

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1980

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

I have a message here and while it is somewhat belated I would like to pass it on to all hon. members. It is addressed to the Speaker and members of the Provincial Parliament, Confederation Building.

"Valentine's Day is traditionally a time to express friendship and on behalf of the entire Oregon Senate, both Democrats and Republicans, I would like to express our deepest appreciation for your country's valiant effort to aid our fellow Americans in Iran. We could not hope for better neighbours on this particular Valentine's Day."

It is signed, "Jason Boe, President of the Oregon State Senate."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: On that point, if I may be so bold as to take the time of the House just for ten or fifteen seconds, there are a number of like resolutions coming from various state legislatures that have come to me, and I do not know if they have necessarily come to you, Your Honour, and I will check with you on that matter and, if they have not, to present them all at the same time to the hon. House so all hon. members are aware of the great affection which the people below the forty-ninth parallel feel about those above forty-ninth parallel.

MR. NEARY: Send them down some seal skin boots.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

ORAL QUESTIONS:

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I have some questions for the Minister of Transportation and Communications, and I regret I was not able to get to him this morning to give him notice but I suspect he has anticipated the kinds of questions that I wish to ask him. They grow out of the incredibly bad winter conditions on the Northern Peninsula. If I may be allowed to, perhaps I could say that within the past twenty-four hours I have had telephone calls from just about every community in my constituency to indicate that almost everything except the telephones is not working. The telephones are working and people are calling. The common theme of the telephone calls is that the snow clearing crews and the equipment are hopelessly overburdened. I think there is a realization that the crews are doing what they can, perhaps more than they ought to be required to do. Equipment is breaking down. Communities are being cut off. There have been several medical emergencies. We very nearly had a child come into the world on a skidoo between Goose Cove and St. Anthony last night and there are all sorts of problems that have arisen, so I would simply ask the minister what steps he is taking to cope with the difficult conditions. I realize he is not to blame for the astonishing amounts of snow that have fallen but nonetheless he is

MR. ROBERTS: in the position where he is responsible for acting to cope with these. Could he tell the House, Sir, to start with, what steps he is taking?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications.

MR. BRETT: Well, Mr. Speaker, I guess I can sum it up by saying we are doing everything that we possibly can with the machinery that we have, plus in some places in the Province we have hired machinery outside the department, we have rented equipment from private entrepreneurs and from companies. The biggest problem that we have, of course, is that our machines are working almost around the clock and in view of the fact that some of it is a bit old - not all of it but some of it - it just cannot stand up to the pounding that it has to take. If you work a machine for fourteen or twenty hours a day for four or five days then eventually the thing is going to break down. There is only one other person who can help us and unfortunately he is not on the payroll, so we just have to hope that the sun does come out before too much longer.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS: I appreciate very much what the minister has said. I think part of the problem is that equipment has been pushed beyond the level of physical endurance, mechanical endurance and of course we are paying the price for the government's failure over the years to replace its equipment. But that is too late now. My question is, is the minister prepared to hire or to authorize the hiring of extra men where available, extra equipment where available? Because the way it now looks we can expect at

MR. ROBERTS: least a month of Winter in the North. Community after community, Sir, has not been dug out there after three, four or five days, and we are getting to the point now where nothing except snowblowers will do. To give an example, there are two blowers in my constituency, snow blasts, and given that there is ten to twelve feet of snow on the roads now, they are the only machinery left that can function. A blower left Cook's Harbour at eight o'clock yesterday morning and by seven o'clock last evening it had not made - I know the minister knows the road - had not made it to the airport, the junction with the main highway, and, of course, it was filled in after as fast as it was cleared. Is the minister prepared to authorize the hiring of extra equipment and extra men to try and cope with these conditions on the short-term, immediate basis?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) Hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications.

MR. BRETT: That has already been done. The district director at Deer Lake has a free hand to hire any equipment that is necessary. He just has a free hand to go to it wherever he feels it is necessary and of course where it is viable to do so. The hon. member has sort of answered his own question when he indicated that as fast as we are digging it out it is blowing in behind us, so it is almost impossible.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister give the House the assurance that money will not be an object, that where equipment and men are available they will be hired and put to work in an effort to catch up, to keep up, to get ahead of these conditions because what he has told

MR. E. ROBERTS: the House is new because I assure him what his officials are saying to people who call him to complain - and I know the officials are being pushed and stretched and tempers get frayed - what they are saying is that they are not allowed to spend any money, that they have been told not to spend, they have been told to cut back. I understand - and it is second-hand, I mean, I have no direct knowledge - that there is equipment available in place throughout the Province that is not being used, not being hired, on the grounds of cost. Can the minister assure the House that money will not be the barrier, that during this period of difficulty, which is not yet an emergency but which will become one and could become one very quickly given the conditions, that money will not be an object and that he will give instructions to that end to all of his officials?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the Minister of Transportation and Communications.

MR. C. BRETT: I can tell the hon. member, Sir, that money is no problem and that instructions have already been given to the officials, they were given quite some time ago.

MR. NEARY: Rehire your maintenance crews. Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the hon. the Premier, Sir. The hon. the Premier has received, as I understand it, a number of communications from the various organizations and the people in Port aux Basques and around the Southwest corner of the Province protesting the provincial government's withdrawing a \$25,000 annual grant that was given to the Southwest corner of the Province to open an industrial development office and hire an industrial development officer. Would the hon. gentleman explain to the House why the provincial government has reneged on this agreement that was made with the Government of Canada back in 1978?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker, every consideration is being given to the request from the people of Port aux Basques area for

PREMIER PECKFORD: the industrial development officer as it is to other areas in the Province for a like kind of post and I can assure the hon. member that, as I say, every consideration will be given as we debate internally the estimates for the various departments and the allocation for funds for industrial development officers for Port aux Basques, Stephenville, Buchans and other areas of the Province where demands have now been entered to the various departments.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) A supplementary, the hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman is aware that this was a solemn commitment made by the provincial government to the Government of Canada that is now not being honoured and that the town council will have to shut down its industrial development office and lay off, terminate, the services of the industrial development officer unless the government reconsiders the matter and continues with the grant beyond the end of this month. Now when will the Premier be in a position to tell the people of Port aux Basques, so they will not have to take these drastic steps, that this agreement with the Government of Canada will be honoured and that they will be able to continue to operate an industrial development office in Port aux Basques?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms)

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Two points, Mr. Speaker; number one

I am aware of the particulars of the situation in the Port aux Basques - Channel area and number two, is as soon as possible.

MR. D. JAMIESON:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. D. JAMIESON:

Could I ask the hon. the Premier to look up the documents concerned because I think he will discover that while I also endorse the necessity in many other communities for industrial development officers, that the situation in Port aux Basques was unique in that it was one on which there was agreement that there was the necessity, for all manner of reasons which everyone here is familiar with, and that the arrangement was, and I do not need to go into the details now, that certain expenditures would be made elsewhere by the Federal Government on the understanding that the Port aux Basques Industrial Development Officer would be financed from the Provincial Treasury and on a continuing basis, not just for a limited period of time. Would he look into that? I believe he will find that I am correct.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Yes, I will, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. G. FLIGHT:

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. C. Power) relative to his new forestry policy as it relates to his programme for combating the spruce budworm in this Province. Would the minister indicate to the House when exactly he intends to appoint the Royal Commission that he has referred to?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister of Lands and Forests.

MR. C. POWER: Mr. Speaker, we intend to appoint a Royal Commission as soon as possible and government is now considering persons to be appointed to the Royal Commission.

MR. G. FLIGHT: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) A supplementary, the hon. member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. G. FLIGHT: Would the minister indicate to the House exactly what the terms of reference of that Royal Commission will be? Will it be specifically to look only at the budworm and its various ramifications for the Province or will it be to look at the forestry industry in general? Would the minister indicate the terms of reference of the Committee?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Lands and Forests.

MR. C. POWER: Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference are still in the state of being drafted. However, it is fair to say that the terms of reference will include more than just looking at chemical controls for pests that we have in the forest. It will also look at the long term wood supply for the forest, which will include such things as management and harvesting procedures and the like.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear.

MR. G. FLIGHT: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. G. FLIGHT: I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the minister would care to tell the House what he would expect a Royal Commission - from what source would he expect new information on the spruce budworm? We have the Randell Committee, we have the Medical Commission's report, we know the extent of the damage, we know the disastrous effects the budworm have had on the Province and the amount of timber that is either dead or moribund. What source of information

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MR. G. FLIGHT: is left for a Royal Commission to draw on that would have the effect of helping the minister make up his mind whether he should spray or not spray?

AN HON. MEMBER: A good question.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. Minister of Lands and Forests.

MR. C. POWER:

Mr. Speaker, there are several sources of information which have been tapped as it relates to the spruce budworm problem, particularly the Budworm Review Committee of Memorial University, the Newfoundland Medical Association's report, the report of the Eastern Spruce Budworm Council. The reason, primarily, that government decided to set up a Royal Commission is because almost all of those reports invariably talked about the short-term effects of spraying, about short-term spray programs. Our government, because it does not intend to deceive the public of Newfoundland into thinking that spray programs are of their nature short-term, we did not intend as a government to have a one year spray program this year, a one year spray program next year and another one year spray program after that. We intend as a government to proceed with the dealing with the spruce budworm problem on an above-board level, making all the public of Newfoundland aware of the fact that the budworm problem is a very serious one, which we acknowledge and admit, and the simple fact that we want to approach the problem on a long-term problem-oriented approach as opposed to an annual decision-making process where you have to reconsider each year whether you will spray or not depending on levels of infestation.

As to where we shall get additional information, we are aware that in many parts of the United States research is now being done in many types of controls for pests, chemicals being one, bacteriological agents being another and also different harvesting techniques that we intend to consider. We also intend, first and foremost, to go to all the public in Newfoundland, to make the Royal Commission available to every single solitary resident in Newfoundland, every single concerned group in Newfoundland to allow every person and every group in Newfoundland to have input to the Royal Commission before we make our decision.

MR. G. FLIGHT:

A final supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) I indicated a final supplementary the last time, but seeing nobody else standing, a final supplementary.

MR. G. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, I have to say that most of the answers to the last supplementary were a cop-out, particularly by the minister of the government. Mr. Speaker, would the minister tell the House, having just clued up two meetings with the major paper companies, Bowaters and Abitibi Price, what their reaction is to the minister's position on a no-spray program and how they see the Royal Commission performing in the next year or so? Do they accept the minister's position as being the solution to the budworm problem? problem?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the Minister of Forrestry

MR. C. POWER: Mr. Speaker, I had discussions again yesterday, a second meeting with the Price people in Grand Falls and with the union in Grand Falls. We have had discussions with the people in Corner Brook and I intend to go back to Corner Brook on Monday to have further discussions with them.

The position of the paper companies as it relates to the government's decision to have a Royal Commission is quite simple, but that they realize that the government has the controls, that the government are the persons who make the final decision as it relates to that given problem. They agree and fully condone our actions that in order to have a long-term, viable forestry industry in Newfoundland that they have got to have decisions based upon long-termed progressions and projections in the forestry, sector and with that in mind I am

MR. C. POWER: sure that they fully concur with the fact that, even though they may disagree today that for the long-term benefit of the forestry industry you have got to look at spray programmes and their long-term nature.

MR. SPEAKER: (SIMMS) The hon. member for Grand Bank.

MR. L. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) and it is in connection with the press release that was put out by the minister last Friday, and a position which I certainly commend the minister for. But I think the minister is a reasonable man and I think he will probably agree with me that what happened on Friday is really only touching the tip of the iceberg as far as the administration of justice and the very serious problems which we face in this Province in connection with the administration of justice. And also in view of the fact that we have an unknown-really from a problem point of view- an unknown factor now with the possible influx and increase in population in this city with the coming of the offshore oil and gas, my question, Mr. Speaker, is to the effect - and to remember as well that I think that my colleagues on this side of the House, both the Daily News and the Evening Telegram in this city and myself have all been calling for a Royal Commission to look into the administration of justice in this Province. I would like to know if the minister would indicate to the House whether or not he is prepared now to give an undertaking that such a Royal Commission, which I believe to be absolutely necessary and essential, would he give this House an undertaking that such a commission will be set up?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, it is not at present, it is not now the government's intention to establish a Royal Commission either with respect to law enforcement, which is a specific area, or administration of justice, which, I suppose, is a very broad area. I mean that presumably includes everything for which a Department of Justice is responsible, being corrections, law enforcement, the civil area, prosecutions and other things as well. I think myself that royal commissions best serve a very specific and identified problem such as, let us say, the budworm kind of problem. I am by no means sure that areas which are quite broad in terms of government policy and that are particularly susceptible to royal commission. And there are a number of possibilities. I think myself that during the past few years - up until quite recently; I think up until the last election - every time

MR. OTTENHEIMER:

there was a problem, or appeared to be a problem, or somebody said there was a problem, there was a royal commission. There were royal commissions being appointed every few weeks, which can well be regarded as a way of postponing a problem, of abnegating your responsibility to make decisions, of government doing that. So I really do not see that, with all due respect obviously to the opinion of the hon. gentleman, and even the Daily News and the Evening Telegram, I really do not feel that any specific or any strong case for a royal commission has been made and I am aware that it can be used so often to, number one, get away from one's own responsibility as a minister, or a government's responsibility as a government. It is so easy to say, "Let us set up a royal commission." It takes a royal commission at least a year to find out something and then everybody can sit back and do nothing. I started off by saying in specific areas like the budworm, at the very beginning, this is a quite identified and specific area. If you are going to take a very large area of government policy, on the federal scene I suppose it would be something like a royal commission on Canada's external affairs or a royal commission on some broad ranging area, financial policy. And I really think that that can be an abnegation of government's responsibility, an easy way out. You put it under the rug, you keep it under wraps for a year. And I do not really think that we handle those problems properly that way or we do justice to the electorate by substituting government by people who are accountable to the electorate for, let us say, a quasi government by appointed officials, members of the judiciary, etc.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please! If I might I think I should draw to the attention of all hon. members the Standing Orders as they apply to questions and answers during Oral Question period. I believe it is fair to say the last set of questions as well as the

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): answers were a bit lengthy and would ask members to keep them as brief as possible.

A supplementary, the hon. member for Grand Bank.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Must be new rules.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is a precedent.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

I happen to believe that the problem of vandalism in this Province is as serious, if not more serious than the spruce budworm, with all due respect to the budworm. I think there are very serious problems in the administration of justice in this Province today.

MR. MORGAN: What is your question?

MR. THOMS: Now if the Minister of Fisheries -

MR. FLIGHT: He talks like a fish.

MR. THOMS: That is right, would quit acting like a codfish, which is what he is -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. THOMS: - then maybe I will ask the question.

MR. NEARY: He looks more like a sculpen.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! If the hon. member has a question I would direct him to ask it.

MR. THOMS: There are some very, very serious problems, is what I am saying. Now the Minister of Justice has indicated that he is not prepared

MR. L. THOMS: to appoint a Royal Commission to look into this. My question is -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. L. THOMS: I will hang you from a spruce budworm.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. L. THOMS: My question is this, What does the minister plan to do? What does he plan to substitute for a Royal Commission? You know, the Friday's announcement was fine as far as it went but it can only solve an immediate problem. What are your plans?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the Minister of Justice.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, certainly there are a number of areas where we plan to take initiatives; in that statement, itself, a co-ordinating committee on law enforcement; we are also planning to announce within the next several weeks a Law Reform Commission. The hon. gentleman referred to vandalism as a problem, and obviously it is. The municipality of St. John's currently is having a study on it and we will obviously be looking forward to what they find.

