

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1981

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

I am sure hon. members would like to join me in welcoming to the galleries today twenty-eight Grade XI students from Victoria School in Gaultois, John Watkins School in Hermitage and Seal Cove Integrated School in Seal Cove, accompanied by their four teachers from the district of Fortune - Hermitage. We hope they enjoy their visit.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform hon. members of certain matters with respect to the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary. Since the new management was put in place less than a year ago, a number of significant changes and improvements have taken place. Among the most important of these that I would draw to hon. members attention, are (1) the development of a recruitment selection procedure in co-operation with the Public Service Commission which includes entrance exams, fitness tests and medical standards. For the first time in the history of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, members are appointed as the result of public advertising and open competition.

Secondly, the use of the Atlantic Police Academy training facilities to provide recruit training to the recently appointed new members of the Constabulary.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Thirdly, the appointment of women to the force for the first time.

Fourthly, commencement of a five week management training course for approximately fourteen non-commissioned officers of the force being carried on by personnel from the training section of the Public Service Commission in co-operation with the Constabulary.

Fifth, the development of a three week course to instruct constables on such matters as law enforcement, courtroom procedures and handling of exhibits. Further in service training has also been given on the interaction of the police function with various social service agencies such as the Unified Family Court and the Juvenile Court. This programme will be expanded to provide more advanced training to more senior constables.

Sixth, the development of fire-arms training, utilizing the new facility at the recently completed Constabulary building.

Seventh, attendance by members at the various training programmes outside the Province with respect to advanced training, explosive disposal and forensic pathology.

Eight, participation in the Law Enforcement Review Committee set up by the Department of Justice to integrate the activities of the department, the RCMP and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary.

Ninth, establishment of a Crime Prevention Unit which works closely with citizens' groups and the business community.

Ten, the organization of a telecommunications centre.

Eleven, the development of an improved police radio communications system soon to be put into place.

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MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Twelve, the introduction of an improved criminal record and reporting system.

Also, the implementation of a new

MR. OTTENHEIMER:

patrol car policy which envisages replacement of patrol cars on an annual basis, 100,000 kilometer mileage, or kilometerage. The transfer of the meter duty from the Constabulary to the City of St. John's thereby relieving the force from the responsibility of performing a non-police function.

(15) The development of a performance evaluation system.

(16) The development of a Criminal Intelligence Unit which will assist the Criminal Investigation Division in combating organized crime, major criminal activities, and drugs.

These measures demonstrate the competence of the Constabulary management and justify the confidence that the Department of Justice places in them.

As hon. members are aware, within recent days there has been some public controversy on the subjects of overtime and sick leave. The Constabulary management has the obligation to ensure adequate policing of the area within its jurisdiction. The Constabulary management also has the responsibility, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, to ensure that public funds, the taxpayers' dollars, are spent appropriately. I am confident that the Constabulary management is fulfilling both obligations in a satisfactory manner.

Members of both sides of the Labour/Management Committee have indicated concern as to whether a small minority might be taking advantage of sick leave and overtime. I have therefore, pursuant to the Financial Administration Act, today requested the Auditor General to look into and report upon public expenditures in

MR. OTTENHEIMER: the areas of overtime and sick leave and the measures taken by management to ensure the proper expenditure of public funds.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, the statement that has been tabled in the House this afternoon, given in the House this afternoon by the Minister of Justice, confirms without a doubt everything that I have been saying about the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) since I have been elected to this House of Assembly and have been the spokesman on this side of the House on Justice.

We have a Minister of Justice who refuses, absolutely refuses to take his head out of the sand to see exactly what is going on in the Newfoundland Constabulary.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, you know, obviously there is something improper going on if the minister decides that he has to call in the Auditor General to look into the books of the Newfoundland Constabulary in connection with the overtime and sick leave; there is something going on.

Mr. Speaker, he refers in his statement to the development of firearms training, utilizing the new facility at the recently completed Constabulary building.

MR. NEARY: He should send the RCMP over.

MR. THOMS: One of the problems is that we have an emergency tactical unit in the Newfoundland Constabulary that is being manned by untrained police officers. There may be police officers on duty when this unit is used, but they are answering a call down to the Battery or into another area of town. And what happens? Untrained policemen are sent out.

MR. THOMS:

Mr. Speaker, of course the Constabulary management has the obligation, and so does the government have an obligation to ensure the adequate policing of this area. Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer), and if he would take time to look at some of the rosters of the Newfoundland Constabulary he will see that the City of St. John's, a city the size of St. John's, 100,000 people, at times is being policed by as few as six Constabulary members in three cars. I ask the Minister of Justice to check the rosters, to look at them, not to believe what he is being fed, not to take as gospel what he is being fed by the Chief of Police in this City, and what he is being fed by his own people in the Department of Justice. The minister may not be deliberately misleading this House, but I think if he took the time himself to look into these matters he would find that what the Police Brotherhood and what the policemen of this City are saying is true.

The question of the muzzling of the Police Brotherhood; the Minister of Justice can have his say, the Chief of Police can have his say, everybody in most democratic societies or all democratic societies can have their say -

MR. NEARY: I thought this crowd brought democracy to Newfoundland.

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

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please! A point of order has been raised by the hon. President of the Council (Mr. Marshall).

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, it is well recognized that Ministerial Statements, both in giving them and responding to them, that one is not to get into the area of debate. I submit

MR. MARSHALL: that the hon. gentleman is in the area now of debate when he is going into a long area.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: I would also point out to Your Honour that it is customary for the responses to be somewhat briefer by a half than the statement itself, and the hon. gentleman now is going as long as the minister.

MR. THOMS: To the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please! The hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. Thoms).

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, to that point of order. Actually I am not getting into the realm of debate, I am just trying to point out some of the relevant facts in connection with the statement made by the minister.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): With respect to the point of order, it is a relevant point. Hon. members are aware that the member replying to Ministerial Statements made seek clarification, make a few comments, but in any event it takes about half of the time that a minister does in presenting the statement. The hon. member according to my calculation has about ten seconds which I will still allow him.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, without being punning, I would just like to conclude by saying that this particular statement by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) is a complete cop-out of what is really happening, of what is really going on in the City of St. John's. There should be an independent commission, it is what the police want, and why not let them have it. Let it all hang out, Mr. Minister, What are you afraid of?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

Hon. members, too, would like to welcome, I am sure, sixty Grade III students and their teachers from St. Andrew's School in St. John's from the district of St. John's North. We hope they enjoy their visit.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I am announcing today the list of preferred sites which have been determined by government for three major petroleum-related developments. The following sites have been judged best suited for the activities described and are listed in alphabetical order only. Analysis of sites was based on the assumption that the Hibernia area would most probably be the only area developed during the next ten years. However, if other fields come onstream during this time frame, ranking of preferred areas could change drastically and other factors would have to be considered in light of the location of new offshore fields. Those listed for permanent supply/service bases: Argentia, Bay Roberts, Botwood, Harbour Grace, Seal Cove and St. John's; for steel platform construction: Argentia, Botwood, Bull Arm, Corner Brook and Mortier Bay; for concrete platform construction: Bull Arm, Come By Chance, Corner Brook and Hall's Bay.

A new category, Satellite supply/service base, was added during the early part of the process. This was to accommodate a need for small, seasonal bases predominantly in the North that will improve operating efficiency for offshore drilling operations. The preferred sites listed for this category are: Carmanville, Happy Valley - Goose Bay, Hopedale, Long Pond - Manuels, Main Brook and St. Anthony.

MR. WINDSOR: Although Long Pond has been included in this group, its primary function will be to provide overflow capacity for the port of St. John's.

Preferred sites have not been established for module fabrication and assembly nor for pipeline landfall. In the former case, all the sites nominated have a good labour supply, adequate transportation network and sufficient land to accommodate this type of operation. The salient factor therefore in the ranking of sites would be the cost factor associated with proximity to the platform construction facilities and will be taken into consideration during the development approval process.

Only one site had been identified for pipeline landfall and was thus not subject to competitive comparison.

I am also releasing the preliminary evaluation document which was prepared by government officials upon which the preferred list was based.

This document outlines the criteria and ranking assumptions established for the preliminary evaluation. Each of the thirty-two sites - the nineteen designated by government in the Premier's statement "Policy and Plans for Control of Large Scale Onshore Petroleum Related Developments" of October 17, 1980, and the thirteen subsequently nominated by the public and released on December 5, 1980 - were ranked against a number of physical, social, economic and environmental factors.

These factors were not weighted in the preliminary evaluation process as the judgement on the relative importance of environmental factors, social factors and cost factors

MR. N. WINDSOR: involves government policy and is clearly a judgement to be made by Cabinet. The selection of preferred sites reflects the considered opinion of government.

All of the sites, with the exception of St. Anthony, Main Brook and Hermitage (owing to weather conditions and time restrictions) were visited by a two-man team consisting of a civil engineer and an environmentalist and an initial physical review of each site was undertaken. During these visits, the team met with local officials, development associations, interest groups and proponents for the area to get their input to explain what the evaluation procedure entailed and to establish whether or not obvious environmental or social concerns existed.

The various site profiles contained in this report were compiled on the basis of existing information - maps, charts, reports and information provided by various federal and provincial departments. A complete list of sources used is given in the report.

I would like to make it clear that the establishment of this preferred list is a 'first round' process only and does not preclude government consideration of other areas in the Province at some future date. We realize that we are at a very preliminary stage in offshore petroleum development and are therefore providing a mechanism whereby subsequent developers may put forward proposals which might be premature at this stage.

Guidelines for development proposals have also been defined and are given in Appendix A of the report. These constitute the conditions upon which development proposals will be judged and they include the disclosure of certain corporate information, details on financial and technical capability, a listing of facilities the developers propose to provide as well as a listing of the facilities which the developer expects government to provide.

MR. N. WINDSOR: The guidelines are consistent with the Newfoundland and Labrador Petroleum Regulations, 1977, and require detailed information respecting sources of local goods, services and labour.

In accordance with the schedule of events as approved by the Premier in his October 17, 1980, statement, I am now inviting development proposals for the development, design and construction of one or more of the designated facilities at one or more of the preferred sites which have been listed.

These proposals may be delivered to the Department of Development before May 1, 1981.

These proposals then will be subsequently evaluated. Any or all of these proposals may be rejected. If a proposal is accepted, a conditional approval to proceed will be announced on June 1, 1981.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for Torngat Mountains.

MR. G. WARREN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. First I would like to thank the minister for giving me an advanced copy of his release. However, as we can understand from his opening remarks is that this government should not hang all of its eggs in one basket and depend on Hiberna for all the answers to all our economic problems in this Province.

Mr. Speaker, the minister said that only one site has been identified for a pipeline landfall and was thus not subject to competitive comparison. The minister did not mention that site and furthermore I am wondering if the minister is trying to evade the whole question altogether, that there will not be a pipeline coming into the Province.

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, first, it did take the minister about five months to put together those site preferences and I would say those five months have given the developers chances to go elsewhere, such as Halifax and surrounding areas, and if we are not careful and continue to come up with more constructive workings of the economy of this Province, then before we know it our economy will be taken away from us and developers will be going elsewhere.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Any further statements?

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker.

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring the House up-to-date on matters pertaining to labour-management relations in the Public Service and to detail again Government's offer to certain bargaining units in order that Government's position can be properly understood.

Members may recall that collective bargaining has recently been successfully concluded, usually with the assistance of conciliation officers or conciliation boards, with the following groups: General Service, consisting of three thousand employees; Maintenance and Operational Services, consisting of twenty-four hundred employees; Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, St. John's, consisting of two hundred employees; Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, Stephenville, consisting of thirty-five employees; Public Libraries Board, consisting of eighty employees. The combined number of these employees total 5,715 workers and, as I said, these accepted Government's offer to them.

Closely associated with some of these groups, the workers at the Trades College and the Workers' Compensation Board, comprised of a total of 135 public employees, are now separate bargaining units. At one time the majority of employees in these units were part of one or more of

DR. COLLINS: the groups mentioned earlier.
The job classifications at the College and the Workers' Compensation Board parallel those in other parts of the Public Service and for practical purposes Government considers the workers at the College and the Workers' Compensation Board as essentially in the same category of employment as their brother and sister workers in the bargaining units mentioned earlier.

We recognize at the same time that because these employees work for somewhat independent Crown agencies, individual differences in certain terms and conditions of employment may be justified in some cases. Indeed, a number of such local issues were resolved in negotiations with the Trade College group including the provision of a Christmas break to employees of that group.

As members are aware, the workers at the College commenced a strike on November 7th, past. The main issue is the monetary one, with settlement having been achieved or identified as achievable on other matters. Government's position has been that the monetary package already accepted as fair, reasonable and equitable by the much larger general service group is also fair -

MR. S. NEARY: Do not be so foolish!

MR. SPEAKER(SIMMS): Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: - reasonable and equitable by
the much smaller -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

DR. COLLINS: - but similar group of workers at
the college.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I must again lay out the details of Government's monetary offer to clarify any misunderstandings hon. members or the general public might have. Government's offer is as follows over a two year contract:

DR. COLLINS: One, effective April 1, 1980, increases on all salary scales of 8 per cent or \$1,000, whichever is greater; two, effective January 1, 1981, increases on all scales of \$100; in addition, step movement through the pay scales continues with cash bonuses for employees on the top step; three, effective April 1, 1981, increase on all salary scales of 8 per cent; and four, effective January 1, 1982, increase on all scales of \$100; in addition, step movement through all pay scales continues with cash bonuses for employees on the top step.

