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Speaker: Honourable P.J. McNicholas

Wednesday

11 May 1988

The House met at 3:00 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER (McNicholas):
Order, please!

Statements by Ministers

DR. COLLINS:
Mr. Speaker,

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

DR. COLLINS:
Mr. Speaker, I have a statement to make, but just before I do that, perhaps I could refer to a headline in The Evening Telegram. I was half thinking of rising on a point of privilege on this, but I will not dignify it with that attention. The headline says, 'Bed closures blamed for woman's death.' Now that headline is wrong. It should have been, 'Bed closures irresponsibly blamed for woman's death.'

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a statement made this morning by the Executive Director of the General Hospital with respect to a letter sent to me by Mrs. Carmelita Rowsell.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that this letter was mentioned in the House yesterday. Now, up to that time, I had not seen the letter. I made inquiries, and the letter arrived in my office at approximately 3:30 yesterday afternoon, that is after I had left for the House.

Mrs. Dobbin, the Executive Director at the Health Science Complex, states:

'The initial investigation of the case of Mrs. Gladys Parsons' - and

I hesitate to mention patient's names, but in actual fact, these names have been bandied around not by me and not by anyone on this side; these names have been bandied around in this House, which I think is a little bit disgraceful, so I have to mention the name now to put it into context:

"The initial investigation of the case of Mrs. Gladys Parsons indicates that this lady was seen in the Emergency Department, April 6, 1988 but that the attending physician did not consider she needed to be admitted and consequently, she was discharged. An appointment was made for her to see two specialists in the clinics the next day. One of these clinics was cancelled but Mrs. Parsons did see a specialist who did not request a bed for admission. There were beds available for emergency admissions on both days.

Mrs. Parsons' subsequent admission was based on symptoms other than those which she presented on April 6."

Now, Mr. Speaker, that part of the statement answers the outlandish and irresponsible allegations that were brought forward in this House yesterday, and I felt that it was necessary to go back and get a statement from the Executive Director of the hospital itself to refute those totally erroneous and irresponsible allegations.

Mr. Speaker, just let me make one further point here. As I say, I did not receive the letter until sometime after it was mentioned in this House. I had not seen the letter. There is another member of this House who also received a letter. That member, who is the

member for Menihek (Mr. Fenwick), subsequently came to me and said that when he received the letter, before doing anything he went back to the Health Sciences Complex to get further information. Now, I take great pleasure in knocking the NDP, because I think their ideological policies would be ruinous for this Province. Nevertheless, I want to give credit where credit is due.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

DR. COLLINS:
The hon. the member for Menihek acted honourably and responsibly and he subsequently came to me and he said, I am not going to bring this matter up, in view of the subsequent information I obtained.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to point out that the allegations made in the letter, that is the letter from the relative of the unfortunate Mrs. Gladys Parsons, to the effect that beds had been closed at the Health Sciences Centre to correspondingly open beds at the Regional Health Care Centre on the Burin Peninsula is totally false. An additional amount of \$6 million has been provided to operate the new hospital in Burin which is scheduled to open this Fall. The General Hospital budget, that is the Health Sciences budget, has been increased this year not decreased - has been increased - and there has been no diversion of funds from the budget of the General Hospital to the new hospital in Burin.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that his would put this matter to rest and that similar irresponsible action will not take place in this House again.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Resign, boy. Resign!

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

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Port de Grave.

MR. EFFORD:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker, I want to make two points in response to what the minister said. My first point is he made reference to the hon. Leader of the NDP and the fact that he had consulted with the Minister of Health. I wonder how he did that, when he did not have a copy of the letter before the House opened? I find that very distasteful.

MR. REID:
He had a copy.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Health had read the last paragraph of the letter from Mrs. Carmelita Rowsell, I think that would have been good enough for the minister to at least be concerned about the issue the family was trying to arrive at. It is not an issue that has only been questioned in the House of Assembly yesterday. There were no allegations made by a politician to get political points.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
No? No?

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker, we presented a copy of a letter to the hon. the Minister of Health that, as far as we were concerned, he had received, and it was a letter written by a family.

No one can bring back somebody from the dead. That is not the point of all this, nor is it the point the family is making. The point being made is that something should be done to prevent a similar incident happening in the future. There is absolutely no question, Mr. Speaker, that we are aware, as is every individual in this Province, of the situation at all hospitals, not only the Health Sciences Complex, that bed closures -

DR. COLLINS:
A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

A point of order, the hon. the Minister of Health.

DR. COLLINS:
My understanding is that after a Ministerial Statement the Opposition can comment, but it is not a matter for debate or argument; it has to be a comment that is appropriate on the substance of the statement. I suggest that the hon. member is getting into argument, bringing in spurious points trying to cover up the irresponsible actions that he took yesterday, and I think he is out of order.

MR. EFFORD:
To that point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
To that point of order, the hon. the member for Port de Grave.

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Minister of Health is obviously hurting on this issue, and he is trying to use up the time I have to respond to his statement.

It is not irresponsible for the Health critic in the House of Assembly to bring forth concerns of the people of this Province. We did not dream this up. It is fact. Mr. Speaker, what we are saying is that the Minister of Health should do the job he was appointed by Cabinet to do; look after the medical concerns of this Province and not to be irresponsible in his job - protect the people of this Province.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. FENWICK:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
To the point of order, the hon. the member for Menihek.

MR. FENWICK:
Oh, not to the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
To that point of order. Hon. members know full well that comments on Ministerial Statements should be confined to the statements.

The hon. member's time has elapsed. I will recognize the hon. the member for Menihek.

MR. FENWICK:
Mr. Speaker, the unfortunate part about it is there is a crisis in

the health care system and, unfortunately, I guess the word is 'irresponsible' accusations like this will weaken the effort to try and get the government to respond to it.

Just to go back a second on it, we received a copy of Mrs. Rowsell's letter on Monday evening - that is two days ago - and we had a chance yesterday morning to call Mrs. Rowsell twice, in St. Lawrence, in order to get the names of the doctors involved. We then checked with the doctors involved, although they were not available, and later were able to talk to Lucy Dobbin, the Administrator of the hospital, and get what was going on. She got back to us just before three o'clock, when Question Period started yesterday, and informed us that the charts that she was able to consult, because she had not gotten in touch with the doctors up to that point, indicated that it was a considerably different story from that which Mrs. Rowsell, I think quite legitimately, put forward in her letter.

At that point, we felt it would be irresponsible to use the information when we did not have enough information to make sure that the thing would stick. The problem now is that the next headline will say it was not a case of bed shortages, but we know there are shortages, and anything that detracts from the seriousness of the situation is a side issue that should not be brought up.

Mr. Speaker, we are a bit disappointed, because we felt that we had been as responsible as we possibility could on this situation, and irresponsible attacks like this just serve to discredit the entire House and the

kind of opposition that should be put in place to make sure that we get the kind of health services we deserve.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. RIDEOUT:
Mr. Speaker, as you and all hon. members of this House are no doubt aware, traditionally Newfoundland fish products have been exported from this Province in a primary state. It has been the position of the government to promote and encourage the secondary processing of our fish products here in the Province in order to create more full time jobs, improve the economic returns to the industry, increase the level of industrial technology and extend the operating season of many of our fishing facilities. My department remains committed to these principles and through our secondary processing and by-product development programme, we have increased our efforts over the last two years to promote more value added processing and the further utilization of fish by-products in this Province.

In keeping with this policy, I am extremely pleased to announce today that my department has recently awarded a \$30,000 grant to Canpolar Incorporated for the fabrication of a commercial production prototype mince washer unit. This unit will be instrumental in recovering a salable product from fish bones and collarbones and will provide a very valuable tool for the full

utilization of Newfoundland fish products. This unit which was developed by Canpolar Incorporated will provide the processing industry with a wash system for cleaning frame mince which can increase plant output by as much as 5 per cent to 15 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, this government remains firm in our commitment to fully support secondary processing initiatives and various other seafood processing developments throughout the Province. This level of our commitment has resulted in the Department of Fisheries spending in excess of \$2 million in this area over the past two years.

A large amount of money has also been invested in research and development work by various other government departments and institutions. Let me assure you that we will continue to support this very important sector of our fishing industry and work towards the full utilization of our fishing resource for the benefit of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. W. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Twillingate.

MR. W. CARTER:

Mr. Speaker, we, of course, welcome any initiative on the part of the government to encourage secondary processing in the Province. Our only regret is that there is not enough being done, and the amount of money being spent on exploring ways and means

of getting involved in secondary processing is too small.

Mr. Speaker, I think most Newfoundlanders will agree that we must try and achieve a greater utilization of our fishery. By that I mean, in terms of yield from fish landed. I have been amazed, over the years, to learn that in Newfoundland, for example, the yield from fish landed in the Province is probably still considerably less than 60 percent. In other words, for every 100 pounds of fish caught, there is more than 50 percent of that product dumped. Of course, we all know now that with fish being scarce and with the resource becoming depleted, as it is, we can ill afford the luxury of throwing away such a large amount of fish which could be utilized and put into an edible product.

Mr. Speaker, if one were to realize what it means to the fishing industry and to the economy of Newfoundland generally, if the yield from our catches could be increased by 5 to 15 percent, it would have a very worthwhile effect on the industry.

Mr. Speaker, again we welcome this announcement. We are only sorry that more is not being done by the government to encourage secondary processing. Those of us on this side believe firmly in the proposition that the future of rural Newfoundland depends largely on our ability to properly manage and develop the fishery. Of course, as long as we are exporting millions of pounds of fish out of this Province -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. W. CARTER:

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker -- in a raw state then, of course, we are not getting the maximum benefit from that industry. Again, Mr. Speaker, we support this and we would ask the government to do more in that regard.

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

MR. FENWICK:
Mr. Speaker, the one comment I think I should make about this is that we had better do this now; we had better start giving the grants and the support to the secondary processing industries now. Because I think that a \$20,000 grant has to be considered a subsidiary no matter which way it is sliced. And, as we know, under the Free Trade Agreement that we are entering into, subsidies will be an area which people will look at very strongly in terms of imposing countervails. The minister even mentions we have \$2 million worth of subsidies in this area in the last couple of years, and that is great.

The problem is, how are we going to continue to do that when we have given up those regional development levers that we currently have and are currently working with? So, I think, Mr. Speaker, this is an example of the kinds of things we have to be very careful about. It is the kind of way we would like to develop our industry, but I argue, and I continue to argue, that we are foolish to get into this free trade deal when those kinds of development strategies will no longer be possible, or, if they are possible, will end up with countervailing duties coming from the Americans on whatever we export.

MR. WINDSOR:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. WINDSOR:
Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to announce jointly with my colleague, the Minister of Environment (Mr. Russell), the awarding of a contract for clearing the right-of-way on the new transmission intertie to Fogo and Change Islands. The contract valued at \$47,000 is awarded to MEC Construction of St. John's, the lowest of six tenders received.

MEC Construction has advised Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro that they will be moving to the area in the next week or so and that work on the project is scheduled to commence immediately. The project involves the clearing of a right-of-way for a 69 KV transmission line from the Boyd's Cove area for approximately twenty kilometers to Farewell Head. The project also provides for clearing the right-of-way for a distribution line for a short distance in the Farewell Head area and across the South end of Change Islands. The work is scheduled to be completed by the end of June and will provide some eight jobs.

MR. WELLS:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. WELLS:
Mr. Speaker, this is, I understand from the minister, the first contract to carry out the project, announced earlier by the minister, to provide an intertie to Fogo Island and Change Islands. As we

indicated earlier, it is a welcome announcement. We are glad it is occurring, and I have no doubt the people of Fogo Island and Change Islands will be very happy too.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Environment and Lands.

MR. RUSSELL:

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I announce today the award of a contract to Century Construction Inc., a Newfoundland firm, for the clean up of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCBs) wastes at the former USAF radar site near Cartwright, in Labrador.

This final phase of site restoration of the former USAF radar facility in Labrador will allow the residents of Cartwright to rest easier and will give the residents of Labrador in general peace of mind in knowing that all known sites where there had been PCB contamination have been cleaned up. The cost of this work is \$484,920, which represented the lowest of ten bids, and the job will be overseen by the BAE Group as the project managers for the department. Work will commence shortly with a projected finish date of early Fall.

Finally, I would note that the awarding of this contract will also assist in the eventual establishment of a new contractor in this specialized field of hazardous waste cleanup.

Mr. Speaker, I want to assure this hon. House that, as in the past, my department will continue to make every effort to preserve and protect our environment for present and future generations of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, we, on this side, have not seen a statement.

MR. RUSSELL:

Mr. Speaker, I hate to interrupt the hon. gentleman.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. minister.

MR. RUSSELL:

I sent a copy over to the hon. member about an hour and a half ago.

MR. SIMMONS:

Yes. Yes.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Completely disorganized.

MR. SIMMONS:

No; nobody on this side appears to have it. I am sure that is probably the most world-shattering news the hon. gentlemen have heard all day and so they can be amused, but we have not seen it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, we welcome any initiative on the part of this administration to address properly the PCB issue, in this case in Labrador. Outside of that, Mr. Speaker, there is not too much I

can say by way of a detailed response to the statement, except on the general subject of PCBs I give the minister notice that fairly soon I shall be raising with him a PCB issue in another area of the Province, on the Island, in which the department's involvement might have been less complimentary than was the case with the Labrador one that he has reported in the House.

In a day or so, I shall raise with him, in this Chamber, an initiative -

MR. HODDER:
Mr. Speaker, his time is up.

MR. TOBIN:
His time is up, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

The hon. member has the floor.

