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TRANSCRIPT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
FOR THE PERIOD:
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1984

The House met at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): Order, please!

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the recent report of the Royal Commission on Hospital and Nursing Home Costs has highlighted the need for reduction in the cost of health services. The Commission recommended that provincial health policy be formulated to encourage development of health services on the basis of five major modes, one of them being home support or home care services.

In keeping with this recommendation and the policies of the Departments of Health and Finance, it has been decided to provide a retail sales tax exemption for home health care equipment and supplies -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS: - prosthetic appliances and equipment designed solely for the use of blind persons, purchased by individuals.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS: Today's changing technology has provided the means for many individuals to manage and control various diseases in the home environment, thus decreasing the need for medical attention and hospitalization. These exemptions will provide a measure of relief

DR. COLLINS: to those individuals using such equipment.

Examples of the types of equipment and supplies being exempted are: kidney dialysis machines, home glucose monitoring system used by diabetics, colostomy sets and urinary management supplies. A complete list of the items exempted is being prepared by the Department of Finance for distribution to the suppliers of these products.

A second area of our tax structure which has been under review in recent months has been tobacco tax. My recent Budget Speech announced a tax reduction for cigarettes sold in zones that border the Province of Quebec. Also, the tobacco tax system in this Province has been under the ad valorem system since 1981, a system which automatically increases the tobacco tax as the retail price of tobacco increases. It has been decided to eliminate the ad valorem system as it applies to cigarettes and tobacco and to replace it with fixed unit rates. These rates will be the rates currently in effect which are as follows: cigarettes, 4.78 cents per cigarette; tobacco, 1.32 cents per gram.

These measures will take effect as of April 1, 1984.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS: A great advance!

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR.HODDER: Mr.Speaker, as to the first
measure that the minister just announced, that is fine
with us. We are glad to see him do it, we are glad to
see anything that helps the people in nursing homes in
this Province, or any reduction of sales tax to the needy.
As far as the second one is concerned, Mr.Speaker, it is
not going to do very much for anybody, Why not do it
on the gasoline tax? Now that would be a significant
reduction. It would be a stimulus to the economy, it
would help consumer spending. As we all know, the
ad valorem system is in use as far as gasoline taxation
is concerned. The second one will mean very little
to the people of this Province but the change of the
ad valorem system as far as gasoline is concerned would
be very meaningful.

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

MR. ANDREWS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR.NEARY: It is no harm to say that
when you have a mild Winter the maggots come out early.

MR. BAIRD: You should know, you are
out.

MR.ANDREWS: You are out, You have been
out all Winter-to lunch.

Mr. Speaker, today I would
like to address the House of Assembly on the subject of
acid rain and to provide an update to members of the
House on some of the important events on the national
and even the international scene, which hopefully will
curb this major environmental problem.

MR. ANDREWS:

By way of background, I should remind hon. members that Newfoundland is a receptor and not a contributor to the problem of acid rain. Further, our position at the Eastern extremity of North America places us in the path of acidic pollution which moves from West to East and can travel hundreds and even thousands of kilometers. I would also like to remind hon. members of the highly sensitive nature of this Province's soils and surface waters, which have little capacity to resist an increasing acidic onslaught.

However, at present my department's assessment of the situation indicates that we have suffered marginal acidification to our surface waters in localized areas on the South Coast, and Central Newfoundland areas around Red Indian Lake. This is indeed a fortunate situation compared with the extensive damage to lakes in Southern Ontario and Quebec, the New England States and even to salmon streams in Nova Scotia. To help put this in perspective, the accepted target to protect all but the most sensitive surface waters is a wet sulphate desposition amount

MR. ANDREWS:

of twenty kilograms sulphate per hectare per year. At present the highest annual deposition in this Province is nineteen to twenty kilograms per hectare per year on the South Coast and near Red Indian Lake.

Initially my department's efforts have been focussed on assessing how much acid rain was reaching our Province and what damage it was doing. In the past year this focus has changed and I have become involved in efforts at the provincial and the federal-provincial and in more recent weeks at the international level to help control acid rain at the source of emissions.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to briefly outline some of the significant events of the past year or so relating to the development of a strategy to abate acid rain pollution by decreasing the emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide.

In May, 1983 I met with my provincial colleagues from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba to formulate an abatement strategy. At this meeting it was agreed to aim for a goal of achieving a twenty kilogram of wet sulphate per hectare per year deposition level throughout Eastern Canada. It was agreed that the most cost effective approach would be used and, further, it was acknowledged that even with this massive Canadian reductions we would not achieve this goal without an equal commitment from our Southern neighbours, and that of course, is mainly the United States.

In June, 1983 my provincial colleagues and I met with the hon. John Roberts,

MR. ANDREWS: then the Environment Minister for Canada, to outline the provincial position regarding abatement strategies. As a result of this meeting it was agreed that Environment Ministers would meet on a regular basis to finalize an abatement package which would be recommended by a committee of technical officials.

In September, 1983, during the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers, held in Fredericton, an abatement agreement was achieved which would have permitted the hon. Charles Caccia, then and still the Minister of Environment Canada, to negotiate a final abatement with his U.S. counterpart. Subsequently, as we know, the United States has changed their position and decided that they were not prepared to reduce their emissions at that point in time.

On March 6, 1984, at a meeting of the Ministerial Management Board on Acid Rain, attended by the federal government and the governments of eight provinces, it was agreed that all those agencies concerned would strive towards achieving a reduction in sulphur dioxide emissions by 50 per cent by 1994. This would involve significant

MR. ANDREWS:

reductions by major Canadian sources, including the smelters and large thermal powered electric generating units. However, Newfoundland would not be required to make significant reductions because of our small emission base. However, we will be net beneficiaries of this programme, and it will offer further protection to our environment.

This agreement is also seen as a bold gesture to the United States, showing them that we are concerned about acid rain and are prepared to initiate major action to try to stop its damaging effects. At this meeting, for the first time, emphasis also shifted noticeably - Mr. Speaker, this is very important - from the discussion of damage to surface waters and inland fisheries, to the damage suffered by forests. New evidence has come to light over the past year, particularly in Europe, of major damage to forests caused by acid rain. It is also being proposed by some that acid rain is weakening the forests' natural resistance to such pests as the spruce budworm. In some areas of Germany, Mr. Speaker, up to one third of all the trees are showing significant acid rain related damage.

The forest in Germany, Mr. Speaker, one-third is dead or dying from acid rain.

On March 20th, just recently, and the 21st., I attended the Canadian/European Ministerial Conference on acid rain. This Conference was attended by Environment Ministers from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Austria, the Canadian Environment Minister and the Environment Ministers from all ten provinces. This Conference provided an excellent exchange of information on acid rain effects,

MR. ANDREWS:

policies and strategies.

A final declaration arising from this Conference, signed by all ten nations, committed these nations to at least a 30 per cent reduction in sulphur dioxide emissions by 1993, called for progress in reducing the emissions of oxides of nitrogen and invited other nations to join this club that we named 'The 30 Per Cent Club'.

Of interest at this Conference was the level of European concern, especially for their forest resources and, given the importance that the forests play in our economy, we cannot but share this vital concern.

Mr. Speaker, I trust this brief outline conveys to the hon. members of this House the progress that has been made in the past year, and I do believe it has been significant. I am committed to continuing this effort and will continue to play an active role in further federal/provincial meetings to ensure that this Province's position is safeguarded and that Canada pursues a responsible path to acid rain abatement.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

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

MR. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I take some pride in the fact I think that I was probably one of the first people to bring up the problem of acid rain and that was done in 1979 at the committee stage. Hansard will show that the matter was debated fully at that particular time with the then Minister of the Environment. However, at that time we had no evidence in this Province and we were still in the monitoring stage.

Mr. Speaker, we do have people in the federal government and a provincial monitoring agency in place at the present time. I would like to point out to the minister that this is an area where we often hear members on the other side criticizing the federal government. I think this is one case where the federal government is paramount in this issue because it is dealing country to country. And I can say to the minister that while the tone of the end of this particular briefing, I suppose, that we received on acid rain today seemed to indicate that 'I will fight on,' I will say to him that we on this side of the House are glad that you are adding your support to the fight on acid rain, as should all Ministers of the Environment across the country. But I would caution the minister not to think that he is the only one. We on this side of the House feel exactly the same way the minister does. We feel that this is a problem. It can be potentially perhaps the most damaging problem that industrial society has faced in the past twenty or thirty years. Our lakes, and lately our forests, are threatened and the problems lie squarely on the doorstep

MR. HODDER: of the United States Government, at the present time a Conservative regime who feel that the interests of business are more important than the interests of the people, and in the long run they will be wrong. In the long run, the Government of the United States will be shown to be wrong, because they are suffering - and in the Atlantic Governors' Conferences this has been brought out many times - the states of the United States which are in the same position that we are, feel the same way we do. In the long-term, if the waterways go and the forests go, then it will be a blot on the Ronald Reagan record in the United States.

MR. NEARY: That is right.

MR. HODDER: The only other thing I can say to reiterate is we are glad that the minister has taken this stand, but let none of us think for a moment that we can succeed unless all governments and all individuals make their views known on acid rain. I think it is very important for us in Newfoundland and for individuals across Canada to take a stand. It is an easy stand to take, because we are all affected by it in the same manner, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR.SPEAKER(Russell: The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR.CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, I intended to ask the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) a couple of questions. I do not know if the Minister of Transportation is stuck on an unploughed road somewhere and if he is it is ironic. I know the minister worked late last night because we were all down to the Colonial Building until eleven o'clock discussing the estimates on Transportation. I think there was one member of the press there. It seems that the press have the same attitude towards these estimates as the Opposition do, that they are a waste of time. But anyway, Mr. Speaker, I will ask the Premier in the absence of the Minister of Transportation. I want to ask the Premier, do we have a new policy in this Province now as it pertains to our bad roads? I refer, Mr. Speaker, to an article in today's paper and it says that 'Terra Nova MHA Glen Greening has told residents in Terra Nova -in the town of Terra Nova-'that the Department of Transportation will station a vehicle on that road'-that muddy road-'to tow vehicles in trouble out of the mud when it becomes necessary.' Is this a new departure by the Department of Transportation? And will this apply to roads like Markland, for example, or Hillview, and all of the other muddy roads around the Province? Is this a new departure? Is this done through contract? Is somebody contracted to do this and will they be paid by the vehicles that they tow out? Perhaps the Premier can address that? Is this a new departure? Is this something new that the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Greening) has announced?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Greening) is working hard for his district.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: It is the first time in many years that we have had the opportunity to see in print that there is a member for Terra Nova and that he is fighting on behalf of his constituents. It is really, really good to see.

MR.NEARY: I am looking forward to his maiden speech.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, when particular problems arise in particular areas, local members in this House make representation to the responsible minister and action is taken. I can only assume, until I get all the details on this matter because I am not completely aware of it, that the member for Terra Nova has been very successful in agitating and fighting for something for his district. And I will only implore the member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) to start fighting as well. He has been here in this House long enough to know that he has got to get on the ball and start fighting for his district. We have a brand new member, brand new, who has not been in the House before, and he is doing more already for his district than the member for Bellevue is doing.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR.CALLAN: Mr. Speaker a supplementary.

MR.SPEAKER: The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR.CALLAN: I am disappointed, actually,

MR. CALLAN: that the Minister of
Transportation (Mr. Dawe) is not here because I would
not bother asking the Premier questions if I had a choice.
All it is is an invitation to go on with a lot of old
malarkey and nonsense that the people around this Province
are sick and tired of hearing ,

MR. CALLAN the empty promises
and the marakey and the arm waving.

Let me ask the Premier another question. In that same article it says, 'A wild time in Wild Cove'. Now, that I believe is in the district of the former Liberal M.H.A. for P. ie Verte - White Bay(Mr. Rideout), and it appears from this article that the Minister of Transportation(Mr. Dawe) has taken a new departure as well, because there was a time when people protested that they were just ignored or dragged off to jail, and the Premier and the Minister of Transportation and so on, just let them. But the minister here, in connection with Wild Cove, has promised to meet them next Tuesday. Is this an invitation, Mr. Speaker, to people in Markland and Hillview, and Hodge's Cove, and other parts of the Province to get out and picket and create a wild time in their town, picket the roads and so on? Is this a new departure as well? Is the minister now going be meeting individually with these groups who protest about the deplorable conditions of their roads?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, once again we have a second member over here on this side of the House who does his work. I do not know what that means. It is foolishness that the hon. the member for Bellevue(Mr.Callan) is getting on with, Mr. Speaker, absolutely silly.

MR. CALLAN: The article was foolish.
and what the minister did was foolish.

PREMIER PECKFORD: How foolish is the hon.
the member for Bellevue? Grow up, boy, for God's sake.
Go and do your work and get your mayors and your municipalities
and your organizations together and let them sit down with the
Minister of Transportation(Mr. Dawe) and the ministers over
here for any of the departments will meet with anybody from

PREMIER PECKFORD: any part of the Province.

If the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) has been successful in getting a meeting with the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) to talk about the road to Wild Cove, so be it, so much the better. Just get on with your work, boy, and do your job. What is wrong with you?

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

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, I hope that the press is noting the arrogance, the escalated and the escalating arrogance of the Premier who is smarting for a dozen and one reasons.

MR. SIMMS: Yes, he looks like he is smarting!

MR. CALLAN: The Premier knows, Mr. Speaker, that you do not meet with mayors and municipalities about the roads to Markland and Hillview, because these roads are not located in municipalities. And the Premier knows as well, Mr. Speaker, that it was the protesters in Wild Cove who brought about this result, that the minister promises to meet with them, and not the member. And it has happened in Bellevue district before.

MR. CALLAN: Let me ask the Premier, Mr. Speaker, as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, does the Department of Transportation intend to table a list of roads capital works programmes this year? which does not necessarily, Mr. Speaker, have to contain the estimates for, say, three miles of pavement to Hodge's Cove; it does not have to contain the estimated cost and then be a giveaway to contractors when they want to bid. But will the Department of Transportation be tabling a roads list early in the Spring so that each member of this House of Assembly will know whether or not any of the taxpayers' dollars - and there are additional taxpayers' dollars in the budget this year for roads and bridges - will there be any list forthcoming from the Department of Transportation to indicate to members and to taxpayers around this Province whether or not they will be getting some of their tax dollars back on two or three or four miles of pavement or a new bridge?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Well, Mr. Speaker, first of all, what I said to the hon. member in answering the second question, I meant not just municipalities, I said development associations, local organizations, local roads boards, whatever the organization or citizens' group is in the area, in Markland or Hodge's Cove or anywhere else in the Province.

MR. CALLAN: They did not know they were allowed to do it before.