Now, what is the effect of these increases to employees at the Trades College? The average salary scale increase over two years is just under 23 per cent. In addition, the cash payments in lieu of step movement provide a further \$220 averaged over the group.

It should further be noted that government's offer is structured so that the lowest paid workers receive proportionately higher increases. In fact, the lowest paid worker will receive an increase in excess of 25 per cent - in actual fact it is 25.9 per cent-over the two years.

At the end of the present contract, the average salary at the Trades College bargaining unit will be \$13,205 per annum, or \$7.36 per hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: I would like to inform this House of the status of various other sets of collective bargaining negotiations which are currently ongoing.

In the case of the Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I am having some difficulty.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Order, please!

Hon. members to my right will have an opportunity to respond.

The hon. the Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I make that interjection because hon. members opposite apparently do not understand government's offer and I am trying to lay it out for them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

DR. COLLINS:

In the case of the Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation, this dispute is now being dealt with by a conciliation board. Some meetings were held with the conciliation board last week and progress was made.

In the case of negotiations with the Province's 8,000 teachers, the conciliation board set up to deal with this dispute will be commencing meetings with both sides some time this week.

In the case of the Nurses' bargaining unit, a conciliation board has been appointed to deal with this dispute and both sides have nominated a representative to this board.

Negotiations are also actively ongoing with a number of other groups including the Lab and X-Ray group, the Association of Allied Health Professionals, the Police Warders and the Province's Vocational and Technical Instructors.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Terra Nova.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House are quite concerned with respect to the labour situation in this Province today, and obviously what the minister has done is to put forward the most optimistic interpretation of these figures. Mr. Speaker, it is so easy to manipulate percentages.

MR. T. LUSH: If the minister believes that he satisfied the public or the workers concerned with these figures here today, he has another thought coming to him.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when you are talking about 8 per cent of salaries under \$10,000 and less you are not talking about very much, and that is the crux of the matter. And, Mr. Speaker, the statement here indicating that the government is satisfied that their position is a fair and equitable one certainly does not speak well for the government when we hear that there are workers working at the College of Trades and Technology for salaries less than they would receive if they were on social assistance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame! Shame!

MR. G. FLIGHT: Less than if they were on social assistance.

MR. T. LUSH: That does not suggest that it is very equitable or that it is very fair. Suffice it to say, Mr. Speaker, we are anxious to see these disputes resolved and we hope that in the next few days that the President of Treasury Board (Dr. Collins) or that the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) will take some action, will take some positive steps to see that these people, that these units are brought back to the bargaining table and that we get labour/management relations going on an even keel in this Province.

MR. G. FLIGHT: It is disgusting to see the sight.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Any further statements?

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

MR. L. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer).

I was wondering if the Minister would confirm whether or not he has set up a judicial inquiry into the shooting incident in the Avondale area, I believe it was last Friday night, when a sixteen year old teenager was shot to death by a member of the RCMP?

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

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Actually yesterday the necessary action was taken to establish a judicial court inquiry into that incident and it is the Chief of the Provincial Court, Judge Scott, who will be conducting it.

MR. L. THOMS: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, the hon. member for Grand Bank.

MR. L. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the Minister of Justice. I believe it was just a few days ago in New Orleans, one of the policemen there shot somebody in a parade and there was an immediate relieving of that particular officer from duty pending the outcome of the investigation. I was wondering if the minister could indicate to the House what the normal procedure is in situations such as this vis-à-vis the police officer in question, and whether the police officer in question has been in fact relieved of his duties pending the outcome of the investigation?

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MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the Minister of Justice.

MR. G. OTTENHEIMER:

Mr. Speaker, the normal procedure is that the Commanding Officer of the force, in this case the Commanding Officer of the RCMP in the Province, would

MR. OTTENHEIMER: make that decision. I understand that a preliminary internal police force enquiry is completed. The decision of the commanding officers of the RCMP has been not to relieve that constable of his duties and I have not interferred therewith.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): A final supplementary, the hon. member for Grand Bank.

MR. THOMS: I am not surprised the minister has not interferred, Mr. Speaker. I was wondering if the minister could indicate to the House whether or not the report of this judicial enquiry would be made public once he receives it.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, without doubt the report will be made public when it is completed. I would presume it will start within approximately a two to three week period because there are certain reports and forensic analysis and that to be completed. It is quite a serious matter so the hon. gentleman really should be quiet over there. I certainly give a full undertaking that the report will be made public. Yes.

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

MR. STIRLING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question for the Minister of Finance or the President of the Treasury Board (Dr. Collins). It appears that the government intends to continue its practice of avoiding debate by making ministerial statements, but now that he has made a ministerial statement on the labour situation, and in view of the very serious problems that they have been warned about, now that he has made this statement, could the minister tell us what action he is going to initiate to let the Treasury Board get back to negotiation? Making a statement in the House of Assembly is one thing, but getting back to actual negotiations,

MR. STIRLING: sitting down with the union and bargaining in good faith, what action will be taken to get that started?

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I think the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stirling) does not really understand the process of collective bargaining.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS: If he will listen for a minute I will try to give him a very brief course in it.

The government and the bargaining unit, through NAPE, negotiated and made offers one to the other. The labour union then broke off negotiations and went on strike. This was not a government activity, a government action, a government initiative: This was an initiative undertaken by the union in breaking off negotiations, obtaining a strike vote, and going on strike.

Since that time, government has been in constant contact, through a conciliation officer, with the union to understand if there has been any substantial change in their attitude toward things and there have been discussions between the union and the conciliation officer and the conciliation officer and Treasury Board, but there have not been any negotiations between the two for the very reason that

DR. J. COLLINS: the union has indicated it wishes to break off negotiations and undertake strike action and government has not received any word from the union since that time that they wish to reverse that position, i.e., to desist from strike and to return to the negotiating table.

MR. L. STIRLING: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Supplementary, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STIRLING: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I certainly thank the hon. doctor for that lesson in labour relations.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The hon. Leader should refer to the hon. minister, not to the hon. doctor.

MR. STIRLING: The hon. minister, who I understand is a doctor-and I certainly hope he knows more about doctoring than he does about ministering.

MR. TULK: Or collective bargaining.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, do I understand then from what the minister says that the government has adopted the attitude that as long as the strike continues the government will not take any action to resume negotiations?

MR. TULK: That is what he said, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Finance.

DR. J. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, it is difficult for me to say what the hon. member understands because his questions indicate such a very minimal understanding of the situation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

DR. J. COLLINS: What I did say was that government through the conciliation officer, who has been given to both sides by the Department of Labour and Manpower, which is the usual mechanism, government is in continual contact, practically on a daily basis, with both sides. And when there is any substantial matter that is reported to us by the conciliation officer which would suggest any forward movement, we are only

DR. J. COLLINS: too pleased, indeed anxious, to look at such an initiative on the part of the union and we, of course, have also given the conciliation officer certain facts to pass on to the union for them to consider.

MR. STIRLING: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister a very simple question which even he would understand.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STIRLING: Will the minister direct the Treasury Board to resume negotiations with the workers involved in this strike - simply yes or no? Will he direct them to resume negotiations or have they given a specific instruction to the Treasury Board that because there are only 135 involved, they are not to make any moves other than to offer the 8 per cent, the magic 8 per cent? Could we have those two specific, simple questions answered?

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition has brought out a very, very good point there, i.e., the 135 workers at those two institutions are to be compared with the other members of the Public Service who are in the same type of job category,

DR. COLLINS: that is, over 5,700 so that 135 has to be put against the 5,700-plus workers in the same job categories who have found Government's offer to them fair, equitable and acceptable despite the advice to the contrary by the executive of NAPE. So I think that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has brought out a very good point here: There is a very small group of workers over there which are not accepting Government's offer which has been accepted by an overwhelming majority of their workers in the Public Service doing similar types of jobs.

In regard to whether there will be further discussions or negotiations or comments, or whatever one wants to call them; as soon as the Union brings something forward to Treasury Board that is of a substantial nature, or as soon as they accept anything from Treasury Board that we have given to them and they wish to talk about it, we will be only too pleased to do so.

MR. LUSH: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, a couple of days ago a statement was made to the effect that either presently, or with the increases that the minister is now talking about, that there are workers at the College of Trades and Technology receiving salaries lower than or equal to what they would receive if they were on Social Assistance. I think it was that they were receiving salaries lower than that, so could the minister comment on that statement?

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, just a brief little preamble to my remarks before answering that specific question and that is that I would like to make sure that everyone understands what Government's offer is.

DR. COLLINS: It has been said that Government's offer to the workers is an eight per cent increase. That is incorrect, or at least it is only partially correct. The eight per cent is only one part of the monetary package that the government has offered to the workers. It is eight per cent plus, plus, plus, plus, plus which adds up to nearly twenty-three per cent over the two year packet on an average, and for the lowest paid worker nearly twenty-six per cent. And I would like to reiterate that, Mr. Speaker: Nearly twenty-six per cent increase over the two years of the contract for the lowest paid worker.

Now, in terms of the hon. member's question as to the level of pay that the lowest paid worker would get, the answer is no, it is incorrect. This was brought out, I believe, in an advertisement. The advertisement, I think, said something to the effect that the take-home pay of the lowest paid worker would be less than the Social Assistance given to a couple with two children. That is incorrect.

MR. LUSH: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, the minister mentions in his statement today, and I will quote, it says, "At the end of the present contract the average salary of the Trades College bargaining unit will be \$13,205 per annum or \$7.25 per hour. As all hon. members know, averages can be deceptive. The average of \$13,000 would have some people receiving in excess of \$13,000 and some people beneath, lower than that amount. So can the minister indicate the extremities of the salaries at the College of Trades and Technology under this new arrangement? Can he give us the low and the high from which this average was attained?"

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

DR. COLLINS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can give this. With these increases, the lowest pay at the end of the two year contract will be \$10,467 and the highest, if he wants the extreme, will be \$21,308.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is Education

Week -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: - and we have a number of representatives from NAPE sitting in the Gallery. I am sure that the whole Gallery would be interested to know today that the government in the last couple of years spent \$200,000 dollars on a package including a comic book. There are 27,000 copies of this comic book, Mr. Speaker Your Honour did not see it before, I do not believe - 27,000 store in a building at Pleasantville and they have been there for the last two years.

MR. LUSH: Your Honour does not know what he is missing.

MR. NEARY: Since this is Education Week, would the Minister of Education (L. Verge) tell the House and the people of this Province who paid \$200,000 dollars for this rubbish? What is to become of the 27,000 comic books that are store in a building down at Pleasantville? I will table these copies, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

I would prefer if the hon. member would not table them at this particular time. The practice in the House is that exhibits cannot be tabled, and I am not quite sure what interpretation could be placed on this material. But I will allow you to ask your question in any event.

MR. NEARY: Well, the comic book is titled - Mr. Speaker, I believe all hon. members should have a copy because it may be a collector's item in a few years time - the comic book is titled The Spirit of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the other comic book, Where Do I Go From Here? Can the hon. minister tell us what is going to happen to these two comic books?

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

MS. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, the two books in question as well as a game, The Great Newfoundland Race Game, which the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has on his desk, and two series of films, were commissioned not by this government but by the previous administration -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MS. VERGE: - for use in the schools of the Province. The underlying idea, which I think was sound, was to enrich the materials used in our schools to give our young people a better understanding of our own Province, a goal which I am sure all hon. members will support, and, secondly, to instill in our young people the desire to become entrepreneurs and to develop our own resources.

The materials arrived in bulk only about a year ago - less than a year ago. They were then placed in storage at the Education Department's school textbooks warehouse and during the current school year, starting in September, the materials have been in use in five school districts throughout

MS. VERGE: the Province where they have been piloted to determine just how best they can be used in our schools, to determine what age levels, what grade levels can best use the materials, what subjects and courses can be complemented.

We have asked the department -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MS. VERGE: - to keep evaluations from a couple of the school districts. When we receive reports from all the school districts we will decide what use can best be made of the materials. This is in keeping with sound education policy and tactics.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): A supplementary, the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I have four children in school. I hope this is not the way they are going to be educated with The Spirit Of Newfoundland And Labrador. I would rather they had Mr. Stirling's comic book, Captain Newfoundland. It is more educational.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister indicated some of the material. What portion of this material? Could the minister be more specific and tell us whether it is the comic books that are now being filtered through the school system? Is it this game that looks like a game of Snakes and Ladders with dice in it and so forth, Mr. Speaker, - look! Snakes and Ladders, dice! Are the kids now rolling dice in the schools? Is this game being sent out to the schools?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: And, Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister cannot get up and make a statement in this House like it was not that administration that bought this rubbish. It was this administration that bought it. The hon. minister cannot distinguish -

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please! Order, please!
The hon. member, I believe, is being argumentative now. He has a question?

MR. NEARY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will come back to my question. What is happening to the game, and what is happening to the comic books? Is this the material now that is being -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Is this the material now that is being experimented with in the schools?

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

MS. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, all of the material which I listed including the comic books or story books, the game, and the two series of films are being piloted in about five school districts in different locations in the Province.

MR. LUSH: Which ones?

