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PRELIMINARY

UNEDITED

TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOR THE PERIOD

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1982

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS:

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I have two statements to make. The first one relates to a letter and a Telex I have today forwarded to the hon. Marc Lalonde, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. During the meetings on Friday there was a brief reference made by Mr. Lalonde with respect to the proposed legislation, legislation that is in the House of Commons now, that has not been fully enacted. As we know it has passed second reading and it has been committed to the committee for study with respect to the provision of the corridor.

Mr. Lalonde enquired in what I thought was a - it sort of raised my eyebrows quite a bit quite frankly as to whether or not the Government of this Province really supported the provision of the corridor, I responded of course immediately in the affirmative because this is a matter of record.

I wrote him today, Mr. Speaker, because of that comment, because of this little part of the discussion that we had on Friday, because quite frankly I do not know myself as to whether or not, I am not saying there is, but I do not know whether there is any inclination, or that indicates any intention upon the federal government that it may not proceed with the present legislation that is there, in other words may not bring it to the point of enacting. If this occurred of course it would be a travesty for Newfoundland so in order to put the record straight I have written Mr. Lalonde the following letter which went to him by Telex today and was forwarded by mail as well.

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Tape No. 308

NM - 2

MR. MARSHALL:

"This letter is written concerning your reference in our meeting of Friday to legislation now before the House of Commons giving the right to transmit electricity generated in one Province through another.

"In your conversation you questioned support of the Newfoundland Government for this measure in view of the fact that you indicated you had heard no support from this Province for it. It is very difficult to understand how you could be under such an impression. The

MR. MARSHALL:

support of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for this measure is a matter of record. Indeed, it was the result of consistent pressure from Newfoundland that the issue was kept constantly before the federal authorities. This government, through the Premier and various ministers, has indicated on many occasions its pleasure for this measure. It is our opinion, it is long overdue and recognizes a right of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador which ought to have been recognized years ago. The failure to have done so is depriving the people of this Province of in excess of \$500 millions of dollars a year from the Upper Churchill.

"Therefore, there should be no doubt in your mind that this Province strongly supports the legislation.

"We have some concern that your statements and the lobbies from the Province of Quebec, together with the other vested interests, might result in the Bill being withdrawn or its enactment delayed. This would be a tragedy for the people of our Province and further prevent realization of their legitimate aim of equality with other Canadians.

"I am writing this letter to allay any doubt in your mind that the government of this Province supports strongly the Bill to enable a power corridor to be established. Indeed, the people of this Province expect this Bill to be enacted so that they can attain some measure of equality with other Canadians.

"On the matter of the offshore we would await being advised of your position after you have had an opportunity to check with your colleagues."

So, Mr. Speaker, that constitutes the text of the letters. I have copies for hon. members that can be circulated. I have to say that

MR. MARSHALL: it was a matter of some surprise to me that the issue was brought up in the first place. And having seen CBC yesterday and seen Mr. Duhaine, the Minister of Energy for Quebec, voicing his objections to it, we wanted to make it crystal clear to the federal authorities and to everybody in Canada that Newfoundland expects this, which is its entitlement and its right and the people of Newfoundland will not put up with that being delayed one moment longer than is necessary. It has already been delayed ten years too long now anyway.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman and the administration cannot say that we did not tell them so. It was only last week that we raised this very matter in this House and suggested to the hon. gentleman that a resolution go forward from this House unanimously -

MR. WARREN: Right on.

MR. NEARY: - unanimously supported by members on both sides of the House.

MR. WARREN: They would not take your advice.

MR. NEARY: And the hon. gentleman, who refuses to take advice from anybody, would not take the advice of this side of the House. I am not surprised, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Lalonde had grave doubts of whether or not the administration here was supporting the legislation or not. The national Tories were against it. And I might say, Mr. Speaker, the other day the Premier misled the House, probably innocently, misled the House when he said that what the national Tories objected to was this big bill,

MR. NEARY: this huge bill that they objected to, that if they voted for this part of the bill they would have to vote for the whole bill. That is not true, Mr. Speaker. I checked it out after and that is not the way it is at all. So the national Tories were against it, the two Tory M.P.s from St. John's abstained from voting, and the Premier himself, the leader of the administration in this Province only gave it qualified support by saying 'they did not go far enough, we want to get on the Quebec Hydro's transmission lines.' So I do not blame Mr. LaLonde for being dubious about whether or not this administration, the Government of this Province, was supporting this very important project for Newfoundland. Twice we brought it up at national Liberal conventions and only recently, last year out in Winnipeg, Bill Callahan, a former member of this House, raised this matter and had a resolution passed at Winnipeg to have this power corridor across Quebec. So, Mr. Speaker, I am still not satisfied that we have done enough. There is a fierce lobby going on in Ottawa by the Quebec members of Parliament and by the Government of Quebec, a fierce lobby to block this bill, and a letter from the administration, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, is not sufficient. We have been fighting for that power corridor for much longer than ten years, as the hon. gentleman kind of slyly sneaks in there. We have been fighting for that power corridor since the mid-1960s, in case the hon. gentleman is not aware, the mid-1960s by Liberal administrations in this office.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

You gave it away.

MR. NEARY:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Premier is not going to intimidate me, I will deal with that matter when it comes up. The hon. gentleman is not going to intimidate me. I still say that that, even though it is gone to a second reading and is now in Committee stage, that it will be blocked unless,

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Tape No. 311

MJ - 1

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, we kick up more of a fuss about it than just sending off a simple letter to the federal Minister of Energy (Mr. M. Lalonde). How silly can you get?

MR. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, how much time we got to listen to him?

MR. NEARY: I got half the time the hon. gentleman had.

MR. CALLAN: He should have double.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, we support the letter but we do not think the government have gone far enough.

PREMIER PECKFORD: No, that is right.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MARSHALL: I have another statement to gladden the hearts of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker.

PREMIER PECKFORD: A Liberal give away by your own people up there.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL: I want to advise the House that Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro has completed a highly successful \$100 million bond issue in the United States capital market. The issue was priced on Monday, May 17th, and carries a coupon of fifteen-and-one-eighth per cent with a term of ten years. The issue carries a guarantee of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The proceeds of the bond issue will be used to finance the ongoing construction program at Upper Salmon, Car Arm and various transmission line projects in this Province.

I am pleased with the results of the comprehensive process which a borrower like Hydro is required to go through

MR. W. MARSHALL: prior to receiving approval to place an issue of this kind on the U. S. market. This is the first Hydro bond issue in the U. S. in fourteen years, by the way. The issue was the first to be placed since 1968. The stringent requirements - and they are very stringent, Mr. Speaker - of the Securities and Exchange Commission and of the Credit Rating Agencies were met by Hydro and are a strong indication that the turn around in its financial position in recent years has proven itself, not only of Hydro but of the Province of Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: The acceptance of Hydro's credit on the major capital markets of the world will be of an important element in the financing of a transmission line from the existing Churchill Falls plant to the Island part of the Province and as a significant contributor to the overall financing plans of the Lower Churchill development.

And, Mr. Speaker, while the Opposition is in such a testy, prickly little mood today perhaps we might be able to also indicate to the House that the prospectus was filed, the statement was filed on this bond issue during the period of the election, and remember during the period of the election that the hon. gentleman there opposite were asking about the credit rating of this Province. Well, fifteen-and-one-eighth per cent in these horrendous days is very good. But I also have to report to the House, Mr. Speaker, that it was also reported to me that certain people were calling up, if you can believe it or not, expressing to be Newfoundlanders and asking whether the financial condition of this Province adversely affects our credit rating. Can you imagine such irresponsibility on the part of certain people, Mr. Speaker, and they will be glad to know, and this will gladden their hearts, that the financial

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Tape No. 311

MJ - 3

MR. W. MARSHALL: condition of this Province does
affect our credit rating and very positively as a result of the
management of this administration.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, there is not much I can say about that so-called Ministerial Statement except to react to the last part of the hon. gentleman's remarks about calling up to find out about the financial condition of this Province, our credit rating, and the public debt and so forth and so on.

The reason that we have to call Standard and Poor and Moodys in New York and the Security Exchange to get information is because the administration have refused to give us the information in this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: That is why, Mr. Speaker, that is why we had to call New York. And I talked to some of these people in New York myself on the phone.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: And, Mr. Speaker, I have gone to visit Standard and Poors and Moodys, I have gone to visit them and I can tell this House that the only reason -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: - the only, only reason, Mr. Speaker, that our credit rating is remaining steady in this Province, the only reason is that Standard and Poor and Moody told us in New York that they expected the federal government would not allow the Province to go bankrupt. They -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: - operate on the premise -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: They operate on the premise,

Mr. Speaker, that Ottawa -

DR. COLLINS: That is an untrue statement.

Do not say things like that. You cannot back them up.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, that is not an untrue statement. That is a true statement given to me and my two colleagues in the board room of Standard and Poor and

MR. NEARY: Moody.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: And the hon. gentleman is getting close to being unparliamentary in his remarks.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. S. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the premise they operate under is that the Government of Canada will bail out the administration if they run into financial difficulty. But they are getting very nervous about the relationship -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - between the Provincial Government and the Government of Canada. And they are beginning to have doubts. And, Mr. Speaker, as far as the \$100 million bond issue by Hydro is concerned, that issue was started before the election was called and it was stalled by the Security Commission in New York and in Washington.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: It was delayed, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

AN HON. MEMBERS: Why?

MR. NEARY: For what reason I do not know. But it was delayed, and caused some very -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: -great concern.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

It is the understanding of the Chair that when the hon. minister makes a statement the

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): person replying to that
has about one half the time to respond to it. And I submit
now that the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) has
spoken for longer than the minister making the statement.
I would suggest that he end up his few remarks.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I think I have
said all I can say in the time at my disposal. I will have
more to say about this when the Budget comes down. But, Mr.
Speaker, let me end up by saying this, that

MR. NEARY: I hope that the administration told the people who loaned the money about the sinking fund of this Province.

AN HON. MEMBER: The did not tell them about that.

MR. NEARY: No? Well I hope they did, Mr. Speaker, because that is one of the legal requirements of borrowing money in the United States.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, apart from the fact that the hon. member's time has expired, he should have expired himself, but now what he is doing he is debating, Mr. Speaker, the statement, which he is not allowed to do. You are allowed to make comments on Ministerial Statements, Mr. Speaker, but you are not allowed to debate and the hon. gentleman is debating it.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. HODDER: The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) was only behaving in the same matter as the Government House Leader (Mr. Marshall) had behaved when he gave his Ministerial Statement and debated in kind.

PREMIER DECKFORD: Is that in Beausheune?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes, Beausheune 164.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

The Chair has already indicated that the hon. Leader of the Opposition had spoken longer than the minister making the statement. In the future the Chair will rule rather strictly on this matter.

The hon. Minister of the Environment.

MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to inform this hon. House of the circumstances surrounding

MR. ANDREWS: a large spill of diesel oil from Irving Oil Company's bulk storage facility at Baie Verte and to report on the progress of clean-up to date.

On the morning of February 28th a Baie Verte resident skidoing on the harbour reported an apparent oil spill to Irving Oil officials. The company initially reported a loss of 300 to 400 gallons but, following a prompt inspection by an environment officer from ~~MY~~ department, later admitted to a spill of some 2,000 gallons. After a basic clean-up using peat moss as an absorbent, it was thought that heavy ice and snow cover would likely prevent total recovery or shore-line clean-up until the Spring.

As clean up progressed, however, and as oil continued to be recovered it was suspected that a much larger spill had occurred. Repeated contacts with company officials indicated that inventory figures had been checked and re-checked. It was not until April 29th, when I threatened to issue a Stopping Order on the company, that I was finally informed from its head office in Saint John, New Brunswick, that 168,000 imperial gallons, or 214,000 U.S. gallons of diesel oil had been spilled in the Baie Verte Harbour.

Approximately 50,000 imperial gallons have been recovered thus far by clean-up crews and it is estimated that some 15,000 gallons have been recovered by residents in their efforts to assist. It is further estimated that some 20,000 gallons of diesel oil will have disappeared through normal evaporation processes. A light sheen of oil remains on the water surface in some areas but it is felt that most of the remainder has been widely dispersed by wind, ice and wave action. Clean-up activity for the next few days will concentrate on oily shore lines

MR. ANDREWS: on approximately a one kilometer beach. The staff will remain at Baie Verte for at least another week or so to monitor ongoing clean-up activities. In the meantime, they are also investigating reports of oil slicks near certain other Baie Verte Peninsula communities. Some oil has been confirmed near Coachman's Cove but not in recoverable quantities.

I would like to advise the hon. House and the hon. members that for some time now my department, in co-operation with Environment Canada, has headed up a tank farm oil spill prevention programme. In this regard, oil storage facilities maintained by the various major oil companies and distributors throughout the Province have been inspected and a programme of environmental upgrading determined. These facilities requiring improvements have been prioritized and approximately a year ago the six oil distributors active in the Province were informed of the need to undertake this work. Satisfactory responses on compliance scheduling were received from these companies with the exception of Irving Oil Limited whose response left much to be desired. There will obviously be further contact with the company in this regard. It might be interesting to note that the Baie Verte facility was high on our list of those needing attention.

A spill of the magnitude of Baie Verte cannot be taken lightly and must be viewed with great concern. I have, therefore, recently signed a formal authorization requesting the Department of Justice to initiate action against the Irving Oil Company under the Department of Environment Act. This action has been taken as we cannot allow conditions to exist that make possible spilling of large quantities of petroleum products into our waters where the potential for considerable

MR. ANDREWS: environmental damage exists. In addition, new regulations for the storage and handling of gasoline and associated products are presently under consideration. These regulations are being designed to assure better control over such things as dyking adequacy and inventory records.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to repeat that further spills of petroleum products cannot be tolerated and my department will be vigorously pursuing the upgrading of all company facilities in this Province.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the minister's action in this matter. This Province cannot tolerate oil spills of any magnitude. I feel, Mr. Speaker, and I speak for members on this side

MR. HODDER: of the House when I say that an example should be made of Irving Oil. I suppose, Mr. Speaker, the only good thing that came out of this oil spill was the fact that there is now in place, or there will be in place, an oil spill prevention programme, as the minister mentions. It may be like closing the barn door after the horse is gone, but, Mr. Speaker, nevertheless we welcome that and we welcome and would support any new regulations on this side of the House that will stop this type of occurrence from happening again.

Mr. Speaker, I would only note in closing that the minister took some two months to come to a decision as to what he would do in this, but, Mr. Speaker, I think that in any cases of like spills in the Province I think that we should act very quickly and very forcefully to make sure that our environment is not dissipated by the oil companies, or any other company that is doing business in this Province.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. Minister of Public Works.

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Speaker, I am happy to inform the House that the government has approved my proposal to designate the area in front of Confederation Building on the South side of the Parkway as a monument area.

The idea of a monument area in close proximity of Confederation Building developed from representations that have been made to me by various organizations, the most recent one being by the Oil Field Technical Society which wishes to erect a monument to the persons who lost their lives in the Ocean Ranger disaster. The concept of having an area within the city set aside as a monument area, in my opinion, has considerable merit and the open space in front of the Confederation Building seems to be an appropriate area for this purpose.

MR. YOUNG:

Mr. Speaker, it is generally known that all the land around Confederation Building is included in the Pippy Park and is already restricted to specific uses by the Pippy Park Commission Act. For this reason I have consulted the Pippy Park Commission in advance of my proposal to Cabinet and suggested that the area be included in the master plan of the Pippy Park. I am happy to say that the Commission has endorsed my proposal. Indeed, the Commission has some very interesting ideas of its own on how such a monument area would be developed.

