

PRELIMINARY
UNEDITED
TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1982

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

It is a pleasure for me to welcome to the galleries today Mr. Joceyln Beaudoin, the Executive Director of the Council for Canadian Unity, and Mr. Bruce Butler, Provincial President for Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Before we begin today's proceedings it is always a pleasure indeed for me to welcome visitors to our galleries. Today perhaps it is a special pleasure in that on behalf of all hon. members I would like to welcome to the galleries Colonel and Mrs. Gordon Fullerton, and Colonel and Mrs. Jack Lousma. As we are all aware of the significance of the space shuttle Columbia flight, we are indeed delighted that these people took some time from their busy schedule to visit our Province and visit our Legislature, and on behalf of all the hon. members I welcome you to our Province, and to the House of Assembly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS:

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

MR. SIMMS: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure at this time to inform the House that my department, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Youth, through its Youth Services Division, will this year assist 142 students from Newfoundland and Labrador to participate in the new Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre Programme which is sponsored by the Council for Canadian Unity. And I am pleased to add my own welcome to the Council's Executive Director who is here in the gallery today, Mr. Beaudoin.

MR. SIMMS: Due to Canada's special characteristics of regional, cultural, and linguistic diversity it is an unfortunate fact that the majority of young Canadians grow up in comparative isolation with little knowledge of the rest of their country. Through the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre, 3,200 young people from all regions of Canada, holding differing attitudes and prospectives, will come together each year in the Nation's capital to share ideas and participate in a Canadian studies programme.

These sixteen and seventeen year old students in groups of 136 will gather for one week at a time in the Residential Conference Centre. Information regarding this programme has already been circulated to the high schools of the Province and a volunteer provincial advisory board of which Mr. Bruce Butler is Chairman, and I welcome him as well today, has been put in place to promote the project to select participants and to enlist financial contributions from the schools and community service organizations.

Through its Youth Services Division my department will promote the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre, utilizing its eleven field offices which are strategically located throughout the Province, maintain a liaison with the volunteer provincial advisory board through

MR.SIMM:

its travel co-ordinator and provide \$100 per student to enable 142 young Newfoundlanders from all regions of the Province to participate in the programme as per the request of the Council for Canadian unity. This programme is intended to benefit not only those who participate in it, Mr.Speaker, but also people with whom the participants meet and share their experiences and new ideas. It is hoped that the young people of this Province will develop a greater national awareness and that local communities and schools will be directly influenced by this programme.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. member for Eagle River.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR.HISCOCK: Thank you, Mr.Speaker. It is a pleasure to be able to get up and respond to the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth(Mr. Simms) on this matter. It is also an honour to know that the parents of the late Terry Fox will be coming to this Province and this city. I do not always agree with the editorials in the Evening Telegram but I do on this occasion where they suggested that we probably could rename the new highway, the Southside Arterial Road in honour of Terry Fox. Of course this is the zero mile where he started and the road has not been named, and I would hope that the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) as well as the Premier of this Province would make recommendations to the city. With regard to the Youth Service Division being involved in the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre, I noticed here that it is \$100 per student and I am sure that this will help a lot in transportation of our students and Canadians unity but still we need more programmes like this, not to be started on a national basis but for ourselves, transporting students to other parts of

MR.HISCOCK: Canada and to other parts of our own Province and thereby building up a stronger sense of Canadian unity in this Province.

So, Mr. Speaker, in supporting this, this side is more than pleased- being an Island, the main part of this Province, and Labrador-any time we have the opportunity to send out our students to other parts of Canada to learn about other cultures and other ways of life and to find out things about this great country. It is a pleasure for this side to support it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): I would also like to welcome to the galleries today the mayor of Shoal Harbour, Mayor Harris Thistle, Mrs.Thistle, the town clerk, and Mr. Noseworthy, a councillor on that particular Municipal council.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Hear, hear!
Are there any other Ministerial Statements?

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

MR.NEARY: Mr. Speaker, first of all I might say that the astronauts will feel right at home here in the House today because the administration across the way have not had their feet on the ground since April 6th. They are still flying through -

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR.NEARY: - space. I am sure the astronauts knew where Newfoundland was

MR. NEARY: before they came here, because they felt the vibes from Confederation Building as they were flying over Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Development (Mr. Windsor). It has to do with Baie Verte, Transpacific Asbestos in Baie Verte. Would the hon. gentleman tell the House what repercussions, if any, he expects from the union's refusal to go along with the proposal that was put to them in connection with their new working agreement? Does this mean that Transpacific Asbestos proposal is now doomed for Baie Verte or are negotiations continuing? Just what is the situation concerning the reactivation of the asbestos mine in Baie Verte?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, let me say first of all that we were quite concerned yesterday when we heard of the decision of the union and the reaction to the proposal that had been put forward to them by Transpacific asbestos. As hon. members know, government and Transpacific for many months have been trying to put together a proposal which would reactivate that mine and would put back in place employment opportunities for some 650 persons from the Baie Verte Peninsula, and as well, of course, re-establish the economic base of that whole area of our Province.

So we were very concerned yesterday when we learned that the union had taken a negative attitude towards the negotiations that have been carried out directly between the company and the union. And we are concerned that indeed they have made a statement that they are not prepared to further negotiate unless and until the company owns that particular operation. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that no company is going to move in

MR. WINDSOR: to an area like Baie Verte, which has had a troubled history, and which at this moment is closed down because of the economic uncertainties and the asbestos industry in general, and of Baie Verte in particular.

And so we are concerned that the union has said that they are not prepared to negotiate until the company actually owns the facility. And it is doubtful, at best, Mr. Speaker, if the company would be prepared to move in and purchase the assets of Advocate Mines unless and until the union is prepared to sit down and negotiate in good faith an agreement that is acceptable to both sides.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): A supplementary, the hon.

Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary).

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in the hon. gentleman's answer I detected that the hon. minister was attempting to make the union look like they might be the villain in this whole thing, in the event that Transpacific do not come in and reopen the asbestos mine at Baie Verte.

Would the hon. gentleman - he referred to a figure of 600 jobs. I presume he was referring to the total payroll at peak prior to the closing of the mine- would the hon. gentleman indicate to the House how many of the 600 would Transpacific re-employ in the event that they did come in and reactive the mine? How many jobs are we talking about with Transpacific?

June 17, 1982

Tape No. 1405

MJ - 1

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): The hon. the Minister of Development.

MR. N. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, it is certainly the intention of government and the intention of the company to operate that mine at capacity as quickly as possible. Obviously some of the figures that have been bandied about over the last couple of days reflect the initial start-up. I mean, obviously a mine that is being reactivated after a number of months of closedown will require a period of phase-in and a period of breaking back into the market. And one must remember that Advocate Mines has been operated there for many years with basically one customer, and so that particular fibre is almost unknown in the world market situation. The difficulty we have been facing over the past number of months in trying to reactivate the mine is to enlighten the purchasers of asbestos fibre in the world marketplace on just what that fibre is like and how it performs. You cannot do that unless you have a fibre that is being produced and make it available to them. So the problem we are faced with now is reactivating the mine, establishing that fibre in the marketplace establishing a confidence in that particular fibre and in that operation. And if we can do that, then obviously we would be in a much better position to obtain contracts for purchase of fibre for next year, And as we obtain more contracts, as we market more of the fibre, then the operation will increase in scale and intensity and hopefully we will return that mine to its full operation.

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I notice the hon. gentleman avoided answering the specific part of my question about the number that would be employed in the initial start-up of the operation. We heard a figure bandied about yesterday

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Tape No. 1405

MJ - 2

MR. S. NEARY: outside of the House, out of 600 in the work force only 100 would be re-employed. And the hon. the member for Baie Verte (Mr. Rideout) was talking about 485 during the election.

MR. T. RIDEOUT: Right on, Sir. And before the election and since.

MR. NEARY: Yes.

But, Mr. Speaker, now we learn that the work schedule as outlined by Transpacific would only employ less than 100 men.

But anyway we will deal with that later. What I want to ask the hon. gentleman now is we have never heard and we have never been told in this House how much money the provincial government is putting into this new company and how much the federal government will be putting in? Could the hon. gentleman tell us now what amounts in actual cash and in benefits, like tax concessions and so forth, what will be the amount of input on the part of the provincial government and how much is Ottawa expected to put into that operation?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the Minister of Development.

MR. N. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, that obviously is a matter which is under negotiation at the moment; the final agreement has not been reached. At the point in time when a final agreement is reached, when we know exactly how much the Province will put in and how much the federal government will put in, obviously that information will be made available to hon. members.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Again the hon. gentleman is refusing to give the House specific information.

MR. NEARY: Would the hon. gentleman tell the House if Transpacific have any markets yet for the product of Baie Verte or are they just being subsidized by the provincial and federal governments and have no markets? Does the hon. gentleman have any hard evidence in front of him, has he seen any contracts or any agreements from Transpacific to indicate that this company does indeed have markets for the asbestos?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we certainly have every reason to believe that if the operation is re-activated that markets will be available. As I tried to indicate earlier to the hon. gentleman, one of the problems is that you cannot get a firm contract to supply fibre unless and until, first of all, you own a facility and can demonstrate quite ably that you are going to be operating and producing a fibre which is acceptable in the marketplace. So this is one of the problems here and we have a chicken and an egg situation and we have to try to deal with it hand in hand, Mr. Speaker, in a reasonable and a rational manner in identifying markets, at the same time as re-activating the operation and putting together the financial package that will be necessary to do that. We hope that over the next number of months during the negotiations that indeed additional markets will be found. One of the real dangers here, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to point out carefully, is one of the real dangers is that if the mine is not re-activated in accordance with the schedule that has been laid down, then we have a real possibility of losing the markets that we have already identified and therefore any major delay could result in the mine not operating this year.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Could the hon. gentleman identify the markets that Transpacific have?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not at liberty. They are markets which are in the world market place. They are not markets that were in place before but these are commercial negotiations and when they are finalized by all means I will make the information available.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: We are not getting very much information from the hon. gentleman. I wonder if the hon. gentleman could tell the House whether or not -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. NEARY: - this seems to be the kind of a deal, Mr. Speaker, that we need to ask a lot of questions about. Could the hon. gentleman tell the House if the provincial government

MR. S. NEARY: is taking equity in the new company? If the provincial government is going to subsidize and to put substantial amounts of money into this company called Transpacific, will the Province be taking an equity position in the company?

MR. SPEAKER(Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, first of all there is no subsidy, The hon. gentleman is incorrect when he makes that kind of a statement. We will be providing some financial assistance, perhaps by way of government guaranteed loans or whatever, which will be recovered by the Province in due course.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. gentleman indicate to the House who owns the mine at the present time and the equipment? Is it still owned by Johns-Manville? and if it is owned by Johns-Manville, then would the hon. gentleman indicate to the House whether Transpacific has opened up negotiations with Johns-Manville to either buy or take control of the mine?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I find it amazing that after all of these months of trying to negotiate the re-opening of the mine, the hon. gentleman opposite does not even know who owns it. It is owned by Advocate Mines Limited. Johns-Manville are simply operators and managers of the mine, -or they were before the close-down of the mine. They were under contract to Advocate Mines Limited. And negotiations are taking place with the receiver, Mr. Speaker,

MR. WINDSOR: who is now effectively in control of that operation and any negotiations that are being held are being held with him.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: I understand then from the hon. gentleman that negotiations will have to continue with Johns-Manville, who are the managers. And the hon. gentleman can be as snarky as he wants but we are looking for information, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. gentleman is not being very co-operative.

Would the hon. gentleman indicate to the House whether this will be a major hurdle for Transpacific to overcome to get control of this company and the assets at Baie Verte from Johns-Manville?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, the owners of the mine, as I indicated, are of course the shareholders, and any agreement to sell that mine by the receiver would obviously have to be approved by the shareholders. As one of the shareholders, Johns-Manville obviously will have an input into that. There may be some difficulty in negotiating with them, and government has already a position that we will support any potential takeover which has been already, in fact, supported by both federal and provincial governments, the proposal by Transpacific Asbestos and any negotiations that are necessary with Johns-Manville or anybody else. Certainly we will participate in and lend any support that we can to ensure that that operation is re-activated.

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Tape No. 1407

RA - 3

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, is the hon.
minister aware that the equipment, such as trucks
and shovels etc., are not owned by Johns-Manville
or Advocate Mines but are owned by a company called
Grayhound? The equipment is leased.

MR. WINDSOR: That is part of it, now
what about the rest of it?

MR. NEARY: Now would the hon. gentleman
indicate to the House if Transpacific is negotiating
with Greyhound to take over the leasing agreement
between Greyhound and Johns-Manville?

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, the hon.
gentleman should know that there are many more companies
than Greyhound involved here, that a great deal of the
equipment is indeed leased. I have been very much aware
of that. And, yes, Transpacific Asbestos are having negotiations
with these companies now to ensure an orderly takeover
of that operation.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, is the hon.
minister aware of the proposal that was put to the union
for the operation, for the start-up, or the initial start-
up as the hon. gentleman indicated? Could the hon.
gentleman tell us what proposal was put before the union
that they rejected? Is the hon. gentleman aware of the
proposal? If he is, could he give the House the details?

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

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, Question Period
is only thirty minutes long. The proposal, as I understand
it, is some fifteen pages long. I do not have it with me
and neither do I have it memorized. However, basically
the situation is one that the salaries that were being
paid at the time the mine closed down will be in effect.
The cost of living allowance will be awarded. There is
some dispute over whether or not an eighty cent per hour

MR. WINDSOR: increase, which would have come into effect during the period of close-down of the mine, should be put into effect. And there are, obviously, many other clauses which are being negotiated.

I do not know if the hon. gentleman wants more detail than that. If so, I will have to get an actual copy of the proposal and, with the permission of the parties involved, if they agree, I would make it available to him. Without that, I cannot.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. NEARY: Perhaps I could be a little more specific with the hon. gentleman and ask him if it is correct that the proposal that was put to the union with regard to the work schedule was that the work schedule be from August to October, one milling shift a day for five days a week, that would be one shift for five days a week in the mill, and from November to December three milling shifts per day for three days a week, or twenty-four hours per worker per week, and in the mine, August to September one mining shift per day for five days, and from October to December two mining shifts per day for five days a week? Is the hon. gentleman aware, or could he confirm whether or not this was the proposed part of the proposal that was put to the union?

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

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I do not have those exact details available to me at the moment, but there certainly was a proposal which provided, in accordance with the marketing that has been identified, a proposal which would provide

MR. WINDSOR: a sufficient amount
of fibre to meet the market requirements. And that
was the reason for which, as we

MR. WINDSOR: talked about earlier, we would be phasing in the operation and increasing the intensity of it as the markets increased and as new markets were identified. And, yes, in the proposal there is a work schedule, which is a phase-in sort of system, that allows that mine to operate, based on the markets that have already been identified and the supply schedules that have been agreed to. As new markets are identified, hopefully, the intensity of the operation will be increased, more employees will be re-hired and the mine will return to a much higher level of activity.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, could the hon. gentleman confirm or otherwise whether or not a part of the proposal that was put forward would be that the company would not stockpile any material in Baie Verte, there would be no stockpiling? Could the hon. gentleman confirm that or deny it?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. gentleman aware that a part of the proposal was that the union members be asked to accept an eighty cent reduction in pay and that the two year agreement that the union was talking about would start at the date of the opening of the mine, and that in total there would be a 22 per cent reduction of monetary benefits to the union members. Is the hon. gentleman aware of that?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I have already answered that question. I indicated earlier that the cost of living allowance apparently had been offered, that the eighty cents has not been offered, but there is no 22 per cent reduction, there is simply not the increase that would have taken place during the term during which the mine was closed down.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman, I presume, is familiar with successor rights. The hon. gentleman has done, I presume, his homework on that. Under the labour laws of this Province, when a new company moves in and takes over, the rights of the employees are protected under what they call successor rights. Now has the hon. gentleman done any research on that particular item to get a legal opinion to determine whether or not Trans-pacific Asbestos has to accept the agreement of the previous company in Baie Verte?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, there is no question about law in this case at all. The company is not questioning the laws of this Province, have no intention of, and neither would government tolerate such a thing. Simply all they are doing is re-negotiating with the employees who were there in place.