PREMIER PECKFORD: It does not have to be a municipality. We are here to serve all the people of the Province.

PREMIER PECKFORD: The ministers of the Crown will meet with representatives of communities, whether they are elected or not elected, whether they are roads boards or municipalities or development associations or citizens' groups. I mean, that is no problem. That is easy enough, Mr. Speaker. So when the member comes back and says Markland is not a municipality, that is not my point. If there is a citizens' group or development association or something there who want to make a presentation or brief to the minister or to the department about their road conditions, well, sobeit, I mean, that is what we are here to do. That is what we are elected for, that is what we are getting paid for. There is no problem.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, as it relates to the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout), we were in Baie Verte - White Bay over the weekend, myself and the member and I am telling you, the member for Baie Verte - White Bay is going to be elected in Baie Verte - White Bay for about the next fifty years. The man is doing more for the roads in that district - it is unbelievable what the hon. member is doing! We had representatives from every community on the Baie Verte Peninsula on the weekend, praising the hon. member up to the stars!

MR. CALLAN: When are you coming out to Bellevue to announce the closing of another hospital?

PREMIER PECKFORD: Thirdly, Mr. Speaker, it was the member for Baie Verte - White Bay who organized the meeting, not the people from Wild Cove. The member for Baie Verte - White Bay is doing his job.

Now, I listen to the hon. member ask a question, but he will not listen

PREMIER PECKFORD: but he will not listen to me give the answer. Talk about arrogance! The member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) is some arrogant, Mr. Speaker. He is one of the most arrogant members of this House. It is scandalous what is going on here. Now as far as lists go, we publish lists every year, we have no problem with publishing lists. And I am very, very glad that the member for Bellevue finally acknowledged that we are going to spend not just the \$21 million for the ordinary roads programme in 1984-85, but we are going to put another \$15 million on top of it so that we can solve some of the roads programmes this year.

MR. CALLAN: \$7.2 million actually.

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance (Dr. Collins). In this day and age there are quite a few people throughout the Province who are quite concerned about the consumption of alcohol. I understand that this year the minister estimates to gather in some seventy-odd million dollars in taxes from the sale of alcohol in this Province. You go into the liquor stores throughout the Province and you see propaganda concerning the constitution from the government, you see propaganda concerning the Premier's stand on the offshore issue. I would like to ask the Minister of Finance if any consideration been given to placing labels on liquor bottles in the liquor stores similar to the labels that are placed on cigarette packages by Health and Welfare Canada? And, Mr. Speaker, I will ask the Minister of Finance if any consideration has been

MR. WARREN: given so that people
are consuming alcohol will at least be given the
opportunity that smokers have and giving them statistics
that it is dangerous to their health?

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I think the
hon. member knows that this government is taking a giant
step forward in this area. We have set up the Alcohol and
Addiction Commission, ADDC -

MR. HOUSE: Alcohol and Drug Addiction
Commission.

DR. COLLINS: Alcohol and Drug Addiction
Commission. There are very reputable people on this Commission,
very vigorous people doing many things in this area not
only in terms of public education but the whole gamut
of trying to take care of abuse of these various drugs
or these various pleasures, however you want to term them.
In terms of the Liquor Corporation itself, it is considered
by government to be more appropriate to concentrate the
efforts in the Commission rather than the Corporation,
which, after all is a marketing operation, a merchandising
operation. It would seem to be a conflict of purpose to
have them market and at the same time to try to get
into the area of diminishing consumption. So it is thought
to be better and more creditable to have control of
abuse. No one wants alcohol or tobacco abused. I think
most people are not

DR. COLLINS: against the use of alcohol and tobacco as long as it is used in a sensible way. Everyone is against abuse, but government feels that it is best to concentrate the attack on abuse in the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Commission.

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

MR. WARREN: Mr. Speaker, what a cop-out by the minister! What a cop-out! The minister's one concern is to make sure that the people of this Province drink as much alcohol as possible. That is the minister's concern. The minister did not answer my question, so I will phrase the question again.

It is in the minister's hands to issue a directive to the Liquor Corporation and to the breweries in Newfoundland to place the necessary warnings on containers of alcoholic beverages in this Province. Will the minister issue such a directive?

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

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I have explained how government is tackling this thing. We are spending, I think it is \$1.3 million this year in trying to decrease abuse of these substances. In terms of the merchandising of these substances, we are not saying that we want the people of this Province to drink as much alcohol as they possibly can hold; we are saying that we are making the substances available to the public and we are making it available under controlled conditions. This is the idea of having these -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the idea of having the sale of these substances restricted to government controlled outlets is to try to do it in a

DR. COLLINS: controlled fashion. It is not to promote the maximum consumption, it is to do it in a controlled fashion. And we have another very credible organization, quite adequately funded at the present time, to limit the abuse of these substances.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, before I put my question I would like to draw hon. members' attention to the latest copy of The Muse, 'Welcome To His Nightmare- Peckenstein Cutbacks.' When you read from a document, Mr. Speaker, you have to lay it on the table of the House. In case the Premier has not seen this 'Peckenstein Cutbacks', Mr. Speaker, I would like to send him over a copy.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me direct a question to the Minister of Energy(Mr. Marshall). As hon. members know, I have warned the administration now a thousand times in the last year or so about putting all their eggs in one basket because it might backfire. I have warned the Premier and I have warned the administration not to wait until Brian Mulroney was elected Prime Minister of this country to start negotiations for an offshore agreement. But the Premier and the administration, Mr. Speaker, insisted on waiting and now Mr. Mulroney has unveiled his policy, he has retreated from the Clark position and has literally taken an identical position as the Liberal government in Ottawa have taken. Now, Mr. Speaker, would the hon. gentleman tell the House if he intends to bring into this House a resolution to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to send a message to Mr. Mulroney that he has betrayed his own colleagues in this House?

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, what a question! I would be much more concerned with a group of people on the other side who have betrayed the people of this Province time and time again on this very vital issue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: The hon. gentleman has got a lot of gall and a lot of face, we know that, but his gall and his face are consummate today when he gets up and asks a question of that nature.

The question that should be asked, and the question that has been most relevant and will remain relevant until the present interim government of this country vacates office, is what the present government, the government of the day, is prepared to do with Newfoundland. And the only thing that the present government is prepared to do with the Province of Newfoundland is to offer it an agreement the same as Nova Scotia, which gives smaller or negligible benefits or no benefits at all to the Province of Newfoundland. So the hon. gentleman can sit over there and exult with the five members on the Liberal side in the backbenches of Ottawa, including Mr. Rompkey. But the fact of the matter is if the hon. gentleman had the interests of the people of Newfoundland at heart, the hon. gentleman would be supporting us in our position with respect to the present government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: The hon. gentleman need not worry about the Conservative Government, and, certainly, he need not worry about the Conservative Government of this Province. As far as the Government of this Province is

MR. MARSHALL: concerned, we are determined that we are going to get justice and equity from the resources that we brought into Confederation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: He would be better off, Mr. Speaker, occupying himself with what his buddies in Ottawa are doing with respect to the people of this Province than asking questions of that nature.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, now that Mr. Mulroney has taken an identical position to the Liberal position, I would like to ask the hon. gentleman if there was any prior consultation or was this the same as the policy on the seal industry in this Province, that they went ahead unilaterally without any prior consultation with the hon. gentlemen there opposite before they unveiled their great policy, which turns out to be the same as the Liberal policy? Was there any prior consultation?

And I would like to ask the hon. gentleman now, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that both major parties in Canada have an identical position regarding the offshore, does the hon. gentleman now intend to go to the NDP to see if he can get them on his side?

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

MR.MARSHALL: We will have to wait and see about indentical positions. The experience that we have had, and the discussions that we have had, and the policy that has been set by the federal Conservative Party of Canada is not exactly identical to the policy of the Liberal government of Canada. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman sits over there and he exults, and this is really what he does, he exults and gloates over the situation in the Province of Newfoundland today. He is a handmaiden of Ottawa, he and the Mayor of the city of St. John's, when he is speaking at various concerns here in town, when he is not attending the National Capital Commission up in Ottawa and going back and forth, that type of individual in this Province, Mr. Speaker, we can do without, because what they are doing is, as I said yesterday, just providing fodder for the patronizing press of Central Canada. And that is all, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. gentleman achieves. He is an Uncle Tom in this land who sits there, and all he is concerned about is trying to undermine, in his wild lust for power, the position of the people of this Province and the government of this Province in trying to achieve justice and equity from a resource that they brought into Confederation with them.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Shame! Shame!

MR.MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the only federal party in Canada that has indicated that it is prepared to give justice and equity to the people of this Province.

MR. MARSHALL: has been the Progressive Conservative Party. When the Progressive Conservative government gets in nationally we will get justice and equity from that resource, but I can guarantee you one thing, Mr. Speaker, and I can guarantee the hon. gentleman, that we will not act like little toadies and we will not act as little stooges because we are of the same political colour. We will act in the best interest of the people of the Province of Newfoundland and we will not bow down for anybody, we have no intention of so doing. So the hon. gentleman, Mr. Speaker cannot attempt in his questions to try to deflect the responsibility that he ought to shoulder himself for the way in which he has mismanaged his representation of the people of this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, we just saw another example of the hon. gentleman's little beady eyes and his little snake-like tongue, squirting, hissing, out the poison, hissing out the bile his little tongue hissing, his snake-like tongue.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!
I would ask hon. members and ask the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) to pose a direct question.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, and the lap-dogs over there, of course, the lapdogs pound their desks.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): The Chair asked the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr.Neary) to pose a direct question. If he persists in not heeding what the Chair has ruled, the Chair will be forced to recognize somebody else.

MR.NEARY: Oh, is that so, Mr.Speaker. How wonderful! We are allowed a preamble in this House, are we not?

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR.MARSHALL: On a point of order.

MR.NEARY: I merely asked the Speaker a question: Are we or are we not allowed a preamble in this House?

Mr.SPEAKER: The hon. President of the Council on a point of order.

MR.MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is getting hot under the collar. get hot under the collar as much as he likes with any member of the government or any minister, but Your Honour happens to be the Speaker of the House.

SOME HON.MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR.SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. SIMMS: Be still so we can hear what he is saying.

MR.SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, these are reflections on Your Honour's authority. Your Honour has made a ruling and the hon. gentleman gets up and taunts Your Honour.

MR. SIMMS: He should be asked to withdraw.

MR.SPEAKER: To that point of order certainly sometimes there are preambles, but I think is a little different

MR.SPEAKER (Russell): kind of situation. The Chair rose and asked the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr.Neary) to pose a direct question because he was entering into the realm of debate. And having sat down, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, in the Chair's opinion at least, proceeded to continue debate instead of posing a direct question. The Chair again asked the hon. Leader of the Opposition to pose a direct question or the Chair would have to recognize somebody else.

MR.NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact now that

MR. NEARY:

the Tory Party of Canada under Mr. Mulroney and the Liberal Party have an identical position on the offshore, now that the Supreme Court has handed down its decision, would the hon. gentleman inform the House if it is now the intention of the administration to pick up the phone and call the Prime Minister or call the federal Minister of Energy (Mr. Chretien) and do what they were elected to do back on April 6, 1982 when they were given such an overwhelming mandate, and ask, Mr. Speaker, man-fashion - or do they intend to fight to the last ounce of blood of the welfare recipients and the unemployed in this Province - pick up the phone man-fashion -

MR. SIMMS: Is there a question in there?

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman is alright, he has nothing to worry about - and ask, Mr. Speaker, man-fashion to return to the bargaining table, to resume negotiations and to make a strenuous effort to get the best agreement that we can for Newfoundland and for Canada? Now, Mr. Speaker, is that too much to ask hon. gentlemen to do?

Let me put a second part to that question: Or is it the intention - and if it is, let them state their policy, never mind beating around the bush and leaving the thing up in the air, state their policy - or is it the intention of the administration to keep fighting and squabbling and arguing and frothing at the mouth and squirting poison and bile until after the next federal election? Is that their policy, Mr. Speaker, to continue fighting, to create all kinds of pain and suffering in this Province and ruin Newfoundland economically and financially? Is that their policy, to

MR. NEARY: continue that until after the next federal election?

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I gather that was a question that the hon. gentleman was asked to ask.

Mr. Speaker, the position of this government is well-known. This government will deal with any party, any government, in any matter, provided that government or that other party deals with this government in good faith.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: And to date, we have not been dealt with in good faith.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. MARSHALL: The situation since the decision of the Court has come in, the only indication that we have received, if any indication, and that indirectly from the federal government, is that they are prepared to impose upon this Province an agreement similar to the Nova Scotian agreement. And, as long, Mr. Speaker, as the federal government proposes an agreement which is an agreement along the framework of the Nova Scotian agreement, it cannot be accepted by

MR. MARSHALL:

this government. Mr. Speaker, if you are going to negotiate with anybody at any time, you have to negotiate from the point of view of equality, with each side recognizing the rights of the other. And what the Nova Scotian agreement would be would be to really impose upon this Province the same type of colonialism which the Supreme Court of Canada, in my mind mistakenly, but the Supreme Court of Canada said that Newfoundland had in 1949.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that Newfoundland was a colonial power in 1949, but I am sure and certain that this government is not going to preside at it continuing to be a colonial power in the Canadian Confederation.

So the answer, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. gentleman is that we are prepared to deal with anyone who deals with us in good faith. But people who come to us and say they want to give us an agreement like the Nova Scotian agreement, which gives negligible if any benefit to this Province, not only something that we will not accept but we will not submit to if they attempt to impose it upon us.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear,hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Russell):

Mount Scio.

The hon. the member for

MR. BARRY:

to address a question to the hon. the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, I would like

The Premier has indicated that he is commencing a cross-country tour. I wonder if the Premier has given any consideration to having members -

MR. ANDREWS:

Do you want to go with him?

MR. BARRY:

As a matter of fact, that is an excellent idea, Mr. Speaker. The words were taken right out of my mouth.

MR. BARRY: Has the Premier given any consideration to bringing certain members of the business community, university community, the general population of Newfoundland, to assist the Premier in communicating the justice and equity of Newfoundland's case with respect to being involved in the management of the offshore and having a fair share of revenue from the offshore, and would the Premier consider an all-party cross-country tour? Would the Premier invite members of the Opposition to participate in explaining properly in a fair, reasonable and sensible fashion that what the people of this Province are seeking with respect to the offshore is not anything more than an opportunity to participate reasonably in management, and to participate fairly in revenue? Would the Premier consider those suggestions?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I find the question from the hon. the member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry) absolutely incredible! The member for Mount Scio district has joined a party that, to this point in time, has not supported the government in its offshore position -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: - yet they want to trek across the country with us now, they are trying to 'piggyback' -

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

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

The hon. the Leader of the Opposition on a point of order.