I would point out - the hon. member said, you know, What specifically is the department planning to do? Obviously, specific areas require specific approaches. You know, there are a number of areas, obviously there are a number of problems. Let me give the hon. member one example. One problem is that of violence in the family or what is sometimes called battered wives, battered women. The Department of Justice, in co-operation with the Status of Women Council and in co-operation with the Department of Social Services, has been meeting for the past couple of months or so to prepare a conference which will bring in people from all over the Province dealing with that specific problem. We are not going to have a Royal Commission on it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: We are going to have a conference involving the people, not just three or four or five commissioners who go around.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: This has been a co-operative effort with two departments of government, Justice and Social Services, and -

MR. L. STIRLING: (Inaudible).

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: - if the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) will allow me. I do not interrupt him when he is speaking.

So in this area we are having a conference in which not only government but a quite broad range of people with specific interests and knowledge in this area will be involved. And I think it is by taking a specific problem and getting a specific solution to it rather than the blanket approach in a very broad area - it is not like the budworm which is an identifiable problem - that I think that is the better way to go.

Now I am not saying by any means that such a similar conference on problems of vandalism would not be very useful, but I do not want to prejudge that until we see what work comes out of one being done at the municipal level of government, see what the outcome of that is before endeavouring to duplicate or make a decision in that area. But I give the hon. member a specific example of the kind of approach we are taking with respect to that problem of violence in the family.

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

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. F. Rowe), unless he wishes to yield to a supplementary.

MR. F. ROWE: I yield.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for Lapoile.

MR. NEARY: I just want to ask the minister a brief supplementary, Sir. Obviously the minister is making an attempt to clean up the mess he inherited from his predecessor. I would like to ask the minister if it is still the practice in the Department of Justice

MR. S. NEARY: to have certain cases, certain files kept confidential, under lock and key, only to be discussed with the minister? Is this practice still in effect? And what about all of the unfinished business, unfinished cases in the Department of Justice? Are they ongoing, have they been clued up? What has the minister done about the mess he inherited in that regard?

MR. SPEAKER: (SIMMS) The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I would be unfair to my predecessor, who now holds such an illustrious position on the bench, if I were to agree that I inherited a mess so I must make that comment.

I am not aware that there any files which are there for the minister only. There are no files that I am aware of - well, I am quite sure I would be aware if there were because they would pertain to me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. OTTENHEIMER: You see my powers of reasoning. However, practically all of the files, or very many of the files are confidential in that they are only available to solicitors working on a specific case.

MR. S. NEARY: (Inaudible) only for the yees of the minister.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Certainly since I have been there - July or August, early August or late July whenever it was - there are no such files 'only for the minister'. I am not aware that it was ever the practice. I know it is not now. To the best of my knowledge it never was, but there are certainly no such files now marked or anybody given any instructions that these files are only for the minister. No, there is certainly no such practice. I am not aware that it was before. There certainly is not now.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: And with respect to the hon. gentleman's second question, it was very broad ranging and probably if there is a question on the Order Paper or specific ones at some later date -

MR. S. NEARY: (inaudible) to clean up the mess?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Well, as I say that is like, 'When did you beat your wife last?' Especially bearing in mind the conference which I just announced, I would not risk being a prime target.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. F. ROWE: I have questions, Mr. Speaker, but with one minute left I cannot see any necessity -

AN HON. MEMBER: No, go ahead.

MR. F. ROWE: Okay, all right.

Sir, my question arises out of

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Tape No. 73

AH-1

MR. F. ROWE: the Ministerial Statement made by the Minister of Fisheries yesterday. I would like to personally apologize to the minister for being absent and not witnessing the eloquence of his delivery on that particular Ministerial Statement.

MR. ROBERTS: It was a once in a lifetime day.

MR. F. ROWE: The minister, Sir, did indicate that there were sixty-seven loans approved and worth about \$1.9 million. Could the minister indicate to the House, Sir, exactly how many loans or applications have been rejected outright and how many applications are still under consideration? I guess I will not get a chance for a supplementary - and if the minister could indicate how much funds are left or still available the Fisheries Loan Board as it now exists and what is the status of the negotiations with the chartered banks for possible functional relationships between the Fisheries Loan Board and the chartered banks?

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, with less than a minute to go what I would like to do is take the question on notice and supply the information tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The time for Oral Questions has expired.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 3 of Section 28, the Financial Administration Act, I wish to table this special warrant dated February 19th. And, Mr. Speaker, whilst I am on my feet I would also like to table the report to the Auditor General for the financial year ending March

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Tape No. 73

AH-2

DR. COLLINS: 31, 1979 and, also pursuant to
the Financial Administration Act, Public Accounts for the year
ending March 31, 1979.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms)

Order 1. Address in Reply.

The hon. member for LaPoile.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) is well known in this House, and in this Province, for his narrowmindedness and for his hatred for anything that is Liberal, or anything that is associated with Liberalism, either in Newfoundland or in Canada. But yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member topped everything that we have heard from that hon. gentleman in this House so far. My colleague, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Jamieson) yesterday, Mr. Speaker, made an excellent speech in which he dwelt at some length on the problems of the offshore resources, the ownership, the management, jurisdiction, and the development of offshore resources, and in so doing my hon. friend went to great pains to resist the temptation to introduce partisan politics into the debate. My hon. colleague went to great pains to keep politics out of the offshore question and asked a number of questions of the Premier and his administration concerning offshore resources and offshore development.

In responding to my hon. colleague, the President of the Council, the Government House Leader, a minister in the government who is obviously speaking for the government, scolded my hon. colleague for daring to question some of the government's decisions and some of the government policies in connection with the offshore activities and in so doing, Mr. Speaker, I would submit to this House that the debate sunk to a very low level after my hon. colleague, on a very high plain, on behalf of the people of this Province, tried to get some answers from the government. Instead of allowing the member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Butt) to make his maiden speech in the Throne Speech debate, when he was outside the member for St. John's East jumped to his feet and scolded my hon. friend. The government spokesman, Sir, the member for St. John's East, with his buttoned down mind, and in a nasty manner, tried to leave the impression that

MR. NEARY: anyone but anyone in this world who did not go along with the government's foolish nonsense and the government's crazy policy and position on these matters would be a traitor to Newfoundland.

What a joke, Mr. Speaker. From what we heard from the hon. gentleman's lips yesterday, and from his colleague, the Premier, obviously the two gentlemen disagree amongst themselves as to what policy this Province should be following with regard to offshore jurisdiction. And the member dragged in a red herring, Sir, the likes of which we have never heard in this hon. House before, and told us that we should, the Government of Canada should follow a precedent, should follow a decision made by the Parliament of Canada when they passed an act to grant Manitoba an extension to their boundary.

Mr. Speaker, I checked this morning with two constitutional experts in Canada, one of whom is a Newfoundlander, Senator Eugene Forsey -

MR. BARRY: He is not a lawyer.

MR. NEARY: No, he is not a lawyer, he is a constitutional expert. But I also checked, in case the hon. gentleman is interested, I wanted a second opinion and I checked with one of the top constitutional lawyers in the whole of Canada -

MR. BARRY: Me.

MR. NEARY: - namely Professor

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman says me, 'Well, I have news for the hon. gentleman. The hon. gentleman has been muzzled by the Premier and is not allowed to make a statement on the offshore, has become depressed and disillusioned over the attitude of the Premier, who has suddenly become a great dictator, who wants to run every government department, who will not let the Minister of Mines and Energy make a statement -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - unless it is cleared through the Premier's Office. And the hon. gentleman would have been better off teaching law over at Dalhousie University. But the gentleman I checked with has a little more knowledge. The gentleman has a little more knowledge than the hon. gentleman in constitutional matters, Professor Scott, who happens to head up -

MR. BARRY: Who?

MR. NEARY: Professor Scott -

MR. BARRY: Is he that centralist young (inaudible)?

MR. NEARY: The professor who heads up the law department of McGill University, who I would consider to be no slouch. And in both instances, Mr. Speaker, I am told by these learned gentlemen that my hon. friend, the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall), technically speaking by the way, is correct. But -

AN HON. MEMBER: Young Scott is good is he?

MR. NEARY: But, Mr. Speaker, what the hon. member is suggesting is unrealistic and impractical.

AN HON. MEMBER: Certainly, because it is correct.

MR. S. NEARY: No, Mr. Speaker, because there are various and sundry reasons why it cannot be done. But in the first place let me say to the hon. member that if that is the course of action that the government wanted to take, they should have taken that action when Mr. Clark was up in Ottawa, brought an act into this House and had an act brought into the Parliament of Canada. But this government did not elect to do it.

MR. BARRY: We were working on it.

MR. S. NEARY: They were working on it but they did not do it. And they had two chances to do it, they had two sessions of the House in which they could have done it, concurrent acts, one here and one in Ottawa.

MR. W. MARSHALL: And get confirmation from a Liberal Senate?

MR. S. NEARY: And they did not do it, Mr. Speaker, because it is impractical and it is nonsensical and it is unrealistic. And we want, Mr. Speaker, let me say for the benefit of the hon. gentleman who likes to meet candidates and insult candidates and stack the cards at meet-your-candidate meetings, let me say for the benefit of that hon. gentleman that we on this side of the House want Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders to get 100 per cent of the revenues from the offshore development.

MR. THOMS: And the jobs.

MR. S. NEARY: And the jobs. So, Mr. Speaker, the fact that the government did not bring in a piece of legislation in this House and request the Government of Canada to do the same in Ottawa is because they felt it was unrealistic and impractical and impossible to work.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, do you know what it would bring into focus? It would bring into focus international law. First of all what the member is saying is let us extend Newfoundland's boundaries out beyond the 200 mile limit, out to the Grand Banks.

MR. BARRY: Nonsense.

MR. S. NEARY: Now that is what the gentleman is saying, 'Give us the ownership' and with the ownership goes navigation, goes the control of the fishery, goes the control of even the buoys that go in the water, environment -

MR. BARRY: (inaudible) seabed of Bell Island.

MR. S. NEARY: That was an Imperial act. Bell Island was developed under an Imperial act which is a different thing altogether.

MR. BARRY: Why, do we not have as much power in Canada as they have in the United Kingdom?

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would submit to Your Honour that I do not intend to waste too much time on this particular piece of nonsense that flowed from the lips of the hon. gentleman because the hon. member knows it is impractical, otherwise the government would have done it.

MR. STAGG: Let us hear the Government House Leader on it.

MR. S. NEARY: The government would have done it while they had the opportunity while Mr. Clark was up in Ottawa, but the Government of Canada, Sir, no matter which government is up there would not be foolish enough to bring in that kind of an act. The best chance that we have is for whatever government is in Ottawa to define certain responsibilities offshore. That is the best chance we have! And I really believe myself, Mr. Speaker, the way the Premier behaved on opening day in this House when he was speaking on the television to the people of this Province, when he was

MR. S. NEARY: behaving like a desperate man, when he was wild-eyed and fanatical, when he was waving his arms like a madman, that that was, the sign of a desperate man. The gentleman obviously has the gun put to his head by the oil companies. The oil companies are saying to the Premier and to the administration of this Province, 'You procrastinated long enough and we can wait no longer; we can wait no longer to proceed with the offshore developments, especially to get into production!. Now you have to make up your mind, and they procrastinated so long and they have made such a horrible mess of handling the offshore jurisdiction, or ownership or management - whatever you want to call it, they dilly-dallied and they have made such a horrible mess of it that now it is almost too late. There is only a few weeks - this government - there is only a few weeks left-

MR. BARRY: The best regulations in the world.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind the hon. gentleman that all the administration had to do when they took over in 1972 was to build on what the Liberals had already done. You would not know, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. BARRY: You gave it away:

MR. S. NEARY: Ah, Mr. Speaker, listen to this. Just like the Upper Churchill, which the member referred to yesterday in his speech. And I have here a speech in front of me given by Jim Greene when he was Leader of the Opposition back in 1963, I think it was, when the development of the Upper Churchill was brought into this House and hon. members should go and read Mr. Greene's speech, who was

MR. S. NEARY:

then Leader of the Opposition, and see what he says about the development of the Upper Churchill. Did that great Tory, who is now working for -

MR. BARRY:

What has that to do with the offshore?

MR. S. NEARY:

It has to do with offshore. The hon. gentleman just reminded me of something the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) said yesterday.

MR. D. JAMIESON:

He had nothing to do yesterday, either.

MR. S. NEARY:

'Of course, I support the bill,' he said, 'with some reservations.' And then he said, 'I feel, Mr. Speaker, that this bill has or can have a great deal of significance for Newfoundland in terms of the amount of employment and it would give our people who are right now having a rough time of it trying to find a job on the Mainland. And a great many of them have come to look to this great Northern Peninsula for their future.' And he goes on and on; it would be worth reading. But what I started out to say, Sir, was that it was a Liberal Government that issued the first permit and invited the oil companies to come here to this Province to look for oil and gas offshore. And members sometimes forget that, Sir. It was a Liberal Government, Mr. Speaker, that brought SEDCO I into Newfoundland.

MR. L. BARRY:

You did not have any local preference.

MR. S. NEARY:

Oh, Mr. Speaker, 'we did not have any local preference'!

MR. L. BARRY:

You did not have any 40 per cent interest.

MR. S. NEARY:

The hon. gentleman should go back and read the speeches that were made in the House at that time when, for the first time in Newfoundland's history, drilling started offshore for gas and oil. That was done by a Liberal Government. And now, Mr. Speaker, to hear the hon. members talk from the other side, you would not know but the Almighty was a Tory. You would not know but the Almighty put the

MR. S. NEARY: resources there for the Tories and not for the people of this Province. Mr. Speaker, if the Premier and his administration try to bluff the people of this Province and they get caught in the ridiculous process, then they should not look to any responsible Newfoundlander to support them and bail them out and to aid and abet them by agreeing with their position, their position being one of confrontation and arm waving and behaving like madmen. The Premier of this Province, Mr. Speaker, cannot call a news conference every Friday and wave his arms and look wild-eyed and fanatical -

AN HON. MEMBER: And bushy-tailed.

MR. S. NEARY: - and busy-tailed, and attack everyone from here to British Columbia and then expect every soul in Newfoundland to go along with him, to go along with everything he says. We would be just as politically dishonest, Mr. Speaker, and intellectually dishonest and deceitful as the hon. gentleman if we follow that procedure. So what we have to do, Sir, in this House, is to try to separate the logic and the common sense from the foolishness and the ridiculous remarks that are made by the Premier at these news conferences that are lapped up by the news media in this Province, who do not have sense enough to ask the right questions, who just take for granted everything that is passed to them and go back week after week and have it hashed and rehashed.

