It was up for sale. And where he was going from there I do not know. There was nowhere to put the council, not the size of the council they got.

But anyway they worked pretty well the same as the provincial government some how or another. I think the provincial government took too much affect on them and too much wiped off on them. They got a big staff. They have an engineer of their own, a graduate engineer. They have an accountant, two or three more accountants, so-called accountants. I do not know how many they have, fourteen, twelve, fifteen, sixteen. Anyway they have enough that if we were to tomorrow have regional government we could set them up in Marystown. We have the staff there for it. But up until now we have nothing else. We are not ready for it, anything but.

AN HON. MEMBER: Property taxes.

MR. CANNING: They have property taxes, yes. They play a lot of bingo there and we got this stadium that is there and there is a swimming pool there. I do not know what they should call it but I had a name for it one day. I think they should call it the Bingo something. I forget the name I put on it one day and someone said it would be a humorous name for it.

But anyway those things are running on bingo at the moment.

MR. HICKMAN: I see they are starting a new pool now in Burin.

MR. CANNING: A new school.

MR. HICKMAN: Pool.

MR. CANNING: Oh yes, swimming pool, yes.

MR. HICKMAN: In Salt Pond.

MR. CANNING: Yes, yes.

MR. HICKMAN: That is going to be an expensive one.

MR. CANNING: They have started a pool. I am hoping to have another opportunity to tour the district and go from place to place.

MR. CANNING:

I like to do that. I may not have time tonight.

MR. HICKMAN: Is that going to be Burin or Marystown?

MR. CANNING: They are at a pool there. They have made wonderful headway. They have worked together. They have raised a lot of funds and of course they have had federal grants. That is what we are running on, federal grants. That is we why we have not got so much unemployment on the whole Peninsula in either district, either of the three actually because if you get enough federal grants for those who are unemployed to get their unemployment insurance, that is what they are living on. That is what we are running on.

Mr. Canning.

There is no improvement coming from the Provincial Government, no ideas with regard to the shipyard. When I came in first I had intended to blast the government, because the shipyard had gone down and down and down. It almost followed the linerboard mill or pretty near it. I was there in an election in 1975. I went down to the shipyard, and I went in. The then Leader of the Opposition was with me and some others. We went in to the carpenter section or some other section and they were playing cards. It was either ten o'clock or eleven o'clock in the morning or two or three in the afternoon. We asked them what they were doing and they said that they had nothing to do. They had gone down. They had run out of Liberal contracts - the draggers they were building, they were practically out of them. There was nothing to do, and they were kept on for months. There were 300 or 320 men or something like that kept on. Of course, they knew. They said that just as the election is over, we know we are going to be laid off because we are here for months now with nothing to do, tradesmen. And they were playing cards. I had heard they were playing cards before that. I think the government knew, too. They did not bother. We are going to keep them there anyway, because if we have a big lay off we are going to lose the election. They did not know they were going to lose anyway. They were not moving around among the people enough to know that. I knew it. If I did not, I would not be back here. I would not go back for a real defeat. Anyway it went down and we know what happened. Two weeks, a week after the election, one hundred and thirty men on the street. And then - I suppose some gentlemen in Ottawa, I think, were in charge then - she went through some tough days, one hundred and thirty first and then two hundred men on the street, the first time they walked the street from the time I represented the district. It was the first time I saw them walking the street up there or at least a few years after I entered the district, back in the early 1950's, unemployment rampant.

Mr. Canning.