MR. NEARY: Under the rules of this House, Mr. Speaker, I believe a half-hour, thirty minutes, is allocated for the Oral Question Period and I believe the time for Question Period has expired, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: And, Mr. Speaker, under the rules of the House, the same rules apply to that side as apply to this side. I believe, under the rules of the House, Your Honour has no choice but to terminate the Oral Question Period.

PREMIER PECKFORD: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier, to that point of order.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, we will see now, because it is near the end of Question Period, what the Leader of the Opposition is up to. He does not want me to respond to that question from the member for Mount Scio district because the Leader of the Opposition knows that his position on the offshore obviously must be in conflict

PREMIER PECKFORD: with that of the member for Mount Scio district (Mr. Barry).

MR. SIMMS: Right on!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Now, today, we will close down the House, but will the Liberal Opposition support the position that we have on the table right now as it related to the offshore?

MR. NEARY: Let us have an election! Let us have an election!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Do you take the constitutional position that we take? Do you take the interim position that we take? That is what I would like to know.

MR. NEARY: Is this in order, Mr. Speaker? Where are the rules?

PREMIER PECKFORD: The member for Mount Scio district has a problem, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Where are the rules, Mr. Speaker? Are the rules gone out the window?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: They will not listen to me.

MR. NEARY: Where are the rules? What about the rules?

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

PREMIER PECKFORD: May I be heard in silence, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!
The hon. the Leader of the Opposition is asking, 'Where are the rules of this House?' The Chair recognized the Leader of the Opposition on a point of order and listened to his argument, and the Chair is intending to do the same thing with the Premier, who rose in response to that point of order.

MR. SPEAKER (Russell): To the point of order raised by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, the Chair, as I understand it, at least, decides when Question Period is over and shall continue to do that.

When the hon. the member for Mount Scio posed a question to the hon. the Premier, and when the hon. the Premier rose to speak, the time for the Question Period had not elapsed. And certainly, if a question is asked and a minister or the Premier is in the process of answering the question, I think it is a matter of courtesy that the minister should be allowed to finish the answer.

The time for Question Period has now expired.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

PREMIER PECKFORD:

To answer the -

MR. NEARY:

Sit down! You are out of order.

MR. SPEAKER(Russell): Order, please!
The time for the Question
Period has now expired.

ORDER OF THE DAY

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN(Aylward): We are discussing a
resolution pertaining to Bill No. 10, Interim Supply.
The hon. the Leader of the
Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the Tory
position is what has us in the trouble we are into today.
The Premier and his minion to his right have followed a
policy that has led to complete and utter failure, and
they keep repeating that the only way to do things is the
Tory way.

Mr. Chairman, there is
another way. The other way is common sense, the other way
is the honourable way, the other way is to outwit, and out-
fox, and outsmart your opponent. That is the other way.
The Tory way has proven to be the wrong way, Mr. Chairman,
so here we are today with a situation in Newfoundland where
we are literally a welfare state. Apart from the hon.
gentleman getting a few goodies over across the bay, and
his trucks going down through the wharves over there, apart
from that there is very little else happening in this
Province.

I cannot say there is very
little else happening because we heard today about a new
policy. This policy is unique, Mr. Chairman, in the whole
of Canada. The other provinces probably have never heard
of it. If they had thought of it first, then Newfoundland
certainly would not be able to take the lead in this new

MR. NEARY: policy, the new policy announced by the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Grenning), unique in the whole of Canada. I doubt very much if very many countries in the world have adopted this policy.

The hon. gentleman told us during the election that he was going to get one forty-fifth of the budget spent in Terra Nova, one forty-fifth. It will be interesting to see if the hon. gentleman has his one fourth-fifth yet.

MR. CARTER: He only needs one forty-fourth.

MR. NEARY: Now he only needs one forty-fourth. But what is the new policy of the administration? What kind of plans and policies and programmes do they have for looking after the needs of people who live along gravel roads, dirt roads, Mr. Chairman, people who live down in St. Mary's Bay and Grand Bay West, outside of Port aux Basques, down in my colleague's district of Bellvue, and down in Fogo district? What is this new policy? Is this just a pilot project that they

MR. NEARY: announced a few days ago? Is it a pilot project or do they intend to expand this policy to include other regions of Newfoundland and Labrador?

What is the policy to which I refer? The policy is one that was articulated a few days ago by the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Grenning), and here is the policy, Mr. Chairman: 'Terra Nova M.H.A. Glenn Grenning, has told residents that the Department of Transportation will station a vehicle at the road to tow vehicles in trouble out of the mud when it becomes necessary.'

MR. SIMMS: What a member!

MR. NEARY: What a member, Mr. Chairman, what a member. They are going to station a tow truck, or a bulldozer, or a crane, or something down along the road in Wild Cove. They are not going to repair the road, they are not going to fill up the potholes -

MR. CALLAN: Not Wild Cove, in Terra Nova.

MR. NEARY: In Terra Nova. Excuse me. They are not going to reconstruct the road, Mr. Chairman, they are not going to haul gravel in and fill up the soft spots in the road. They are not going to do that. No, they are going to do something that is unique. The Tory administration in this Province have not had an original idea in twelve years, and we keep reminding them of that in this hon. House, but now their record has been spoiled, their record is spoiled, they now have a new transportation policy that they will station vehicles along roads that are soft and full of potholes, to tow out vehicles that get in trouble.

Mr. Chairman, as I said yesterday, it is a pity that Ray Guy is not around now with

MR. NEARY: his pen. What a shame!
A gentleman who told the people in Terra Nova he was going to get one forty-fifth of the budget is now going to get some kind of a piece of equipment to tow vehicles out of the mud. Mr. Chairman, this is going on in Wild Cove, I would say probably -

MR. STAGG: It is not in Wild Cove.
Wild Cove is not in his district.

MR. NEARY: 'A Wild time in Wild Cove'. Oh, excuse me. That was the heading.

MR. BAIRD: You are thoroughly confused.

MR. NEARY: Terra Nova. The road to Terra Nova. Mr. Chairman, there you have it, there is the philosophy and the thinking and the ideology of the administration there opposite. Do not repair roads, do not reconstruct roads, do not build new bridges, let the potholes get deeper and deeper and when the roads become impassable and impossible, send out a vehicle to tow the vehicles out of the mud.

Mr. Chairman, I do not know if this little item in The Daily News of March 27 escaped the media but in case it did -

MR. SIMMS: That is today's date.

MR. NEARY: That is today's date - but in case it did they should get it and read it just to see that I am not exaggerating. I know that they are grasping for straws over there, they are struggling for new ideas. They have new blood in their party, the hon. gentleman brought new blood into the party, new ideas. No doubt with this, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman will be Cabinet material. Does the hon. gentleman realize that that is the first original idea that emanated from that side of the House in twelve years? The hon. gentleman should get the first medal for bravery, for having the

MR. NEARY: courage to bring up this matter, to pioneer this great policy of the Tory administration. As I said yesterday, 'Mr. Carter's remarks, pure cat's manure'. That is mentioned in there too.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if I have any time left I would like to read a letter -

MR. SIMMS: Is it Leo's letter?

MR. NEARY: No. Maybe I should not read the letter because if I read the letter I will have to table it and I do not have the permission of the individual to identify the individual. But I have to tell you what is typical of the kind of letters that we are getting from students around this Province.

MR. NEARY: Hon. members will recall that last Fall, in November and December when the House met, we expressed great concern about the shambles that had been created in the Department of Education concerning the processing of applications for Student Aid. The Minister of Education (Ms Verge) turned on one of her tapes at the time and, Mr. Chairman, would not acknowledge the fact that Student Aid was in a terrible mess, that students were being forced to drop out of university because their applications were not processed because they could not get their Student Aid on time.

Well, Mr. Chairman, this is the sort of thing we get from students around this Province.

MR. SIMMS: Are you reading now?

MR. NEARY: No, I am not reading, I am just summarizing. We have all kinds of letters that start out 'Dear Mr. Callan', 'Dear Mr. Barry', 'Dear Mr. Roberts', 'Dear Mr. Neary': 'We would like to take this opportunity, first of all, to introduce ourselves.'

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: They usually go on to say, Mr. Chairman: 'I am a student' and they usually state their age, and they tell you where they live, and they tell you that they are presently unemployed. Now, that is just par for the course. There is nothing new in that. Then they tell you that in the community in which they live they have been unable to obtain employment, that they have searched all over Newfoundland and other places, and they even go to St. John's, Mr. Chairman, to seek employment. They spend some time in St. John's with their relatives and friends, they stay in for a couple of months at a time, depending on whether or not they

MR. NEARY: have some place to stay, and then they come up and they consult with their members, especially with members of the government because with the reputation that this administration has for political appointments - and the policy that has developed in this Province is not what you know but whom you know - they come up to Confederation Building and they search desperately for employment. They stay here as long as they can and then they have to go back and they say, We consulted with a number of government officials, and we went to all the business houses in downtown St. John's, and we were unsuccessful in obtaining jobs.

In the case of girls they apply for secretarial positions, they look at the ads in the newspapers, in the various newspapers, and sometimes they even look at the Globe And Mail and The Financial Post, and again they have to report that they are unsuccessful. As a last resort, Mr. Chairman, sometimes they go to the fish plants and they go to the various malls and they put applications in by the dozens, and by the hundreds, in some cases, all over the Province without success.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is the sad story that we get day in and day out.

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

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for Baie Verte - White Bay.

AN HON. MEMBER: He said, 'Mr. Speaker: Mr. Chairman. There should be a point of order.

MR. RIDEOUT: It is not technically correct,

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Chairman, but I am sure it is interchangeable and has been used by all of us from time to time.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to have a few words this afternoon, particularly as it relates to a couple of questions raised by the Opposition. They were such great questions they were entitled to a ten minute devastating debate by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) in the first round here on Interim Supply debate this afternoon.

I have been around here for about ten years and I did not really realize the connection, but The Daily News gave it away in their headline this morning. There is no doubt about that, Mr. Chairman, The Daily News, that great impartial paper that is published in Newfoundland every morning, they really gave it away in their headline this morning and the Leader of the Opposition cued right in on it. Look, you would not do better if you have called up the hon. gentleman and said, Take it hook, line, sinker and bait and go to the House of Assembly, because that is exactly what he did. He zeroed in on an unfortunate road situation in my district and a road situation in Terra Nova, and he made the great speech just now about this new policy now, this new policy that the government has - instead of fixing the roads we go around stationing tow-out vehicles by the mud holes and you tow out a vehicle as it comes up and gets stuck.

The point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, is that that is exactly, verbatim what was carried on some page or another of this morning's Daily News, verbatim. And that was the extent of the hon. gentleman's

MR. RIDEOUT: research, I am sure, and that was the extent of the research of The Daily News as well. The two of them clicked together, Mr. Chairman, perfectly. Because what happened out in Terra Nova district on Friday night? There was an emergency situation where there were two or three places in a road that could not be fixed because of the lateness in the day, and what happened? The Department of Transportation said, We will station a vehicle here in case there is an emergency during the night. In case there is an emergency during the night we will station a vehicle here. So if somebody is coming up from Terra Nova with a heart attack, or is sick, on their deathbed and has to be taken to a hospital, we will station a vehicle there that will be capable of hauling an emergency vehicle through the mud. Thanks to the efforts of the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Grenning), that is what was done out in Terra Nova. And I say to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary), if that was not done through the efforts of the member, and something happened, you would have The Daily News, and you would have himself, and you would have all his colleagues in this House crying holy war -

MR. SIMMS: Right on.

MR. RIDEOUT: - calling down absolute destruction on this administration for being so callous as to not put something in place in a very difficult situation, very bad road conditions, so that if there was an emergency they would be able to get a vehicle through. Now, that is what happened, nothing more, nothing less.

The next day, I understand from talking to the member, they went in there with their trucks and their crushed stone, and their gravel and whatever, and filled up the holes and smoothed them over. And the emergency vehicle was hauled out and people drove back and forth, not as usual or as normal because the road

MR. RIDEOUT: is in very poor condition, but they were able to manouevre back and forth over that road by themselves.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is what the member did, that is what the Minister of Transportaiton (Mr. Dawe) had done. Is there something sinister or wrong about that? Is that not part of the role of any member, if he gets that kind of request from his constituency, to make sure that something is put in place so that an emergency situation can be taken care of overnight? and the next day they go in and try to fix it and try to do something with it. Now, that was The Daily News reporting. That is an example of the accurate reporting of The Daily News, latched onto, of course, by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) and blown into a new policy statement here in the House today and all that kind of thing.

Another great example, Mr. Chairman, of the unbiased, researched reporting of The Daily News is the headline in this morning's paper which the hon. gentleman for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) used in the Question Period today, 'Wild Time In Wild Cove'. 'Wild Time in Wild Cove'. Now, if that had been Bear Cove it would not have been 'A Wild Time In Bear Cove,' or if that had been Shoè Cove it would not have been 'A Wild Time In Shoe Cove'. What was the headline in The Evening Telegram this evening about the Wild Cove situation, Mr. Chairman? 'Residents Picket For Better Roads'. It just so happened, and, Mr. Chairman, the residents of Wild Cove will know this, because I have them coming in here next week for a meeting, it just so happened that there was fun played on the name of that community. That is what happened. 'Wild Time In Wild Cove' perpetrated, brought more out in the open in this House today by the member quoting the headline. But if that had been Bear Cove, or if that had been

MR. RIDEOUT: Shoe Cove, or if that had been Timbucktoo, it would have been the Telegram's article, the Telegram's headline 'Residents Picket For Better Roads'. But the name of the community, Mr. Chairman, was Wild Cove and that is what wrote the headline, that is what wrote the headline on those people down in Wild Cove who are out protesting. They have bad roads, I will be the first one to admit it. They have bad roads, but, Mr. Chairman

MR. RIDEOUT: over the last three years we have made tremendous progress in improving road conditions on the Baie Verte Peninsula.-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: - and, Mr. Chairman, that will continue and the people of Wild Cove will get road improvements as we get around to doing them. We are not going to be making commitments based on picket lines. I have told them that. They had one request only and that was a request to sit down with the minister, Mr. Chairman, and that is a reasonable request. I will arrange that for anybody in my constituency at any time, and I would think that any member in this House would do that same thing. But you are not going to get commitments from picket lines, you are not going to get commitments from that kind of thing. But to sit down and meet, of course we will sit down and meet with them, of course we will sit down and talk to them.

The point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, is that there were two separate situations in this Province over the last two or three days, one in Terra Nova and one happened to be in my constituency. And this great Liberal rag that is published here every morning -

MR. ANDREWS: Published by whom?