Everyone on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, is just as good a Newfoundlander as the hon. the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) or the Premier of this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. S. NEARY: And everyone on this side of the House, Sir, wants Newfoundland to get all it can from a commercial oil discovery. As I say, it was the Liberals who brought the oil companies to Newfoundland in the first place and SEDCO I into Newfoundland waters back in 1971. And, Mr. Speaker, since that time we have had eight or ten years of procrastination, of neglect, of cheap political game playing, attacking everyone from here to British Columbia and back again, and we are no further ahead, Sir, when it comes to coping with the impact or the

MR. S. NEARY: development of a commercial oil find than we were eight years ago. That is what the government is trying to cover up and distract from. They have no plan. There is no master plan to cope with a commercial oil discovery off our coast. There are no plans to protect the environment and protect the fishery and the other natural resources and raping the good people from the other industries in this Province. There are no plans to protect the senior citizens and the people on low and fixed incomes. The government have put all their eggs in one basket and all they want to do is come out fighting, put on the boxing gloves. Even before the Prime Minister is sworn in up in Ottawa, the Premier of this Province has the boxing gloves on ready to take on everybody.

MR. NEARY:

What we need now, Sir, we need a firm hand, a mature hand on the tiller, We need a man who is mature and who can carry out these matters in a calm and quiet atmosphere and not a fanatical madman waving his arms, frightening everybody to death, everybody afraid there is going to be a nervous breakdown or somebody is going to have a stroke in front of the television cameras. That is no way to behave. So we have had all these years of neglect, Sir, and the government has bluffed its way so far and the people are getting wise. The people are getting wise to this bluffing and that was proven on February 18th. So I would submit, Sir, that we have reached a critical stage, we have reached a critical stage and we can procrastinate no longer. Somebody mentioned to me today about making announcements. Who makes the announcements on the developments offshore, whether there is going to be another rig or whether there has been a strike or whether there is a wildcat well? These announcements are made out in British Columbia for purposes of playing the stock market. They are not made by this government here, by this Province.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you reading that speech?

MR. NEARY: No, I am not reading it, Sir.

I never read a speech in this House. I have a few notes in front of me because this is a very important subject. We are on the brink of making decisions that could affect the whole future of this Province. And, I think, Mr. Speaker, that it is time now that the Premier and the administration settle down, get rid of these separatist. senior advisors and ministers - may I include the hon. member who spoke yesterday who has all the tendencies of a separatist? - settle down -

MR. F. ROWE: He has not changed.

MR. NEARY: - settle down and deal with this

MR. NEARY: matter in a mature way, in a mature manner, in a calm, quiet atmosphere, otherwise, Sir, we will all be the losers in this Province. So I hope the next time the hon. gentleman gets up and rants and raves and accuses people of being traitors to Newfoundland and not good Newfoundlanders, that the hon. gentleman will bear in mind that we cannot, nobody in his right mind could go along with all the things that are said by the Premier at these news conferences every time that somebody sticks a microphone in front of his face. He should follow his own advice. He silenced the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) who is not allowed to make any more statements without having them cleared through the Premier's office. He should follow his own advice and not yield to temptation every time a microphone is stuck in front of him and attack people that he may have to negotiate with around the bargaining table tomorrow or the next day.

So, Mr. Speaker, just to reiterate again, everybody on this side of the House, everybody but everybody believes that Newfoundland should get one hundred per cent -

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) Order, please! The hon. member's time has expired. Does he have leave to clue up?

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not have leave. I thank the hon. gentleman, but I do not need leave. I have said what I have to say, Sir. I know it will fall on deaf ears. I know the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) will get up again and anything connected with Liberalism or with Smallwood, he is such a skinful of hatred, that he will squirt his poison again and the Premier will still rant and rave and still con the media of this Province. But I think in the end, Sir, it will all work out. It will

MR. NEARY: all work out in the end if cool heads will only prevail. If the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) and the hon. Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) could only just tone the Premier down a bit, stop him from waving his arms and stop him from looking like a walking nervous breakdown, settle him down and follow the advice my hon. friend the Leader of the Opposition gave yesterday: Set up a Select Committee - the government obviously are incapable of coping with this situation - set up a Select Committee comprising of elected members on both sides of the House and let us roll up our sleeves and hammer out a master plan for the development of the offshore as quickly as possible before it is too late.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) Hon. member for Conception Bay South.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. BUTT: Mr. Speaker, once again I feel it is a privilege and an honour to stand in this hon. House to

MR. J. BUTT: speak on behalf of my district,
Conception Bay South.

This is an opportune time for me to express my appreciation to those people who voted for change, people who voted for a new direction and gave me a vote of confidence on June 18th.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

AN HON. MEMBER: Right on.

AN HON. MEMBER: Author, author!

MR. J. BUTT: I was very happy to have a good campaign crew and they certainly made my victory possible.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. BUTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome to this hon. House our newest member, a tremendous Tory from Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. H. Andrews) -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. BUTT: - who went into that district and busted through the traditional Liberal barriers and came out with a great victory not only for himself but for the PC Party.

MR. F. STAGG: Right on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. F. STAGG: Well done.

MR. J. BUTT: Mr. Speaker, -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) St. Mary's - The Capes.

MR. J. BUTT: - before I unfold -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh! Oh!

MR. J. BUTT: - a number of legitimate, genuine and essential needs of my district, I would like to make a brief comment on this Throne Speech.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. BUTT: This document has been referred to as philosophical, inadequate, dealing with motherhood issues and

MR. J. BUTT: so on and so on.

MR. E. ROBERTS: I agree.

MR. J. BUTT: Well, Mr. Speaker, to me that document says we are going to have to deal with monumental problems that we inherited from short-sighted people. It is a document that says we are going to have to stand up for the Churchill Falls power contract.

AN HON. MEMBER: Right.

MR. F. STAGG: Stand up for Newfoundland.

MR. J. BUTT: It is one that says we want control over our resources, it is a document that says we want an identity.

MR. F. STAGG: Outlaw the Opposition.

MR. J. BUTT: It is one that says we want to share with our neighbours and contribute to our country. It is one that says we do not want to sell this Province down the drain -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. BUTT: - because this Province was sold down the drain all too often in the past.

MR. F. STAGG: Yes, yes. 1949.

MR. J. BUTT: I would like to think I am a charitable man. I give to almost any charitable organization which approaches me -

MR. F. STAGG: They need it over there.

MR. J. BUTT: - whether it is the Boy Scouts or the Girl Guides, minor hockey, figure skating or what have you. But when it comes to this Province I think we have given enough and it is time that we stand up and be counted.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. BUTT: We have been exploited and ripped off for centuries. I consider the Speech from the Throne to be a courageous one. I think it is a reflection on the

MR. J. BUTT: Kind of man that we have leading us through this very critical era in our history. As the hon. member from LaPoile (Mr. S. Neary) just said, I think that gentleman has tremendous ability and is doing yeoman service for this Province. And I would like to go on record as saying, if I may coin an old Newfoundland expression, to the hon. the Premier, 'long may his big jib draw.'

MR. F. STAGG: Right on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. BUTT: Mr. Speaker, I represent the urban and rural district of Conception Bay South. That encompasses Seal Cove, the Town of Conception Bay South, St. Philips, St. Thomas, Paradise, going into St. John's on Thurborn Road, Kenmount Road, and part of Blackmarsh Road.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is my district.

MR. J. BUTT: Yes. It is a very large district. As a matter of fact, it is about two and one half times the size of the average district like, say, the - I have about two and one half times as many people as the hon. gentleman opposite from Bonavista North (Mr. L. Stirling) or the hon. gentleman from Fogo (Mr. B. Tulk) or possibly the hon. gentleman from St. Mary's - The Capes (Mr. D. Hancock).

MR. F. STAGG: You could out vote about a half a dozen of those by yourself.

MR. J. BUTT: So, with this kind of population that I have to represent, I have a number of legitimate needs.

My district is probably the fastest growing district in the Province also, and that in itself is compounding existing problems. So, Mr. Speaker, it is

MR. J. BUTT:

imperative that this government recognize the urgency that I express now in moving quickly in providing basic and essential services like water and sewerage, up-grading and widening of roads, which are totally inadequate at the time, so our community can grow in an organized manner. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address this honorable House on the potential and the inadequacies in the fisheries in Conception Bay South.

Conception Bay South has approximately ninety full and part-time fishermen, and I can say without fear of contradiction that they have the worst, they are operating under the worst possible conditions in this province.

Just let me, for a moment, compare the South side of Conception Bay to the north side; you know, we are basically talking about the same body of water. Well, on the North side the coastline is dotted with fish plants and all kinds of nice wharves and so on. Now I compliment them on that, they have good representation over the years, I would say, on that side of the bay and they have really dug in and they got things for their district. Well, Sir, on the south side of the bay from Seal Cove to Cape St. Francis, there is just one totally inadequate community stage or small plant—certainly you could not classify it as a fish plant. From Seal Cove to Cape St. Francis the entire length of the South shore of Conception Bay.

The plant in Foxtrap in its present state is absolutely and totally inadequate. The fishermen are still landing fish on the wharf in five-gallon buckets. That is a fact—in five-gallon buckets. It is a bloody mess, it is shameful and something has to be done about it. These people cannot continue to operate in this manner. They are using the same methods as their forefathers did two hundred years ago. Now, that is a fact.

But I am encouraged by the fact that I had a meeting just yesterday with fifty fishermen in the area, accompanied by my colleague, the Minister of Fisheries (J.Morgan) where we had

MR. J. BUTT: frank and open discussions with the fishermen , listened to their problems at first hand. It was a first for the area. I am not joking. That is a fact.

I have checked back and I cannot find out when the Minister of Fisheries went out and held a meeting with the fishermen, I am going way back twenty years ago in that district,so it never happened there before. But now there is some hope. There are hopes of getting -

HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. J. BUTT: I will ask the hon. gentleman to let me finish in silence, please, Okay? These people, I honestly believe right now, are going to have a new lease on life. We are taking steps to get the plant upgraded and to provide facilities for them for their boats and so on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. BUTT: Conception Bay South also has tremendous potential as a farming area, but these people are in dire need of storage facilities and they need more land made available for them to reap the full benefit . Those farmers also require assistance in marketing if they are going to develop the agricultural potential to its full potential.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated previously, my district is more than twice the size of the average district in this province. These people require recreational facilities also. At the present time, there is not one single regulation size softball field in Conception Bay South, not one single regulation size soccer pitch in Conception Bay South. Now, that is hard to believe, but that is a fact. There is a minor league softball field out there and there is a minor league soccer field for the twenty-odd thousand people that are out there.

MR. BUTT: Now, Mr. Speaker, the popular misconception is that when it comes to recreation for that area, "Oh well, St. John's is just next door and these people have all kinds of facilities." And I congratulate them on it. But a soccer field, or a softball diamond in St. John's is about as much use to the men, women and children in Conception Bay South as the soccer fields and the softball pitches in Corner Brook. That is a fact. Absolutely no good to them at all.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think we have demonstrated that we are capable of managing recreational facilities. We did get a break a few years ago and had a stadium erected in Kelligrews and that stadium is probably the biggest success story as far as stadiums go in this Province. Every year we have managed to make a profit. This past year I think we realized a profit of about \$30,000 and I really think that that says something for the people in Conception Bay South.

MR. N. WINDSOR: It certainly does.

MR. BUTT: It certainly does. I am glad my hon. friend agrees with me.

MR. N. WINDSOR: It is the only one that I know of.

MR. BUTT: Right. It is probably the only one.

It is too bad my hon. friend, the Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Culture is not here. I would like to go on record to say that when I go to my hon. friend here with a feasible proposal for a swimming pool, well then I hope he will judge it on its own merits and not on the bad success stories of the swimming pools around this Province, which continually come back to the government, the same as the stadiums, every year wanting to be bailed out because the homework was not done in the beginning and they went in places where the population was not there to support them, they never had the financial base to support them and now they become a drag on the taxpayers outside of their own communities.

MR. BUTT: Mr. Speaker, one of the pet topics of discussion in this House is roads, and rightfully so. I know that most hon. members have problems with roads, particularly in the rural areas. But rather than go into great detail with the hundreds of miles of roads in my area, I have taken the opportunity to submit a list to my hon. friend the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett) and I certainly hope that over the next couple of years that these roads will certainly get serious consideration, and something be done with them. But there is one road in Conception Bay South that is vital, absolutely essential and that is the arterial road from Manuels Bridge to the Trans-Canada Highway. Topsail Road, as everybody here knows, all hon. members, I would imagine, are familiar with the Topsail area; it is a scenic place to go in the summertime. It is a nice drive out there and that is compounding problems also. But Topsail Road is probably one of the main arteries in this Province and I understand, doing a little bit of research, I understand there are 8,000 cars that travel over Topsail Road every morning. That is in my district now. 8,000 cars. I am telling you it is not a very good feeling to get out of bed in Manuels and think about driving to St. John's at eight o'clock in the morning. You drive down the road about one mile and then you hit the traffic and you get in miles and miles of traffic that moves at a snail's pace, and when you get to your office or place of employment in St. John's you are frustrated. The best hours of your day, the productive hours certainly of my day are early in the morning and they are lost through frustration of being tied up in traffic. That is a fact, Mr. Speaker. So once again I say this arterial road from Manuels Bridge to the Trans-Canada Highway is 4.8 miles. It was surveyed and cut out about five or six years ago, now it is

MR. J. BUTT: starting to grow up again. Well, Heaven forbid, I certainly hope it does not. That road is the key, is the most important item that I can mention here in this House today relating to my district, the road from Manuels Bridge to the Trans-Canada Highway.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Which side of Manuels Bridge?

MR. J. BUTT: Well, as you know, the new bridge that was constructed in Manuels back five years ago -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. J. BUTT: Yes, the Tory administration.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. J. BUTT: Well, it is 4.8 miles from that bridge to the Trans-Canada Highway. There were two houses obstructing the right-of-way and those two houses were bought, I understand, or certainly there was an agreement between the government of that time and the people to sell the houses to make room for this road to go through, to clear away.

MR. W. MARSHALL: (Inaudible) seven years.

MR. J. BUTT: Pardon?

MR. W. MARSHALL: (Inaudible) on the side away from St. John's?

MR. J. BUTT: No, from the St. John's side - from there straight up.

MR. NEARY: Tell him where Manuels is first.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. J. BUTT: I am sure the hon. gentleman knows where Manuels is.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Never mind now, I am a landowner in Manuels.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is a taxpayer in Manuels.

MR. J. BUTT: Yes. Well, it is just 4.8 miles of road anyway, and I understand from talking to some of the officials in the Department of Highways that this road is going to cost somewhere in the

MR. J. BUTT: vicinity of \$5 million.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. BUTT: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that we must begin now to do that road. We cannot wait another five years or four years.

MR. CARTER: It connects with the Harbour Arterial.

MR. J. BUTT: That is right. So I can leave my home and drive to Water Street in about probably ten minutes with the completion of that road.

But it is not only the people in Conception Bay South; I am speaking on behalf of my hon. friend here right now, who is quite capable, I know, of doing it himself, but people in Holyrood, they all come up the South Shore and they like the view in the morning - it makes them feel good, the sunny South, coming to work in the morning; they do not like to use the Trans-Canada Highway.

Anyway it is about \$5 million to complete that road and, Sir, I think it is vital that we get on with the job right now and I do not think we can wait another five years or two years; I think we have to start now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. BUTT: I would like to now speak briefly on the potential of Long Pond as an auxiliary port. I have heard many, many places mentioned and Long Pond has had very little ink on this, but Long Pond, because of its location alone, has tremendous potential as an auxiliary port. Unlike the harbour of St. John's, there is adequate room available for warehousing and whatever else goes along with a seaport - all kinds of land available in Long Pond.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. J. BUTT: It has a tremendous advantage over many of the other areas that I have heard mentioned around this hon. House.