MS. VERGE: The school districts include the Terra Nova Integrated School Board based in Gander.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MS. VERGE: The Pentecostal School Board, which includes the whole Province, Newfoundland and Labrador; the Deer Lake Integrated School Board; the Avalon North Integrated School Board, and, I think, one other. It is a representative sample of schools of the Province, and school boards responsible for those schools are now pilot testing the materials and will

MS. VERGE: be advising the department on how best the materials can be used. When that advice is all received the department will evaluate it and will make the best use possible of the materials which were commissioned and paid for by the previous administration.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, included in the package was a teacher's manual; I understand there are 300. There are 500 games, 27,000 comic books, and 300 teacher's manuals in storage down in a building at Pleasantville and they have been there for the last couple of years, paid for

MR. NEARY: by this administration, of which the Premier was a senior minister. The Premier was a senior minister in that administration and the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Hickey) was a senior minister and the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) was a senior minister. And I could go on and on - the Minister of Health (Mr. House) -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: I could go on and on, Mr. Speaker. They cannot weasel -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: They cannot weasel their way out of their responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! The hon. member is a veteran of this House and he knows that he must put his question when he is directed by the Chair. Would he put his question, please?

MR. NEARY: Nothing sets the devil in me more, Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: I know.

MR. NEARY: - than to see somebody try to weasel his way out of things, trying to weasel his way out of it.

The Teacher's manual, three hundred Teacher's manuals: I saw the minister on television one night saying that this was not up to scratch.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!

MR. NEARY: This was not up to standard.

Now, what about -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member is now making a speech. Would he please direct his question?

MR. NEARY: Well, what is to become of the Teacher's manual? Is that being used in the schools? Will it be used in the school or will it find its way down to Robin Hood Bay?

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

MS. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, the Teacher's manual accompanies the film series and that is part of a total package which, as I said before, is being pilot tested in five school districts in the Province. We have a sunk cost now. We have the material, the concept is a good one, and we will make the best use possible of the material which is now in storage.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. FLIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is for the Minister of Labour and Manpower, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister of Labour and Manpower indicate to the House how many mining inspectors are now with his department? Has there been a reduction in the number of mining inspectors normally with his department and what is the number right now available to the industry?

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

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, I do not know the exact number. I believe we are hiring one next week.

MR. DINN: I am not sure, so rather than give the hon. member incorrect information, I will get the information and give it to him tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Taken as notice.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. FLIGHT: Would the minister indicate to the House if his department in recent times has been requested by the mining industry, either by management or by unions representing men working in the mines, whether or not they have requested the services of a mining inspector and the department has not been able to acknowledge that request because they did not have the manpower, they did not have the mining inspectors to make available upon the request of unions? Is the minister aware if that has happened in his department in recent times?

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

MR. DINN: Mr. Speaker, the mining inspectors generally do their inspections on a regular basis. There are times when they are requested to do certain things that are not considered at that particular time to be as important as the job they are doing. There are some times when, for example, we may get a request for a mining inspector to go to Labrador West when we have somebody up there and when we have sufficient information coming in on Labrador West, and thus we would not accept a request from the union for a mining inspector to go up there. So there may or may not have been requests by unions or management for a mining inspector to go to a particular site, but that is a decision that is made within the department and I am not aware of any particular cases or any adverse effects caused by the fact

MR. DINN: that a mining inspector did not go when he was requested.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, there have been in the past, in the recent past, requests made by people concerned about conditions in mines for a mining inspector and the department has not been able to send a mining inspector because they do not have the necessary inspectors. Would the minister confirm there is now presently only one mining inspector, one mining inspector with the Department of Labour and Manpower and one only, and that the reason there is one only is that the department has had difficulty hiring mining inspectors because of the level of pay that they are prepared to pay them?

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

MR. DINN: The hon. member is incorrect.

MR. STAGG: Again.

MR. DINN: Again.

MR. SPEAKER: Further questions?

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transportation. Would the Minister of Transportation report to this House any progress with regard to the house that Mr. James Turnbull of Charlottetown had to evacuate? The house, because of the way the road was constructed last Summer, the house flooded, and because of the season down there, with the coldness, there is now two feet of ice all the way through the house; and Mr. Turnbull has had to leave his

MR. HISCOCK: house and go move around the community with friends. Would the minister please inform this House what action has the Department of Transportation taken?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HISCOCK: It is very funny, is it not?

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

MR. BRETT: Mr. Speaker, this is the first time I have heard about that and, of course, that is not unusual because of the weather that we have had this past two months - or a month or more - there has been all kinds of flooding all over the Province, people's basements and maybe up in their kitchens as well. It is not unusual for people to allege that it is the fault of the Department of Transportation. You know, know, they lash out at the first one. So if this has happened, then it is regrettable, but whether or not it is the fault of the department is another thing. The hon. member alleges that it is because of the way the road was built. Well, that may be so, but I would like to think that before the allegation is made or before the department takes any steps to do anything it would have to be proven that, in fact, we did cause it.

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. HISCOCK: With regard to the way the road was constructed, there was no culvert put in there. People said that the road was constructed last Summer in a bit of a rush. I have a letter here now on behalf of Mr. Turnbull in which over \$3,000 worth of damage was done to the house.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!
MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Hon. members to my right and left are giving me great difficulty. I cannot hear what the hon. member is saying.

MR. HISCOCK: Over \$3,000 worth of damage was done to the house, Could the minister inform me whether he will be looking into this problem with the view of compensation being paid to Mr. Turnbull?

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

MR. BRETT: Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister will not be looking into this, I can assure you, because if I have to start looking into these kind of problems then I am afraid I will not be sitting in the House very much in the next three months.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. BRETT: But I can assure the hon. member that my staff will be looking into it and if in fact this damage was caused because of the way the road was built or because of some neglect or whatever on the part of my staff, then a decision will be made as to whether or not the man would be compensated, you know, if it is our fault.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): A final supplementary, the hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK: With regard to Charlottetown, some of the residents have expressed the concern --and this wash-out or flood came as a result of snow --a lot of the residents are concerned in Charlottetown that now with the Spring run off other houses may be affected. If they are affected can the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett) inform this House whether they will send in the Department of Transportation to Charlottetown again next year to do further repairs and upgrading of the road?

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

MR. BRETT: Yes, Mr. Speaker. If it is determined that because of the way the road was built, you know, there are flooding problems, then of course the department will go in and make attempts to correct it.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. HANCOCK: You are in trouble in your district, boy. I was up there the weekend.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Social Services if he would care to take advantage of the first day in the House to elaborate on his dismissal-or suspension of a number of social workers at Grand Falls for refusing to put social assistance in trust for a mystery client? Would the hon. gentleman care to tell us what procedure was used in that particular situation in Grand Falls?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to provide any details on that matter. It is before an arbitration hearing, through the union, and all of those matters will be resolved and the hon. gentleman, despite his position as stated through the media, he will get his answer then and so will everybody else. There is no mystery client, I might say there never was one, and there was no wrongdoing.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. member if he would indicate to the House the procedure that was used in this particular case, would the hon. gentleman tell us if the procedure was normal procedure? Was it a departure from procedure? Just what is the procedure that is used in this case, would the hon. gentleman tell the House?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. NEARY: Section 10 of the Social Assistance Act, Mr. Speaker, was followed to the letter. Normal procedure which has been the case for more than a decade or maybe two.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A final supplementary, the hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Would the hon. minister tell the House if the hon. gentleman and/or his supervisor in Grand Falls instructed a social worker to put social assistance in trust for a client and refused to tell the social worker the name of the client?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. HICKEY: Completely erroneous, Mr. Speaker, The hon. member, who is a former minister of this department, should know better than ask such a question.

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MR. NEARY:

I do but I know -

MR. HICKEY:

He knows the supervisor too.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

We have time for one final question.

The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT:

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the minister that if the course he followed was quite normal, how come we had a work stoppage in Grand Falls and all the social assistance staff out on strike for two days supporting - there were suspensions, all the employees of social welfare were out on picket lines for a day backing up their fellow workers, the people who have been reprimanded by

MR. G. FLIGHT: the minister's officials. How come if everything was so normal that that took place?

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. T. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I said the issuing of assistance was normal, I did not say the matter of suspensions was normal. I made that abundantly clear. I am not aware of any work stoppage, Mr. Speaker; people were working while that was going on, There were some people suspended; those were the people who were walking around with pickets.

MR. FLIGHT: No!

MR. HICKEY: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

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. J. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, in compliance with the Financial Administration Act, 1973, I have the honour of presenting the Public Accounts for the Province of Newfoundland for the year ending 31 March 1980.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

DR. COLLINS: At the same time, Mr. Speaker, in compliance with the Financial Administration Act, I would like to table the Report of the Auditor General to the House of Assembly for the same financial year, that is, the year ending 31 March 1980.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

DR. COLLINS: And at the same time I would like to table the Departmental Observations on the Report of the Auditor General for the same year, that is, the fiscal year ending 31 March 1980.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Further reports?

NOTICES OF MOTION

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. N. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation Act For The Purpose Of Integrating The Newfoundland And Labrador Housing Corporation And The St. John's Housing Corporation".

And I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Repeal The Canada Bay Lumber Company Limited Agreement Act, 1974".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act Respecting The Re-organization Of Certain Government Departments And Matters Related Or Incidental Thereto".

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

MR. J. DINN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act To Amend And Consolidate The Law Respecting Boiler, Pressure Vessels And Compressed Gas", "An Act Respecting Amusement Rides", and "An Act To Amend The Workers' Compensation Act".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Culture, Recreation, Youth and Environment.

MR. R. DAWE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Environment", "An Act Respecting The Drilling Of Water Wells And The Conservation And Use Of Ground Water", "An Act To Amend The Historic Objects, Sites And Records Act, 1973", "An Act To Establish The

MR. R. DAWE: Newfoundland And Labrador Youth Advisory Council", "An Act To Amend The Public Libraries Act, 1975".

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

DR. J. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Financial Administration Act, 1973"; also, "An Act To Amend The Mining And Minerals Rights Tax Act, 1975"; also, "An Act Respecting The Garnishment Against Remuneration Of Public Officials".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MS. L. VERGE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act To Amend The Local School Tax Act", and, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland Teachers' Association Act, 1974".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act Respecting The Freedom Of Information", "An Act To Amend The Judgement Recovery(Newfoundland) Act", "An Act To Amend The Proceedings Against The Crown Act, 1973", "An Act Respecting The Protection Of Personal Privacy", "An Act To Amend The Attachment Of Wages Act", "An Act To Enable Insurance Corporation Of Newfoundland Limited To Become A Federal Corporation", "An Act To Repeal The Income Tax Discounters Act", "An Act To Amend The Change Of Name Act, 1978", "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland Human Rights Code", "An Act Respecting Private Investigation and Security Services".

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

MRS. H. NEWHOOK: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act To Amend The Assessment Act", and, "An Act To Amend The Urban And Rural Planning Act".

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MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. L. BARRY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in deluge of legislation by giving notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Electrical Power Control Act", and also, Mr. Speaker; I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend the Department Of Mines And Energy Act, 1973".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. W. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act Respecting The Newfoundland Association Of Optometrists And Governing The Practice of Optometry In The Province", "An Act Respecting Denturists", "An Act To Amend The Human Tissue Act, 1971", "An Act To Amend the Embalmers And Funeral Directors Act, 1975", "An Act To Amend The Medical Act, 1974", "An Act To Amend The Hospitals Act, 1971" and -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HOUSE: "An Act Respecting Dispensing Opticians".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further notices?

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): The hon. Minister of Forest Resources and Lands.

MR. C. POWER: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Timber Scaler's Act".

And I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Development Areas Lands Act".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Transportation.

MR. C. BRETT: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act", "An Act To Amend The Motor Carrier Act", and "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act To Provide For The Compulsory Use of Seat Belts".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. T. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Child Welfare Act, 1972".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. W. MARSHALL: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order, the hon. President of the Council.

MR. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, you cannot hear yourself think let alone anyone who is up on his feet hear himself speak.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. W. MARSHALL: Now the fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that this is the people's House, it is the House of Assembly, and when a minister or a member of the government is up and attending to a matter of public business he is entitled to be heard in silence. And I think we have had a great profusion of the other type of conduct during the first hour of the sitting.

MR. SPEAKER: With respect to the point of order, I think there is a legitimate one but I might also add that I believe it is fair to say that there have been some disturbances perhaps on both sides, and shuffling of papers and so on. So I would ask and plead with all hon. members that when a member is speaking that he observe his right to speak in silence.

The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. J. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Advisory Board Act of 1975".

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

MR. J. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce two bills, "An Act To Amend The Co-operative Societies Act" and "An Act To Amend The Department Of Rural, Agricultural And Northern Development Act".

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. Minister of Public Works and Services.

MR. H. YOUNG: The last to let you down, Mr. Speaker.

I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Department Of Public Works And Services Act (1973) With Respect To Government Printing".

MR. SPEAKER: Any further notices?

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PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to present a petition on behalf of 149 residents of the community of LaPoile. As hon. members know, LaPoile is an isolated community situated on the Southwest coast. And I might say at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that the same remarks that I am going to make apply to the communities of Grand Bruit and Petites. I believe I have a similar petition from Grand Bruit in my office, but the one I am presenting today has to do with LaPoile where the residents are complaining about the medical services that they are receiving in their community, especially the visitations by the doctor from Port aux Basques.