MR. RIDEOUT: We know who it is published by - they do so much research that the member for Terra Nova (Mr. Grenning), in an effort to help out his constituents, gets hauled over the coals here in the House for getting an emergency vehicle supplied just for one night, just for one night, until they could get in there the next day and throw some gravel or some rock or something in the soft spots. Then they take the name of a community and they play a pun on that name to try to get it going again, that there is something wild about

MR. RIDEOUT: the people in Wild Cove. How many protests have we had, Mr. Chairman, about road conditions, or hospital conditions, or student conditions, or overcrowding conditions? How many protests have we had in this Province since I have been in politics, over the last ten years? You have never seen that kind of headline. You do not get 'Wild Time In Bellevue', or 'Wild Time In Hodge's Cove', or 'Wild Time' somewhere else, it just happened it was the name of the community.

And, of course, the hon. gentleman for Bellevue (Mr. Callan), who would laugh at almost anything, thought it was funny. He had to pick it up in Question Period.

MR. TOBIN: He did not know the difference.

MR. RIDEOUT: He knew the difference. The hon. gentleman knew the difference. The hon. gentleman knew why it was 'Wild Time In Wild Cove'. But, Mr. Chairman, let me tell this Committee that the people of Wild Cove are very serious, hard-working, law-abiding citizens and they are not impressed by that kind of headline. They are not impressed with playing with their desire to have something done to improve their lot. So there you had it, two -

MR. NEARY: Your time is up.

MR. RIDEOUT: The Chair will let me know when my time is up, Mr. Chairman.

So there we have it, two instances over the last couple of days, in two separate parts of the Province, where that greatly researched paper, The Daily News, writes up all the research and all the information, the Opposition latches onto it, gets up in the House and thinks that they have the real thing, the next best thing since sliced bread. But when you get a press

MR. RIDEOUT: that is responsible,
Mr. Chairman, it will write a responsible headline.
'Residents Picket For Better Roads', now, that is
responsible reporting, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman -

MR. TOBIN: You have some gall to show
your face.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, I want to be
heard in silence. I want to congratulate the member for
Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) for his eloquence. He
is just as eloquent now as he was during the four and a half
hour speech, when he lambasted this same Tory government, the
same people - the Premier was in the Cabinet at the time, and,
of course, he is the leader now - the same sick crowd.

But anyway, Mr. Chairman,
the member talks about the 'Wild Time In Wild Cove', and he
talks about the cheap shot taken by The Daily News. Now
where did The Daily News, and where did most people in this
Province get their ideas about taking

MR. CALLAN: dirty, cheap shots? Now, let me tell you, Mr. Chairman, where it came from; and it is continuing, and it is great - it is great when this other gentleman does it, but when we do it it is shocking! But let us take the example, Mr. Chairman, of another gentleman, who was a former Liberal but now is a Tory, an unsuccessful Tory for the leadership of the federal P.C. Party. I am talking, Mr. Chairman, about John Crosbie. Now, just look at the cheap shot that John Crosbie took - not in a newspaper which is distributed in St. John's, but on national television. Let us look at the cheap shot that John Crosbie took when he was trying to defend having Shannon Tweed try to raise a couple of hundred thousand dollars for him to pay off his expenses. What cheap shot did he take? What did he say about communities in my district, not one, but two, Mr. Chairman? What did he say? He talked about Shannon Tweed, who, of course, was from Dildo -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN: - which is not that far from Come By Chance. And the dirt and the innuendo and everything was there. And it was not enough for him to talk about Shannon Tweed, but at a P.C. convention out in Gander, he stood on the stage and talked about getting a date with Shannon Tweed's mother. He even dragged Shannon Tweed's mother into it.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible) for Trudeau!

MR. CALLAN: That is right! That is right!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CALLAN: But he was still talking about the girl's mother.

MR. BAIRD: Harris tweed is waiting for you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate that the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) is not here today. And that is all I am going to say about that silly nonsense that the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) got on with.

Mr. Chairman, I also have a few words to say, I will have several ten minute spots this afternoon, and perhaps I can drag the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. Reid) to his feet.

MR. WARREN: No, you will not.

MR. CALLAN: He made the comment just now, when the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) referred to all of the work and contracts he was getting, that he was happy. Now, I am going to elaborate on why that gentleman is happy later on, but I want to do something before my time runs out.

The Premier just now talked about me, as an Opposition member, fighting for my district and for roads. Last night, Mr. Chairman, we spent from 7: 30 until 11:00 down in the Colonial Building on the highways or the Transportation estimates. This morning, after asking the minister several questions for which there were no answers, I sat down and wrote a letter to the minister, which I brought up here to this Legislature to be hand delivered to the minister, but he was not here. So I gave a copy to the Premier anyway when he accused me of not fighting for my district. This is not the first letter that I have written, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the residents of Bellevue.

I am going to read the letter. The Leader of the Opposition referred to a letter which he did not want to quote from because he did not want to table it - it came from a student. I will read directly

MR. CALLAN: from my letter and be glad to table it and, of course, the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) will be getting the original. Now, here is what my letter to the Minister of Transportation says, Mr. Chairman.

MR. YOUNG: He is a good minister.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CALLAN: And I want to be heard in silence, Mr. Chairman, I do not want to be interrupted by the likes of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Young) or the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. Reid) or Humber East or West or whatever.

Mr. Chairman, here is my letter to the Minister of Transportation: "I am writing at this time because of my continued interest in and concern for several stretches of unpaved road and at least one bridge in the district of Bellevue. I refer to the bridge in Chapel Arm. This bridge, located on the beach in Chapel Arm, has been studied with a view to replacement over the past several years, as you are aware. The studies are completed now and I understand'- as a matter of fact, I know -~~that~~ the department officials in the Department of Transportation have placed this bridge on a priority list to be built during this construction season."

It will be interesting, Mr. Chairman, to see what happens to the priority list that comes up from officials in Municipal Affairs and in Highways and other departments, what happens to it when it reaches the Cabinet stage.

MR. CARTER: Liberals do not (inaudible).

MR. CALLAN): I would like for the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter) to be silent as well while I am speaking, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CALLAN: 'I trust that this bridge will be built this year for all the reasons given in earlier briefs presented by the Chapel Arm Town Council and other concerned parties, including myself.' So that is the bridge. 'There are seven miles of dirt road through Markland' - which the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. Reid) was going to pave - 'There are thirteen miles of dirt road from the Trans-Canada at Hillview to the Town of St. Jones Within. There are approximately fifteen miles of dirt road remaining on the road to Southport in Southwest Arm.'

MR. CARTER: How many miles of dirt?

MR. CALLAN: That is on your farm. You are happy too for a similar reason that the member for Trinity - Bay de Verde is happy, and I will tell that one in a moment.

'Approximately five miles of that road had been paved in earlier years,' that is going towards Hodge's Cove. 'The last three miles was paved in 1981.' We know what happened; there was a by-election and it got paved that Summer. 'The mile of road through North West Brook and a couple of miles between Bellevue Beach Park and Chance Cove, plus the odd stretches between Long Cove and Thornlea' - which were left by the former member for that district, Trinity - Bay de Verde - and Bellevue and Bellevue Beach, these are the dirt roads in the district of Bellevue.' I have listed them all for the minister and I say to the minister, 'I realize that only a small number of miles of road can be expected to be done in the district of Bellevue this year.' Nobody is expecting any more than two or three miles. 'I realize that there are 3,400 kilometers of dirt road in the Province of Newfoundland! Here is

MR. CALLAN: the point, Mr. Chairman. However, if at least two or three or five miles of road could be paved in the district of Bellevue this year, it would give the impression' -

MR. YOUNG: No way.

MR. CALLAN: And the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Young) can listen to this one.

- it would give the impression of fairness and equity as it pertains to the distribution of taxpayers' dollars around the Province. I trust that some funds can be found to pave some stretch of road in the district of Bellevue this Summer. The petitions' - and hon. members opposite know this well - 'the petitions have been presented on several occasions from Markland and Southwest Arm and all the other areas pertaining to all the roads mentioned above.' Here is an invitation to the minister - 'I would be pleased to accompany you on a visit to any or all of the areas of road in question if you feel that a firsthand look at these areas would be beneficial and I anticipate an early, favourable reply.' That is my letter to the minister, Mr. Chairman, and I hope that neither the Premier nor the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) will ever point their finger at me and say that I have not been fighting over the years for improvement to these roads in Markland. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, I expect a petition from Markland, a petition which has been distributed by one of the local clergy. It was not my initiative, I did not phone someone in Markland or prepare a petition as hon. members opposite do often. They prepare a petition and go out and say, 'Here is a petition. I want you to get this around' so that we can get something for this area.' This petition came at the discretion and at the initiation of a local clergyman and that petition I assume will be presented here

MR. CALLAN: in this House by me in a couple of days, as soon as it gets in from Markland.

Mr. Chairman, I table this letter from which I have just read as the rules require that I do.

Mr. Chairman, to get back to this article - now that I have got my letter read into the record - I believe the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) was too taken up I think in the headline. I mean, it is not on the front page and any good writer will use a little bit of wit and humour to make a point, 'Wild Time In Wild Cove.'

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): Order, please!

The hon. the member's time has elapsed.

MR. CALLAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get back to it at some other time.

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. DINN: Mr. Chairman, first of all, let me say that what we are talking about here today is the Interim Supply Bill and the hon. member, for the first time to my knowledge, has addressed some of the items

MR. DINN: address some of the items that are in the Interim Supply Bill with respect to transportation, and I congratulate him for that. I do also want to congratulate the hon. member for writing a letter on behalf of his constituents. I can say, for example, that I was in Municipal Affairs for over three and a half years, I was in Transportation for some months and the hon. member, I believe, was first elected during his reform period -

MR. CALLAN: One day short of a year.

MR. DINN: One day short of a year or whatever, but you were elected at that point in time and I was in Municipal Affairs during that period of time and quite honestly cannot remember the hon. member writing a letter to Municipal Affairs on behalf of his constituents at that point in time. But I do congratulate him for taking up the challenge that the Premier threw out to him today to write letters on behalf of his constituents. We are, Mr.

Chairman, talking about Interim Supply and the hon. member wants,

I believe, something like five miles of road paved in his district.

MR. CALLAN: Thirty-five miles.

MR. DINN: Thirty-five. Well, it is a little bit difficult to get into thirty-five miles of road. I realize that the government has kind of gone out of its way this year to put monies into road reconstruction and paving, our secondary road programme and so on. For example, for federal/provincial programmes the Province will be putting in \$39.7 million for road

MR. DINN: reconstruction and paving this year. And for the normal roads programme, of course, we have something like \$21 million. Now the hon. member will realize that \$39.7 million is a federal/provincial thing. These funds are the provincial share, I understand.

DR. COLLINS: No, that is the total.

MR. DINN: That is the total, is it, the total of the federal/provincial programme? So that will be decided by a joint federal/provincial committee. And I can tell the hon. member that I drove the Trans-Canada Highway last year and the Trans-Canada Highway programme covered roads in the hon. member's district, covered road reconstruction and paving. We have \$21 million this year in the Transportation budget for the normal programme.

DR. COLLINS: All provincial, of course.

MR. DINN: All provincial. Yes, every dollar, every single dollar provincial for road reconstruction and paving and some bridge work in the Province. And this year we have also added another \$15 million for a new programme. Now we said that we could not afford new programmes, but we realize the condition of the roads in the Province and that we have to put some extra dollars into our road reconstruction and paving and bridge work in the Province. And I would hope the hon. gentleman does get some dollars for roads in his district and I compliment him on taking the Premier's advice this afternoon during Question Period when the Premier advised the hon. member that he should start fighting on behalf of the constituents in his district and communicating with ministers of government to indicate what his priorities are, as I am sure all hon. members — I am certainly sure that all hon. members

MR. DINN: on this side of the House continually do. I know when I was in Municipal Affairs and Housing, members in the House at that time wrote letters and basically inundated the ministers with letters on behalf of their constituents to get water and sewer work done, to get artesian well programmes started in their districts.

MR. SIMMS: Roads.

MR. DINN: And for the local roads and so on. And I compliment the hon. member for addressing, at least, one of the items in the Interim Supply bill where we are attempting to have some capital dollars approved and some current dollars approved so that we can get on with the programme before the construction season starts this year, so that we can get on with

MR. DINN: paving roads, reconstructing roads, whether they be out in the hon. member's district of Baie Verte-White Bay (Mr. Rideout) with respect to the Wild Cove Road or the Westport Road. I hope we get some funds for Baie Verte-White Bay district this year to finish the Westport Road. I remember shortly after the hon. member saw the light and came to this side of the House that I ventured down the road to Westport, and it was not in very good condition at that point in time.

MR. RIDEOUT: It was one day after.

MR. DINN: As a matter of fact, it was one day after. The member has been fighting on behalf of those constituents -

MR. SIMMS: You did not realize until then what a good member he was.

MR. DINN: - in his district. There may be some people in Newfoundland who do not realize what a good member the hon. member for Baie Verte-White Bay is in his district.

MR. RIDEOUT: As a matter of fact, that road was started while I was over there.

MR. BAIRD: As a matter of fact, as the hon. member says, the beginning of that road, which was not too bad, the first few miles of that road was started while the hon. member was in the benches on the opposite side of the House. How long is that road?

MR. RIDEOUT: Twenty-two miles.

MR. DINN: That road is twenty-two miles long and, in the short period of time that the hon. gentleman has been representing the people in Baie Verte-White Bay, that road, as I say, was started when he sat in a seat on the other side of the House, and it will be completed hopefully this year. If we get a few dollars this year for road reconstruction, etc., down in Baie Verte-White Bay,

MR. DINN: then he can mark up another success story in Baie Verte-White Bay for the road to Westport because that will be finished this year, hopefully, if we get enough funds. I see this year we got an additional \$15 million for road reconstruction and paving and bridges in this Province, and hopefully the Westport Road will be done because that is one of the roads that I know very well. I was down not only with the hon. member, but a year or so before that I was down to Westport and we had a very good time down there and I never got an opportunity to get back since that time, and I hope to get down there to thank the people down there for their hospitality and the great time that they gave us that night down in Westport. And, as a matter of fact -

MR. RIDEOUT: They will invite you back now when you finish the road.

MR. DINN: The hon. member says I will get invited back when the road is completed. But I can recall going down that road on that dark night - what month of the year was that?

MR. RIDEOUT: April.

MR. DINN: About April, with the hon. member and we had a great time down in the community hall. It was the Firemen's Ball, I believe -

MR. RIDEOUT: Right.