The Oil Field Technical Society is eager to move ahead with the plans for a monument to those persons who lost their lives in the Ocean Ranger disaster, and I will be discussing the implications of this proposal with my colleagues, the Minister of Development (Mr. Windsor), and the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth (Mr. Simms), before the matter is referred to the Pippy Park Commission for follow-up.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased by this decision of government.

MR. YOUNG: It ensures that the open space will be protected from undesirable developments and will be used exclusively in future as a showplace to commemorate distinguished people and significant events.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. HISCOCK: Mr. Speaker, we on this side have been saying for a long time, it goes back to Mr. Smallwood's days, that we should have an area for certain monuments outside. The first one, of course, Gaspar Corte Real, was put there. But I am also pleased that we are now setting one aside. How far we will get with it will be another thing. There are more important things, though, in the Province than erecting monuments at this time. But next year with the Sir Humphrey Gilbert coming, the Four Hundred Year Anniversary of the colony, hopefully the government will see fit to put one to him.

With regard to the Oil Field Technical Society, I do regret, Mr. Speaker, that we have had to have an outside group to come and suggest putting up a monument, that it did not come from the Cabinet, that it did not come from this House for our feelings towards this tragic disaster, that a society is doing it.

I would also caution the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Young) and the commission not to allow this monument area to be set aside and just have any type of monuments whatsoever. I was only looking out the window at the grounds the other day

MR. HISCOCK: and of all the legislative buildings I have seen, some in the United States as well as in Canada, I would say our grounds here are probably the worst in being kept up. All we have are lawns, a few windswept trees. And I would encourage any development that can enhance this building, C.A. Pippy Park as well as monuments to our various people of the past. And, as I said, I do regret that we are not having one ourselves, that it is coming from an outside group.

Next year at our 400th Anniversary, I hope that this Province will see fit to put a statue there to Sir Humphrey Gilbert and hopefully they will also in their wisdom and their broad-mindedness and their tolerance see fit to erect one for the Father of Confederation of this Province, Mr. Smallwood.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the member for Fogo.

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. It concerns a matter, Mr. Speaker, that has become what I regard as very serious,

MR. TULK: perhaps grave in the administration of this Province. It concerns a matter that was brought before this hon. House by the Ombudsman and it concerns the actions or the ongoing actions of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), and that the Ombudsman has now said that the Minister of Fisheries has contravened the Public Service Commission Act.

In view of the latest development of that report, Mr. Speaker, what disciplinary action is the Premier contemplating taking?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk) in his lead up to the question made an inaccuracy. As I understand it, the Minister of Fisheries has not contravened the legislation that is in place and therefore I think that the premise to the hon. member's question is completely wrong.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. TULK: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, the hon. member for Fogo.

MR. TULK: For the clarification of the Premier I said that the Ombudsman reported, so he has. But after the Auditor General's Report in 1979, the Premier issued a statement on June 27th, it was a public policy statement, which said that any civil servant that had been recommended number one for a position and was turned down should only be turned down on his say so. Now is the Premier, in view of the fact that the minister apparently contravened and disregarded that statement of public policy of the Premier himself, going to take any disciplinary action or is he just going to allow the Minister of Fisheries to make a complete farce out of anything the Premier says?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, at the time the Minister of Fisheries did inform me of how he felt about

PREMIER PECKFORD: the candidates for the position and recommended to me what course of action he would like to take, and I endorsed the course of action that the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) wanted to take. It was a legal course of action -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and one that was done after consultation with me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. TULK: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Supplementary, the hon. member for Fogo.

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker, in view of that would the Premier then inform this House why he chose to turn down the number one choice of the Public Service Commission and of all the people who had anything to say about the behaviour and the ability of that man to do the job? Why did he act in collusion with the Minister of Fisheries?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, three names come to a minister always and the minister has the discretion, as I understand it, to choose either one of those three, and all three are qualified for the position. It was the Minister of Fisheries' opinion at the time, and his recommendation to me, that he wished out of the three to choose the person he chose, he was completely within his rights so to do, and the Minister of Fisheries went ahead and did what was right and proper

PREMIER PECKFORD: for him to do. There was no illegality. There was no dishonesty. There was no unethical behaviour on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan). Three names were recommended, the Minister of Fisheries recommended one of those three, and that is where it stood.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker, there is a tradition in British law, and in British practice, that justice must not only be done but seen to be done. Now I would ask the Premier would he table in this House any correspondence that he had with the Minister of Fisheries, or would he again give us the reasons why he chose to go against all the recommendations of other people, except the Minister of Fisheries? Would he do that for us?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk) well knows, and it is a practice that has been followed here for quite a few years, that they usually - as a matter of fact sometimes the Public Service Commission may only recommend one, sometimes only two, normally three. If out of all the interviews they have they, in their opinion, and the committee in their opinion, feel that there are three qualified individuals. In this particular circumstance there were three qualified individuals for the job, and those three qualified individuals were recommended to the Minister of Fisheries. The Minister of Fisheries recommended that of those three people one of those people in his view was the one that he wished to chose. He was quite within his right to do so. He consulted with me at the time before he made the appointment, and everything was done honestly, legally, and the way it was supposed to be done.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, as I read the relevant section of the Public Service

MR. BARRETT: Ask the question.

MR. NEARY: Keep quiet, boy.

MR. HODDER: Commission Act-

MR. WARREN: Ignoramus. Ignoramus.

MR. NEARY: Go out and earn your \$15,000.

MR. HODDER: - the act does not give discretionary -

MR. WARREN: Ignoramus. Ignoramus.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HODDER: - the act does not give discretionary and other powers to ministers. And, Mr. Speaker, the act specifically states that the power to select remains in the hands of the deputy minister.

MR. NEARY: Right on! Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER: My question to the Premier is how - when he spoke a minute ago he said that the minister had made the right decision and he had abetted him. The power is not even in the Premier's hands.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, according to the correspondence audit is available to the hon. member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) as it is to the hon. member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk), is that the proper procedures were followed in this case and the recommendation came forward. There has been a legal opinion gathered, which is part of the documentation. Everything is legal, aboveboard, and honest in this transaction. What was done was done according to the legislation and done after consultation with me, as per the memo that I had issued at the time.

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PREMIER PECKFORD:

So the hon. member can try
to make what he wants out of it.

MR. WARREN:

Cover up.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The fact of the matter is that it was honest, straight, legal, no cover up, open, and the way it should be.

MR.HODDER: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): A supplementary, the hon. member for Port Au Port.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR.HODDER: I happen to know, since one of the officials resides in my district and the other one resides in the adjoining district, I happen to know both of those individuals. But I happen to know that the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) had never met either one of those individuals, nor had the Premier. Would the Premier tell the House, and particularly in light of the fact that Mr. Shirley, who was Mr. Thistle's immediate superior, why after the recommendation of Mr. Shirley, on what basis was Mr. Green picked for the job?

MR.SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, first let me say to the hon. member that because I do not meet - I mean it is not my job as Premier to meet with every single individual who becomes a candidate for a job in the public service and that I only then okay or get involved in these things after I meet them all. I happen to trust the ministers who are part of the Cabinet of this government and when they make recommendations to me, well then I accept those recommendations. I would just refer the hon. member for Port Au Port (Mr. Hodder) to the last part of the letter from the Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General, "In conclusion, the strict requirements of the Act were followed as the selection was formally made by the chief executive officer." And who is the Chief Executive Officer?

MR.MARSHALL: The Deputy Minister.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The Deputy Minister."I do agree with the Parliamentary Commissioner, to the extent that it is the intent of the Act to remove the Minister from the selection of public employees. However, it is clearly not possible to preclude all involvement in the process on occasion, so long as the chief executive officer retains his responsibility to make the final selection. There is no evidence that this responsibility was not exercised formally in this instance." So, I mean, the matter lies there. The Deputy Minister was involved, the chief executive officer was involved, and it was done the way it was supposed to be done. It is legal, aboveboard, honest and the hon. members can try to make what they can out of it if they wish. The long and short of it is, it is honest, it is straight and proper.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, these statements and the way the Premier is shrugging this off is rather frightening and dangerous and I am sure the public service employees' representatives, the unions, will have something to say about this. But let me pursue the matter a little further.

PREMIER PECKFORD: It happened in your day.

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Speaker, it was never done in our day, I can guarantee you that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, they can pound their desks all they want, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. the Premier -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. HODDER: Now that is what they think of it.

MR. NEARY: I defy the hon. gentleman now

MR. NEARY:

to put up one example in this House where the Public Service Commission was overruled. Put it up! Put it up!

PREMIER PECKFORD: You did not have a Public Service Commission.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to be intimidated by the hon. gentlemen. They are showing their arrogance and their flagrant disregard for rules and regulations that have withstood the test of time under our British Parliamentary system. I am not going to be intimidated by Crosbie's representative in the House or the Premier or anybody else. But I am going to pursue this matter a little further and ask the hon. gentleman if it is now the policy of this administration that they will not accept, as has been tradition in the past, policy in the past, custom in the past, to accept the number one name -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Since when? Since when?

MR. NEARY: It has been the custom since time began as far as the British Parliamentary system of government is concerned.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Oh, the hon. gentlemen are sneering and jeering.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: I have not seen any evidences put on the table.

MR. DINN: I do not believe what we are hearing.

MR. NEARY: I will have something to say to the hon. gentleman later. Mr. Speaker, I am not -

MR. DINN: It is all said in this.

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: - going to be intimidated by hon. members, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier tell us if this now is going to be a part of the policy of his administration, that the recommendation, that the number one person - there are three names on the list - the number one is the most qualified in the opinion of the Public Service Commission, and the one they recommend for the job, is that now going to be disregarded? And in how many cases have ministers come to the Premier in the past, say, six months, and said disregard the number one name, the recommendation of the Public Service Commission, we are going to pick our own man?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: That took a long while to ask, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. member had quite a preamble to his so-called question. First let me say to the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary), you know, people in glass houses should not throw stones. I find it extremely strange that an hon. gentleman who sits in this House and who, according to a judge of the court of this Province, some years ago spent an awful lot of money on Bell Island to the exclusion of almost anywhere else-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - can stand up in righteousness indignation about something that was done legal and proper and -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - if somebody else wants to hide behind a certain position now -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and try to call it history, I will not call it history. Let the hon. member stand in his place and answer the charges that were put against him

PREMIER PECKFORD: a number of years ago on things that he did when he was a minister of the government of this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Let him stand and talk about it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Righteous indignation.

Here we have it, Mr. Speaker, a man now that suddenly wants to stand up and condemn every other member of this administration now. Talk about cover up and arrogance. And on the question of trying to put the

hon. gentleman down, protesting so much that we are trying to

intimidate the hon. gentleman, he protests too much that we are trying to intimidate him. Who is

ask, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. member had quite a preamble to his so-called question. First let me say to the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Newry), you know, people in glass houses should not throw stones. I find it extremely strange that an hon. gentleman who sits in this House and who, according to a judge of the court of this Province, some years ago spent an awful lot of money on Bell Island to the exclusion of almost anywhere else-

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history, I will not call it history. Let the hon. member stand in his place and answer the charges that were put against him

PREMIER PECKFORD: trying to intimidate the hon. gentleman from LaPoile (Mr. Neary)! I am not trying to intimidate him. But I will tell the hon. the member for LaPoile, or any other hon. gentleman on the other side of the House, that as everybody in this House knows, and as the people of Newfoundland know and demonstrated again on April 6, this is a fair and honest government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: The hon. gentleman knows that. The hon. gentleman knows that in his heart and soul, and he is scratching and scheming to try to find something to condemn this government. The hon. the member for LaPoile is going to have to scratch and scream a lot more. And the hon. member can take the low road in this House till the next election. We will take the high road, Mr. Speaker, so that there will be another overwhelming victory for this government when we go to the polls.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: A supplementary,
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, there is no trouble to know who in this House wants to get down and roll in the mud.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: If that is the kind of a game the hon. gentleman wants to play, Mr. Speaker, then he should get up and tell us about the Gull Bridge warehouse and wharf out in Springdale he went to bat for one of his members on--

MR. WARREN: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: - Mr. Pelley, who took the cameras away from the CBC, he should tell us about that, his fund raiser out in Springdale. That, Mr. Speaker -

MR. WARREN: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. PECKFORD: Ah, now we are -

MR. NEARY: Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to be intimidated.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

AN HON. MEMBER: He is chicken. He is chicken.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!
Hon. members know that the Question Period is only thirty minutes, and I am sure a lot of hon. members to my right have some questions. I would suggest that they keep their question very brief and to the point, and the members to my left do similarly with their answers.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I said at the beginning I was not going to be intimidated by the hon. gentleman. If he has a beef with CBC over the programme last night, he should take it up with them not take it out on me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: My question is for the Premier, Mr. Speaker. Would the hon. gentleman tell us if his administration also condones political interference,

MR. NEARY: interference on behalf of his ministers, or the ministry, on matters that are before the court, whether they be civil or criminal? Would the hon. gentleman condone that kind of behaviour or action on the part of his ministers? Would he condone a minister interfering with a civil or criminal matter before the court?

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Now, Mr. Speaker, we see it. Now the hon. the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) is twisting and turning. Now he is leaving the whole question of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), he has left that now, Mr. Speaker, in his questioning. He is no longer question now the Minister of Fisheries and the right of the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Fisheries to hire one of three people who were recommended, done legally, honestly and aboveboard. He has ignored that now, Mr. Speaker. And let the record show that the Leader of the Opposition,

PREMIER PECKFORD when it got touchy, when we started to refer to something which is a matter of public record, that he tried to throw a little bit more scurrilous information across this House as it relates to a gentleman in my district. And I want to tell the hon. the member for Lapoile (Mr. Neary) that he can continue, as I said, to scrape the bottom of the barrel.

MR. NEARY Who started it ?

PREMIER PECKFORD It is a matter of public record that the hon. the member for Lapoile -

SOME HON. MEMBERS Oh , oh !

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please !

PREMIER PECKFORD - did spend 90 per cent to 95 per cent of the money that was available for building materials in the district of Bell Island when he was a minister, and the judge and the court have ruled on that.

And I said that in response to the hon. the leader of the Opposition trying to find something wrong with the Chief Executive Officer of a department hiring one of three people, which was legal and honest. And it hurts the hon. the leader of the Opposition for me to have to get up and keep telling him that we are legal and honest, and he cannot find anything to show different. And he can scrape, he can crawl, he can go to the depths of the abyss and he will not find it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Hear, hear !

MR. NEARY I am not sure if I got a yes or no answer out of that. Would the hon.gentleman condone any of his ministers of the administration going to the judge of the court or interfering with a case before the court whether it be criminal or whether it be civil? A simple yes or no.

PREMIER PECKFORD Mr.Speaker, that is scurrilous questioning by the hon. the leader of Opposition. It is hypothetical, that the hon. leader now wants to hint

PREMIER PECKFORD: at something behind some doors. He will not come right out and ask the question specifically. He wants to try to do it generally so that then he can worm and squirm his way around. The Leader of the Opposition and the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) will not succeed in trying to get me or any member of this administration to somehow be akin with him in the scurrilous way in which he asks questions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please! Order, please!

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker, the Premier seems awful pesky today.

MR. NEARY: Right on!

MR. TULK: I would like to ask him another question. It is somewhat related, I guess, to what the member for LaPoile, the Leader of the Opposition on this side, asked. And it concerns another matter in the continuing escapades, I suppose, of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) and it concerns what I regard and what has to be regarded as his political interference in the judicial process regarding a civil case that was before chief Judge Steele.

MR. B. TULK: I want to emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that as the member for Lapoile (Mr. S. Neary) said, we are talking about a civil case but it is still serious, Mr. Speaker, in that the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. J. Morgan), a minister of the Crown, is interfering with the judicial process. I have the telegram that was sent to Judge Steele in which the minister asks for a postponement of court action concerning one of his constituents. And I will gladly table -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. S. NEARY: We were just told by the Premier that we are being low.