MR. NEARY: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman, more or less, confirmed that the figures that I threw out in connection with the start-up, the proposal that was made on the work schedule and so forth, was correct. Now, Mr.

MR. NEARY:

Speaker, according to the work schedule it would seem that what we are talking about here is less than 100 jobs. Can the hon. gentleman confirm whether or not that is correct, that in the work schedule, as I outlined it

MR. NEARY: and the company outlined it to the union, that we are talking about less than 100 jobs?

MR. WINDSOR: No, Mr. Speaker, we are not talking about less than 100 jobs.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, could the hon. gentleman tell us how many jobs we are talking about?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister.

MR. WINDSOR: I am not sure, Mr. Speaker, if this is the third or fourth time that I have indicated this afternoon that the number of jobs obviously will depend on the market conditions, on the dates for deliveries and the commitments that are made. As the mine is reactivated, as confidence in the fibre is found, as an assurance that the mine will operate is found, therefore new markets will be identified and the scale and the rate of activity at the mine will increase.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, it is reported that the provincial government will be putting at least \$5 million into that project and the federal government will be putting in approximately \$20 million, for a total of \$25 million. Now, Mr. Speaker, with that kind of funding going in to subsidize the mine or to fund the mine, as the hon. gentleman indicated - the hon. gentleman does not call it a subsidy, but I do not know; a rose by any other name, I think, would smell just as sweet - but would he not consider that to be a high price to pay for 100 jobs? Could not the hon. gentleman drive a harder bargain and try to secure more employment for the former employees of Advocate Mines rather than pay \$25 million for 100 jobs? Could the hon. gentleman not get a better deal than that?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: First of all, Mr. Speaker, I do

MR. WINDSOR: not accept any responsibility for inaccurate reporting which says \$25 million is being put into that operation. The figure is less than that, and I do not intend to give the figure. The hon. gentleman asked me that question earlier and I have answered that. Secondly there are more than 100 jobs, so it is very irresponsible of the hon. gentleman opposite to indicate that we are paying \$25 million, which is an inaccurate figure, to create 100 jobs, which is also inaccurate.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

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

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker, is reluctant to give the House information for some reason or other in connection with this project. Could the hon. gentleman give us a little bit of background of the company we are talking about, Transpacific, a completely unknown company? Can the hon. gentleman give us a little bit of the background of that company?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I think a number of months ago, when I first issued a statement in this House that Transpacific Asbestos had put forward a proposal which seemed very favorable, I gave some background on the company. The company is a company operating out of Toronto, Ontario, that are operating at the moment a mine in Australia, and a number of other various types of operations in various countries. Other than that I do not know how much detail the hon. gentleman would like.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: I would like a little more detail than that, just brushing it off by saying that they have something in Toronto. What is it that they have in Canada this Transpacific? Could the hon. gentleman identify their operations in Canada and tell the House what kind of an operation they run in Canada?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I have not memorized all the operations, I will try to get that information for the hon. gentleman and give it to him at a later date.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is really something. We are talking about a multimillion dollar deal and the hon. -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: - gentleman does not have the information.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Let me ask the hon. gentleman -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

Order, please!

I realize the importance perhaps of this topic. The Chair has been , I think, more than lenient in allowing an extremely large number of supplementary questions, and maybe there are other persons who would like to ask questions. This will be the final supplementary.

MR. NEARY:

Well, if there are, Mr.

Speaker.

MR. MARSHALL:

On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order, the hon.

President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

On a point of order and a point of privilege combined. When Your Honour is speaking in this House, and particularly addressing a member about a matter that he is bringing up in the House, that member is duty bound to take his seat and show some respect for the Chair of this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL:

And I would suggest that the hon. member adopt this in the future. And I draw it to Your Honour's attention for the purpose of calling him to order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY:

I would not bother to respond to that, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

It is correct when the Speaker is making a ruling or bringing points to hon. members attention that he should be heard in silence. As I said, the Chair has been more than lenient in allowing an exceptionally large number of supplementary questions. Certainly if there are no others who want to ask questions, then the Chair is prepared to let the hon. Leader of the Opposition continue.

MR. NEARY:

Good ruling, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. minister - and the hon. House Leader (Mr. Marshall) can try to protect the minister all he wants - Could the minister tell the House what kind of an operation Transpacific has in Australia, and is it a viable operation that they have in Australia? Or does the hon. gentleman know anything at all about this company?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR:

Mr. Speaker, the operation, as I have already indicated, is an asbestos mining operation in Australia which has been operating now for many years. There have been some financial difficulties with the company and the Government of Australia.

MR. NEARY:

Oh, I see.

MR. RIDEOUT:

They did not walk away from it though.

MR. WINDSOR:

Listen to the hon. gentleman.

MR. RIDEOUT:

They managed to finance it.

MR. WINDSOR:

It is interesting that the Government of Australia has shown enough confidence in the operation down there that they have participated in it with them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT:

And the government of New South Wales.

MR. NEARY:

that the hon. gentleman -

Now, Mr. Speaker, I presume

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY:

rights

- has checked out the assessor

MR. NEARY: that I spoke about a few moments ago. I did not hear the hon. gentleman confirm or deny whether or not he has gotten a legal ruling, and if this company has been told that they have to abide by the laws of Canada and of Newfoundland. Has the hon. gentleman got a legal opinion on this matter of successor rights? And if the hon. gentleman does have a legal opinion, is he prepared to table it in the House?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, again I have already answered that question; there is no dispute over the laws of this Province. The company is very familiar with the labour legislation as administered by my hon. colleague, the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn). They are not disputing or questioning that legislation and will certainly be abiding by it.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I presume also from the information the hon. gentleman gave and from the things that we have been reading in the newspapers and hearing on the radio about this deal, that the market the hon. gentleman is talking about for the product of this company is in India, And would the hon. gentleman indicate whether or not in this particular industry that the fibres have to be sent out a year in advance in order to make them acceptable - or to determine whether or not they are acceptable to the market? And if this market is in India, has the product been accepted by whoever is going to buy it in India? Or is there just speculation so far as to whether or not the product of Baie Verte can indeed be sold to India?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, yes, samples of that fibre have been made available to the potential customer. And I will confirm, yes, that India is one, and I stress just one of the potential customers. At this point in time there is not a firm commitment, but we have every reason to believe that the fibre would be bought by that operation. And again that depends on starting up the operation and ensuring that fibre will be available and these people of course have marketing commitments for their own products and they have to know that there is a security of supply.

Until the operation is resumed, then it is impossible of course to give firm commitments to these people that the fibre will be available. So it is very important, Mr. Speaker, that these negotiations continue with all haste, that an agreement be reached between union and company, both levels of government, the shareholders of the company, the receivers, and the new company moving in, as well as the marketing people.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, that was a slightly different answer than the one I got about fifteen minutes ago from the hon. gentleman about markets. I asked the hon. gentleman before if there were firm markets for the products of Transpacific. Now could the hon. gentleman tell me, yes or no, are there indeed firm markets or is this just speculation?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Development.

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MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, the previous question was different than the question that was asked earlier. Earlier he asked me were there firm markets.

MR. WINDSOR: The previous question was was the market in India firm, and I have answered that. But there are other firm markets other than India. As I have indicated, there is more than one market being looked at for the fibre from Baie Verte.

MR. NEARY: Now, Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary.

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

MR. NEARY: Could the hon. gentleman indicate now - I will go back to the question I started within the beginning about that events that took place yesterday in Baie Verte - does this mean now that the union is going to be painted by the hon. gentleman as the villain, or are negotiations continuing? And could the hon. gentleman tell the House when the mine is expected to start up again?

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

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, we would certainly hope that negotiations would continue. Certainly it is our indication from the company that they would be very prepared to continue negotiating with the union on the matters that have been addressed over the past day or so. I trust that the union will take the same position, and that they will indeed be prepared to sit down and negotiate with the company. We would certainly hope that as a result of that we can put in place a financial package, a marketing package and a labour package which will ensure this operation will return to normal by around mid-August at the latest and that the people of Baie Verte will have an opportunity for continued employment.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, perhaps
I could try to pin the hon. gentleman down -

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

MR. NEARY: - a little further. Will
the hon. gentleman tell the House now what hurdles,
apart from the union negotiations that he keeps referring
to, what other hurdles have to be overcome now in order
to get that mine reactivated at Baie Verte?

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

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, once again the
negotiations are progressing very well. There is a
difficulty, of course, with the union that we have already
addressed this afternoon, there are the continuing
difficulties of identifying firm markets and that, of
course, depends on all the factors that I have talked
about. There are the financial implications of putting
together the final details of the financial package. When
all that is in place, we will have an operation.

MR. NEARY: So the thing is way up in
the air.

MR. WINDSOR: The hon. gentleman
obviously does not understand what it takes to get a
business in place.

MR. NEARY: I understand. I understand.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. RIDEOUT: Not like the Bell Island
contract the hon. gentleman had on his desk before the
election was called

MR. NEARY: Well, at least there was a
contract. At least there was a contract. What a
gigantic bluff. What a bluff. What a bluff.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. RIDEOUT: It is not the Belle Island bluff, I can tell you.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. CALLAN: Let me ask the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Hickey), a question, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CALLAN: Let me ask the Minister of Social Services, Mr. Speaker, is he satisfied -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HICKEY: I cannot hear.

MR. CALLAN: No.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CALLAN: Let me ask the Minister, Mr. Speaker, of Social Services -

MR. HICKEY: I got that part, will you give me the rest of it?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

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

I plead with hon. members on both sides. The hon. the member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) had been attempting to ask a question, and the hon. minister has indicated that he cannot hear it, and the Speaker cannot hear anybody - so would everybody, please, be quiet?

MR. YOUNG: Let us hear somebody.

MR. HICKEY: He did not get a chance to get it out yet.

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

MR. CALLAN: Yes. The hon. the Minister of Social Services, let me ask the minister, Mr. Speaker, is he satisfied with the 90 day plan, for the want of a better expression? An applicant for social services, for example, has to

MR. W. CALLAN: have his financial situation reviewed ninety days previous to his applying to that department. Is the minister satisfied that that ninety day rule is a good rule in all cases for applicants of Social Services?

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

MR. T. HICKEY: Cases of people applying for social assistance are dealt with on the basis of individual circumstances as it applies to the family, and whether it is thirty, sixty or ninety days, there is nothing magic about it. The overall circumstances of the family are taken into account and the decision is arrived at based on those circumstances. What the hon. gentleman is referring to is eligibility regulations that are in place, and the change from thirty to sixty and ninety days. And I say to my hon. friend, yes, I am satisfied and indeed I have no difficulty in defending the changing of that from thirty to sixty to ninety days because my staff in the field have the clear-cut authority and discretion to help people and families who are in need, notwithstanding income in the past thirty, sixty or ninety days. And they are charged with the responsibility of seeing to it that no undue hardship is created, or in fact that a legitimate need is responded to and filled.

The other thing is, Mr. Speaker, the whole basis for going from thirty to sixty to ninety days is in fact to instill in people, who sometimes are not always as resourceful as they should be in the disbursement of their financial resources, that - first things first - to provide for their children, the family unit, not necessarily to acquire other things in life, be it vacation, be it vehicles, be it luxury items, be it a whole range of things. And of course, finally, Mr. Speaker, there are cases where indeed

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MR. T. HICKEY: someone in the past thirty days has had no income but in the past ninety days they could well have earned \$10,000. And some of those have found their way on social assistance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!
The time for Oral Questions has expired.

000

MR. J. HODDER: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I have noticed here throughout Question Period that there is hardly anybody here in the front benches. If we are going to ask questions - I have been waiting to ask the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. J. Morgan) a question for quite some time.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER: The ministers of Fisheries, Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. C. Power), Education (Ms. L. Verge), Health (Mr. W. House),

MR. HODDER:

the Premier and the Minister of Transportation(Mr. Dawe), just to name a few, are not here. And besides that -

MR. BAIRD: There were none of you here at three o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER(Russell) : Order, please!

MR. HODDER: - Mr. Speaker , what has happened to this government? Are they crumbling? Can they not keep the ministers in the House.

MR. NEARY: They are falling apart, falling apart.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. W. MARSHALL: That is not a point of order.

MR. NEARY: It is a legitimate point of order.

MR. MARSHALL: The fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that any of the ministers that are not in the Chamber are about business of the government and the hon. gentleman is well aware of it. It is also a fact, Mr. Speaker, that that is a rather cheap point of order the hon. gentleman brings up. It is not a point of order, We had to suspend the operation really for a few moments today in order to see that the Opposition got up here in time to take part in Question Period.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The point of order raised by the hon. member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) is not indeed a point of order.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

MR. SPEAKER(Russell): The hon. Minister of Development.

MR. WINDSOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table the report of the Northern Oceans Research and Development Corporation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. John's North.

MR. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to report that the Social Services Estimates Committee -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. CARTER: - I would like to report that the Social Services Estimates Committee has met and completed their work and have passed the following heads: Head XII-Environment; Head XIII-Education, Head XIV-Social Services, Head XV Health, Head-XVII-Culture, Recreation and Youth and Head XIX-Justice without amendment.

On motion report received and adopted.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN.

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

DR. COLLINS: The hon. member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) is keeping up the good work. I table two further answers that he requested, on June 22nd, and May 4th.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. MARSHALL: Order 4.

On motion, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Unified Family Court Act," read a third time, ordered passed and its title be as on the Order Paper. (Bill No. 43)

MR. MARSHALL: Order 5.

On motion, a bill, "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act," read a third time, ordered passed and its title be as on the Order Paper. (Bill No. 2)

Motion, the hon. Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend the Workers' Compensation Act," carried. (Bill No. 50)

On motion, Bill No. 50 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

Motion, the hon. Minister Responsible For Energy (Mr. Marshall) to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Newfoundland And Labrador Hydro Act, 1975", carried. (Bill No. 51)

On motion, Bill No. 51, read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

Before we start discussion on Head 302-01, I would like to give a ruling on a point of order raised by the hon. President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) the last day we sat in Committee. I have reviewed Hansard and when the hon. President of the Council moved a point of

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

order. The hon. Leader of the Opposition withdrew his remarks, so the point of order is settled.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN: 302-01

MR. NEARY: I do not remember what it was I said that upset the hon. gentleman but -

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

MR. NEARY: - the last thing in this world we want to do, Mr. Chairman, is upset the Government House Leader because the hon. gentleman could unleash such a vicious attack on us. We know what the hon. gentleman is capable of. We have seen it happen in the last forty-eight hours or seventy-two hours.

MR. TULK: He is going to change his wording.

MR. NEARY: He is going to change his wording now, is he? Well, Mr. Chairman, we are on the Premier's salary again today and we have three or four hours left to debate the Premier's salary. And it is a good thing we do have some time left, Mr. Chairman -

MR. HODDER: There is so much happening.