Now with the completion of this arterial road from - I am looking at this very objectively - but with the completion

MR. J. BUTT: of this arterial road from
Manuels Bridge to the Trans-Canada Highway, well, Long Pond is about
ten minutes from the Industrial Park, so it is an obvious place to
think about when you think about an auxiliary port to St. John's.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Never thought about it before.

MR. J. BUTT: My hon. friend agrees with me, that
is good. I am happy to hear that.

The development of Long Pond would
have a tremendous impact on Conception Bay South, which in itself, by
the way, is the third largest community in Newfoundland. A popular
misconception is that it may be Gander or Grand Falls, but indeed it is
not, it is Conception Bay South.

Now, Grand Falls has its paper mill
and Gander has its airport and

MR. BUTT: Corner Brook its great paper mill, so this third largest community in Conception Bay South, if it had the auxiliary port of Long Pond, it would certainly give the community a good economic base.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have spoken on the potential of the fishery in Conception Bay South, the potential of Long Pond as an auxiliary port. Conception Bay South has tremendous potential in agriculture. It is barely touched.

The beauty of Conception Bay itself makes gives it tremendous potential as a tourist area.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER(Baird): Order, please!

MR. BUTT: But the greatest potential in Conception Bay South is its people. We must never lose sight of that fact.

Mr. Speaker, just yesterday it was my privilege to proclaim Education Week in St. George's School in Long Pond, St. George's Elementary School, where I addressed 380 children. And I could not help but realize the tremendous responsibility we owe to these youngsters, the tremendous responsibility that we owe to these young Newfoundlanders. We must certainly assure them a suitable education in this Province. They must be trained well to take advantage of the tremendous and abundant resources that we have here. We must stop the exodus of our greatest resource, our young Newfoundlanders. We cannot afford to export our greatest wealth, we must keep them home. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK: I first would like to compliment the member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Butt). Being the district I grew up in I know it quite well and very intimately and I would like to support him here and now on everything he has said, particularly with regard to recreation and with regard to the road from Manuels to the Trans-Canada, those two things that are badly needed.

I would like now - I have spoken in the House before, but I have not addressed this House in regard, particularly, to the district of Eagle River. I have spoken in parts on it and particular problems, but not the full district.

Eagle River itself is located in Sandwich Bay. Separation Point separates Eagle River, which is 150 miles long, Paradise River, which is about 90 miles long, and White Bear, which is 110 miles long.

The district itself stretches from L'Anse au Clair to Paradise River. Some of the places in the district: L'Anse-au-Clair, Forteau, L'Anse-Amour, L'Anse-au-Loup, Capstan Island, West St. Modeste, Pinware, Red Bay, Lodge Bay, Mary's Harbour, Fox Harbour, Port Hope Simpson, Williams Harbour, Pinsent Arm, Shallow Town, Norman Bay, Domino, Black Tickle, Cartwright and Paradise River. These are only the permanent communities. If I had to go through the Summer communities I would go as far as to say that I would be up as high as probably two or three hundred communities. Because in the Winter they move back to the permanent stations and in the Summer they end up moving out to the Summer stations to pursue their living.

I might point out, with regard to the Summer stations, nothing has been done with

MR. HISCOCK: these Summer stations for several years. And if nothing is done with them in particular, then, of course, it is going to have a devastating effect on the fisheries because they do need these small slipways and small stages and wharves in order to tie up their boats.

Communications in my district: I would like to compliment the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Brett) on a few things before - he just left. One of the things in communications is phones in my district. I have four places that only have one phone, so if

MR. HISCOCK:

you are talking in the community in your house and you want to give an important phone call with regard to your banking, with regard to your private life, or business, everybody in the harbour ends up hearing it. This is Williams Harbour, Pinsent Arm, Norman Bay and Paradise River. Also in Charlottetown, may I add, and in a few other communities, if you turn on the FM station you can pick up the phone conversation throughout the full community.

No roads; there are no roads in Williams Harbour, Pinsent Arm, Charlottetown, Norman Bay and Paradise River. We hear many members in this House speak on the idea for more pavement. There are no roads in the lower part of my district, nor are there any roads, gravel or whatever, in the district adjacent to mine, which is Torngat Mountains.

TV, there is a community in my district of over 325 people, Charlottetown, which does not even receive CBC radio or CBC TV. Last year one of the students at the school ended up winning honours in her grade eleven and one of those courses that she ended up doing was history. This year the teachers felt that they could not carry on this course because of the need to have current affairs-which plays such an important part on radio and on TV, in magazines.-that they had to do away with this history course.

Air services to the district; I must say since I have spoken in this House the last time, I really do have to compliment the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett) on the improvements in air services in the district. For example, now we have, three times a week from Forteau, straight into St. John's whereas before you would only go as far as Gander. So I compliment the minister on that. Again, as such, Labrador Airways is not receiving a subsidy on this part, but from St. Anthony to points south in the district, Mary's Harbour, and then taken by single engine plane they do receive a subsidy. But I might caution the minister now that this subsidy is only on a trial basis for three months

MR. HISCOCK: and it is not the best time of the year, if you are going to take a representation if a project should continue, to have a subsidy and have a trial period in the months of December, January, and February. Surely if the people are travelling it is the same as anywhere else in the Province, usually the majority of travel takes place in the Summertime. So I would like for them to take this in mind when they are doing their evaluation.

Also I want to point out about the snow clearing problem. We have had many members speak on this and also in the House and on radio as well as the city. I would like to compliment the minister in providing a new snow blower for the area as well as an extra plow. I gather the people in the Bay of Islands are extremely upset that the plow is going there, but I would like to remind our fellow citizens in the Bay of Islands anytime they want to come up and fish off Black Tickle or Red Bay, or come on up and get Northern cod or come up and get some bakeapples or get power from the Lower Churchill or get benefits from Labrador City, then I am sure the people from Labrador South district and Eagle River do not mind sharing with them. So I thank you for not kicking up a stink yourself, the hon. member, and for permitting that plow to come because, again, it is very badly needed. I was just talking to there today, for example, and again the roads are blocked, so it really is needed.

Medical needs: There is a new clinic needed at Forteau, and there is a new clinic needed at Black Tickle. They also need a nursing station at Fox Harbour. Maybe next year we might be able to acquire this on a Canada Works project and then get the IGA to place a nurse there. We need improvements at the nursing station in Mary's Harbour as well as the one in Cartwright, particularly the one in Cartwright; it is extremely old.

MR. HISCOCK: Schools, in particular I ended up asking for an educational enquiry into my district. In the district, particularly from L'Anse-au-Clair to Red Bay, the school facilities, I would go so far as to say, are on par with the Island. We have our gyms, we have our other extra curricular activities and, basically, we are up to standard. But from Lodge Bay up to Paradise River I cannot say the same thing for my district. I have two teachers teaching in the same classroom in Fox Harbour, in Lodge Bay; also in Williams Harbour I have two teachers teaching in the same classroom; Pinsent Arm, one teacher teaching from Kindergarten to Grade 10; and for Norman Bay, from Kindergarten to Grade 8.

MR. E. HISCOCK: grade ten I am sorry. And from Norman Bay from Kindergarten to Grade Eight. Also in Williams Harbour, two teachers teaching from Kindergarten to Grade Ten in one classroom and I find these really, in all honesty, totally unacceptable. We talk about the benefits and the future of our Province, and if we cannot develop the basic resource that we have in this Province of our own people, then how are these new people, particularly during Education Week, this week, how can we provide them with equipment, the talents to be able to challenge and take their lives in their own hands and take the society in the direction that they want it to go if we do not provide them with those basics?

In Coastal Labrador district now we are seeing, maybe for the first time, a freeze on registration for boats, we are seeing a freeze on licensing, and as a result of this the majority of the young men will not be able to get into the fisheries. So if they cannot get into the fisheries they need alternative lifestyles and occupations. That means trades schools, that means various other vocations. And if we cannot provide them with the basics in the schools, then how can they get to the trades schools? So I asked the question that I ask now: with regard to Lodge Bay and Pinsent's Arm in particular we are entitled to two extra teachers, but because we do not have accommodations those two teachers are teaching over on the Northern Peninsula somewhere.

Also because of accommodation in Cartwright next year, the school board is closing down the residence, it is quite possible that the six teachers will have to find other accommodations and it may be that the school in Cartwright may have to be closed down.

MR. E. HISCOCK: The fisheries in the district; my district as well as the neighbouring district of Torngat Mountains basically are where the Northern cod comes for the Winter and late Spring and late Fall in order to breed. In that district I only have one fresh fish plant, in L'Anse-au-Loup. That was opened up until last year, until November 24th., and if the ferry would have extended longer and facilities available and there was heating in that plant, it is quite possible that could be even going up until some time in mid January. So we have this myth or this fallacy that people look upon Labrador and think it is frozen all year round not all year round, but after particularly November and early December, and that you cannot have any occupation. "You must bring it down to Fogo, you must bring it down to Harbour Grace, you must bring it down to St. John's or you must bring it down to Englee." I am saying now, even though those places that I have mentioned are also Liberal districts, that the people in my district of Eagle River are not going to continue to see their resources continually taken out of the district unless a fair benefit and a fair return comes in to those districts by the way of draggers. Here we have licenses for freezer trawlers to go up onto the Hamilton Banks, and yet we cannot get one dragger license for that full district.

Also we have other fish plants throughout the district, Williams Harbour, Black Tickle, Mary's Harbour and also in Fox Harbour and in Cartwright. I am very, very pleased in particular that one of the - since, probably, Mr. Coaker - we have an experiment going on down in my district with regard to the shrimp. The union in that district has set up a co-operative where they will now buy the boats and end up fishing for the shrimp themselves. I have

MR. E. HISCOCK: only one concern with that and that concern is if they end up getting the freezer-trawlers for the shrimp and other species, there is a tendency to process that aboard the ship instead of bringing it ashore so that basically you will give employment to young married couples and families. So if that danger goes in it then I will again speak up against my own people in the district because I think it would be the detriment of a long-term benefit.

 In Williams Harbour and Black Tickle last year they ended up having a Portuguese ship come in and take over a million pounds of fish out. Basically the reason was, they did not have the freezing capacity and that the freezing unit making ice was always breaking down. I would hope that the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) would see that this does not happen this year, that the employment will be given to own people instead of the Portuguese fishermen who are aboard these boats.

 I would like to also point out to the Minister of Fisheries that we have a 30 per cent subsidy gear programme on the Labrador coast and in that regard people were quite contented with it, but now they have basically found out that when they want to buy only temporary parts or small parts of their trap, they cannot

MR. EUGENE HISCOCK:

get the subsidy. So I think that should be changed and basically it should include all of Labrador and that the subsidy should go towards parts as well as the new materials altogether.

In the Winter I have the privilege of travelling my district through the election, and then in a major tour by boat and by airplane last Fall and then I just came back a week and a half ago from travelling in the district by way of skidoo

One of the things that I am amazed at in winter is that most of the time of the men in that district is spent getting water for the family and also getting firewood. The cost of oil and gas in that district is astronomical and if people in this part of the Island had to pay for it they would not be as quiet as some of the people in my district.

Also, with regard to the people themselves, they are second to none! I would even go as far as to say it is one of the few areas left in this Province where you basically can go into the district and the people will take you for what you are and end up giving you the shirts off their backs-

AN. HON. MEMBER:

Right on!

MR. WARREN:

without asking you any questions and that, but always putting the best in people. They were the first people of Labrador. These were the people that came over, the Basque whalers, for example, came over in the district in the fifteenth century, one of the oldest districts, I think, or the oldest place in this Province. It is one of besides L'Anse-au-Meadows. We also have historical places in the point of L'Anse-Amour where the University has found the Indians going back to the fifth century B.C. And then, of course, we have got L'Anse-Amour. I do not know if very many people know about Lance Amor. Lance Amor is a very small community and during the Second World War, the British Admiralty ship, the Raleigh, went aground and the Davis family ended up rescuing a lot of these sailors, so much that the Bri-

MR. E. HISCOCK: tish Admiralty decreed and gave a patent to the land and said that only Davis's were allowed to settle in the community of Lance Amor.

So that is, just again, a little bit about the historic value. The people themselves in that district are extremely hard working, do not want to receive unemployment insurance, do not want to receive welfare. Basically, they want to turn around and develop the fishery and develop the woods resources that are in the district.

I would hope in the future, particularly with regard to Lodge Bay, that we would see the road from Lodge Bay extended to Mary's Harbour so that now, instead of having to go six miles on ski doo to get their mail, or to go and get passenger services by plane, they would be able to have these by way of road. I do not think there is any other area in this province that has such primitive conditions as they have had in Lodge Bay as they have this year. Instead of, in actual fact, getting better it is after really getting worse.

Another thing I want to talk about particularly is with regards to the administration of my district. The hon. member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Butt) said his district may be two and a half times as large as mine or maybe I would even go as far as to say four times in population, but in land mass and land area, I would even go as far as to say I am five or six times as large as Conception Bay South, if not even more. I would even go as far as to say ten times. But in the administration point the member for Conception Bay South only has to go to St. John's. If I want to deal with my district in the administration and bureaucrats I have to deal out of St. John's, I have to deal out of Corner Brook, I have to deal out of Deer Lake, I have to deal out of St. Anthony, Goose Bay,

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MR. HISCOCK: and to an extent Flower's Cove with the school board. I have five school boards in my district. Also, media-wise, if I want to talk to any of the media, if I want to get across to the people in my district of the representation or what is going on in government, I can only speak to half of them at a time. If I want to speak to the ones from L'Anse-au-Clair to Red Bay, then I go through the Corner Brook media. If I want to speak to Lodge Bay to Paradise, then I have to go through Goose Bay. So these are some of the problems that I have in the district and some of these problems we will be addressing by way of the Federal and Provincial governments and hopefully in the future many of these problems can be done away with and Labrador itself will begin to feel a lot more integrated in this Province. One of the things that I hope will be coming in the future will be that we will be seeing the Sir Robert Bond coming into Cartwright. I hope to see obviously another CN coastal service, improved very greatly from what it is today, operating out of St. Anthony and going to points South where they would have a roll-on/roll-off car ferry. I am not talking about a large one like the Sir Robert Bond but I am talking about a modest way of breaking the isolation.