MR. SIMMONS:
I give the minister notice -

MR. HODDER:
He is taking a longer time to do it than Steve.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS:
I give notice that I shall be raising with the Minister an issue of the handling of a discovery of PCBs on the Island. I do not think I need to say more. I believe the gentleman from Port au Port knows exactly what I am talking about, so perhaps the two of them would get together.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

The hon. the member for St. John's

East.

MR. LONG:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we, like the people in Cartwright I am sure, welcome the announcement by the minister that at last there is a programme to clean up the PCBs in the area. But I am disappointed that there are some references in the minister's statement which beg further questions. One, mainly, would be where are the PCBs going? If they are being moved to the site in Goose Bay, then I would suggest that the people in Cartwright, as the minister says, might sleep easier, but it is not going to be any great comfort to the people in Goose Bay to know that they are going to get additional PCBs to what they already have in their area.

I am also intrigued to note in the minister's statement that he says 'This will assist in the eventual establishment of a new contractor in the specialized field of hazardous waste cleanup.' I would hope that at some further point the minister might make a further statement as to what is in this establishment of a specialized field of hazardous waste clean up, because I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the issue of cleaning up waste sites that are throughout the Province, and are not dealing with just PCBs, is something that is going to concern the minister and, indeed, all of the Province for some time to come.

I look forward to receiving from the minister further information about the Environment Department's efforts to deal with the whole issue of waste cleanup and look forward to some positive developments in terms of applying new technology and developing

specialized contractors for exactly these purposes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

At this stage, I would like to welcome quite a large number of students and their teachers to the galleries. First of all, there are ten students, Grades V1, V11, V111 and 1X, with their teacher Wayne Smith, from St. John Fisher and Thomas More School in Petit Forté.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

I would like to welcome twenty-five Grade X students from Little Flower Academy, Vancouver, and twenty-five Grade X students from Holy Heart of Mary, with their two chaperons.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

And I would like to welcome eighty Grades V111 and 1X students with their teacher Lloyd Taylor (INTERFERENCE ON TAPE).

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

Oral Questions

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. the Minister of Education (Mr. Hearn). The Throne Speech made reference to the government's

plan to undertake a full review of all issues involved in funding for elementary and secondary education. Would the minister explain to the House what form this review will take? Has it already started? And when will it report?

MR. HEARN:

Mr. Speaker,

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HEARN:

Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his question. I should have called him, because I am not sure whether he knew he had students from his district in. I am sure knowing that they are here he took advantage of the situation to get on his feet and ask a question.

I would like to advise him that the Throne Speech did announce a full review. Hon. members for some time now have been talking about educational funding, an issue that has suddenly dawned on them after a number of years of tranquility. They have been pointing out that there are problems in relation to funding education in the Province, and we are well aware of that, to the point where we have been addressing the situation in a number of ways, but there are many more things that have to be done and in order to make sure that it is done properly, we thought it is a very appropriate time - when I say 'we', I am thinking of all the people in the education field in general - to do an in-depth study.

Two studies were announced in the Throne Speech. The one in relation to the effect the science and math programmes in our schools

have on the success rate of our students at post-secondary institutions is now just about off the ground. We will be saying more on that in a couple of days. On the other one, the terms of reference and so on are being put in place. We are almost ready to go. And, as I said before, once we are off the mark I will certainly let the hon. gentleman and the House know.

MR. DECKER:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for the Strait of Belle Isle.

MR. DECKER:

If the minister would take a little bit of advice from his friend, I would advise that before they try to make political points on those task forces that they would at least have them ready to go instead of publishing it all across the land and they not even ready.

The minister will know that in the last budget the average increase in current account expenditure was 6 per cent, and that the increase for education was 2.7 per cent. Is the minister aware that if the average increase in current account expenditures of 6 per cent had been applied to primary, elementary and secondary education there would have been an additional \$12.3 million available for education? If the minister is aware of this, what plans does he have to increase spending on education so that there can be a catch-up with other sectors of the government?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HEARN:

Mr. Speaker, in relation to that perhaps should ask the hon. gentleman if he is aware in looking at the education budget there is one fewer pay period this year, one less pay period than there was last year? Last year was one of the odd years we run into one out of every ten years where we have twenty-seven instead of twenty-six pay periods, and that accounted for about \$12 or \$13 million. This year we have sixty-four fewer teaching positions at \$37,000 a shot. We have 2500 fewer students at the per pupil rate that we pay for students which, of course, has increased so that has a tremendous effect. That certainly coloured the budget, if we are looking at the increase over last year, to the point where the dollars that went to the students, the per pupil grant overall this year, is a whopping 9 per cent, which is the largest it has been in several years.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. DECKER:

A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary.

MR. DECKER:

I would answer the minister's questions but I am sure Your Honour would not allow me to do the answering. It is my role to ask the questions.

MR. SIMMS:

Go ahead. By leave!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Oh, oh!

MR. DECKER:

I have leave to answer?

MR. SIMMS:

Yes.

MR. DECKER:

Mr. Speaker, now that I have been given leave, I assume I will go on until six o'clock. The hon. minister will know, as I have told him many times in this House -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. DECKER:

I have leave, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SIMMS:

Yes, to answer the question.

MR. DECKER:

The hon. minister will know, as we have told him so many times -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

This is question time, so I ask the hon. member -

MR. DECKER:

So I have no leave.

MR. SPEAKER:

- to pose his final supplementary.

MR. DINN:

If you have nothing to say, sit down.

MR. DECKER:

I refer the minister back to the educational review referred to in the Throne Speech, and I suggest that he knows the answer now, so therefore I ask the minister will he not now admit that this review committee referred to in the Throne Speech was just another stalling manoeuvre, a delaying tactic? The minister knows the emphasis that his government

places upon education and all this committee is doing is trying to stall off the inevitable. Will the minister not admit that this committee was nothing more than a farce to take some of the heat off his department from the educators in this Province?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HEARN:

The hon. gentleman was going to answer my questions, and, of course, reneged on leave, as he did yesterday evening when he suggested in the House that he was going to tell us how they would replace the income that we take in from School Tax Authorities, timed his statements perfectly to coincide with six o'clock, and despite the fact that we offered to give him leave wormed away from it because they have no solutions, like everything else. Maybe the hon. gentleman should be aware that we have not delayed anything. In fact, when we announced the study which will be in place, and the hon. gentleman and the educational field in general will be working with us on this, we will make sure that it will be an all-encompassing study that will look at educational funding in total. To make sure that it was not a delaying tactic, we said when we introduced it that it would have no effect on our regular programming and we would not put things on hold. We added an 80 per cent increase to school equalization this year, an extra \$2 million; we added fifty extra units to the teaching force out there; we also increased the per pupil grant; we brought into effect the elimination of the 10 per cent; we extended school construction by \$20 million - on and on and on - and we have more

money in our budget in each area than ever before, so that is certainly not a delaying tactic.

In relation to what he says, 'we have told them,' Mr. Speaker, they have told us absolutely nothing. All we have gotten from them is reaction to the things that we have done. When we have created out there an awareness of some of the problems, they read some things in the press or hear them on radio, and they then get up in the House and start spouting off telling us things we have learned years ago, things that we have already worked on correcting.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Forestry.

I say to him now that the Federal Department of Agriculture has removed his earlier reason for not being able to go with a complete Bt formula spray this Summer, now that the reason has been taken out from under him, will he agree, Mr. Speaker, to follow the advice of the experts on this issue and go with the Bt formula completely in forest spraying this year?

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Minister of Forest Resources.

MR. R. AYLWARD:
Thank you very much for the question.

Mr. Speaker, I do agree that I will go with the experts in recommendations that were made to

me on the spray programme this year. As a matter of fact, we have gone a little further than was anticipated this year. We have increased our Bt spray from about 5,000 hectares last year, which was an experimental programme, to about 20,000 hectares this year, a 400 percent increase, I believe, Mr. Speaker, you could make that out to be.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. R. AYLWARD:
And we will be increasing that in the future if our commercial spray with Bt this year proves to be successful in protecting our forests for the jobs and the songbirds that everyone keep saying are being affected by the fenitrothion. Mr. Speaker, if we have no forests we have no songbirds anyway.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER:
A supplementary, the hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, there is no question: Everybody is saying that the songbirds are being adversely affected, the minister's own report is saying that. The minister has made reference, in talking about this issue in the last week or so, to the fact that the increased -

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS:
-amount of Bt spraying proposed or planned for this year is also experimental.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

Would the hon. member please pose his question?

MR. SIMMONS:
Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the minister would he indicate to the House why he continues to characterize this year's Bt spray component as experimental? Is there something about the Bt spray that the minister has concerns about in terms of its safety or in terms of its effectiveness to do the job intended?

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the Minister of Forest Resources.

MR. R. AYLWARD:
Mr. Speaker, my concern, to put it as short as I can, is last year we had a very successful, well controlled experiment, where we developed a new formulation of Diapel 176 Bt which was shown to be successful in an experimental operation last year. It was very well controlled, we had good weather conditions, everything happened to work ideal, and we got excellent results, which we are delighted with.

Two weeks ago, on April 28 - we had been waiting since last year during our spray programme until April 28 of this year, two weeks ago - we finally got that formulation of Bt registered. Our plans have been made for a spray programme, Mr. Speaker, and tenders had gone out before the date that the final registration was approved. So what we want to do this year is take the findings that our experimental programme came up with last year and

translate them into a full-fledged, commercial spray programme to protect the forests in this Province.

Mr. Speaker, one thing that people keep referring to is the study that was done on the songbirds. The 1987 Fenitrothion Monitoring Study on Songbird Brain CHE Activity and Balsam Fir Foliage is the name of the study. One thing that I would like to read out of this study, which nobody wants to report or nobody wants to read in this study, is one paragraph of the study here which says, 'Nothing unusual or unexpected was seen or heard or otherwise detected in the behaviour of any bird species on the day of the spray or days following the spray. No songbird carcasses, other than those collected shot with 410s, were found in any block during the study.' Mr. Speaker, that speaks for itself.

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

MR. SPEAKER:
A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, since he is allowed to read from the report and I am not during this period, why does he not also read the sentence that says that where there was double swathing the birds did not recover? Why does he not tell that to the House as well?

MR. SIMMS:
There was no double swathing.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS:
Mr. Speaker, this will come as a

real shock to the system of my cousin, but I am not asking him a question. I am asking the Minister of Forestry a final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, as follows: Will the minister tell the House the real reason why he is not going this year with the Bt spray? He has told before it had to do with a license from Agriculture. That excuse is found to be groundless. What is the real reason? Has it to do with an inventory, a pre-determined plan that the minister is determined to go forward with no matter what advice he gets, no matter what the consequences are for songbirds? Is that not the real reason he is going bull-headed into this matter? Is that the reason? What is the real reason? Has it to do with an inventory?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Forest Resources.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker, the very first comment I made on the spray programme this year, and to every question that was asked, if you want to research it in Hansard, I have said from day one that we were very pleased with our results last year and we will translate those experimental results last year into a 400 per cent increase in Bt so that we can phase the Bt spray programme into our system, while still, because I am charged with the responsibility of protecting our forests, Mr. Speaker, not putting thousands of jobs in Newfoundland at risk, in jeopardy, so I will phase in Bt to make sure it will work and protect our forests.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member did ask me to read from another part of the study, and I wish to read

the part which says, 'The spray blocks had the highest amount of fenitrothion deposited on foliage samples did not yield the songbirds with highest CHE depressant.' Mr. Speaker, the report is not conclusive, they have to do more studies, and our department is committed to continuing the studies on the effects on songbirds, Mr. Speaker, and we will be continuing our efforts to increase the Bt component of our spray programme next year.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker, I though the Minister of Career Development would be hear today, but he is not. The Premier undertook to get me some answers yesterday, but he is not here. So I will direct my questions to the Deputy Premier, and hopefully I can get some answers in relation to layoffs across the Province in our post-secondary institutions, the Community Colleges.

Could the Deputy Premier tell us are layoffs occurring? If they are occurring, what are the reasons for those layoffs? Is it due to a lack of funding to these institutions, or is this just a natural process?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Health.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I think that that question was substantially the same as one asked yesterday and directed to the Premier, and the

Premier indicated that he would take the matter under advisement.

MR. K. AYLWARD:
A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER:
A supplementary.

MR. K. AYLWARD:
Mr. Speaker, I ask him whether or not he can confirm that the layoffs are due to the fact that there is a lack of operational funding. I have a letter here, Mr. Speaker, which I would like the minister to respond to, that was sent to a former worker at the Western Community College at Stephenville.

DR. COLLINS:
A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
A point of order, the hon. the Minister of Health.

DR. COLLINS:
Mr. Speaker, I understand the hon. member is now on a supplementary. He asked on the initial questions, is now on a supplementary, and he is going into reading letters or whatever. I think that is totally out of order.

MR. K. AYLWARD:
To the point of order.

MR. SPEAKER:
To that point of order, I was listening carefully to the hon. member. If he had started reading a letter I would have directed him to stop. I ask him to ask his supplementary question.

MR. K. AYLWARD:
Thank you.

Because they do not know everything, Mr. Speaker, I was

trying to tell him what the situation is, and that was the reason for me reading the letter. Would he comment on this statement: - I regret to have to advise you-

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

That is not in order for the hon. member. The hon. member will direct the supplementary question, or please sit down.

MR. K. AYLWARD:
Would the minister tell us if the layoffs at the community college system in the Province are due to a lack of operating funds that have been given to the colleges, period?

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

DR. COLLINS:
Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Premier has undertaken to get relevant information on this matter, period.

MR. LONG:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. LONG:
Mr. Speaker, I have a question today for the Minister of Consumer Affairs and Communications (Mr. Young). It concerns a serious matter that I have been aware of for some time, and that is the authority of the Landlord Tenancy Board.