MR. NEARY: - when there is so much happening. The Premier went off again on another jaunt, this time to speak to the National Press Gallery up in Ottawa. And he finally took off his mask yesterday, Mr. Chairman, in Ottawa in a speech to the National Press Club and he said - and I quote the hon. Premier here is what he said, "Unless Newfoundland's economy and social conditions improve, there is a chance separatist sentiment could grow in this Province."

MR. RIDEOUT: How do you know he said that?

MR. NEAPY:

How do I know he said it?

MR. RIDEOUT:

They do not write that wholly for newspapers.

MR. NEARY:

Well, I did not hear the Premier deny it so I can only assume that he is standing by it.

MR. RIDEOUT:

What did he say after it?

MR. HODDER:

Do not even bother to answer him, Santa Claus!

MR. NEARY:

What did he say after? I do not know. He says so many things, Mr. Chairman, that the problem we have is keeping up with the hon. gentleman. But I would think that he finally put his cards on the table, Mr. Chairman. His statement is the first honest comment that we have heard from the Premier about how he can conceive that Canada could be fractured if social and economic conditions in Newfoundland are not to his liking.

Mr. Chairman, this is not the first time that the Premier of this Province has made this kind of a statement on Mainland Canada. Less than a year ago he made similar statements in Montreal and in British Columbia, and we are beginning to find out now, Mr. Chairman, from these statements that are being made, which are wild and irresponsible statements by the Premier of this Province, we are beginning to find out where he really stands with regard to Confederation and to where this Province stands within Confederation and within this country. The hon.

MR. NEARY:

gentleman, Mr. Chairman, seems to want to mesmerize the people of this Province with these kind of anti-Confederate and anti-Canadian statements. And, Mr. Chairman, I would think that an awful lot of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians this morning were very concerned and terribly upset with the thoughts that were expressed by the Premier on his latest jaunt to Ottawa. Mr. Chairman, even if the hon. gentleman was harbouring these thoughts in his mind, even if he had them tucked away in his computer, you would think that discretion would be the better part of valour, that the hon. gentleman would keep these thoughts to himself. Because what he is really doing in a shrewd, slick, slippery kind of way, Mr. Chairman, what he is really saying is that if he does not get his own way, if things do not work out to his satisfaction, then he is likely to lead Newfoundland into a movement to separate from the rest of Canada. That is really what the hon. gentleman is saying, Mr. Chairman. What he is really saying is that he can foresee the day in this Province when he will have his own little kingdom. We will have no hospital care, no MCP, we will have no social assistance programmes whereby the people of this Province collect 50 per cent of their social assistance from the Government of Canada, we will have hospitals operated on a reduced scale, we will have no road programmes other than vital roads that exist throughout the Province. And perhaps, Mr. Chairman, the only thing that would survive would be the luxuries that the Premier is so quick to protect for himself, the luxuries of having a rent-free house and his telephone paid for, and his lights paid for and his heating bills paid by the people of this Province, and his private dining room and his own airplane and helicopters, and his own bodyguards.

MR. NEARY: going around studying the victims of the biggest con job of all time, Mr. Chairman, this is really what the hon. gentleman is advocating, and I think it is shameful, Mr. Chairman. It is shameful that the hon. gentleman should drop this little pearl of wisdom to the Press Club in Ottawa. Because by doing that, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman must be conscious that what he is doing as Premier of this Province, as the Chief Executive Officer in this Province, he is planting the idea of separation in the minds of the Newfoundland people. That is what he is doing, Mr. Chairman. And what he is telling the rest of Canada is that if the hon. gentleman does not get his own way, if the Government of Canada does not do things his way or the Government of Quebec does not do things his way, that the next thing we know, Mr. Chairman, is that the Premier of this Province will be sponsoring a referendum on separation. I can see that coming, Mr. Chairman. That is not too far down the road.

MR. BAIRD: Rubbish!

MR. NEARY: What is rubbish?

MR. BAIRD: Rubbish!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman can say it is rubbish. But what we are seeing here is a deliberate attempt on the part of the Premier of this Province to place the idea, food for thought, in the minds of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, that Newfoundlanders should separate.

AN HON. MEMBER: What do you think you are doing now?

MR. NEARY: I am opposed to it. I am opposed to that -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I am opposed to that kind of a con game. And it is the biggest con game of all time, Mr. Chairman, -

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not a con game.

MR. NEARY:

Yes, it is a con game.

AN HON. MEMBER:

(inaudible) contract was?

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Chairman, the hon.

Premier should go a little further and tell us what kind of Newfoundland we will have after he starts his separation movement.

AN HON. MEMBER:

A constitutional monarchy.

MR. NEARY:

What kind of coins will we be using in Newfoundland? Will we be using the peso, lira, or the yen after the hon. gentleman is finished pulling us

MR. NEARY: out of Confederation, Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, the whole attitude of this administration since day one has been anti-Confederate, anti-Canadian. Mr. Chairman, all we hear from this administration, day in and day out, are anti-Canadian slogans, anti-Canadian statements. And what they are really doing is that the hon. gentlemen who are anti-Confederates, and the hon. Government House Leader (Mr. Marshall) is one, the anti-Confederates are fighting the battle of Confederation all over again.

MR. MARSHALL: What nonsense.

MR. NEARY: That is not nonsense, Mr. Chairman. I defy the hon. Government House Leader, I challenge him to get up in this House and tell the House what a good Canadian he is, and how much he appreciates living in Canada, one of the finest countries in the world. There is no other country in the world today the equal of Canada. There is no other country that I would like to live in other than Canada. I think it is one of the best countries in the world.

Mr. Chairman, any problems that we have within Confederation we should be able to resolve through negotiations. But this administration will not negotiate. You either do things the way that the Government House Leader and the Premier want them done or you do not do them at all. They are paranoid, Mr. Chairman. They are in a manic state.

MR. WINDSOR: Tell us how you would do it now.

MR. NEARY: Yes, I can tell the hon. gentleman how I would do it. I already gave the administration advice that they will not listen to. The only way, Mr. Chairman, to resolve labour/management disputes, to resolve territorial disputes, to resolve differences of opinion between two parties is to sit down

MR. NEARY:

faith.

and negotiate in good

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

has elapsed.

MR. NEARY:

again, Mr. Chairman.

Order, please!

The hon. member's time

I will get back at it

MR. MARSHALL:

MR. CHAIRMAN:

the Council.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

MR. MARSHALL:

coming from

Mr. Chairman.

The hon. the President of

Hear, hear!

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is

MR. MARSHALL:

the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) of this Province, the same gentleman who wants to bring the estimates back into the full House. He tells the people of this Province that by bringing the estimates back into the full House and Committee of the Whole, such as we have now, all of the estimates, that the Province would be better served by an intensive examination of the expenditures. Now we have seen an example of what it would lead to. It would be seventy-five hours of that. In actual fact what happened with the estimates is they have been divided off into smaller committees and as a result of this all members who wish to get a greater appreciation of the workings of government, and at the same time the government gets a greater appreciation of areas where it can look to for improving the management of the Province.

Not a question, Mr. Chairman, last Tuesday, not a question so far today with respect to the estimates. The only type of questions that the hon. gentleman wants to raise are the little innuendoes, the old hackneyed type of statements with respect to the Premier and the Premier's house and what have you, that people just are not interested in listening to anymore.

The hon. gentleman spent the whole time talking about the matter of separatism, anti-Confederatism, The only thing I can say to the hon. gentleman is this, Mr. Chairman, that within a family, the family of Canada as in any family, you can have disputes, and certainly we have had our disputes, but also within a family, particularly the younger members of the family, do not get to fly until they assert their rights. There were, during the period of the first twenty years of Confederation, no assertions

MR. MARSHALL: of the rights of Newfoundland within Confederation. The only thing we were taught to was to sing the greatest gift next to God himself was Confederation, to be thankful for the welfare payments, and transfer payments that came down, and to be good boys, keep our lips buttoned and sit in our seat while at the same time, unfortunately, other more powerful areas of Canada were depriving us from our rightful resources which would have supported this Province and brought us up to the level of all Canadians, which is all that this Province wants to do, and all the Premier wants to do, all any minister or any member on this side of the House wishes to do.

Now because we assert a strong stand, and it is only by asserting and continuing to assert strong stands that you are going to get your rights, they attempt to discredit the administration in the only way they know how, by saying it is anti-Confederate and it is separatist. If you open your mouth,

MR. MARSHALL:

if you are not a lap-doggish little toady like the hon. members are, always down snivelling on their knees--the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary), we have seen what was happened to him since this session has transpired. first off he gets up in this House and he says that he would not trust Mr. Lalonde, I believe he said, as far as he could throw him. And obviously he was disciplined and he was brought to heel by the federal rajah or whoever it was -- perhaps by the leader outside the House, Mr. Stirling, I do not know; I do not know what the reason was-- but all of a sudden he comes in meek and mild and he starts asserting what Mr. Lalonde says, and the protector of Mr. Lalonde, protector of the federal government. And that is all well and fine for the hon. gentleman, because the hon. gentleman knows where that road leads. And we have tried that road for a number of years and we have seen what has happened as a result to our resources. All that this government wants, make no mistake about it, is just an equal chance to gain equality, equality of services, equality of opportunity for the people of this Province equal to other Canadians. We want the right to be able to contribute to Canada, we want the right to be able to develop our resources so that one of those days, instead of having to take transfer payments, we can have the privilege and the dignity that any provinces wishes or any individual wishes, to be able to make a contribution to the rest of Canada rather than have it come all in the other way. Now we do not happen to think, by the way, it comes all to the degree and the other way that the hon. gentlemen think it does, because one of the thorns in the side of the flesh of this Province is the Upper Churchill contract. We know that an amount equal to the amount we are receiving in equalization

MR. MARSHALL: payments, or just about that much, is going into the Province of Quebec, and we strongly believe that what should happen - equalization is great and that is fine - but it is the Province of Quebec that should receive \$600 million on the equalization payments and it is we who should receive the benefit of our resources of \$600 million. And then we will build on that and we will be able to contribute to Quebec and we will be able to contribute to Nova Scotia and the other provinces that do not. That is all we want and that is all we do.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: And the hon. gentleman there opposite can squeal and holler all he wants to about the anti-Confederatism and what have you and get on with such inanities, but that is not the fact and I do not think that anybody in this Province believes it. I mean, the question was put to the people of this Province less than three months ago on that very same -

AN HON. MEMBER: The same issue.

MR. MARSHALL: - yes, on that very, very same issue. And the people of this Province spoke loud and strong and very firmly, as you can see by the distribution of the seats, as you can see by the popular vote, that they approve

MR. W. MARSHALL:

of the policy of this government in the assertion of the rights of the people of Newfoundland within the Canadian Confederation. And this is what the government is doing. Now, to come back again, Mr. Chairman, I will take my seat now in the hopes that we will get some meaningful questions to answer on the estimates. After all, the fact of the matter is the Minister of Finance has introduced into the legislature of this Province the best budget that has ever been presented, certainly, in modern times. I repeat again, as we have to do day after day after day, this is the only Province in Eastern Canada that is coming in with a balance budget on current account, and that in hard times with the meager resources which we have. The Province of Quebec is borrowing a total of nearly \$ 3 billion, but approximately \$2 billion on current account. The Province of Nova Scotia has raised retail sales tax by two per cent, personal income by four per cent, all other taxes, but is still coming in with a deficit on current account of about \$130 million. The Province of New Brunswick is coming in with a deficit in current account and so is the Province of Prince Edward Island. Now what is this little province doing? Despite the fact that it is assailed on all sides, its resources are being husbanded away from it by the federal government in the offshore, they have been dissipated from it up in Labrador, despite all these factors, despite the economic climate, this government is coming in with a surplus—not a deficit—on current account of \$4.5 million. And that is no mean feat. Now the hon. gentlemen will get as they will on radio and television, and you will hear them from time to time saying that the budget is a false one, it is cooked up and all the rest of it. They said the same last year, Mr. Chairman, but the same thing pertained. We were the ones last year to

MR. W. MARSHALL: come in and realize a surplus on current account. Now if they think that this budget, Mr. Chairman, is phony and is made up with elements that are not correct, that cannot stand the test of questioning, why do they not ask questions with respect to the expenditure of the money instead of getting on with these stupid inanities that we have heard the past couple of days from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. S. Neary) which does nothing to dignify the office which he holds so temporarily?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. E. HISCOCK: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker, with regard to commenting upon the salary of the Premier's Office: It has been reported now, of course that the Premier is

MR. HISCOCK:

in a little bit of a controversy with the media of this Province and why he got himself into that is beyond me. But I would like to address a few things that the President of the Council stated. He said that, you know, we should sit back here and accept our handouts and every other little bit that Ottawa gives us and be grateful and close our mouth and go cap-in-hand and all these things. It is this attitude, Mr. Chairman, that is not only perpetuated here in this Province but in other provinces that got Canada, this great country of ours, in the mess that it is in with regard to economics, with regard to national unity and other problems. At the World Economic Summit in France, in Versailles, they ended up interviewing people in the major cities of the industrial world in these seven countries, and the question was asked, 'Which country do you think has the greatest hope, in which country are the people most contented and happy?' Without any doubt all seven of them picked - or six of them picked Canada. The only one that picked the United States of America was Japan and, of course, Japan ended up picking Canada second. Here are outside countries of Spain, Italy, France, United States, Japan and West Germany, all these countries feeling that Canada has the greatest potential and also has unflinching potential of the future, and yet here we have, in our own Province the President of the Council getting up and saying Central Canada, other parts of Canada really do not want this part of Canada to become great or to become anything.

MR. ANDREWS:

True.

MR. HISCOCK:

The Minister of the Environment

MR.HISCOCK: (Mr.Andrews) says it is true.
Well I would go so far as to say that if you go to Quebec you will hear the same thing from Mr. Levesque and the Minister of Energy there; if you go out in Alberta you will hear the same thing from Alberta and Peter Lougheed.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR.HISCOCK: And the one thing, Mr. Chairman, that this decade will be recorded with historians,as much as the Minister of the Environment (Mr.Andrews) would like to think and like to put it on the shoulders of the Prime Minister of this country, Mr. Trudeau, that as time passes one of the greatest critical critiques will be made of the provinces is that the provinces did not rise to the opportunity when Canada was in need and when Canada was in difficulty;instead they

blamed it on Central Canada, blamed it on the Bogey Man, blamed it on the Prime Minister of Canada, and all the Premiers of the ten provinces reneaged on their responsibility of working together and putting the country forward.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR.CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

MR.HISCOCK: And if we have a low dollar in this country,the Premiers of the provinces have to accept that responsibility.And if we have high interest rates it is also the Premiers as well as the Cabinet members -

MR.CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR.HISCOCK: - of this Province -

MR.CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR.HISCOCK: - Mr. Chairman, that have to accept it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order!

MR. MARSHALL:

On a point of order, Mr.

Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

Order! A point of order, the hon.

President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL:

Mr. Chairman, look, we are considering the estimates. The hon. gentleman is not being relevant, he is not speaking to the estimates. He is engaged in a general debate with respect to federal-provincial relationship. He is talking about the federal government and Alberta and what have you. So I bring it back. We are on the estimates of the Executive Council, Mr. Chairman, and as interesting as what the hon. gentleman may have to say, even though it might be appropriate for Address in Reply speech, it is not appropriate, it is not relevant and it is not dealing with the business before the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY:

To that point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

To that point of order, the

hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Chairman, I will submit that my colleague is relevant. Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with the Premier's salary. The Premier has been travelling around this country from coast to coast making statements and we are now approving his salary, and we have a right to comment on his behaviour or his statement he is making both

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER:

What could be more relevant!