And then at that time we had a good manager there by the name of Bill Millan, doing a marvelous job, one of the finest men I ever met and I think one of the finest managers, I suppose, that ever went in charge of a small set up like that was, a man who did his work and did it well. Anyway he got fired. When I came in the House, we had Independents at the time and the Independent picked it up. He claimed he was fired and it was denied from the other side. They said, "No, he was not fired." Did he get a letter telling him that his work was suspended? Anyway it was denied by the Minister of Industrial Development, the new minister, the one who is now out. He said no, he had never received a letter. So I was inquisitive but at the same time I did not want to get into the row, because I could have given the yard bad publicity, especially if I told what was going on. Nobody would have faith in it, and perhaps the fresh fish people might lose faith in it and any others who were going to get anything done there. So I just kept quiet and said well, I am not going to do anything by tearing those fellows abroad over there. I will hold on and see what happens. But anyway I did get in touch with Mr. Millan. I asked Mr. Millan what happened. And did Mr. Millan get fired? Did Mr. Millan have a letter? Mr. Millan had his letter. Mr. Millan had a letter telling him that his services were no longer required. Mr. Millan was satisfied to come back before any inquiry. Up until that time I had a mind to ask for it. I think I suggested it in the House, if I rightly remember. But again I thought that the best strategy to take, or the sensible way to go was to let it fizzle out and hope for the best. Anyway perhaps the best did happen. But it amused me when we got the contracts for the tugs, the Norway tugs and then some others lately, that the Tories were making a little bit of politics out of it.

MR. CANNING: But if they think they persuaded the people that the provincial government or the Minister of Industrial Development got those contracts, or they are paying for them or anything like that, they are mistaken because the people know.

The federal people kept that yard going. If they had not, it would be on the rocks and the doors would be closed today. Under this administration there would be no yard there.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. CANNING: And I am going to tell this House something else, that in the last seven or eight years or nine years if the federal government had not backed the fishery of the Southwest coast and other areas like Renew's and Catalina, they did not come up with their subsidies and come up with their help, most of the plants in Newfoundland would be closed, there would be no fishery on the Southwest coast.

Mr. Speaker, I have only a few minutes left and I will conclude by saying that I have not too much faith in this, this is repetition this Budget Speech, the three of them, if you read one you read them all. Again next week or the week after, whenever we speak to the Speech from the Throne, you get three or four more Speeches from the Throne and when you read one you read them all. There is nothing in them to comment on except, and I can say this, that the Province today is in a bad state. The government of this Province today is not functioning. The government as it is, the departments in St. John's are from one end of it to the other in buildings the people do not know how to find. There is no law or order, there is no efficiency. It makes me almost sad to know that when I get up I only have forty-five minutes, I should be allowed ninety at least.

AN HON. MEMBER: By leave?

MR. CANNING: No, somebody else wants to speak. I will have my time in the Throne Speech. I am not going to get very much publicity anyway, so I am not going to make any politics out of it in case I should make my mind up to come back here again.

So, Mr. Speaker, I will close by saying I am disappointed, I am disillusioned. I did not think we could come to the point that we have today. The people of the Province are disillusioned. It is no good for me to say, You have been bad boys now for God's sake buck up, because I do not believe they are capable of doing it, I do not think they have the material to do it. I do not think we have a Premier. The man is not playing his role. He is not in his chair, he has not been there since I started speaking but it makes no difference. I do not think he cares. He does not care what I say, he does not give a darn. He would look over at the Minister of Justice and he would grin when I say it because he just does not care.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, the only thing I used in my campaign to get back into this House was - the only unkind thing I said - that Premier Moores did not care.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Right. Truer words were never spoken.

MR. CANNING: Premier Moores could not care less, that is all I said on the stages.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W.N. ROWE: It is a wonder they do not throw you out for telling the truth again.

MR. SPEAKER(Collins): Order, please!
I believe the hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. CANNING: Well, I am glad I have to sit

MR. CANNING: down, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry the rules are so. I do not know who did it but the restrictions - but anyway, I will not consider it closure because I still have the freedom of the press and the radio and I shall make announcements every now and then -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CANNING: - and my district, my people will know that I am interested and I am doing the best I can under terrible circumstances.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER(Collins): The hon. member for Exploits.

DR. TWOMEY: Mr. Speaker, hon. members, I wish to participate for a brief period of time and discuss some of the problems of my district and other ideas that come to me thereafter.