MR. TULK: - that telegram. The question to the Premier is, then, will the Premier in view of the latest -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. TULK: - in view of the latest political interference -

MR. NEARY: Lay it on the table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!
The hon. member for Fogo (Mr. B. Tulk) seems to be taking an exceptionally long time in getting to his question and I would suggest that he get to it.

MR. TULK: Will the Premier, in view of this latest political interference by a minister of the Crown, namely the Minister of Fisheries, now ask for the resignation of the Minister of Fisheries?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. RUSSELL: Order, please!

PREMEIR PECKFORD: Let me answer it whether it is out of order or not, Mr. Speaker.

If the hon. the member for Fogo

PREMIER PECKFORD: has any information on any
Cabinet Minister who has done anything which is -

MR. TULK: Here it is! Here it is!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Fine fine. - I would only ask
the hon., Mr. Speaker, the member for Fogo (Mr. B. Tulk) and
his colleagues that when they- and this is one of the important
things that happens in Newfoundland politics all the time and
will continue to happen, it seems, is that if there is something
of a serious nature to be brought against one of the members
of the House, regardless of political party, one would think
that if we are going to argue back and forth about the image
of politics and the image of politicians and low roads and high
roads, that one way that the hon. member for Fogo can demonstrate
his honesty and integrity as a member of the House, and his respect
for other members, is to use the proper courses to make his point
not on something that can affect the character of a member of this
House. No way.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Let that be decided by the courts
and let that be decided by the Attorney General. Then if there is
no response from the powers that be, then

PREMIER PECKFORD: bring it up on the floor of the House so that a member's character is not torn apart when he is not even in the House -

SOME HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: That has nothing to do with character.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - when he is not even in the House, Mr. Speaker.

All I say to the member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk), if he choses this methodology, if he wants to continue to chose this way of trying to paint the character of a minister, fine. I am willing to deal with him in here in this House, or outside. If he does not want to use the right course of act so that a person's character is protected, fine, I do not mind. The hon. member for Fogo, the first time I heard about it is today. Let the hon. member for Fogo table his documentation. We will take it; if there is anything wrong, illegal, not right about what the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) did, action will be taken, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. TULK: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TULK: Where else do you take action but in this House?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. TULK: Where else do you bring up this kind of thing but in this House? In your office? In your office?

PREMIER PECKFORD: That wears awful thin. That wears awful thin.

MR. TULK: Do not be crazy. I will table the report, Mr. Speaker, and I will ask the Premier to take action

MR. TULK: on the statement that is in this and it shows that the minister has politically interfered. There have been Cabinet Ministers who have had to resign for less than this. Will he ask for his resignation?

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk) is treading on very dangerous ground. Now when he says that the only place he can do this is in this House that wears a little bit thin when he is talking about members of this House. That wears a little bit thin.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: The people of Newfoundland, and the people of Canada, people of any civilized society, know full well how people are supposed to act if they have information against another citizen, let alone another member, and what is the proper approach to take if they have serious concerns about that.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: All I will say, Mr. Speaker, is that we will take whatever action is necessary.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, that is several times this afternoon that the hon. gentleman impugned motives against members on this side of the House -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: - questioned their motives. The hon. gentleman accused my hon. friend of attacking the -

PREMIER PECKFORD: Impugne motives. Look over there.

MR. NEARY: - attacking the character and questioning the motives of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is not a matter of character. It is not. The hon. gentleman is just dragging in a red herring. It is a matter, Mr. Speaker, of the behaviour and the political interference of a gentleman who is in a position of authority, of a gentleman who can influence people, a Minister of the Crown, not an ordinary citizen. And, Mr. Speaker, I would submit that the hon. the Premier be asked to withdraw the imputation that my hon. friend is questioning the minister's character because he is not.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker, there is no point of order here. The hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) is trying to use the rules to his own benefit without

PREMIER PECKFORD: making any citations, without giving any quotations from Standing Orders, from Beauchesne or anyone else, to get up and try to make a speech -

MR. HODDER: Impugning motives is in Beauchesne. Do not worry about it, boy.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - which is completely against the rules.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The question I was bringing up was a very good question, that when any of us members in this House have evidence of some wrongdoing by another member, at least the member to whom we are going to make the allegation deserves the right to be here in the House to hear what is being said-

MR. HODDER: So you can cover it up like you did with the Auditor General's report?

PREMIER PECKFORD: - and, secondly, to give it to the appropriate authorities first.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, Oh.

MR. NEARY: You do not think you should explain it?

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: No. It is highroad. That is what -

MR. NEARY: You want us to go down to your office?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. NEARY: Do not be so silly, so foolish

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: oh, oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: It is the highroad. You do not understand.

MR. NEARY: No, I understand, do not worry. The hon. gentleman started all this, getting down in the mud.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, Oh.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

As hon members know, it is usually the custom that when the speaker rises to make some ruling that the hon. members should remain silent. I would request that they do that.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): There has been no point of order raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary), just a difference of opinion on both sides of this House.

The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, to get back to the matter at hand, Mr. Speaker, in the Minister of Fisheries' letter to the Ombudsman, the Minister of Fisheries said that any discussions pertaining to the matter would be between the Premier and himself and the Premier has already said that there was discussion. And in the letter from Mr. David A. Vardy, Clerk of the Executive Council, the information was brought forth that it was discussed in Cabinet. Now I will ask the question again, Mr. Speaker. I know both of those gentlemen, I have a darn good idea what happened because I have talked to one of the gentlemen and -

MR. BARRETT: Oh, you know it all.

MR. HODDER: Yes I do. Yes I do.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. NEARY: You have your \$15,000 now over there.

Be quiet!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. HODDER: There were two men of ability, but Mr. Thistle had very great ability and it was recognized by the Department of Fisheries. But on the recommendation of a certain gentleman who heads a corporation in Stephenville, it was told to the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) that Mr. Green should get the job. Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to know from the Premier why he -

MR. NEARY: How slimy, how slimy can you get.

MR. HODDER: - decided to take number two and put him number one? What reason, what was wrong with Mr. Thistle?

MR. NEARY: How slimy can you get, Mr. Speaker.

PREMIER PECKFORD: There you go, Mr. Speaker, there is the innuendo for you now, if you want to hear innuendo and rumour and all the rest of it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hearsay.

PREMIER PECKFORD: And hearsay and all the other things that the hon. member mentioned as he tried to ask his question. As I indicated to the hon. member before, and the hon. members of the Opposition, this matter of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) and the appointment of this gentleman was done according to the law and done honestly and openly and I accepted the Minister of Fisheries' recommendation on which of the three he wanted to fill that position. And that was fair, reasonable, honest and aboveboard. And that is the story on it as I know it, and that is

PREMIER PECKFORD: all the story on it as I know it. It was done legally, documentation proves that. The hon. member is trying to make a mountain out of a molehill, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: You would like to duck interference in a court case.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Surely, Mr. Speaker, when the Premier had his discussion with the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), the Minister of Fisheries must have told the Premier why he picked Mr. Greene rather than Mr. Thistle. Would the Premier tell the House of Assembly why he sanctioned the minister in taking -

AN HON MEMBER: None of your business.

MR. NEARY: Wait a minute. It is the people's business.

MR. HODDER: Someone other than the person who won the position as number one over fourteen other people who applied? Why? There must have been a reason and the Premier must know that reason.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I know the reason. Because in the mind of the Minister of Fisheries he was the most qualified person for the job in the Minister of Fisheries' opinion. I mean, that is the whole point of it. Three people were nominated to be qualified for this job. The Public Service Commission said, 'There are three people here out of all those people we have interviewed. All three of them are qualified for this job, pick one. The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Fisheries, pick one. Which one? Ninety times, it might be -

MR. NEARY: That is the trouble. It is the number one on the list who is always chosen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, may I answer the

PREMIER PECKFORD: question without being interfered with? May I have the protection of the Chair so that I can speak in silence, speak while the rest are being silent?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, most times, as most people in this Province know, perhaps 95 per cent or 98 per cent of the time, the number one might be taken. There are two or three or four or five per cent of the time when, in the opinion of the executive of the department and the minister - or recommended to the minister who then recommends it for different from number one. It does not mean that every last time. It happens 90 per cent and 95 per cent of the time and that is a pretty good record. Many times, as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, we refer to the Public Service Commission many jobs that do not have to go to the Public Service Commission, but we do it because we agree with the system, that it is a fair and honest system most of the time. And that is why we do it, but not every single time, 100 per cent of the time, every time. Every now and then the executive of the Department of Fisheries, the Assistant Deputy Minister, and so on, might recommend other than that number one, given that all three are qualified and from their knowledge of all three of the candidates they recommend that the person most tuned to this particular job in their opinion is number two or is number three. It happens very rarely but it will happen from time to time, and that is what happened in this particular circumstance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): A final supplementary, the
hon. member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder).

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Thistle
was enticed by the Department of Fisheries and gave up two high
paying jobs on the promise that when this job came up that he
would be given preference, not that he would be given a job.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is wrong.

MR. NEARY: That is not wrong. That is
true.

AN HON. MEMBER: You cannot accept that. It is hearsay.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, due to the fact,
my number one question is due to the fact that he did take the
job, and due to the fact that he was number one, would the
Premier consider the Ombudsman suggestion that he get compensation?
And secondly, the Premier's answer to my former question applies
when all things are equal. But all things were not equal in
this case, Mr. Speaker, because the recommendation from the
Director of Field Service said, "Mr. Thistle conducted himself
in an exemplary manner in that he showed much ability and
enthusiasm and his work, was meticulous and every thing he did,
and his performance during the three years involved was most
satisfactory."

Now, Mr. Speaker, after
a recommendation from the Director of Field Services like that,
what would even, and particularly when neither the Premier
nor the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) knew Mr. Thistle,
why would he not be chosen?

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, you can quote -

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): I will allow the hon. Premier to answer the question. The time for the Question Period will have expired then.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, you can quote what you like. I mean, the fact of the matter was all three of them were qualified. There were pretty recommendations on all three of them.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Thistle was number one on the list, number one.

PREMIER PECKFORD: You can quote the same kind of thing from another person recommending -

MR. HODDER: No, you cannot.

PREMIER PECKFORD: - or saying something good about another person.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: The long and short of it was that in the view of the Public Service Commission -

MR. NEARY: If that is the garbage you are getting on with -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: -the time is up.

PREMIER PECKFORD: In the view of the Public Service Commission there were three people qualified, and according to the executive of the Department of Fisheries and the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan), the person that they recommended was the one they felt most qualified for the job in their department.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. NEARY: -I want to ask Your Honour if the time is up, because this is garbage we are getting here now.

MR. WARREN: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

If the hon. -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL):

Order, please!

If the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) were listening, maybe he would have heard me say that I would permit the Premier to answer the question, if he so desired, and at that time the time for the Question Period would be up.

MR. NEARY:

The time was already up.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!
Before we proceed
with other business, I would like to welcome to the
galleries today a delegation of council members from
Glovertown; Councillors Mr. Warren, Mr. Briffett,
Mr. Hounsel, Mr. Earle, and the Town Manager, Mr.
Sparkes. I welcome you indeed to the galleries.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, pursuant
to section 23 of the Legal Aid Act, I table a copy of the
financial statement for the Newfoundland Legal Aid
Commission for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1981.

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. GOUDIE: Mr. Speaker, I am
going to table financial statements for the years
ending March 31, 1981, for the Newfoundland Farm Products
Corporation. And, also, financial statements for the
year ending December 31, 1981, for the Newfoundland
Chicken Marketing Board.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker.

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I wish
to table the answer to question No. 3, asked by the hon.
the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder), and placed on
the Order Paper of Tuesday, May 11th.

MR. OTTENHEIMER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

of Justice.

The hon. the Minister

MR. OTTENHEIMER:

Mr. Speaker, I

believe you will recall that yesterday during Oral Questions there were questions with respect to the legal opinions which the government had received with respect to borrowing from the consolidated sinking fund. I was asked whether I would table those legal opinions. I said that I would take it as notice and I am, today, tabling those - there are three - three opinions, one from the Department of Justice, one from the American Counsel, and one from the financial agents.

I should point out in so doing, as hon. members are aware, in many instances legal opinions are not tabled. And it should not be understood that all legal opinions will be tabled. There are many -

MR. NEARY:

(Inaudible).

MR. OTTENHEIMER:

in terms of prosecution and appeals -

- instances, certainly

PREMIER PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

On a point of order,

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) across the way there, while I am trying to listen to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer), is threatening me that he is going to do something or another. I do not know what it is the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is talking about, but across the hall here he is making threats and, you know, I would like -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - to hear the hon.
the Minister of Justice in silence.

MR NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: To that point of
order, Mr. Speaker. I am surprised to hear the hon.
the Premier make a statement of that magnitude. With
the body guards that he has, the chain link fences
around his property, electronic gates and all the
other security -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) bullet
proof cars.

MR. NEARY: Yes, bullet proof
cars and all that sort of thing, I doubt very much that
I could get handy to the Premier to do him any harm.

MR. HODDER: This is the closest
you will ever get to him.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!
Maybe if all hon.

members would let a minister, or any hon. member when
is is speaking - be silent and let him speak, then we
would not have this sort of thing being carried on in
the House of Assembly.

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

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, I was about to table these three legal opinions, but I do want to point out that, as hon. members are aware, in many instances legal opinions are not tabled and that course of action then certainly is dictated by many obvious reasons in terms of prosecutions, in terms of appeals. There could well be references to courts. There are many instances in which legal opinions are not tabled. In this particular instance certainly it seems to be quite appropriate, so we will be tabling these three legal opinions. There are no copies so I would ask that copies be made and given to the Opposition and given to the press as well.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. SIMMS: Mr. Speaker, yesterday during Question Period the hon. member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Warren) asked for further information related to the issue of complementary passes to the Arts and Culture Centre.

MR. BARRETT: He wanted every name that was on the list.

MR. SIMMS: He wanted a list of names. There is no such list of names specifically kept but I can indicate to the hon. member the categories of people at least who have received in the past complementary passes. They include guests of the state, distinguished visitors to the Province, commercial sponsors, both local corporations who regularly sponsor and pay for the theatre programmes used in the various performances, press tickets for general public relations, media for reviewing the performances, amateur performers who receive no payment for their services, consultive committee members. Some

MR. SIMMS: contracts that are signed call for a number of tickets to go to the attraction and so on.

The second part of his question, I believe, related to the names of the MHAs. Again I have the same answer, there are no specific list of names, but I have been informed that members on both sides of this hon. House have on occasion received complementary passes for certain performances.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order 1, Address in Reply.

The debate yesterday was adjourned by the hon. member for Torngat Mountains.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have left? Fifteen minutes?

MR. SPEAKER: Seventeen.

MR. WARREN: Seventeen is it?

Okay, Mr. Speaker, I wish to begin where I left off yesterday in saying that after April 6th the Premier returned to the House of Assembly with a landslide victory and I would like to congratulate him on his personal victory and also all members on the other side of the House of Assembly. However, Mr. Speaker, although the tide in Newfoundland and Labrador was sort of swinging in Tory blue favour, I want to say

MR. G. WARREN:

that the residents in Tornqat Mountains did not have too much faith in the Premier or his party. In fact, Mr. Speaker, it would be interesting to note that in the town of Rigolet in the 1979 election, the P. C. party got seventy-nine votes and I as the Liberal candidate got seventy-two in 1979. In this past election the P. C. party went from seventy-nine down to seventeen and I went from seventy-two up to eighty-seven.

AN HON. MEMBER:

It could be that Joe Goudie was working on it.

MR. WARREN:

I would probably say that could have a lot to do with it. We go from Rigolet to Makkovik, the P. C.'s in 1979 had a grand total of fifty votes, this time they managed through bribery and everything else to get twenty-three votes out of it and I ended up with a 147.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. CALLAN:

Yes, bribery. Bribery.