I would like to ask the minister if he could tell the House what status has proposed, promised legislation at this point to give the board authority to have

regulatory power with respect to evictions and maintenance orders?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Consumer Affairs and Communications.

MR. YOUNG:

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the legislation is being drafted by Justice and will be brought forward very shortly.

MR. LONG:

A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A supplementary, the hon. the member for St. John's East.

MR. LONG:

I was not sure if I could hear clearly the minister, but I take that as a promise that the legislation is being drafted.

Mr. Speaker, my supplementary to the minister is could he tell the House how the department proceeds with matters that may be brought to the Landlord Tenancy Board when they have no authority to act, when people maybe appealing for assistance to the board, as a court of last resort, with problems related to maintenance and upkeep or, indeed, with the issue of evictions?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Consumer Affairs and Communications.

MR. YOUNG:

Mr. Speaker, the board is, more or less, an autonomous body, although they come under the jurisdiction of Consumer Affairs. The legislation will be drafted, I am sure, and in due course it will come before the House of Assembly.

MR. LONG:

A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary, the hon. the member for St. John's East.

MR. LONG:

My final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, would be: Given that in 1981 the Supreme Court of Canada threw out the power of such tenancy boards, why is the minister waiting so long to take action on a very critical issue facing tenants in this Province, who now have no court of last resort with respect to eviction orders or maintenance orders? Why is it taking so long for the legislation, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Consumer Affairs and Communications.

MR. YOUNG:

Mr. Speaker, I told the hon. gentleman that it is being drafted by the department of Justice, and I have no intention of going down and directing the Department of Justice on what to do.

MR. EFFORD:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Port de Grave.

MR. EFFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Social Services (Mr. Tobin) and arises out of the question I asked a couple of days ago in the House concerning who had authority over the Young Offenders Board. When I asked could the Minister of Social Services abolish that board, the

Premier and seven of his colleagues said, 'No, do not be foolish, we do not have that authority.'

I would ask the Minister of Social Services was that a correct statement by the Premier? Can he give an explanation as to why his department does not have the authority to abolish the Young Offenders Board?

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. gentleman said the Premier said to the hon. gentleman he is foolish. Yes, that is a true statement.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. EFFORD:
A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
A supplementary question.

MR. EFFORD:
Mr. Speaker, because we have a great deal of concern for the young offenders of this Province and their rehabilitation into society, I ask the Minister of Social Services does his department and he as minister, and his Cabinet have the authority to abolish the Young Offenders Review Board?

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker, I have explained to the hon. gentleman several times - obviously you have difficulty comprehending - the fact is that federal legislation provides for the Young Offenders Review Board to be set up. The Department of Social Services and the Government of Newfoundland, recognizing that legislation, has put in place the Young Offenders Review Board.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

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

MR. SPEAKER:
A final supplementary.

MR. EFFORD:
This goes to show you how much the Minister of Social Services knows about his Cabinet. Let me say to the minister -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. EFFORD:
Let me ask the minister is it not a fact that the Young Offenders Review Board was set up by Order-in-Council in February 1987, and since he and his Cabinet had the authority to set it up, they also have the authority to take it away?

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TOBIN:
Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman

keeps referring to my Cabinet. I would like to inform the hon. gentleman that I am not the Premier and I do not have a Cabinet. I am a member of the Cabinet.

MR. LUSH:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:
Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education. The Minister of Education will know that in recent days the President of the NTA expressed some concerns relating to fund raising by students. The President expressed concerns related to the extent and the degree to which students were involved in fund raising. I wonder whether the minister has undertaken to investigate this matter to determine whether or not the accusations levelled by the President of the NTA can indeed be substantiated?

MR. HEARN:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. HEARN:
Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his question. I noticed on a number of occasions that that issue comes to the forefront.

Fund-raising by schools has always gone on, the gentleman himself being a teacher is aware, and certainly in my own case I am

quite familiar with fund-raising, sometimes for things that you need in your school maybe, sometimes to take students on trips. It is an age-old custom. However, there seems to be some concern that it might have increased in certain areas. This, I would think, would be a problem that would be dealt with at the local level by the school, or maybe the school board. Certainly, at this stage it is something that we have not looked into. Until we get formal complaints, or whatever, that there is some effect in relation to the part our department will play in such an action, then undoubtedly we will leave it up to the local authorities, because I presume they would make the judgment when or when not to allow children to raise funds.

MR. LUSH:
Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:
The minister is quite right when he asserts that fund-raising always went on by students for many, many years. But is the minister aware that the purposes for which these fund-raising campaigns are now being conducted have changed? They are not for trips, Mr. Speaker, but for the purchase of supplies and educational equipment, and that is the main difference, Mr. Speaker. It is not for trips but for supplies, Mr. Speaker, and for equipment needed in schools. Is the minister aware of this? That is the question.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. LUSH:

Is the minister aware that the purposes have now changed for which these students are raising funds.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HEARN:

In relation to that, Mr. Speaker, might I say that it quite possibly could be true. I have seen teachers, schools, school boards raise funds for a number of different things, including sometimes things that the school board or somebody else cannot provide and they good, then we will go get it ourselves. To a point that is healthy. When it gets to the point, however, that it becomes an aggravation for the people of the area or an economic burden, then it is serious.

I would perhaps say to the member, though, that in light of some of the things that we are trying to do to help school boards, which are now better off than ever, and hopefully that will translate into schools, as it should but in light of the new endeavors that we have in mind, if that is the case, that there are things needed out there that cannot be gotten through ordinary means and we have to resort to children going around selling tickets or soliciting funds to get them, then hopefully those things will be corrected and corrected very quickly.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A final supplementary, the hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Now, Mr. Speaker, in view of this,

in view of the fact that students are forced to raise funds to buy vital supplies and equipment, is the minister now prepared to advance the monies to school boards which are necessary to buy and purchase these vital supplies and equipment so that students are not forced to go out on the streets to raise and collect money?

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HEARN:

Mr. Speaker, I would be repeating myself to tell the hon. gentleman how much funding we have put in schools the last few years in comparison even to recent times, not to say the increase that has taken place in the last eight, ten, fifteen years. This year alone, into the operating expenses of schools, the funds that should provide the things that the hon. gentleman is talking about, went an extra \$4.5 million from equalization alone. The local local school tax authorities raise over \$30 million a year. That money is also discretionary money. All of the dollars, with the exception of the operating costs, go into the schools for such expenses. Sometimes it does not matter how many dollars are available; there are certain things, perhaps, which a school requires, which they feel they need, that are not provided by the school board, and they will endeavour to raise funds themselves to purchase them.

I had an example a few days ago where I had a call from a teacher who was a bit perturbed about not being able to get certain basic necessities in the school, but the school board had paved a number of school parking lots during the year. So we have to assess, I

suppose, how the money is spent. What I am trying to say is we have put the dollars there, and hopefully we will continue to put more there, and things should be better off, certainly not worse off, as the member would lead us to believe. But he has a point and hopefully it will be addressed.

MR. TULK:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TULK:
I have a question for the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Doyle). It relates to a meeting that went on on Sunday on Fogo Island. The minister knows I invited him down to the meeting and I accepted his word that he was unable to take that trip. We live in a modern age, so I want to present him with a video tape of the meeting and I want to ask the minister if he will take a look at the tape and give his decision-

DR. COLLINS:
Is that permitted?

MR. TULK:
Of course it is permitted. You are permitted to give anything to anybody.

- to combine the Fogo Island and Change Islands ferry route some further thought with a view to changing his mind?

AN HON. MEMBER:
What kind of tape is that?

MR. TULK:
Just a video tape.

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

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Speaker, I will be only too pleased to view the tape. We have a meeting set with the transportation committees of Fogo and Change Islands to talk about the upcoming changes to the ferry system. That is all I can report to the hon. gentleman at the moment.

MR. TULK:
A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. TULK:
The minister stated in the Estimates Committee that last year the Fogo Island - Change Islands ferry run was combined and was successful. Of course, the minister knows that I contend, and he will find in the tape that a lot of the people on Fogo Island, including the Mayor of Fogo, Mr. Edmund Warburn, and the President of the Development Association, Mr. Gerald McKenna, say that is not the case, that it was not successful. I would ask the minister if he would take another look at that particular reason that he has given with a view, again, to changing that route back to what it was, giving each island, both Change Islands and Fogo Island, their own boat so that they can have some access to the mainland, so that they will have a road to the mainland? I would ask him if he would take a whole new look at the whole thing.

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

MR. DOYLE:
Mr. Speaker, that was not the only reason that we are combining the

Fogo run and the Change Islands run. The reasons are quite clear why we are doing it. We feel that we can provide a good, dedicated service between Farewell and Fogo and a dedicated service between Farewell and Change Islands. I indicated, in Committee last week, Mr. Speaker, and again in the House, that the **Beaumont Hamel's** useage was around 48 per cent. I was wrong in that figure. I have it upgraded, as a matter of fact. I had a meeting with my officials and I was told that the utilization is roughly around 42 to 43 per cent. So we feel that because of that we can provide a good service, a dedicated service, to both Change Islands and Fogo. We think it is a workable solution to the transportation problem there. Given the fact, again, that we have used the ferry on the two runs from September to December of 1987, while the Change Islands ferry, the **Agnes and Anne**, was being refitted, Mr. Speaker, there are going to have to be some scheduling changes put in place. I have set up meetings with my officials and the transportation committees of Fogo and Change Islands to go over these changes.

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

The time for Oral Questions has elapsed.

Private Member's Day

Today is Private Member's Day, and I will call on the hon. the member for St. John's East Extern.

The hon. the member for St. John's East Extern.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. PARSONS:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is certainly a pleasure for me today to be able to rise in my place and present to this hon. House a resolution. I suppose with me it is unique, because it not alone addresses the Island part of our Province, but more directly a part of our Province which sometimes, Mr. Speaker, is taken for granted.

Mr. Speaker, with that said, and I will elaborate on my little preamble later on, I would like to read the resolution into the record.

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has had considerable success in strengthening the forest industry on the Island of Newfoundland through mill upgrading and silviculture; and

WHEREAS there is considerable merchantable timber in Eastern Labrador; and

WHEREAS the Government has been making efforts to develop a forest industry in the Goose Bay (Lake Melville) area;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House go on record as encouraging the Government to continue its efforts to bring a Forest Industry to Labrador.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that each hon. member in this hon. House can relate to the history of Labrador, but I think perhaps we will reminisce a little and talk about Labrador and, I say, its unique situation. From its inception, Labrador was claimed by many

countries, including Canada, England and France, long before Confederation by Newfoundland and Canada. It was not until 1927, by an Act of the Privy Council, that Newfoundland was awarded Labrador, and, Mr. Speaker, rightly so. It was always considered by Newfoundlanders a part of the Island of Newfoundland, not geographically but historically.

Mr. Speaker, when we speak about Labrador and its part and parcel of Newfoundland, again, I say, we take many things for granted. We look at resources that are ever evident in Labrador and we can say to ourselves, this is something new, this is of the 1950s and 1960s. But, Mr. Speaker, that is really not the truth either. Labrador had an industry in the Sixteenth Century, when large whales were killed. Indeed, in all the country and the United States as well, it had the first oil-producing establishment in North America; it was in Red Bay.

So things just did not start to happen in Labrador recently, as there were things happening there as far back as the Sixteenth Century, at least. Again I repeat, it was American's first oil refinery and it was at Red Bay.

Mr. Speaker, in the resolution today we deal with a resource that cannot and will not justify standing alone, it has to be associated with other resources and other industries in the Labrador area. Mr. Speaker, we are talking primarily of the Goose Bay - Lake Melville area. Lake Melville is a lake of approximately ninety miles long and around twenty miles wide, and there are vast areas of virgin timber in that particular area. In fact, it has been stated that

it holds around 50 million cords of prime wood. In fact, Mr. Speaker, because, again, of the geographics of it, weather conditions and whatever, the grain of wood in Labrador is one of the best fibres in the world. Mr. Speaker, in saying that, this resource will have to be developed. And what this Province has been doing is using every means at its disposal to develop along the lines so necessary for the good of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

Mr. Speaker, we only have to look at what happened in the 1950s to Labrador and its main resource, that we see every day being talked about; every day it is being sought after by the Newfoundland Government to have 800 megawatts returned to the Province, and I speak specifically of Churchill Falls.

Mr. Speaker, I have friends here in the gallery today from Torbay and from my area -

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. PARSONS:

- and I will say to them unequivocally, I will guarantee them that there will be nothing given away in Labrador while this government is in power and while this Premier is in power.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. PARSONS:

There will be nothing given away. The resource is there and the resource will be developed in a way that will help Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. PARSONS:

We are not greedy, Mr. Speaker. If there is lots of it, and there is -

MR. PATTERSON:

Not like the dirty Liberals, who gave it all away.

MR. PARSONS:

- and the potential is there, and if there is lots of money to be derived from the resources and the development in Labrador, we would not mind a bit of a spin-off, we would not mind letting the Mainland take some of it, but Newfoundlanders and Labradorians first.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. PARSONS:

And, Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee this hon. House that that will happen, because this government is not going ad hocly into anything, this government is going to make sure that that resource is developed, and developed along the lines we can live with -

MR. PATTERSON:

For Newfoundlanders.

MR. PARSONS:

- for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

MR. PATTERSON:

No more Churchill Falls.

MR. PARSONS:

Mr. Speaker, when we look at the Churchill Falls Hydro, people may say, Well, what relationship does that have with the forest industry? It has every bit of a relationship to it, because it is going to be necessary to develop

the forest industry in Labrador.

We can look at the development in Churchill Falls, 7 million horsepower, Mr. Speaker, and just visualize what that could do as far as industry is concerned. Because today industry, with the new technology and whatever, places an ever greater demand on the electricity supplies for any kind of development.