I am glad to report that the district of Exploits is gradually coming into the twentieth century, extending from West to East, because of the installation and the buidling of one of the most important and necessary requirements in today's living, and that is water.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. TWOMEY: I hope that within the next few years that every community in my district will have running water.

Next to that I feel that transportation played a vital part especially as it relates to commerce and wherever possible

DR. TWOMEY:

I think the fishing areas should be given priority in the building of these roads. The two that remain are the ones from Point Leamington to Leading Tickle and Lewis Harbour and from Point of Bay to Cottrell's Cove and Fortune Harbour. These roads at the moment have as many curves as a corkscrew they were built to attract attention in a large fair They are irregular, bumpy and I presume corrugated. I know it is going to take some time, I am aware of the problems and of the shortage of money that exists not alone for these projects but for many of the others, not alone in my district but in the whole of the Province. As regards to employment in my area, Statistics Canada reported an unemployment rate of 17.4 per cent. I am cautiously optimistic that this is going to go down for the next few years and I hope it is going to continue on the downward trend. We have had some problems although not all in our district. The closing of the Buchan's mine in March of next year will have a triple effect on the economy of Botwood. Also the Central Newfoundland Railway has been closed and again there have been a loss of jobs in that particular field of transportation. Buchans in particular will interfere with a large volume of shipping that was a part of the longshore work in Botwood. It might not be really a full-time job for any of the longshore men but it certainly was an excellent fill-in over the last few years. The other it will effect is that Botwood has been the oil center and they transported oil to Buchan's mines and that will possibly mean the last of a few more jobs. As the Buchan's mine is phased out I am sure it is going to cause more concern because there are a number of people in my district who work in these mines and commute home every weekend and as it closes it is going to leave a void not alone in Buchans but in my district and I am sure in many others because of the men who have worked there for many years, and among them are people who through long years of working, training on the job have achieved the professionalism that I think should be recognized I discussed with the hon. member for Menihok (Mr. Rousseau) if he would give consideration to these men who have achieved that professional state in life by their long training

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DR. TWOMEY: in the job, by their knowledge and by their obvious professionalism at this time. He has assured me that he will permit them, if they so desire, to sit in examination without going through the regular vocational school training. I think this has been a big advancement and I am very pleased with the co-operation I got from the minister.

On the optimistic side we have some capital projects in Botwood in particular and in many of the other communities. In Botwood they have started a small crafts harbour and I think this will give employment to about twenty-eight men for roughly fifty weeks.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

DR. TWOMEY: It is an ongoing project and I believe it is going to take -

AN HON. MEMBER: A small harbour for crafts.

DR. TWOMEY: A small crafts harbour.

MR. NEARY: What will they be doing?

DR. TWOMEY: Building it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Building a wharf.

DR. TWOMEY: Is that the question you asked?

MR. NEARY: Yes. Where are they going to build the harbour?

DR. TWOMEY: Do you know off the base in Botwood?

MR. NEARY: Yes.

DR. TWOMEY: Off that. Between that and the island.

Then we have a gentleman who has come in from Northern Europe by the name of van Beak who has expressed an interest in cutting the over mature timber not only in the district of Exploits but in many other areas of Newfoundland. He has done a tremendous

DR. TWOMEY: He has done a tremendous amount of research in this particular field and he has brought into Newfoundland, I believe on an experimental basis at this time, a kind of woods combine - I cannot give you the exact name of this machine - and he has rented it out to the different woods contractors. In addition he has helped them in various ways by using his office to do all their work, pay their Workmen's Compensation, their unemployment insurance and various other things that may be necessary for these operations. From what I can hear and learn, this is most acceptable for these woods contractors.

I need not dwell on any time to say that I am hopeful that in the future the offshore oil exploration will have its large centre in Botwood, and I hope that we have the suitable aggregate to build these platforms if oil is discovered.

I presume that they will use some of the tailings from Buchans. I believe it is called barite and is now imported, but I believe it is possible to get it in Buchans at this particular time.