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, then we go from Makkovik to Postville -

AN HON. MEMBER:

That is not true.

MR. NEARY:

Get up on a point of order, sure.

MR. WARREN:

- we go to Postville and we find out that in the last election the P. C. party did manage thirty-six votes. Well this time they scrounged through, with promises and everything else, with twenty-three votes. I think one of the most outstanding turnarounds, Mr. Speaker, is that in the town of Hopedale, which never, never, never voted Liberal in their life, never, never voted Liberal in their life, always voted P. C., in fact, in the last election in 1979, there were seventy-seven P. C.'s and only forty-three Liberals in 1979. And for some reason, Mr. Speaker, this time in Hopedale instead of seventy-nine P. C.'s they ended up with sixty-six, only a drop of seven-

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MR. G. WARREN: it was not too bad, only a drop of seven-but the Liberal vote went from forty-three up to 119 in the town of Hopedale. And, Mr. Speaker, this much show some concern because -

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. WARREN: Just wait now until I get to Nain. In Nain in 1979, 130 Progressive Conservatives and 165 Liberals, I just barely won Nain by thirty-five votes. I was concerned because Nain had a voting pattern of about 500 people. So this time the Progressive Conservative party went from 130 -

AN HON. MEMBER: Up to?

MR. WARREN: - they did not go up, no; they came down to forty-six

MR. WARREN: and I went from 165 to 391.
Now, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you what happened all along the Coast. The Premier and this administration have really got the people in the Torngat Mountain mad. They got them mad with their kind of attitude. You will remember when the Premier came down from Ottawa waving his golden wand and saying, 'I am responsible for the Constitution; however, I am going to give away the rights of the native people', that was the turning point. It was the Premier of this Province who gave away the rights of the native people in Labrador and that was where the Premier and his administration really got the kick where it deserved most.

DR. COLLINS: I thought Trudeau did that.

MR. WARREN: No, it was the Premier who would not listen to the delegation that came down here and tried to bring a resolution into this hon. House. It was the Premier, and three times I had to get on my feet and stop that resolution from being passed. That is who was doing it. Mr. Speaker, you know, it is amazing that the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) could come along and blame it on Trudeau. Poor old Trudeau! What are we going to do in the next couple of months when Mr. Trudeau is going to retire? What are we going to do, I wonder? Who are we going to kick? You know, the hon. the Minister of Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. Power) said at the last convention that he would like to get rid of Clark. Now the people of Canada are going to get rid of Trudeau. So now we have Clark gone and we have Trudeau gone and, you know, what is the Minister of Finance going to complain about then? He is going to say, well, that is poor John Crosbie and poor Jim McGrath up there, is it? Is that what the Minister of Finance is going to say?

MR. WARREN: My friend, I would like to avoid the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) and I would like to avoid every hon. member on that side of the House, that whether the Premier calls the election tomorrow or four years down the road, any member on that side of the House, including the Premier himself, come up and take me on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN: Come up and take me on and I will show you, I will show any member on that side of the House that, you know, the vote that Mr. Hunt got, the 214 vote that Mr. Hunt got in the last election would be a major victory for any member on that side of the House to get. So, Mr. Speaker, I challenge any member from that side of the House.

MR. STEWART: Take me on?

MR. WARREN: The member for Fortune-Hermitage (Mr. Stewart)? Okay, there we go. Right away you know you are going to lose your nomination so you may as well leave it alone.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I am concerned that

MR. WARREN: this government is not paying enough attention, his government is not paying enough attention to Labrador. And, Mr. Speaker, if I had only spent one half of the money in my campaign that my opponent spent, my opponent would not have gotten fifty votes. In fact he must have - I would say he bought about 210 of the 214 he got. And he spent something like \$27,000 in his campaign, \$27,000 in his campaign. And I spent \$5,300! \$5,300 I spent in my campaign. And, Mr. Speaker, it goes to show that it is not the money that you have in your back pocket that is going to win the election. And I am surprised at the member for Baie Verte-White Bay (Mr. Rideout). The member for Baie Verte-White Bay is pointing his finger across here, because I would bet any amount of money that he spent more money in his election campaign that I did too, and probably more than one vote could be persuaded in that instance.

MR. RIDEOUT: \$8,500.

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to go on and say that the district of Torngat Mountains since the election -

AN HON. MEMBER: How much did you spend?

MR. WARREN: \$5,300.

So, Mr. Speaker, the people in Torngat Mountains are concerned. They are concerned about this government. They are concerned about the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) whom I think so far has made sure that two or three of my constituents have managed to get a job on the offshore oil rigs. And I congratulate the Minister of Labour and Manpower saying, "Look, that is three from one district." So I congratulate the Minister of Labour and Manpower at least for giving that consideration.

MR. WARREN:

I am looking forward to some of the promises that have been promised in the last election. I know that the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth (Mr. Simms) is not listening. My goodness gracious. Could the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth just listen for a second? Mr. Speaker, I am talking about the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth, I know he is not interested in listening, however, there has been a promise of \$35,000 to the town of Postville for a hockey rink. So I hope the minister will keep that in mind when he brings in his estimates to be debated.

Mr. Speaker, you know this government, since they came back - and today we got an example, Mr. Speaker, we got an example today of how a Premier of the Province can get up and defend a minister who knowingly in 1977 contravened the Public Tender Act, who knowingly interfered with the court of the Province, who knowingly interfered

MR. WARREN: with the Public Service Commission and still will tolerate such a minister to carry on in this government.

And, Mr. Speaker, I am sure now with the ten new members - well, probably I should say the seven new members who are on that side of the House, when they get the full story they are going to asking themselves a serious, serious question: Why am I in this House? What am I here?

Are you here to be in the same party as such a person as the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) is associated with? Now surely goodness the new members of this House will have second thoughts tomorrow when they come in. Well, if we had known, if we had only known that these Cabinet ministers are trying to pull these stunts with the people of the Province, if we had only known this, we would not have been in this House today.

MR. DINN: If I had spent the same amount of money for a vote as you did, I would have to spend \$460,000.

MR. WARREN: Yes, Sir, I agree with you. And if you had to travel as many miles as I did, you would have spent the same amount of money too.

MR. HODDER: And if he were to win in your district, he would spend \$450 million.

MR. WARREN: There you go. As my hon. colleague just said, I would challenge you to come up and spend that much money in my district and you still would not get one hundred votes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN: So you see, you can go down to your district and in one day you can walk around it, one day. It takes me two days to get to

MR. WARREN: one community from
St. John's. So I would like to oblige the hon. member.
It is the geographical location of the Torngat Mountains.

If the hon. minister would only take me on! I have
one challenge already of one minister taking me on.
So I am looking forward to the next election and he
will be gone.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: He will be gone.

MR. WARREN: Oh definitely.
So I would suggest that
he should not waste his money at all.

Now, Mr. Speaker -

DR. COLLINS: Come down to St.
John's South.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WARREN: Say that again.

DR. COLLINS: Why do you not come down
to an urban district like St. John's South?

MR. WARREN: St. John's South?
Again the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) can get out
of the House of Assembly here at 1:00 p.m. on Friday -

MR. DINN: Why do you not run in
the district you live in?

MR. WARREN: What is that?

MR. DINN: Why do you not run in
the district you live in?

MR. WARREN: Well, I will challenge
you first and you challenge me afterwards, okay?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, when looking
at the Public Accounts Committee, the Premier
was supposed to announce today who they were.

MR. TULK: He got excited.

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, seeing that the Minister of Culture, Recreation, and Youth (Mr. Simms) is listening, I would like to throw him a couple of promises, a couple of promises that were made in the campaign in my district.

The promise of a hockey rink in Postville, \$35,000. In fact, not only a promise, but a \$35,000 commitment via telegram, a commitment of \$35,000 for Postville. Furthermore, in Nain a roof over the hockey rink, another \$11,000. If the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth would only listen to some of those promises, then I am sure he would be quite busy making sure that every district in this Province is looked after.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN:

In fact, I am just wondering off the cuff -

In fact, I am just

MR. TULK:

Does he know all his members yet?

Does he know all

MR. WARREN:

- has he met all his members yet? Because I did not introduce him to one of the members. So if the minister has not met his own -

- has he met all his

MR. TULK:

Tell them the story.

Tell them the story.

MR. WARREN:

No, I think it would be embarrassing. It would be embarrassing for the media. I cannot tell that kind of story here.

No, I think it would

Mr. Speaker, in concluding I would like to say that I am supporting the amendment to the Thorne Speech. I think the Throne Speech was twenty-five pages of bashing Ottawa. As I said, you are expecting to get things from Ottawa but

MR. WARREN: still and all,
every time the Premier opens his mouth, the President
of the Council (Mr. Marshall) opens his mouth, all they
are doing is saying, look, Trudeau this, or Marc Lalonde
this. As I said earlier, we are going to get rid of
Trudeau. I will help to get rid of Trudeau too. Yes,
I will. Yes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN: To me Trudeau is no
better to the Liberals in Ottawa than Clark is to the
P.Cs.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WARREN: Okay? So we are going
to have two new leaders. Clark is going to be gone.
Trudeau is going to be gone. Who is the Minister of
Finance? Now, I can see the Minister of Finance's
(Dr. Collins) budget next Thursday. He is going to get
up and he is going to read his budget and he is going to
say, 'Because of the small amount of money coming from
Ottawa this year, we have to raise our taxes on this
and we have to raise our taxes on that'. So the Minister
of Finance is going to blame it on Ottawa and going to
blame it on Mr. Trudeau. Oh, yes.

MR. WARREN: So that is going to happen next Thursday. But then the next year-

AN HON. MEMBER: Now about Rompkey?

MR. WARREN: Yes, maybe we should get rid of him too.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. WARREN: You know, I really think that all the members in Ottawa, Mr. Rompkey, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Tobin, Mr. Rooney, Mr. Baker, everyone of those who are representing Newfoundland - and including Mr. Crosbie and Mr. McGrath - I think there is a lot of fence mending to done, a lot of repairs to be done. And I think we on this side agree and members on that side agree that all these members must be fighting up better for Newfoundland. Why did not Mr. Crosbie and Mr. McGrath support that resolution that is going through the House of Commons? Why not? Two member from Newfoundland. So, Mr. Speaker I think everyone of those members need to be chastised once in a while, need to stand up more often for Newfoundland. And maybe the best thing could happen for the Province is when Mr. Trudeau retires in two months time.

DR. COLLINS: Are you going to run?

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, if I do I might try St. John's West. I am just wondering if I will have the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins) as my campaign manager.

DR. COLLINS: Yes, Sir

MR. WARREN: Okay, there is a promise. I have the Minister of Finance as my campaign manager in the federal district of St. John's West.

DR. COLLINS: (Inaudible).

MR. WARREN: Well, okay, you made a promise so I hope you hold up to it in the next federal election.

Anyhow, as I said, Mr. Speaker,

MR. WARREN: in concluding, I am for the amendment to the resolution and I hope that the members on that side of the House will see fit to support that amendment. Because that amendment really tells what direction this government has been going in for the past number of years and is continuing and is anticipating continuing in the future.

Thank you very much.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL)

The hon. the member for Grand Bank.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to congratulate you on your election to the position in this hon. House. Congratulations are also in order for my hon. colleagues from Kilbride (Mr. Aylward) and St. John's Centre (Dr. McNicholas) and I would also at this time like to congratulate my four hon. colleagues on their appointments as Parliamentary Secretaries to the hon. Ministers.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I would indeed like to congratulate all members of this hon. House on their election. Special congratulations are in order to Premier Peckford -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MATTHEWS:

- who made such an outstanding campaign and was given such an overwhelming mandate by the voters of this great Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MATTHEWS:

The fact that all PC incumbents were re-elected and ten new members voted to the government's side -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear.

MR. MATTHEWS:

- clearly demonstrates the support and confidence the voters of this Province have in

MR. MATTHEWS:
administration.

Premier Peckford and his

AN HON. MEMBER:

Right on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear !

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the voters in the Grand Bank district who supported me in the April 6 election.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

And so do we.

MR. MATTHEWS:

And by doing so, Mr. Speaker, they elected me to look after their interest in this, one of the cleanest and most progressive governments in the whole of Canada.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. STAGG

Right on! You got it, boy!

MR. MATTHEWS:

Mr. Speaker, the historic fishing district of Grand Bank is one of the most affluent areas of our Province. The unemployment rate has once again been reduced thanks to the initiative and financial support given to the financially troubled Lake Group by this provincial government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS:

This financial support saw the opening of the Fortune plant and also the reopening of the more deeply troubled Grand Bank plant.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS:

The co-operation of Premier Peckford and the hon. Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) -

MR. STAGG

Right.

MR. MATTHEWS:

during several months of difficult negotiations with the Lake Group was nothing short of fantastic.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS: I say that, Mr. Speaker, having served as a member of the Grand Bank Citizens Committee.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS: I am also quite pleased to say, Mr. Speaker, that the St. Lawrence fish plant will be back in operation in approximately ten days. Once again the hon. Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Morgan) and his department have worked closely and monitored the situation and have rendered invaluable services. However, Mr. Speaker, the St. Lawrence plant is not completely out of difficulty. There is a great need for expansion and, in particular, a need for freezing capacity to enable the St. Lawrence plant to become a full-time operation.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased with the recent renovation and improvement that have taken place at the St. Lawrence and Grand Banks hospitals. It is most encouraging to see these improvements to these facilities even though this government is presently undertaking plans to build a new hospital in the Burin/Marystown area.

MR. YOUNG: Public works, my boy.

MR. MATTHEWS: This provincial government, Mr. Speaker, is improving existing facilities and at the same time starting construction on new facilities.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Speaker, maybe our federal counter parts should follow the model of this government, a government which does not believe in giveaway, takeaway and trade off policies.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Speaker, the most pressing health concern for my district is the need for a health nurse in the greater Lamaline area to serve the communities of Lord's Cove, Point au Gaul, Lamaline, and Point May.

MR. MATTHEWS:

There are many senior citizens in these communities and they presently have to travel to St. Lawrence and Grand Bank for the slightest medical problem. I might say, Mr. Speaker, that my discussions with the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. House) and I am optimistic that this problem will be resolved in due course.

Mr. Speaker, upon being elected on April 6, I had two major transportation problems within the Grand Bank district, namely the need for a new bridge in Grand Bank and improvements needed to a section of road known as the Loop Road which links the communities of Lawn and Lord's Cove.

I am pleased to say,

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Speaker, that tenders for the new Grand Bank bridge will be called as of June 1, 1982.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MATTHEWS: Improvements to the Loop Road is of vital importance, Mr. Speaker, because of its constant usage by residents who have to travel this stretch of road for employment, schooling and health services.

MR. PATTERSON: That is action by the new member.

MR. MATTHEWS: I am quite confident, however, Mr. Speaker, that this section of road will be given proper attention by the hon. Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) and his department.

Mr. Speaker, representing a fishing district that is deeply involved in processing and in the catching of fish, both inshore and offshore, I would be remiss if I did not voice concern on behalf of the many inshore fishermen within my district. The inshore fishery on the Burin Peninsula has been a dismal failure for the past three or four years and fishermen, Mr. Speaker, are finding it very difficult to barely exist. Couple this, Mr. Speaker, with the harassment and pressure that has been placed on these hard working Newfoundlanders by the National Revenue Minister (Mr. Rompkey) and the consequences are almost unbearable.