Mr. Speaker, on the Lake Melville, Goose Bay area. I think Churchill Falls is perhaps 230 or 240 kilometres from Goose, and there would be quite an expenditure in bringing hydro power to any kind of resource development in that area. But there are two other sites, Mr. Speaker, Gull Island and Muskrat Falls. Now Gull Island can deliver 1700 megawatts of power, if developed, and Muskrat Falls can deliver 600 megawatts. But, Mr. Speaker, there is a cost factor here, in that if we were to develop Gull Island, it would be only twice the cost of the development of Muskrat Falls. What we are saying is we are getting 1700 megawatts for twice the money that it would cost us to develop Muskrat, so there has to be some consideration given to the development of those Falls, Mr. Speaker.

Again, if the resource is developed, and there is no reason why it cannot be, it has to be done in conjunction with many other factors. I have already mentioned one, Mr. Speaker, the hydro need for any development within that area. Mr. Speaker, we also have to look at other areas. We have to look at the transportation aspect of it; we have to look at Lake Melville now being only accessible for a few months of the year. But things

will have to change if that is going to be a success. If we are going to have success in industry in that particular area, then we are going to have to look at a port that although ice laden can be penetrated, can be used by ships that are reinforced and can ply, can use that bay to come in for the resource that would be manufactured in the Lake Melville area.

AN HON. MEMBER:

You must have spent some time there.

MR. PARSONS:

I did spend some time up there. I spent time in Goose and I can relate to that as well. I do not exactly know now, because it is years ago since I was there, but I remember the G area. We used to go out there fishing, hunting and whatever, and the stands of timber always amazed me. It was virgin country and it still stands, with the exception of a number of cords that were taken during the time of linerboard, and we are not going to discuss that. We can discuss hydro, but I am not sure which is worse.

MR. HODDER:

The wood there is the best fibre in the world.

MR. PARSONS:

The best fibre in the world. Again, what happened with the linerboard mill was very simple. I mean, it played a role in the failure of the linerboard mill, because when the wood arrived at Stephenville it was too expensive; it just was not feasible; it was not practical; it was not economical and that is why it failed. But, the wood is there.

Now, Mr. Speaker, some thought has

been put into this, and certainly an analysis has been done over a period of years. At one time, I think in 1980, the M.V. Arctic - it was a joint venture of the federal and provincial governments - tried, I think in February or early March, to navigate Lake Melville and was quite successful. It certainly is not finalized as to what type of boat could be used, but the point remains that they did succeed. Mr. Speaker, that sort of analysis and investigation will have to go into it. Again, this government, when the resource is developed, is going to do it in a righteous manner and all those aspects of the development will certainly have to be investigated.

Mr. Speaker, when we speak of the forest resource in Labrador, we have to think about Goose Bay and what Goose Bay is all about. Goose Bay came into its own in the 1940s, when the Americans came in there and built a base. It was the first base in this part of the world that was used by the Ferry Command to ferry planes from this part of the world across to Europe. Runways were built, and these runways were extended in the fifties when SAC was there, Strategic Air Command, which utilized those runways until, I think, the late 1960s.

But, Mr. Speaker, the runways are there, runways that can take any type plane, any size plane in the world. And certainly if we were going to create an industry there, we are going to have a mode of transportation, at least an air-type transportation, that is so necessary for any industry to survive.

Mr. Speaker, I might add here that Goose Bay, again, is really an

essential point, it is the cog of the wheel for the development of Labrador, in that particular area. Because, believe it or not, we look at Labrador and say snow and frost, and whatever, is all you get down there. That is not really true. It is the cleanest as far as weather conditions are concerned - I am not sure in North America, but I am sure in Canada. It is more easily accessible, there is little interference from weather conditions, and it is not what meets the eye, it is not what we think.

And it is a booming center right now. There are a lot of people looking for forest development, looking for development to create jobs. Again, I listened to the member for Naskaupi a few days ago when he said there were still people unemployed in Goose Bay. My own son was down in Goose Bay a couple of weeks ago, and he was amazed. He said it is a humdrum of activity, so much activity that it surprised him. I imagine that Newfoundland and Labrador Housing are going to have to go in there and build apartments, or build accommodations for people to move into the Goose Bay area.

Also, we have there, Mr. Speaker, and I can associate to it myself, the dock site in Welbourne Bay. The Americans built a fine dock site there, and, again, it was only accessible from about June to November. But, Mr. Speaker, it is there. It is inside in Welbourne Bay, and it certainly could be availed of. The dock there, I believe, is about 800 feet long and about 9 meters deep. So it certainly has the water capabilities of bringing in large ships, and certainly has the length to satisfy the needs of those large ships.

Again, Mr. Speaker, those structures are there. Some of the infrastructure we would need is already there, because it was built by the people who were there before, in the 1950's and 1960's.

Mr. Speaker, there is also another port there, and I can remember going up there many years ago. But I can see now, by looking at this picture of it here, that it is certainly linked by road. It was linked then by road, but I imagine the roads are much better now than then. That is in North West River and North West Point. Now, that is out on the point, sort of, when you are coming down the coast, and if that were utilized, again by a road link, it might be more feasible to use North West Point than to come into Welbourne Bay, to the American dock site.

But, Mr. Speaker, if development is to take place, then we have to look at infrastructure in the Lake Melville area, and we have to look at a dock site in that area, if we go right up to the head of Lake Melville.

We will have to look at, down the road, I suppose, a townsite and a water supply. The real interest that this government has is in a thermal mechanical plant. What we thought about years ago, bringing those logs from the lake Melville area to other parts of Newfoundland for production, just did not materialize; it was too expensive by the time we took the wood from Labrador and brought it to other areas of the Province. Now, Mr. Speaker, in this thermal plant, I am lead to believe - I know very little about it, only what I read. I have never seen it. But they tell me the way it is done is it is processed, sort

of, in like bales of hay.

MR. SIMMS:

Instant pulpwood.

MR. PARSONS:

It is instant pulpwood, yes. It is baled and is much easier transported, with the cost originating right at the spot. Now, that is why I am trying to link the hydro and this development together. Because if we had our own development there, our own hydro power, which we again have lots of, and that was cheaper because of where we were, then we could bring this out in bulk form, like bales of hay, and it could be a viable operation. But, again, it is dependent on many factors: It is dependent on hydro, accessibility to Goose Airport and road links.

And sometime in the future, Mr. Speaker, the road will be finished across Labrador. I think there are about fifty or sixty miles to go. When that is completed, we will have access from that particular area.

Mr. Speaker, we spoke about the wood growth in Labrador. Labrador has one lot of wood there, Black Spruce - we all know what Black Spruce is - and its content is about 40 per cent higher than the Black Spruce on the Island part of our Province. Percentage-wise there is about 66 per cent Black Spruce, Balsom is about 26 per cent, and Birch and other trees about 8 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, there is also another industry that could be developed, and is developed to some extent. I often think about when Armstrong went to the moon and someone asked, 'Did he meet a Newfoundlander when he got

there?' I am still wondering if there was not one there. In this sense, in Labrador there is a man from Flatrock who is in the lumber business. He employs about thirty people in the woods there; he has a lumber dealership. He has told me on several occasions that the wood is excellent for production, and he is selling it locally now because he just cannot meet the demand. But he does have a couple of sawmills there. And it is certainly an inspiration to me to see that there is a lot of logic, there is a lot of sense to the development of this vast resource, in more ways than one; not alone as pulp but, to a lesser degree, lumber.

Mr. Speaker, again we will have to look at the Happy Valley part of it. Happy Valley is in close proximity to Goose, only a few miles away, and has grown in size tremendously over the last number of years. It has grown now to about 7,000 people. It, again, certainly, has the infrastructure for more people to go in there; it has two hospitals, I believe it has seven schools, and right now, I think, there are 2,800 students attending those institutions, and it has a water supply completely covering the whole town. Again, the infrastructure is already laid out there, Mr. Speaker, and certainly it would not be overburdensome on those towns to have more people come in.

Mr. Speaker, just on a nationalistic aspect of this, as well, the spruce twig is a symbol in Labrador, a symbol that the people are joined together. It is unique, and it certainly represents one of the industries that Labrador is all about, and that is its forests.

I will close it up, Mr. Speaker. I will have time later on. I would just like to say that the potential is there and I hope that the hon. House sees fit to pass this resolution without amendment. Because I believe, as is clearly stated there, that we want to encourage the government to go ahead, do what experiments, analyses or whatever is necessary to make this industry viable, and to handle the resource in an orderly and beneficial fashion for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to participate in this debate both in terms of my assignment as the official Opposition's spokesperson on forestry matters, but also, Mr. Speaker, in terms of my association in my earlier years with the forest industry and with the newsprint industry, in particular. As many will know, as a child I lived in Bishop's Falls and we were just a mile or so from the old sulfite process pulp mill in Bishop's Falls.

Indeed, just a sentence or two of history, perhaps a bit of unique history, in that I am not sure the process used in Bishop's Falls was used in many other places in the world. The sulfite process was certainly used quite universally, I do not mean that, but perhaps not many of us are aware that once the wood was cooked into pulp in a mill in Bishop's Falls, it was then pumped underground for a distance of nine miles, over a

period of forty to fifty years, pumped underground from Bishop's Falls to the mill in Grand Falls and converted from the pulp stage into paper at Grand Falls. I suppose, in terms of the economies involved, it was financially cost effective to bring the wood down river, change it to the pulp stage by the cooking processing and then send it back up to Grand Falls underground.

Now my involvement was in the latter stage of that, in the life of the pipeline operation. The pipeline, having been in the ground for forty or fifty years was not what it used to be, it was weakening, the sides of it were weakening; the pulp line was off our back garden, about 150 feet from our house, so we were able, all Winter long to have snowball fights and all summer long to have pulpball fights, and the latter, Mr. Speaker, were much more deadly. What we would do, to our shame now, I guess, was take a prong of some sort and jab the point where we knew the pipe to be just underground and you would get a spurt of warm pulp shooting 60 to 80 feet in the air; you would gather this pulp make pulpballs, and also make a good pulp fort. By the second day, with the effect of drying out in the sunshine, you had a fairly deadly operation. Indeed, many a fellow, including myself, were rushed off either to the doctor or to the hospital with a split in the skull as a result of having one pulpball too many in the side of the head during an after school fight.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that might be unique as a -

MR. DAWE:

I will not say it.

MR. SIMMONS:

The member for St. George's (Mr. Dawe) is probably thinking that the consequences of those knocks in the head are evident to this day.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS:

I am becoming a mind reader in my old age, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I had one other involvement with the pulp industry, while I am in the business of confessing. When I had my high school education temporarily interrupted, in early Grade X, I needed a job and I went bucksawing. I lasted less than a week and, I tell my friend from Port de Grave, who takes great pride in his fisherman's licence - he is a part-time fisherman, Mr. Speaker, at least by licence and I believe by practice, as well. Indeed, I would guess he probably hauled to shore a few thousand pounds before he came here this morning. He takes great pride as a fisherman. My pride is not as well justified in being a forester, because I did have a bucksaw and I did spend four days in the woods, but I tell my friend from Fogo, who has had some success in this matter, that at the end of four days I quit and I actually owed the company money.

MR. TULK:

My father would disown you.

MR. SIMMONS:

Now, Mr. Speaker, for the record, least that become some part of a nefarious story later on, the money was paid immediately, twelve dollars-and-something cents.

Mr. Speaker, so much for my direct

involvement in the forest industry, but, by way of anecdote, I just wanted to draw attention to the tremendous and pervasive impact that the forest industry, and specifically the newsprint industry, has had on this Province, particularly since the turn of the Century. In terms of the Bay d'Espoir area we could go back beyond that, of course, to the shipping of pit props from the Bay d'Espoir area, back in the 1880s, to the mines in England and Wales. So, Mr. Speaker, for 100 years or so this Province has had a very proud and vital association with the forest industry.

As I said, I grew up in an area near the great Grand Falls paper mill, the old A.N.D., Anglo Newfoundland Development Company Mill, and we were used to a train going down by the back garden, as well, taking the paper from Grand Falls to Botwood. We were used to getting, as scavengers, what was known popularly in the area as Grand Falls canvas. The gentleman from Exploits (Dr. Twomey) will identify with that term, I believe, the old mill canvas, the Grand Falls canvas. That was the envy of many, if you wanted to have a mat on your entrance porch, or something with which to make a lean-to in the woods, or a packsack.

So, Mr. Speaker, my point in making those fairly specific references is to draw the attention of the House to the very pervasive influence that the forest industry has had in this Province. To come, Mr. Speaker, just a little more directly to the resolution itself, though, that influence, which has been in Bay d'Espoir, Grand Falls, Corner Brook and areas around it, more latterly in Stephenville, and also

up through the 1920s and 1930s and 1940s and 1950s and so on, areas like Glenwood and Millertown and Bishop's Falls, all of which had the so-called woods lines, the access into the forests, in particular, of this Island, not to forget, Mr. Speaker, of course, thanks to my speech writer, Terra Nova, with its considerable contribution to the forest industry of this Province, a district that you, Sir, represent with such dignity, a district which may well be able to claim the first permanent Speaker of this hon. House, indeed, in time to come.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. TULK:

We may well appoint him.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, while the involvement of this Island has been fairly pervasive in continuing, the same cannot be said for Labrador to the same degree. That, in part, is the point of this particular resolution. Let me say from the outset, Mr. Speaker, to the gentleman from St. John's East Extern, that we in the official Opposition have no difficulty with the resolution itself. But, having said that, Mr. Speaker, we also have no difficulty with the concept of motherhood, none whatsoever. I say to the gentleman from St. John's East Extern that this resolution is almost unworthy of him, not to denigrate, not to subtract from the very notable, laudable objective of the resolution. To encourage the government to continue its efforts to bring a forest industry to Labrador, that is a laudable objective. But apart from that, I say to the

gentleman from St. John's East, it is completely unworthy of him that this is the best he could do. Why did he not, in the process, put in the resolution something that was all encompassing, something of an umbrella nature that would address the deficiencies in the government's forest industry policy for the Island, as well, something that would address the shameful handling of the forest spray programme this year, where the existence of great inventories becomes the overriding consideration instead of the harm that is being inflicted on songbirds, instead of taking initiative which would ensure that the forest is protected?