The prayer of the petition, Mr. Speaker, reads as follows: 'We, the undersigned, being residents of LaPoile in the electoral district of LaPoile, humbly showeth that medical services on the Southwest coast of Newfoundland have deteriorated to the point where human life can be seriously affected and that we have reached the limit of our endurance in this regard and request that government take some serious action to remedy this problem before a life or lives of

MR. S. NEARY: residents have been lost due to inadequate medical services." A very, very serious matter indeed, Mr. Speaker! One would think in this day in age that it would be hardly necessary at all to present a petition in this hon. House asking for something as basic as a visit of a doctor to their community or a visit of a public health nurse to the communities of LaPoile, Grand Bruit and Petites.

One of the big complaints, Mr. Speaker, that residents have in these three isolated communities, especially in the Fall of the year and in the Wintertime when the doctor schedules a trip to LaPoile, for instance, and because of weather conditions he cannot make the trip on the day that he is scheduled to make it, then he postpones his trip until the next trip is due which is probably about two weeks away or a month away.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that the doctor will not go to the community; then, when weather permits the helicopter or the

MR. NEARY: airplane to fly, he will wait until he is due his next trip. Sometimes you have a month in between visitations by the doctor from Port aux Basques and the doctor, in the case of Grand Bruit, I think from Burgeo. So, Mr. Speaker, as I indicated you would not think it would be hardly necessary in this day and age to have to come into this House thirty-two years after Confederation and ask the House, implore the House, beg the Minister of Health (W. House) to please see to it that the good people of LaPoile, Grand Bruit and Petites have, at least, a visit from a doctor once a week or once every couple of weeks.

MR. STAGG: (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: I have already brought it to the attention of the Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, I have an opportunity to pass through Stephenville, I suppose twenty-five or thirty times a year, and I would not give very much now for the hon. gentleman getting another term in that particular part of Newfoundland.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to hear the Minister of Health's comments on this petition. It is a very worthwhile petition. It may - because of the number of people involved, the government may not think that there is all that many votes in these communities but they are human beings. We are talking about human lives. We are talking about the health of our people and I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Health and the government will now take the request from the people in these three remote communities, seriously for a change.

I cannot say for sure that anybody has lost his or her life as a result of this negligence. I cannot prove it but there is a good chance. Mr. Speaker, that people have lost their lives or there has been unnecessary suffering as a result of this negligence on the part of the Department of Health. And I hope now, Mr. Speaker, now that 149 good people in

MR. NEARY: the community of LaPoile have petitioned this hon. House to have this situation remedied, to have the situation corrected, that the Minister of Health (W. House) will take whatever steps are necessary at an early a date as possible to see that these three communities get regular visits from a doctor and regular visits from a public health nurse and look into the possibility, Mr. Speaker, of establishing a medical clinic and a nursing station in all three communities.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition so very ably presented by my colleague. That problem is getting to be a problem all over this Province, particularly in rural Newfoundland, Mr. Speaker. This government expresses such a great concern for rural Newfoundland, and pays such great lip service to rural Newfoundland, that there are many parts of this Province where the basic services, the basic medical services, the requirements to treat a child, the requirements to guarantee the same kind of benefits that everybody takes for granted, Mr. Speaker, this petition is one of many that can come from many parts, including my own district of Bonavista North, where the government has been so caught up in the great romantic idea, the great battles that they like to be fighting, that they have gotten away from the basic concerns of people, the right to such basic services as medical attention. And I hope that the Minister of Health, who is a man who has those same concerns, will put up a fight with his colleagues, will fight to the end with his colleagues to get a decent share of the budget so that these people in LaPoile and the other areas referred to by my colleague, that these people will get fair and equitable treatment.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

March 3, 1981

Tape No. 53

EL - 3

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. HOUSE:

Mr. Speaker, I just address the petition and I think both speakers went a little bit away from the prayer of the petition. I think it is basically to get regular visits from doctors to the area. That is set up, already in place. The doctors from the hospital in Port aux Basques are servicing that area.

MR. HOUSE:

The problem comes about when the scheduled visit takes place; the helicopter is not available - if the weather is bad they cannot get down, there is no way to do it.

Now on two or three occasions we have gotten a helicopter to go down after. As a matter of fact, when I received the last letter, the helicopter was there that particular day, with doctors.

With regard to people in danger, and emergencies, this does not apply, these are the regular visits of doctors. When there is an emergency, the emergency is looked after. I think we have one of the better emergency services in any part of Canada. You have, obviously, to depend on the weather. But when there is an emergency that plane or helicopter is there.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is very much in hand. I think I have written the member, or, at least, the community about it, and told them that we are endeavouring to do the best we can. The problem is we cannot have a helicopter sitting there all the time. If she cannot go today, then, as scheduled for the service, she is diverted somewhere else for the same kind of service, possibly, the next day. So we are trying to put it in place so that we will be able to get the helicopters more readily. I think that is the basic problem.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. the member for St. Barbe.

MR. BENNETT:

Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of some 1,400 people of

MR. BENNETT: . . . the Bonne Bay area,
related to the ferry service in that area.

The prayer of the petition reads as follows: "Be it known that we the undersigned residents of the Bonne Area do hereby and herein petition the House of Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador to consider our humble request to require the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, as represented by the hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Brett), to take no action that would cause the discontinuance or reduction of the operation of the ferry which operates across Bonne Bay from Woody Point to Norris Point.

"And we do further petition the House to require that the said department continue providing a financial subsidy to help offset the operating costs of said ferry service".

Mr. Speaker, that petition is signed by some 1,400 residents of that area, a general area. In support of that: I most certainly wish to support it and I wonder if the Minister of Transportation realizes the significance and the importance of that life line across Bonne Bay.

On the West side of Bonne Bay we have some 2,000 or 3,000 people who depend to quite a great degree on the services that are provided on the East side, or on the North side of the Bay, if you would. They depend on going across on that ferry for many of the services, like the hospitals; the government services that are provided on one side and that are not provided on the other, like the Department of Social Services.

MR. BENNETT: Many of the people who work on the East side of Bonne Bay, live on the West side of the Bay.

That ferry service has been in place, possibly for thirty or forty years, and all of a sudden the Department of Transportation sees fit to withdraw from supporting such a worthy cause, and such a needed service as we have in that area.

The minister will say, as he has said in the past, I am sure, that they cannot provide a parallel service. The ferry service -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. BENNETT: Well, they have a road that goes around the Bay. Mr. Speaker, the road that goes around Bonne Bay is some fifty or sixty miles distance. And in the next two, or three, or four, or five years, there is going to be some \$40 millions of federal dollars spent on that road around Bonne Bay. Already construction has started. I travelled over it a few days ago, and already it leaves a lot to be desired, Mr. Speaker, for transport around the Bay.

Residents go across, a twenty minute run on the ferry. The ferry is so badly needed with regard to services, for the various things like hospitals, but it is also needed for the transport of fish from one side of the Bay to the other.

We have a fish operation on the West side of

MR. BENNETT:

the Bay and fish get hauled from the North side of the Bay. The operators are telling me that if they have to haul fish around from one side of the Bay to the other, by the time they get it around the ice is melted, that extra hour or two hours pull over the Long Range Mountains and out to the Trout River where the fish plant is located, and in lots of cases they have to dump a lot of their fish.

There is no way that the people in that area are going to support, or even condone, the minister's action of withdrawing a total subsidy to the detriment of that ferry.

I am begging the minister to take a closer look at the service that ferry provides before he makes up his mind and is determined to cut the subsidy that keeps that ferry in motion.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

The hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the petition so ably presented by my friend and colleague on behalf of 1,400 people of the Bonne Bay area.

I can appreciate and sympathize with the concern of the residents in this area who, Mr. Speaker, have two basic concerns; one, that there be no reduction in the service, and secondly, that the government subsidy be maintained. Concern, then, Mr. Speaker, that there be no reduction in the level of service and that there be a government subsidy to keep fares and rates reasonable to the people for whom the service was established.

I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate the concern, and I can sympathize with the people concerned

MR. LUSH: because I have a similar situation in my own district and I refer to the ferry service at St. Brendan's. The people of St. Brendan's, I might add, could certainly make a similar petition. If they were to make a petition I am sure it would be based on the same concerns as expressed by the 1,400 residents of the Bonne Bay area.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would certainly hope that these people who have to depend on these ferry services, these intra-provincial ferry services, can shortly look forward to an improvement -

MR. STAGG: Intra?

MR. LUSH: Yes, the intra-provincial ferry services. I would certainly have hoped that the people in these areas -

MR. STAGG: Does it mean (inaudible) or what?

MR. LUSH: No, that is inter. And I would hope that the people -

MR. STAGG: Oh, inter.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, would -

I would hope that the government takes the matter more seriously than the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg). This is a serious matter, Mr. Speaker. We are talking about the transportation, the only kind of transportation that these people have to and from the islands where they live. And, Mr. Speaker, it is a matter not to be treated lightly. It is a serious matter and I would hope that the commission that the minister has set up, I would hope that after the commission come in with their recommendations, that the government will follow those recommendations. We have had a long period, Mr. Speaker, of no action with respect to these ferry services, people, Mr. Speaker, subjected to the lowest form of service, if you will. It

MR. T. LUSH: is ridiculous that in this day in age, in the 1980's, that some of the people have had to tolerate the conditions on board these boats, that they have tolerated.

And I would hope that when this commission gets its report in, because I am certain that they are bound to make many recommendations, Mr. Speaker, recommendations that would improve the level of services in all of these areas, and I would hope that the minister will move quickly. We have had a long period of inactivity and nothing being done to improve these services, or nothing substantial. Maybe the minister can address himself to this commission and tell us when he expects the report. Because it has been on the go, Mr. Speaker, for some time now and it has given the government, if you will, a

MR. LUSH:

reason to do nothing while waiting for the report of that commission. I hope that study gets in and that the minister will act very quickly to improve the level of services with respect to these intra-provincial ferry services throughout the Province.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Further petitions?

MR. WALSH: Mr. Speaker.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WALSH: Mr. Speaker, I have a petition on behalf of some 5,500 constituents in my district in respect to hydro distribution and hydro rates. The prayer of the petition, Mr. Speaker: "We, the undersigned citizens of Labrador West, do hereby make known our disapproval to all parties involved in the proposed takeover of electrical distribution in Labrador West. Due to the severity of our Winters compared to the Island portion of the Province, uniform rates would cause great hardship and be an injustice to the people of Labrador West."

Now, Mr. Speaker, at the present time, electrical distribution is done by both mining companies, both in Labrador City and Wabush, at some 300 per cent difference less in rates than Hydro does on the Island.

Over the past few months there has been indication that Hydro would be moving into the area to assume responsibility of distribution of said services and raise the rates in line with those on the Island.

Mr. Speaker, there has to be a final decision made on that. The final decision will be made eventually. I hope sometime down the road there will be a decision by the government on this matter, and I hope before doing so, we will give great consideration to this move and the effect it will have on the escalating high cost of living

MR. WALSH:

we already have in Labrador.
I do support the petition,

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Leader of the
Opposition.

MR. STIRLING:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support
the petition, I suppose one of the largest petitions
ever presented in this House of Assembly, certainly since
I have been in this House, a short time.

Mr. Speaker, the problem points
out - the real problem that the people in Labrador West
generally, or the Menihek district, the people in Labrador
City and in Wabush, the problem that they have is not only
a problem in Labrador but a problem throughout many parts
of Newfoundland, but most sensitive in Labrador because
the government is not showing any sensitivity to the
situation under which Newfoundlanders went to that great
frontier; not many years ago, but at a time when they had
to live in construction camps, and at a time when it was
the hostile North, people went into this district and went
into Churchill Falls.

Mr. Speaker, what the real
problem here is is that the hydro cost in Labrador - passing
right by these people - is being charged by I.O.C. to the
people in there on a basis that - I think the I.O.C. either
is doing it on a cost basis or with a small profit. And
they are using the hydro power developed from the Upper
Churchill, as was their right and was agreed to.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in this
particular instance, what the people of Labrador are saying
is that this is a resource in Labrador, this is a resource
which we can get at cost and we do not mind paying cost -
and that is the cost of development in Labrador - and that
we do not even mind paying a small profit. But it seems

MR. STIRLING: most unfair to the people in Labrador that even though they have to bear all the extra cost of food, of transportation, the extra cost of visiting the Island, all the costs of being, although a well-developed community, an isolated community, we in Newfoundland promised them a road to be able to drive over and it has not been done. They have to put their cars on a train and drive to Quebec. So what they are saying is, in this case, 'We will pay the true cost. Let us pay the true cost of developing this power in Labrador.' They are not looking for a gift. They are not looking for anything from this part of the Province to subsidize it. But what they are saying is, 'Allow us to take advantage of the true costs. Until you can balance all the costs in Labrador, do not give us the shaft by increasing us by 300 per cent.' And we on this side certainly support the request that the people in Labrador West should be given the opportunity to have their hydro developed at their cost and a small profit for Hydro, but not to have such an extreme move made unless they are going to balance everything with the cost of living on the Island part of Newfoundland.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Any further petitions?

The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, I want to support

the petition.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

I believe the rules for petitions allow for one member from each side, aside from the member presenting the petition, to speak. One member from each side, the rules allow for so you have already had a member from the right, I am sorry.

Any further petitions?

The hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition on behalf of the residents of Pinware, Labrador, sixty-five residents. "We the residents of Pinware in the Straits of Labrador, from L'Anse au Clair to Red Bay call upon the Provincial and the Federal Governments to put aside their political differences and sit down and negotiate and sign the Coastal Labrador DREE Agreement. We the residents of Southern Labrador feel that we are being used as a political football between both governments and we want an end to it. We have been waiting over three years for the signing of this agreement and we cannot go another spring without having the road reconstructed and paved."