Mr. Speaker, the inshore fishery needs much attention and assistance and I am confident that after the report submitted by the Royal Commission on the inshore fishery this government will once again, in true fashion, demonstrate its concern for and further develop this vital industry.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker,

MR. MATTHEWS: I would like to say how proud I am to have been elected to this government. I consider it a great challenge to be given the responsibility of working on behalf of this Province and in particular to work on behalf of the residents of the Grand Bank district.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: Mr. Speaker, you do not know how long I have waited for this moment - at least three years. First of all I want to congratulate Mr. Speaker on being elected to the Chair. He is not here, unfortunately, but I know he is in hearing distance. And having served in that capacity myself I can understand the tremendous responsibility that goes with that particular job. I do not, of course, have to say it to him anyway because he was there before for a period of time and is now really a part of the history of our Province whereby no other Speaker, at least since Confederation, has ever served a term as Speaker, then left politics, and then came back again to be reappointed or re-elected on a second occasion and serve as Speaker. So he has become

MR. I. SIMMS: truly a part of our Province's history. And personally speaking, having had the previous experience. I know he need not need to be reminded the responsibility that goes with that particular job. And when he served as Speaker between the years of 1972 and 1975, he exercised that responsibility in a tremendous fashion and I know that he will do it again during the coming term.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Aylward): Order!

MR. SIMMS: I would like to also extend congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker, the fellow officers who have been recently been elected to such esteemed positions. As a friend and colleague I congratulate the member for Kilbride (Mr. R. Aylward), and I know that you too will exercise the responsibility placed in your hands with a great deal of thoughtfulness. And to our friend and colleague, the member for St. John's Centre (Dr. P. McNicholas), he knows that he has tremendous shoes to fill in that his predecessor, the member for Humber West (Mr. R. Baird), filled that position in a very admirable fashion, and possessed that rare quality whereby he was appreciated by all members on both sides of this hon. House. And I know that he too, the new Deputy Chairman of Committee, will do a tremendous job. I also extend congratulations to my colleague the hon. member for Harbour Main - Bell Island on his appointment as Minister for Communications (Mr. N. Doyle) in the Cabinet and I wish him much success in his new role in the years ahead. A word too, Mr. Speaker, a word too of congratulations to all members of this hon. House, especially to those who were fortunate enough to be re-elected.

AN HON. MEMBER: With a big majority.

MR. SIMMS: With a large majority. A large,

MR. L. SIMMS: whopping majority and obviously,
in the eyes of their own constituents, they have done a good
job of representing them.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: In particular a word of congratulations
to our brand new members elected to this hon. House. Included
in that category, of course, of new members are members who sit only on the
government side of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: There were no new members elected
to the other side of the House. And so to the ten new Conservative
members representing those staunch Conservative districts.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - like Twillingate (Mrs. I. Reid),
Grand Bank (Mr. W. Matthews), Burin - Placentia West (Mr. G. Tobin),
Carbonear (Mr. M. Peach), St. Mary's - The Capes (Mr. L. Hearn),
Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. J. Reid), Bonavista North (Mr. W.
Cross), Lewisporte (Mr. J. Russell), St. Barbe (Mr. E. Osmond),
Bay Verte - White Bay (Mr. T. Rideout), and one that I had some
particular close association with and feeling for, the great Tory
district of Winsor - Buchans (Mr. J. McLennon).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: To all of those members I am
sure my colleagues across the floor would want to join with me
in extending a special word of congratulations and knowing most
of them personally, and having met the others

MR. SIMMS: since the election, I think they are tremendously capable individuals, made excellent candidates and will make excellent members, and I am not at all surprised that they were victorious on April 6th and I know they will do a good job for their constituents in their districts.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, a word of congratulations to the leader of our party, the Premier of the Province -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - for the great victory that he had personally and as leader of the party on April 6th. It was a momentous victory, an historical victory and one that will certainly be remembered for a long time to come in the history of our Province. To obtain more than 60 per cent of the popular vote, approximately 85 per cent of the seats in the House of Assembly, is no mean achievement.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: And I say to my colleagues in this hon. House that one of the major reasons for that massive victory was that the people of this Province recognized in the Premier the leadership qualities which are so necessary to lead this Province at this time in our history. They recognized him as the leader and the Premier who will be our chief spokesman, as an individual who is sincere in his convictions and determined to get things done that will be done for the betterment of all the people of this Province. And I know I speak on behalf of all my colleagues on this side of the House in particular when I say that we were all very, very proud to have been associated with him as candidates and now to be

MR. SIMMS: a member and a colleague of his in the House of Assembly.

Let me say, Mr. Speaker, that over the course of the last three years since June, 1979, I have been a member of this hon. House of Assembly. However, this is my maiden speech, the first opportunity, really, that I have ever had to speak in any debate in this House. It is the first session, of course, that I have even had a seat to sit in in the House, except for that esteemed seat which you now hold. May I say that I am proud to have been only the sixth Speaker since Confederation in Newfoundland, and it will remain that way for another few years, by the way.

MR. YOUNG: Got your picture painted yet?

MR. SIMMS: My picture? They put it out on tender and they are going to do a full width portrait-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - that will go right from one side to the other, full width.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: And it is only just and right and proper. In any event, I will continue to be only the sixth Speaker, of course, because Mr. Speaker now will serve as the fourth and the seventh Speaker since Confederation.

I was very, very proud, of course, to have served the Province in that particular position and I tremendously enjoyed the role, by the way. And I can assure all hon. members that there is definitely a challenge associated with that particular position, a very, very responsible position and one which requires a great deal of tact and thought. However, as I said, there have only been six, but I suppose there have been - what? - a couple of hundred

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MR. SIMMS: Cabinet ministers since
Confederation?

MR. YOUNG: Yes.

MR. SIMMS: Anybody can be a Cabinet
minister, right? But not too many have been Speakers.
So I am grateful to the members of the House,

MR. SIMMS: those who have left the other side, I am grateful to them for electing me to that position. However, like any normal, red-blooded Newfoundlander who is active in politics today, any normal red-blooded Newfoundlander, obviously one who is interested in getting involved in the decision making process of government, and I suppose becoming involved in a little more partisan nature with politics, I am no exception to that, so I am looking forward to my new role with even more vigor and renewed enthusiasm, Mr. Speaker, than ever before and I am grateful for the opportunity that I have now been given.

Mr. Speaker, the results of the April 6th. general election believe do constitute an overwhelming endorsement of the position taken by this government on the Province's resources -

SOME HON. MEMBERS

Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - especially on offshore resources, and I am sure there can be no doubt in anybody's mind that the people of this Province firmly support this government's determination to maintain control of our resources and heritage. And the expression of support they gave this government's policies was clearly reflected in the Throne Speech, which was read by His Honour just a few days ago.

So this government has clearly shown its commitment to the fishery, through its efforts in recent months in particular, and we recognize that only through the development of a vibrant fishing industry can we have a strong rural and provincial economy. We know that no other renewable resource offers the potential associated with our fishing resources. This government has shown, and is showing, a responsible attitude and approach to improvement in the fishery from the great fishing district of Grand Falls.

MR. SIMMS: The government has also demonstrated, Mr. Speaker, its determination to attain for the people of this Province their rightful share in development of offshore oil and gas. It is determined to get an agreement that ensures that maximum benefits will accrue to this Province and to the people of this Province. And this commitment I feel certain will not be undermined, nor broken, and I know that I for one, and I am sure my colleagues on this side of the House support the government's effort in that regard, and there can be no doubt that the people of this Province support the government's effort in this regard as evidenced by the massive vote given

MR. SIMMS: to the government on April 6, 1982. The government has outlined its initiatives and intent to manage all the resources of the Province. The forestry, the mining, agriculture, tourism, are all clearly being responsibly managed and will continue to play a major role in the future. And clearly the social objectives as shown and demonstrated by this government, are something which we can all be proud of. The government is committed to continue this course of action until resource ownership and control rests with the people of this Province and the benefits of the resources flow to them. And the government's intention in this regard was clearly outlined again in the Throne Speech.

I would now like to turn my attention briefly to my own district of Grand Falls which I am very proud to represent and which I have been fortunate enough to represent since June of 1979. I want to first of all, Mr. Speaker, to express my sincere thanks to the more than seventy per cent of the electorate which in April of this year saw fit to re-elect me as their member.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: I know I do not come close to the hon. member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Warren) who, I believe, was second and I certainly do not come close to you, Mr. Speaker (Aylward), who I believe had the distinction of having the highest personal percentage of the vote. So that is something to be proud of as well.

MR. NEARY: We will change that the next time.

MR. SIMMS: Yes, maybe there is something in that, but I better not mention it.

MR. SIMMS: In any event, Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to my constituents and pledge my own determination to continue to work on their behalf throughout the coming years.

The town and district of Grand Falls is the industrial base of the Exploits Valley in Central Newfoundland and is a community with a population in excess of 9,000 people. The Abitibi-Price Pulp and Paper mill is the major source of employment. However, there are a number of other forms of secondary service industries, including government offices for just about every department of government. Besides being the heart of Central Newfoundland, in the Central part of the Province, Grand Falls is ideally located for industry, offering access to all major markets by land, sea or air. There are rail and container facilities in the town. The town of Botwood, which is represented by my colleague the member for Exploits (Mr. Twomey), is just twenty minutes away or so - twenty miles away. The port of Lewisporte, represented by Mr. Speaker, is approximately thirty-five miles away from the town which has a great port. Both are easily accessible by rail and highway. Air services provided at Gander are less than one hour's drive from Grand Falls. In fact, major firms have recently recognized the advantages of locating in Grand Falls. Terra Transport, Day and Ross Transportation Company Limited and a number of other firms have

MR. SIMMS: recently designated Grand Falls as their major distribution centre for all of Central Newfoundland. We have an abundance of serviced residential, commercial and industrial parking lots, building lots, areas blessed with a number of parks, campsites, including well-equipped playgrounds, modern schools and churches, all of which are centrally located. We have a golf course, excellent recreation, shopping and banking facilities, hunting and fishing and other tourist attractions, three radio stations, a major newspaper, several modern hotels and motels, as well as excellent library and museum facilities. The town of Grand Falls has one of the largest hospitals in the Province, the Central Newfoundland Regional Health Referral Centre.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: Indeed, Grand Falls is one of the most modern and fastest growing communities in this Province and many exciting events will occur in the coming months in Central Newfoundland -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - with the activity, in particular, in the Botwood area, related to offshore services, the activity relating to the provincial government's initiatives and the paper company's initiatives related to the forest industry which will, of course, center around Grand Falls, and as a result, a number of firms, as I said, have indicated interest in establishing distribution centres and others have indicated interest in expanding their present enterprises. So I am very, very optimistic about the future of the district and the town of Grand Falls.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: Now this government in the last few years has been very generous to the town of Grand Falls. We are still looking for more things, of course, and we will get them, I am sure. Grand Falls has been very, very generous to the Province. We have been able to obtain a number of things over the years including a new aerial fire ladder for the town, which has been sought after for years and years and years -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - a new overpass costing millions of dollars.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: The revenue grant to the town has increased substantially because of new legislation.

MR. STEWART: And the member.

MR. SIMMS: And the member. We have received a fair share of the number of project grants under the Community Development programme of the Department of Social Services, excellent projects, by the way, which are extremely beneficial. We have received a number of recreation grants and will probably get more, and leadership grants in the town. There have been some provincial offices opened or expanded in the town; the Workers' Compensation Board recently opened an office and they employed four people; the office of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation was created in the last few years, since I became a member, and the Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre has received a number of contributions towards new X ray machines and units, and other funding was received for various renovations, including more than half a million dollars for

MR. SIMMS: renovating the much needed new laboratory which will be beneficial not only to the citizens in the area but, in particular, will be very beneficial to the workers.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SIMMS: I was very pleased with that. In addition, the Grand Falls Central Newfoundland Hospital is included in the government's five year plan. And I am very pleased to see in the Throne Speech that the government's commitment to health care services in the Province will continue and is, in fact, continuing on stream and on schedule. And after a number of years of uncertainty, I am very pleased that the government undertook the five year programme and we look forward very much indeed to the next fiscal year when the planning and design work and so on will have begun for the start of a major expansion of the Central Newfoundland Hospital in Grand Falls.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. SIMMS: We have received, Mr. Speaker, a fair contribution in expenditures from the Province and from this provincial government, including construction of twenty-four additional senior citizens' cottages at an anticipated cost of approximately \$800,000. The town has received fair contributions towards the 60/40 cost-share programme of re-construction and road paving. The trunk sewer development for the Grenfell Heights area and the Grand Falls East area is just about completed at a cost of over \$2 million, for which both by colleague the member for Exploits (Dr. Twomey) and I are very grateful.

And, of course, the Department of Forest Resources and Lands have undertaken major projects at the three nursery facilities in the Wooddale area which, while it is in the district of Exploits, is in close proximity to the town of Grand Falls, and

MR. SIMMS: this expenditure of over \$2 million provided a fair number of jobs.

Now, Mr. Speaker, time does not permit me to go on but I believe that -

MR. STEWART: Yes, boy go on.

MR. SIMMS: - despite the fact that the economy in the whole of North America has not been extremely active, I think it is fair to say that we have been able to get a reasonable share of the programmes available during the past couple of years and I know that it will continue in the years to come. We certainly have been able to maintain some activity, with increased emphasis on reforestation projects. The projects at Wooddale, Price (Nfld.) reforestation project, the opportunities in parks, the community development projects under the Department of Social Services, construction of the new senior citizens' cottages, the \$2 million trunk sewer project, the \$300,000 for road upgrading and street construction in the town have all helped to provide some economic stimulus for our community. And I think they have helped to keep the economy of the area at least on the move and surely have had a positive effect.

I was delighted as well in my ongoing attempts to give the provincial government more presence in the town of Grand Falls. I was delighted that several Cabinet Ministers have visited the town on many occasions for various meetings and so on. In addition, the hon. the Premier and his entire cabinet met for a very historic meeting during November of 1980. It was a very eventful and memorable occasion for our town. Mr. Speaker, I believe the most important thing for

MR. SIMMS: any member to do in this House, any legislator for that matter, or any member of any parliament, is to make himself available to his constituents.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: I have attempted to do that. I trust that all members are going to attempt to do the same thing. I want to continue this kind of representation. I hope that it will be looked upon favourably by my constituents when the time comes again to go to the polls.

MR. PATTERSON: There is no doubt about that

MR. RIDEOUT: You were awful close the other day, though.

MR. SIMMS: Yes that is true.

I know that with the help and the support of this government the district that I represent, the district of Grand Falls, will continue to improve itself -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: - and will continue to receive benefits as a result of having a member on the government side of the House of Assembly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS: I know that with the help and support of the government we will continue to receive those benefits.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (AYLWARD): The hon. member for Twillingate.

MRS. I. REID: Mr. Speaker, first let me take the opportunity to congratulate the Speaker on his election to this hon. House as Mr. Speaker. Also I want to congratulate you as Deputy Speaker as well as Chairman of Committees. Most importantly I want to congratulate our Premier who has won such a tremendous victory in this past election. I also want to congratulate my colleagues who have been recently appointed to their new positions.

MRS. REID: Mr. Speaker, I feel that I must make mention of the amendment to the Throne Speech that was brought into this hon. House yesterday. This, Mr. Speaker, is none other than a non-confidence motion and one which I certainly have no intention of supporting.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear !

MRS. REID This government has reiterated its position to the responsible and planned development of our resources. And I support the government stand on the emphasis placed on its belief for the provincial control over resource management so that our standard of living may be equal to other Canadians. Mr. Speaker, my district, Twillingate district, is solely dependent on the fishery. I was, therefore, greatly astonished to learn that the Federal Government had, in 1981, agreed to give away to Russian fishermen 232 million pounds of fish from within our 200 mile limit.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: And I was more than shocked, Mr. Speaker, to learn that 23.6 million pounds of this was caplin. Mr. Speaker, Twillingate fish plant employ some 500 people during the fishing season, and Herring Neck some

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MRS. I. REID: 200 people while Bridge Port plant employs fifty to sixty people during the fishing season. Those plants are dependant on the inshore fishery, cod, turbot, mackerel, herring, rays, squid and caplin. Yes, Mr. Speaker, squid and caplin. And to see the federal government in Ottawa giving away this fish which is our birthright is unreal. How can it be said there are too many fisherman for too few fish?