MR. NEARY:

-inside and outside of this House. As my hon. colleague says, Mr. Chairman, what could be more relevant than that.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): To that point of order, I wish to remind the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock) that we are doing the estimates of the Premier's Office. And it is traditional in this House that debate is rather wide ranging, but I would ask the hon. member if he would direct his remarks to Head 302-01.

MR. HISCOCK: I thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the Premier's Office, if we are going to pay the highest paid Premier in this country of ours, the have-not provinces, then I also feel that we have a right on this side, Her Majesty's loyal Opposition, to point out that if we are going to pay the Premier of this Province and the other provinces they have the right to be able to take what is sauce for the goose is sauce of the gander. And that if we are in difficult times in this Province, and I will only deal with this part of our country, if we are in difficulties economically and socially and culturally in this Province, we have to put it on the shoulders, of course, of this Premier that we have now, Mr. Peckford, and his Cabinet.

All I am saying with regard to the amount of money that we are paying into the Executive Office as well as the Premier's Office, we are not getting our due return in the sense of productivity. If we are going to overcome the problems in Baie Verte, if we are going to overcome the mining problems in Labrador City, if we are going to overcome the fishing problems in our fish plants across this Province, the construction industry, the social services for our people who are getting older all of the time, and having a freeze on institutional homes in this Province, if

MR. HISCOCK:

we are going to provide future for our younger people who are now finding out that they cannot get jobs, that their future is now in question of having their lifestyles that they want through study, pursued and are having those questioned, if we are having this, Mr. Chairman, then we need some leadership. We need some leadership and we need some co-operation, and I would like to see, in this time of hard economic times - it is not a recession, we are into a depression - and what we need to have is we need to have close co-operation between the Premier of this Province, the other premiers, and national government instead of blaming it on the Prime Minister or blaming it on anybody else. It is difficult and we need to find concrete solutions. We had the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) with regard to constructing a new trades and fisheries college here in this Province, saying, 'Waiting for the money. All we need is Ottawa to get off its butt and pass down the money.' The Minister of Labour and Manpower does not realize the deficit of this country as well as this Province is getting larger and larger all the time. And the ratings that are given by the international banking institutes of the provinces, Quebec now has dropped from an AA to an A, and other ones in these provinces are dropping. And instead of advocating to our people a period of restraint, and trying to get our people to lower expectation, here we are saying, "Send in the money. Send in the money. Spend more. Spend more." And yet saying they are not to have taxes. Sure I want x number of other things in my district, sure I want x number of things here in this Province, but one thing I want over and above anything else and that is a sound economy, based on productivity and union between management, labour and government. But instead what we are seeing from this government, we are having no thought whatsoever for the national

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MR. HISCOCK: issues, we are having no concern whatsoever for the problems that are confronting this nation, and that we have to spend a seventy cent dollar, all we are saying is that 'we want more, we want more, we want more. And it is only peanuts anyway what we are getting.' And as long as the other

MR. HISCOCK:

provinces continue to take this attitude, that it is a bottomless pit and that we can get what we want out of the taxpayers of this country and of this Province, then, Mr. Chairman, I, for one, feel that this is the reason why we are in the economic situation that we are in in this country and Province now, that the sky is the limit, that you spend your way out of inflation, that you spend your way out of hard economic times. And I think it is time to take the bull by the horns and tell our people you cannot have your expectations fulfilled, you cannot have all the things that you would like to have, there has to be a period of restraint for the next two or three years.

If the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) had gotten up and said that to the people instead of juggling the books and saying he had a surplus on current account, I, for one, on this side would be applauding him and saying that he took a responsible attitude. But is he doing that?

AN HON. MEMBER:

No.

MR. HISCOCK:

And the member for St.

John's West (Mr. Barrett), probably one of the soundest businessmen in this House, I would expect a little bit more leadership from him, now that he is a parliamentary secretary, by his saying to our people in this Province, 'We are going beyond our means, we are spending beyond our means. We want more, yet we do not want an increase in taxes'.

So, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the Premier's salary, and the Executive Council, I, for one, if the person has it, many people say that he should not have it, I, for one, feel that if he is going to have it, then he should get into the productivity element of our Province.

MR. HISCOCK: But I would like, instead of hearing answers to questions in the National Press Club saying that the separatist movement will grow down here in this Province, I would like for him to take a more independent line, as he has done in many cases. I do not always disagree with what the Premier has tried to show the rest of Canada, that we are a fiercely proud Province of Canada, and that we are very proud, we have our dignity and we want our share in this Canadian nation, but I feel that we can have it as an equal partner. But the government here proceeds on the premise that we are not equal in the first place, and that what we are getting is only cap in hand.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

Order, please!

The hon. member's time

has elapsed.

MR. HISCOCK:

In closing, Mr. Chairman,

I would hope

MR. HISCOCK: that this government and this Cabinet and this Premier will address the needs of this nation. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, before the hon.

member leaves the Chamber, I just want to give him a little bit of education. This is a publication or pamphlet, or whatever you want to call it, put out by McLeod, Young, Weir Investment Counsellors and a financial house of great value, great worth and they reported on the Newfoundland Budget. I will just read a few parts of it. It says in the summary, 'This was an aggressive budget aimed at stimulating the provincial economy and hastening the expected economic recovery while keeping financial requirements within manageable limits'.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

DR. COLLINS: Further on, 'Spending measures are geared to preserving the present level of public services and stimulating economic activity in areas where the Province has a natural advantage. New or expanded spending initiatives are concentrated on transportation, municipal infrastructure, schools, fisheries, marine industries, forestry' and so on. And then a little bit further on it says here in the conclusion, 'This Budget realistically addresses present financial and economic conditions in the Province of Newfoundland. In terms of government finances, these conditions include inflationary pressures on expenditures, the recessionary impact on a provincial revenue base, and substantial adjustments to provincial revenues from a shifting pattern of federal transfers. The government acknowledges the limits of its

DR. COLLINS: own ability to raise large amounts of additional income without damaging its revenue base.'

MR. MARSHALL: Listen to that, will you.

DR. COLLINS: And so on.

MR. MARSHALL: Criticize that will you, now.
Criticize that.

DR. COLLINS: And finally it says, 'It is also worth noting that the common thread of the provincial budgets which have been presented for fiscal 1983 is that even those provinces with far more plentiful financial resources have little realistic expectation in the short run of leveraging their economies very far off the basic course established by federal monetary and fiscal policy and the state of international commodity markets. Within this limited framework Newfoundland has made both prudent and productive use of the resources at its disposal.'

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the people who know - and I wish the hon. member had not left - the people who are in the know realize that this government has brought in a good budget. It has not fiddled any books, as the hon. member has suggested. We have brought in a budget that the financial people in the world markets feel is a very confident, very realistic, very well managed budget and we are proud to have been part of it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to have a few words -

MR. BARRETT: Good!

MR. W. CALLAN: Every time I stand, Mr. Chairman, it seems as though the member for St. John's West (Mr. Barrett) gets into the act. Mr. Chairman, when the CBC reported recently that our Premier was the most expensive Premier in Canada and they used some examples, they did not even scratch the surface in the examples that they gave, Mr. Chairman. And as we see in our budget, the Premier and his office cost us close to \$1 million, close to \$1 million a year - \$940,000, I think it is, or, something like that. Close to \$1 million. I am quite certain, Mr. Chairman, that there are many and better ways in which a lot of this money could be spent. Obviously, of course, I cannot help but refer to the continuence of the Markland Cottage Hospital as one example of where some of that money could be better spent, to maintain the facility that we have there. And when we get a meeting with the Premier and, of course, the Minister of Health (Mr. House) there is another question in relation to that. Well, Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, the CBC only touched the tip of the iceberg really. And just now, as an example, just now before the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) sat down, and of course other Cabinet ministers from time to time make reference to the same fact, that, you know, it was two or three months ago on April 6th that the people of this Province spoke, and I remember one gentleman on the other side the other day saying that 60 per cent of the people in the Province, Well actually, of course, everybody knows that it was not 60 per cent of the people in the Province, it was only 60 per cent of the people who actually got out to vote. And everybody knows

MR. CALLAN: again that the vast majority of the Tory votes came from St. John's and surrounding areas. So there were large numbers of people around rural Newfoundland, 35 per cent of them, who did not vote for the Premier and his party. But the point made just now by the Deputy Premier, who is now leaving, that the people in Newfoundland voted for the continuence of the fight, Mr. Chairman, anybody with any common sense at all realizes that that is not the case. You see,

MR. W. CALLAN:

the election was not fought at all on the issue. It started out as the issue, but then the Premier, not wanting to trust to that alone, dragged in all kinds of other issues. He dragged a budget - not a budget, he dragged out all the goodies in the budget, announced them over a three week period as the campaign progressed. All of the taxes and so on, all that, of course, was forgotten. On an open line programme in Corner Brook when the Premier was asked about the budget, he completely side-stepped and evaded the question by saying to the open line caller, 'Well, perhaps I will not be Premier and perhaps whoever else is Premier will bring out a budget.' He completely side-stepped it. Arrogant, arrogant! And of course, on the infamous debate that we saw on television involving the three party leaders you know, we had some people, by the way, brought in from the Mainland, I think. One of the people involved in that debate, a doctor So-and-So. You that good doctor in his wisdom - not a medical doctor, obviously, a doctor of philosophy or something or other - but this good doctor in his wisdom asked the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. L. Stirling) about a budget. He did not ask the Premier, the obvious one to ask, you know, about the budget. But even when the Leader of the Opposition said, 'Well, it seems rather strange to me for you to be asking me about the budget. You know, we are not the people in power that should be asking the Premier.' And even in a sideways fashion in that infamous debate, even when the question was partially put to the Premier, again he completely side-stepped it, about the increases in taxes and so on, of what was going to be in the budget. So the issue, the election campaign that culminated on April 6th, Mr. Chairman, was not fought on the issue that the President of the Council (Mr. W. Marshall) says it was fought on. It was fought on a dozen and one things.

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MR. W. CALLAN: And to get around to the point that I started out to make, Mr. Chairman, about the Premier being the most expensive in Canada, that was not mentioned in the CBC report. Everybody in Newfoundland knows that there was no need for an election and if the Premier really wanted to find out whether the populace or the voters or whatever in this Province agreed with him in his continued fight, then obviously the Premier would of held a referendum, which quite obviously would have been far, far cheaper, millions of dollars cheaper a the running off of a provincial general election, just two and a half

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MR. CALLAN: years into the Premier's term -
not even halfway through his term.

MR. ANDREWS: He still did not lose the election or
have you forgotten that?

MR. CALLAN: I am contradicting what the
President of the Council had to say in his remarks.
Let us put that to bed, let us put that to sleep, because
it is nonsense, it is not true. The election was fought
on many and varied issues.

MR. NEARY: The rewards for the people down in
Glenwood voting is you are going to spray paint on them now.

MR. CALLAN: Perhaps the President of the
Council is not aware. I am aware because I am aware
of the amount of time that the Premier spent in the
district of Bellevue during that three week campaign.
He spent more time in the district of Bellevue than
he did in any other single district in the Province.
And the sort of things that the Premier talked about
in the district of Bellevue, Mr. Chairman, the sort
of things that he talked about in the district of
Bellevue in his private and public gatherings had
nothing to do with the Premier's fight with Ottawa.
It had to do with the future of the cottage hospital
at Markland and turning to his Tory candidate on stage
and saying, 'You have half the money in your possession
right now, do you not, for the cottage hospital in Markland?'
The Tory candidate said, 'Oh, yes.' 'Well that is the
difference between us and the Liberals,' You know, these
were the sort of things, the con jobs, and the
announcement of water and sewer projects, these were
the sort of things, Mr. Chairman, that the election
campaign was fought on. Getting back to the Premier's office,
the Premier's

MR. CALLAN: salary and the salary of Cabot Martin, close to \$60 million and all of the other salaries and so on.

MR. ANDREWS: Sixty million?

MR. CALLAN: \$56,000 or \$60,000. \$57,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: I was going to apply for it (Inaudible)

MR. CALLAN: Well you probably would not have gotten it but go ahead and apply anyway.

Mr. Chairman, from time to time. In the few remarks that I have made here, I have referred to the district of Bellevue and the fact that the Premier was born there and other famous and some of them not so famous characters. Shannon Tweed is another example, of course. Everybody knows about her in the district of Bellevue, being born and raised there. But, Mr. Chairman, approximately one year ago, as a matter of fact it was about a month after the by-election in Bellevue last Spring, I wrote the Premier a letter and I asked the Premier in that letter, I said, Dear Mr. Premier, I referred to the fact that living in the district of Bellevue was the first baby to be born in Canada during our Centennial year, 1967.

MR. ANDREWS: It had to be born somewhere.

MR. CALLAN: That is right. But anyway that is not the point I am trying to make. And I am sure the minister of whatever it is now, very little actually - he was the minister of very much before the

MR. CALLAN:

department was split with the member for Grand Falls (Mr. Simms). A charade, a facade, that is all it is because I would put it all under Justice. But anyway I referred to the fact that Canada's first Centennial baby, not Newfoundland's first Centennial baby but all of Canada, the first baby to be born in all of Canada during our Centennial year, 1967, was living and breathing and attending school in the district of Bellevue in my own home town, Norman's Cove actually.

MR. NEARY: What is her name?

MR. CALLAN: Cynthia Thorne. I suggested to the Premier (Mr. Peckford) here, I said, 'In view of the fact that nothing of a substantial nature was done for this girl who, of course, is now fifteen -

MR. NEARY: Is she the playmate of the year?

MR. CALLAN: - and is almost ready to leave high school', I said, 'in view of the fact that nothing of a substantial nature or a lasting nature has been done for this girl, Canada's first Centennial baby'-I suggested that perhaps a scholarship fund could be set up. I said, 'Perhaps a scholarship fund or a trust fund or whatever, you know, could be set up, \$5,000 put into it this year and then another \$1,000 until this girl reaches the age of twenty-one or something'. And, Mr. Chairman -

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): Order, please!

The hon. member's time has expired.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, my time has elapsed but I must say this before I sit down, the Premier answered in the negative, as was expected and referred to, 'Joey should have done something for her, Why should I?'. Mr. Chairman, perhaps I can get back to it some other time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Well, Mr. Chairman, I suppose it is in vain really to get up and talk in the House about the reason why we are here. I would point out once again that we are considering the estimates of the Executive Council and the expenditures, the total expenditures, in the Executive Council Department cover \$7,880,000. And we hear the purpose of this Committee is to ask questions with respect to the expenditures of these monies. As I emphasize again, we have heard over and over again from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) and the members opposite that the estimates should come back into

MR. MARSHALL:

the House, into the full House. If there is ever a reason why all of the Estimates should not come back into the full House, the hon. gentleman there opposite has given us the reason today, yesterday and the last time this topic was discussed. They are not interested, They are only interested, like the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan), in getting up and making the same tired points, over and over and over again with respect to the Premier's salary. The hon. member for Bellevue, all it constituted was a moaning and groaning and gnashing of teeth over his loss at the polls on April 6th and very weakly says, 'We should not have called the election', and a denial of the fact that it represented a tremendous mandate to this government with respect to its policies, all of its policies, the policies of the management of this Province as well as its policies in dealing with the federal government and other issues such as the offshore and other areas. But they are not interested in that, Mr. Chairman, they are stuck on the Premiers' office, they have an obsession with the Premier -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: Now, Mr. Chairman,

I would ask for the protection of the Chair, I mean both sides of the House, I would like to be able to speak without interruptions from either that side or this side.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Dr. McNicholas): Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL: So, Mr. Chairman, they are not interested, all they are, they are on the same old tack that they have always been on, the kind of flinging mud and what have you. The Premier's salary, the Premier's staff they have debated it over and over. They are

MR. MARSHALL: not interested in the Cabinet Secretariat that comes under this heading, Mr. Chairman, and which spends \$1.6 million. They are not interested in asking any questions about the Treasury Board Secretariat, which spends another \$2.2 million. And that is an area where the hon. gentlemen there opposite they do not want to ask salaries on, because what the Treasury Board of this Province does is the Treasury Board supervises the expenditures of money to assure that they are contained within the budget and that they are not overspent. And they do an excellent job and they have done an excellent job, Mr. Chairman, as evidenced by the results last year. And once again I repeat, once again for the hon. gentlemen there opposite, because I know they hate to hear it, remember during the election they said we had to call an election because of the budget, that there was going to be a great big deficit, there was going to be hundreds of millions of dollars, they were telling the people, of a deficit on current account. And what happened? There was no deficit on current account, Mr. Chairman, there was a surplus on current account. And I say again to the hon. member that this was the only province in Eastern Canada that has a surplus on current account, and one of the reasons for it has been the management of the government. And the administrative organ that has helped us and assisted us in this has been the Treasury Board Secretariat. So, make no wonder, Mr. Chairman, that they are not interested in talking about expenditures and money in that area because they would have mud all over their face.