Mr. Speaker, that area of the Province has not only had to wait three years for the signing of this agreement, but has seen the road in that area of our Province continually deteriorate because each year the Department of Transportation has always stated that the DREE agreement is coming and as a result we are not going to be spending any money on it. The Premier, for example, in the election of 1979, promised \$200,000 dollars for upgrading. As well, when a delegation came in here from the Straits area and asked the Minister of Transportation (Brett)

MR. HISCOCK: he promised them the money when they were here; when they went back, then, this money was not available, again because of the signing of the agreement.

So, Mr. Speaker, I do not know when the agreement is going to be signed but I will say on behalf of the district, as well as myself and the residents, that we are totally fed up by the lack of initiative. Whether it is the Federal, the Provincial, whichever person is responsible, we are all fed up with this matter and we want a quick end and remedy to this situation. We feel that last year, in particular since November, over seventeen washouts have taken place in the Straits area. We hope that, through letters gone to the Minister of Transportation (C. Brett) and to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (H. Newhook), they will come up with extra money for maintenance of these roads and these roads in these small communities over and above normally what is given.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask this House to give unanimous consent to this petition and have a quick signing of the agreement so that we can have the construction season start and get some work done on it. We have had the problem in the Straits area of wanting to go and join Quebec, the Labrador Straits Chamber of Commerce, and this has been caused totally by the frustration that Quebec, the Province of Quebec, not the Federal Government but the Province of Quebec, is doing the road bordering the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. And the residents on the Labrador side of our Province are a little bit fed up seeing the progress that is made by the sister Province of Quebec and our own government, for whatever reason, not coming to terms with the Federal Government and signing this agreement.

MR. HISCOCK: There are many other things besides the road in this agreement, sewerage, water and sewerage, a health clinic, as well as problems within the fisheries.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is very important that the signing of this DREE agreement take place fairly soon, within this month. Thank you.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I support the prayer of the petition presented by my hon. friend and colleague, the member for Eagle River (E. Hiscock) and I do so, Mr. Speaker, knowing that, from the information that I managed to secure when I was in Ottawa a few weeks ago and held a number of meetings in Ottawa with high-ranking officials of the Government of Canada, the provincial government is stalling on this DREE agreement for Labrador. They are stalling on it. And agreement should have been signed, it should have been signed before the end of February. It should have been signed before the end of January, Mr. Speaker, but certainly before the end of February. I agree with the remarks of my hon. colleague that there does not seem to be any explanation at all forthcoming from the Minister of Transportation (C. Brett) or from the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Premier Peckford) or from any

MR. NEARY:

spokesman in the provincial government.

Mr. Speaker, I may point out to the House that meetings between the officials of the provincial government and the officials of the federal government, the Government of Canada, that were scheduled to take place in early February, that were postponed a number of times, will now not take place for another two or three weeks, and that is when the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Brett) -

MR. YOUNG: (Inaudible) it is too bad the officials would talk to you and would not talk to us, is it not? (Inaudible).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, it is not my fault that the officials of the Government of Canada would not talk to the minister and his colleagues. That is not my fault, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I believe the hon. member is entering into debate. I would ask him to confine his comments to the prayer of the petition and not enter into debate. The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: I understand, Mr. Speaker, but the point I am making is there is likely to be another delay on signing the agreement that is referred to in the petition if the meetings between the provincial government officials and the officials of the Government of Canada do not take place for another two or three weeks. Mr. Speaker, the meetings have already been postponed on a number of occasions.

MR. MARSHALL: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MARSHALL: The hon. gentleman is speaking to a matter of a petition. He is getting into a far-flung debate as to his mistaken impressions of the course of events.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, with respect to the point of order I believe I just asked the hon. member to confine his remarks to the prayer of the petition and not enter into debate. It is very difficult to have to call a member to order every few seconds or so. I would ask him to confine his remarks, then, to the prayer of the petition. The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Are you saying, Mr. Speaker, that I was not in order when I was referring to the delay in the signing? I do not understand what the point of order is, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: What I am saying is that the hon. member was entering into debate. I have already warned him of that on one occasion at least, and I would ask him to confine his remarks to the prayer of the petition. The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the people in Southern Labrador, in Eagle River, want to know why the agreements are not signed here when in the other provinces they are already signed and in place, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: And the delays that I referred to, the minister will not get a chance to present his wish list, ten or a dozen items, until

MR. NEARY: . . . another two or three weeks. Does that mean the people in the Strait area will not get word on whether there is going to be work done on the road from L'Anse au Clair to Red Bay, they will not get word for another several weeks, or maybe several months? Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is good enough. I think it is shameful the way the people are being treated.

The information that I have from the officials and from the elected representatives of the Government of Canada is that the fault that this DREE agreement is not signed is the fault of this province, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HANCOCK: Hear, hear!

Not only that one.

MR. NEARY: The Government of Canada have made a very generous offer of financing ninety per cent - ninety/ten. They want to make a ninety/ten deal.

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): Order, please!

Again I believe the hon. member is entering into debate. The prayer of the petition does not suggest that it is one particular governments fault, as I understand it, it may be anybody's fault. But I would ask the hon. member again not to enter into debate, and to confine his remarks to the prayer.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I do not know. I have been here nineteen years. I do not know any other way to get the facts out but to point them out.

MR. MARSHALL: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Your Honour, has made a ruling and as I understand the remarks of the hon. gentleman, the hon. gentleman is not only taking exception with your ruling, but also casting reflections upon the Chair of this House.

Now Your Honour made a ruling on this matter when the hon. gentleman was speaking to a petition, and the gist of that ruling was made three times, that the hon. gentleman was entering into debate, and the reason was given in Your Honour's last statement. I think that the hon. gentleman has to comply with the rules of this House, number one, but number two, it is abundantly serious, even more serious, when the hon. gentleman flaunts the ruling of the Chair.

I think the hon. gentleman should really - it is incumbent upon the hon. gentleman to withdraw and retract any imputation whatsoever to Your Honour because Your Honour is entitled, in this House, to the protection of all the members.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER(Simms): To the point of order. The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: If I may speak to the point of order. Mr. Speaker, there was no imputation on my part. I fully accept Your Honour's ruling. I always have. I have been here nineteen years. I think I know a little more about the rules than the hon. gentleman. And we are not going to put up with these Mussolini

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MR. NEARY: tactics that are being invoked by the government and by these -

MR. THOMS: This is not the (inaudible) government.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: - these dictatorial statements that are being made. Your Honour knows full well that I accept Your Honour's ruling. I did not challenge Your Honour's ruling, and I have no intention of challenging it. If I did I know what the procedure is, Your Honour.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, with respect to the point of order the hon. the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has indicated that he had no intention of flaunting the ruling of the Chair. I accept that. I also remind him now that his time has expired.

Any further petitions?

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to the petition ably presented by the hon. member on the opposite side of the House. As a member of this House, and as a citizen of this Province, I fully support the prayer of the petition presented. As a member of this House, and as a citizen of Newfoundland who has travelled in that area extensively over the last ten years, I know that what the people of that area of our Province is looking for is a very justified, a very - it is a road and it is a facility which was due to commence ten years ago, not two ago or not three years ago. And this government, Mr. Speaker, fully endorses the prayer of the petition and endorses the idea that

PREMIER PECKFORD:

road construction in that part of our Province must begin immediately.

Mr. Speaker, we have been trying for some time to arrange a meeting - I have, as Minister of Inter-governmental Affairs - with the DREE minister. It has fallen through every time. Yesterday morning we called his office again to look, to see would he please firm up a strange day, Friday, the 13th of March. He has not been able to get back to me. So far he has cancelled on a number of occasions.

The Throne Speech says, Mr. Speaker, that we want to sign all DREE agreements immediately. We are ready to sign the Coastal Labrador one immediately - yesterday. I will go anywhere at any time to sign that agreement to get that very needed road off the ground for the people of that part of our Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): Any further petitions? Orders of the day.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oh, I am sorry, Petitions? The hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, in view of the lack of clarity and decisive action in the statement previously made by the Minister of Finance and the President of Treasury Board (Dr. Collins) earlier in the afternoon, I ask leave under Standing Order 23 to adjourn this House to debate a matter of urgent and public importance as follows:

Whereas labour relations in this Province, and particularly with employees in the public service, appear to be extremely volatile, as demonstrated by these facts: fact number one, two public service groups, namely, the support staff of the College of Trades and Technology and the Workers' Compensation group, have been on strike for -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

On a point of order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the

President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, when a - it is perfectly -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL:

The hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker, is obviously perfectly within his rights. There is allowed to be one motion under Order 23 every sitting, but I suggest that the procedure is not that the hon. gentleman reads a lengthy resolution but that what the hon. gentleman has to do is to acquaint Your Honour and this House, generally speaking in a few brief words, as to what the nature of the matter is that the hon. gentleman wishes to have the House adjourn to debate, and briefly and succinctly, the reasons why it is an urgent matter, and not for the purpose of going and reading a long, detailed resolution. I think the precedents of the House, and I know the rules of the House, Beauchesne and that, are quite clear on that point.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, to the point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:

To the point of order.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in the Standing Orders which talks about the preciseness or the limitation on words. It states that the member desiring to make a motion rises in his place, asks leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance and states the matter. Mr. Speaker, there are no restrictions there about the number of phrases, the number of words, about entering into

MR. LUSH: lengthy discussion, and I submit, Mr. Speaker, that I was barely started and the hon. the House Leader (Mr. Marshall) had no idea how long the statement was going to be or what it was going to state.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms): With respect to the point of order, the Standing Orders are clear and perhaps we could save a lot of time and trouble if the hon. member would state what this matter is.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, that is what I was about to do.

As I have said, whereas labour relations in this Province, particularly with employees in the public service, appear to be extremely volatile, as demonstrated by these two facts: fact number one, two public service groups, namely, the support staff of the College of Trades and Technology, and the Workers' Compensation group, have been on strike for an excessive period of time, resulting in great financial burden to the workers and inefficiency in the work place, point number two, several public service groups for which contracts have expired and for which there are no immediate settlements in sight, the teachers and nurses are two major groups in this unfortunate category. In view of these facts, Mr. Speaker, and in view of the complete impasse arrived at in these negotiations, and in view of the tremendous financial burden, frustration and anxiety being imposed upon those public service workers, and in view of the negative effect that these negotiations, or lack of negotiations, are placing upon the collective bargaining process, I ask that this House be adjourned to debate and seek a solution to these urgent and intense labour problems.

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Tape No. 60

EL - 1

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise

MR. SPEAKER (Simms):

Yes, if I may, I would accept some direction from members of the House because as you are aware it is the first time it has arose since I have been Speaker, at least.

The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, the matter is very clearly set forth in Beauchesne, specifically, and this is in the Fifth Edition, specifically paragraph 286. On page 91 it starts and it is under the section, Motions To Adjourn The House Under Standing Order 26 of the House of Commons, which is comparable to this particular Standing Order which is the type of Standing Order that - a similar one is in all jurisdictions, all legislatures. On page 92, paragraph 286 "The "specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration", for the discussion of which the adjournment of the House may be moved under S.O. 26, must be so pressing that public interest will suffer if it is not given immediate attention."

Then it goes on to say in paragraph 287, "Urgency" within this rule does not apply to the matter itself," - the matter itself, Mr. Speaker, may be urgent - "but means 'urgency of debate', when the ordinary opportunities provided by the rules of the House do not permit the subject to be brought on early enough and public interest demands that the discussion take place immediately."

So, Mr. Speaker, it is well known that a matter raised such as this, while it may be urgent in itself, does not require the suspension of the rules of the House to debate that matter unless it is a matter of urgent debate. Now, I would -

AN HON. MEMBER:

Not urgent to the (inaudible).

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Tape No. 60

IB-2

MR. MARSHALL:

No. I would point out -

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS):

Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL:

Now the hon. gentleman can play his cheap little politics all he wants to but the fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that there is on the Order Paper now the matter of the Address in Reply which is, as the Opposition is aware, going to be called after we get to the Orders of the Day and in the Address and Reply there is ample opportunity to debate not only this particular matter but any matter that the hon. gentlemen wish to debate.

So, Mr. Speaker, these are - and I refer you to all of these sections here, but this is the general gist of it. While we are not denying it is a matter of concern, we say, as all labour matters are matters of concern, or labour disputes, what the government is saying in this particular case is that there is not the urgency of debate. This is not a matter of urgency of debate particularly when we have on the Order Paper the Address in Reply and there is ample and full opportunity for the hon. members opposite and other members of this House to refer to this as well as many other matters that are of interest to the public.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Chair will recess for just a couple of moments.

MR. SPEAKER (Simms)

Order, please!

I have given serious consideration to the request for motion made by the hon. member for Terra Nova (Mr. T. Lush). And in doing some research the pertinent sections referred to by the President of the Council (Mr. W. Marshall) are certainly ones to be considered, in addition, paragraph 285 which says, in part, "There must be no other reasonable opportunity for debate". And clearly in this situation there is because the Address in Reply is still on the Order Paper and is a wide-ranging debate as members know.