But I want to now take in with regard to greater things in the Province besides the district. I want to take in one thing about our relationship with Quebec. In our relationship with Quebec it is seen that basically this Province has, particularly under our Premier now, we have taken a role that is basically confrontation. I am not arguing for the pros or for the cons of the development of the Lower Churchill, but I will go so far as to say this, after living in Quebec for

MR. HISCOCK: about three years, that Quebec itself takes second place to no one and for us to go to Quebec and expect that they are not going to try and get the best rights for their citizens, we are only sleeping in the dark. And when the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) came back from a meeting with the Premier in Quebec and said he was willing to have negotiations with the Premier, Premier Peckford ended up going up to see the other Premiers at Quebec and basically our Premier could have taken a very notable stand that basically in the long run would turn around and basically put him on the side of the Federalists in this country. And that is that when he went to have his first meeting with Mr. Levesque he should have slammed the door right in his face and said, "we will have nothing to do with you whatsoever until this referendum is over because, one, you do not recognize our claim on Labrador, our sovereignty rights; number two, you do not recognize our problems with the Upper Churchill and the contract and you will not renegotiate, so therefore why should I have anything to do with a Premier who is committed to the breakup of Canada and why should I have anything to do with a Premier who does not even recognize the sovereignty over my own Province." But instead the Premier ended up going there expecting to get a warm deal and instead of having a meeting with the Minister of Mines and Energy for Quebec the Minister of Mines and Energy ended up going on back to Quebec City and our Premier was left standing there basically insulted, left out, whatever. But I really feel that that was the turning point, that we really should have told Quebec what we were.

MR. HISCOCK:

But in the meantime I also say that it is a time for co-operation with Quebec and if we do not co-operate with Quebec for the benefit of Labrador, particularly with regards for the Labradorians, because the people in Labrador - and you ask the member for Menihek (Mr. Walsh) - they do not care if the road goes to Montreal. The people in my district have a road to St. Paul's; they do not care if the road goes to Montreal or Quebec City. What they are concerned about is development. And if we do not start solving some of these problems of co-operation instead of confrontation in this country, that

MR. E. HISCOCK:

the one people who are living in those parts of the country are the ones that are going to suffer and are suffering.

Quebec now has control, economically, over Western Labrador. There are talks now about putting the road from Churchill Falls to Labrador City. If we do do that, again Quebec will get control over Churchill Falls economically. So the best thing that this Province basically needs to do is start putting money into Labrador itself and bringing the road across to Lake Melville and basically back to the Straits and providing an infrastructure of transportation to get the goods into it, because as of now, there are people in my district who are ordering from Montreal because they can get the ferry service to come on up until mid January whereas with CN, and also on the private ferry in my district, we end up cutting off the service December 11th.

So these are some of the questions that I want to address in the upcoming months; and another one I would like to address in the upcoming months is particularly with St. John's. I am very, very concerned about St. John's and with the idea of the strike Hibernia is going to have on this Province. We have interest rates now that we can not afford to pay, and if Hibernia is found commercially, land rates are going to go up, real estate is going to go up and it is going to basically break open St. John's. And I think the provincial government here should take the lead and do as they do in Saskatchewan - buy land banks, the Crown lands, and develop the area and do not have this profiteering by real estate companies.

I also believe very, very strongly that we have to look at certain areas in St. John's and designate them as high-rise development areas where you can get into your high-rise apartments or your complexes or whatever

MR. E. HISCOCK: and develop that core of the city. But if we are going to turn around and start letting houses go up on the corner of Empire and Forest Road, apartments, and if we are going to have more Duffett buildings and we are going to have another Royal Trust Building come up here and there, I would go as far as to say within ten or fifteen years down the way, sure we will get the short-term economic benefit but there, somewhere along the line, we will be basically asking ourselves, "What ever happened to old historical St. John's?" It makes me laugh a little bit now really when we talk about "old historical St. John's." For the most case you can not find a building older than 130 years, but at least we have got some charm there to it. I am not talking to the extent of detriment to business but I am talking about sound planning.

We have to look at our areas, whether it be East of the railway station where the arterial road or whatever, but I really believe strongly that we have to get into those areas.

And another one which I would like to address probably to the Premier himself: I feel that the Premier is trying to paint the provincial Liberal Party in particular as being anti-Newfoundland and anti-Labrador, that basically, somehow or another that we do not have our hearts or minds in the right places, that we are playing partisan politics with regard to offshore resources and that somehow or another the only true - I was going to say true blue but I better not - the only true Newfoundland and Labradorian is basically one on the government side and I will not submit to that. Not only will I not submit to it but time will tell in this House where I stand, particularly personally.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. E. HISCOCK: Another one that I am particularly

MR. E. HISCOCK: concerned about, and I ask the Premier to take note of that himself and that is the tactic of confrontation. Basically, this government is operating within the past, the new administration in particular under Mr. Peckford, is one of confrontation. You had a government in Ottawa which was Conservative and everybody said, even the Premier himself, "Let us put a Conservative Government in in Ottawa because we will be able to get more done and we will be able to co-operate." And then we end us seeing basically what ended up happening under Northern cod. I support the position that Mr. Peckford took on that but I have to ask politically, did it have to come out in the open and did it have to come out in that way of confrontation?

And secondly, I also ask him now, here we have the new government appointed and a new minister, and, for whatever reason,

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Rompkey has the position of Minister of Revenue. He is the spokesman for this Province, he is second to none -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK: - and what his political future will be and how it will go will depend upon his own ability. And I do not think his position now reflects in any way. But to say that he is an insult to this Province or a 'nothing', I think is starting off on the wrong foot with a man that this Province and this government have to deal with. And basically I again ask to the fact - is not this government going to turn around and use within the next five or six months - and the theory or the tactic will be, Let us paint the Liberals over there on that side as being anti-Newfoundland, anti-development and anti-patriotic and basically going and selling Newfoundland down the drain.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. THOMS: He is nodding his head. Look!

MR. WINDSOR: Do you really think that is what we are up to?

MR. HISCOCK: But time will tell, because time is on no one's side.

I would like to thank again those people in my district who elected me and I would like to congratulate each member of this House, in particular, on being elected. And the new member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Andrews) - I did everything I could, of course, to make sure that he was not here, but I must say I give him credit. Secondly, I would like to congratulate the Speaker on his appointment, as well as the Deputy Speaker. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (BUTT): The hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WINDSOR: Save it to the end!

MR. J. DINN: I am not responsible for any labour in the Province at the present time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) labour?

MR. J. DINN: My wife had two.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to stand in the House of Assembly today to speak in the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne and to, first of all, congratulate the mover and seconder of the motion of the gracious Speech, the hon. the member for Harbour Main - Bell Island (Mr. N. Doyle) and the hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage (Mr. D. Stewart).

Mr. Speaker, certainly the level of the debate up to this point in time has been on a higher plane than I have noticed in the past in this House, and in that regard I would also like to congratulate you on your speech in the House of Assembly as the member for Conception Bay South and laying out some of the problems of that district.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. J. DINN: I know them all too well as they are just bordering on the city of St. John's and I have travelled many times through the district of Conception Bay South and know that all of the things that you said were ones that are of grave concern to the people out there, and I am sure that in the next few years you will solve many of those problems.

I would also, Mr. Speaker, like to congratulate the hon. the member for Eagle River (Mr. E. Hiscock) who just completed his speech in this House. He also laid out many of the difficulties and the problems that relate directly to the people in his district, and I believe that these are some of the things that we should be doing more often in this House. He laid credit where credit was due, he outlined some of the problems that needed improvement and, hopefully, he will work on behalf of his people and try to correct some of the deficiencies and problems that he has in his district.

MR. J. DINN: Also, Mr. Speaker, I thought the hon. the Government House Leader, when he laid out the case for offshore oil and gas and the precedents that have been set previously and done with co-operation and by legislation both in the provinces and at the federal level so that Manitoba and Quebec and other areas could extend their jurisdiction, and we certainly think that this is the approach that we should take.

MR. L. STIRLING: Read that exactly as it is written.

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. the member for Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) continues to interrupt in this House of Assembly. I would only wish that the people of Bonavista North could see him in the House acting the way he does, because I am quite sure, Mr. Speaker, that these polite people, many of whom I know out in

MR. DINN: Bonavista North would be most disappointed in that hon. member.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, to just continue on, this is possibly the most important Speech from the Throne that we have had in this House, certainly in my time, and certainly in the Speeches from the Throne that have been read over previous years and by past and past and former and former administrations. It is one that will require every hon. member in this House to stand up and state the case. I think to do less would do an injustice to the people that they represent in their constituencies and to the people in this Province of Newfoundland and Labrador that I know we all love, and that I know we are all working toward a day when we will get to that place in the sun that we deserve.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the offshore oil and gas: I am not going to go into the legalese. I will leave that to the hon. learned gentlemen in the House; the hon. the member for Grand Bank (Mr. Thoms) to siphon through with his obvious knowledge of these things, and the hon. Opposition House Leader (Mr. Roberts) and the Government House Leader to get up and state their case as they see it because I think we are all going to be very concerned about what they have to say.

I look at it from a strictly layman's point of view. I know that on Bell Island when they dug for iron ore, the Forsyth shaft, for example, went out something like three miles. In 1966, as I recall, there was a contract on a desk waiting for the election to go through so that they could continue to dig and continue to get iron ore out of that mine. Everybody was waiting for the contract to be signed.

MR. DINN: And that was something like fourteen or fifteen years ago. And let us say, Mr. Speaker, that they had continued, let us say that that Forsyth shaft had continued to go out for fifteen years, straight out, they may be out another ten or fifteen miles, who knows? Would anybody in Ottawa say at that point in time that Newfoundland could not control that development? That Newfoundland did not own that ore? Would anybody have said that at that time? I did not hear any screams from Ottawa at that time.

MR. NEARY: I went down (inaudible).

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) had his day and a half in court and he will have his other days in court, maybe a different one from here. But, Mr. Speaker, I will want to lay out my case -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. DINN: - the hon. member for LaPoile can lay out his case, when he gets an opportunity.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER(Butt): Order, please!

A point of order. The hon. gentleman for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, what kind of a threat or innuendo is that? I ask the hon. gentleman to explain himself or withdraw that remark and apologize to the House for his ignorance.

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

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is getting exercised. I do not want to upset the

MR. DINN: hon. gentleman.

MR. NEARY: No, you are not upsetting me.

MR. DINN: He is in what he calls the highest court in the land. He may want to go to higher heights. He may want to run for some constituency somewhere else. He may be judged by the court of public opinion, Mr. Speaker. There are many courts -

MR. NEARY: Do not be such a coward.

MR. DINN: - that the hon. gentleman may have to face.

MR. NEARY: Do not be a coward. The laughing hyena, the nervous breakdown, thinks you are funny.

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, I just want the opportunity, as every hon. member in this House deserves, an opportunity to be able to speak and be heard in silence. One of the rules of this Legislature, and every other that I know, hon. members are permitted to get up in their places and say their piece and speak on behalf of the people that they represent and the people of this Province.

I certainly will not take a second seat to that hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker. But we have heard it in the past, we have had opportunities in the past, and here we have another opportunity. We have heard rallying cries in the past of two jobs for every man, of burn your boats, of develop or perish, of many, many others and now I say -

MR. SPEAKER(Butt): Order, please!

MR. SPEAKER: (Butt) Is the hon. minister finished speaking to the point of order?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, there is no point of order. I thought we all recognized that.

MR. SPEAKER: To the point of order, I do not think there is a point of order and I think the hon. gentleman has explained his point and I ask him to proceed in silence.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. J. DINN: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Now, Mr. Speaker, we have also had opportunities in this Province, we have had Western Labrador iron ore.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, what we get out of Western Labrador with respect to revenue is nothing short of a disgrace. It is going to cost the Province and possibly the companies up there \$2 million just to find out what to do about the various dust problems that we have up there, something that should have been looked at earlier. It is something that an Environmental Assessment Act, as a piece of legislation when brought in in this sitting of the House, will look after in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the Upper Churchill:
and nobody has to, nobody in this Province has to stand and say what the Upper Churchill now means to this Province.

MR. F. STAGG: It is a shock.

MR. J. DINN: They know what it means to Quebec. And they know what it means to this Province - virtually nothing.

MR. F. STAGG: (Inaudible) to the Liberals.

MR. J. DINN: The Quebec province, Mr. Speaker, gets about \$.5 billion a year from the Upper Churchill and

MR. J. DINN: we get peanuts and that can not continue.

The linerboard mill was another impossible dream and everybody recognizes it as an impossible dream. The new paper mill that is being developed out there is something that we can all look forward to as one of the success stories in the future. I am repeating these, Mr. Speaker, because I think at this point in our time it is very important for hon. members to think about the past, to know what we have to do in the future so that we do not make the kind of mistakes that we have made in the past.

MR. S. NEARY: How much did closing the linerboard mill cost?

MR. SPEAKER: (Butt) Order, please!

MR. J. DINN: The Come by Chance refinery -

MR. S. NEARY: How about the political poll?

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. S. Neary) continues to interrupt.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Ignorance.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Please do not interrupt the gentleman.

MR. J. DINN: The Come by Chance refinery, Mr. Speaker, another disaster area. If we had not renegotiated the deal on the Come by Chance refinery, this Province would have been on the hook right now for about \$500 million. We had it all guaranteed - about \$500 million, we would be on the hook for right now if it had not been negotiated. As it is we are on the hook for about \$45 million, \$30 million plus interest charges.

ERCO, subsidized to the tune of about \$20,000 per job. Now, Mr. Speaker, can we continue to do this in the future? These things are in the past and I say if you can fix some of them, fix some of them; if

MR. J. DINN: you can do something about some of them, do something about some of them, but let us look towards the future, let us see where we are going into the future. Where are hon. members in this House? And I say to hon. members that we are at a crossroads right now, that we have very many decisions to make and we have to speak and I think it is very important that this Legislature speak with one voice, that we all know where we are going. Yes, the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. S. Neary) indicated that the permit that was issued was issued by a Liberal Government and there is nothing wrong with that. But I ask the hon. gentleman, how many jobs in those fifteen years did we get in the offshore?

MR. S. NEARY: Whatever we got you can thank the Liberals for it.

MR. J. DINN: Well, whatever we got I would be ashamed to say. It was about four per cent. I think you could count them on all of your digits the number of jobs that we got on the permits that were issued on the offshore.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. J. DINN: There are five, ten, fifteen, twenty-
I do not think it would go over twenty-one, Mr. Speaker. So
we have to have regulations, we
have to control development, and if we do not control develop-
ment there will be no guarantee of jobs in the offshore for
Newfoundlanders or anyone else in this country. It was only
last year on the Discoverer Seven Seas there were ninety-eight
Filipinos to be brought in on that contract and we had to
get that changed. Our regulations made them change that and
we got 128 Newfoundlanders working on those boats. These are
the kinds of things that are very important to this Province.
It is very important at this point in time. It seems funny
to me that when we were developing iron ore in the mines at
Bell Island and we were out there three miles, and if the contract
that was supposed to have been on somebody's desk had been signed
and we had continued to develop Bell Island, we would be out
there maybe fifteen miles now.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is a different action.

MR. J. DINN: The fact of the matter is that I
did not hear any screams from Ottawa as to who controlled the
development on Bell Island, but now all of a sudden, and it
seems to me all of a sudden, and if we show weakness here
either on this side of the House or on your side of the House,
the Opposition side of the House, if we show any kind of a
split in this Legislature then we are putting the offshore
oil and gas in peril.

MR. F. B. ROWE: Screaming is over there.

MR. J. DINN: The hon. member thinks that I am
speaking a little bit too loud. The hon. member can go outside
and turn me down. Mr. Speaker, it is the way my voice carries.

MR. J. DINN: Now, Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition when he stood up and spoke in the House covered the fact that the Speech from the Throne was a kind of a philosophical document but he said that he did not see any legislation in the Speech from the Throne. Well that is true, absolutely correct. The fact of the matter is that with respect to the offshore oil and gas, which if you can look at it is one-third of the Speech, we have legislation and regulations in place for that. With respect to the fisheries the Hon. the Premier laid out quite clearly and quite definitely the reason why we do not have legislation in place for that.