MR. MARSHALL: Another area that is here involving an expenditure of \$2, 100,000 is the Department, under the Executive Council, of Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat. Now they do not want to talk about that either, Mr. Chairman. This is a very effective and powerful and credible group of people that has been built up in this administration which has assisted us greatly in our inter-governmental relationships. And in particular over the past year they have been very much involved in the matters of the offshore. And they have assisted us. Mr. Abery who is the Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, has been Chairman of the Negotiating Committee.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. MARSHALL: But the hon. gentlemen do not want to get into that. They are afraid to touch this issue at all. They do not want to. Their only contribution to the people of Newfoundland with respect to that, as I said before, is to take a churlish, dogish, lap-dogish attitude towards Ottawa and to call anybody who stands up for Newfoundland and stands up for the rights of Newfoundland anti-Confederates and separatists purely and simply because we are not willing to preside in another giveaway like the hon. gentlemen were responsible for.

There are other areas here as well under Executive Council: The Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women, that was established by this administration, and the Offshore Petroleum Impact Committees that are working. But no, they are not interested in that. They are not interested in getting up and debating the Heads of Expenditures. And this is the crowd, Mr. Chairman, that wants the estimates brought back into the House. Can you imagine what a fruitful period of seventy-five hours that would be spent in the main Committee, like it was spent sometime in years gone past, of just listening to

MR. MARSHALL: a diatribe of irrelevancy, mud slinging and, you know, insults back and forth, and personal attacks on people-which the hon. gentlemen are expert in.

So what a waste of time, Mr. Chairman. Here we are , we are on Executive Council. what questions come up? There have been no questions to which the government has had to respond. We have approximately, I believe, three hours or a little bit less than three hours, to spend on the main estimates. At the end of the time you can predict the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) will be on the air shouting and gnashing his teeth that there was not an examination of the estimates.

Well the reason why there was not an examination of the estimates is because the hon. gentlemen have not asked any questions. They do not want to ask any questions. They do not want to get the answers, but we are eager to answer questions, Mr. Chairman. But the reasons why they will not ask any is because, as I say, they will get embarrassed. They will be embarrassed with the answers that they get. Because we are not afraid of questions. We want to answer them. And every question, Mr. Chairman, will show how good and how well this Province is being managed despite the meager resources it has, despite the actions of Ottawa in trying to deprive us from our rights on the offshore and transmission of electrical power,

MR. MARSHALL:

despite the efforts of the hon.gentlemen there opposite - and I use 'gentlemen' in inverted commas because I must in order to support them - and despite all these factors, despite it being the poorest Province in Canada, we are the only Province in Eastern Canada, as I say, that have come into, and presented before our Legislature a balanced budget. And that is some feat, Mr. Chairman, but it is one that the hon. gentlemen want to stay away from.

There are two reasons why they cannot ask constructive questions; number one, Mr. Chairman, they know they will be embarrassed by the answers from constructive questions; but, number two, is they are incapable of asking them anyway. Because their type of leadership and the way that the hon. gentlemen operate is to get up and throw slurs like anti-Confederate, and how much a house is costing and how much electricity is costing in a house, that has all been gone over and it has all been stated and it is all out front in the public and we make no apologies for it in any way at all. We think it is money well spent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. MARSHALL: Now why do not the hon. gentlemen, Mr. Chairman, get down to the nitty-gritty of the situation, of the proceedings we have here? Why do they not ask us question? Perhaps if they asked us a few questions - as good as we are we do not presume to be perfect. I will not say what was in my mind about it

AN HON. MEMBER: We know.

MR. MARSHALL: But the situation is, Mr. Chairman, we might pick up some areas where we could save more money. If we possibly could we would; we would benefit from it. But for Heaven's sake why not make the investigation or the examination into the main estimates

MR. MARSHALL: in the committee of the House more constructive. And the only way it can be made constructive, Mr. Chairman, is if constructive questions are asked.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, of course, the hon. gentleman would like for us to change the subject. We all know why the hon. member would like for us to change the topic. Of course, the hon. gentleman would like to get us off the Premier's salary and get us on to something else. Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman is not going to succeed until we get some answers about whether or not the Premier is announcing government policy, the philosophy of the administration, when he is out making these anti-Confederate statements. We are talking about the most expensive Premier in Canada and we want to find out, Mr. Chairman, if these anti-Confederate statements are sanctioned by hon. members opposite. And, Mr. Chairman, it is interesting to note that while we are debating the Premier's salary and all the fringe benefits he is getting - the house and the bodyguards and the chain linked fences and a private dining room and helicopters and airplanes and chauffeurs and chamber maids and gardeners, Mr. Chairman- while he is getting all of that we would like to know why he is not here in the House to defend his estimates.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Why does he prop the hon. gentleman up to defend his estimates? And, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman

MR. NEARY:

need not get up and say, 'Well, the Premier is out of the Province on government business'. This is not an urgent matter, we could hold the estimates over until the Premier gets back in his seat. We could hold the estimates of the Premier's Office until he returns to his seat in the House, but, no, Mr. Chairman, the game plan is to get the estimates over before the hon. gentleman returns. Because he is in a manic, depressive state and they are afraid that he may become violent in the House if we put hard questions to him, his arms waving and his eyes popping out of his head, Mr. Chairman. He is afraid that the Premier might go berserk if he is sitting in his seat while we are raising these matters. So he delegates the ultimate in nastiness in the House to get up and defend him. And the hon. gentleman will get up in a few minutes and he will say, 'Well, the Premier, it is urgent, he had to go away and speak to the National Press Gallery, he had to go up and make these anti-Confederate remarks that he made'. That is what the hon. gentleman will tell us. And the answer to that is, in case anybody has any doubts about it, is that we do not have to do these estimates today, the hon. gentleman could call some other Order of Business. We could wait for the Premier to return to his seat and then we could have a go at it. The only thing is we would not want to drive him to suicide or anything, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LUSH: He is already paranoid.

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman is already paranoid and in a manic depressive state, we would not want to drive him any further. He swings high and he swings low. One day in this House he is completely down, the next day he is up.

MR. BAIRD: You are always down.

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman is in a manic state of mind. And the hon. gentleman can laugh, because the hon. gentleman knows what I am saying is a true description of the hon. the Premier.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the fact of the matter is that we are doing the Premier's salary, we are questioning the Premier's behaviour and his motives and his attitude toward Canada and toward Confederation, and we have every right to do that under the Premier's salary, and the hon. gentleman is not going to sidetrack us off on to something else.

And, Mr. Chairman, as a matter of record, when we did ask specific questions of the hon. gentleman we did not get the answers. So we may as well spend the next couple or three hours on trying to drag some information about the Premier out of these two or three hours that we have left.

MR. CARTER: Well, why do you not ask some good questions.

MR. NEARY: Yes, we are asking some good questions, Mr. Chairman. We would like to ask some questions about the Premier's battle with the CBC.

MR. STAGG: What about your own battle with the CBC?

MR. RIDEOUT: When is that siege coming?

MR. STAGG: Are you a big fan of CBC?

MR. NEARY: We would like to ask,

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. Premier has yet apologized to the press, to the media of this Province? Has he had a change of heart? Has he decided to apologize to the CBC and members of the press gallery who were forced to take the unprecedented step of running an ad in the newspaper to show the people of this Province how they were being dealt with by the Premier of this Province, where he was trying to edit and monitor the coverage of news in this Province? And, Mr. Chairman, we hear remarks made, day in and day out, about a former, former Premier of this Province. Well, that former, former Premier—or even Mr. Lesage when he was up in the Province of Quebec, or Mr. Bourassa—never stooped that low, where he tried to edit and monitor and manage the news coverage in this Province. So we are trying to find out, Mr. Chairman, and the Premier is not in his seat to answer, we are trying to find out if the Premier is willing to change his mind on this dangerous precedent that he has created by feuding with the press. And perhaps the hon. gentleman who is filling in for the Premier would like to expound on that matter and tell us how far the Premier is willing to go to get his own way in his matter. And, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. gentleman can tell us if the Premier has dealt adequately with the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), if he has been properly chastised for his attack on the CBC's Fishermen's Broadcast, which is one of the most informative and popular programmes on the air, and the hon. gentlemen chastised the Fishermen's Broadcast last week,

MR. STAGG: Relevancy, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: Yes, it is relevant. And then low and behold we are told by the CBC Fishermen's Broadcast that the reason they could not get information from the minister's department was that the minister had issued instructions to his

MR. NEARY: official that they were to have nothing to do with the Fishermen's Broadcast. And the minister himself, who said that he could not get any coverage on the Fishermen's Broadcast, was told that he appeared on- in less than eighteen months he was on thirty-nine times.

AN. HON. MEMBER: You were on more than that.

MR. NEARY: And this has been documented, Mr. Chairman, and published, and therefore the allegations made by the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) were false and misleading and the Premier should have dealt with the minister accordingly.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, it is becoming very clear in this House and in this Province that the Liberals stand for Canada, stand for Confederation and that the Tories are against Canada and against Confederation. Mr. Chairman, that is the long and short of it and the hon. gentleman now who -

MR. STAGG: You think the Liberal Party (inaudible)?

MR. TOBIN: The Liberal Party, you should be ashamed of that party.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, we are for Confederation on this side of the House, we are for Canada, we are good Canadians. Hon. gentlemen on that side of the House are against Canada, are anti-Confederate. Mr. Chairman, they are anti-Confederate, anti-Canadian and they are against everything that Canada stands for. And I challenged the hon. gentleman there a few moments ago, to get up and say to the House and say to the people of this Province and of this great country of ours, 'I am a Canadian. I am a loyal and faithful and dedicated Canadian and wherever I go in the world I am proud to say that I am a Canadian', Mr. Chairman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN (MR. AYLWARD): Order, please! Order!

MR. NEARY: Vive Le Canada. Mr. Chairman, I am challenging the hon. gentleman - look at him over there, he has not got the courage to stand in this House and say, 'I am a Canadian. I am proud to be a Canadian. Wherever I go in the world I am proud to say I am a Canadian'. The hon. gentleman could not say that. The hon. gentleman could not bring himself to say that, Mr. Chairman. He is afraid he might choke if he said that he is such an anti-Confederate. And his boss going around preaching separatism throughout Canada, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, there are a whole score of anti-Canadians.

MR. CHAIRMAN (AYLWARD): Order, please!
The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. NEARY: Oh, well I will come back again because I want to talk about the pictures, the colored pictures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. President of the Council.

MR. MARSHALL: Now, what is all this again, I just say very calmly and very dispassionately, Mr. Chairman, what has all that got to do with the expenditure of public funds. What has the perceived differences that the Premier has with any branch of the press, what has that got to do with the expenditures of public funds?
Absolutely

MR. MARSHALL: nothing. What has the perceived statements with respect to one branch of the press and the Minister of Fisheries have to do with this? Absolutely nothing. He asked whether the Premier has diciplined and told the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) not to make statements. The Premier is not in the habit of telling ministers what they may say and what they may not say. I do remember though, I think, Mr. Chairman, unless my memory is failing, and it maybe after hearing the hon. gentleman, God knows anything can fail after hearing the hon. gentleman speak for ten minutes, but it seems to me that I do remember there was an occasion when there was a minister who sat in this House who made an attack once on CBC and his boss at the time, drew him into line and he got up and he had to bow down.

MR. STAGG: What did he say to the CBC?

MR MARSHALL: I do not remember what it was, but I will just tell it because the hon. gentleman obviously does not understand the way things work. The way things used to work then, in those days, the then boss, or the then Premier would tell the minister, ' You must do' and he did. And he demonstrated he did. And that is not the way it works here. I would tell the hon. gentleman, in response to his question as to whether you would get up and sing the praises that they want to sing. I would certainly be prepared to get up and say that "Yes, I am a good Canadian" and all that, but, I mean, I will also be able to say with pride, and he cannot, that I am not a toadie. I am not a toadie, Mr. Chairman, and I am not a lap`dog to Ottawa. What we are doing, we are Canadians, and I say it over and over again, we are standing on our own two feet and we are asserting the legitimate rights of the people of this Province. Why does the hon. gentleman not deal with things specificly when he calls? Does he call being anti-Canadian the fact that we take objection to the

MR. MARSHALL: Federal Government saying to us that 'You must negotiate inherent rights before you are to get a power corridor'? Does he considerate it to be anti-Canadian that we should indicate to the Federal Government that when you are doing that you are putting us in an unequal position to Quebec in any perceived negotiations, that what you are doing, like if you take a water level, you are putting Quebec above the water and you are putting us under the water level, and it is very difficult for drowning men to negotiate or to say anything? Because that is what they are doing. Why does the hon. gentleman not get up and comment on that? Does he look at a stand like that as being anti-Canadian? Does he look at us as being anti-Canadian because we say that the offshore resources out there belong to the people of Newfoundland, because we make a proposal that there is to be joint management of these resources with three provincial, three federal, and one independent chairman? Is it anti-Canadian to say to the Federal Government 'No, we are not going to stand for you sitting there and taking full control, having three of the federal, two of the provincial, with the federal government having an override, with what we know will happen with respect to it all, the jobs will go to the Eastern shore of Quebec, not even to Halifax.

MR. MARSHALL: and the residue will go to Halifax, and none here, is that anti-Canadian? Is it anti-Canadian, Mr. Chairman, for us to get up on the offshore issue and say to the federal government that we want the same income split as was obtained by the Province of Alberta before it became a have Province? Until such time as our annual incomes are equal to the rest of Canada, until our employment level is equal to the rest of Canada, until our taxation level is equal to the rest of Canada, our infrastructure, our schools, our children are able to have schools and health facilities equal to the rest of Canada, is that anti-Canadian, Mr. Chairman? Indeed it is not. But what I suggest to you is lap doggish, is a group of people who purport to represent the interests of the Province of Newfoundland, whether in the Parliament of Canada or here opposite, who say to the federal government, 'Yes, anything that you want, it does not matter, we will support you come hell or high water. perhaps you might give us a job sometime when we retire or get defeated from politics. But to hell with the jobs for the populous of the people of Newfoundland, we will continue to support you. That is not being Canadian, Mr. Chairman, that is being lap doggish and it is being selfish. It is the same way, Mr. Chairman, with respect to the revenue sharing. The hon. gentlemen there opposite are prepared to to go along with the Nova Scotian agreement which will yield us not even, at the present rate of our own budget, one quarter of our budget each year. What is our budget? Does our budget nearly cover the needs of the people of this Province? This government does not pretend it does, Mr. Chairman. So what they are doing is agreeing once more

MR. MARSHALL: to the same type of agreement, a pathetic amount of money for that huge resource, to keep us on equalization payments for the rest of our lives, to give us a fixed payment like in term 29, which in a number of years could be meaningless. Why do not the hon. gentlemen, instead of trying to colour things and calling us anti-Confererates and separatists, because the people of this Province do not accept it, you should realize the people of the Province did not accept it on April 6, 1982, our policies are no different now then they were then. why do not the hon. gentlemen there opposite, instead of trying to paint us as anti-Confederates, which we are not and as separatists which we are not, why do they not join together with us in our stand?