Instead of casting aspersions about the effectiveness, and that notable and regrettable phrase the minister used the other day, playing Russian roulette - as soon as he figures out what he meant by that phrase, I am sure he will do us the honour of telling us.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman from St. John's East Extern, first of all, that we will have no difficulty supporting the main resolution. Now, this resolution like so many others often puts the legislator in a bit of a box, in that he or she wants to support the resolution, as I do, but has some difficulty with the fairly puffy Whereas's - two of them are just absolute puff. The second one, we have no argument with. There is considerable merchantable timber in Eastern Labrador, that is a fact. A fact of truth to which we can subscribe.

But, Mr. Speaker, listen to this for puff. The Provincial government has had considerable

success in strengthening the forest industry on the Island of Newfoundland through mill upgrading and silviculture.'

Now, Mr. Speaker, dream on! If it was not for the government in Ottawa, there would be no mill modernization programme in this Province, and at a time when this administration, Mr. Speaker, was playing the kind of game it is trying to play again now, having their cake and eating it too.

They want to tell the Newfoundland people insofar as the fishery is concerned, they have a bunch of kissing cousins in Ottawa, and in the same mouthful they want to call the crowd in Ottawa a bunch of patsies, I think was the Premier's latest term on the subject.

But back in 1984, Mr. Speaker, while they were tearing the guts out of the federal liberals in one mouthful, they were putting out a brochure explaining how successful they had been in getting agreements with that same big bad government in Ottawa.

It includes an agreement on pulp and paper modernization, in which both governments agree to provide a total of \$41 million for a pulp and paper modernization agreement. Now, Mr. Speaker, so much for the first whereas. The Government of Canada, the former Liberal Government of Canada, at that, can take full credit for that mill upgrading programme. That same government, Mr. Speaker, can take credit for the very commendable silviculture programme that was ongoing in the members district of St. George's, and in my former district, down in the Bay d'Espoir area, a silviculture project that has come to a halt

now because this government has not seen fit to continue it, because this government has other priorities in terms of what it ought to do with the money, because this government has not got up to Ottawa and persuaded their kissing cousins, their political bedmates of the need and the necessity of continuing that silviculture programme in Bay d'Espoir and St. George's and other parts of this Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the gentleman for St. John's East Extern is within earshot, as is my good friend for Torngat Mountains, I see.

Mr. Speaker, the member, soon to be minister, the member for St. John's East Extern said in his speech a few moments ago 'Nothing will be given away in Labrador'. Mr. Speaker, these are fairly brave words for a member who supports an administration which just gave away just about the whole shop on Sprung. Where was he then? Where was he then, Mr. Speaker, when this government was ignoring the local entrepreneurs, the local people who wanted to produce and have been successfully producing cucumbers over the last two or three years? Where was he then, Mr. Speaker, when that same administration that he assures us will give nothing away in Labrador was busy giving away everything on Sprung. Where was he, Mr. Speaker, when that same government, in the Atlantic Accord, that much touted Atlantic Accord caved into Central Canada in terms of refining capacity?

MR. TULK:

Where was he on the Northern cod when they gave that away?

MR. SIMMONS:

Where was he on the Northern cod, Mr. Speaker? Where was he on the factory freeze trawlers, when the government gave in at the expense of Newfoundland fishermen and fish plant workers?

MR. TULK:

Caved in.

MR. SIMMONS:

Gave in and caved in, Mr. Speaker, at the same milli-instant.

MR. TULK:

That is right.

MR. SIMMONS:

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is not enough for the member for St. John's East Extern, whom you know well, Sir, -

MR. BARRETT:

You are on dangerous ground now.

MR. SIMMONS:

Now, Mr. Speaker, you talk about a conflict of interest. Just as I was going to consult the Chair on the propriety of the member for St. John's East Extern doing what he did, I look up and here is the member for St. John's East Extern in the Chair.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Throw him out, Mr. Speaker. Throw him out.

MR. SIMMONS:

As they say, Mr. Speaker, in other terms, I am my own grandpa. It is not enough, Mr. Speaker, to say that nothing will be given away in Labrador. We cannot take much comfort in that when that same member from St. John's East Extern has stood by and allowed them to give away millions of dollars on Sprung, allowed them to give the shop away in terms of refining, as embodied in the appropriate clause in his Atlantic accord. He is

standing by these days, I submit, though it is not public yet, and allowing the government to come off on the short end of a bargain that would allow Quebec, I say to him, to get most of the industrial benefits from the offshore, and time will prove us right on that one, too. Because if it were known, Mr. Speaker, what the fight is about, it is not whether Mobil will or will not develop the offshore, it is whether Mr. Marcel Masse will get his way on the offshore mode of development, rate of development and place of industrial benefits.

Now, Mr. Speaker, while we are talking about this gentleman from St. John's East Extern, let us go back to something else he said when he informed us what really went wrong in Stephenville.

MR. K. AYLWARD:

A good town.

MR. SIMMONS:

He said, 'The wood was too expensive by the time it arrived in Stephenville.'

MR. DINN:

The first thing that was wrong was they gave John C. Doyle \$117 million (inaudible).

MR. SIMMONS:

I am glad my good friend for Pleasantville (Mr. Dinn) mentioned John C. Doyle, because he was to be the text of my little sermonette just now. The quotation was to come from the Gospel according to John C. Doyle or, more properly, the Gospel according to John C. Crosbie in which he talks about, vilifies - I suppose in biblical terms it would be John C's letter to the church at Panama, in which he takes back the two buildings. Remember those

two buildings? You know those two buildings, I say to my friend from Stephenville -

MR. K. AYLWARD:

Yes.

MR. SIMMONS:

- those two dormitories in Stephenville, as they were in those days. Mr. Crosbie kicked up a great fuss because Mr. Doyle had made quite a bundle on them, because the government, you see, had sold them to Doyle for \$450,000. Those two multimillion dollar buildings, Mr. Speaker, had been given away to this fellow Doyle for \$450,000 and Crosbie, being the man he is, was going to have them back. So they bought them back, Mr. Speaker, from Doyle for \$450,000, held on to them for a couple of years and then put them up on tender. And, do you know what they got for them? They got one dollar for one and never did sell the other one.

So, while you are talking about some of the extra expenses involved in Stephenville, do not forget that harebrained scheme. And, while you are at it, Mr. Speaker, and while we are still talking about

MR. TULK:

What was the total cost of that one?

MR. SIMMONS:

Well, that one only cost the government, Mr. Speaker, \$449,000.

MR. TULK:

Plus one.

MR. SIMMONS:

No, no! It was \$450,000, but they got one back. Give them credit where credit is due.

Now, Mr. Speaker, while we are still talking about that same man, John Crosbie, do not forget he did something else, too, which would have helped drive up the cost of wood coming into Stephenville. He cancelled the shipping contract, you will remember. Do you remember that?

MR. TULK:

Oh, yes! So he did.

MR. SIMMONS:

Then almost the next morning somebody else got the shipping contracts. Of course, it was a complete coincidence that the people who got it next morning were Crosbie interests. So, Mr. Speaker, do not talk to me -

MR. TULK:

Are you sure?

MR. SIMMONS:

I am quite sure.

Do not talk to me, Mr. Speaker, about the cost of wood to Stephenville, because I say to you, Sir -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

The hon. member's time has elapsed.

MR. SIMMONS:

I say to you, Mr. Speaker - I can take thirty seconds to clue up - that, yes, there were costs in Stephenville that should not have been, but when you are telling that story, I say to the member for St. John's East Extern, tell the whole story and tell how the costs got escalated while you are at it.

Mr. Speaker, we have no difficulty supporting this completely motherhood resolution. We have

some concerns about the first 'WHEREAS' and the third 'WHEREAS', and we have a suggestion in the twenty-ninth second to make to you, Sir, and that is that having heard a marvellous speech from the member for St. John's East Extern, and an equally marvellous one from the official Opposition, I am sure you will agree, we have heard the views on it, we all support it, and I am prepared to call the question, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the Minister of Forest Resources.

MR. TULK:

Are you going to let this pass, Bob, and get it over with?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

The hon. members might be willing to call the question, Mr. Speaker, but I find this topic to be of such importance to this Province and, in particular - I am surprised that the hon. the member for Eagle River would allow an opportunity to discuss some potential developments in Labrador to pass in this House without proper discussion. I would not say he was consulted on this, and I am sure the member for Naskaupi was never consulted, Mr. Speaker.

It was really ironic to hear the hon. member for Fortune - Hermitage, when he was speaking, comparing the giveaways in the past in this Province to a little project like Sprung. I mean, it is really, really ironic. It is hard to stomach actually, Mr. Speaker.

The hon. member asked where we were when the factory freezer

trawlers went into the Northern cod. Mr. Speaker, I will tell you where we were. We were here trying to protect the Northern cod from being given away that the hon. Leader of the Opposition wants to give away to the French. That is where we are on Northern cod. They want to give it away and we want to protect it, Mr. Speaker. They do not only want to allow Canadian companies in there, they want to give it away to foreign countries. That is where we were.

The offshore benefits he mentioned, Mr. Speaker.

MR. TOBIN:

Where was he when they tried to close down Burin?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

It is really ironic to hear the hon. member say that we are standing by to allow Quebec to benefit from the development of our offshore. Mr. Speaker, we fought his administration for five years to try to get a deal where Newfoundland would benefit, and he was in Ottawa at the time supporting the people in Ottawa against Newfoundland on offshore benefits. Mr. Speaker, I do not know why he does not choke when he opens his mouth, when he makes such foolish statements.

One of the biggest giveaways ever, obviously, is Churchill Falls. We will never live that one down, Mr. Speaker, until the contract elapses, I do not think. But the other big giveaway, another John Doyle deal, under the Liberal Administration of this Province was the linerboard mill. It cost us a fortune, Mr. Speaker. The taxpayers of this Province had to pay a fortune to get back the rights of timber and the building

that was in Stephenville so that a former Progressive Conservative Administration of this Province, Mr. Speaker, could get a very successful pulp and paper operation operating in Stephenville today.

It cost the taxpayers a fortune because former Liberal administrations in this Province gave it all away, Mr. Speaker. John Doyle was the only one who ever benefited from the linerboard mill. He went away to Panama with a fortune and we were stuck with bills that we are still paying off, Mr. Speaker, because administrations that he supported, and still supports, gave it away on us.

MR. TOBIN:

John Doyle was a crook.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Mr. Speaker, I do want to congratulate the hon. member for St. John's East Extern (Mr. Parsons) for bringing this to the attention of the House and the Province. I would like to go over in some brief form some of the forestry activities that presently exist in Labrador.

Mr. Speaker, we have a resource in Labrador, particularly in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area, which we are trying to develop now. There is a vast resource of timber supply in that area that can be developed, and will be developed, but it will be developed properly. It will not be given away.

Mr. Speaker, we have in Labrador now some thirteen permanent staff and some eighty-five temporary and seasonal staff throughout the year, and these people are responsible for administering our

programmes.

Mr. Speaker, we have some facilities in Goose Bay. We have Building 86 in Goose Bay for administration; we have some permanent staff in that area; we have a major unit and fire depot at Goose Bay and Otter Creek which we operate all year-round and we have a unit forester in that building. The facilities there include an office, a garage, a fire bank and a fire rangers facility for the forest fire season. In Goose Bay we also operate four greenhouses to produce seedlings for our silviculture programme and our capacity in those greenhouses now, the seedling production, is up to about 320 seedlings a year. We are now renovating, expanding and reconstructing those greenhouses to try to improve and increase our seedling production in that area.

Mr. Speaker, right now, in Wabush, we have a fire depot with one permanent staff member. Through the fire fighting season, we have three more firefighters in that area. We also have a fire depot in Cartwright, in the Southern part of Labrador. This was not manned permanently until 1986, but now we have a forest ranger there and three firefighting positions there through the firefighting season. We could do much more work in the Southern part of Labrador and that is what we will be trying to do in the next little while. We also have one office accessible to us in the Red Bay area right now. Mr. Speaker, those are some of the activities that we have in the Labrador region of our department now.

It is estimated that the Labrador region is seven and a half times as big as any other region that we

have throughout the Province, so you can image the problems that are created for our staff in trying to manage that resource. The area consists of in excess of 290 square kilometers in that region of our department and there is an estimated 334 million cubic meters, I think it is called, Mr. Speaker, of productive forest land in that Labrador region which is a considerable amount of forest land which we need to use.

We do have some need for more staff in that area and that is being worked on this year and will be worked on over the next couple of years. We have current plans this year in our firefighting abilities or capabilities. Last year we had a water bomber in Goose Bay and occasionally in Wabush. This year what we plan to do is to have at least one in Goose Bay at all times and one in Wabush all the time. We are also going to increase our helicopter activity there, which is most effective in the Labrador area, to two helicopters and two water bombers. This, we think will be a good start in trying to protect the forests of Labrador.

We are also installing an early warning lightning strike system, I believe it is called, so that we can identify the areas where the lightning storms are passing through and have our crews get there rather quickly so they can check out any forest fires that might have occurred during the passing of the lightning storm.