So I therefore rule the motion cannot be allowed. Although the matter is important, I do not feel, as Beauchesne says, "That the matter raised is of recent occurrence nor so urgent that the proceedings of the House should be halted that it may be discussed. 'Urgency' within this rule does not apply to the matter itself, but it means, 'urgency of debate', when the ordinary opportunities provided by the rules of the House do not permit the subject to be brought on early enough". And clearly in this situation there is further opportunity for debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

ORDERS OF THE DAYMR. SPEAKER:

Order No. 1

Address in Reply

The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. L. STIRLING:

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I think we have seen the government get off to a good start today in the debate -

A rousing start. Arousing start.

MR. STIRLING:

- a start that shows what they intend to do in this House, that they are going to use the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) in every way that they can to jump

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Tape No. 61

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MR. STIRLING: up and try to interrupt, try to muzzle the Opposition so that we cannot debate the important matters coming before this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. STIRLING: And, Mr. Speaker, I, first of all, must confess, they say confession is good for the soul, I must confess that I believed. When I first got elected to this House in June of 1979, and the Premier got up and said this is a new administration, that we are having nothing to do with that past administration, that the former Premier and whatever that crowd was

MR. STIRLING: was a dead loss, I must confess that I was looking forward to this fresh, great, energetic, new approach, a government that got elected on the ability to negotiate with Ottawa and to stand up for Newfoundlanders.

MR. WARREN: They do not know how to do either one of it.

MR. STIRLING: But then, Mr. Speaker, today as we sat in this House, when we heard the Minister of Education (Ms. Verge) get up and in front of the children who were here at this time, the Minister of Education in front of these people, who maybe had attended the House for the first time, said, 'Oh, no, Mr. Speaker, those expenditures were not authorized by us, it was a previous administration, a previous administration,' and allowed the students to go and think they must be taking about somebody else.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, the previous administration. So I just made some notes as to whom was in that bad, old, previous administration, this crowd that really blew it.

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. STIRLING: The Premier says, "They blew it." Everybody who came, "Bp", before Peckford, blew it. But who was in this bad old administration who did all of these things?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: Let us have a look and see who was in the previous administration.

MR. WARREN: Let us listen now. Who was the Minister of Education?

MR. STIRLING: The Premier. The Premier was in the previous administration. Surprise! Surprise!

MR. WARREN: Who was the Minister of Education?

MR. STIRLING: And this aggressive Premier, this Premier who is going to fight, nothing is ever going to get passed him, this Premier has led us to believe that while the comic books were authorized that he sat in that Cabinet, and while the money was being spent on the public relations out in Gander, the PC Party, while that was happening this Premier just sat in the Cabinet where he was Executive Assistant to that bad old Premier Moores, while he was Executive Assistant did not notice anything happening, while he was on the Treasury Board did not notice anything was happening, it was that bad, old, previous administration.

I wonder if there is anybody else left around from that previous administration -

MR. TULK: Name every one of them.

MR. STIRLING: -that rotten crowd that they just referred to earlier? Not us, the previous administration. I wonder if there is anyone left around? Is it possible that there is left one person besides the Premier?

MR. WARREN: The Minister of Fisheries.

AN HON. MEMBER: The rest have all gone.

MR. STIRLING: Oh, the President of the Council. The President of the Council was in that previous administration for a while. Now he did not last because he resigned over the Public Tendering Act. That dirty previous administration, could not sit there. Now the present Premier could sit through it,

MR. THOMS: He was still a member of the House and of the party.

MR. STIRLING: But the President of the Council could not stomach it, he had to get out, as did the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter). Now he did not get back into the Cabinet. So he was in that previous administration. What about the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer)? My

MR. STIRLING: goodness he is also that dirty
previous administration.

MR. THOMS: You mean the one that (inaudible).

MR. STIRLING: Not true!

 Now what about the now Minister of
Development (Mr. N. Windsor)? Executive Assistant. Was
he a minister in that dirty previous administration?

AN HON. MEMBER: The Minister of Fisheries.

MR. STIRLING: What about the Minister of Manpower
(Mr. Dinn) that holiest of holiest man who did not know
that his department today was down to one mining inspector,
did not know what was going on in this Province? At this
time of the year, all over this Province, there are dangerous
situations going on in the mines, with the thaws going on,
they cannot get people out there, and he did not know that his
department was down to one man. He did not know it.

 Guess what? He was in the previous administration.

MR. TULK: They were the ones.

MR. STIRLING: My goodness not that hon. minister in the
previous administration.

MR. WARREN: How many is that now?

MR. STIRLING: Now -

MR. WARREN: That is three already.

MR. STIRLING: - let us look at who else was in the
previous administration. The Minister of Mines and Energy
(Mr. Barry) was in the previous administration.

AN HON. MEMBER: Go away boy.

MR. WARREN: The schoolboy.

MR. BARRY: Yes, when they actually blew a couple
of holes on each sides of the Straits of Belle Isle. He
was actually in the previous administration.

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PX - 4

MR. WARREN: Oh the schoolboy! What minister
was that?

MR. STIRLING: What an awful thing to do.

MR. WARREN: Who are you talking about?

MR. STIRLING: Now, what about the fresh new Minister of Fisheries who was brought along by this Premier to solve all the problems of the fishery.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STIRLING: When the Premier scuttled his former colleague - Walter Carter found out how quick you can get a by-election called, when he got rid of him - then he brings in this fresh, new Minister of Fisheries -

MR. WARREN: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: - and, oh my goodness, Mr. Speaker, do you know he was actually in the previous administration, this dirty, bad, old previous administration? But what a clean bill of health, this new administration. I wonder if we ever heard of him before. Oh, yes, yes. First of all we heard of him - the first time we heard of him, the first time we heard of him was when there was a unanimous report. Four people from that side - the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg), a very conscientious, dedicated, honest man, first-class, great judgement, a man who uses great judgement, he was one of them.

MR. HANCOCK: Which member are you talking about now?

MR. STIRLING: The member for Stephenville.

AN HON. MEMBER: Not that guy?

MR. STIRLING: Yes, the same one -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: - who, Mr. Speaker, sat on the Public Accounts Committee and was so pleased to be a member of the Public Accounts Committee and they brought in their report. Was it a minority report?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. STIRLING: No, Mr. Speaker, unanimous, four from that side, three from this side, and with the great judgement, Mr. Speaker, the great judgement of the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stag), and what did they find, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): A point of order -

MR. STIRLING: What did they find, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: - the hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Public Accounts Committee brought in a report and the report was not termed a unanimous report or a report that had a division within the Committee as votes within the Committee are not recorded, and the hon. member indicating that I approved of the findings of the report is completely misstating my position. Now, I can state my position as I stated it many times in the Committee, which I probably will do in the Speech from the Throne, but the hon. member is again misleading the House, not deliberately because I do not think he is capable of that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! To the point of order, there is obviously no point of order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member from Stephenville properly clarified remarks attributed to him.

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STIRLING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. TULK: How many have you got now?

MR. STIRLING: The member for Stephenville never, ever got over the fact that this new administration never put him back in the Chair. He wanted to

MR. L. STIRLING:

go back in the Chair because he used to be the Deputy Speaker in the old, dirty, previous administration that they have been talking about.

MR. TULK: We would not have him, boy. We would not have him.

MR. STIRLING: So now let us see what we have left of this - what have we got so far of this previous administration? We have, one, the Premier; two, the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall); three, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer), the Minister of Development (Mr. Windsor), the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn), the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) - I do not want to leave anybody out - and the present Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan). That gentleman -

MR. WARREN: The best-dressed man in Newfoundland -

MR. STIRLING: - who came before the Public Accounts Committee, Mr. Speaker - I read the Throne Speech, and this fresh new administration under their dynamic, reborn leader, what a great speech it would have been if it was the first speech that he had made in this House. Because, Mr. Speaker, the first time he got to put his money where his mouth was in order to prove all of the great speeches that he made - and he had a unanimous report from the Public Accounts Committee, and what did they say? They said that a minister had contravened the Act.

AN HON. MEMBER: Knowingly.

MR. STIRLING: And now these two new people in this new administration - the Premier and the President of the Council - the leftovers from the bad, previous administration, they said it was a question of judgement and we agree with the Minister of Fisheries contravening the Public Tendering Act because it was just a question of judgement, just had a bit of bad judgement. He just had a bit of bad judgement, it is alright.

The fishermen of this Province have made another judgement and he is out wandering around the fringes

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MR. STIRLING: trying to get in. Wandering around the fringes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: Ah, he cannot take it.
Now, Mr. Speaker -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. STIRLING: - no, I want to get to the fresh new crowd but so far I am down - let me put in a couple of the fresh new crowd -

MR. TULK: Do not forget the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Brett).

MR. STIRLING: No, no, I have to put in a couple of fresh new ones now.

MR. WARREN: The Minister of Education (Ms. Verge) first.

MR. STIRLING: We have -

MR. TULK: The Minister of Health (Mr. House), where is he?

MR. STIRLING: - the Minister - oh, he is left, he could not stay around. No, he is gone. Another new one - I must say that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mrs. Newhook), she is truly a member of a new administration, very hard working, very capable.

MR. WARREN: Good lady. Come over! Come over!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. STIRLING: If she only had the support of her department

MR. TULK: Not a politician but she can come over.

MR. STIRLING: And then - I do not know what happened. I am glad the Minister of Education (Ms. Verge) is here - two women and three other unfortunates.

Now let us go on to this group of the pure and the holy and the new, a fresh new man like the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Hickey) -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: - a fresh new, dynamic, clean look in this House of Assembly.

MR. WARREN: Nineteen years.

MR. STIRLING: And where did he come from? The previous administration.

MR. WARREN: Logy Bay.

MR. STIRLING: Hughie Shea would love this, this previous administration.

MR. TULK: That is nine, nine or ten.

MR. STIRLING: Now, order a few more. There are a few more from this previous administration, The Minister of Health (Mr. House), not to be left out, a member of the previous administration -

MR. TULK: And the Minister of Education (Ms. Verge) (inaudible).

MR. STIRLING: - one of the few people on that side of the House, Mr. Speaker, who will get up and say, yes, I am a PC. Nobody else is allowed to mention it. One of the members mentioned it and if you go through all of the speeches that have been made by that side of the House since June of 1979, not one of the said we are proud of being a PC government with the exception of one person, because they are trying to create an illusion, Mr. Speaker, an illusion that something is different about that PC government.

Let us carry on, The Minister of Transportation (Mr. Brett), this man who said when asked for a request on behalf of a constituent, 'Oh, do not expect me to do anything, I will see if I can find one of my underlings to look on that minor little problem', the Minister of Transportation who is supposed to be responsible. Another fellow who sat in - he was a member of the Treasury Board of the previous administration, the same previous administration. A few more left.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

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MR. STIRLING: No. A few more left, We cannot get them all in, not enough time to put them all into that previous administration.

The hon. the member who got mention, honourable mention, the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Young), he has got hon. mention this time in the Auditor General's Report, also a member of that dirty, previous administration - worked in the former Premier's office. Now, I wonder

MR. STIRLING: I honestly do not know about the member for Naskaupi (Mr. Goudie). I do not know if he actually got in the Cabinet of the previous administration.

MR. TULK: Yes, boy.

AN HON. MEMBER: Three months.

MR. STIRLING: Three months, just barely made it. He is almost clean.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is almost pure.

MR. STIRLING: By their definition he was almost not in that dirty previous administration. Now, Mr. Speaker, this Province has witnessed the spectacle of one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve out of seventeen of this administration, this new, fresh administration were members of that old, dirty, previous administration. Mr. Speaker, the people of Newfoundland are beginning to see that there is a connection, there are ten years of do nothing. They were expecting this fresh, new administration to do a lot of things in the last couple of years. And, Mr. Speaker, even their greatest supporter has said they are looking for something that is being held back, some secret weapon that is to be brought in. Not in the Throne Speech. Very disappointed with the approach, the type, everything that was in the Throne Speech.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us deal with the overall approach of this Government. The overall approach of this Government, Mr. Speaker, is one of confrontation. And one of the real problems, maybe the most pressing problem facing this Province right now, is the government's attitude about confrontation. They will not negotiate and they will find that they are going to set up the same atmosphere all the way around. For example, we tried to get a debate going on the serious labour problem in this Province. And what has happened is that this government has taken a position that eight per cent is going to be all that the Treasury Board can negotiate and they are not to negotiate.

MR. STIRLING: They will not negotiate with anyone. They will not negotiate with Ottawa, with Halifax, with Quebec, with their own employees, with the teachers, with nobody. This government is trying to show people that you take a position and you do not move from that position. And they are going to encourage the fishermen to do the same thing. They are going to encourage the employees to do the same thing. They have had NAPE out now for four months, not a movement, no indication.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this year, in 1981, they were warned about it. They were warned about it in 1980. They were warned about it before the fisheries strike. And, Mr. Speaker, the fishermen will never forgive them for what they allowed to happen last year. They allowed 1980, the whole fishing season, to go by. For the fish that they refer to in the Throne Speech as being allowed to swim inshore, well they swam in. They were around waving and then they swam back out because there were no fish caught.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to deal with the two or three issues that this administration keeps referring to and I would like to point out some inconsistencies. People in Newfoundland are getting sick and tired of a government that simply says, "I am fighting for Newfoundland". And that is all that they are saying over and over and over and it is cruel, Mr. Speaker, because they have had the projections that unless they get something done in this Province there will be no jobs ten years from now to meet the 50 per cent increase in the labour force. We are going to be under by 50 per cent.