SOME HON. MEMBER Inhuman.

MRS. REID There are not too many fishermen for too many fish. For too few fish, I am sorry. The problem is that our fish are being given away to other countries while our fishermen are suffering and this cannot be allowed to happen, Mr. Speaker. I saw in my district, this past year -

SOME HON. MEMBERS They are from out of the house.

MRS. REID fishermen literally, and the hon. member from Fogo I am sure has seen the same thing, fishermen literally suffering this past winter due to the poor fishing season that we had. People who have never before, friends of mine, have had to go to the Social Services Department for help to feed their families over the winter. Those people, Mr. Speaker, had to swallow their pride in order to do such a thing. This, degrading my people, degrading your people as a result of the discrimination policy of the Liberal government in Ottawa with regard to control and development of the fishery.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Hear, hear!

MRS. REID This, Mr. Speaker is very unfortunate indeed, -

MR. SPEAKER (R. Alward) Order please!

MRS. REID - unfortunate, when the lives of our people are controlled by outsiders, when our pride is being taken away by foreigners, when our people begin to lose faith in themselves and everything that they stood for, as Newfoundlander's. It is no wonder the results at the polls April 6, turned out as they did. It is no wonder such a vast

MRS. I. REID majority of Newfoundlander's supported our Premier's stand, to be given our fair share.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Oh, oh !

MRS. REID The majority of our people, Mr. Speaker, thank goodness, have still enough Newfoundland blood left to fight for, and to support the fight for our people, in the effort to control our resources.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Hear, hear !

MRS. REID No longer can we sit still and see our heritage being taken away . Our people have seen the results of handouts and more handouts , and no longer, according to the vote of April 6, are we willing to sidle in on Ottawa with our heads bowed and hands out begging for more.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Oh, oh !

MRS. REID Mr. Speaker, just last week, I was amazed at the remarks of the hon. member from Bellevue, (Mr. Callan) , when he said -

MR. BARRETT We are always amazed at that member.

MRS. REID - I was employed by the federal government for a number of years .

MRS. REID: Mr. Speaker, for the past number of years I have been employed by the Twillingate, New World Island, Change Islands Development Association.

AN HON. MEMBER: You did a good job too.

MRS. REID: Does the hon. member from Bellevue, coming from a rural district, not know how Development Associations operate? Mr. Speaker, Development Associations are independent bodies, volunteer people who answer to no Federal or Provincial Government. Public meetings are held in each community in the area served by that association, and directors to serve on that association are elected at those public meetings.

AN HON. MEMBER: Thats right.

MRS. REID: An administration grant of \$16,500 is given to each association. The directors hire an employee who is responsible for the day to day operation of the association. The employee is directly responsible to the director of the association, no government.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: I was proud, Mr. Speaker, to be chosen as Development Co-ordinator for the Twillingate, New World Island, Change Islands Development Association. I was more than pleased to have the opportunity to serve my people in that capacity, although many of my working hours wer volunteered. A salary of \$13,000 a year does not compensate for the many long hours that one has to work to provide our people with their fair deal.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: However, I did work long hours for the people who served on the Development Association and I am more than happy that I now have a greater opportunity to serve the district of which I am a part. My people, Mr. Speaker, as placed their faith in me and, in turn, in this government, and together we will stand up for our rights.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: We will fight to retain our great heritage. We will see that not only our fishermen from Bridgeport, Herring Neck, Twillingate, Whale's Gulch and other communities are given their fair deal, but that our people will be provided with the much needed improvements in the area. That our people from Bay View and Ragged Point are able to travel over decent roads as well as people from Moreton's Harbour, Tizzard's Harbour, Cottlesville, and all communities in my district. At water and sewage will be provided to each community, that our tourist industry is increased over the next few years. We will see that our people do not become dependent on short-term make-work jobs handed out from Ottawa. I was astonished also that

MRS. I. REID: the hon. member from Bellevue (Mr. Callan) should mention such low-grade employment for our people, in this hon. House, as that from Canada Works, known now as Canada Community Development Projects, C.C.D.P. Instead, I would say the hon. Member should go to his colleagues in Ottawa, particularly Mr. Rompkey, and ask him to increase the wages in Canada Works -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: - as at present the wages under Canada Works, or Canada Works itself, can be only called glorified welfare and national disgrace. The minister responsible in Ottawa -

MR. HISCOCK: I will (inaudible) the coastal agreement any way.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Aylward): Order please!

MRS. REID: - should sit down with the Minister of Labor and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) in Newfoundland and set priorities as to where the projects should go and what projects are to be implemented.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: As far as I can see in my district, the only Canada Community Development projects that have brought long-term employment are those that went into the Herring Neck fish plant and the Whale's Gulch fish plant. Both of those plants were constructed from free labor, by free labor - no, by materials supplied from the Provincial government and matched with free labor grants by the people from the community.

MR. WARREN: Good, Ida!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS. REID: Those two plants are now viable and operating. The other Canada Community Development projects put into my district, for instance - I will give you an example: in Summerford, six wharves. Who needs six wharves in a community? Small Craft Harbours will only maintain one wharf, who is going to maintain the other five?

MR. HISCOCK: How many did you apply for?

MR SPEAKER (Mr. Aylward):

Order please!

MRS. REID:

Mr. Speaker, I feel that we must continue to fight, stand up for our Province, stand up for our people. The sun will rise again, will shine again. It will shine on my district, it will shine on my Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MRS. REID:

We will continue our battle -

AN HON. MEMBER:

We will win!

MRS. REID:

- and we will win in the end.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MRS. REID:

Mr. Speaker, our goal is towards a prosperous Newfoundland. And once again I will say my dream is a dream of a prosperous

MRS. I. REID: future for this country
so that my children can stand along with me and be proud,
with heads held high, and sing The Ode To Newfoundland.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, having -

MR. TULK: Boys, listen closely, you are
going to hear something.

MR. ROBERTS: - listened with a great deal
of interest to the hon. lady from Twillingate (Mrs. Reid)
make a really marvellous exhortation, I compliment her
on it. I think it was a first-class effort. I am not
sure if it counts as her maiden effort. If it is it is
her second maiden effort because, of course, she spoke
quite well on opening day. And I commend it to her. I
think her faith in the future is really to be emulated
and I would hope that it is rewarded.

Of course the problem that
I have, one which many Newfoundlanders share and one
which has not been in any way alleviated by the Speech
from the Throne, is that the hon. gentlemen opposite and
the hon. ladies opposite really have no idea of how
they are going to reach that future. Of course that is
why we have on this side moved the amendment which we
have put down to the Address in Reply. It is not that
the goals which the hon. lady has so eloquently expressed
are not common goals, and I do not think she is a fool, I
do not think she is deluding herself to think that she is
the first member in this House to have made those noble
sentiments, and I do not think she would be so foolish as
to believe she is the only member ever to believe them. I
can tell her that I have seen Mr. Curtis, Mr. Adams, Mr.
Gillett, Mr. Rowe and now the hon. member, I have seen -
is that five or six members from Twillingate? -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Smallwood.
MR. ROBERTS: Oh, the hon. Mr. Smallwood,
of course, sat for Twillingate.
MR. CARTER: All stand. All stand.
MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman opposite
can stand if he wishes. He would be standing for better
principles in that case than he has sometimes stood for,
I would tell him.

I would simply say to the
hon. lady that I have heard six members from Twillingate
speak in this House and very different. She may not
like to think of herself or she might not, in fact, think
of herself as being in the same category as Mr. Curtis
or Mr. Smallwood or some of these other gentlemen, but
I would say that each of them had as deep a concern with
the district of Twillingate as she does. And I would
say that each of them had or has had as noble -

MR. STAGG: None of them ever slept -
MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry. The parliamentary
secret from Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) wishes to interrupt
me. Now, Mr. Speaker, let us get one thing straight.

MR. STAGG: Did they ever sleep overnight in the district that they represented?

MR. E. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary secret from Stephenville-

MR. TULK: The parliamentary secret, yes that is the word.

MR. E. ROBERTS: - and if he is not a secret Sir, he should be one, apparently feels impelled to be rude and to interrupt. Now, I do not mind him being rude because I know he can not help that-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. E. ROBERTS: - but I do mind him interrupting Sir. I have only one half an hour to make my humble contribution. It might not be as humble as that of the gentleman from Stephenville, sir, but it is my humble best. So I would be grateful, Sir, if he would possess his soul in patience.

MR. F. STAGG: Since you had nothing to say, I gave you a few-

MR. E. ROBERTS: Well, Mr. speaker, the hon. gentleman says I have nothing to say. I have nothing to say, Sir, that he can understand. But, Sir, you can lead a horse to water although you cannot make him drink. You can also, I would say to my friend from Stephenville, even lead half a horse as he has shown us many times by being led. Now, Mr. Speaker, I wish to carry on if I might.

MR. F. STAGG: The same old stuff

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. E. ROBERTS: Yes, Sir, it is the same old stuff because we get the same old stuff from the gentleman from Stephenville. If he by chance-

MR. TULK: No challenge eh.

MR. E. ROBERTS: -or by accident or by good fortune or by good assistance from his neighbours had something original to say, Sir, we would welcome it. But until then let him

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MR. E. ROBERTS:

keep himself a secret St, as he is.

MR. TULK:

He is no challenge to you, eh.

MR. E. ROBERTS:

I am sorry.

MR. TULK:

He does not even challenge you.

MR. E. ROBERTS:

No, he is no challenge.

Now, let me go back. I was saying some quite complimentary things about the lady from Twillingate because I thought she had made a most excellent speech. I was going to go on to say to the hon. the member for Grand Falls (Mr. L. Simms) that he too made an excellent speech. I do not know who on the other side said it, but who ever said it, said better than he or she usually said, because they said something that was correct. The gentleman from Grand Falls made an excellent speech and I think that people in Grand Falls will be pleased with that and I am sure that we in the House were enlightened. I would hope that when next he speaks we will be able to get into some details of his department and that is something I look forward to. I think there are a number of challenges before his department which have been singly ignored or either- either they have been ignored or they have not been realized. I hope that under the leadership of the new minister we will see some attention paid to these and see some results.

Now, I just want to say that to the

MR. ROBERTS:

member for Twillingate (Mrs. Reid) because I think she is genuine. I am prepared to believe she is. And I would simply say to her, and I do not think she would fall into this, or any of the other members on the other side who are on a high. They are as high as if they had been sniffing coke or any of these other things. While they are on their high they should not think for one minute that they are the only people to be wrapped in virtue, that they are the only people who have ever been concerned with Newfoundland or that the problems which they see before them are going to be solved by them, where they could not be solved by everybody else, and they are going to be solved by them because they are so dedicated and so patriotic and so bright and because they have won an election.

Now, I hope the problems are solved. Some of them will be, some will not. But I do say, Sir, to the hon. lady from Twillingate - and I hope she graces the House for a period of years. I am sure she will with distinction however long she is here. And it may be one term, it may be more than one. I have no idea nor does she. She will find out in due course. She may or may not survive the next election, but, you know, Robert's first rule is that anybody can get elected, it is getting re-elected is the mark of it. And my friend from Harbour Grace (Mr. Young) who has been re-elected now three or four times is living proof of that.

MR. CARTER:

Where is your parachute?

MR. ROBERTS:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman from St. John's North (Mr. Carter) seems to feel that because I was not born in my constituency - now I would simply say to him -

MR. CARTER:

Do you ever go there?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, of course I go there, Mr. Speaker. I would simply say to him that the fact I have been elected there six times ought to prove something even to him. Six times. Not bad, eh! Six times. And I have yet to have - I am not getting into this crowing business so I will not carry on. But I will say I have survived whatever - and there have been some unusual candidates run against me. And that proves absolutely nothing except that the people in the Strait of Belle Isle, or White Bay North as it was before, do not really care where your mother happened to be when the ninth month ended. I mean, that is all the hon. member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter) - the hon. member for St. John's North seems to believe that if a cow gives birth to a calf in a china shop, then that calf is a soup plate and not a calf. That is the kind of logic in which he indulges. And that, of course, Sir, is why he is so close to the bar of the House. When they close the House in the evening, the hon. member for St. John's North is still bolted to his seat, Sir. He is not going to let anybody get him out of here. But heavens knows they have all tried, most of them on his own side. His record of involvement with his leaders, Sir, is consistent and unique and, for the hon. gentleman, has been unfortunate.

Now, let me carry on. Believe it or not - and it is a little like casting pearls before swine, in the

MR. ROBERTS: words of the Bible -
I do have a point or two I wish to make for hon.
gentlemen opposite.

First of all I made
a note here to say that it is an interesting time to be
a member, Sir. I have not been here, of course, every
moment the last three or four days, I do not intend to
be, but I have been here enough to hear the crowing
that is going on. I suppose it is natural.

MR. CARTER: A very poor record
of attendance.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. I am first to
say, Sir, that I am not here even as much as the hon.
gentleman from St. John's North (Mr. Carter). Now my
contribution to the House, of course, is considerably
greater than his, but that is another story, Sir.

But let me say,
Mr. Speaker, that it is an interesting time to be
sitting here in the Opposition. The victory which the
hon. the Premier and his party won - well, no, not his
party, he won - on the 6th. of April was overwhelming
and it was decisive. And hon. gentlemen opposite,
hon. ladies opposite are entitled to crow, and I have
no doubt they will crow. They are exactly like a
bunch of little children. And let them have at it,
they have won the election. Or, actually, they did
not, again the Premier won the election overwhelmingly.
No question at all. And I would venture to say that if
the polling were held today, the 18th. of May instead of
the 6th. of April, the result would probably be much the
same, no question at all.

The hon. gentlemen
and ladies opposite and I may have different views as
to why that result was achieved, but the result speaks
for itself. So we will have to put up with the crowing

MR. ROBERTS: and, you know, we will wait and see what happens. We will wait and see.

The hon. the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) and I - my friend from St. John's East Extern (Mr. Hickey) has left us temporarily. He doubtless will be back - and my friend from LaPoile (Mr. Neary), the Leader of the Opposition, we all sat in this House, Sir, in a not dissimilar disproportionate distribution of seats. But it was the other around. The hon. gentleman from - where is he now? - Waterford - Kenmount (Mr. Ottenheimer), the Minister of Justice, and the hon. the Minister of - what is he ?, Social Services? They keep changing. Social Services, is it? - the gentleman from St. John's East Extern together formed two-thirds of the Opposition. Back in 1966 they were two-thirds of the Opposition, and in due course, Sir, they crossed the House. They crossed the House in 1971 when they formed the government. So all I will say -

MR. TOBIN: Never to go back.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

MR. TOBIN: Never to go back.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman whose name I cannot even remember because he is that unmemorable, I am not - where is he from?

MR. NEARY: He is from Placentia West.

MR. WARREN: Placentia.

MR. ROBERTS: Burin - Placentia West.

I am sorry. I do him a disservice. I should remember his name, he is from Burin - Placentia West, an estimable gentleman who has not yet learned the rule that he can only speak from his own seat. He says, 'Never to come back. Well, I will simply say to him that he should wait and see. And the arrogance which he displays I will accept because

MR. ROBERTS:

ignorance.

it is the result of

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS:

ignorance.

Perhaps insufferable

MR. G. TOBIN: You are a grand person to know.

MR. E. ROBERTS: You know, Richard Cashin - I say this to the hon. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Tobin) now, Richard Cashin was for a time a member of parliament, and a distinguished one. He met the usual fate of all of us in politics. But, once when he was a young freshman like the gentleman from Burin-Placentia West, full of beans, full of vinegar and other things that may not be parliamentary.