The fishing in Leading Tickles; I am not going to dwell on that except to say that it is exceedingly good at this time of the year and we have added a few things during the past twelve months. They now have an ice making plant and we have managed through private enterprise to get a large holding tank for the fishermen's gasoline.

Bishop's Falls is the transportation centre as it has always been. Unfortunately the phasing out of the Canadian National Railway has caused a tremendous amount of disruption in that particular area. Families who have been part of that system for many, many years had to leave their homes. This has caused a certain amount of unrest and I am sure it is going to get worse and worse; however, the road transportation companies have felt that Bishop's Falls is probably a great centre to develop. And to the best of

DR. TWOMEY: my understanding some commercial buildings will be built there in the next year for that particular purpose.

I do not think I need to say anything further about my district except to say that I am happy as one can be in these times at the progress that is occurring.

There are vital things that we have to talk about in government and I personally feel that we, the citizens, always have to pay for what we receive regardless of how it comes. The most expert management in the world of all the companies, of all the banks, I do not think can give us a total system with all of the amenities that you have in Sweden or in England except if we, the taxpayers pay for it.

I, myself, am a strong supporter of private enterprise wherever possible, and I feel that the state should not interfere in any way whatsoever. I am frequently appalled at the way the bureaucracy is increasing and encroaching on our lives, federal and provincial. We have our SIM card - our Social Insurance Number card. For that we have to have it available when we do various business with government and even if we trade a stock in the stock market now we have to have our Social Insurance Number. Likewise, we cannot drive a car without identifying ourselves with our MV's number. That again, I must say, when I was a member of the America Executive in 1967, that was one of the things I objected to and I still do today.

I hate numbers floating about, numbers that are tied into a computer. Apparently they are necessary to identify people as bureaucracy extends.

I am sure that each and every one of you will think about this in the future, how you feel

DR. TWOMEY: about it, how concerned you are about it, but to me the sanctity of the privacy of the human being is paramount in our lives. The greatest upset that I can have is to feel that some individual has an illness, a disability that for some reason or other becomes public knowledge.

I think some of us who are older in the practice of medicine have come around it in devious ways. A history is a mandatory part of every examination and has to be recorded, but sometimes you get the little stories or the cameos of one's life that are completely personal between the patient and the doctor. I am sure that many of us do not leave these or have them in charts for the scrutiny of any individual. I know personally that these things that happen in my practice are part of my files in my own home under lock and key, never available to anyone else. I feel that this is an encroachment again in our lives and on our privacy.

I moreso pay great attention to the Hermaeans, whether they be vital statistics in Ottawa or any department here in this House that spends time in assessing the problems and looking into the future and delving.

I know as time goes by we will be asked to make decisions in this House, decisions about the building of hospitals, clinics and other types of health care centre.

DR. TWOMEY: If I might for a moment digress and give you a few pertinent bits of information from the Department of Vital Statistics in Canada about health, and I feel it relates not alone to me and all those interested in health field, but to everyone who sits in this House and has to make a decision now and in the future. As you know since 1971 we are considered by the United Nations to be an old country, that is because we have more than 8 per cent of our people over the age of sixty-five years of age. And we have joined these nations of Europe, in particular, since that date. According to the statistics about 1.7 million or 8 per cent of the Canadians are over sixty-five years of age. By the year 2001 the number will have doubled to 3.4 million representing 12 per cent of the population. By the year 2031 when most of the baby boom will be in retirement, 6.1 million will be over sixty-five years of age; that is 20 per cent of our population. At that time there will be more people over the age of sixty-five than there will be people in the age group from birth to nineteen years of age.

Hospital bed utilization by the elderly will increase from 35 per cent in 1971 to over 42 per cent, 45 per cent by the year 2001. In 1931 the life expectancy at birth was sixty years for men and sixty-two-point-one for females. In 1971 it had risen to sixty-nine-point-three for men, and seventy-six-point-four for females. In view of the total increase in the age population it is obvious that there will be a marked increased in the health care budget in the future. And that is only when we talk about our senior citizens. I think we have to look into it a bit more deeply than we are doing so at the moment.