MR. DINN: - in Westport and we had a great time down in Westport. And I think, you know, finishing the road to Westport, rather than resettling the people, is the way to do it in this Province, because we have to believe in rural Newfoundland. And I say this as a St. John's member, if we did not have the fishery and the forestry and the mining industry in this Province we might as well all pack up and go to Toronto, because we all basically live on the primary resources and the people who

MR. DINN: work in our primary industries and secondary industries in this Province. That is what we are all living on. That is what the salaries of the members of the House of Assembly, the people who work in government get paid from, by the sweat of the brow of the people from -

MR. YOUNG: Out around the bay.

MR. DINN: - out around the bay, as the hon. member for Harbour Grace (Mr. Young) says, and so eloquently says sometimes when he speaks in the debates in this House and I hope to hear him on Interim Supply here this afternoon, or some day during the next few days, because he speaks very eloquently of the people in rural Newfoundland whom he knows so very well.

So, Mr. Chairman, as I say, I congratulate the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) for getting up today and addressing some of the problems in his district. I believe he is the first hon. member since the Interim Supply debate started who actually got up and addressed the issues of the day in this Province, the roads in his district. As I say, I compliment him on writing the letter, having been brought to task by the Premier today and almost pushed into, shoved into writing a letter to the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) on behalf of his constituents. I compliment him for that and I hope that he continues in that effort to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mrs. Newhook) and the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Young and the ministers in this government so that they are aware of these problems. Most of the ministers are aware of many of the problems in not only the Bellevue district, but the fifty-two districts in this Province and attempt to do whatever they can to assist and make sure that we have good roads, good communications, good water and sewer services and so on, and I think it behooves us all to every once in a while to get up and speak about the government and how it interacts with our constituents and what

MR. DINN: we can do on their behalf. So I rose in the debate this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, to compliment the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) for getting up in his place and talking about the issues that concern him and his district and, I am sure, concern many of his constituents.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I do not think I have a lot of time left but I do want to make a few other points with respect to the St. John's area because I think this is a very wide-ranging sort of debate. When we talk about Interim Supply, we are talking about \$601 million and we are talking about dollars that we want to get approved fairly quickly in the House before the budget is approved, because we want to get out there, especially in the Department of Transportation and Municipal Affairs and the other departments where we are going to do some capital work in the Province. I want to say that I get a little bit disturbed when I do read some of the items in the paper as the paper sometimes refer to the city of St. John's and the fact that some of the members in St. John's do not really do a lot of work on behalf of their constituents, and make sure that St. John's receives -

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. DINN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I will get on to that topic a little later on.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, is there anything as boring and monotonous and tedious to listen to in this House as the whining and complaining and the groaning of the hon. gentleman who just took his seat? You know, Mr. Chairman, a few years ago when Mr. Moores was Premier

MR. NEARY: sitting opposite there, he and I used to chat once in a while behind the curtain and many a time he said to me, 'You know', he said, 'the problem that I have in my caucus?' And I said, 'No, Frank, what is the problem?' He said, 'I can only get the dirt bags up to speak. The people in there who can debate, who can articulate policy, who can enunciate government policy', he said, 'they will not get up to speak'.

MR. STAGG: A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): A point of order, the hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG: Of all the unparliamentary words that I have heard in my day, and I have heard quite a number of them having sat in the Chair for approximately four years when this House was as rollicking as it ever was, I do not think I ever heard anyone describe an hon. member or hon. members in that manner. So I would suggest that the hon. member should be asked to withdraw. It is a most disruptable aspersion upon any hon. member.

MR. NEARY: To the point of order, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman did not quote from the Standing Orders of the House, Beauchesne or anything else, he just gets up and starts dictating to the Chair, telling the Chair that what I said was unparliamentary. Mr. Chairman, it is not unparliamentary.

MR. STAGG: It was unparliamentary.

MR. NEARY: I defy the hon. gentleman to quote his source, to show where -

MR. SIMMS: Beauchesne lists it as unparliamentary.

MR. NEARY: Beauchesne does not list it as unparliamentary. And I am only repeating, Mr. Chairman, what

MR. NEARY: I was told by a former Premier of this Province. If the cap fits the hon. gentleman he should wear it. I am not zeroing in on any particular individual, Mr. Chairman, and I would say that all the hon. gentleman is trying to do -

MR. TOBIN: Yes, you are.

MR. NEARY: No, I am not. All the hon. gentleman is trying to do is cause a fuss in the House, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): To that point of order, I have had a quick check of Beauchesne and that particular word is not out of order.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

So what Mr. Moores, Frank, used to say, he would say, 'All I can do, Steve, is get the dirt bags; the only ones I can get up to speak are the dirt bags. Now we have some good debaters on our side of the House,' and he would list out the people whom he thought were good at debating.

MR. TOBIN: Who were they? Who were they?

MR. NEARY: No, I would not want to embarrass hon. gentlemen because now, Mr. Moores is in a very influential position at the moment, Mr. Chairman. He has ended up again the king maker. He always seems to land on his feet, he is a survivor. He is one of the advisors, by the way, to Mr. Mulroney on the offshore policy. Now the Premier may not let Mr. Moores in his office when he wants an appointment. Mr. Moores has attempted on a number of occasions to make an appointment with the present Premier but he does not want him around,

MR. NEARY: he will not give him an appointment. And is it any wonder that Mr. Mulroney will not come to Newfoundland? Do you know that Mr. Mulroney has yet to visit this Province since he became leader of the Tory Party of Canada? He has visited every other province in Canada, Mr. Chairman. Anyway, I will deal with that matter later. As Mr. Moores used to say, 'Therein lies my problem. I have people who can debate, they will not get up and debate and,' he said, 'half the time we have to hide our light under a bushel because the ministers and the members who can articulate the wonderful policies of our side of the House will not get up and speak. But,' he said, 'one thing I can count on, I can always count on the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn).' He said, 'We go into the caucus and every day he volunteers to get up to speak. And every time he would stand Mr. Moores used to cringe, Mr. Chairman.

MR. TOBIN: What did he say about the member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry)?

MR. NEARY: Now, I will continue with my letter from the young lady in distress who is looking for employment. And I have to say, Mr. Chairman, that I hope, as a result of my summary, we can focus on this letter, typical of the letters we are getting from all over Newfoundland and Labrador from young people in distress, young people who are brokenhearted, families who are brokenhearted because their twenty-three and twenty-four year old sons and daughters cannot find jobs. And I hope when I take my seat that the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) will get up and participate in the debate on Interim Supply, not saying that he is one of the dirt bags or not, but I notice that he has been awfully silent this session of the House. I am amazed that he has been able to restrain himself as long as he has, that he has not gotten

MR. NEARY: up and had a few darts at our new colleague, the member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry). But I have no doubt that before the session is over he will be up ranting and raving and attacking - going on the attack.

MR. BAIRD: He will not disappoint you.

MR. NEARY: Anyway, Mr. Chairman, I want to get back to more important things here. This particular young lady was forced to go back home, could not stay in St. John's any longer, got lonely, broke, no money, not a cent, as is so typical of the comments that we get in the letters and the phone calls from families and from young people looking for jobs, went back home and is now telling me that she is fed up looking for work.

They go to Canada Manpower and they laugh at them. They say, Do you have any relatives on the Mainland?

MR. SIMMS: Are you going to table that?

MR. NEARY: I am not reading from anything, Mr. Chairman. Do you have any relatives on the Mainland? they say. If you do, Canada Manpower will say, you had better get going. One lady told me, she said, when I was in St. John's I phoned 'Fred Stagg' and he told me that there was nothing he could do for me and he pointed out to me the seriousness of the unemployment problem in this Province.

Now, Mr. Chairman, how can an hon. gentleman in all conscience sit on that side of the House and support an administration that by his own admission has created a financial mess and an economic mess in this Province like the administration opposite? They have mismanaged the economy through their incompetence and their negligence and that hon. gentleman continues to support that administration and can only look young people in the eye and say, Look, I know your plight, I know your problem,

MR. NEARY: I know you are frustrated, I know you are angry, but there is nothing I can do. Well, there is something the hon. gentleman can do. Instead of getting up and lashing out at my friend, the member for Mount Scio, or, Mr. Chairman, having little darts at the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder, his favourite target, what the hon. gentleman should do is stand up and be a man, Mr. Chairman, and not a mouse, and tell the young people of this Province that he is supporting an administration that has Newfoundland on a disaster

MR. NEARY:

course, that their policies have practically ruined Newfoundland, that they intend to suck the blood out of young people and people on social assistance and sick people. And they intend to crucify Newfoundlanders because of their stubbornness, Mr. Chairman, because of their stupid policies, because of their one failure after another. The hon. gentleman should get up and have the courage to say, look, I am supporting an administration that is going to turn Newfoundland into a welfare state - if we are not already there.

DR. COLLINS: Are you looking for an invitation to cross the House or what?

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman used to be a Liberal at one time, like a good many more hon. gentlemen there opposite.

PREMIER PECKFORD: He saw the light, though. All the Liberals over here saw the light.

MR. NEARY: If the Tories came across the House the problem we would have with them would be making them forget they are Tories. They have been brain-washed for so long and their minds are so buttoned-down and they are so bigoted in their thinking that the Tories over there, if they came over, Mr. Chairman, they would not be able to forget they are Tories.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. NEARY: How wonderful, Sir, I will have another go later.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Stephenville.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STAGG: Now, Mr. Chairman, I have not had the occasion to speak in the Throne Speech debate yet and I am certainly looking forward to that eventuality, as I am sure all hon. members are waiting for me to have my few words on that. We are on Interim Supply today, but the hon. member gave me a certain amount of notice that he was going to bring up a letter from a constituent of mine who is protesting the fact that she was unemployed. And I must say that the young lady has made quite an eloquent plea. She has written many of the political figures in the Province and I have spoken with her. I know who she is. The hon. member has not revealed her name nor will I. But it is indeed a frightening situation that we find ourselves in with high unemployment, particularly youth unemployment. But the hon. member's analysis of it and his comments laying the blame at the foot of this government, of course, is typical of the way the hon. member has cavorted through political life now for some twenty-odd years or so, starting off as a great socialist on Bell Island in the 1959 election where he ran for the CCF, as they then were.

MR. YOUNG: He was a PC.

MR. STAGG: And he was a PC at one time, yes. I guess this was when he had his buttoned-down mind or whatever he had at that time. And he then reincarnated himself in 1962 and managed to get himself elected to the House, and since that time has been a slavish adherent to his mentor, Mr. Smallwood, to whom he bows. I guess it is a sort of idolatry that the hon. member holds Mr. Smallwood in. We do hear him as a self-styled protector of the proletariat. But the hon. member's policies and those of his contemporaries,

MR. STAGG: the government that he was part of and the government in Ottawa that he now supports—even though he said at one time that he would not trust Mr. Lalonde any further than he could throw him, with which we heartily agree, of course. We heartily agree that you cannot trust Mr. Turner any further than you can throw him, or Mr. Chretien or any of the rest of them. But the hon. members opposite, who are now jumping on whichever band wagon happens to get down here first, are attempting to say that the Liberals in Ottawa have a solution for Newfoundland. — have given us quite a solution. In the thirty-five years that we have been part of Canada we have had a very minimal progression from what was generally considered to be poverty by Canadian terms in 1949, and in actual reality we have very close to the same poverty level today.

We must concede that the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is the Leader of the Opposition. He has the office, he gets the pay, he gets on TV, he leads off debate and so on, he has all of the things that are normally given to a Leader of the Opposition. So we have to assume that what he says

MR. STAGG:

on that side of the House goes. I only despair at what has happened to the electoral process in this Province if what the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) says is actually the policy of his colleagues. Because I foresee in the next provincial election, once we get the offshore out of the way and once we get all the various other things out of the way, the policies of the hon. members opposite, particularly the nouveau members or the nouveau member are people who are swimming towards that sinking ship. There are rodents who do that, and it is a flawed philosophy, Mr. Chairman, to swim towards the sinking ship. Well, this is what the hon. members are, they are a sinking ship. They have been sinking since October 1971.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: I have been here twelve years a couple of days ago.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. STAGG: Hon. members are part of a sinking ship. They managed to get a tie election on 28 October 1971.

Now, Mr. Chairman, it is obvious that —

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

MR. STAGG: —I am getting to the hon. members now. Because when I start to talk about these days, when the hon. member was turfed out of his comfortable office and turfed out of the motor pool and stripped of all of the accoutrements of office that he had so jealously looked at for years, then he embraced them for a few years and then he was turfed out, turfed out in 1971. Well, they were voted out in October 1971, but through certain machination they managed to stay in office until 18 January 1972. There were twenty or so of them then. We did not know if there were nineteen or twenty-two of them — there were only forty-two members of the

MR. STAGG: House at the time - but they varied from nineteen to twenty-two. In March 1972, the people of Newfoundland first told hon. members opposite that their philosophy was a philosophy of despair and was doomed, and it was doomed never to be resurrected in the political history of this country. They elected only nine members in 1972, and here we are, approximately fourteen years later, and how many members do they have? They have seven of their own and whatever the hon. member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry) is, who has recently joined them. For whatever reason the hon. member recently joined them. I suspect that his association with the party will be worthy of a footnote in history at some stage and some person decides to study how politicians, who once had great potential, how they fell into obscurity. I suspect that the hon. member would not make a doctoral thesis; no, it would at best be a master's thesis, and probably the subject would be extremely dull.

The hon. member brings up the various points about the party on this side of the House. Well, we have been in power now for fourteen years, and every time the people of the Province are asked to give an opinion on where they stand with regard to the philosophy and the principles of their politicians, which philosophy and which principles do they adhere to? Invariably when the people of the Province are put to the test, they return this party. They returned the party of Frank Moores in 1972 overwhelmingly. In 1975 the party went through a certain mid-term jitters, but the party was re-elected albeit with a reduced majority. Then hon. members opposite, in their cavorting for power and their lust for power, and whatever other adjectives one would want to describe to them in their desire to get into office -

MR. YOUNG: They brought home Don Jamieson.

MR. STAGG: - they brought home Mr. Jamieson in 1979, yes, and they were practically annihilated. You know, it is a good thing for hon. members opposite that the Premier in 1979

MR. STAGG: called a twenty-
one day election, because twenty-one days is the minimum. If we
had called a twenty-eight day

MR. STAGG:

election or a thirty day election, there are hon. members opposite who would not be here today - the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder), for instance, who is over there chewing his fingernails. He is recollecting the tremulousness with which he looked at Stephenville, where I was running, and the Premier came in and we had a couple of meetings there and they went very well. And he was very, very concerned that the Premier might go down in Port au Port. As history would have it, if he had gone down, or even flown over in a helicopter, the hon. member would have been practicing of his other vocations. I expect it probably would have been better for the hon. member. He went through the same problem in 1982. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, it is only because of my intervention with the Premier, I said, 'Do not go down to Port au Port! Do not go down to Port au Port, the hon. member deserves a chance.'