AN HON. MEMBER: The White Paper.

MR. J. DINN: The fact of the matter is, yes, I think it is important and if we can do it through a white paper I think it is important that the people of this Province understand what we are all about, what we are trying and what we are attempting to do with respect to the Fisheries.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) last study

MR. J. DINN: I think the study that has been done in the past - If the hon. member thinks that nothing has been done in the fishery in the past three or four years, the hon. member should go to his district because it is quite evident, it is quite evident. Last year alone the fishery increased by thirty-four percent in this Province.

MR. F.B. ROWE: What do you mean?

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the value, that is not (inaudible)

MR. J. DINN: The value, the value. In jobs in 1978, in primary we had 7,100, in processing we had 7,500. In 1978 that is about 15,000 jobs. In 1979 we had close to 20,000 jobs in the fishery. We had close to -

MR. S. NEARY: Thanks to Roméo LeBlanc.

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MR. J. DINN: Can the hon. member tell me how many people are fishing now on the Northeast coast? There are very few. When the ice comes in there is - So it is not a twelve month job. The plants are not open twelve months of the year. We would hope to put a plan in place whereby - Now, in 1978, by the way, for the hon. member's information - Not education because I think the hon. member

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Edification

MR. J. DINN: Edification, well that is not a bad word. The hon. member-in the primary sector and in the processing sector, these are man years, okay. So that is a yearly job if you will. So we are not talking about one man working for twelve months, but we are talking about the equivalent. We are talking about a man-year.

MR. J. DINN: In 1984-85 we are talking about increasing the capability of doubling. Now, if we are going to do that, and I say that we should be able to do that with some sort of control or some sort of co-operation federally/provincially, we have to have some say in how the Northern cod stock is developed. Now, I look at the Province of Newfoundland, especially the Northeast Coast as a processing plant, the whole Province, the whole Island, Labrador. And if we have a factory ship coming in here and catching it, what need is there of the jobs on shore? You do not need them. What need is there of the jobs in Nova Scotia? Why land them at a plant? Why not just take it, process it, and go directly to the market? That is the kind of thing that we have to really consider, really think about and make sure that the factory that they are talking about is the factory that we have on land right now. We have to stand up as Newfoundlanders and it is not a political thing, we have to stand up as government and opposition, as one voice, and we have got to say to the federal government, we have to have a say in that and we have to make sure that Newfoundland is protected and the interest of Newfoundland is protected. Mr. Speaker, in the forestry, if you talk about direct and indirect which I do not like to get into, but if you talk about direct jobs you are talking about 7,000 jobs in the forestry sector. Is the hon. the member for LaPoile in favour of the budworm spray programme? Is the hon. the member for LaPoile saying we should spray this year?

MR. S. NEARY: I am not cowardly (inaudible).

MR. J. DINN: Is that the position of the -

MR. S. NEARY: My position is I am against it.

MR. J. DINN: I see - very good.

MR. S. NEARY: I said so outside the House (inaudible).

MR. J. DINN: So the hon. member for LaPoile agrees with the government's position and I am delighted. It is the first time that I have seen him agree on anything.

MR. G. FLIGHT: What was the minister's position last year on (inaudible).

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the Linerboard mill with no subsidies, with no electrical subsidies will employ next year about 800 jobs. And we did not have to give anything away. I mean there was no subsidization of power on that. It will go on, hopefully, for years. It was a deal whereby the Province sold it for \$43.5 million and the company who thought that they would operate that newsprint mill, they were so confident that it would work, said, that we would pay you \$3 million per year if we do not reach the objectives. So, Mr. Speaker, we are starting to turn things around in Newfoundland. I believe that, and I think the next step is to make sure that not a P.C. government or a P.C. member and a Liberal member, that the P.C.s are for and the Liberals are against, I think basically, every member in this House is for what we are trying to do in the offshore oil and gas. I have not heard anybody really stand up and say that they are against the legislation or the regulations on the offshore. I have not really heard anybody stand up and say that what we are saying is not right. I certainly believe that what we are saying and what we are doing about it is right and if any hon. member wants to add anything, if there is something that I am not doing with respect to employment in the offshore, if there are some suggestions that they can make to me to improve the situation, well, I would be only too happy to listen. But I think we should all work together and make sure that what we do in this sitting of the House, which is probably the most important sitting that we will have, make sure that we stand and we speak with one voice and we tell Ottawa what we want and if they say no, then maybe, it is confrontation. I think it is time that maybe - I think back when Churchill Falls was developed and the lines were to go through Quebec, I think at that time everybody should have stood up and been counted and made sure

MR. DINN:

that we got the deal that we should have gotten. This is another time. Mr. Speaker, I cannot stress too much the importance of the problems that we are facing in Newfoundland in the next year or two and I cannot stress the importance of having the government side of this House and the Opposition side of this House speak with one voice, unanimously, and make sure that we get our rights on offshore oil and gas and our rights with respect to the fisheries and our rights with respect to development of our energy in Labrador and any other project that we get into.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Hear, hear!

MR. DINN:

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is not true to say that there is no need of a White Paper on the fisheries right now. I think that many Newfoundlanders know, I think that many Newfoundlanders are aware of what we are attempting to do with respect to the fisheries. But there are many Newfoundlanders who do not know.

MR. FLIGHT:

Mr. McGrath does not know.

MR. DINN:

Mr. McGrath may not know and the fact of the matter is if he does not know and if he does not agree he has got to be told and he was told. And that is the position that we have got to take. It is not, as I said before, a partisan political -

MR. NEARY: He told the Premier to get rid of (inaudible).

MR. DINN:

- isolated issue. If the federal government does not happen to agree with us - if we believe in our position then we have got to state it and it does not matter whether it is a Tory administration or a Grit administration in Ottawa. I think it is very important that not only does the government of the Province speak but when the government of the Province speaks I think that the whole Legislature should speak in one voice.

MR. DINN:

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are many long-range things that will impact on Newfoundland in the years to come. There are also many short-range things. Just since the House closed last year we have been working, as I informed the House at that time, on employment in Newfoundland in the short-term, that the federal and provincial governments were co-operating on. The resource departments of the government have been working for three or four months and we have compiled a list of resource based projects that we need done. They are related to community stages. There are none for Pleasantville. We do not have a requirement for community stages. But we have a list of some 174 projects for one job creation programme that the federal government had, or the previous administration had, and I would hope - I have a letter going off to Ottawa tomorrow to the new Minister of Employment and Immigration hoping that he does not change back to the Canada Works type programme. Because we have had the resource departments in this Province working for two or three months identifying projects, prioritizing projects and we are ready now to submit them and they will be on their way, hopefully tomorrow, to Ottawa. There will be some \$50 million, supposedly, that would have been provided to Eastern Canada, I would hope that that would continue under the new administration in Ottawa and we have, as I said, \$27 million worth of prioritized programmes on their way, or will be on their way tomorrow morning to the federal government.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Is that the original list?

MR. DINN:

No that is a list that was compiled over the past three months by all the resource departments in this government. And they relate to fisheries, they relate to forestry, they relate to tourism and -

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible) first time
submitted.

MR. DINN: It is the first time that it
was submitted. It is a list of projects that are prioritized
by - they are community stages. There are none for St.
John's. I mean they are not prioritized on a political basis
and I can assure the hon. member -

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. DINN: No, no. I can assure the
hon. member that -

MR. FLIGHT: (Inaudible) a secret?

MR. DINN: No, the hon. member can come
to my office at any time and he can go through them one
by one if he wants to. The fact of the matter is that list
will be in Ottawa and

MR. J. DINN: the hon. member can get them from his co-operative minister up there. I would hope that he would implement as many of those projects as he possibly can. I think it is important in the short-term; I think the decisions of the long-term have been identified by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. I do not know if he is quite one hundred percent with us on the legal side of the battle that we are attempting to fight, I am sure he is here morally with us, that he believes that we should have the rights to the offshore. I leave it to the hon. the House Leader (Mr. Marshall) and other learned gentlemen, as I said, to look at the legal side of it. From a straight pragmatic side, from a straight moral side, from a straight development side, I say that we are right in what we are doing and I would hope that every hon. member standing would state his position so that we can speak with one voice when we do have to speak with the federal government at Ottawa.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Well said!

MR. SPEAKER: (Simms) The hon. the member for Lewisporte.

MR. F. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, my first act, I suppose - and it should be - in speaking in this Throne Speech debate, should be to welcome the new member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. H. Andrews). I think it is fitting that a broadcaster has replaced a broadcaster in coming into the House and I am sure that he is going to be an ally of mine in one particular thing that I want to try to get achieved during the next few months or few years in this House.

Last Summer, Mr. Speaker, in July and August, I found this Legislature fairly refreshing. I found the new rules to be good. I am pleased with them and I thought that the work of the House was expedited because of the new rules and the change. The committee system that was brought in; most members, I think, found it very worthwhile and found themselves for the first time, perhaps, since they have become involved in politics, in a position where they could make some significant input into legislation and the Estimates of the

MR. F. WHITE: Budget of this Province.

All those things were pretty good.

Within the last few days, the government and the House have moved to make life a little easier and a little more rewarding for members of the Legislature with the increase that members have gotten. It was long overdue and I am sure that most members are happy that it came.

But I think, Mr. Speaker, it is time now that we took an even equally important step with respect to this Legislature. I think it is time that we pulled the drapes open on this Legislature and opened it up to the people of this Province via radio and television.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. WHITE: I think, Mr. Speaker, if we are going to really raise the level of debate in this House, if we are really going to let the people of Newfoundland see what is going on, we have to change the way this Legislature works in terms of the media in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. WHITE: How long, Mr. Speaker, do we have to say, 'Let us get a committee going,' or 'Let us make some rules,' - 'Let us invite the T.V. in,' - 'Let us make audio tapes available to the media.'? Right now up there in the gallery they are sitting back there taping the actual speeches that are being made in this House. The reels are going around, the audio portion is going on, the interjections are going on, Mr. Speaker's remarks are going on the tape. Why are not the media permitted to at least take those audio tapes and use them on the air? Right now they are not allowed to do that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: They are not allowed to tape it, 'Freeman'.

MR. F. WHITE: Well, maybe they are not even allowed to tape it, but they were doing it ten years ago when I was there and I am sure they are doing it now. They simply record the speeches and

MR. F. WHITE: while they are typing one story from a speech that was made earlier, they are taping the next speech that comes up and then they sit down and listen to it. And I maintain, Mr. Speaker, that as a start in rebroadcasting the House, they be permitted to use those tapes. If they want to use one second, fifty seconds, an hour, let it be the judgement of the media. After all, they should be the judge of what goes on the public media in this Province. In election campaigns, politicians run out and spend 95 per cent of their money on advertising on radio and television, yet the only coverage of the House when we are finally elected, we get in here, is in the newspapers by and large. Sure the broadcast media do interviews and all that kind of thing, but the actual debate is what should be carried on the media in this Province. And I think, as a start, both sides of the House should agree to at least let the audio portion of the speeches in the House be made available and used on the air. I would like to see the television cameras be permitted to shoot whatever goes on here, to use whatever they like from it the same as now they use quotes in the newspapers and so on. I would like to see that actually happen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. F. WHITE: That is why I say, Mr. Speaker -

MR. S. NEARY: Applause over there for that.

MR. F. WHITE: That is why I say, Mr. Speaker, that since we have a new member here now from Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. H. Andrews), a former media man, I am sure he is going to join with me in supporting the rebroadcasting of the Legislature.

MR. L. THOMS: Do not count on that.

MR. S. NEARY: He will not be here that long.

MR. L. THOMS: He is here long enough to know that he has to kowtow.

MR. S. NEARY: When the court is finished with him he will not be here that long.

MR. L. THOMS: He will not be here that long.

MR. F. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, one of the comments made by the former speaker, the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. J. Dinn) was that this Legislature should be speaking with one voice. Now, he made that comment on a number of occasions through his speech. He said, "The Legislature should speak with one voice against the oil companies, against other outside interests and so on." And I agree with that and as he said, "If we show a split in the debates here in this House or in our thinking with respect to development then the oil companies could move in right between us all and do their thing." But how can we speak with one voice here in this House, Mr. Speaker, when we saw the kind of demonstration yesterday that I never thought we would see again in this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. WHITE: We had the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. D. Jamieson) stand up, make a brilliant speech, outline all the options, outline all of the problems and as soon as he sits down the Government House Leader (Mr. W. Marshall) stands up and says, "It is a sorry day for Newfoundland", right off the bat again.

MR. L. THOMS: Shame, shame!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. F. WHITE: We are back to the old days again.

Last night on television, here we have the Premier, a new Cabinet Minister from Newfoundland has been sworn in, Mr. Bill Rompkey, a very hon. man, we all know that - won three elections in Newfoundland, appointed to the Federal Cabinet in Ottawa, we have the Premier on saying, "It is nothing". And here we have got to go to Ottawa and negotiate all kinds of deals, Mr. Rompkey is going to be representing us in the Cabinet and the government are here saying, "Let us speak with one voice", and on the other hand they are running off, bringing up the old things about Churchill Falls, bringing up the old things about the contract with the Germans with regard to Bell Island. You know, if I wanted to play that kind of game I could stand up here this afternoon, take the latest Auditor General's Report, look up 27, "Cost of Political Poll Charged Against Public Funds, the payments were charged as expenditure, a part of the Gander Conservative Convention Charged to Public Funds -

MR. L. THOMS: Shame, shame.

MR. F. WHITE: I could go on with all of that nonsense. -

MR. S. NEARY: Is that John C. Doyle (inaudible).

MR. F. WHITE: -and all of that kind of politics if I wanted to in this House, but I would like to hear the debates center around the major themes that were outlined in the Throne Speech - offshore oil and gas, hydro, the fisheries and these kinds of things and I think the debate would be far better if we would stay away from the silly innuendo that we are dragged into so often.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear.

MR. F. WHITE: I would like to say a few things on the offshore oil and gas question. I had the opportunity last Fall, last September, to go to Aberdeen, at my own expense I might add, to look at the oil and gas show over there. What concerns me in this Province at the moment, and it concerns a lot of people outside of St. John's and outside of the Avalon Peninsula area, is that the real impact of oil and gas should Hibernia be commercial and, you know, it is almost obvious that it is, is that the real impact is not being felt right now. What is going to happen is not being felt right now, the kind of changes that are going to occur in Newfoundland, the monumental changes that are going to occur in this Province are not being articulated and I do not think they are being felt.

Look at the Upper Churchill Project, Mr. Speaker, that was built in Labrador many years ago, it cost \$1 billion. There were six or seven thousand employees working on that project for three or four years, the unemployment rate in Newfoundland went down to five or six per cent at that time. Can you imagine what kind of impact, compared to that, the offshore oil and gas is going to be when you talk about spending \$4 or \$5 billion in this Province almost overnight. I do not think the impact is well known across this Province, I am not so sure that the government has done a good job of articulating this and I do not know where the government's plan is with respect to how this is going to be developed and how this Province is going to respond to offshore oil and gas.