MR. POWER: He is still full of some of that.

MR. ROBERTS: Who?

MR. POWER: Mr. Cashin.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, if the Minister of Forest, Resources and Lands (Mr. Power) wants to insult Mr. Cashin, let him. If I were him I would not, because he may find that Mr. Cashin is a gentleman who will not take lightly to being insulted by the likes of the Minister of whatever he is, Forest, Resources and Lands. But, I was saying and what I say is equally applicable to the Minister of Forest, Resources and Lands, he too might listen. Richard Cashin was once sitting in his seat in the House and the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker, formerly Prime Minister of Canada, was speaking, and Richard Cashin was interrupting just as the gentleman from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Tobin) was interrupting me and just as the Minister of Forest, Resources and Lands was interrupting me as well. And, you know, and I always thought Mr. Diefenbaker's answer was the perfect one, 'when you are looking for elephants, you are not going to be distracted by rabbits'. And I would say to the hon. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West that he and his rabbit tracks should confine themselves for a little bit. Now, you know, it is amazing how you use up the time, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Page would bring me a glass of this delicious water. I would simply ask hon. gentlemen Opposite, and hon. ladies if they wish to play the game, to simply keep quiet for a few minutes. I am not seeking the protection of the Chair as the Premier does. The Premier is the most protected man I know,

MR. ROBERTS: the Premier does. The Premier is the most protected man I know, as well as coddled and cosseted.

MR. CARTER: Why the hatred, my boy?

MR. E. ROBERTS: Hatred? Hatred for whom?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. E. ROBERTS: Hatred for whom? I say to the gentleman from St. John's North (Mr. Carter). I do not even hate him. Why would I hate him? Why should I hate anybody? Why would I hate the Premier? The Premier believes what he is doing. He may be mistaken, but that is not a matter for hatred, that is a matter perhaps for understanding.

MR. NEARY: For pity more than anything else.

MR. ROBERTS: Not even for pity. But the hon. gentleman for St. John's North says, 'be nice', you know. He gets up and says, 'why the hatred?' you know, the hon. member for St. John's North whose record in office was the most miserable failure ever. I mean, anybody who could be thrown out of Frank Moores' Cabinet, I will tell you now, Mr. Speaker, it means to be the standard,

MR. ROBERTS: not able to measure up to the mark in the Moores administration.

MR. CARTER: Do you not have anything new to say? This is old stuff.

MR. ROBERTS: Of course it is old stuff and so is the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter).

Now, what I wanted to say was there is nothing in the Throne Speech, Sir, that comes to grips with the problems of this Province as they exist today. The hon. members opposite who have spoken - and we have heard from five or six of them now - they have read good speeches. I am prepared to believe they have even written those speeches. And each of them has had the same theme and, of course, they simply mirror the Throne Speech because that is their role. I mean, their role, all these backbenchers, is to be the permanent adulators. And they are led by, of course, the gentleman for Harbour Grace (Mr. Young) who is the prime adulator in this government, prime adulator in this House. Adulation for the nation is their theme and we have seen that in their speeches.

The rhetoric of the Throne Speech, Sir, is no substitute, is no justification -

MR. YOUNG: You are adulating in caucus (inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Now, here we are, Sir, the adulator adulates again. I will tell him he is a better adulator than he is an agitator. So he should -

MR. HODDER: A good undertaker too.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, he may be a good undertaker too. And I will tell you, Sir, if you want the Tory philosophy he epitomizes it; 'Plough them under'.

MR. YOUNG: Especially former Leaders of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Now, Mr. Speaker, to carry on, I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted

MR. ROBERTS: that the rhetoric of the Throne Speech is no substitute at all for rational and thought out policies to come to grips with the problems of this Province. Hon. gentlemen opposite are convinced that it is. Hon. gentlemen opposite are convinced that - the member for Twillingate (Mrs. Reid) kept saying 'fight'. You would think we were in Madison Square Gardens. I began to wonder what her view of Canada is because fight, fight, fight - you know 'Patriotism is the first refuge of the scoundrel' - was it? - Dr. Johnson said. Well perhaps fighting is the last refuge of the Progressive Conservative Party. Where are the policies? Where are the answers? Where are the solutions? I am not looking for full solutions. I think that is beyond the wit of any man or even any woman. But, Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in this government's programme and furthermore there is nothing in their predecessors, nothing in their record.

I took the liberty of doing something hon. gentlemen opposite have not done for some time, look at the facts. And I have here some statistics which show, 1972 and 1982, end of March in each case, figures, and they show the labour force. Do you want to know what is happening in this Province?

AN HON. MEMBER: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, the hon. gentlemen should know what is happening because it affects my constituents. And we heard about

MR. ROBERTS: all those people in Twillingate who were forced on relief, and all those people in Twillingate who have to take these despised short-term jobs, as my friend from Fogo (Mr. Tulk) said, because there are no others.

Well, let us look at what is happening. In 1972, Mr. Speaker, there were 141,000 men and women in the labour force in this Province, in each case as of the end of March. In 1972, 141,000 of whom 127,000 were unemployed - I am sorry, were employed - 14,000 unemployed, 9.7 per cent. Again these are seasonally adjusted figures. I am sorry, these are unadjusted figures, but again I am comparing apples and apples.

The labour force from 1972, Sir, to 1982 increased from 141,000 to 210,000 and, I may add, the participation rate in this Province is still significantly below the national averages although it has improved that is an increase of 69,000 people.

MR. DINN: It has gone up about 10 points.

MR. ROBERTS: It has gone up about 10 points. I thank my friend from Pleasantville (Mr. Dinn). But it is still, he will agree, significantly below the national average, significantly below. That is an increase of 69,000 people in our labour force during the Tory period, the Tory decade. That is 48.6 per cent of an increase. 141,000 then 210,000 now, the work force has gone up 48.6 per cent.

The number employed, Sir, has also gone up from 127,000 in 1972, and it is up to 174,000 now. And that is an increase, Sir, of 47,000 which is 37 per cent. So our work force went up 48 per cent and our number employed went up 37 per cent. And, I may add, I have the figures here for each year, Sir,

MR. ROBERTS: and the patten is continuous. Each year the number of men and women in the work force increased significantly more than the number of men and women working. What happened to our employment? I said it was 9.7 per cent. It has climbed.

Here is the record of the Tory years now, here is the challenge: 11 per cent; 13.6; 15.7; 14.3; 17.8, 19.2; 20.1; 15.7; 13.2 and 17.0. The number unemployed has gone from 14,000 to 36,000 even with these much despised Canada Works jobs. They might not be much, Sir, but they are a lot better than welfare, they are a lot better than whatever this government provides. They are better than nothing which is the Tory alternative, nothing except attacking, blaming others

MR. CARTER:
Trudeau's fault.

None of this is

MR. ROBERTS:
of

No, I did not say none

MR. ROBERTS: it was Trudeau's fault. I did not say none of it was Trudeau's fault, or none of it was Joe Clark's fault either.

MR. HISCOCK: It would be worse if we did not have Trudeau.

MR. ROBERTS: And, you know, let us blame Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter and Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. And Mao Tse-tung has only been dead for seven or eight years. Ans what about Charles De Gaulle? You know, what has that got to do with the price of fish in Bonavista Bay or the number unemployed in Twillingate? The answer is zero, zilch, nothing, zip. Even the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter) can understand that. Now, Sir, let me make it simple so even my friend from St. John's North can understand it. I hope I can make it simple enough. Not simplistic. Unlike him I wish to be accurate but simple. It's gone up from 14,000 to 36,000. That is an increase of 257 per cent. The work force has gone up 48 per cent, the number employed has gone up 37 per cent, the number unemployed has gone up 257 per cent. Now thats the Tory record. And that is not just numbers, these are men and women, these are fellow Newfoundlanders, these men and women for whom we are fighting, these men and women for those future we all care. And we are all concerned and we are all here to do what we can to try to make that future real. This is the record of the government opposite. Now that is history. That is history. What are they going to do about it? The answer is nothing. You look through the Throne Speech and there is absolutely nothing. There is the rhetoric of the offshore and the appeal to emotion. Now it works. My heavens it works! Nobody doubts it works! And we saw it on April 6th, a cynical, calculated appeal by the Premier and whoever aided and abetted him, shaped by the polls, a classic example of an election held simply

MR. ROBERTS: to reflect the polls and go ahead with it, and they won. They won fairly and squarely, and I am the last ever to deny that. On election night I was on the television by phone because there is, of course, no television in St. Anthony and saying, as I would say again, 'The Premier won a great victory and he ought to be congratulated.' But my concern is, Sir, that is history. And I had seen other great victories. I saw Joe Smallwood win a bigger victory than this government has ever looked at. I saw him. I was there, I was part of it. Maybe an insignificant part but I was part and I saw it turned to ashes and dirt. I saw Pierre Trudeau win one two years ago and destroy this crowd opposite at the polls in the Federal election and now it is turned to ashes and dirt and he may lose the next election, if, in fact, he is still around.

MR. NEARY: and Diefenbaker.

MR. ROBERTS: You know, and Diefenbaker. I mean, that is the nature of politics, you win and you win big. And they did win big.

MR. ROBERTS: But where to we go from here? I will tell you where we have gone. We have now got a state - do you know how many members of the House are on their pay not counting what we are paid as members. And we are well paid as members. Count them up. Eighteen ministers. Ask not for whom the card tolls.

MR. LUSH: By leave! By leave!

MR. ROBERTS: I think that is a very good card. I think it is a very good card and whoever sent it to me I am deeply grateful. And I appreciate the moral cowardice of whoever sent it, the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) . Should I read it out to show the kind of wit -

MR. TULK: Yes, go ahead.

MR. ROBERTS: Actually it is not parliamentary but it is typical of the moral cowardice of the Minister of Transportation.

MR. CARTER: We will let you have the floor.

MR. ROBERTS: By leave? I am all for it. I may be accusing him unfairly. If I am, I apologize to him but if I am - you know it it just typical. However that is fine. Now comes the note I was looking for, the five minute bell, the five minute warning. It may be a case that the Tories will be saved by the bell this time.

Now, let me just come

back. We were talking about how many members are on their pay - and this is worth recording - eighteen ministers of the Crown, five parliamentary secrets, five of them. We do not know what they are being paid yet. In fact , there is no legislative authority to pay them. But obviously the government will ram it through.

MR. CARTER (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: No, they will ram it through.

MR. ROBERTS: They do not care, they will ram it through. They will just say, 'We won'. And the fact of the victory will be used to excuse anything that goes on in the next year. To devil with the Ombudsman just because he has caught the hon. Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) in his sorrid little patronage game. I mean, to devil with that, we won. To devil with anything wlse, we won. So we have five parliamentary secrets and we have got eighteen ministers. That is twenty-three. We have three Table officers, His Honour, Your Honour and Your Other Honour.

MR. CARTER: Do you begrudge them?

MR. ROBERTS: I do not begrudge any of them. I do not begrudge them their salary. Having to put up with the likes of the hon. gentlemen for St. John's North (Mr. Carter), they deserve double pay. But I am just looking at how many people in this House are beholding to the Premier personally and I simply want to record it. So we are up to eighteen, and five secrets is twenty-three and three is twenty-six, for the benefit of those opposite, and add on the whip and it is twenty-seven out of forty-four. Now all I want to know is why were the other seventeen left out? That is what they are asking. That is what the gentlemen from Humber West (Mr. Baird) is asking himself, why was he left out.

MR. BAIRD: You do not have to worry for the member.

MR. ROBERTS: I do not worry about him, he is pretty good at worrying about himself.

MR. BAIRD: Do not worry about the member for Humber West.

MR. ROBERTS: He is pretty good about worrying about himself. We know that. We know why the gentleman for St. John's North was left out, that speaks for itself. The gentleman for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg)

MR. ROBERTS: was not left out. He has been taken on the crew.

Now, we could go on and on and on. But I think it is worth recording. I do not know of any parliamentary democracy in this country, Sir, or in England and, I venture to say, in the - the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ottenheimer) could tell us because he goes to all these parliaments all the time, where close on 55 per cent of the members, more than 55 per cent of the majority of the government are directly beholden to the Premier personally. I think it is too many. I have no objections to ministers having help. Some of these ministers need all the help they can get and the more the better. But, Sir, I think it is worth recording that we have, of the forty-four members who support the government, twenty-seven who are directly beholden to the Premier in a direct personal sense.

You know - maybe I should end on this because there will be other times. This is only the first of our amendments. We have eight or ten more to come. But, Mr. Speaker -

MR. BAIRD: You will not be here for another week. Finish up what you are going to say.

MR. ROBERTS: No, I have to be in court tomorrow and I was before the Public Utilities Board the other day. The hon. gentleman for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry) drives me to it. He is the hardest partner I have ever had. He drives me to it.

Now, Sir, I just want to say -

MR. NEARY: He is here as often as the fellow from Port De Grave (Mr. R. Collins).

MR. ROBERTS: And I will certainly do more than the gentleman for Humber West (Mr. Baird). I mean, the gentleman for Humber West has got to learn that

MR. E. ROBERTS: And actually, Sir, that is not a good analogy, Sir, because the furniture is useful. The furniture does fulfill some purpose. Now, the gentleman from Humber West (Mr. R. Baird), Sir, fulfills little purpose.

MR. CARTER: Rubbish. He is filled with hatred.

MR. ROBERTS: Now, Mr. Speaker - Mr. Speaker, I said Sir, I quoted the Bible, "It is pearls before swine". And the hon. gentleman from Mount - not from Mount Scio, I am sorry, from where is he from? - from St. John's North, he exemplifies that, Sir. You know, I can rest my case. I can rest my case. I simply want to say that now I will end with this because my time must be nearly up, Mr. Speaker - one of the most pertinent suggestions I have ever heard made over the years in this house was by Clyde Wells a distinguished member, a distinguished lawyer now living in St. John's and somebody with whom I have had agreements and had disagreements, politically, and professionally. But he once made a suggestion that I think might be worth thinking about. Members should be paid handsomely for being members, perhaps even more handsomely than we are now. Ministers should be paid only a thousand dollars for being a Minister. In other words, you would be paid a full-time salary. In fact, we are all getting full-time salaries now, because many of these members, in private life, worked happily for less. The lady from Twillingate boasted that she worked for - was it \$13,000 a year and free labour? Well, no more free labour now, she is getting \$25,000 or \$30,000, whatever she gets as a member - we all get it. She is entitled to it. More power to her. We are not badly paid by those standards, particularly in a province with the kind of economic problems that our people have. But Ministers being paid a \$1,000, parliamentary secrets being paid \$1,000, and any old odds and sods being paid \$1,000, parliamentary odds and sods, that would take away any inhibition there is on a man or a woman. Then there is the obvious inhibition. It is no accident, Sir, that the Premier has put under his direct obligation 26 of his colleagues. No accident, it is a deliberate act.

MR. NEARY: Twenty-seven. Twenty-seven.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, twenty-seven counting himself, twenty six others under. It is no accident, Sir, it is part of a deliberate plan.

MR. NEARY: It is a plot.

MR. ROBERTS: No, it is not a plot. It is not clever enough to be a plot, it is a plan. It is a plan and he is going to do it, he is not going to listen to anybody. No talk of it during the election. It is just, 'we won, we are going to ram her through'. But I think -

MR. CARTER: What hatred.

MR. ROBERTS: My hon. friend thinks that I am either hating or jealous. If he thinks I am jealous of him or the Premier, he has got another think coming. If he thinks I hate him, Sir, I have got far better things to do than to hate him or anybody else. You know, he really -

MR. CARTER: You know, I am feeding you lines.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, the hon. gentleman is feeding lines. It is a little like feeding lions to the christians. Now, Sir, let me just end by saying I think that suggestion is one that hon. gentlemen opposite might want to look at.