I think we have to plan in our hospitals for two types or possibly three types of hospitals, the acute care, and the chronic care. The acute care for short-time cases and long-term cases like fractures, and such serious illnesses. In the chronic field we will have to prepare for again two types or two strata, one for the custodial care of the older people, and also a hospital where there is a certain amount of nursing care for

Dr. TWOMEY: those that need the assistance and the attention of nurses and orderlies etc.

As you see this is going to be marked, it is going to be a tremendous cost, not alone to this Province, but to the nation as a whole. I cannot look into any crystal ball and say, here is the answer. But I think it will have to be consumed by us if we are attentive and responsive to the requirements of those who are going to fellow us in this House, and those who may never have a chance of expressing their opinion.

I think we should also approach health care from some of the different angles. We are providing beautiful hospitals, carpets, beds, drapes, pictures, everything else in the world, and possibly we are getting to put emphasis on something that is vital and important to all of us in Canada, in particular

DR. TWOMEY: that is education in good health practices.

All of us here are consciously aware of the dangers of obesity, smoking, alcohol, and lack of exercise. I think it is our climate, in my opinion, plays a small part in that. Not many of us are keen on walking over the snow covered roads and the ice covered roads, or going into the wilderness because of the discomfort that it causes many of us.

However, I think it is incumbent upon us in government, and especially in the health field, to put emphasis on that particular type of preventive medicine.

Some people feel that the graduation and qualifying of doctors is vital. They use all kinds of figures and it has come down gradually from the time that I arrived in Newfoundland in July '47, where we had less than 100 doctors. At this time we have six hundred and I think fifty. I am not sure of this. I know it is six hundred plus.

Now there were some facts that I got over the weekend, not so much about doctors's salaries, that is discussed here and discussed elsewhere. But I bet, I doubt if there are many here in the House who have any idea of what it costs when that doctor practices. He generates roughly in the Province of Ontario, there are no figures for Newfoundland, in the Province of Ontario each doctor generates in hospital care, laboratory, x-ray, \$250,000.

MR. HICKMAN: That is what it costs to keep a doctor?

DR. TWOMEY: Yes, in the Province of Ontario at this time. These were the figures I got this weekend. I am sure that that will make many of you think.

Then as we look again into the future where doctors are concerned, always something new is coming on the field. I suppose the big talk at the moment of a neuro surgeon who can do

DR. TWOMEY: micro surgery of the brain, that means they work under a dissecting microscope and they can connect up small vessels, and they connect them up for people who get transient strokes. These are individuals who for some reason get numbness in their hand, in their face, a change in their voice, and these are the warning signs that a stroke might be eminent.

Now in the larger sense of the world they are able to do, with apparent success, they have not had enough time to evaluate the final result, where they have been able to prevent these strokes which are costly in every aspect. I feel, without having rated as possibly one of the new advances in the field of surgery will come into the cosmetic field.

MRS. MCISSAC: There are cases over here 'Doctor'.

DR. TWOMEY: I need not enlarge that. I am sure that most of you are aware what can be done with noses

DR. TWOMEY: and other parts of the body. And I feel as cosmetic surgeons begin to spread, it does not take long, maybe five, eight, ten years after they get saturated on the Mainland we will find we will have quite a number here.

I would be remiss if at this time that I lack the courage to bring up one of the controversial problems in this House and outside of it and that is the spruce budworm. I have given it a lot of thought and lot of consideration. To me it is something like the potato blight in Ireland in 1846, in 1847. Except that it is more insidious, it is like a slow growing cancer. I do not think that all of our population are consciously aware of its long term effects. I cannot imagine any enemy more implacable in this Province at the moment than this blight on our trees that is called the spruce budworm infection. It has to be tackled because not alone will it apparently destroy our forest, it will destroy the resources which are renewable at this time, and at which time in our lives add about \$200 million to the treasury of Newfoundland and or its people at this particular time. And I am sure and all of you are hopeful that it will expand to Stephenville, and I am sure as time goes on with the power in Labrador something else might come in the form of woods products and these are abundant up there. I know the spruce budworm is not there at the moment and for various reasons.