Most of the fires in Labrador are caused by lightening, and because of the vast unpopulated areas in Labrador, there are sometimes when a fire will be started up quite a while before it is reported, or before it is seen by our people.

So, the lightening detection units that we are going to put in throughout Labrador should help to identify the potential hazards, Mr. Speaker.

In the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area, Mr. Speaker, there is a given total volume of approximately 40 million cubic meters, Mr. Speaker. The total allowable cut in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area is somewhere around 360,000 cubic meters annually, and that is a very significant amount of wood for several types of operations.

It would be certainly viable from a wood supply point of view to establish a pulp mill in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area, and we will be encouraging that, Mr. Speaker.

We also have operating in the management area in Labrador, Mr. Speaker, inventory programmes, access road programmes, and silviculture programmes.

The inventory programme has had over the past years in the vicinity of \$50,000 a year spent on it. This year, Mr. Speaker, we are hoping to increase that to at least \$200,000 and we are going to put out a contract for some new aerial photography in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area so that our inventory work can be updated and we also want to do some work in the Wabush area. Some of it was completed in 1987 and we want to do a bit more on that this year, so that we can be sure when people are coming into the area that the volumes of wood that are needed will be available to them.

The access roads and access to the wood supply is a priority with our department this year, Mr. Speaker, and has been for the last couple

of years. We hope to spend in the range of \$300,000 during 1988 to increase the accessibility to the timber supply that exists in Labrador.

One of the big problems that we do have is the accessibility of the wood supply on the Southside of the Churchill River. It is extremely expensive to get a regular type of access. It would call for some type of a structure or a bridge across the river to get accessibility, although we have operations in that area now and they are using a barge to transport the wood back and forth across the river.

The silviculture programme in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area will cost in the vicinity of \$300,000 to \$400,000 annually. This will include the operation of greenhouses, Mr. Speaker, and the planting annually of the 320,000 seedlings that we presently produce in Labrador. All the seedlings that we do produce in Labrador will be planted there, Mr. Speaker, and we will be increasing the output of seedlings so that we can increase the plantings in that area.

We also have pre-commercial thinning projects going on in Labrador, a cone collection project which is a very important one, and we expect this year to do some direct seeding with some of the seeds that we have collected over the last couple of years.

Mr. Speaker, there is quite a bit of information here in this paper so I will try to skim through it so that everyone will get a general idea of what activities are going on in that area. Last year, I believe, we hired a regional silviculturist for the

Labrador region so that he can improve the programme and do some planning on where the silviculture work is most needed in that area. This is a new position, Mr. Speaker. It will be continued this year. It is the part of our cost shared Federal-provincial Forest Development Agreement.

Presently the silviculture rehabilitation plans is being developed for some 400 square kilometers of the 1985 burn area. When that plan is produced we should be able to get into that burn area and try to get it rehabilitated. There is a person interested now in harvesting some of that wood for export, so if we can get the burnt wood out of it, we can get back in there and replant and get the area regenerated.

Mr. Speaker, in the Wabush area, which is referred to as Unit 19A, there is very good timber in that area and this has resulted in a commercial interest in a small inventory of sawlogs in the area, Mr. Speaker. This interest came about in 1987, and the confirmed total volume in that area would be about 11 million board feet of lumber in close proximity to Wabush itself. In addition, there is a fairly good pulp stand in that general area also.

Jack pine silviculture operations in the Wabush part of our Province are generally confined to cone collection for our seedlings in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. We collect quite a bit of jack pine in this area of our Province. It is the only area in the Province that has any substantial jack pine production, or natural regeneration. So we do collect seedlings from that area. We transfer the cones to the Wooddale

Nursery in Bishop's Falls, Central Newfoundland area. They do the extraction of the seeds from the cones and we ship them back to Happy Valley - Goose Bay for our silviculture programmes.

Commercial harvesting in Western Labrador is a new dimension over the last couple of years, and there is fairly good potential that we will have some activity in this area.

Mr. Speaker, in the Southern part of Labrador, that would be from Cartwright South, we do have fifty sawmills operating in that area, primarily domestic sawmills, and there is a high percentage of domestic wood used for fuel in that area. The total volume of wood on the Coast of Labrador is difficult to estimate. There is some outdated photography in that area and we have to update the information that we have in that area. But it is estimated that the wood volumes South of Cartwright would exceed the volumes that presently exist in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area. The areas with greatest potential in the Southern Coast of Labrador would be the Cartwright area and the Port Hope Simpson area.

I would like to mention a couple of the forest operations that presently exist in Labrador. One is Eastern Wood Harvesters. They have a major pulpwood export operation in the Goose Bay area. They started in 1986, encouraged by the former Minister of Forestry, and the current minister will continue to encourage this operation. This company has a joint venture going with a rather large Norwegian company now. Last year they produced some 40,000 cubic meters of pulpwood for

export and they hope to get that up to about 90,000 cubic meters of pulpwood for export this year.

MR. SIMMS:
Would that double the jobs?

MR. R. AYLWARD:
The jobs will increase because of this increase. We had one other stipulation put into the permits this year, especially the export permits for Happy Valley - Goose Bay. We are going to insist that at least 10 per cent of the production coming out of there has to go into sawlog production. That will help out the existing mills in the area right now.

Mr. Speaker, there have been several companies operating in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area. One of the unfortunate things about the operation in Happy Valley - Goose Bay right now is that there is not a trained workforce in that area, and some of the harvesters are coming from the Island. We had four companies operating there last year. There was a Mr. Warford, Mr. Young, Mr. Rideout and Mr. Wicks operating from the Island in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area producing for this Eastern Wood Harvesters.

MR. TULK:
(Inaudible) Gander Bay.

MR. R. AYLWARD:
Some from Gander Bay and some from Green Bay, I believe.

MR. TULK:
Mr. Wicks was driven out of Gander Bay by certain people who have all the woods.

MR. R. AYLWARD:
Mr. Wicks is really enjoying his operations in Happy Valley - Goose Bay because the wood supply there

is very good, much better than he could access here on the Island.

Mr. Speaker, Eastern Wood Harvesters also benefit the local sawmills that are producing in Happy Valley - Goose Bay area, so that they have an outlet now for the pulpwood that they cut in conjunction with their sawmills. Local sawmillers are Mr. Hickey, who, I understand, is a former resident of Flatrock, Dominic Hickey, from the hon. Speaker's district, and there is a Mr. Ernie Rumbolt also operating a sawmill in that area.

MR. TULK:

Where is Eastern woodwork from?

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Eastern Harvesters are originally from, I am not sure if it is the Lewisporte or the Green Bay area. That is where they started their operation. I do not know what their name is.

MR. WARREN:

Jones.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

Jones, that is right.

Mr. Speaker, Eastern Wood Harvesters expect to, as I said before, get up to 90,000 cubic meters of pulpwood this year, and I look forward to them increasing the output, thereby increasing the job perspectives. Last year there was about a \$1.5 million value for the operations in Happy Valley - Goose Bay to the local economy. We expect to be able to increase that to about a \$4 million value this year with some of the operations that are going there.

Terpstra Management Limited started last year to get interested in the export of wood.

They will be doing some 5,000 cords or 12,000 cubic meters of pulpwood harvesting this year.

There are commercial sawmill operators in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area now and they produce some 500,000 board feet of lumber every year and they are expanding as their business builds up. They could produce quite a bit more, some three or four times that, just to satisfy the local market and they are trying to get up to that area.

There are also a couple of smaller, moderate-size operations operating in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area. In the Wabush area we have O'Connell Construction, which is a very successful major construction company in that area, as far as I know, and good operators in the construction business. They have plans now to start producing maybe up to 1 million board feet of lumber in that area a year. We have given them a permit and they are trying to integrate their construction business with a logging business. They have some contracts for shipping the wood or their product out of the Wabush area on the railway. They are also dealing with new buyers of Eastern Wood Harvesters and trying to -

MR. SPEAKER (Parsons):

Order, please!

The hon. minister's time has elapsed.

MR. R. AYLWARD:

All right, Mr. Speaker. I will give you the rest of this information when you are cluing up so you can do it. But just to finish, the Wabush operation is also trying to get in touch with

the Norwegian company so that they can get an export pulp operation to go along with their sawmilling operation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, very much.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:

Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:

It is not often we have the member who is moving the motion in the Chair listening to debate on his own motion. We commend the Speaker for this.

The last part of his resolution says: RE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this hon. House go on record as encouraging the Government to continue its efforts to bring a forest industry to Labrador.

It is also quite pleasing that we have the wife of the member for St. John's East Extern (Mr. Parsons) in the gallery which, I am sure, is always a source of encouragement here.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:

Mr. Speaker, the resolution states: WHEREAS the Provincial Government has had considerable success in strengthening the forest industry on the Island of

Newfoundland through mill upgrading and silviculture; and

WHEREAS there is considerable merchantable timber in Eastern Labrador; and

WHEREAS the government has been making efforts to develop our forest industry in the Goose Bay (Lake Melville) area;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Hon. House go on record as encouraging the government to continue in its effort to bring a forest industry to Labrador.

If the key word, I suppose, Mr. Speaker, is encourage. This side, the Opposition, as well as the two members for the NDP party, if all we had to do in this House was encourage and things would be done, then, we would be up every day and every waking minute of the day and the night encouraging the government as much as possible.

I, for one, encourage the government to do something about the health care system in this Province. I also encourage the government to do something about education in this Province. I also encourage the government to do something about youth unemployment in this Province. I also encourage the government to do something about water and sewage, and I also encourage the government, Mr. Speaker, to do something about municipal affairs.

I will not necessarily take a provincial attitude when I say, Mr. Speaker, I encourage the government to do all these things, I encourage the government to do all these things in Labrador, in particular, seeing it is so far away from the center of

government. The government often has, in the past seventeen years, been completely ignoring Labrador, in particular.

But the resolution also says 'to encourage the government to continue its effort to bring a forest industry to Labrador.' We had a Forestry Industry there. There were problems with it, but the problems should have been overcome, just like the problems at Come By Chance were overcome and Come By Chance is on the go again. There were problems with the linerboard mill in Stephenville, but those problems were overcome and we now have a pulp and paper mill there.

So with regard to the operation down in Labrador, which was a wood's operation, instead of transporting the logs by barges, maybe what was needed was put the chip mill in Goose Bay and continue to transport them by barge. So there was one there and this government, by way of Mr. Crosbie and the past administration, did a job on two industries in this Province purely for vindictiveness, purely with political blindness. They wanted to get at the government at that time, under the former Premier J.R. Smallwood, and the way they wanted to get at them was to destroy the character and the economic well being of two businessmen, namely John C. Doyle, with regard to the linerboard operations at Wabush, and John Shaheen, with regard to Come By Chance. If those two gentlemen were not so closely involved in those operations, we would not have had the attitude that was taken by Mr. Crosbie and by Mr. Moores, the Premier of the day, namely, destroy the government by way of destroying these two by

bringing into into dispute these two operations. Of course, they were only too glad when they came in with economic problems with those two industries. The attitude of the government of the day was, 'Okay, let us kill those two industries, kill them, and not only will we kill them, but we will go on and say small is beautiful.' Mr. Moores came in on a programme 'small is beautiful.' Then, as soon as he got elected, what did he do? He opened up Come By Chance and he talked about having a second Come By Chance and also a petrochemical industry in Come By Chance area.

I want to talk mainly, Mr. Speaker, not on what was done in the past. This government has had a record of seventeen years to encourage, to be applauded for their efforts to bring a forest industry to Labrador. And what have they done? They have not contributed to the economy in that way, Mr. Speaker. They only bring up what they want to do for Labrador every time we get closer to an election.

There was a timber operation in Port Hope Simpson during the Commission of Government. Sir John

MR. REID:
John C. Doyle.

MR. HISCOCK:
- Hope Simpson -

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. HISCOCK:
- established Port Hope Simpson. After the A.N.D. Company had quite a successful operation there. It gave a lot of employment to the coast of Labrador during the

Depression when people needed that money, Mr. Speaker.

Also, with regards to other woods operations, Mr. Ben Powell of Charlottetown, Labrador, transported timber from Charlottetown to Harbour Main and the Harbour Grace area. We still have woods operations in the area of Port Hope Simpson and Cartwright and in Eastern Labrador. But what do we have, Mr. Speaker?

We are asking to encourage it in the Goose Bay area. There are a lot of timber stands in Southern Labrador and Southeast Labrador by way of Port Hope Simpson, Cartwright, Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm area. The government does not have its inventory done yet. One of the things that government is interested in is taking some Hong Kong businessmen to Labrador and let them see the timber stands. But we do not know how the timber stands are evaluated in Southern Labrador. I am pleased after having asked the minister in Committees, that the minister is now going to be undertaking this.

With regard to sawmills in Labrador, Mr. Speaker, a lot more help can be given to the sawmills by way of loans, by way of grants, by way of giving them different terms than sawmill operators have on the island because of the difficulty with the shipping season and the remoteness of Labrador and the remoteness of markets, the problems they have in getting their supplies shipped out by CN Marine.

One of the things I also believe should be done in this Province, by way of encouraging, is there should be a provincial inventory

list of all sawmill operators in this Province, how much they can produce, what quality and what quantity of products they can produce, and then have that list available to industries, to private operators who want to buy the timber and the different types of products that are produced. Then, if I want 1,000 square feet of timber, I should be able to phone up this inventory group and say, 'Do you have any timber in Labrador? Here is the market.' That way, Mr. Speaker, we would be able to get larger markets for our own product. What happens now, Mr. Speaker, is too much of our lumber is coming in from Quebec and from other areas of Atlantic Canada and other areas of North America.

I do not particularly like the idea of cutting logs and sending them over to Scandinavian countries to be used by way of sawmills or by way of chips. I would want to see more secondary processing, Mr. Speaker, of the product in Labrador itself. I would also like to see more after, because in the operation of the Province we find now that there is a shortage of wood for some of the pulp and paper plants in this Province.