One of the things I noticed in Scotland, for example, was the planning that went on on all levels, not only on the main government level but down through the municipalities and the small groups and so on. And right now what I find in Newfoundland is that community

MR. F. WHITE:

councils and development

associations are all floundering around, not knowing where to go, not knowing what direction to take because they are not getting any direction at all and I find that there is a great deal of frustration with respect to that. I know that in my own area a great attempt has been made by the Lewisporte Town Council to try and attract some offshore oil and gas projects there, or at least get some interest

MR. WHITE: started. We know that some people have tried to get options on land in the Lewisporte area and yet when we go and talk to Industrial Development we get nebulous answers and vague suggestions about what happens.

For example, the establishment of Industrial Development Corporations in Newfoundland; there is no criteria laid down with in the Department of Industrial Development. All the Development Associations, or just about all of them that have been set up across this Province have been done on an ad hoc basis like the Stephenville one, to try and save Stephenville when the Linerboard was closing down, and the Harmon Corporation was put there before the mill, after the Americans left and so on.

Usually it is a reaction to a crisis that Development Associations are being set up and what we are finding is that we are getting no help, or no encouragement for that kind of Development Association in areas where there is no crisis. For example, in the Lewisporte area the economy is good and everything else, and everybody seems to ignore us in the sense that, you know, 'You have a pretty good economy out there so why should we bother with you at the moment when there are other areas that need attention more?' And I do not necessarily agree with that. So I would like to know what we should be doing. I should like to hear from the government what we should be doing to promote the offshore oil and gas industry in our own areas. What kinds of projects are going to be coming in that we can zero in on at the moment? Where will those projects be located? Are we going to see a situation where the same old merchant class in St. John's are going to get it all again? Are we going to see that situation develop once more, which appears to be happening

MR. WHITE: at the moment and mainly because there has been no incentive for other groups outside the St. John's area, the major reason being they just do not have the capital to get involved? You know, we would like to see some kind of encouragement along those lines so that all parts of this Province can take advantage of the oil and gas when it does come. What kind of assistance will the government provide municipalities in doing studies and that kind of thing? Where is the training going to be done for all the people that are going to be required in the offshore oil and gas industry? Where is the managerial class going to come from? Are we going to see a situation in Botwood or Lewisporte or Clarenville where the first group of new people that move in are the elitest managerial class because we cannot provide them from our own society in this Province? Should we not be getting ready for that kind of thing at the moment? That is the feeling I have and I think that the debate over ownership, so important that it is, is overshadowing the main concern that we should have at the moment, and that is what kind of impact it is going to have on Newfoundland, what kind of plans are being made for the development of this Province? Because I think that in due course the ownership question is going to work itself out and work itself out for the benefit of this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WHITE: So I hope, Mr. Speaker, that during the next few weeks we will hear more about the government's plan on offshore oil and gas in this Province, the plan for its development, the plan for the location of new industry here, what is being done, what municipal structures are being put into place to provide housing, to make sure housing is located here and so on. I know that the Chairman of the Newfoundland and Labrador

MR. WHITE: Housing Corporation was in Aberdeen recently. It is a bit late for him to be going there, I would think, if, as the Premier says, it could be all happening within a few months. But that kind of planning is good, of course, but I would like to see more of it and I would like to see the outside areas of St. John's feel a part of the offshore oil and gas situation at the moment because they do not, they feel left out. Even the investors feel left out, they feel they do not have a chance to get involved which I will be talking about later on when I have more on that.

Mr. Speaker, in my own area the fishery has been coming along tremendously during the last few years. It is being delayed at the moment somewhat, too much. Some expansion is in the works but at the moment the provincial government is holding back that expansion for various reasons and I am sure that will work itself out, again.

There is one specific item with respect to the fishery that I would like to touch on and that is the announced cold storage facility, fish freezing facility for the Northeast coast of Newfoundland. The proposal a year or so ago was that two would be built, there would be one built on the Northeast coast and one built on the West coast. The government had a study commissioned to look at the various areas, namely, Botwood, Lewisporte, and Gander. And they looked at

MR. WHITE:

those areas and I am told that the study recommended Lewisporte as the location for that huge fish freezing unit. Last Summer in this House, and I think it was in July, I asked the Premier a question here in the House with respect to when the announcement would come with regard to the construction of this unit, this fish freezing facility. He told me at that time, he said here in the House, that the announcement would be made in due course within the next few weeks. So far that announcement has not been made and I wonder why, Mr. Speaker, I wonder why? And I wonder if politics is going to be played again in this particular incident.

MR. NEARY:

Discrimination.

MR. WHITE:

It so happens that the member for Exploits (Dr. Twomey) wanted this project as bad as the Lewisporte area wanted the project. I think that is the main reason why the study was commissioned to determine exactly where it should go. The study comes in, it is supposed to be for Cabinet eyes only yet the member for Exploits (Dr. Twomey) gets a copy of it so he can read it. Now I wonder why members of this House on both sides are being treated unequally in this respect, why I was not given a copy of the report so I could look at it? Now the member for Exploits can look at the report, he can update the report if necessary, make his input to the government and knock down probably some of the reasons why Botwood was left out of the picture for the cold storage facility.

So I would like for the minister to give me a copy of that report so I can look at it as well and my people can look at it and we can study it. But, Mr. Speaker, I do hope that politics is not played to this

MR. WHITE:

extent. Right now in Lewisporte we are developing a new industrial park. Some industry has expressed an interest in going in there. The cold storage facility was also supposed to go there. We hope that a new arterial road for Notre Dame Junction, the busiest trunk road in this Province, statistically, will be upgraded this year. We do not know if it will or not. We are also looking for some fish plant expansion in Lewisporte and I think it is going to come and I think it is going to come quickly.

Because I say this, Mr.

Speaker, I say this, there has been a great deal of talk about the multinationals and a lot of people concerned about the multinational corporations, particularly the fishing corporations coming in there. Well, I say that if the local plants are not going to expand, not going to exploit the catch that is there, then let the multinationals come in and build all the fish plants they want. Now that is my opinion on it. Let us get the jobs for Newfoundlanders. If Nickersons want to build a plant in Notre Dame Bay and take cod from the Northern cod stocks and bring it into Lewisporte in the Wintertime to be processed, there is nothing wrong with that. I agree we have to watch the multinationals, I agree we have to make sure that they do not get such a grasp on the fishery in this Province that even the government cannot do anything with them, but I say that if the means is not there for the local companies to expand due to market conditions, due to capital, whatever, then let the multinationals come in and let them build the fish plants as long as the resource can sustain it and the resource can sustain it at the moment.

MR. WHITE:

I hope that the new Minister of Fisheries for Newfoundland, you know, meets fast with the new Minister of Fisheries in Ottawa to try to sort out some of the licensing problems that are going on in this Province, some of the quota system. We had a herring fishery in Notre Dame Bay for the last few weeks, thousands of tons of herring brought ashore and there are thousands of tons more there. You cannot even see bottom there is so much herring there. Yet they were not given a quota by the federal government and after two weeks they were cut off because they were overfishing.

Another area that has got to be looked into is the moonlighters in the fishery, I can name them by the dozens, who take money away from the fishermen out in my area. The herring fishery was snapped up mainly because of the moonlighters on their skidoos in the evening, out with the nets through the ice, and before school the next morning they got tons of herring to sell to the plant. I think it is time we stood up and we addressed the issue and once and for all cut out the moonlighters. I am not saying that if a guy wants to go out and jig a codfish or something like that - you know, let us not take away those kinds of rights that ordinary Newfoundlanders have, but if the fishery is going to be an industry let us make it an industry for the people who work there and that is the fishermen.

So I do hope that the expansion comes in my area, Mr. Speaker. There is a new development now with respect to the ferry service to Labrador. I hope we are on the verge of a year-round ferry service between Labrador and Goose Bay. CN Marine recently announced a major expansion of the terminal facilities in Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE:

Proper loading ramps for the Sir Robert Bond are now being built and the Franklin has been back and forth this year between Goose Bay and in Lewisporte a number of times. So I do hope that in a year or two that we will see a year around ferry operation between Lewisporte and the Labrador Coast. I think it is long overdue and I think with the Franklin coming in now we will be able to see that development happen. And hopefully, down the road, something that the Minister of Manpower touched on, we might be able to do something about the iron ore that is going from Labrador West into Seven Islands.

I recall a few months ago I had the opportunity to visit Seven Islands and oh that it were Goose Bay, Mr. Speaker, oh that it were Goose Bay! It should be Goose Bay and hopefully one day will be Goose Bay. So, Mr. Speaker, those are a few of the remarks that I wanted to make today with respect to the Throne Speech. I hope that we have other opportunities to debate this thing. And I would like to say to other members of the Legislature who are from outside the Avalon Peninsula, the St. John's area, that they too should get involved in this debate on offshore oil and gas. Let us make sure that it stretches

MR. WHITE: the length and breadth of Newfoundland and not just be confined to one area where the merchant classes have been controlling it for years and years. I do hope that we see a trend away from that this time with another major development.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: (Baird) Hon. member from Stephenville.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STAGG: I see all my fans are arrayed over there to your right, Mr. Speaker, and again I come on at the accustomed time, the graveyard hour, when it will be guaranteed that all the gems of wisdom that I evoke will not be reported, but I will have another try at it anyway.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the customary introduction to speeches today has been to congratulate certain members on their accomplishments since we last sat, and I would certainly like to congratulate the member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Andrews) on his victory in that district that has not been traditionally associated with this party, but I am sure that with his sterling efforts - no pun intended there the member from Bonavista North (Mr. Stirling) - that the district will remain true blue for quite some time. As a matter of fact, the blue is starting to permeate the map around this Province. The West Coast is blue; the South Coast is getting blue; and there are a lot of my friends to the right who are, with the red, getting blue about it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne is traditionally a document that is written in general terms. They do not change a great deal as far as that type of approach to what a government's position is. I have been here for a number of them. I was here for a magnificent manifesto on March 1, 1972, and not too many hon. gentlemen opposite or on this side were around, but it was a glorious document and I must say there was a certain bit of electioneering in that one. I believe it ran into something like thirty pages and I waited for several years for the Farm Equipment Loan Bank to come about because I thought that was a marvellous thing, but

MR. STAGG: I guess it must have gotten lost in the shuffle somewhere. So Speeches from the Throne have, on occasion, had a great deal of detail in them and have been more pronounced for what they promise and they are unable to bring about rather than what they actually accomplish. Well this one here, this Speech from the Throne, was mentioned by the Leader of the Opposition to have been different. It is quite different. It is brought before this House at a time when we, as Newfoundlanders, have a duty to earn our money. We in this Legislature over the next four years are going to earn the money that we voted ourselves yesterday.

MR. WHITE: Speak for yourself (inaudible).

MR. STAGG: You all earned - yes, we are definitely going to earn the extra money that we voted for ourselves because, like it or not, like it or not as when hon. gentlemen opposite, especially, who would like to skate along and think that the victory of the Liberal Party federally can be extrapolated to a victory provincially, Gentlemen, you are barking up the wrong tree. You just cannot do it, you just cannot do it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: You just cannot do it, Gentlemen, and you fellows are going to have to bite the bullet and face the issue that the public of this Province, the public of this Province, are going to want more from you than quasi constitutional law answers and a bunch of constitutional lawyers making out that you have to have a constitutional amendment before you get offshore oil and gas transferred to this Province. Your guru is Senator Forsey and the new gentleman today. I say our guru is Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders. We take our kudos or our cues, and our kudoes too, from the public of this Province who are telling us in clear and unequivocal terms that they do not want, that they do not want to be associated with a party

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Tape 99

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MR. F. STAGG: that will sell us down the river again.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh come on

MR. F. STAGG: Sell us down the river again.

So what are the ground rules? What are the ground rules for this Legislature, ground rules for this session of the House? What have we got to look forward to? We have to look forward unfortunately to at least four years of gorilla warfare with the Federal Government. I see no prospect of it being otherwise.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. F. STAGG: This is the sort of thing - Yes, and there are the are the guerrillas. There are the gorillas opposite.

AN HON. MEMBER: Honeymoon

MR. F. STAGG: There are the guerrillas.

AN HON. MEMBER: A monkey over there.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms) Order, please!

AN HON. MEMBER: Guerrilla warfare.

MR. F. STAGG: That is exactly what we are into gentlemen. The question was settled. The question was settled by Mr. Clark and our Premier. We had agreement between two levels of government. We had agreement between the two levels of government. We had control. We had defacto control of our offshore oil and gas and you cannot deny it. You will go around this Province and you will try to work your position into the mind of the general public who, unfortunately, because of the antics of some members of the House over the past ten years, have decided that anything politicians say is not worth listening to. But you gentlemen are going to go around this Province and try and say that we did not have a deal. We did have a deal. We had defacto - that is a little bit of Latin for you - control of the offshore oil and gas. We had it.

MR. F. STAGG: Now you gentlemen, unfortunately, and to your political credit to some extent, all of you, to your political credit you were able to go out and convince the people of this Province that by electing a bunch of Liberals in this Province they would not have to pay eighteen cents on a gallon of gas and a few other things. Well, I give it to you. You were successful. Now, of course, you are going to have to labour with the responsibility of whatever that government brings down in Ottawa. We are not responsible for them anymore. We did have a certain responsibility for the Federal Government because they were our political colleagues, and to some extent at times that can be difficult. But you fellows have the responsibility now, and I wonder how you are going to deal with it. I do not think you are going to deal with it very well because I do not have very much confidence in you myself. So what are the ground rules for 1980? Led by a bunch of Liberal guerrillas from Newfoundland, I say we are going to have a lot of skirmishes. We are going to have skirmishes. Who is the new minister of Mines and Energy in Canada? Who is he? Marc LaLonde is the new minister. Does he have an empathy for Newfoundland comparable to the empathy that John Crosbie or Jim McGrath had? Not on your life! Not on your life he does not have it. What he has empathy for, he has empathy for one area of this country and that is Quebec. He is in the most critical portfolio that applies to Newfoundland for this next four years, the Energy, Mines and Resources. Now, I say to you and I have submitted this to the people in my district in a district letter. I sent it out to the people in my district during the election and I suggested to them that they should seriously consider voting for the P.C. candidate on February 18.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. F. STAGG: They did not go along with it no. They did not go along with it. But I said to them and I hope my words are not prophetic. I hope they are not. I hope I am proved wrong.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who paid for that?

MR. F. STAGG: But I suggest I paid for it. I did. I paid for it.

MR. NEARY: Have you got a receipt?

MR. F. STAGG: I have the cheque. I have the cancelled cheque. I hope it is not prophetic. But I submit that we may have a problem on our hands when it comes to the production from Hibernia. What is going to happen to the oil? Any of you who have flown to Montreal, and I suppose most of us have some time or another flown to Montreal or driven there whatever, you see all sorts of oil refineries. As you fly over the North shore of the St. Lawrence you see oil refineries galore.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. F. STAGG: South shore, North shore. I presumed it was the North. Where does the oil come from for these refineries at the present time? Venezuela and the other OPEC countries. Now, where would Marc LaLonde like the oil to come from if we have the ten or twenty billion barrels of oil off the coast of Newfoundland? Where would he like it to come from?

MR. FLIGHT: Hibernia.