MR. MARSHALL: 'Oh, yes,' they will say, 'we did join together.' What is the type of support they gave? They gave support with respect to that resolution calling on the federal government to negotiate on the basis set forth by the government of Newfoundland, they supported it unanimously. For that we would give them full marks, but what happened here afterwards? And this is the example of what happens to all toadies, Mr. Chairman, to all lap dogs. What happened to them is that they put the screws on them from Ottawa, because you see the way they are retrenching day by day by day. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) at one stage, when he had a great spurt of nationalism, he said that you can not trust Mr. Lalonde as far as you can throw him - those were his words not mine - but now, right to the stage where we see a couple of days ago he becomes the messenger of Mr. Lalonde, bringing his little memos back and forth to the minister of Quebec while, in the meantime, Mr. Lalonde and Mr. Duhaime, the federal government and the government of Quebec are putting the blocks to the people of this Province, and the hon. gentlemen there opposite know it as well as we do. We do not perceive that, Mr. Chairman, as being anti-Confederate, we perceive that as being pro-Newfoundland just as well as an Albertan with the same issues before him would consider himself pro-Albertan or pro-Ontarian, but at the same time we are all pro-Canada as well. Our only problem, Mr. Chairman, is we feel that the control in Canada should not repose in Quebec City, Ottawa or in Toronto, that the control of Canada should belong to all of Canada as a whole and not just to those few places. And the hon. gentlemen there opposite can moan and howl all they want to, but the facts are there for them to see, we have seen the corridor denied to us once again, and make no mistake it is denied to us, we have seen ourselves put in an unequal position with the province of Quebec, we have seen Rene Levesque get up in the National Assembly in Quebec and say, about ten days before this announcement was made, 'The government of this Province is going to have to negotiate, and they will have to negotiate

MR. MARSHALL: sooner than they think. Now, there can be no other interpretation of that than Mr. Lalonde, Mr. Duhaime, Mr. Levesque, Mr. Trudeau, and whoever were all in cahoots together, were all colluding together with respect to this matter to deprive us of our rights. We are ready to talk to anyone in Confederation. We are ready to talk to the federal government on matters of the offshore. But they will not talk to us, instead, they tried to sneak in through the back door and pull it away from us in Court. We are ready to talk at any given time to Quebec on any matters affecting

MR. MARSHALL: us with one exception, we are not going to be held up to the tender mercies of Quebec once more and have the determining of whether we have equality in Canada depending on the convenience of the Province of Quebec. Not on your life, Mr. Chairman. That might be acceptable to the hon. gentlemen there opposite. And the reason why it is acceptable to the hon. gentlemen there opposite is because they are leaderless, they are shallow and they have to take their leadership from Ottawa, And they take their leadership from Ottawa, from the central government and there is no leadership of the Liberal Party in this Province. All they can do is follow like churlish, snivelling little lap dogs the will of Ottawa. And the will of Ottawa at this particular time is against the Province of Newfoundland. It will change, Mr. Chairman, it will change. Just as it is against Alberta and it is against other provinces it is against us as well. That will change and it will change with a change of government. But it will be no thanks to the hon. gentlemen there opposite. They should hang their heads in shame. When they go out to conferences outside I do hope that they do not engage in bragging about the fact that they are representatives of Newfoundland. They might be representatives of Newfoundland but they are not representing the interests of Newfoundland, Mr. Chairman, and they show it again and again and again. And what they are trying to do now, they are trying to paint a great fog over all of us and say we are anti-Confederates and separatists. It did not work in the election, it is not going to work the next time. If they do not watch it there will be a -

MR. DINN: Let them keep it up.

MR. MARSHALL: But for the fact that the Opposition would be decimated and there would be nobody over there, we should call another election.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN (AYLWARD): Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL: Because we know what would happen. They are a disgrace, Mr. Chairman, to democratic representation in any province or any country.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

It being Thursday, five o'clock

it is my duty to announce that there is one item for debate in the Late Show today. It is a question from the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) to the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Hickey) concerning the ninety day eligibility period for applicants for social assistance.

The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Chairman, there we have heard it. Whenever we touch a tender nerve on the other side, whenever we touch that nerve the type of rhetoric which we just heard in the House comes flying back at us, toadies and lap dogs. Mr. Chairman, you wonder how any province, how any Minister of Energy in any other province could ever sit and negotiate with that man.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. TULK: They cannot.

MR. HODDER: You know, when a Premier goes to a - and we are dealing with the Premier's salary - when he goes to Ottawa and makes a separatist comment that is of great concern to the people of this Province because I will tell you, Mr. Chairman, that the Premier

MR. HODDER: believes what he says. Whether what he says is right or not is another matter, but he believes what he says. When he was interviewed by the Toronto Sun at one time he said, 'I am the only honest man'. He really believes that, because he came back here and brought in legislation which left everything in his hands. And now of course when the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) is brought up by the Ombudsman and his department is open for scrutiny—because that is what the Ombudsman did. It was not just one case, it showed how the minister was behaving in his department — or when the Public Accounts Committee comes in unanimously against a minister as they did with the Minister of Fisheries, the Premier says, 'That is fine, it is okay, it is all in my hands'. So he really does believe he is the only honest man and that is all we get back.

But, Mr. Chairman, when the Quebec referendum was won, when separatism was defeated in Quebec, on that night the Premier of this Province, wandering around Ottawa, said, 'I would prefer Rene Levesque's view of Canada to Mr. Trudeau's'.

MR. TULK: That was the last time he was where he is at now.

MR. HODDER: That was the last time he was in Ottawa. It is on public record, Mr. Chairman. He has made comments in the Toronto Sun, he has made comments to journalists across the country expressing anti-Canadian sentiments. And now we see —

DR. COLLINS: That is not quite factual actually.

MR. HODDER: It is factual, Mr. Chairman, and the minister —

DR. COLLINS: Would the member permit me to make a comment.

MR. HODDER: No, Mr. Chairman. There will be another ten minutes.

MR. NEARY: You get up and make your anti-Confederate speech.

MR. HODDER: But when the Premier was in Ottawa yesterday he said, 'Unless Newfoundland's economy and social conditions improve, there is a chance separatist sentiment could grow in the Province'. Now that could only be taken for one thing, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NEARY: He is laying the groundwork.

MR. HODDER: He is laying the groundwork which leads me to wonder just where our negotiations - because I do not think we are negotiating with Canada as a member of Canada. I think that Newfoundland has a foreign policy and we are dealing with Canada and the other provinces as if they were foreign countries.

AN HON. MEMBER: The French! The French.

MR. HODDER: I hear a minister over there shouting, 'The French! The French!'. He should be more selective in his language. You know, as if they were another nation.

MR. MARSHALL: I wonder if the hon. gentleman would permit me to interrupt for a second. His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor is here to consent to those two bills that were given third reading today. So if I could ask if we could rise the Committee and we will come back in a moment, after the Governor has given consent.

MR. NEARY: Is he here now?

MR. MARSHALL: He is on his way up.

MR. MARSHALL: I move that the Committee rise and report progress.

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

MR. SPEAKER(Russell): The hon. the Chairman of Committees.

MR. CHAIRMAN(Aylward): Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and directed me to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mr. Speaker, His Honour The Lieutenant-Governor has arrived.

MR. SPEAKER: Admit His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

May it please Your Honour, the General Assembly of the Province has at its present session passed certain Bills, to which, in the name and on behalf of the General Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Unified Family Court Act". (Bill No. 43).

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act". (Bill No. 2).

Hon. W. Anthony Paddon(Lieutenant-Governor): In Her Majesty's Name, I give Assent to these Bills.

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

MR. CHAIRMAN (AYLWARD): Order, please!

The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER:

Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, the House Leader opposite (Mr. Marshall) was wondering why we brought up under the Premier's salary his treatment of the CBC. Well, Mr. Chairman, the Premier is one of the most powerful men at the moment that this Province has seen for quite some time. He is the - and there is no doubt about it, that the Premier is in charge, the Premier and the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall). But, Mr. Chairman, this issue with the media points out something about the Premier. It shows that he is egocentric, dictatorial, erratic, overpaid, lacks common sense. I mean, we are starting to wonder, Mr. Chairman, just where the man is going.

Mr. Chairman, we had already in this House the episode of the poison pen letters when he used to be known as 'Poison Pen Peckford'. And the member for Baie Verte-White Bay (Mr. Rideout) who was then sitting on this side of the House brought up a letter written to the, I think it was the President of the Baie Verte Miners Association's wife, where the then Minister of Mines and Energy, who is now the Premier, went berserk in the House and almost had to be strapped down and then went out and attacked the media for publishing the letters. Instead of just standing up and saying, 'Perhaps I had a bad day' and the issue would have died he decided to go berserk. We thought he was going crazy. Well, Mr. Chairman, now we have a Premier who -

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Tape No. 1445

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MR. BAIRD: People who live in glass houses
should not throw stones.

MR. HODDER: Now we have a Premier who is
wandering all across Canada issuing anti-Confederate
statements, and it is not the first time. It is not the
first time he has done it and it is not going to be
the last time. I am wondering

MR. HODDER: what the end of our foreign policy will be because it is a foreign policy. We are not dealing within the framework of Canada, we are treating Canada, as the Minister of Energy (Mr. Marshall) has said, as a hostile foreign power. That is how he has referred to them. We are not saying, Mr. Chairman, in any way, shape or form that we can sit down and negotiate without certain principles and basic points in mind. But what this government is doing with its anti-Confederate, anti- Ottawa, anti- Quebec, anti- everybody else attitude, is they are painting themselves in a little corner down here in the corner of the Confederation Building. Because we are not talking to anybody, we are just lashing out at the rest of Canada. And, Mr. Chairman, the Premier just won an overwhelming victory.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: He just won an overwhelming victory. Newfoundlander's said 'Yes, you have asked us for our support in your negotiations, we will give you that.' But I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, that the Premier may interpret the vote in the last election in such a way that- we saw it again in his day of mourning when he suddenly said, 'We will close everything down' and then was surprised and upset- and that is why he has been down- he was surprised and upset that Newfoundlander's did not respond and wear black armbands instead of sort of joking and complaining about it. He thought he had everybody behind him, but he does not. What happened was that the people said 'Yes, if you want to negotiate here, we are behind you on this issue.' Where do we go from here? Can it be that the Premier would like the people of Newfoundland to take one step more? If we become a separate country, that will give us our hydro-electric power because then we will be dealing with Quebec as a foreign power,

MR. HODDER: it will perhaps give us our offshore oil. We have to question that, Mr. Chairman. Is that what the Premier's game plan is, to eventually take us out of confederation? Mr. Chairman, we would get off of this topic immediately if we could only hear the Minister of Energy (Mr. Marshall) stand up and say, 'I am a proud Canadian,' just get him to say it once. He will not say it.

MR. RIDEOUT: He said it a minute ago, you were not listening.

MR. TULK: No, all he said was, 'I am going to live here as long as I have to.'

MR. HODDER: Not only, Mr. Chairman, has the Premier been issuing anti-Confederate statements, I was in Corner Brook when a DREE group were holding briefing meetings, when the Member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg), who had gone in there with a silly asinine -

MR. STAGG: I was the only one who stuck up for Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STAGG: And the rest of you read what Brian Tobin wanted you to say.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: The member for the Strait of Belle, yourself, the former member for Grand Bank (Mr. Thoms) the whole lot of you came in and said what Brian Tobin wanted you to say.

MR. HODDER: He came in and made a fool of himself. He came in and made a fool of himself, the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg), but in the midst of it one of the Committee members -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HODDER: - one of the Committee members, Mr. Chairman said to the member for Stephenville, 'Well, what is the ultimate end? Will you take us out of Canada?' And the member for Stephenville said, 'Just watch us. Just watch us'. Now the member for Stephenville is not too bright, he is not too bright, but he does have enough intelligence to be able to figure out what is underneath. And the member for Stephenville is the most revealing member on the other side of the House.

MR. NEARY: Right on!

MR. HODDER: Because very often he stands up and says exactly what the government is thinking. The other ministers are smart enough to keep it underneath -

MR. STAGG: That is the reason I am not in the Cabinet.

MR. HODDER: - but the member for Stephenville -

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

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): A point of order. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the former Deputy Speaker of this House, the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) just made an unparliamentary remark directed towards my hon. colleague. He said the hon. gentleman was lying and that is unparliamentary, Mr. Chairman, that is a no, no in this House and I think the hon. member should be asked to withdraw that statement and apologize to the House.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, we cannot take that seriously. The hon. member was not in his own seat, he was engaging in a few interjections back and forth and he said something in a jocular fashion. They were talking about some meeting, some sort of a nefarious meeting out on the West coast that the Liberals had kicked off over there and there was just a bit of jousting going back and forth. There was no seriousness to the remark.

MR. NEARY: You are lying is not serious, I see.

MR. STAGG: Mr. Chairman, what the hon. member said indicated that I had attributed to me certain remarks at the meeting in Corner Brook. I said, that the hon. member was lying, That is exactly what I said. Now, I realize that it is an unparliamentary statement and I will withdraw it, but I will rephrase it when given the opportunity to get the floor in due course.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. member for Stephenville has withdrawn the remark.

MR. NEARY: He has withdrawn the remark?
Well, that is fine.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. member for Humber West.

MR. BAIRD: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I was listening to the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) a short while ago and he mentioned about the P.C. Government having obtained 62 per cent of the vote and he referred to -

MR. CALLAN: No, I never mentioned it.

MR. BAIRD: - how many people who did not vote -

MR. CALLAN: It was less than 61 per cent actually.

MR. BAIRD: - intimating that they may have voted Liberal. But I would suggest as in the past that when people do not vote - the 62 per cent who did get out to vote,

MR. BAIRD: they voted for the Peckford administration, and evidently the other ones, the people who did not exercise their vote, were very happy with the government as it was and saw no reason to get out and change it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BAIRD: Number one, we will get back to the budget.

MR. CALLAN: What is 60 per cent of 52?

MR. BAIRD: I think that I was very pleased with that budget. The economy of Canada, because of some of the actions of the federal government, is certainly not what it could or should be. But as a small province, I think we did very well with our budget. Some of the gloom and doom that was predicted by our opposition fortunately did not come about. Sometimes I look at the opposition members, and they remind me of the fellow who saw his mother-in-law go over the cliff in his new Cadillac. They were in a state of confusion, they liked it but they did not like it.

The increase in sales tax that everybody talked about, that increase did not come about, and I am very pleased that it did not. As we went through the Social Services estimates this morning, and I was very pleased to see the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) there, I think it was the second Estimates Committee he has attended in three years. It was very nice to see him there.

MR. HOUSE: Did he walk out?

MR. BAIRD: I could go on and on talking about the good things in the budget a lot longer, I think, than you could talk about the bad things in the budget.

MR. CALLAN: Oh!

MR. BAIRD: When you talk about being a Canadian, yes, I am a Canadian, and I am a proud Canadian.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BAIRD: But at the same time, I will say that I am a confused Canadian, the same as everybody else across this country.