What do we have by way of silviculture in this Province? We have 320,000 seedlings annually produced in Goose Bay. None of them are brought out to the Port Hope Simpson area where there were two disastrous forest fires and still no replanting. I hope that the minister, when he spoke earlier and talked about direct seeding, will look at the possibility of direct seeding some of the burnt out areas in Labrador.

I brought up in this House, in

press releases and in private conversations with the Minister of Forestry at the time, who was Mr. Jim Morgan, and the Minister of Forestry when it was Mr. Len Simms, and now the Minister of Forestry, Mr. Bob Aylward, those three ministers in particular, about forest fire fighting equipment. What do we have, Mr. Speaker, with regard to forest fire fighting equipment in Labrador?

We have the attitude, 'let the timber in Labrador burn out.' Their attitude is and has been, if there is a forest fire in Labrador, it is not a major concern as it is on the Island part of the Province because the pulp and paper mills are using it, whereas the timber is older and they even let it burn out deliberately.

Mr. Speaker, it is good to see that they have an early warning strike center for lightening. It is long overdue. But they still have the programme that forest fire equipment will be there to protect towns, communities and people first, and then, after that, timber stands, then after that, other timber stands. I would encourage the government as much as the government needs to be encouraged to do more for Labrador in regard to its woods operations.

There is a great need for woods roads in around Port Hope Simpson, Charlottetown, Pinsent Arm, Norman Bay, St. Lewis and Mary's Harbour. There is need, as well as the Pinware area, again, there is a need for more wood roads so that these sawmills can operate and get access to the timber stands.

There is also need for

co-operation with the East Shore Development Association and the Department of Transportation to be able to use the groomer that is down in that area to go in on some of those paths, never mind about constructing wood roads to them, but, at least using the groomer to go in on these paths so that the Ski-doo's can get in and they can take their saw mill engines in there and back and forth and change them. There is need, Mr. Speaker, for a woods road, and I would like to see a woods road put between Pinsent Arm and Charlottetown, and other areas that need to be extended.

The minister mentioned with the operation in Goose Bay, the problem is getting the timber from the South side of the Churchill River. That is the problem, and like he pointed out, they have a barge now. But if the Lower Churchill or Muskrat Falls was developed, part of the plan for that, if I am correct, is once the dam is built, then a road will be built over the dam, and this will allow the connecting of both sides of the river. There would no longer be a need then for the barge to take timber from the South side to the North.

I find, Mr. Speaker, the resolution itself does not anything concrete for Labrador. I will speak on this, another four members will speak on it next Wednesday and the end result will be that the Premier and his government will get a resolution which says that this House go on record as encouraging the government to continue in its effort to bring a forest industry to Labrador.

Well, after next Wednesday, Mr. Speaker, what is going to be done

about it? We have encouraged them. We have encouraged them. Are there going to be any more wood roads done? Is there going to be any more help to existing sawmills? Is there going to be an inventory list set up of what is being produced in Labrador, and let the companies know on the Island that combined amount of timber that is sawed and cut. There is a market there for it. It is possible that we could get a barge to go in and drop into Goose Bay and into Cartwright, and into St. Lewis, and into Mary's Harbour, and into the Port Hope Simpson area. And then take all the finished product out on a barge to a company that could use it. Is that type of inventory going to be done, Mr. Speaker? No, it is not.

Again I say, Mr. Speaker, that the resolution itself is encouraging, but I am not very encouraged about what is going to be done after to it. All it is is a pat on the back and saying, 'Well, keep up the work, and try to get something there.' But, this government has been there now seventeen years trying to do something for Labrador, but they still have not done it.

Mr. Speaker, in the past seventeen years, we have seen what happened with regard to Corner Brook. If it was not for the federal Liberal government in Ottawa, Corner Brook would be dead, dead as a door nail, because this government waited for fifteen years, did not do anything about modernizing, knew that Bowater was going to be building down in Tennessee, and just left everything until there was a crisis situation. Then Ottawa, the Liberal government stepped in and gave the necessary money to upgrade the plant with

the new operator, Kruger.

I have also asked the Minister of Forestry a question with regard to Abitibi-Price. It operates the mill in Stephenville and the one in Grand Falls, and many other ones in Canada, but now they are building another plant, if I am correct, down in South Carolina. What is the state of that mill? Does that have a life expectancy of fifteen or twenty years?

What are we doing to make sure that the mill in Grand Falls, in particular, is kept up to standard? We know what the one in Stephenville is like. If Abitibi Price fell on hard times, what would happen? If they had to look at closing one of their mills, do you think Stephenville would go? Of course not, Mr. Speaker. The first one to go, of course, would be Grand Falls.

I do not say that to be an alarmist but I do say it, Mr. Speaker, because we have seen what happened with regard to Bowater before in Corner Brook. I hope that this government and the President of the Council (Mr. Simms) is keeping a vigilant eye on the operation in the Grand Falls area.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding, I am more than pleased and honoured to be able to stand in my place, as the member for Eagle River, and continue to encourage the government. I have always encouraged the government. Anything that this government does for Labrador has my support, but the unfortunate thing, Mr. Speaker, is that I cannot stand in my place very often and say what they have done is a reality.

I still have to bring out

questions with regard to schools, roads, water and sewage, and try to get the provincial government to get the federal government to sign a new DREE agreement, to try and get the provincial government to get that \$15 million back that the federal Liberal government gave toward setting up the Labrador Northern Corporation that the Tories in Ottawa and this Province allowed them to take back. I try to encourage them, Mr. Speaker, to continue to upgrade water and sewage in the district, and transportation.

There is one little, simple thing that I have talked to the Minister of Transportation (Mr. Doyle), about and that is airstrips in the communities. A lot of those smaller communities, Mr. Speaker, in my district do not have the amount of money to be able to open up the roads in their own communities, which are very small, because of the expense involved. Yet the federal and the provincial governments has a snow blower in each of those communities and all they ask is to be able to use that once a year, free of cost.

The minister responsible for Northern Development told the people in St. Lewis, Labrador last year that he was going to get that straightened out and have it all straightened out for this year. Instead, they were given a cheque last year for \$2,800 and did they have that money then to be able to do the upgrading of the road? No, they did not, Mr. Speaker.

I encourage the government to do anything for Labrador because it has been long neglected. I am pleased to see the member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Warren) made a minister responsible for Northern Development. He takes a

lot of credit for projects that are announced in my district, whether they be make work projects, whether they be welfare projects, whether they be travel youth groups, whether they be anything, anything that goes on that is the normal working of government and that I make representation on. Committees work very hard in Labrador.

Everything that has to go through all the departments now has to go through the minister's office and the minister is the first one writing about it, phoning and giving the impression that he did it, Mr. Speaker.

Well, all I can say is, if he is going to take the credit, and I do not care who gets the credit as long as we get it, but if he is going to take the credit for that, he also has to take the credit, or the non-credit for the things that are still neglected in Labrador.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:

So, I say to the minister of Northern Development, Labrador is still looking for great things from the minister. We are looking for advancement in roads, in the Trans-Labrador highway; we are looking for advancement in the forest industry; we are looking for great advancement in health care and in education; in transportation; and in fisheries, Mr. Speaker. I could go on, and on, and on, but all we have in the House, in conclusion, is that we have a government where the closer they get to an election, they dust off Churchill Falls, dust off the linerboard, dust off the aluminum smelter in Goose Bay and X number of other things for Labrador and

build the people's hope up again.

The people in Labrador, Mr. Speaker, I can tell you this, they are second to none in intelligence and they are second to none with regard to hard work.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

MR. HISCOCK:
The people in Labrador, in concluding, Mr. Speaker, know that what they get in Labrador, they deserve.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. HISCOCK:
Whether they get the phone call from the member for Eagle River or from the Premier or from the Minister responsible for Northern Development (Mr. Warren), what they are more concerned with is getting it done.

So, Mr. Speaker, I do not know how much encouragement this government wants, if they want 100 per cent, if they want 200 per cent, or if they want 1,000 per cent, but if it is possible in the human language to say, I will give this government a trillion encouragements to do something for the forest industry in Labrador.

I want to stand here now and be counted that I have encouraged this government a trillion times to do something with the forest industry in Labrador.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LONG:
Question. Question.

MR. WARREN:
Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. WARREN:
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It appears that the member for St. John's East (Mr. Long) again is showing his genuine concern for Labrador. Here is an opportunity for some industry to take place in Labrador, and he is already calling for the question. I think the hon. gentleman realizes that we have two Wednesdays in a row to speak on this subject, so I would hope that if he cannot get on it this week, he would get on it next week and discuss and debate this very, very important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I noticed today, when the House resumed, that a particular member in this House has been looking pretty sheepish. I would think, Mr. Speaker, listening to the CBC report this morning, I could understand why that individual member would come in in such an unhappy mood.

One of two things must have happened. He must have been called into the inner chamber by his leader and told not to act so childish any more, or else he is on the outs with his leader, one of those two things. I notice today that the hon. member is very, very quiet, very mellow.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that the same thing applies. As I said yesterday, let him repeat outside the House what he said in here and he will have something coming to

him.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Oh!

MR. EFFORD:
A threat?

MR. WARREN:
Yes, if you want to take it that way, yes.

MR. EFFORD:
That is a threat.

MR. WARREN:
Yes, that is true. That is a fact. I do not mind saying it, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SPEAKER:
A point of order, the hon. the member for Fortune - Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS:
I want to hear the gentleman from Torngat talk about the forest industry in Labrador. I will not sit here and have him make threats to my friend from Port de Grave (Mr. Efford). I will not have him do it, Mr. Speaker. So let him talk about the subject or let somebody else, who wants to talk about the forest industry, do so. This childish thing, Mr. Speaker, of threatening the gentleman for Port de Grave, just because he happens to open his mouth from time to time, is shameful, Mr. Speaker. I appeal to you, Sir, to make that man either talk about the subject or stop talking.

MR. DOYLE:
Oh, you big pussy cat!

MR. SIMMONS:
I am with you, John.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER:
Order, please!

There is no point of order.

The hon. the Minister responsible for Northern Development.

MR. WARREN:
Mr. Speaker, I never made any comments at all to the hon. member for Port de Grave (Mr. Efford), but if the shoe fits the hon. member for Fortune - Hermitage (Mr. Simmons), let him wear it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the hon. the member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock) did bring up a number of very, very important issues, and I might add, Mr. Speaker, looking at a particular paper that came out a number of months ago, those comments were echoed by the member for Eagle River. Recalling the new portfolio, he said, "I am not easily impressed by the mere fact of just having a Cabinet Minister for Labrador. I want to see more action by way of improving the health care system, the education system, the fishery and the transportation system. I want to see concrete action."

Mr. Speaker, this is in line with what the hon. member was speaking about earlier of the subject of the forestry but it also concerns Labrador. I beg your indulgence, Sir, that you have permitted the hon. the member for Eagle River to wander off the topic somewhat, so I will take a few minutes to wander off the topic at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the hon. member for Eagle River has never corresponded with the

Department of Transportation concerning transportation from Domino to Black Tickle. That is a fact, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HISCOCK:

On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order, the hon. the member for Eagle River.

MR. HISCOCK:

The Minister responsible for Northern Development (Mr. Warren) has just stated that I was not pleased when he became minister. I said I was not impressed that the minister is just for Labrador. I want all of the ministers in this government to be cognizant of the needs of Labrador. I hope that the Minister of Forest Resources (Mr. R. Aylward) will -

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

That is not a point of order.

The hon. the Minister of Northern Development.

MR. WARREN:

I assure the hon. gentleman for Eagle River that every minister on this side is concerned about Labrador. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I can name a number of items that have been addressed, in fact, even this past five or six months. The hon. gentleman spoke for twenty minutes just now and never once did he mention the new school going into St. Lewis. Now surely goodness the hon. gentleman could have even mentioned that there was a new all-grade school going to be built in St. Lewis this year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, surely goodness the hon. gentleman should realize

that this is an action of this government. This is money from this government that is going to a new school in St. Lewis.

MR. HISCOCK:

One in Red Bay next year.

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, he is saying, 'One in Red Bay next year.' Yes, Mr. Speaker, there is going to be a gymnasium in Makkovik too, I should tell the hon. gentleman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, let me -

MR. HISCOCK:

Are we going to use timber from Labrador for those two schools?

MR. SPEAKER:

Order, please!

MR. R. AYLWARD:

If it is available, we will.

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, I should say to the hon. gentleman, if the hon. gentleman read the advertisements in **The Evening Telegram** this past weekend, he would have noticed that there was a tender call for the sportsplex in Nain. I think in that tender it did say that local labour and materials to be used where necessary. So it does show that government is concerned about the local materials that are available in Goose Bay or in Labrador.

I should say, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Hiscock), he said this government has been here seventeen years and not doing very much. Mr. Speaker, I think, in my brief time in

Labrador, I have seen, forgetting about the Lower Churchill, forget about the Churchill Development Corporation or anything like that, forget about it, but it is two disastrous, occurrences that happened in Labrador in the last number of years both concerned the forestry. One was the demise of the Labrador Linerboard and the John C. Doyles of this world.

It is interesting to note that not one member on this side so far and I am surprised that the member for Fortune - Hermitage (Mr. Simmons), who was part of the federal Cabinet and also a member in the Provincial Legislature a number of years before I came in here, have not mentioned about the concession that was given by the former government of this Province, the former government of the 1949 to 1971 era. Mr. Speaker, a concession was given to very influential, multinational millionaires covering timber rights in Labrador. I wonder when the next speaker on the opposite side decides to talk about the forestry and the lumbering in Labrador, would he just tell the hon. House what those concessions were? What were those concessions that were given by the Liberal administration to timber rights in Labrador? I believe that the hon. gentlemen opposite, in fact I know two gentlemen opposite who know exactly what I am talking about. It would be very, very interesting to see how those concessions from years ago were given and how it relates to what is happening today.