MR. F. STAGG: He would like it to come from Venezuela would he? He would like it to come from Hibernia yes. I suggest that is where he would like to have it come from. And that is where the gorilla warfare of you gentlemen across the way is going to be so subversive. I predict that you will be involved in it. That you will try and say that Newfoundland does not have a strong case for our offshore oil

MR. F. STAGG: and gas resources, that you will say that you need a constitutional amendment that requires the approval and the unanimous approval of all the provinces one of which, of course, is the Province of Quebec that may be having its oil refineries closed down if we do not provide them with the oil, the cheap Newfoundland oil, just like they got the cheap Newfoundland electricity.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) will not get anything (inaudible) cheap.

MR. F. STAGG: Well, who is going to

MR. STAGG:

set the price? According to you fellows, we do not have control of it ourselves. Who is going to set the price? PET is going to set the price, that is who is going to set the price. We do not have any armies, not yet, to get out there and protect, armies or navies or whatever, to protect our resource. We do not have it. And at this stage we are facing a very serious issue and you gentlemen opposite who stand up and equivocate and you try to be all a bunch of constitutional lawyers, nineteen constitutional lawyers elected over there, or however many are there. I would not dare pretend to be a constitutional lawyer. It is a very, very complicated area of the law. I do not -

AN HON. MEMBER:

You are a lawyer, are you not?

MR. STAGG:

I am as good a lawyer as you are a teacher, I will tell you that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG:

I am probably a better lawyer than you are a politician.

AN HON. MEMBER:

I will agree with both of you on that.

MR. STAGG:

Right. Constitutional law; the question here is not constitutional law that hon. gentlemen opposite like to fall back on. The question here is the willingness of two levels of government and two people to work together and for one to recognize the other's traditional rights and so on. That is the issue and hon. gentlemen opposite will say, 'No, Joe Clark and Brian Peckford did not have an agreement'. I say they did have an agreement and if Mr. Clark's government had survived another four years, which was a distinct possibility if he had given in to the Social Credits and the N.D.P and maybe compromised with them, there was a very distinct possibility that by 1984 you fellows would have been caterwauling in the wilderness

MR. STAGG:

over the past three years. By 1982 you would have changed your minds and say, We had not gotten a good enough deal with them.

Now the situation is that we had control and because of political events, because of the lust of the Liberal Party for power federally and aped by the Liberal Party provincially - power, all you want is power - well you are going to be denied power provincially, I can tell you that. You are going to be denied power provincially because you have not got this issue straight, boys. The people of this Province are not worried about constitutional issues, they are worried about control, they are worried about jobs. That is what they want, they want the jobs. And you fellows are not going to give it to them with that kind of an attitude.

And maybe we should just address ourselves to some of the historical aspects of this. If Canada does have claim to these offshore resources, I mean how did Canada get them? It is quite simple; they got them when in 1949 we came into Confederation. That is if they have them, how did they get them. They would have gotten them from us. They would have gotten them from the fishermen, the fishermen of Newfoundland who came over here, Sir Humphery Gilbert and the whole historical package in Newfoundland from 1497 onward until 1949. It is only a very small period in history where we have been a part of Canada. We had them before because if the theory of the contiguous zone and the 200 mile limit were to apply and we had not voted 75,000 to 70,000 in 1949, or whatever the vote was, 51 per cent to 49 per cent to join Canada, then we would have had it today. So that is how Canada got it, if indeed its claim were to be

MR. STAGG:

successful. Now what about the Supreme Court of Canada, a resolution to the Supreme Court of Canada? I have here somewhere - where is it? - this comes from early June, 1979, a very, very active time politically in this Province when you fellows - June, 1979, "Jamieson"- this is from an article in The Daily News. Let me read the full paragraph. "The Liberal Government under Pierre Trudeau refused to accept Newfoundland's view that the Province's Continental Shelf was not given to the federal government when the Province joined Confederation in 1949." That is a good view for Newfoundlanders to have, is it not, that we did not give them that. "Peckford holds that development of oil and natural gas believed to be under the seabed in June"- we now know it is under the seabed - "eventually will

MR. STAGG: will make Newfoundland one of Canada's richest provinces. Peckford said Clark's agreement to live up to a campaign promise not to fight - "not to fight" - the Newfoundland claim now makes a court reference redundant." Now is the court reference redundant in 1980? Is it redundant now?

AN HON. MEMBER: No, it is not.

MR. STAGG: No, no, it is not redundant. Why? Because we have a hostile man in Ottawa. We have a hostile man in Ottawa whereas we had a friend there before -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: - and we have a bunch of gorillas on the Liberal side in this Province who are trying to snipe down, trying to snipe at our claim, and who would subvert us and would have us back in subjugation like we were in 1949. That is the kind of people we have opposite and no matter which way you cut it that is the kind of people you are.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: You are living by that sword and you are going to die by that sword.

"Jamieson" - I am continuing to read from this now - "Jamieson, who said he also supports Newfoundland ownership, suggested a court decision still is needed to enshrine the settlement in such a way that it cannot be reversed by some future federal government." Now, he wants it to go to court. What politician wants things to go to court? Politicians are elected to make decisions. Suppose the Supreme Court of Canada said, suppose it said, "It is a provincial resource". The Supreme Court of Canada, which I would doubt very much since they are all appointed by - most of them who are there now are appointed by Trudeau.

MR. NEARY: Watch it now (inaudible).

MR. STAGG: Watch it, watch it, I will watch nothing, I will watch nothing, I will watch nothing. Most of them are appointed by Trudeau. Do you think they are going to come down on our side?

MR. STAGG: Do you really think they are? They have already in the B.C. reference case.

MR. NEARY: Point of Order.

MR. STAGG: No, point of order, Mr. Speaker, the man is trying to - he knows I am getting close to the jugular now -

MR. SPEAKER: (BAIRD) There is a point of order.

MR. STAGG: - he knows I am about to stick it into you.

MR. THOMS: Sit down, sit down, there is a point of order called.

MR. STAGG: What is a point of order?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Obviously, Mr. Speaker, the Premier is setting a bad example for the hon. gentleman. He is like a raving lunatic over there, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Do we have a point of order?

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, there is a point of order being made.

MR. NEARY: My point of order, Mr. Speaker, is that it is not permissible in this House to criticize in any way, shape or form directly or indirectly, either the Queen, the Governor General, the Lieutenant-Governor or the judges of the Supreme Court. Through innuendo my hon. friend has insulted the judges of the Supreme Court and I ask Your Honour to ask -

MR. STAGG: Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my criticism of the judges of the Supreme Court.

MR. NEARY: I accept that.

MR. STAGG: But I predict, I predict - there is no problem with predicting -

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG: - what they would say - I predict - I withdraw it so there is no point of order. I do not concede that there was a point of order but if there was one I withdraw it, because I do not want my speech, these gems of wisdom - I am only on line one yet and I have fifty more lines to go. I do not want

MR. STAGG: for me to miss my train of thought.
I was getting awful close to it when the hon. gentleman using his -

AN HON. MEMBER: Beware!

MR. STAGG: I was getting very close to swaying the
Opposition, and they would not have enough nerve to come back into the
House when I was finished, and the hon. gentleman, as he is so adept
at doing, disrupted my chain of thought.

So, what is this about a reference to
the Supreme Court of Canada? Suppose the Supreme Court of Canada decides,
suppose the Supreme Court of Canada decides that it is a provincial
resource. Well, what do we do then since, obviously, the Federal Government
does not want it to be a provincial resource? Then what happens? You
go back to the constitutional lawyers who say, "Aha, yes, but it can be
deemed to be a matter that requires the Federal paramountcy power under
Section 91, I think, of the B.N.A. Act. It is right and just that the
Federal Government have control of this." So they say, "Well, okay,
Supreme Court, you have made your reference but we are not going to
go along with it. We are now going to enact legislation to change all
that", and there it is. There is your reference to the Supreme Court.
There you are, you have it up there in 1990 or whenever you get it to
court.

MR. FLIGHT: That is why Joe Clark (inaudible)
B.N.A. Act.

MR. STAGG: Yes, yes. By 1984, gentlemen, by 1984 if
Joe Clark had stayed there, and he would have been there beyond 1984
because he is a young man, he probably would have been there until the
year 2000, we would have de facto control, de facto control of it.
So, I am dismayed, I am dismayed that we have to spend the next four
years fighting this issue, because I do not feel, I do not feel that
we have a sympathetic Prime Minister. We do not have a sympathetic
Prime Minister. We have five Liberal members from this Province who
have a very big onus on them to stick up for Newfoundland. I wonder
whether they will, Or I wonder whether they will use the expedient

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MR. STAGG: method of trying to confuse the issue
and say that it is a constitutional matter and we are powerless to resolve
it. I suggest that that is what they are going to do. We now

MR. STAGG:

have a member, one of the Newfoundland M.P.s in Mr. Trudeau's Cabinet, Minister of National Revenue, tax collector. Newfoundland has a tax collector in the federal cabinet. We went from having the Minister of Finance, a very powerful man in all aspects of government in Canada, and a Minister of Fisheries, no more relevant portfolio in this Province, to now having a man who is involved with the collection of taxes. I only hope that because he is in the cabinet that he will be able to exert influence in other areas because it is certainly not a portfolio that is particularly relevant in Newfoundland, the collection of taxes. Surely we Newfoundlanders have enough experience with taxes. We do not need a federal cabinet minister to tell us about it.

MR. THOMS: Do not be so small.

MR. STAGG: "Do not be so small", says the member for Grand Bank (Mr. Thoms). He is another one of these men who would subscribe to the constitutional law theory of Confederation, the constitutional law theory that says you have to send everything to court. What law firm is going to get the business when we go to court, I wonder?

Now, ladies and gentlemen, having set a temperate and orderly theme here by keeping all hon. members under control and keeping myself under control admirably as is my wont, I will now digress to some other aspects which are more relevant to my district. This is the traditional role of the Speech from the Throne and I want to tell you a little bit about my district. Those of you who have been here before because I am a veteran in this House, I have been here many years, many of the things I say now I have said before so you will have to bear with me. I know many of the things I said just now you heard for the first time so I could

MR. STAGG:

understand that you were enrapt by it. Well anyway, what about Stephenville?

AN HON. MEMBER: Enrapt?

MR. STAGG: Enraptured? Yes. Maybe it was a Freudian slip. Stephenville is a thriving community in some aspects. Some aspects of Stephenville are thriving. It is on the West Coast. It is a cosmopolitan community.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. STAGG: I do not know what these gorillas are doing over there, Mr. Speaker. Their barbs are missing me anyway so maybe they should listen while I educate them. One of the great successes of this administration and the previous administration was the successful resolution of the Labrador Linerboard question.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. STAGG: Yes, yes. Hon. gentlemen will say there were scandals involved with Labrador Linerboard, there was this and there was that. But in the 1970's, gentlemen, this administration here, a credit to all of these gentlemen who are here now and a credit to those who are no longer here now, just solved that issue. John Crosbie and Frank Moores said in 1971 that the mill would be built and it was built and they went into operation. It was not successful and that in itself is testimony to the inability of government or the inability of a maverick mill in any jurisdiction to survive. So what happened? The mill is now under the ownership of the Abitibi Price group and they are integrating themselves quite nicely into the community.

I must add one point though that I do not agree with them on. I do not know if the Premier has gotten a copy of my letter yet, but at the briefing session

MR. STAGG:

that they held in Stephenville last week or the week before they distributed a map called the World of Abitibi Price. And in the world of Abitibi Price apparently there is no Labrador border. So I have hastened to write a note off to them indicating that the Labrador border does indeed exist and it was established there by the people of Newfoundland, I suppose, when you get right down to it, the people of Newfoundland and Labrador but also by the Privy Council in 1927. So I suggest to them that they should get a new cartographer - that is what it is, a map maker, is it not, a cartographer?-

MR. STAGG:

and get their act together because that sort of thing is extremely provocative. It was distributed to us as we left the briefing so it only came to my attention later. But in all other respects the Abitibi group have really integrated themselves well into the community and there seems to be very little difficulty. There is always some problem with regard to the local preference rule. That is always prominent in these matters. But I look forward to the Abitibi mill itself and the woodlands division of the mill employing in the various woods camps and on the site itself approximately 1,000 people, that is counting some people coming into the work force and going out of the work force during the year. So that is indeed a great thing and it is a credit to this government. It is a credit to the P.C. Government that this is so. And do not think that it is not appreciated by the people of our area.

We also have the Atlantic Design Home Plant at Stephenville now getting into the manufacture of mobile homes in addition to the fine home that they already produce. We have a company that is getting Province-wide recognition, they are just getting off the ground, as it were, or getting into the water, Stephenville Fiberglass Limited. They are into the manufacture of fiberglass longliners, forty-two foot boats designed by NORDCO and assisted by the Department of Rural Development and other government departments, also by federal agencies. They are doing an excellent job. They are building a boat that we are going to be proud of. Another company into the fiberglass business in the Stephenville area is S.I. Anderson Limited. These are companies that came there in 1979. They heard I was getting back into politics so they

MR. STAGG: decided it was time to come and be part of the regime that Stagg marched into the 1980's, and I must say I have not disappointed them.

S.I.Anderson Limited, they manufacture, among other things, fiberglass sleds for the snowmobiles. And as the member for Lewisporte (Mr. White) pointed out, these are used for the through the ice herring fishery. There was some problem this year with the quotas down in the Notre Dame Bay area. Hopefully, that will be corrected next year and their sled will be even more widely accepted.

Also in Stephenville we have the very interesting and novel institution, Bay St. George Community College. I happen to have been a Chairman of the Board of Trustees there. I do not know if that had very much to do with its success or not. It probably succeeded in spite of me. I recently resigned from it. But it is an institution that we think will develop programmes, is developing programmes to correspond with the needs and demands of the offshore oil and gas industry, the fishing industry, the farming industry and so on.

Also in Stephenville we have the correctional centre, the Newfoundland adult correctional centre so wisely placed on the West Coast.

MR. NEARY: What are you doing in here?

MR. STAGG: The hon. member is funny.

- by the former Minister of Justice, who is now the Chief Justice of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court, Mr. Hickman. And recently, since that institution has been so successful

MR. STAGG: in the rehabilitative process, and the penal aspect of it is really secondary, the rehabilitative aspect of it is most significant, we have the female correctional centre that was announced by the Premier in November or December of last year and that will add to the institutional aspects of law enforcement, but it also adds significantly to the job market in the town.

So we are delighted with these things. We have the Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital that serves the whole Bay St. George area, an excellent hospital, built there by the Americans and well done. We also have a brewery, Labatt's brewery. Labatt's Blue, you see all these things on T.V. As a matter of fact, I might even treat some of you fellows in the Opposition to a few beers one of those days. Two fish plants - well, it is now six o'clock. There is a whole bunch of other things I had to say here. The Provincial Drama School and Theatre Newfoundland, they had their origin in Stephenville, Maxim Mazundar and his group, aided by the Minister of Education (Ms Verge), a very great supporter of it. We are really delighted with it. I never did get into the kudos I had here for the Premier, but maybe I will get to them in the Budget Speech, Mr. Premier.

So I guess that is it for me, Mr. Speaker. It was a delight to talk to gentlemen on this side, and to you guerrillas I will see you later.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, I move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, at

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MR. MARSHALL: 3:00 p.m. and that this
House do now adjourn.

On motion, the House at
its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March
5, 1980, at 3:00 p.m.