They referred to the offshore oil. It is a distortion of the worst order, Mr. Speaker, a distortion of the worst order when they try to pretend that somehow this present state that we are in in this Province, this present state of high unemployment and nothing happening, they are trying to create the impression that that is somehow caused

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MR. STIRLING: by the federal government's position on the offshore. Mr. Speaker, the truth of the matter is the federal government have co-operated and in this stage up to this day there would not be one additional nickle and not one additional job if the federal government had turned over ownership to the experts

MR. STIRLING: based on the fact that you cannot - there is no known technology that will enable us to cut through granite.

MR. STAGG: What about the towing of icebergs?

MR. STIRLING: So, Mr. Speaker, if the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) had attended that seminar he would see that that question was asked, and the truth of the matter is there is not enough known about icebergs and there is not enough right now that will allow any Newfoundlander to vote for a pipeline coming to shore if they knew all of the information that came out at that symposium. Mr. Speaker, it is deception of the worst order for this government to continue to try to paint that unreal, unreal image of Newfoundland getting resources from the offshore, of getting that brought in by pipeline. That is not true.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what is our position on the offshore? Number one, and let there be no doubt about it, we believe that we own the offshore resource, no question about that. We believe that we own the offshore resource, but what is going to happen, Mr. Speaker? What is going to happen, Mr. Speaker, is that this government, two-thirds of which are the famous previous administration - whatever it was that they allowed to happen in the previous administration - the truth of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that if we do not do something in this Province about negotiating on the offshore, of trying to reach a political settlement, you are going to see all of the development go around Newfoundland into Halifax. There is no question that this government will not admit what my colleague from Lapoile (Mr. Neary) brought up to them when he found out that they had gone into a dispute and they are now closing their eyes to the facts. The fact of the matter is that Mobil is going to take this Province to court and Mobil is going to take the Federal Government to court and if Cabot Martin is right when he speaks to the universi , Mr. Speaker, this Province does not have a very

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MR. STIRLING: strong case. And, Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to get off this foolishness in this House because the members on this side are as loyal as any member anywhere in this House and we have a common cause, Mr. Speaker. We have a common cause in this Province -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Right away! Give it away!, take it away!

MR. STIRLING: - getting the offshore for the -

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: - for this Province.

MR. SPEAKER (BUTT): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, we have a common cause in this Province and it is time for them to get over their silly pride on the other side, to ask us to work with them, to help them, to try to get some negotiations going because the kind of game they are playing and it is more like a game of - it is not a game of Snakes and Ladders. I would not mind them playing this game, Mr. Speaker, if they were playing with their future and the future of their children but the game that they are playing, the 100 per cent or nothing, burying their heads in the sand and saying, 'Well, let us wait, we own it. Nobody is going to take it from us', and then wringing up their fists to Mobil Oil and saying, 'Mobil, do not dare to take us to court because of what we are afraid of. Do not dare take us to court and prove that our case is not as strong as we have been bluffing Newfoundlanders to think after spending \$500,000 on a case'. Bluffing us. We believed them. We believed them when they said their case was good.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what happens if it goes to the Supreme Court? Let us assume that the feds are one quarter as bad as they say they are. Let us assume for a minute that there is this great Central Canada intrigue going on up there. Now, Mr. Speaker, if that is half true then they are playing right into the hands of the Upper Centralist Canadians, if there is a shred of truth. Because they are doing nothing. They are not negotiating, they are not trying for a political settlement, they are not even taking it to court, they are not taking the initiative. So, what do they do? Sit back, do nothing and then allow it to go by default because somebody else takes us to court. And then what do we do, Mr. Speaker? Then what do we do when we find that it has bypassed us and we have alienated every friend that we have had in Canada, every friend that said, 'Well look, it is good to see Newfoundland coming into her own,

MR. STIRLING: good to see Newfoundland and Labrador finally get a resource that they can develop'. Even this Prime Minister that they hate so badly stood up here in front of 2,000 students and said, "As far as I am concerned I cannot give you something I cannot give you but I will give you 100 per cent of the revenue," Mr. Speaker, "for as long as it takes for you to become a have Province". Even that fellow has said that. Now we agree on our side, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, let us look at what we are talking about in negotiations on the offshore. It is not only - let us look at the Lower Churchill Development Corporation, Mr. Speaker, That is something that we own, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that is something that we own, we nationalized it. We spent \$300 or \$400 million of the people's money and we own Lower Churchill. And what do we find, Mr. Speaker? We found that we did not have the money, we did not have the expertise and we did not have the markets. So what happened? That dirty, old, previous administration working with the federal government worked out an arrangement, 51 per cent control by Newfoundland, 49 per cent control by Ottawa which means Newfoundland control. And the people in Canada, those people that they are fighting against all the time, the people who - I mean it is a disgrace, an absolute disgrace and an insult to Canada, the kind of garbage that went out, paid for by the people in this Province with an arrow saying, "Equality stops here". What an insult, Mr. Speaker.

The people of Canada found when they sat down with the people of Newfoundland that the Province of Newfoundland did not have the fiscal capacity to develop the Lower Churchill. Hard, cold facts! And the people of Canada agreed to put up the money to develop the Lower Churchill but this government has not done anything with it. They are sitting on it and it is six months behind schedule, Mr. Speaker, Six months

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MR. STIRLING: behind schedule. And they could go ahead with it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, another matter of deception - and again it was on national television last night - our right to transmit power across Quebec. Now let us look at it, Mr. Speaker, because I tried to do my homework on this. I gave them the benefit of the doubt and what did I find? What I found, Mr. Speaker, is three separate, official positions taken by this government. Position number one, letter to the Prime Minister, we want the right to a corridor across Quebec. That is number one. Position number two, a resolution in this House of Assembly asked for the free transmission, Mr. Speaker, the free

MR. STIRLING: transmission of power across Quebec. Nobody else had ever heard of it until it came out of that hasty resolution, free transmission, And what do we find now as the third official position in the Five-Year Plan? It is talking about using Quebec Hydro's own system, their system, at a reasonable rental cost, a reasonable rental cost -

MR. HANCOCK: Is that in there?

MR. STIRLING: - but that is three - that is in there. That is in the Five-Year Plan. That is their third official position. This was tabled as the official, official - correspondence to the Prime Minister had another one and then free transmission in a resolution. So, Mr. Speaker, when I asked the federal people which position the government has asked for, they do not know because they have asked for three separate positions. So, Mr. Speaker, I went to Churchill Falls. I went up to Churchill Falls and I went down into the power house where they develop it and I talked to our Newfoundlanders who are there on source and, Mr. Speaker, that power is transmitted from our location to the border of Quebec and that is why another deception, another simple, political deception, is to go out to the people of Newfoundland and say our border is in trouble, when by the very fact, Mr. Speaker, that the Government of Quebec starts a transmission line which they pay for after it crosses our border. We pay for it up to the border. They pay for it after the border. That is a deception, Mr. Speaker. That has never been questioned by the Government of Quebec and it is a deception to try to just get political mileage out of it. So, I asked our Newfoundlanders - I have asked Newfoundlanders, Mr. Speaker, who are there on location, and they showed me - by the way, they are turning out something like 5,700 megawatts not 5,200 megawatts, registering on the diagrams - I talked to them - and our Newfoundlanders go and work back and forth with Quebec Hydro because they have to work with them because, Mr. Speaker, it is not as simple as running water or

MR. STIRLING: oil through a line, it has to be fitted into a grid system. Electricity does not run in that kind of order. And, Mr. Speaker, our Newfoundlanders on location in Churchill Falls - and they know the Quebec system as well as they know their own system - have said there is no capacity in the Quebec system to just run through. It is not a simple matter of running it through. So, Mr. Speaker, if this government is going to be honest, the kind of government they talk about in the Throne Speech, then, Mr. Speaker, let them tell us which of these three options they are serious about. Mr. Speaker, in the same Throne Speech they are talking about a deal that they made with New York, a deal to transmit and sell the excess power to New York, and at the same time they have said to the people in Labrador that we want to develop Labrador. Now, Mr. Speaker, this party, the Liberal Party, is on record as supporting the concept of the development of Labrador, a real concept, Mr. Speaker, which this government, if they had the imagination, if they had the drive, if they had the initiative, they would be going all over this world to develop the great resources of Labrador where we have the resources in Labrador and stop playing these silly games because, Mr. Speaker, the responsibility for doing that should lie with the Provincial Government. You have the right to do it now. If you want to give up that right, allow us to do it. Mr. Speaker, they got so turned off because of industrial development thirty, forty years ago, that they cannot see anything now but LIP grants, and that is about the limit of their imagination.

Mr. Speaker, the fisheries - the three great issues that they brought up. One was the offshore and they are heading us into absolute - worse than chaos - they are heading us into a direction that they cannot win. They know they cannot win. They have given up trying and that is what they are doing on the offshore. On the transmission of

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MR. STIRLING: power they have not set a separate, simple proposal. Now, Mr. Speaker, let us look at the fisheries. The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) is hovering around the fringe because, first of all, the Fishermen's Union want ~~nothing~~ to do with the Provincial Government taking over this so-called shared jurisdiction, Another deception, Mr. Speaker. What is shared jurisdiction? What is shared jurisdiction? Well, I found out. I found out over on the West

MR. STIRLING:

Coast what they meant by shared jurisdiction. What they mean by it, Mr. Speaker, is once the quota is set by the Federal Government, and they would like to work it out with the provinces, they would like to sort it out amongst the provinces, but once that happened - they are not looking for shared jurisdiction, they are looking for 100 per cent control, 100 per cent control of the licencing.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh.

MR. STIRLING: 100 per cent control of the licencing.

And, Mr. Speaker, I do not -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. STIRLING: - know a single fisherman, I do not know a single fisherman - I mean, there might be one or two, three - I do not know a single fisherman, personally, who would like to see either the PC provincial government or the Liberal provincial government take control over their licencing. They do not want it, Mr. Speaker. They want to have input, they want to have the Fisheries committees involved, and they do not want it to be too easy for someone to get to a politician, they have to go to Ottawa, it is a long ways to go. They would rather go with the officials. They would rather go on a proper basis under which they get licencing. They do not want either a provincial Liberal Minister of Fisheries or a PC provincial Minister of Fisheries to have the right to tell them that they can licence because they saw what happened to the Fisheries Loan Board, Mr. Speaker.

MR. TULK: The minister is carrying them around in his pocket.

MR. STIRLING: They saw what happened to the Fisheries Loan Board when political interference ruined it, and it has a great tendency to do the same thing right now.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, we talk about the Northern cod stock, and we have been given a little bit of what was found by NORDCO. Well, Mr. Speaker, I have been checking around to find out what is the latest official position by the government. Now this same government, not even the bad, old previous administration, two years ago brought in a report based on their ten years of study, and what did it say, Mr. Speaker? It said that they wanted to set up a superport in Harbour Grace, and what was it going to use? I wish the Premier were here - the same Premier - what was it going to use? It was going to use 76,000 tons, caught by draggers and brought to Harbour Grace, of the Northern cod stock. I hope the Minister of Fisheries will come in and confirm this, unless he is not allowed because he was a part of the dirty, previous administration.

The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) was on the media one day saying, 'I think it is a good idea that the trawlers should take the 300,000 per trip quota and extend the season.' And the next day the Premier was on saying, 'I think the solution is to ban the fishery, ban the trawler fishery for the next three or four years, just tie up the trawlers, tie up the trawlers and layoff 5,000 or 6,000 plant workers.'

MR. TULLER: He agrees now.
The Minister of Fisheries agrees.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Fisheries, if he agrees with the Premier, they will have to go hand in hand, the two of them together, because they are the only two people in Newfoundland who believe that that is any kind of a solution to anything, mid-term, in the middle of the fishery, ban the trawlers from the Northern cod stock.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, the people of Newfoundland have not been given the whole story and we are going to make sure that they are. Because in the government's own NORDCO report, in that report, Mr. Speaker, it points out that it is only in recent years that the Northern cod stock has gotten to be a Canadian resource. It used to be an international resource. Well over fifty per cent of it used to be taken by foreign dragners, foreign trawlers.

Mr. Speaker, my predecessor in this seat, the Leader of the Opposition when he was involved with the Federal Government, brought about what was the greatest blessing. Another former leader of this party used to recite all the great blessings under Confederation, Well this leader brought what was probably the greatest blessing that Newfoundland, next to Confederation, the greatest blessing that Newfoundland will get and that is the 200 mile limit. Because with the 200 mile limit we gradually got rid of the foreigners and we now have the trawler catch down to something that is manageable. And I do not know an inshore fisherman, Mr. Speaker, not a single inshore fisherman, and I doubt if the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) knows one, who will say that the answer to this is to bring in more fish during the glut period. More inshore fishermen fishing during the glut period is not the solution. What we do require, Mr. Speaker, is again a basic change in this government's attitude, a change in the attitude that says, we have to have some joint action. We have to have some federal action. We need a mechanism, that includes federal fisheries, provincial fisheries, the Fishermen's Union and the fish companies. We need to have them sit in and decide to put together a total concept

MR. L. STIRLING: a total concept, a plan that takes politics out of it. And Mr. Speaker, that is what this has become, largely a political issue. So, Mr. Speaker, if you talk about those great and sacred rights - in my comments the other day I mentioned the other two phoney sacred rights, the Labrador boundary and the denominational system of education. When the Premier expressed some concerns on television we brought in an amendment in this House of Assembly and said, look, we will fight Ottawa with you, we will take on Ottawa and fight Ottawa. If you really do believe that there is any kind of a problem here with denominational education or with the Labrador boundary, those sacred rights, we will fight Ottawa with you. Here is a resolution. We put a resolution looking for unanimous support of the House. Mr. Speaker, they voted against it. They voted against it, to a man and to a woman. They voted against it because it was a phoney issue. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Leader of the Party on the other side is probably one of the shrewdest, most ruthless politicians that this Province or this country will ever see. He is a master at taking and playing on the emotions, playing on the simple overstatement, playing on the fact that Newfoundlanders have always been suspicious of people taking away our rights. Mr. Speaker, that may make good politics but it makes lousy government and this is a lousy government, Mr. Speaker. This Province, Mr. Speaker, has been bamboozled by this so-called new government, made up of twelve of the same old previous administration that they will not even talk about, and in those three issues - there were five in the resolution.