MR. CALLAN: You are a hopeless Canadian.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. BAIRD: The ten Premiers I think -
we are not talking about Canadians, we are talking about our
federal government. The ten Premiers were also in a very
confused setup because Mr. Trudeau's, vision of Canada is
certainly not what the majority of Canadians vision of Canada is.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BAIRD: I attended a dinner last Friday night in
Corner Brook given by the Newfoundland Regiment whereby I was
presented with the pin with the Newfoundland Regiment on one
side and the Provincial flag on the other side.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BAIRD: Mr. Smallwood spoke at that same dinner
that I attended. I was at the head table and Mr. Smallwood
was guest speaker.

Mr. Smallwood the former, former Premier.
Mr. Smallwood spoke for one hour and one minute. He still has
not lost his old zip. But part of Mr. Smallwood's speech was
'I wonder if the Premier of the day, the ministers of the day'
- he looked at me and said the MHS realizes it has gone from
50 to 70. Mr. Smallwood does seem to escalate at times - 70
per cent of our dollars were coming from Ottawa? He asked the
question, 'Did most Newfoundlanders realize it or did they know
it? Yes, I knew it, where the money was coming from, it was
coming from Ottawa. Ask me how I know? Because, Mr. Trudeau,
Mr. Lalonde, Mr. Neary, Mr. Chretien and some others keep
reminding me of it. However, now because of our resources, we
do not have a chance to stand on our own two feet, but it seems
that that is not in keeping with the Canada and the just society
that Mr. Trudeau envisions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BAIRD: I would say we have our resources, but it is unfortunate that this Province right back from the day that we were discovered has had to fight for our own rights. I am very pleased with our Premier Peckford, and the people saw fit to give him the mandate not to take what we were offered but to fight for what was justly ours. I am very proud to be part of that administration, and in the end, we shall win.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman -

MR. HODDER: The new representative.

MR. NEARY: Yes, the new representative
the Premier on the West Coast -

MR. HODDER: The first time he has ever spoken.

MR. NEARY: What else would you expect a
parrot, a parrot, Mr. Chairman, to say?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh,oh!

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman should have told-

MR. MARSHALL: A point of order

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): A point of order. The hon. the
President of Council

MR. MARSHALL: A point of order. The hon.
gentleman is getting exercised again. The hon. gentleman has
to refer to members of this House by their constituencies
or their districts' and one is not allowed to be using
insulting and abusive language.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: to say that somebody in this
House is speaking for other than himself, parroting for
someone else is out of order. The hon. gentleman should
retract that remark, and being the gentleman that he is, I know

MR. MARSHALL: he will apologize as well to the
hon. member

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. member for the Strait of
Belle Isle.

MR. ROBERTS: I just simply want to say, that,
MR. BARRETT: Whatever you say is simple.

MR. ROBERTS: What I say is simple because it
is aimed at the member for St. John's West (Mr. Barrett) and I
hope to get through to him. Mr. Chairman, the point is that
my hon. friend, the Leader of the Opposition, did not say that
the gentleman from Humber West (Mr. Baird) was not saying what
he thought, he was simply saying that what he thinks is what
somebody else thinks. There is a big difference in that, and
as for his motives, the words I would leave with Your Honour,
because I know that Your Honour would endorse them, it says
in the Bible "The truth shall make ye free" and that is all my
hon. friend the Leader of the Opposition is saying. That is
not out of order, Sir, that is perfectly in order.

MR. BAIRD: To that point of order

MR. CHAIRMAN (Alyward): To that point of order. The
hon. member for Humber West.

MR. BAIRD: For clarification, I do not need
any learned friends or anybody else to tell me what I think
or cannot think.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear.

MR. BAIRD: I am very capable of thinking
for myself. I might not be as learned as my learned friend,
so-called, from the Strait of Belle Isle, but I think that I
have a hell of a lot more experience and common sense and
am quite capable of looking after myself.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the President of the
Council.

MR. MARSHALL: To that point of order, and what the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) said, I just want to say I know that the hon. member believes that he understands what he thinks I said, but I am not sure that he realizes that what he heard is not what I meant.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS: I know what I heard was what the hon. gentleman said, it may not have been what he meant.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): To that point of order, I did not hear the exact words that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) said at the time, so I will have to reserve ruling until the next sitting.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman almost went as far as to tell us how many times a day he kisses the Premier's picture. Mr. Chairman, that brings up another -

MR. ROBERTS: Which by the way is paid for out of this vote.

MR. BAIRD: Not as bad as you kissing Len Stirling's posterior.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. NEARY: There is the Muppet Show again.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, what I would like - if the hon. Government House Leader (Mr. Marshall) the President of the Council, if he would like for us to get on to another vote, Mr. Chairman, I will tell the hon. gentleman how he can do it. If the hon. gentleman would stand in his place and I paid very strict attention

MR. NEARY: to what the hon. gentleman was saying all afternoon, and I have yet to hear the hon. gentleman get up and say genuinely and sincerely, " I am a proud Canadian."

MR. TULK: It is not in him.

MR. NEARY: I do not think it is in him, Mr. Chairman. If only I could hear the hon. gentleman say that, I would not be a bit suprised if we would go on to the next vote. Now, the hon. member down there kind of did it in a backhanded way, and said that he was a good Canadian. Mr. Chairman, what is at stake here, what we are talking about here is a party that stands for Canada on this side of the House, the Liberal Party stands for Canada -

MR. TULK: Stands for Quebec.Quebec.

MR. NEARY: - stands for confederation, we are proud Canadians. The party on the opposite side of the House is against Canada, are anti-Canadian and anti-Confederate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I do not think I am going to have time to talk about the pictures today.

MR. ROBERTS: We can save that for tomorrow morning.

MR. NEARY: Save that for tomorrow morning But what we are talking about here is the Premier establishing his own empire, his own junta. The next thing now, apart from talking about separating from Canada, the next thing he will do is design a uniform for himself. He has already brought in that monstrosity he calls a flag.

MR. HODDER: And he has got a chain-link fence.

June 17, 1982

Tape No. 1451

MLeP-1

MR. NEARY: He has bodyguards, he got the chain-link fence, he has the palace, he has the palace, Mr. Chairman, now what he has to do is get a uniform for himself and get some kind of a medal that he can hang on the uniform. And then, Mr. Chairman, the wheel will have turned full circle, because he has already gone as far as to have his coloured picture hanging in various government buildings around the Province-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - and hanging down in St. John's Airport and Minister's have coloured pictures hanging in there offices. Mr. Chairman, I would not be at all surprised but you would find a colored picture of the Premier laying on a cushion in the cabinet room where minister's and members supporting the administration have to come in everyday and throw themselves, prostrate on the floor and kiss the Premier's picture before they come to the House of Assembly. Mr. Chairman, I hope when they are kissing the picture that they will remember that the picture had to be touched up a little bit, it is not the Premier in his original condition. I understand that Mr. Rostotski had to touch the picture up a little bit. When the picture was taken there was too much baldness, for instance, on the front of the Premier's head, so he had to put some more hair, he had to put some more hair on the Premier's head and he had to take the bags out from under his eyes.

MR. CALLAN: Go on.

MR. NEARY: No, well, we do not have time.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: We do not have time to go into all the details, so I move the Committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again.

June 17, 1982

Tape No. 1451

MLCP-2

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

It being 5:30 p.m.

it is deemed that the Committee doth rise, report progress
and ask leave to sit again.

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): Order, please!

The hon. member for Kilbride.

MR. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred and have directed me to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

It now being five-thirty a motion to adjourn is deemed to have been made. We have one item for the Late Show, I guess, the question raised by the hon. member for Bellevue.

The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, just to satisfy the member for Baie Verte-White Bay (Mr. Rideout), in the absence of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) who always makes it a point of saying every Thursday afternoon that there should be three topics for discussion and here we only have one, I should also remind backbenchers on the government side that even though parliamentary secretaries are not permitted to ask questions of Cabinet Ministers, there is no reason in the world why other backbenchers cannot ask questions during the Oral Question Period and, of course, in so doing --

MR. TOBIN:

Is that the question?

MR. CALLAN:

No, no! No, no! You get back to your own seat if you want to talk. But, Mr. Speaker, the topic that I raised earlier in the Question Period was the question of this ninety day eligibility for applicants for social assistance, people who find themselves in dire straits.

MR. RIDEOUT:

Another Trudeau quote.

MR. CALLAN:

That is right. Now in this particular case - and I do not know where the minister is, Mr. Speaker, I wish he were here

MR. SIMMS:

He is sick.

MR. CALLAN:

He is sick, is he?

MR. SIMMS:

We have an answer, carry on.

MR. CALLAN:

Okay. That is fine. Well perhaps the President of the Council (Mr. Marshall) who will probably respond can - now in this particular case, Mr. Speaker - I have had other cases brought to my attention which I did not agree with, you know, as far as the recipient or the applicant was concerned

MR. CALLAN: because obviously the facts showed that the applicant for social services had a tremendous amount of money coming in before the job was ended or whatever. But I have one particular case in mind today, Mr. Speaker. It has to do with a gentleman in my district who, well fourteen weeks ago, say 100 100 days ago - we are talking about the ninety day eligibility who 100 days ago, and nine months previous to that, was sick, who had his foot in a cast and so therefore, was not receiving very much income. Now, as it happened, days ago the gentleman was released, or the cast was removed and the gentleman was released by the doctor and was told that he was permitted to go to work and so the man went to work. And, Mr. Speaker, he want to work with Carino, the only plant in Newfoundland, as I said where seal pelts are purchased and so on and are cured partially. And this gentlemen for ten weeks with Carino made some good money. Now then he got laid off after ten weeks, applied for his UIC, a month ago tomorrow actually he applied for his UIC benefits, but in the interim he also got his vacation pay, \$134.00. And yesterday he got his first bit of UIC benefits, \$44.00. So for the past month then, Mr. Speaker, we have this gentleman who, as I said, even though he was making good money in the previous ten weeks with Carino, the previous nine months before that he was unemployed and, of course, was on the sick list. So therefore when he did go to work with Carino and made a few dollars extra or good money, you know, he had to spend it to pay some back bills from the previous nine months and to do the things for his four children, his wife and four children, that he could not do during the nine month period when he was incapacitated.

So, Mr. Speaker, the point I am making is that I think, and if the Minister of Social Services

June 17, 1982

Tape No. 1453

I-2

MR. CALLAN:

(Mr. Hickey) were here I am
sure he would say, you know, our social workers are

MR. CALLAN: lenient they take each case on its merits and all of that. But we saw a lot of that I am sure during the election campaign that we talked about so much here today, where some of the social workers showed how lenient they can be and showed their political stripe as well, in places like Gambo and elsewhere. So I do not think that you can totally depend on the discretion and the fair play of the social worker. So what I would have asked the minister if he were here would be to take a look at this and perhaps during their next gathering or whatever they have from time to time, when social workers' come in to St. John's and have these meetings and so on, because I have seen a lot of my friends downstairs from time to time who come into St. John's and they have their regional meetings where they discuss social policy and so on, perhaps another look can be taken at this ninety day eligibility thing. And I think if a second look was taken at this particular case that the minister I think would overrule the decision that was made by the district social worker in this particular case. Now then, Mr. Chairman, my time has elapsed so perhaps the President of the Treasury Board can respond in the ministers absence.

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, this was adequately dealt with by the Minister of Social Services(Mr. Hickey) in Question Period. What the hon. gentleman is talking about is the practice of going back beyond thirty days to sixty and ninety days to look at the income of people who apply for social assistance. Now, I do not understand whether the hon. gentleman is really

MR. MARSHALL: talking about a specific case which he has concern about, or whether he has concern about the policy. As to the policy we feel the policy is just and right. I mean, after all if the person has made say, \$5,000. in a two month period, it is certainly proper for the government before it gives him social assistance in the third month, to look back over the amounts of money that has been earned within that period of time.

MR. CALLAN: but this is nine months.

MR. MARSHALL: And as the hon. gentleman was told today, Mr. Speaker, if there are any inequities, if there are any particular problems with a persons family and that, than the minister has the discretion to look at it. And I would suggest that the hon. gentleman wishes to -

MR. CALLAN: But will he?

MR. MARSHALL: The best way to deal with that particular problem - I do not think the House of Assembly is the place to deal with problems of this nature, I am quite sure if he brings it to the attention of the hon. gentleman, then he is able to preserve the confidentiality that we would all wish to preserve with respect to the applicant, that it would be looked into and would be dealt with fairly and reasonably. But as far as the policy is concerned we are not going to change the policy. The policy is a good policy as far as our entire social service policy is concerned. This government has done a tremendous amount to improve the

MR. MARSHALL: social service system in this Province. Just about every year, or every year that I can remember, bearing in mind the economic problems within which people who receive social assistance labour, and bearing in mind the fact that the effect of the economy on them is greater than it is with other people who are in more fortunate circumstances, we have provided for an increase of social assistance payments this year.

We have extended social assistance benefits in many areas, and we will continue to do so. But at the same time, Mr. Speaker, if you want to look at the record of this government in its administration of social assistance, as in other areas it is a matter to be proud of. Because it is a fact that there are some people in this Province, or there were some people in this Province who, from time to time, received social assistance when they were not eligible. This was not fair and we, through our make work projects and what have you, have tremendously strengthened the whole fabric of our economy and lessened the demands on the Province through social assistance.

MR. SIMMS: A good answer. A good Minister of Social Services.

MR. MARSHALL: As to the hon. gentleman's specific complaint, as I say again, I do not really feel that the floor of the House is the place to deal with a complaint of this nature. Nobody is complaining about it if he wants to bring it in, but it would be much better brought up to the minister directly, himself, and the minister's officials, and I am quite sure that it will receive a sympathetic consideration -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: even an

MR. MARSHALL: assessment. And if he wishes to do that, we will do it, because we operate fairly in all areas. And it does not matter from whence the person is or where he sits, they get the same treatment in social services as they do in the other government departments, because they are citizens of this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER(Russell): It has been moved and seconded that the House should now adjourn until tomorrow, Friday, at 10:00 a.m. Those in favour 'aye', contrary 'nay', carried.

I do now leave the Chair until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, June 18, 1982.

I N D E X

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TABLED

17 JUNE, 1982

QUESTION 73 - ORDERS OF THE DAY 4/82 May 14, 1982.

17 June 1982

QUESTION: Mr. Hodder (Port au Port) to ask the Minister of Finance to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

The level of indebtedness of Government Agencies or Crown Corporations, 1979 to 1982.