MR. SIMMS: There would be one less Liberal then.

MR. STAGG: Yes, I understand. Which brings me to another point, the member for Port au Port I understand, is soon going to become part of the Turner team.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR STAGG: I do not know if this is true or not, Mr. Chairman, but I understand that he is going to become part of the Turner team. He brings with him very strong credentials as far as political organization is concerned. I will have to refer you to certain comments I made last year when I was referring to his record as it then was. It was where he was organizing on the West Coast and did not do very well, but he has now added another gem to his arsenal. I understand he and the member for Fogo (Mr. Tulk) were very important figures in our recent victory in

MR. STAGG: Terra Nova. So I understand that Mr. Chretien has an emissary out asking for the member for Port au Port to join John Turner's team. So certainly we are hoping that all comes into fruition. The member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has provided us with a new shade of parliamentary language this afternoon.

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

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, thank you. We just saw an example sitting down there, Mr. Chairman, of a man who loves poking fun at other people, especially, of course, the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder). But what the member failed to mention, Mr. Chairman - he mentioned about how the PC party went down in 1975 - but he failed to mention that among the people who went down was the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg).

MR. STAGG: A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A point of order, the hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. STAGG: Mr. Chairman, this theme has come up on several occasions. It was brought up by the Evening Telegram in 1979. I just want the hon. member to get this straight when he talks about the careers of parliamentarians, of which we are

MR. STAGG:

all one or many, I did not run in the election of 1975. And if I had run in the election of 1975, the member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) would still be working at his weekly newspaper or whatever he was doing at that time. He availed of the power vacuum that was left in that area when I did not run. So I did not get defeated, I have run four times and I have been elected four times. So let us get that straight.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

MR. HODDER: To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): To that point of order, the hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: Mr. Chairman, in 1975 the member's district was composed of what are now two districts, one was Stephenville and one was Port au Port. It was very interesting, Mr. Chairman, that when he left both districts, including the third district in Bay St. George's, St. George's, went to the Liberal Party. And the conclusion, Mr. Chairman, was that the hon. member had done such a bad job - he was the only Conservative in Bay St. George at that particular time - he lost three districts. Mr. Chairman, I would also say that if it were not for the sweep by the Premier the last time, I think the hon. gentleman from Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) had the lowest number of votes of all the members on that side. And if ever there was a coattail member who got into the House of Assembly, it is the member for Stephenville.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

DR. COLLINS: To that point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To that point of order, the hon. Minister of Finance.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I think the hon.

DR. COLLINS: member for Port au Port (Mr. Hodder) is sort of implying in some roundabout way that the hon. member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) was afraid to run in 1975, that he might not have been successful. Nothing could be further from the truth. I am probably one of the few people in the House who actually knows the truth. In those days there was just one suit of clothes for the Deputy Speaker, and the hon. member for Stephenville wore that suit of clothes as a very eminent Deputy Speaker in the years between 1972 and 1975. I decided to run in 1975 and the word was out that I was going to be Deputy Speaker, and the hon. member very graciously decided not to run so that I would have a suit of clothes to wear. And for the next four years I proudly wore his name on the inside of the suit of clothes for the Deputy Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

To that point of order, I rule that there is no point of order.

The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN: Mr. Chairman, the member for Stephenville did not even give me an opportunity to explain what I was about to say. I know that the member did not run in 1975. But, of course, it is so typical of the member for Stephenville, he knew that he was going to be defeated, he knew that the tide was going out, he knew that he had not done a good job representing the West Coast during the period between 1972 and 1975 and, of course, like most rodents, he decided to abandon the sinking ship. And that is why he was not defeated, Mr. Chairman, because he did not have the intestinal fortitude to run and be a candidate.

MR. HODDER: He knew the jib was up.

MR. CALLAN: That is right, in 1975.

But, Mr. Chairman, I do not want to dwell on that. What I want to do, Mr. Chairman, is

MR. CALLAN: talk about the subject at hand, I want to talk about the Interim Supply Bill, Mr. Chairman. And, of course, we notice there that there is just less than \$6 million in the Department of Fisheries for a three month period as compared to more than \$100 million in other departments of government, I cannot see the Interim Supply Bill among the papers that I have here but at least I remember the figures. The Department of Fisheries, less than \$6 million, and there are other departments there which are well over \$100 million. It shows, Mr. Chairman, the priorities that this government has. You see, Mr. Chairman, the last time I stood I talked about the Department of Social Services, and I talked about the devious and the intentional intent of government to give people employment for ten or twelve week but then to throw them on the unemployment rolls so that Ottawa is keeping them alive rather than, say, the provincial coffers. But, Mr. Chairman, that is not only true, it has been true, of course, for our fishermen for years and years because it was the wise and sensible government, the Liberal government in Ottawa, that gave us the UIC for fishermen and others.

MR. CALLAN: But, Mr. Chairman, it is not just the Department of Social Services. Last night, during the estimates of the Department of Transportation, the minister did not elaborate to any great degree on it, but he did talk about the fact that for the last two years there has been a one-shift system. And what is happening, Mr. Chairman, of course, all over this Province, is that all of the regular employees with the Department of Transportation, the gentlemen who work during the Summer, when the Fall comes, they get laid off, they are thrown on the unemployment rolls. So this government, of course, has, again, less dollars to pay out of its own coffers and the people are left to live on U.I.C.

Let me go a step further, Mr. Chairman, than I went last week when I said that this government has deviously and intentionally planned to throw people on the federal U.I.C. claims and benefits. Let me go a step further than that, Mr. Chairman. I believe in my heart and soul, and every budget and every year that goes by, and every election that goes by, it is becoming more and more evident to me, Mr. Chairman, that what this government, led by the Premier, is doing, is intentionally - the member for Stephenville (Mr. Stagg) just alluded to it, he said, 'Yes, I am sorry, there is a lot of unemployment, especially among the youth.' But I would say, Mr. Chairman, that it is the intention of this government to keep the people of this Province unemployed, on the welfare rolls or on the UIC roles. It is a devious plot.

MR. CARTER: Why?

MR. CALLAN: And I will tell the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter) and anybody else who wants to know why, it is because, Mr. Chairman, when people are 'down and out,' then they lose the will to fight, and this government wants to keep the people down so that they are

MR. CALLAN: unable to fight against the many injustices brought on them by this administration.

Mr. Chairman, I have in my hand - and I was going to send it across to the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Dawe) when I planned to send across the letter that I read from earlier, but he is not here today - I have in my hand, Mr. Chairman, another example of the failures of the Peckford administration, of this government. In my hand, Mr. Chairman, is a piece of barite. I have half a dozen pieces down in my pickup.

AN HON. MEMBER: I will swap you thirty pieces of silver.

MR. CALLAN: Yes, I would be glad to give it to you in the absence of the Minister of Transportation.

This barite, Mr. Chairman, came from a barite mine at Colliers Point, which is no more than a mile from where my house is in Norman's Cove, it is right in my back yard so to speak.

Mr. Chairman, I was reading last week, by the way, in the newspapers, the Tory one and the Liberal one, they both had it there, about development regarding mines. They talked about all of the mines in the Province. I guess it was an article that was given to them by the Department of Mines of this Province. But it was a little bit behind the times because they talked about the developers and they talked about what was happening at Colliers Point. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Chairman, that there is nothing happening at Colliers Point. At this point in time there is nothing happening. Would you believe, Mr. Chairman, that there have been five attempts by developers to try to develop that barite mine at Colliers Point? And the member for Windsor - Buchans (Mr. McLennon), I heard him on the airways a while ago when he had a delegation in here and, of course, they, like me, are obviously

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MR. CALLAN: interested in making use of
the barite that they have at Buchans.

MR. CARTER: Is there a substantial quantity
there?

MR. CALLAN:

Yes, there is.

Barite, of course, as the member for St. John's North (Mr. Carter) and other members are aware, can be used for two purposes; it is used for pharmaceutical purposes, but the main and the important use for it is for offshore drilling. It is very heavy, even though you would not say it watching me toss it up and down, but it is heavy and it is used for drilling purposes in the offshore; it settles to the bottom quickly and easily.

But, Mr. Chairman, why is it that the barite mine at Colliers Point, and why is it that the people in Buchans are not having any satisfactory arrangements as it pertains to getting their barite into production and into creating jobs, and all the spinoff that comes with it? It all goes back, Mr. Chairman, to the same thing that happened with Come By Chance yesterday, why the announcement was made that the Come By Chance oil refinery was going to be scrapped, it all goes back to one thing, it goes back to the lack of an offshore agreement. I believe, Mr. Chairman, that there are a lot of members of the House of Assembly who do not realize -

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. CALLAN:

Mr. Chairman, I will keep my barite unless somebody wants to come and pick it up. I will continue in the same vein next time around, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. the Minister of Finance.

MR. CALLAN:

Certainly goodness there must be someone else on the other side.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, it is hard to get an opportunity to speak on this bill, even though I introduced it, there are so many members on this side of the House wanting to speak. This is the first opportunity I have had to squeeze in a word all afternoon. I am glad to add just a few remarks to it.

I would like to pick up on what the hon. member just said, though. One of the burdens of his message was that there is some devious plot in the plans of this government, particularly through its budgetary exercises, to keep people down. I think by keeping people down he meant to keep them unemployed. I would just like to answer that ridiculous charge. Really, it is a totally ridiculous charge, it hardly merits scrutiny, but I think it has to be answered. But just before doing that I would like to correct a misconception that the hon. member presumably has when he complains that in the Interim Supply Bill the Department of Fisheries is allotted somewhat less than \$6 million when, for instance, the Department of Transportation is allotted something like \$117 million, and he said that this is an indication that this government is not interested in the fishery and so on and so forth.

Now, of course, that is a total misconception. I am amazed at the hon. member even bringing it up, because he is a bright member, he is an interested member and so on and so forth. He must have brought it up just for argument's sake, just as a debating point, because he knows that the Department of Transportation actually does things, delivers things, that its job is to actually give out and build and create and grade and pave, and so on and so forth, and it needs money to do that, obviously, because it is a very costly thing that that Department of Transportation takes on, whereas the Department of Fisheries is entirely different. They are

DR. COLLINS: promoters. The Department of Fisheries does not get out and process fish, it does not handle products, it promotes, it assists, it studies, it does things for the industry and, of course, that is an entirely different function and it requires an entirely different funding approach. So just to say that because we give \$117 million to Transportation and \$6 million, in the Interim Supply Bill that is, to Fisheries, it means that we are looking at Fisheries at perhaps one-twelfth the importance of Transportation is totally ridiculous and it is something that I just wanted to comment on to show how silly it was.

Now on the other point he made, that the budgets somehow or other are designed to create unemployment, that again is ridiculous but it has to be answered. I think that if you look at the budget, and at the budgets that have been brought in by this administration, you will see that they are designed to try to give the maximum employment that we can possibly do with the resources at our disposal. I will not go over all the past budgets, but

DR. COLLINS:

I just point to this particular budget. For instance, in this particular budget we are funding public buildings and those public buildings are to give employment. For instance, we are continuing the building of the Confederation Building Complex. It has been subject to some criticism for our doing that in this time of economic difficulty, but I think we must remember two points. Firstly, it has been looked at and it has been determined, after a study, that it is cost effective. In other words, ultimately government will be well served financial-wise when we have many of the offices which are now in rented premises in our own premises, even though we have to cover the capital cost of that extension. But that is one thing we are doing. We are building, for instance, an Arts and Culture Center in Labrador. That again not only satisfies a need, a legitimate need but also, of course, it gives employment. Those two things certainly are not designed for unemployment, they are designed for employment. In hospitals, we are building hospitals. We are building hospitals out at Clarendville, we are going to start a hospital on the Burin Peninsula, we are going to go into the second phase of the hospital in Bonavista, we are going to study the needs of the St. John's area and the Central Newfoundland area, and there is money in the budget for the beginning, planning and perhaps some site work later in the year. These projects are designed to give employment and they are very welcome by the construction industry. The same way in roads; the hon. the Minister of Labour and Manpower (Mr. Dinn) earlier today pointed out that we are going to spend something of the order of \$70 million, much of it our own, some of it contributed by the federal government. It is not the federal government's and I should not say it is our own money either; it is money from the

DR. COLLINS: citizens of Canada coming through the federal government and it is money the citizens of this Province coming through their provincial government. Anyway, the sum total adds up to about \$70 million, not only filling the infrastructural needs of this Province but giving employment, very much employment. I think in the Summer there will be something like 7,600 people employed in our road construction works. So the budget is not designed to create unemployment, it is to create employment.

In school construction, this year we are giving more money, more funding to the DECS for school construction than we have for many years, that is, for their ongoing needs at least. Add to that the fact that we are going to start the School for the Deaf this year, again filling needs but at the same time giving rise to useful employment.

In the business area, the hon. the Minister of Development (Mr. Windsor) has spoken about what we are doing to promote ocean industries and he has mentioned that we are going to get into a venture capital programme which is designed to help out small businesses and therefore give rise to employment. And as was mentioned in the budget also, we are doing something in terms of retail sales tax exemptions. All this is designed to help business to resurrect itself from the lows to which it has fallen in the recent recession

DR. COLLINS: and to gain the confidence itself to invest more, and all these things put together will give rise to employment.

In housing, \$55 million is going to be spent by the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation this year throughout the Province, in all areas of the Province. Again, we should at least have as good a housing year this year as we had last year, and last year was a very good year, especially compared with the year before when we had a very poor year. But, again, this programme will give rise to much help in the construction business.

In mining, I think that the efforts this government put into making sure that the Baie Verte mine did not close down permanently has been a success story that everyone recognizes. It has put, I think, 300 people back to work now and at one time the work force there was down to absolute zilch, there was no one working there. The efforts of this government brought back 300 jobs, high-paying jobs, and the future looks pretty good.

In St. Lawrence, as soon as world markets turned around a bit, we made tremendous efforts to get the mine at St. Lawrence reopened and we have been fortunate in being able to attract a very good outfit from the United Kingdom who have, I think, at least three mines over there. We have viewed some of their operations. They are very efficient operations. It is not a huge mining company but it is a very aggressive mining company. They have very good processes, very good people on staff; they are going to have some of the proven people on staff come over to help start the mine in St. Lawrence and, when it is put in operation, it is going to be a bigger operation than it ever was.

DR. COLLINS: In exploration, our encouragement of exploration, I think that the record of this government - and this includes the last administration too - the last two P.C. administrations have an enviable record in promoting exploration in this Province.

All these things are designed to achieve employment. So for the hon. member to say that our budgets have not contributed towards improving the circumstances for employment is just ridiculous! The record does not support that.

Mr. Chairman, there was another subject I wanted to get into but one minute will not allow me to deal with it and I think an opportunity will likely present itself shortly to allow me to get into it. So I will not start on it just now.