MR. L. STIRLING: we dealt with -we took them seriously on the Labrador Boundary and on denominational system of education. We brought in a resolution and asked for unanimous support and they would not give it. On the other three issues: The offshore, Mr. Speaker; They do not want to hear that we support Newfoundland's ownership of the offshore. They do not want our support on the transmission of power across Quebec. They do not want our support on the business of getting involved in getting the fisheries properly managed. That is what we want on this side, that is what we have offered, We have not got it, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that this Province is going to have to deal with in the next few years, and we can deal with it in one of two ways, We can deal with it the way this government has been dealing with all matters and that is after the fact, after the problem, after the crisis, the spruce budworm, eight years, twelve of this Cabinet. They cannot escape the responsibility, Mr. Speaker, where were they for twelve years? They were in the Cabinet. Now, are we to believe that they were spineless, gutless, unimaginative people, no concern for the Province, and it was only after eight years in that state that they got reborn with another member of that Cabinet.

MR. TULK: (Inaudible)

MR. L. STIRLING: No, I would not go that far. Mr. Speaker, with the budworm, they did not deal with the problem. They did not deal with the problem for eight years and when it got so far out of control and they had all the presentations put to them, they still did not face up to the decision, they appointed the Royal Commission to do it for them. And let us not kid ourselves, Mr. Speaker, the Royal

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MR. L. STIRLING: Commission made the decision to do the spraying. This government did not make the decision, all the information was there and they passed it in to the Royal Commission for them to make the decision for them. Mr. Speaker, in Education: In Education we have started to proceed on the basis of bringing in Grade XII A catchy, high-sounding -we are going to bring Newfoundland up to the standard of the rest of Canada. Now, Mr. Speaker, it is an insult. It is an insult to the people who worked hard on that committee. They proceeded on the basis that they were going to get the funds to do the job, they were going to get the staff to do the job, and they worked hard on it. And they were ready to go ahead with it and although the people of Newfoundland as apparent -

MR. STIRLING: I thought they were proceeding on the basis of the first year university. And all the people that I have talked to all around the Province were glad to see that the children could stay in school for Grade XII and not have the expense of bringing people into the university, it would be the first year university. Now what has come up is an expanded Grade XII and the programme itself, Mr. Speaker, would be a good programme, from everyone that I can hear of, in its own right. Everyone that I have talked to feels that the programme will be a good programme, an expanded Grade XII programme. However, there is a very great concern that the money that is already needed for primary and elementary, the money that will be needed for facilities, for remedial reading, for a music programme, for all the programmes that many of the schools in Newfoundland do not have now in the primary and elementary schools - there is a great fear that those people will be neglected because all of the attention is going to be paid to Grade XII and that if there is any money to be made available in education it is going to be made for Grade XII and that primary and elementary will not get the money that they have looked for for years. That is a great fear and I hope when the Minister of Education (Ms. Verge) speaks in this debate that she will be able to set aside all those fears, that she will be able to say that the money that is required will be guaranteed.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, the indication that I have in Education is that the school facilities, the basic facilities throughout rural Newfoundland, are in a very bad condition. And in my own case in my own district the Fire Commissioner had to close up a school the other day and the Kindergarten and Grade I -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (BUTT):

Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: - are now situated in the basement of another school while they are waiting for some funds. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the funds for the primary and elementary school in the district of Bonavista North, in the Badger's Quay-Valleyfield area, I hope that those funds will not be taken to be used for Grade XII.

There are many places including the Premier's own district, Mr. Speaker, I have had representation from the Premier's own district -

MR. THOMS: Not the Premier's district!
SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, there are schools in the Premier's own district that are not fit for children to go into but we have not seen it in this House. Mr. Speaker, we have asked for, in the area of Justice, we have asked for an independent Commission of Enquiry and it is coming out bit by bit that my colleague, the spokesman on Justice, is very well informed, that he is absolutely right when he says the only way to clear the air not only for the sake of the policemen but also for the sake of the management in the police and for the sake of the citizens who have an uneasy feeling about the level of vandalism and crime in this whole Province

Mr. Speaker, we have already mentioned the concerns in the labour situation in this Province. Mr. Speaker, sooner or later we have to face up to it, sooner or later we have got to recognize that either the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council is right or they are wrong. If they say that we are going to have a shortfall of 50 per cent of the jobs, when are we going to start doing something about them, Mr. Speaker? We should be now working out with Ottawa, the only source of our funds. By the government's own Five - Year Plan, by the Lower Churchill Development Corporation reports, this Province just does not have the fiscal capacity to provide the level of services required and will not do so by 1984 or 1985. What about the people who are getting out of school today, Mr.

MR. STIRLING: Speaker, the people who are getting out of school today and wondering what are they going to do for jobs? It is cruel, Mr. Speaker, to try to give them the impression that somehow, magically, the offshore is going to create 5,000, 10,000, 15,000 jobs.

And this little charade that we went through today about reading out the lists of approved locations, Mr. Speaker, this government knows, the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) knows, if nobody else knows, the Minister of Mines and Energy knows that based on the symposium, based on all of the expert advice there is no possibility of a pipeline coming to shore, absolutely no possibility that any Newfoundlander would vote for it. It is not environmentally safe.

And on the question of building concrete platforms.

MR. BARRY:

Do you know that?

MR. STIRLING:

I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Mines and Energy, if he will admit to the people here, if he will admit to the Province of Newfoundland, that based on the expert advice given at that symposium, the Minister of Mines and Energy knows that at this state of the technology, and they brought in experts from France and the United States,

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MR. STIRLING: people who were in that field, they have come to the conclusion (a) that -

MR. BARRY: (Inaudible) gullible?

MR. STIRLING: - they brought in people from all - I did not bring them in. The minister brought them in.

MR. TULK: Then the minister is gullible.

MR. STIRLING: That is right. The minister -

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you gullible?

MR. STIRLING: The Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) just found out that the world is not flat.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, did he?

MR. STIRLING: Yes, he just found out. The experts told him and he did not believe them.

Well, Mr. Speaker -

MR. MARSHALL: The hon. gentleman's speech is flat.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. STIRLING: Well, he is alive.

MR. BARRY: Do you accept the statements of exports without scrutiny?

AN HON. MEMBER: Exports?

MR. BARRY: That is what your kind has traditionally done. I thought (inaudible).

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) experts.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please! The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, as I said, the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) now knows - now whether he will admit it now. It may not be politically right to admit it now, he may want to continue the illusion, the illusion in the public mind, maybe, as one of his friends and supporters - maybe they can squeeze another election out of the constitutional issue, or the anti-Quebec feeling, or the transportation of hydro, or the offshore oil, fighting Mobil. Let us take on Mobil. Maybe they can squeeze another

MR. STIRLING: election, a phony cause, Mr. Speaker, because the Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. Barry) now knows that sometime he will have to tell the people of Newfoundland, as much as he will regret doing it, he will have to say that as much as he has fought - my God, they fought - five years, ten years, and as much as he regrets having to do it, to say that he cannot recommend that with the present state of the knowledge of icebergs and that path that goes from Newfoundland to Hibernia, and the present state of technology that can dig in granite, he was going to have to sometime level with the people of Newfoundland and say, "As hard as we fought, we had to recognize the fact that it was not environmentally safe to bring a pipeline to Newfoundland". Sooner or later he will do it, Mr. Speaker. Now, whether he will do it before the next election - maybe if he had complete freedom, maybe if he had complete freedom, maybe if he were not under such control by some people on the other side, maybe he could get up and admit that now. Because when he has been given freedom he has been able to admit certain things, like the admission, Mr. Speaker, in the Throne Speech, the admission that even if we get world prices, Mr. Speaker, even if we get world prices - and what does world prices mean? It means doubling the cost for everybody in Newfoundland who have to pay for their oil. If he gets those world prices and if he gets everything that he hoped for, if Ottawa gives him the complete offshore, this very proud government, Mr. Speaker, admits - and maybe it is only the Mines and Energy Minister who will admit it - but this minister admits that in the next twenty-year period, in seventeen out of these twenty years, this great proud government are going to have to go to Ottawa in seventeen out of the twenty years and say, "Can we have equalization payments, hey, the rest of Canada?" We have everything we wanted. We

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MR. STIRLING: have the ownership.

MR. BARRY: What?

MR. STIRLING: We have the price.

MR. BARRY: What?

MR. STIRLING: And for seventeen -

MR. BARRY: What?

MR. STIRLING: - it is in the Throne Speech -
for seventeen out of the twenty years -

MR. BARRY: You are saying Newfoundland (inaudible)
equalization.

MR. STIRLING: That is what this great proud
government is going to say that they have to do, is to go
to the people of Canada and say that, regardless of what they
have, Mr. Speaker -

MR. HISCOCK: (Inaudible) right now.

MR. STIRLING: - Mr. Speaker -

MR. TULK: Yes, it will be.

MR. SPEAKER (Butt): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, this new constitution -

MR. BARRY: Motherhood constitution.

MR. STIRLING: - this new constitution will put
into it something that has never been into it. You know,
up until now equalization has not been a matter of right,
Mr. Speaker, it has been a matter of political negotiations.
On the question of the forestry, Mr. Speaker, this government
led by the present leader, had the gall to go on CBC television
the night that the Throne Speech opened,

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MR. STIRLING: had the gall to go on and say, "What is the Leader of the Opposition talking about? 1800 jobs in forestry, boy. We provided 1800 jobs in forestry. Some proud".

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STIRLING: But he was not too proud, Mr. Speaker, or he was too proud, to admit that the only reason he could provide the 1800 jobs in forestry under our control is that a friendly federal government could say, 'Here is \$47 million, 90 per cent of it, \$47 million of that money -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STIRLING: - \$47 million of that money had to be given to them by Ottawa. And, Mr. Speaker, by right - no, Mr. Speaker, not by right by political negotiations, Mr. Speaker, because the forestry is under provincial control and the federal government worked with them to develop it.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) all to Quebec.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: Good, proper federal-provincial negotiations. Mr. Speaker -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

Again I plead to hon. members to observe the rules of the House and allow hon. members to be heard in silence.

MR. THOMS: It is the first time I woke up all afternoon and you have to go ahead and spoil it.

MR. BARRY: I do not blame you.

MR. STIRLING: Mr. Speaker, on this side we are levelling with the people of this Province. We are not, on this side, playing silly, deceptive games. And, Mr. Speaker, if they ever have the gall, if they will come in and have a debate instead of hiding away behind Ministerial Statements -

MR. THOMS: And cop-outs.

MR. STIRLING: - and the hired gun who gets up every time that we start to get a little bit excited, to try to get the information out to the people - the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) jumps up and says, "Point of Order, Mr. Speaker" - this government who has established an approach of government by press conference, of government by Ministerial Statement because they cannot debate, Mr. Speaker. Man for man we can debate them any day of the week and we are going to get our message out to the people of this Province because we have nothing to cover up, we have nothing to be ashamed of and we are not part of a government, Mr. Speaker, that apologizes and covers up the fact -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS): Order, please!

MR. STIRLING: - covers up the fact that twelve out of seventeen of these Cabinet Ministers have been around from that dirty, old, previous administration that they are ashamed of and we are ashamed of and the people of Newfoundland are ashamed of.

Mr. Speaker, let us - I do not know - how much more time do I have? Have I much more time?

MR. FLIGHT: Adjourn the debate and start tomorrow.

AN HON. MEMBER: Three minutes.

MR. STIRLING: Well, since I only have three minutes I might as well finish up this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, unless by leave with the other side - by the way what are the rules? Do I have unlimited time or just an hour?

AN HON. MEMBER: An hour.

MR. STIRLING: Just an hour, okay. Mr. Speaker -

MR. STAGG: If he does not know, Mr. Speaker, do not tell him.

MR. SPEAKER (SIMMS):

Order, please!

The hon. member has until six o'clock.

MR. STIRLING:

Well, in that case, Mr. Speaker, I will adjourn the debate at this stage. I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that on this side we are going to very aggressively go after the government to make them stand up, to make them be accounted, to not allow them to hide away. And, Mr. Speaker, we will get the message out. It may take some time. We may have to find a way around the rules because, Mr. Speaker, we are not going back to the Throne Speech on Thursday, we are not going back to the Throne Speech because they cannot take this kind of criticism. They cannot have the kind of free and open debate that we are having, Mr. Speaker. So that -

AN HON. MEMBER:

I cannot take it either.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. STIRLING:

I, Mr. Speaker, would now like to adjourn this debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stirling) has about five seconds left next Monday. I move, Mr. Speaker, the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, at 3:00 P.M. and that this House do now adjourn.

On motion the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, at three of the clock.