The other thing, Mr. Speaker, that happened when I was a member of the town council of Happy Valley-Goose Bay at the time, along with my colleague from Naskaupi (Mr. Kelland), when the Goose Bay Timber Company started.

A particular individual was supposed to be the real wizard in starting lumbering industries in remote areas. In fact, he was garnered from somewhere down in India or South Africa and was asked to come up to Goose Bay to operate the Goose Bay Timber Company. After getting a substantial amount of money invested by small business people in Goose Bay, that was the last we heard about this individual gentleman and the Goose Bay Timber Company.

There have been several attempts made to, in fact, last year there were attempts made to harvest the wood across the Churchill River. In fact, a particular company was fortunate enough, and I think the hon. member from St. Barbe (Mr. Furey) can recall this, I do not know if you would call it fortunate enough or unfortunate enough, to obtain a small ferry that went I think from Woody Point to Norris Point. This small ferry ended up in Goose Bay but, again, it never proved beneficial. It was another failure.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I read in **The Evening Telegram** two days ago that there is another firm. A St. John's based investment firm says that they hopes to invest and finalize planning for a \$10 million sawmill complex for the Goose Bay area by the end of May.

So you see, Mr. Speaker, that this government has been for the last number of years advocating ways and means of using a very valuable resource that is plentiful to employ a number of individuals in the forest industry. The latest one we have is from this particular group of Project Concepts Incorporated and they are willing to invest \$10 million.

I want to wish this company the best of luck. I am sure that we have the potential there with the forest, but there is still one major obstacle regardless of any development in Labrador and that is the accessibility by sea.

As we realize, there are five to six months when it is very difficult to get into Lake Melville. However, I think we can look further down the road and we can see that maybe the opening of lake Melville may not be the answer. Maybe the acceleration of the completion of the Trans-Labrador Highway where the timber can be transported from Goose Bay up through Churchill to Esker to connect with the train, maybe that may be a cheaper method of shipping out of Goose Bay.

I think the killer in the linerboard days was the extraordinary cost of shipping pulpwood and so on through Goose Bay. I think that was the killer. I think most workers can say they were receiving fairly good wages.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague from St. John's East Extern mentioned about the infrastructure in Goose Bay and the population. I believe Happy Valley - Goose Bay is one of the fastest growing towns in Eastern Canada. I can foresee problems. There is going to be problems with much of the infrastructure there, such as schools, housing accommodation, and so on. I think - I may need to be corrected by my hon. colleague from Naskaupi - there were something like sixty or seventy new units built in Goose Bay last year, and I would think there will probably be fifty or sixty units built this year.

It is becoming a problem for the town council of Happy Valley - Goose Bay to keep up with the pace, in economic terms, in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. The pace is actually too fast for the council to keep up with.

Mr. Speaker, concerning municipal infrastructure and location, a lot of the people in Happy Valley - Goose, the same as in other places, want to have their Summer cabins so we have to make sure we can accommodate a forest industry and, at the same time, recreational opportunities for the people living there.

Mr. Speaker, this proposal, as project concepts have indicated, maybe will not be as large as the NATO development or the proposed NATO site, where we will have a large number of military individuals employed as well as some civilians. I think if we look at the sawmill operations, we will see a greater number of civilian personnel.

MR. LONG:

That is what I would say.

MR. WARREN:

The hon. gentleman is finally awake. Mr. Speaker, I am still supporting NATO. I do not know if the hon. gentleman realizes it or not, but I am still supporting NATO. I believe in peace in this world. I believe that Canada can assist the rest of the countries in this world.

MR. LONG:

Sawmills are better.

MR. WARREN:

Mr. Speaker, I say to the hon. gentleman that he will have to realize that the people of Happy Valley - Goose Bay can accommodate

both and will accommodate both.

AN HON. MEMBER:
Your time is up.

MR. WARREN:
I think I have five minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I would inform the hon. member that I have five minutes left.

Mr. Speaker, I would say to the hon. gentleman from St. John's East that we will continue to bring economic gain to any community in Labrador or in St. John's or anywhere else in this Province. We are concerned about economic gains to the people, as well as the social implications. So, I say to the hon. gentleman, he can support Greenpeace, he can support the animal rights and so on, but I will assure him that I will support the NATO involvement in Goose Bay. They have assured the people that health, wildlife and the environment will be considered. Those are the three main ingredients in any development, and I have no problem in supporting the NATO Alliance establishing in Goose Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I should say to the hon. gentleman that the sawmill will only absorb a minor portion of the demand for employment in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. We need this sawmill, we need a dozen sawmills, Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Forestry says.

I would say in closing, Mr. Speaker, that this is a good resolution put forward by the hon. member for St. John's East Extern. I gather from the two members of the official Opposition who have spoken that they are in favour of it, and I gather that

the hon. gentleman is in favour of it.

Mr. Speaker, I think this again shows another major initiative by this government to get an industry started in Happy Valley - Goose Bay, in Labrador, and hopefully there will be direct benefits to other communities throughout Labrador. Because I believe -- I can be corrected by the member for Naskaupi -- last year there was very much difficulty in finding a sufficient number of qualified people to work at various jobs up there, and I would think it would be the same this year. In fact, I remember that last year one particular company could not get enough employees to carry out a particular project they were involved in.

I would say that it will affect places such as Red Bay, Cartwright, Black Tickle, Nain and so on. Mr. Speaker, I support the resolution and look forward to seeing the sawmill revitalization in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area.

MR. LUSH:
Mr. speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:
The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:
Mr. Speaker, in the past dozen or so years that I have been in this House and speaking to various resolutions, I have, from time to time, commented upon what constitutes a good resolution. Now I know that there are very few members opposite who have done any real work, any courses in terms of what constitutes a good objective, or a good resolution, and I have, over the course of twelve or so

years here, given them some advice.

I am at least pleased today to see, as I just took a glance at the resolutions that are left anyway, the remaining resolutions, that government members have ceased using the word 'urge'. Mr. Speaker, that is an accomplishment.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:

They have stopped using that stilted, meaningless, functionless parliamentary word 'urge', which does not mean a thing in the world, to use a little redundancy.

Mr. Speaker, a resolution must be very precise, it must be very succinct. There can be no misunderstanding as to what the end for the resolution is to be.

MR. RIDEOUT:

A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

A point of order, the hon. the Minister of Fisheries.

MR. RIDEOUT:

My friend is starting to make a fine speech, but I had an urge, and I have to remind him that on Friday, in the resolution that we passed on Canada/France, at the urging of his leader I agreed to change, and the NDP agreed to change, the words in the last be it therefore resolved from urge to demand, at the urgent urging of his leader, so maybe he should pass along the appropriate information to the hon. gentleman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER:

There is no point of order.

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, I will eventually get to all members. I was saying that a resolution must be very precise, very succinct. There can be no doubt as to what the outcome is to be, no doubt at all, in a resolution.

DR. COLLINS:

Would the hon. member permit a question?

MR. LUSH:

Sure. I am sure it is going to be a good question, so I will permit it.

DR. COLLINS:

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether the hon. member is referring to a resolution or a revolution when he says it should be a forceful, succinct, and all the rest of it. But, anyway, that was not my question. What do you feel about split-infinitives and ending a sentence with a proposition, would you like to?

MR. LUSH:

Mr. Speaker, that has nothing to do with the point at hand.

MR. SPEAKER:

There is no point of order.

The hon. the member for Bonavista North.

MR. LUSH:

At some time I could really have a debate with the minister on that. If he wanted to set it up, I could certainly have a debate with him on that matter. I want to address this very important matter, this resolution today.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have said that

at least we are making some headway now. I have not seen any of the resolutions left on the Order Paper for private member's using that word 'urge'. But, Mr. Speaker, we are coming to 'encourage'. Now, Mr. Speaker, that is a strong word if I ever heard one. That is the one that is going to give direction, that is the one, when this resolution is over, that will certainly leave no doubts as to what is going to happen to the forest industry in Labrador or anywhere else in this Province, 'encourage'

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:
Now, Mr. Speaker, I wonder what would happen in the meantime if we did not encourage them? I wonder what would happen? They have done so little in grappling with the economic and the financial problems of this Province, I would be scared stiff to think what would happen if we did not encourage them. So for that reason, Mr. Speaker, if they want to be pampered a little, if they want to get involved in self-glorification and self-praise, yes, Mr. Speaker, I am willing to bend just a little and go along with this resolution, this very powerful resolution, this resolution, Mr. Speaker, that is very succinct in its phrasing and its phraseology which says, 'to encourage the government to continue its efforts to bring a forest industry to Labrador.'

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage them, give them all the encouragement I can. And I certainly hope that in six or

seven months time, or in a year's time when there is not a forest industry in Labrador, that they do not blame us for not encouraging them. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that they never blame us for not encouraging them. Because we are going to encourage them in the strongest and the most vigorous way possible. With all of the zeal and the enthusiasm that we can muster, that we can put forward, we encourage those hon. gentlemen to put a forest industry in Labrador.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:
We encourage them.

MR. TOBIN:
'Tom' are you getting the urge?

MR. LUSH:
Now, Mr. Speaker, I was intrigued by the whereas, as well. The first whereas, I was intrigued by that. Again I tell the hon. gentleman that his resolution would have been much stronger by just starting off with the second whereas. The first whereas says - "WHEREAS the Provincial Government has had considerable success in strenghtening the forest industry on the Island of Newfoundland through mill upgrading and silviculture." He seems to suggest now that we have arrived at the ultimate on the Island part of the island, no more can be done. We have directed all our efforts with respect to the forest industry on the Island part, mill upgrading and the silviculture, and now that we have all that done, now that that is complete, now that we have arrived at the ultimate, now that we have arrived in the new Jerusalem with respect to the forest industry, now let us

get working on Labrador. We have neglected Labrador for many, many years, but it was neglected at the expense of building up the forest industry on the Island part of this Province. Now that that is done, let us get to Labrador.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that there is a lot of work that needs to be done on the Island yet with respect to forest management, mill ungrading and silviculture. That is not to suggest in the slightest way possible that we should not do it in Labrador. But now I wonder if they are going to leave the Island part alone until they have been successful in bringing forest industry to Labrador. That I am a little bit leary about, Mr. Speaker. I would like to see both going on concomitantly. I would like to see them going on together, because there certainly needs to be a lot of work done in this Province.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to get back to forest management and silviculture in this Province. I understand from federal officials that they are almost discouraged from getting involved in silviculture activities and forest management activities by the Province. They do not get any co-operation. I believe, if members would take a look at federal projects this year, that there are very few projects that were awarded with respect to forest management and silviculture activities.

You talk about government not getting their act together. Here was a great avenue to take care of some of the problems that we have in this Province with respect to forest management, planting new forests, cleaning up the forests

so that what is there can grow, and this kind of thing. This federal works programme, the federal Job Strategy Programme, should be a great area for that. But I understand there is not a lot of co-operation.

The Province, would you believe, when they get one of those projects, charges stumpage fees to the federal government. It charges stumpage fees to the federal government for being involved in silviculture programmes in this Province. The provincial government charges stumpage fees, and this, somehow, makes it difficult with these programmes. Imagine charging the federal government, coming in to get a project to do something to our forests, and the Province charges a stumpage fee. It is the most incredible thing I have ever heard of in my life.

Mr. Speaker, I have not heard government members opposite, or ministers, fighting with the federal government that they maintain this programme, that job strategy monies be allocated for silviculture programmes in this Province, and they are needed all over the Province. We are losing a great area here, a great area of financing. Granted they are not big, \$100,000, \$120,000, like that, but little by little each year we are doing something, little by little getting a few more jobs and bringing back the forest in certain areas.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Hear, hear!

Last year we did have them. I do not know whether it is the change of ministers. I do not know whether that has changed it. But last year, with the Minister of

Forestry, we did have these silviculture programmes. As a matter of fact, we got three or four in Bonavista North last year, and this year, completely cut off. Mr. Speaker, if there is a topic that is dear to my heart, and particularly for Bonavista North, it is forest management and all that entails, Mr. Speaker, all of that area of Newfoundland that was such a booming forest area at one time and now we have just left it.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the Province will get their act together and that the new Minister of Forestry and other ministers will get their act together and go to their federal colleagues in Ottawa and demand that forest management and silviculture programmes be a priority. What better thing can we have included in the programme, Mr. Speaker?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:
What better thing can we have included in that programme than regenerating the forests of this Province. And by this Province, of course, I mean Labrador and Newfoundland as well, because I am quite sure that we can do with silviculture programmes in Labrador, even though it has not received the extensive cutting that the Island part of the Province has. But, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that monies can be spent in certain areas there as well.

Mr. Speaker, I just use that to illustrate that certainly we have not done everything we can do with respect to maximizing the forest potential of this Province on the Island part. We have not done everything that can be done, so I

would advise the government not now to leave it alone and to say that we are now going to develop Labrador. We still have to do both concomitantly, do both together. Let us continue!

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. LUSH:
Mr. Speaker, with respect to a forest related industry in Labrador, it is long overdue. I am looking forward to the success of the efforts that we are now going to encourage. That is what I am looking forward to, the success of the efforts. And, Mr. Speaker, maybe there will be some success when I speak on the debate again next Wednesday. Maybe I will see some.

Mr. Speaker, I will adjourn the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMS:
Shall we call it six o'clock?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:
Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:
We will call it six o'clock.

The House stands adjourned until 3:00 p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, May 12, 1988.

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