MR. E. ROBERTS Your Honour is about to rise, I am about to sit down. Well all right there will be other times to speak. These are just a few preliminary remarks. I wanted to talk about these unemployment figures because they are most revealing and they show the dimensions of the problem. And rhetoric is not going to be the answer. The answer has got to be concrete, thought out plans and programmes. Well, Sir, we will carry on with them. We shall vote in favor of this amendment, it will not carry. But, Sir, after all, we are not trying simply to win this house. We are not going to win this house. We will carry on from here, Sir. I must say my colleagues are in very good form. I think, my friend, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) is in the best of form and will carry on. Let them crow, Sir. But those who eat crow usually, in fact inevitably end up eating crow in due course. And let them think on that too, Sir. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (A. McNicholas) The hon. member for St. John's North.

MR. J. CARTER Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to congratulate yourself, and His Honour and the Deputy Speaker -

MR. HODDER Are you going for the full half an hour?

MR. CARTER on their election. I think a better choice of the three people here, could not be made. I would like to also congratulate the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) on being born, he kept us going on that issue for about ten minutes. In fact, if you want to inject a certain amount of vigour into the debate, generally you would start off by insulting your opponents mother. But, now, I do not wish to insult his mother, his mother is a great and gracious lady. Fact, I would like to compliment her. Because I can imagine what the hon. gentleman was like as a small boy. If the man is a copy of a boy, then we can just judge what the boy must have been like. And for that lady not to have squat him like a bug speaks very highly of her. I think she is a great forebearing woman.

MR. NEARY

How low, how low.

MR. TULK

It was not really that funny, John.

MR. CARTER

And I should be careful what I say about the hon. gentleman, because I keep forgetting that he is a lawyer, and if I am not careful he will litigate all over me. However, after the election was over I did some research into how people felt in St. John's about the Progressive Conservative Victory and the performance of the Liberal Party and admittedly it was a very small sample. I was walking along Water Street and I contacted five people on the street and asked them about

MR. J. CARTER: the performance of the Liberal Party. The first four of them said the Liberal Party did very well, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) was the best possible Leader, the member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts) was one of the best possible representatives. They could not speak more highly of the Liberal Party. Now this was only five people that I contacted so I wondered if these were straws in the wind. But the fifth person that I spoke to, who was sober, disagreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CARTER: Now, people have wondered why there is such a victory of 44 to 8. And I think there are three reasons, Mr. Speaker, and they are three serious, good reasons. For some reason or other during the campaign the Liberal members decided to put as much distance between themselves and the Federal Liberals as possible. Now, in a way that probably helped them. But by the same token, how could they call themselves Liberals and how could there be Liberals on the mainland in Ottawa, and how could both of these people be in the same party. If one party was quarrelling with the other, the Provincial with the Federal? And as a result, of course, the electorate, the Liberal Party electorate, became confused and found themselves unable to support all but a handful. And also, of course, they were very foolishly threatened to sell out the Province, something which all red-blooded Newfoundlanders disagreed with. And, of course, thirdly, they ran retreats, and tokens, and jokers, and buffoons and, of course, they could not be taken seriously. So the eight members who were elected, are the eight who most betrayed their party. I think it is a very unfortunate state of affairs when a party manages to send its worst into the House rather than its best. Is that as it may though -

MR. BAIRD: 'Tom' is not too bad.

MR. CARTER: No. By the way, there has been some mention, while we are on the subject of St. John's, there has been some talk of this topless restaurant that is being

MR. CARTER:

run. I would like to suggest to some of the Liberal members that they get a bar licence. They could easily run a witless restaurant with no trouble at all. The hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle could run a tasteless restaurant.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY:

The right place for you, boy, is up on the farm!

MR. CARTER: I must say I do not agree with the hon. members and their motion of no confidence. I think we should all fall on our knees and be very thankful that they did as badly as they did. Because I would not like to see their particular brand of government given any more credibility than it is given.

MR. NEARY: There are enough of us.

MR. CARTER: Well, the Canadian Government is thinking of sending a little help to the Falkland Islands. I hear they are sending down three destroyers, Trudeau, Lalonde and MacEachen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CARTER: It is an oldie but a goodie.

So I would like to say to all of the members on our side, and certainly to the new members whom I think I cannot speak too highly of, I think they are a wonderful bunch.

MR. HODDER: You cannot speak highly of them?

MR. CARTER: I cannot speak too highly of them. I think they are a wonderful bunch and I would like to say to them stand firm, hold fast, whatever Ottawa does, we are going to outlive them and I am sure that the government in Ottawa will come our way long before we will have to go back to the polls.

Thank you very much.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HEARN: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (McNicholas): The hon. the member for St. Mary's - The Capes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HEARN:

Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the new Speaker of the House, the Deputy Speaker, you, yourself, as Deputy Chairman of Committees and certainly all my hon. colleagues on their most recent appointments.

Just a week ago I stood here in fear and trembling to make my first speech in the House in the midst of uncertainty. However, after being inebriated with the exuberance of the verbosity of my hon. colleagues across the House, I thought I would add a little more to the Throne Speech because of its relevance to my district in particular.

The Throne Speech, as we know, dwelt heavily on resource development and the district of St. Mary's - The Capes, the future of that great district depends entirely on this resource development, both of our local resources that we have now and the development of our future potential.

In relation to my great district, the predominant resource is the fisheries. From Portugal Cove South through St. Mary's Bay, out the Cape Shore, practically everyone in that area depends entirely upon the fishery,

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MR. HEARN: in the area. Not only
will they provide a market for the fishermen in these
areas;

MR. HEARN: they will also provide a tremendous amount of employment for the various workers out in that district. And, of course, to add to that, the children in the area during the summer get extra work in the plant as well as cutting out tongues, and other valuable ways of raising money. The tourist potential in St. Mary's - The Capes, as I mentioned briefly when I responded to the Throne Speech, is, perhaps, the greatest in the Province. We have only one small park and consequently we will be striving for more. But we have more attractions than any other part of this province and I do not hesitate in saying that. From the Minister of Forest, Resources and Lands (Mr. Power) district, the great historic district of Ferryland, as you leave St. John's and drive to that great district where I was born, across the barrens between Cappahayden and Portugal Cove South and then into my district, you will see tremendous scenery, the like of which you will not find anywhere. Anybody who has ever travelled that area - and it is amazing to say that a tremendous amount of people in St. John's have never been up that way. You know, we can draw from that area, not from outside the province at all. We have rough rugged beauty of the Southern Shore, the barren area between Cappahayden and Portugal Cove South which, by the way, is a tremendous partridge hunting area. We have tremendous moose hunting, trout fishing, salmon fishing, not to mention the scenery. Then, of course, across the barrens, the St. Shotts barrens where many of you people have hunted, we have the caribou herds which you can witness on the side of the road feeding, the same way as you would look at a herd of cattle grazing anywhere in Alberta. Then, of course, out around St. Mary's Bay the unique little fishing communities, the harbours, the inlets, the sheltered coast and, of course, the wooded land and the farm land of Colinet and the North Harbour area, and then, once again, the rough, rugged, scenic, hilly, country

MR. HEARN:

out on the Cape Shore.

The tourism potential has to be developed. It is something that we have overlooked. No attention has been paid to it over the years. And certainly I will be fighting very, very hard to make sure that the potential we have is recognized. And I left out, not intentionally, the tremendous amount of historic attractions, recognized historic attractions such as the old batteries that exist in the area and, of course, the wreck sites which we are quite famous for, especially around Cape Race and the St. Shott's area.

In the field of recreation our district, in the sense of recreational facilities, we are lacking, tremendously lacking. However, we make up for it with enthusiasm and energy. During the past few years statistics will show that more championships have been won by teams up in St. Mary's Bay than any other area of comparable size, not to forget this year, when the children from a small school in Trepassey won a gold medal at the Winter Games down in Labrador City.

When I mention recreation in Trepassey, of course, the word stadium comes to mind. And last year I remember in this hon. House quite a session was had on the Trepassey stadium, the stadium that was "never a stadium and will never be a stadium", but is a stadium and eventually will become an active stadium. The members of the Public Accounts Committee visited Trepassey to see the stadium that was not supposed to be, only to realize that it was there, that it was ready to go once ice was put on the stadium. However, the only thing that is holding the Trepassey stadium up is that the people of Trepassey, being a sane and sensible people, have not decided whether or not the town can afford to operate a stadium. What amazes me is the fact that while all the racket was going on last year about the Trepassey

MR. HEARN: stadium, nobody ever bothered to contact, to phone or to write or to come up to see what was going on in Trepassey itself. I happened to be at the time, President of the Trepassey Recreation Commission and Chairman of the Stadium Committee, and I have not yet received one phone call from anybody concerning the Trepassey stadium and, in particular, from the gentleman who represented the district last time. And yet that was a very hot issue here in the House of Assembly. You know, I feel that before things are brought on the floor

MR. L. HEARN: and gone into in such detail, they should be checked out fully, and certainly in the case of the Trepassey stadium where all the people ended up with egg on their faces and rightly so perhaps. Because the people up there were plodding forward as they have always done, minding their own business, developing the stadium and when the time was right they would have gone looking for the assistance that they needed to put ice on it, if this is what they decided. And, as I have said so far they have not decided to do it, but are in, right now, Mr. Speaker, the position to do just that if they so wish, thanks to the generosity once again of this present government and the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth—the former Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth, because of the grants that they have made available to offset the remaining debt on the facility in Trepassey. We will develop further our recreational facilities I hope. We have gone into a tremendous amount of sporting activities, softball, soccer and, of course, basketball has always been a big sport in the area. We do need to develop our facilities but, as they say out in the great district of Placentia East, where there is a will there is a way, out there they say where there is a Bill there is a way. I would also like to reiterate that in the months and years that lie ahead, we will be doing a tremendous amount of work with the councils and the Rural Development Associations in the area because it is through local government that small towns and communities can fully develop their own potentials. In forestry, certainly a resource sector, we do not have too many problems except some cutting permits up around North Harbour, but certainly in the Trepassey - St. Shotts area, we have absolutely no problem with the budworm. I am not sure whether we can give thanks to the hon. Minister of Forest Resources and Lands (Mr. Power)

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

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MR. L. HEARN: - or just to the fact we do not have any trees in the area. In the field of education the schools in the great district of St. Mary's-The Capes will compare with any. Once again we have to thank the present government because many of the schools are new or newly renovated. The present educational system: The level of education once again will compare with any across the nation. We do, however, as schools everywhere, have to be concerned with the implementation of Grade XII. This is something that we have to work out together,

MR. HEARN: with the people involved in education, with the school boards and the principals and the teachers at the local level. Because I think it is from these people that full understanding of what is involved comes. There is, in relation to education one thing I would like to see happen in the district in the near future, and that is the possibility, at least the possibility to be checked out, of constructing a vocational school in either the district of St. Mary's - The Capes or the neighboring Ferryland district. We have a tremendous amount of our young people who are leaving schools and cannot find any place to go. They see the tremendous opportunities that lie ahead of them, realize they do not have proper preparation or training for these jobs, but cannot do a thing about it because they cannot gain admission to the existing schools. So I am sure, with the help of the hon. Minister of Forest, Resources and Lands my colleague from Ferryland district, that we will be striving to see if we can get some kind of vocational school in the area that can serve both our great districts.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HEARN: Then, in the field of transportation I would wish to thank the, hon. Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) for the co-operation I have received not only from him but from the local units in keeping the existing roads which, of course, are the main concern of the district. I. today, did a little bit of research to find out how much paving was done in St. Mary's - The Capes since the P.C.'s came into power. Because before 1972 we had very little if any pavement in that area.

MR. ROBERTS:

Building was ruled (inaudible).

MR. HEARN:

And it is only now, being a new member, and in my ignornace, that I realize what was meant when people said " Tory times are hard times". For the district of St. Mary's - The Capes, hard times mean times when you put a hard surface on the road.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HEARN:

Since 1972 approximately 123 miles of pavement-

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

How Many?

MR. HEARN:

One hundred and twenty three miles of pavement have been laid in the district of St. Mary's-The Capes

MR. ROBERTS:

Any people live on it?

MR. HEARN:

It still leaves us with approximately

MR. L. HEARN: 150 miles of unpaved road however. Certainly that is not a very enviable position to find myself in, but I am sure within the next three or four years that I will be able to come in and stand up in this hon. House and say that we have a lot more than 123 miles of pavement in the great district of St. Mary's-The Cape.

MR. R. BAIRD: Right on!

MR. L. HEARN: Realizing, of course, that roads in the area mean that the people who commute to schools, especially kids in North Harbour and Colinet who have to commute to Mount Carmel every day over very rough rugged roads, people from St. Mary's and St. Vincents who travel over the rough road to Trepassey to work, people from St. Shotts, that great historic place that went very heavily P.C. this time, the great community of St. Shotts, where a tremendous amount of the people work in Trepassey and travel twenty miles daily over very rough, rugged, dirt roads, these things I will be fighting for, Mr. Speaker. And I am sure if I receive the co-operation that I have been receiving to date and have received in recent years from the Dept. of Transportation, that these problems will be overcome, The development of our roads and local resource potential depends upon money, however, and money must come from the full development and control of our offshore oil and our Labrador power resources. We are facing a period of uncertainty: The threat of war in the Falkland Islands, the threat of war in the Middle East and, apparently, we are operating here in this hon. House under a six month truce, and there may be war in the House after six months according to the - I am not sure whether to say the Acting Leader of the Opposition or The Leader of the Opposition. (Mr. Neary).

MR. CARTER: Leader by a hairsbreadth.

MR. L. HEARN: Despite opposition, however, or lack of it

MR. HEARN: we must press forward and give the people of Newfoundland the kind of government they so properly deserve. As far as the district of St. Mary's-The Capes is concerned, my people can rest assured that I intend to give them the kind of representation that both they and I can be proud of. I can do this as a member of this present government, operating under our present sensible and fair process. I, therefore, have no intention of supporting the amendment as put forth.

I would like to mention, however, or comment briefly on the words of the last speaker from across the House, the hon. member for the Strait of Belle Isle (Mr. Roberts). He said that here is the challenge and he threw out the word 'unemployment' and I certainly agree with him 100 per cent. The challenge is his, the challenge is mine, the challenge is to all of us to work together to make the future real. And once again, 'to make the future real' are words of his.

I would like to thank him for his paternal advice to us new members in particular, and I certainly appreciate his concern for us. However, maybe it is because of his prior experience he might say that working together to achieve this end to combat unemployment is impossible to do in this hon. House. I would in closing, Mr. Speaker, like to remind him of the words of Robert Kennedy, words that I fully adhere to, when he said, 'Some people see things as they are and ask why. Others see things as they never were and ask why not'. Mr. Speaker, I thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (FUSSELL): The hon. member for Bellevue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to have a few words to say on the amendment to the motion.

MR. CARTER: Call it six o'clock.

MR. NEARY: No. No.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, if I have not done so already, I would like to take this opportunity - if you want to call it six o'clock that is fine with me, but I would like to, first of all, say that if I forgot to do so the other day, I would like to congratulate all hon. members on both sides of the House for being elected again or being elected for the first time. The appointments that were made, congratulations to these four new secretaries and the Speaker (Mr. Russell), Deputy Speaker, Chairman of Debates (Mr. Aylward) and so on.

AN HON. MEMBER: Call it six o'clock.

MR. CALLAN: Everybody agrees we should call it six o'clock?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed!

MR. CALLAN: That is fine, Mr. Speaker. I adjourn the debate.

MR. SPEAKER (RUSSELL): It is noted that the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) has adjourned the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I move the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow at three o'clock and that this House do now adjourn.

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