I will just make this one comment. Earlier in the debate it was stated that we have shown - for political purposes, implied - we have shown a great deal of interest in doing something in Search and Rescue offshore in terms of the oil industry but that we have never done anything for the fishing industry even though many Newfoundlanders were involved in that. Well, that is not so. Of course, we have to remember that the fishery is a responsibility, unfortunately, of the federal government, so we have to work through the federal government. But this government has approached, a number of times, our federal counterparts, to point out to them the poor navigational aides around the coast of this Province, the large number of Newfoundlanders in relatively small boats, the hazardous sea conditions around this Province, and we have asked them to try to do something more than they are doing for Search and Rescue and for general safety at sea in terms of the

DR. COLLINS: fishing industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward): Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. BARRY: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for Mount Scio.

MR. BARRY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to follow up on the suggestion that I made during Question Period to the Premier, which he did not receive in very positive fashion.

I believe that the Premier and members opposite would do well to consider the possibility of, seeing that they have accepted the concept of a cross-country tour, recognizing that the message has not gotten out to the people of Canada so far as to what the people of Newfoundland are seeking with respect to offshore resources. We support the concept of a cross-country tour. I believe that such a tour is important to educate people in other provinces and also to develop the proper political pressure which will be necessary to incline the federal government, whichever government it might be, to deal

MR. BARRY:

fairly and properly with Newfoundland. Up until now, the federal government has had it all its own way in terms of when it would negotiate, if it would negotiate, what it would negotiate, because there has been absolutely no political pressure placed upon it by the present Government of Newfoundland. That government has, by turning off the people of Canada, by antagonizing people, by appearing to be more interested in fighting than negotiating, made it very easy for the federal government to take, if it wished, a very hard stance with the Province. Now, in fact, and amazingly, Mr. Chretien, last January, I believe indicated that - maybe he already had his leadership plans developed at that time, and an offshore agreement would be a nice feather in his cap for that - he was very interested in arriving at a negotiated agreement. Now I would suggest that we would get the attention of the people of Canada more quickly, and the people of Canada would accept it as being a broadly based message from the people of Newfoundland, if, instead of the Premier travelling, with or without entourage, where the risk might be that it might be considered as a mere political propaganda exercise, if we had representatives of the Newfoundland community, if we had representatives of the business community, maybe some members of our trade unions, somebody from the university community and, Mr. Chairman, if we included representatives from the Opposition. Now why is it that members opposite would not want to see members of the Opposition on such a media team?

AN HON. MEMBER:

You did not even think of it.

MR. BARRY:

That was the reason I

was standing up, Mr. Chairman, that was the reason I was getting up. I have to say that I cannot take total credit

MR. BARRY: for the concept of bringing in members of the business community, labour unions and so forth. That happened to be a young constituent in Mount Scio who in the course of preparing a presentation in a Lion's speakoff, I think it was, raised the idea and suggested that perhaps the time has come to bring in members from the community other than the politicians, to bring in some representatives as I have mentioned. But, Mr. Chairman, the concept of making it an all-party group I believe would properly show that it was more than an exercise in political propaganda, that it was a real expression of the deep and serious concerns that the people of this Province have with respect to this issue on all sides of this House of Assembly. And the only reason I could see for the Premier rejecting that approach would be if he wished to continue this red herring, this attempt to confuse the issue, this attempt to hide the fact that there is no issue in this House as to what the objectives for this Province should be, the only issue is whether the Premier is going about it the right way. The only issue is whether he is getting us any closer to what we seek or whether he is bringing us further away from it. So, Mr. Chairman, I would anticipate that such a broadly based presentation, with members from both sides of the House, would cause people in other provinces to pay attention, would prepare the background for the commencement of negotiations. We do not have to wait until the tour is finished, Mr. Chairman, for negotiations to commence. We see the problems already of not commencing negotiations. We see the Come By Chance refinery being scrapped. The government has had a policy all along of having it as a condition of the development of Hibernia that the oil company developing it be prepared to refine petroleum within Newfoundland.

MR. STAGG: It is party policy or personal opinion?

MR. BARRY: Now, Mr. Chairman, when I sat on the other side of the House - the member for Stephenville (Mr. Staga), obviously if he has been here he has not been listening - members opposite have gotten up time and time again and they have said that they believe that the Province should have a fair share of revenue, they believe that the Province should have a substantial degree of control, but they say that members opposite are not going to achieve that, they are going about it the wrong way. Mr. Chairman, the problem is that in delaying

MR. BARRY:

to sit down and negotiate with the federal government, we are losing the opportunity of having a refinery operational in the Province. That is going to be gone by the time the Premier gets around to sitting down to negotiate. The refinery is going to be scrapped, it is going to be too late then to get the federal government's agreement to make it a condition for development of Hibernia that the company developing be prepared to have an oil refinery producing in this Province.

Mr. Chairman, the only reason, as I say, why the Premier would reject an offer such as I made to have a representative from the Opposition or representatives join with him in sending out a message to the people of Canada that all parties in this House, all people in Newfoundland believe that this Province should have a proper share of revenue, this Province should have the opportunity to raise itself up out of the level of unemployment, of government services, the lack of opportunities for our young people, and so forth, the people of Canada would understand if that position were put to them in a reasonable, sensible, non-partisan fashion.

MR. ANDREWS:

What do you want?

MR. BARRY:

Mr. Chairman, anything that I can do to assist the government, anything I can do to assist the Province in achieving the rights for the people of Newfoundland I will do. That is exactly why I am over here, Mr. Chairman, because I saw their approach is a dead-end street like lemmings going to the sea. And unfortunately, they are impeding progress in this Province while they take their negative and destructive routes. Unfortunately, there are a lot of other people suffering, Mr. Chairman, than members in this House of Assembly, than the political careers of

MR. BARRY: members opposite. There are the unemployed who are suffering in this Province. There are the thousands of people, Mr. Chairman, who see no future for themselves or for their children. Now, Mr. Chairman, we have to get this economy moving again, and we have one very fast way of doing that and that is to get not any deal but a proper deal with respect to a negotiated offshore settlement.

So, Mr. Chairman, I would ask again that the Premier be prepared to have members of the business community, members of our trade unions, and members of the university community, representatives of the general public, and, Mr. Chairman, representatives of the Liberal Opposition in this House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. BARRY: And, Mr. Chairman,

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Who? Who? Who?

MR. BARRY: —maybe the day has come when the Premier will be prepared to put political games behind him, Mr. Chairman, He will not, Mr. Chairman, and members opposite will not be able to hold up this false issue, that somehow members on this side, because they dare, Mr. Chairman, question how the government is proceeding on such a vital issue.

MR. WALSH: If you will not play ball with me, I am going to take my ball and go home.

MR. BARRY: The people, Mr. Chairman, will not be prepared to

MR. CHAIRMAN (McNicholas): Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. BARRY: - have members being treated as disloyal Newfoundlanders for fighting for the interest of this Province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER PECKFORD: Mr. Chairman, I find it really strange to hear the member for Mount Scio (Mr. Barry) talk about a team approach. And in the hon. member's usual fashion, the hon. member for Mount Scio likes to try to split hairs very often. Very often the hon. member for Mount Scio sees the tree and cannot see the forest.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: So he is making this big argument about the how, 'We have no problem with the objectives'. As long as you say the words proper and reasonable and sensible, that is suppose to cover a multitude of sins, Mr. Chairman, as it relates to the whole question of an offshore agreement. I mean that is the lovely weasel words that the hon. member for Mount Scio uses, weasel words, 'proper' and 'reasonable'. You have to get down, Mr. Chairman, to talking about more than proper and reasonable and what you mean by proper and reasonable. And one of the problems we have, and this is why the how is, the how, the way this administration is now approaching this matter is so right is so correct, is so accurate. Because here is the member for Mount Scio, the Leader of the Opposition and other hon. members opposite, and other people in the community at large saying so back to table. But what are they saying when they say that? They keep using the words 'reasonable' and 'proper' but they are saying go back to the table and start from the Nova Scotia agreement and go down.

MR. MARSHALL: That is right.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: Because the best position that the federal government is now putting on the table is Nova Scotia, and you have to negotiate down from there. That is their maximum position, and we would have

PREMIER PECKFORD:

to negotiate down from there. And when we left the table last time, Mr. Chairman, we were a little bit down from Nova Scotia, they were not even going to give us the Nova Scotia agreement. And this is what the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) and the member for Mount Scio district (Mr. Barry) and other Liberal members are saying. They are camouflaging the substance of the issue with words like 'reasonable' and 'proper,' which are supposed to ring out across Newfoundland as if the members of the Opposition support the government's position. Well, you know last year the member for Carbonear (Mr. Peach) put a resolution on the Order Paper of this House which the members of the Opposition could not support on the offshore. They had to amend it to take away the nasty things in there which said that the federal government only offered the Nova Scotia agreement. You had to eliminate all those words, all those whereases. I have it here before me.

MR. HODDER:

We just took out the politics.

PREMIER PECKFORD:

No, you took out exactly what the whole situation is about, you see, so that you could generally support it because you were afraid to get into the substance of the issue. Because on the substance of the issue you have to kowtow to your people in Ottawa so that they will help you out again in the next Provincial election like they did in the last, Mr. Chairman. That is the whole reason. So, Mr. Chairman, people have to be clear on what is being said here and what the Opposition are saying. Then the Minister responsible for Energy (Mr. Marshall) wrote a letter to Mr. Chretien last January which tried to detail the situation. Okay, here are the

PREMIER PECKFORD: points - let us not talk about proper and reasonable - are we going to get 75 per cent of the revenues that are available to governments in the early years or are we not? And if we go back to the table now we are accepting that we do not want that, and we are accepting that there is no deal on equalization so that we do not lose dollar for dollar. That is what we are accepting when we go back to the table. You cannot go back to a table that you know is stacked against you. "We want your written understanding on the following points, That the Joint Management Board will be an equal one in all of its senses with its own administrative staff employed by the Board and under its full and exclusive direction and control". Where do you stand on that, federal government?

MR. HODDER: They told you, They told you.

PREMIER PECKFORD: They did not. "(2) While the Province recognizes the federal right to determine the pace of development up to the point of national energy self-sufficiency and security of supply, there will be meaningful protection afforded the Province against the unreasonable or capricious use of that power by an objective process. This will be determined by a mutually agreeable independent body which renders final and binding decisions. (3) In the development plan approval process, if there is a disagreement at the board and ministerial levels, the provincial plan will have paramountcy unless, through an objective process, it can be proven that the plan unreasonably delays or interferes with the achievement of national security or security of supply, and in the latter event the federal plan takes paramountcy. Once again, this objective process will be a mutually agreeable

PREMIER PECKFORD: independent body which renders final and binding decisions. That there will be an objective means of determination of national energy, self-sufficiency and security of supply." It is not the 'proper; it is not the 'general', it is not the 'reasonable.' Where do you stand on these issues which are particular and specific? You cannot hide around the words 'general' and 'proper' and 'reasonable' and agree with all those general objectives. Do you agree with these specifics? That is what you have to talk about. That the province's contribution will be commensurate with other oil producing provinces or areas and that this contribution will be objectively determined. That the fiscal regime setting the basic and sliding scale royalties and Crown share applicable in respective resource revenue will be set out in the mirror legislation. That provincial retail sales tax and corporate income tax will apply offshore." An important point! Stop talking to me about 'proper' and 'reasonable.' It is an important point." There will be a revenue floor. When we reach a certain level of wealth, which will never be less than the initial share of the total government take accruing to the federal government." Where do we stand on that? "Per capita earned income will be significantly reflected in the revenue trigger point in addition to the fiscal capacity of the Province." That is an important point. So we have to have a trigger point and everybody can agree, generally, a trigger point, because nobody knows what it means. But when you

PREMIER PECKFORD: start kicking in per capita earned income and the fiscal capacity of the Province, how many people will agree with that kind of trigger point? Do not tell me you agree with a trigger point! Do you agree with it to have per capita earned income in there? These are the kinds of issues that have to be addressed, Mr. Chairman, and for the hon. members opposite to get up and make all these so-called wonderful statements belies the fact of their position. "That the provincial government would receive 75 per cent of the total government take at the start, including, if necessary, the PGRT. The total government take will include all directly attributable revenues accruing to both levels of government. Hibernia will not be artificially reduced by deducting PIP grants or certain tax exemptions not directly attributable to that field. That there be fair and equitable sharing of Crown rights." What is the Crown right in Nova Scotia? 5 per cent? I think it is 5 per cent. And we have been proposing 50/50. What does Nova Scotia get out of it? Five per cent as a Crown right." That there will be an orderly phase out of equalization, not less favourable than the provisions contained in the present Fiscal Arrangements Act. That there will be a cost shared industrial and financial incentives programme to begin immediately upon signing the agreement. That mirror legislation would be enacted by Parliament and the Newfoundland Legislature which would reflect a true partnership and the best of both federal and provincial resource management legislation, including our public hearing process, the fiscal regime, the revenue sharing agreement and the Constitution of the Board, and that the legislation could not be changed except by mutual consent. That the offshore would be considered to be within the Province for the purpose of the application of the Province's social laws and taxation laws of general

PREMIER PECKFORD: application. That the agreement will be permanent by entrenching its fundamental aspects in the Constitution." These are some of the specifics that have to be talked about. So when you talk about 'proper' and 'general' and 'reasonable,' it belies the fact the Liberal Opposition have had time since last January, when this proposal was made public and this telegram and this letter were made public, to come into this hon. House and say straight out what kind of a joint management board we are talking about, whether it is the same as the one the government is talking about. What kind of a fiscal regime we are talking about? Is your trigger point the same as our trigger point? Are we going to have a special deal to make sure equalization does not do a phase out completely, one for one? Are the Crown rights going to be 50 per cent and 50 per cent or are they going to be 5 per cent like in Nova Scotia? All these kinds of issues. Do the general laws of Newfoundland apply as it relates to the offshore as if it were onshore for taxation purposes and for social purposes? These are the questions that have to be answered and we have put a comprehensive proposal on the table dealing with all of these after going through our computer runs and all the rest of it. So that is what has to be addressed, Mr. Chairman. It is not enough for the Opposition to hide behind generalities. Come clean with this House and come clean with the people of this Province and say whether you define your position as that of the Government of Newfoundland in the composition of the management board, in the composition of the trigger point, in the composition of the fiscal regime, and, where you do not, tell us where you do not. Do you want more or do you want less? And then we will know for sure whether the Liberal Party is serious about getting up today and espousing this great concept of bipartisanship and the totality of the Newfoundland population to travel across this nation. And