The attached summary of the net debt of Crown Corporations and Agencies was obtained from the financial statements of those Corporations. The figures presented represent the net debt position (i.e. less sinking funds, deposits, etc.) and are long-term except for significant bank loans that were included. Financial statements for most of these Corporations were not available for 1981 and 1982, therefore this information pertains to 1979 and 1980 only.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Due to Bondholders</u>	<u>Due to Province of Nfld.</u>	<u>Due to Crown Corporations</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
1979	\$1,310,173,745	\$184,918,548	\$11,483,248	\$285,788,604	\$1,792,364,145
1980	1,337,005,812	130,863,769	10,539,113	239,451,593	1,717,860,287

CROWN CORPORATION AND OTHER AGENCY DEBTS
FOR THE YEARS 1979 AND 1980

PAGE 1

	1979				1980			
	Due to bondholders	Due to Province of Newfoundland	Due to Crown Corporations	Other	Due to bondholders	Due to Province of Newfoundland	Due to Crown Corporations	TOTAL
Newfoundland Industrial Development Corporation	6,241,000	47,017,000	-	17,391,000	5,496,000	51,046,000	-	14,449,000
			TOTAL	<u>21,572,000</u>			TOTAL	<u>66,941,000</u>
Bell Island Hospital	571,377	-	-	-	493,755	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>571,377</u>			TOTAL	<u>493,755</u>
Grace Hospital Extension	4,629,000	-	-	-	4,000,174	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>4,629,000</u>			TOTAL	<u>4,000,174</u>
Grand Falls	1,809,238	-	-	-	1,640,320	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>1,809,238</u>			TOTAL	<u>1,640,320</u>
Northern Hospitals	3,610,511	-	-	-	2,873,614	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>3,610,511</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,873,614</u>
Stephens Hall Hospital Reconstruction	2,704,371	-	-	-	2,402,547	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,704,371</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,402,547</u>
St. John's Infirmary	2,149,308	-	-	-	1,809,684	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,149,308</u>			TOTAL	<u>1,809,684</u>
Warner Brook Hospital	1,952,297	-	-	-	1,844,673	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>1,952,297</u>			TOTAL	<u>1,844,673</u>
Technical College	1,855,382	-	-	-	1,314,587	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>1,855,382</u>			TOTAL	<u>1,314,587</u>
E.L.C. Building Corporation	2,170,124	-	-	-	2,053,360	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,170,124</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,053,360</u>
Wander Hospital	2,788,813	-	-	-	2,570,688	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,788,813</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,570,688</u>
Memorial University of Newfoundland	4,652,367	-	-	-	4,109,265	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>4,652,367</u>			TOTAL	<u>4,109,265</u>
Nurses Training School	2,916,045	-	-	-	2,654,693	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,916,045</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,654,693</u>
Newfoundland Government Building Corporation	2,997,673	-	-	-	2,548,844	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,997,673</u>			TOTAL	<u>2,548,844</u>
Vocational Schools (Western)	2,141,000	-	-	-	1,955,000	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>2,141,000</u>			TOTAL	<u>1,955,000</u>
Mooring Cove Building Company	-	-	7,949,672	-	-	-	7,840,433	-
			TOTAL	<u>7,949,672</u>			TOTAL	<u>7,840,433</u>
Hotel Building Limited	5,304,826	16,750,896	3,263,166	-	4,879,772	19,226,434	2,098,682	-
			TOTAL	<u>23,328,888</u>			TOTAL	<u>26,105,548</u>
Feed Mill Building Company	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			TOTAL	<u>40,000</u>			TOTAL	<u>40,000</u>
	<u>48,603,630</u>	<u>64,687,896</u>	<u>11,212,838</u>	<u>17,391,000</u>	<u>42,666,985</u>	<u>70,276,434</u>	<u>10,539,113</u>	<u>14,449,000</u>
			TOTAL	<u>141,893,364</u>			TOTAL	<u>137,973,042</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

1970

	1970				1969		
	Due to Bondholders	Due to Province of Newfoundland	Due to Crown Corporations	Other	Due to Bondholders	Due to Province of Newfoundland	Due to Crown Corporations
Bank of Montreal Limited	-	-	270,410	-	-	-	-
			TOTAL	426,693			
Bank of Nova Scotia Limited	-	2,300,000	-	-	-	2,730,625	-
			TOTAL	2,400,000			
Industrial Development Bank	-	20,563,466	-	-	-	43,624,710	-
			TOTAL	22,563,466			
St. John's Housing Corporation	-	-	-	2,044,300	-	-	-
			TOTAL	2,044,300			
University of Newfoundland	-	-	-	224,237	-	-	-
			TOTAL	224,237			
Government of Newfoundland	-	-	-	4,721,518	-	-	-
			TOTAL	4,721,518			
Newfoundland & Labrador Development Corporation	-	1,700,000	-	17,500,000	-	1,700,000	-
			TOTAL	14,200,000			
Restaurants and Labrador Development Corporation	47,165,000	3,395,000	-	41,817,000	48,741,000	2,244,000	-
			TOTAL	94,377,000			
Newfoundland Medical Care Corporation	-	1,350,017	-	-	-	-	-
			TOTAL	1,350,017			
Government of Newfoundland	136,306,000	5,000,000	-	-	156,167,000	5,000,000	-
			TOTAL	141,306,000			
The Lower Distribution District of Newfoundland & Labrador	3,894,115	-	-	3,459,646	3,608,827	-	-
			TOTAL	7,353,761			
St. John's Housing Corporation	-	5,290,000	-	7,434,903	-	5,290,000	-
			TOTAL	12,724,903			
Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro	1,074,205,000	78,300,000	-	184,305,000	1,085,790,000	-	-
			TOTAL	1,336,810,000			
	<u>1,210,570,115</u>	<u>10,240,052</u>	<u>270,410</u>	<u>218,397,604</u>	<u>1,294,238,827</u>	<u>60,589,335</u>	<u>-</u>
			TOTAL	1,650,468,781			
Totals of Items 1 to 1	<u>1,310,173,745</u>	<u>104,918,548</u>	<u>11,683,248</u>	<u>26,786,604</u>	<u>1,337,005,612</u>	<u>136,863,769</u>	<u>10,539,113</u>
			TOTAL	1,702,364,145			

QUESTION 106 ORDERS OF THE DAY 13/82 Wednesday June 2, 1982

Mr. Hodder (Port au Port) - to ask the Minister of Finance to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

List of names of individuals and/or companies who received loans from the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation and the purpose for which the loans were granted, for the years 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and to date.

ANSWER

The following table provides details of all loans and equity funding provided by the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation during its fiscal years ended March 31, 1978-82.

<u>NAME OF FIRM</u>	<u>TYPE AND LOCATION OF PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF LOAN</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF EQUITY</u>
<u>1977-78</u>			
Arctic Fishery Products Limited	Fish plant expansion, Charleston, Bonavista Bay	\$1,000,000	-
Baie Vista Inn Limited	New motel construction, Baie Verte	330,000	\$ 10,000
Bayshore Foods Limited	Food products expansion, Stephenville	40,000	-
Bernard W. Bartle Limited	Metal fabrication modernization, Grand Falls	-	75,000
Gerard Collins and Sons Limited	Automotive parts fabrication, Corner Brook	102,000	-
Forward and Pike Manufacturing Limited	Furniture manufacturing expansion, Carbonear	30,000	-
S.T. Jones and Son Ltd.	Fish plant expansion, Little Bay Islands	146,000	-
Notre Dame Bay Fisheries Limited	Canning plant expansion, Comfort Cove	100,000	-
Victor Osbourne	Welding shop expansion, Seal Cove, White Bay	6,000	-
Port Enterprises Limited	Fish plant expansion, Southern Harbour	142,000	-
Rowsell's Motel Limited	Motel modernization, Robert's Arm	7,500	-
Waterway Park and Campground Limited	Trailer camp improvements, Baie Verte	5,000	-
<u>1978-79</u>			
Anchor Inn Motel (1978) Ltd.	Motel, Twillingate	190,000	-
Arctic Fishery Products Ltd.	Fish plant, Charleston, Bonavista Bay	500,000	-
Atlantic Analytical Services Ltd.	Rock cutting and analysis, Springdale	80,000	-

1978-79 (continued)

Atlantic Bridge Co. Ltd.	Fishing gear mfg. St. John's	1,200,000	-
Avalon Farms Ltd.	Poultry & swine farm, Holyrood	150,000	-
Baie Vista Inn Ltd.	Hotel, Baie Verte	95,000	-
Bay Bulls Sea Products Limited	Fish plant, Bay Bulls	170,500	-
Blundon Brothers Co. Ltd.	Concrete block plant, Gander	385,000	15,000
Brookwater Books Ltd.	Book publishing, St. John's	55,000	-
Central Striping Ltd.	Line painting, Windsor	2,800	-
Fogo Island Shipbuilding and Producers Co- operative Society Ltd.	Fish plant, Fogo	711,000	-
Gander Aviation Ltd.	Aircraft maintenance, Gander	90,000	-
Gilbert Gosney	Timber harvesting, Parson's Pond	9,000	-
Glenwood Forest Products Ltd.	Sawmill, Glenwood	84,000	11,000
Goose Bay Timber Co. Ltd.	Sawmill, Goose Bay	425,000	-
Hawke Industries Ltd.	Timber harvesting, Hawkes Bay	15,000	-
Island Seafoods Ltd.	Fish plant, Herring Neck	278,000	-
Ronald Lidstone	Service station, Roddickton	16,500	-
Neldo Marine Develop- ment Co. Ltd.	Fiberglass boat mfg., Argentia	69,000	-
Nfld. Paper Converting Co. Ltd.	Paper products mfg., St. John's	250,000	42,000
Northern Fisheries Ltd.	Fish plant, L'Anse au Loup, Labrador	144,000	40,000
Ocean Harvesters Ltd.	Fish meal plant, Harbour Grace	870,000	-
Port Enterprises Ltd.	Fish plant, Southern Harbour	169,000	16,000
Seaside Fisheries Ltd.	Fish plant, Coley's Point	100,000	-
Newman and Michael Sinnicks	Timber harvesting, Hawke's Bay	7,500	-
Smith's Seafoods Ltd.	Fish plant, Norman's Cove	25,000	-
Terra Nova Shoes Ltd.	Footware mfg., Harbour Grace	290,000	-

1978-79 (continued)

Truck Bodies Ltd.	Truck body mfg., St. John's	337,000	100,000
Wallken Enterprises Ltd.	Floor truss mfg., St. John's	155,000	-
Western Farm Feeds Ltd.	Feed mill, Stephenville	288,000	16,000
<u>1979-80</u>			
Avalon Sea Products Ltd.	Fish plant, Arnold's Cove	250,000	-
Bay Bulls Sea Products Limited	Fish plant expansion, Bay Bulls	120,000	-
Broiler Chicks Ltd.	Chick hatchery, Whitbourne	283,000	23,000
Buckingham Machine & Fabricating Works Ltd.	Metal fabricating, St. John's	250,000	-
Hayward Butt	Motel, Carbonear	24,000	-
Cal's Sand & Gravel Ltd.	Cement batch plant, Bonavista	319,000	-
Inaid Limited	Tourist cabins, Grand Falls	81,500	-
Emery J. Finta for Valley Bakery Ltd.	Bakery, Goose Bay	81,000	-
Foxtrap Farms Ltd.	Hog farm, Foxtrap	191,000	5,000
E.J. Green & Company Ltd.	Fish plant expansion, Winterton	310,000	-
Island Seafoods Ltd.	Fish plant, Herring Neck	210,000	-
P. Janes & Sons Ltd.	Fish canning, Hant's Harbour	193,000	-
P. Janes & Sons Ltd.	Fish plant expansion, Jackson's Arm	331,000	-
LeDrews Enterprises Ltd.	Tourist cabins, Traytown	46,000	-
Gordon Pennell	Motel, Trepassey	162,000	-
Rowsell's Motel Ltd.	Motel, Robert's Arm	110,000	-
Sandy Beach Enterprises Limited	Tourist cabins, Western Bay	80,000	-
Seaside Fisheries Ltd.	Fish plant expansion, Coley's Point	30,000	-
Texstran Limited	Rope manufacturing plant, St. John's	100,000	20,000
Topline Printing Co. Ltd.	Printing shop, Grand Falls	43,000	-
Western Farm Feeds Ltd.	Feed mill, Stephenville	-	60,000

1980-81

Anchor Inn Motel Ltd.	* Motel, Twillingate	91,000	10,000
Arctic Seafoods Ltd.	Fish plant, South Dildo	403,000	-
Baie Vista Inn Ltd.	Hotel, Baie Verte	15,000	-
Hartlett Productions Ltd.	Recording studio, St. John's	48,000	2,000
Bay Bulls Sea Products Limited	Crab processing plant, Bay Bulls	76,000	-
Bay Bulls Sea Products Limited	Fish plant, Bay Bulls	270,000	-
Blizzard Corporation Ltd.	Sport fishing camp, Minipi Lake, Labrador	32,000	-
E.C. Boone Ltd.	Screen printing plant, St. John's	47,000	-
Buckingham Machine & Fabricating Works Ltd.	Machine shop, St. John's	40,000	-
Hayward Butt	Motel, Carbonear	6,000	-
Clareville Ocean Products Ltd.	Fish plant, Clareville, Southport, Hearts Desire	360,000	-
Fort Birchy Park & Campground Ltd.	Trailer park, Baie Verte	15,000	-
G & M Enterprises Ltd.	Industrial cleaning plant, St. John's	29,000	-
H & S Electrical Ltd.	Electrical & Plumbing Contractor, Happy Valley	34,000	-
Halls Bay Haulout Ltd.	Longliner yard, Springdale	250,000	-
Island Seafoods Ltd.	Fish plant, Herring Neck	32,000	-
P. Janes & Sons Ltd.	Cannery, Hant's Harbour	500,000	-
P. Janes & Sons Ltd.	Fish plant, Jackson's Arm	285,000	-
Johnson Combined Enterprises Ltd.	Marine research & sealing vessel, Catalina	720,000	-
Neldo Marine Develop- ment Limited	Fibreglass boat manufac- turing, Argentia	50,000	-
Newfont Ltd.	Paper core manufacturing, Stephenville	214,000	-
Newfoundland Food Processors Ltd.	Fish plant, Petty Harbour	233,000	-
Northern Fisheries Ltd.	Fish plant, L'Anse au Loup	159,000	-
Northlight Photographic Limited	Film processing plant, St. John's	104,000	-
Port Enterprises Ltd.	Fish plant, Southern Harbour	300,000	-
Quinlan Brothers Ltd.	Fish plant, Arnolds Cove	288,000	-
Seaside Fisheries Ltd.	Fish plant, Coley's Point	100,000	-

1980-81 (continued)

Spence's Service Station Ltd.	Motel, Port au Choix	333,000	-
Tic Tock Bakery Ltd.	Bakery, St. John's	45,000	-
Vanguard Paper Box Ltd.	Cardboard carton manufacturing, St. John's	1,475,000	-
Vinland Motel Ltd.	Motel, St. Anthony	165,000	-
James Vivian	Tourist cabins, Winterton	55,000	-

1981-82

Bay Bulls Sea Products Limited	Fish plant, Bay Bulls	64,000	-
Can Am Containers Ltd.	Plastic extrusion, Bishop's Falls	675,000	-
Continental Marble of Canada Limited	Molded fixtures, Bathroom sinks, etc., Goulds	21,000	7,000
Hussey, Edwin	Crab processing facility, Barenood, Conception Bay	700,000	-
I C Trawl International Limited	Fishing trawl mfg., Stephenville	175,000	-
Ichthus Sea Products Ltd.	Fish plant, Glovertown	415,000	-
S.T. Jones & Sons Limited	Fish plant, Little Bay Islands	500,000	-
Notre Dame Bay Fisheries Limited	Fish plant, Comfort Cove	200,000	-
Ocean Harvesters Limited	Fish plant, Harbour Grace	163,000	-
Petro Drilling Limited	Diamond drilling, Springdale	118,000	-
Port Enterprises Limited	Fish plant, Southern Harbour	80,000	-
Sandkath Enterprises Ltd.	Truss mfg., Corner Brook	140,000	10,000
Sandy Beach Enterprises Limited	Tourist cabins, Western Bay	13,000	-
Skipper Jim's Specialty Seafoods Limited	Fish plant, Bay Bulls	32,000	-
Terra Nova Concrete Ltd.	Concrete batch plant, Mount Pearl	126,000	-
Terra Nova Shoes Ltd.	Safety boot mfg., Harbour Grace	997,000	-
Tic Tock Bakery Ltd.	Specialty bakery, Donovans	12,000	-