I think that each and every one should think about it just as it is a terrible tragedy. If tomorrow morning there were five members of this House who developed legionaries disease I can hardly imagine the forces that would be mobilized and the panic that would ensure from that announcement. We will go around the rest of us, who are healthy at that particular time, with fear and apprehension just because it is dramatic and it hits five members of this House. They are fine, twenty-five maybe, one hundred and five pneumonias every day, but we are able to tackle that usually with the aid of antibiotics. We feel confident, and even when our

Dr. Twomey: children and our relatives have pneumonia this fear does not permeate it. But the spruce budworm infection is insidious. We cannot see down for fifty, seventy-five years and see what will happen to our forests. How are we going to tackle it? There is a question that each and every one of you would have to answer. And it is the government's responsibility to give us leadership in this particular field. And I know if I were a minister in any of the portfolios at the moment I would be a most unhappy man because the plan of attack has caused a scare in various areas of the population. Again, it is the unknown.

And in this House sit a number of individuals who at some time or other had to face a major medical tragedy or an apparent major medical tragedy. It might be one of the new born with a serious illness. I have faced this myself. Now you wonder and you discuss with your colleagues, I am talking for myself at the moment, and you people would talk with your friends and colleagues in medicine. Where can I get this problem, this calamity, this congenital defect this acquired infection or anything else where can I get it treated?

DR. TWOMEY: the physician or the consultant who is looking after this particular case might stand high in your admiration but when this personal tragedy hits you there is a fear and this fear increases just like a stream flowing down a mountain. It creates panic because we do not know what the future holds no matter how brilliant or how competent the physician is. I can see this happening and it is very human and we have to respect this fear in people all over the Province.

The Minister of Health informed us today that he is now meeting with a select group from the Newfoundland Medical Association. He has told me it is his intention to provide them with all the documentation that he has at his disposal either pro or con to help them to reach a decision, a decision that I know will be made cautiously and carefully. I will await that decision because I am not a gynecologist, I am not well up in therapeutics, there are now specialities in that particular field so I would prefer to use them as consultants in helping and directing me at this particular time to make that decision which is vital to this blight which is slow and insidious.

As I said a little bit previously I have never been in the position of a minister of any department but since my election I have taken an active interest in trying to do what is possible for my district. Sometimes it was unrelated to the provincial government but since my election I have been communicating frequently with the federal government. And it is strange that no matter how you dream, how you think, how you ponder even your schemes never seem to get off the ground. I presume that the fault is mine and I presume that it was superior thinking in government that supersedes mine but however for the benefit of all I will mention them, They are few but to me they were important.

I could see Botwood as a duty-free port. Let it develop slowly and grow like a birch, eventually hoping that it will enlarge to benefit the economy of the area.

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DR. TWOMEY:

I feel that that free port connected by roadway to Gander which is not in my district but that communication of airport and seaport together would make an unusual combination. There is not one free port, either a seaport or an airport in the whole of our nation. There have been eighteen free ports built in the United States within the last few years. They are expanding in Europe. You have all heard of Hamburg. You have all heard of the tremendous success of the free port in Shannon, Ireland. It is so successfully now that it is very hard to get information about it from management or government. I think that that is something that we should consider. If you remember in the last few weeks the port of St. John's was permitted to tranship fish from foreign vessels onto other vessels in this port. I have various communications with the hon. Mr. LeBlanc and various other members of the federal government. He has told me that this is a success in St. John's he will give consideration to the port at Botwood in the future.

At the time that I wrote there were many Russian vessels off the Northeast Coast. They would have spared one day of steaming had they come into the port of Botwood, which is a deep water port ample in size. They would have

DR. TWOMEY: saved in transportation of their men; from Botwood to Gander is sixty miles. They could disembark from their ship, when the weather was suitable, they would not have to pay for hotels, that they have to do here, and fly on to Gander.