PREMIER PECKFORD: until the Liberal Opposition can do that, boogie, boogie, boogie, for any kind of espousing this kind of a concept of going across Canada. We have, Mr. Chairman, as a government stood alone very often on this issue when it came right down to it. We have wired the Federation of Labour, the Federation of Municipalities, all of the organizations in this Province and political parties, and more often than not we got back wishy-washy responses. We have sat down with them and we have gone through the proposal in detail and asked them to come back and ask us any questions in writing or to ask questions of the negotiating team or to any of our lawyers, and we have got a wishy-washy answer from a lot of them, from the churches and from a lot of organizations and from the labour movement. The labour movement was more wishy-washy than most of them. No matter how often we explained it to them it was the same thing. I think it was the Construction Association supported us very strongly. The Federation at

PREMIER PECKFORD: one point, back during the Constitution did, but since that time they have been wishy-washy. That is the story. Everybody wants to have his own position and you are hiding behind 'Go back and negotiate.' And as I said at the Board of Trade the other day, Mr. Chairman, when I was asked this kind of question, 'Are you prepared to go back and negotiate? Mr. Chretien says he is.' And, of course, the questioner did not go on to say he had gone on to say that it was the Nova Scotia agreement he was talking about. That was not in the gentleman's question down at the Board of Trade. And I said, Mr. Chairman, this, that if you are out off the shore in a boat and you are calling out for me on the beach to come out and join you in that boat, and I know that boat has holes in it, I am going to think twice before I join you in that boat because I do not want to sink.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER PECKFORD: I want to be able to stay and walk and stand tall. So when the Opposition starts trying to cloak everything over by suggesting going back into negotiations, in the full knowledge that they have not, as an Opposition, as an alternative government, defined their offshore position, defined it in terms of the Management Board, defined it in terms of the fiscal regime - all the data is out there - then we will see whether we have a Liberal Party that really is standing up for Newfoundland or a party that is just trying to get power and will dream and dream on on that score, because the people of Newfoundland have their number, have had it for some time. And on the offshore issue, of all issues, Mr. Chairman, they have the Liberal

PREMIER PECKFORD: Party's number on that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

PREMIER PECKFORD: They can go on T.V. until they are blue in the face and go on with all these generalities, but everybody in Newfoundland knows that this government is a government that is standing up for Newfoundland, not for tomorrow and next year and five years from now, but for ten years from now and for generations from now. We do not want to go through the same transfer payment syndrome that the Liberal Party put us into after Confederation.

MR. SIMMS: Right on!

PREMIER PECKFORD: And we are not going to stand for anything less, Mr. Chairman, regardless of what the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Neary) says and the foolish comments from the member for Mount Scio district (Mr. Barry) who should know better.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BARRY: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Dr. McNicholas): The hon. the member for Mount Scio.

MR. BAIRD: There is a fellow who did not mind swimming out to a leaky boat.

MR. BARRY: Mr. Chairman, there are times you would jump overboard from any boat when you have a member opposite who pushes you.

Mr. Chairman, the Premier has set out - how many is it? - eleven points. I forget the magic number. The problem with them, Mr. Chairman, is not the reasonableness, apparently, of the points that he sets forth. The problem is that these have been set forth as pre-conditions, that the federal government has been asked to agree to all of these things before members opposite return to the bargaining table.

Mr. Chairman, I have sat in this House since 1979. I have not heard a member opposite question that at least 75 per cent of the revenues is

MR. BARRY: reasonable and we should go for that. I have not heard a member opposite say that we should not have an orderly phasing out of equalization -

MR. NEARY: Right on!

MR. BARRY: - that we should not lose dollar for dollar and merely have equalization replaced by oil revenues and be no further ahead, still be a bankrupt Province. I have never yet heard the Liberal Opposition question those points, Mr. Chairman, and the time has come for the Premier to admit that as well. The time has come for him to stop playing these silly political games.

Mr. Chairman, I have never yet heard the Liberal Opposition say that there should not be equal management on a management board and that that should be true equality. I have never yet heard them say that. And we are getting a false picture put forth for the grossest of partisan political reasons -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. BARRY: - to the detriment of the people of this Province.

MR. NEARY: Right on!

MR. BARRY: And a genuine offer has gone out to the Premier today and to the government, a genuine offer to assist in putting pressure on the federal government.

If they are

MR. BARRY: not reasonable, we will be there with you to say they are not reasonable.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. BARRY: We will be there to say they are not reasonable. But, Mr. Chairman, all we are seeing so far by the silly listing of pre-conditions is unreasonableness on the approach of the Premier, the Minister of responsible for Energy (Mr. Marshall) and so forth, an unreasonable approach. Now, Mr. Chairman, I do not have the full list, I read the telex before, I heard the telex before, I do not have the full list, but I hope to have it tomorrow and go through it in more detail. I will tell you this, Mr. Chairman -

MR. BAIRD: It took you a long time to (inaudible).

MR. BARRY: Do not be so foolish. Do not be so silly. When the member for Humber West (Mr. Baird) gets on his feet and starts debating these issues, I will debate them with him. Mr. Chairman, I will tell you this, that the points that are set forth in that telex I would say they can be supported by the side opposite, but that does not mean that there are other ways which may achieve the same result which may be more likely to obtain a settlement from the federal government. The Premier is setting forth these points as though these are the only possible way in which you can get a deal that is fair and reasonable to this Province. I say to the Premier that is not so. I say to the Premier that is never so. There is usually more than one way to skin a cat, in the vernacular.

Now, one of the weaknesses in the approach of the Premier and the Minister responsible for Energy as set forth in this telex is - and you noticed the Premier did not like my use of the terms 'proper' and 'reasonable'. He did not like my using those vague terms. Now, in the telex that he reads out, what do we find? We

MR. BARRY: find that when he gets to the pace of development, he wants some security that the federal government will not exercise decisions in the national interest in a what? What word did he use? They will not exercise their discretion in an 'unreasonable' fashion. The Premier does not like the use of the word 'reasonable,' and I guess we have all seen that, but he does not mind the use of the word 'unreasonable' in his own telex. Now this is the problem, you see, this is the problem. We have the Premier instructing the Minister responsible for Energy (Mr. Marshall) to send off a telex and require, before they sit down to the table - they are getting so close to a negotiated settlement we are all tasting it; people are out there going crazy in the business community, money is starting to flow again, people are being employed, there are people buying houses or building houses and building office buildings, everybody can taste an agreement - and all of a sudden the Minister responsible for Energy, instead of being in Montreal with the talks, all of a sudden he shows up in St. John's and everybody is saying, 'Bill, you know, you are supposed to be in Montreal. What are you doing back here? Jean Chretien is up there in a hotel room sitting down waiting for you next morning. Chretien is up in Ottawa saying, 'I am going to be sitting down with the Newfoundland minister tomorrow morning'.

MR. CALLAN: To do what?

MR. BARRY: And our minister is back home here in St. John's.

MR. NEARY: He is not allowed to go out of the Province.

MR. BARRY: Now, did he receive instructions to drag tail back here?

AN HON. MEMBER: Who? Chretien?

MR. BARRY: No. Did our minister receive

MR. BARRY: instructions similar to the instructions the Fisheries Minister (Mr. Morgan) received? Is that the problem? - The minister was making great progress in getting towards a negotiated settlement.

MR. BARRY: You wonder sometimes is the Premier, are members opposite afraid to do a deal because they might be criticized later, because they may miss something, because they might not be smart enough to get a proper agreement? Is that why they will not complete a deal?

Mr. Chairman, there is nothing wrong with trying to get limitations upon the federal government's power to act in the national interest. But let us not assume that any central government, whether it is Liberal, Tory, NDP or whatever, is going to tie its hands, handcuff itself under all circumstances for dealing in the national interest. It can deal in the national interest right now in Alberta if it has to. It can declare the oil fields of Alberta a work for the general advantage of Canada. Now if the Province is not going to sign an agreement until it completely ties the hands of the federal government to act in the national interest, forget it. There will be no deal. If, however, what the Province is saying is not that, but that we want to have some form of objective analysis as to whether the federal government is acting reasonably when it does that, there will only be a political sanction, I fear, Mr. Chairman, and I have grave doubts whether you will ever get a total legal sanction.

For example, this board, this independent body, is it the National Energy Board, maybe the Minister responsible for Energy (Mr. Marshall) will be able to tell us - is it the National Energy Board that is contemplated here? Is it the Newfoundland Court of Appeal? Is it the Supreme Court of Canada? Is it an arbitration board? And what are going to be the terms of reference for such a board? Have they spelled out the terms of reference of this independent body will follow in deciding what is a proper of development that on the one hand recognizes the national interest and on the other hand recognizes

MR. BARRY:

the interest of the Province.

I have not seen that. The Premier did not say anything about that.

What is this independent body?

Obviously it is something that has to be negotiated with the federal government. But, Mr. Chairman, how can you negotiate with the federal government when you sit back here in St. John's and you send off Telexes and say, 'You have to agree to all of this before I sit down with you.'

Mr. Chairman, we have the notion of a trigger point. This just gets back to the same concept of not trading off dollar for dollar in equalization. Members in the Liberal Opposition have consistently said, they want to see the offshore developed so that there will be real economic advances made in this Province. And trigger point. A great buzz word. What does it mean? All it means is that you are going to develop a formula. I said before that government made a significant concession to the federal government when it said we will be prepared at some point in the future to accept less than 100 per cent of the revenue.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Aylward):

Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

By leave!

MR. MCLENNON:

Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Buchans.

The hon. member for Windsor-

MR. MCLENNON:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would certainly be remiss today if I did not get up and respond to a few remarks made pertaining to the barite industry by the member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan). He did show that he knew a little bit about barite, saying

MR. McLENNON: that was used in the pharmaceutical business - and what you have in your hand is about ten pounds, by the way - and also used in offshore drilling. What he did not mention was it comes in various colours as well. I am not here to educate him, but it could be black or gray, it could be pinkish, it could be white. And he mentions the barite in Colliers Point. He mentions that five companies have been there and have gone and there is still not much happening in Colliers Point. I think the fact that there was five companies there probably speaks for itself, they were there and gone. Perhaps the quality is not there. We hear that they have to mix it with Irish barite. Perhaps that is done to get some local preference rules - maybe it is, maybe it is not. But I can assure him the barite from Buchans is a number one high grade barite.

MR. STAGG: The Boswarlos barite, do not forget that.

MR. McLENNON: I do not know much about that one. But it is certainly a number one barite that does not have to be mixed with any other barite from any other part of the world. Colliers Point, of course, I think some people saw a chance to get in on their local preference. There was a hole beat in a cliff out there. There was some barite of some content there. They took advantage of it, they took out what little was available. From my information, I understand there is a small deposit there that would have to be mined and this is perhaps why five different companies looked at it. Mining is very, very expensive. In Buchans it is literally just lying on the ground, an excellent concentrate, perhaps fifty years supply of it. Why has not Buchans produced it? Buchans produces a large quantity of it. There have been just a few rigs on the Grand Banks in the last few years and the request for supply

MR. McLENNON: has not been that great and, of course, if Ottawa were fair in their treatment of this government and negotiated a deal that was put forth a couple of years ago, we would probably have seen several rigs out there last year. And, of course, that being so, Buchans would have been producing. I am optimistic that this year we will possibly see eight or ten rigs on the Grand Banks, at Hibernia and in that area and I am very optimistic that the Buchans barite will be produced again this year, creating anywhere from thirty to thirty-five jobs.

Another few words on the mining industry in Buchans. As we all know, the mine was shut down last year for several months and was reactivated, and at the present time we have 173 people working with the mining company.

Because of the recession, I feel that the private sector have certainly held off putting any money into the exploration field of the mining business and, of course, if you are in private business, you are not going to invest money unless it can give you some return.

Seeing that the recession has somewhat bottomed out, it is hoped in the next year or two that we will see the private sector, along with government money that has continuously been poured into the exploration business, come back into the light and we will see a lot more dollars in the exploration field. This is certainly the lifeline of communities like Buchans.

We know of numerous small deposits in the Buchans area that have been found. They are not there in commercial quantities, but with further

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MR. McLENNON: exploration in the area there
are certainly some good signs around Tally Pond.
Exploration has been going on there for the last two years.

The first year there was certainly a good sign of a good deposit; last year, of course, it was not quite so positive, but it was encouraging enough to go back in that area again this year. Hopefully, again, a significant amount of ore will be found in that area and if so some of the smaller deposits in the outlying areas will be mined eventually.

I just want to speak briefly on the forest industry which takes in a great part of my district of Windsor - Buchans.

MR. NEARY: Is this your maiden speech?

MR. MCLENNON: You are sort of wearing out that line, the hon. the member for Lapoile (Mr. Neary).

Every time I get up he says, 'Is this your maiden speech?'

I think everybody is aware now that this is not my maiden speech. It is not every day I get the opportunity to speak in the House because it is taken up, a lot of the times, with fisheries and things that are not pertaining to my district. So, I did want to take the opportunity to say a few words because I can speak on my district and various -

MR. SIMMS: What about the squid plant?

MR. MCLENNON: Oh, yes, the squid plant. That was quite active for many years in Windsor. I mean, a squid plant at Windsor is probably unreal but -

MR. SIMMS: They did not know that.

MR. MCLENNON: -they did not know that. I did not want to speak about that.

But, anyway, with no further interruptions, the same old type of interruptions from the Leader of the Opposition, I want to speak briefly on the forest industry. As we know, the pulp and paper industry has been certainly feeling the pinch of the recession over the

MR. MCLENNON: years and this government has certainly implemented programmes, such as reforestation and silviculture to see that this great, renewable source that we have within our Province is kept very much alive. As a result of this, I feel very confident in saying that the pulp and paper industry is showing that is on the upswing with various programmes implemented by this government in forestry, silviculture, the spray programmes, etc., we can certainly look to a very, very long life in the pulp and paper industry, in the forest industry in this Province. Again, a credit to this government because, as we know, it is only the last few years that such programmes have been implemented.

MR. PATTERSON: Ask him who brought the shrews here

MR. MCLENNON: I do not know if they would know that or not.

MR. PATTERSON: They should know.

MR. MCLENNON: They are all fishermen, I believe, over there.

Mr. Chairman, being one minute to six o'clock, I thank you for the opportunity to speak briefly on a few things pertaining to my district.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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

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

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has considered the matters to them referred, report some progress and ask leave to sit again.

On motion, report received and

adopted, Committee ordered to sit again on tomorrow.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I would like to advise the House that at 7:30 p.m. this evening the Social Services Committee will examine the estimates of the Department of Justice, and at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow morning the Government Services Committee will examine the estimates of the Department of Labour and Manpower.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, at 3:00 p.m. and that this House do now adjourn.

On motion, the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 28, 1984 at 3:00 p.m.