I would like to see some more military exercises. Last year we were fortunate in having it in our district, and I might add that it provided a lot of money to small business. It created an interest in the military and I think it gave a certain pride to our Canadian nationhood. I would like to see installations in that area, or in some area of this Province.

Another idea that has come to me, although it might seem that I am dreaming into the future, we have fishing in Newfoundland, we have wood products in Newfoundland, hopefully we have oil. There is one other resource that we have and I do not know how much talk we have given to it. We have a lot of free and fast flowing, fresh and pure water. The Arabs, and particularly the Emirate States, has spent millions and millions in trying to device a plan to tow an iceberg from Antarctica in close to their country so that it will melt slowly and provide them with the necessary water. And I think the cost of towing an iceberg at this particular time is \$1 million or \$1 billion, \$200 million I presume. There we have the Humber, the Exploits, Churchill Falls River and many others, flowing into the sea, pure and all it needs is a small plant to pump the water into a water tanker to ship to one of these Emirates.

Some correspondence I have said it is a good idea, we will think about it. But maybe it might have some virtue. I think that I have done my duty to my district.

Thank you, very much. It has been a privilege to be talking to you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for LaPoile.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: I am always fascinated, Sir, when the hon. member for Exploits (Dr. Twomey) speaks in this House. He reminds me so much of Winston Churchill. The hon. gentleman, Sir, is very interesting and I believe last year I encouraged the hon. gentleman to speak more often in the House. But tonight I was a little bit disappointed with the hon. gentleman on the spruce budworm area spraying programme. I thought the hon. member was going to take a position, and the hon. member just skirted around the topic without committing himself one way or another. I would assume from the hon. gentleman that the member is very concerned about the areial spray programme and suggested to the government, at least this was the message that I got from what the hon. gentleman said, the message that came through from the few remarks was that the government should proceed with extreme caution on their aerial spray programme. I wish the hon. member had said so.

The Medical Association last week when they held their convention, a lot of the doctors wanted to take a stand against the areial spray programme. They wanted to. They wanted to come out strong in their objection and their criticism of the government. But in discussion with some of the doctors following their convention I am told that they were afraid if they took a position against the government that it might affect their MCP fee schedule in the future.

AN HON. MEMBER: Nonsense.

MR. SIMMONS: Right. Right.

MR. F. ROWE: Were you there? Were you there?

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MR. NEARY:
or three doctors.

Mr. Speaker, I said I was told by two

MR. SIMMONS:

Right.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Nonsense.

MR. DOODY:

They were probably your own psychiatrists.

MR. NEARY:

No, they were not psychiatrists. And if they were, Mr. Speaker, I am sure they would be buddies of the hon. member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells), who seems to have made friends of all the psychiatrists in this Province.

But, Sir, they were afraid to take a position against the government, so I am told by two or three doctors who attended that convention, afraid

Mr. Neary: that it might affect their MCP fee schedule in the future. Doctors are never known to be very vocal, as my hon. friend knows. They know how to play politics. They are a very timid group of people. They are not noted to be very vocal on major public issues for fear that it might affect their salaries and their fee schedule. And I was -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - a little bit disappointed the other day that they did not come out, and as I was just disappointed with the hon. gentleman tonight, although the Premier said, Thumbs up to the hon. gentleman which as the hon. member knows was a signal that was developed in the Second World War, thumbs up.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Pardon?

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: But the hon. gentleman, Sir, could have done a great service to the people of this Province tonight if he had advised his colleagues to reconsider the spruce budworm aerial spray programme.

Mr. Speaker, it is 11:00 o'clock. Could I move the adjournment of the debate, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member has moved the adjournment of the debate.

The hon. House Leader.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I move that the remaining Orders of the Day do stand deferred and that this House on its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. and that this House do now adjourn.

On motion that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday at 2:00 P.M.