



# The Yukon Legislative Assembly

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Number 2

4th Session

24th Legislature

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## **HANSARD**

**Wednesday, March 25, 1981 — 1:30 p.m.**

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

# Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Donald Taylor, MLA, Watson Lake

DEPUTY SPEAKER — Grafton Njootli, MLA, Old Crow

## CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
Hon. Chris Pearson	Whitehorse Riverdale North	Government House Leader — responsible for Executive Council Office, Public Service Commission, Pipeline, Land Claims, Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.
Hon. Dan Lang	Whitehorse Porter Creek East	Minister responsible for Renewable Resources, Tourism and Economic Development, Government Services, Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Workers' Compensation Board.
Hon. Geoffrey Lattin	Whitehorse North Centre	Minister responsible for Highways and Public Works, Municipal and Community Affairs, Yukon Housing Corporation and Yukon Liquor Corporation.
Hon. Meg McCall	Klondike	Minister responsible for Health and Human Resources, Education and Information Resources.

### Government Members

#### (Progressive Conservative)

Al Falle	Hootalinqua
Doug Graham	Whitehorse Porter Creek West
Jack Hibberd	Whitehorse South Centre
Peter Hanson	Mayo
Grafton Njootli	Old Crow
Donald Taylor	Watson Lake
Howard Tracey	Tatchun

### Opposition Members

#### (Liberal)

Ron Veale	Whitehorse Riverdale South
Alice P. McGuire	Kluane

#### (New Democratic Party)

Tony Penkett	Whitehorse West
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#### (Independent)

Maurice J. Byblow	Faro
Robert Fleming	Campbell

Clerk of Assembly	Patrick L. Michael
Clerk Assistant (Legislative)	Missy Follwell
Clerk Assistant (Administrative)	Jane Steele
Sergeant-at-Arms	G.I. Cameron
Editor of Hansard	Lois Cameron

**Whitehorse, Yukon  
Wednesday, March 25, 1981**

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now call the House to order. We will proceed at this time with Prayers.

*Prayers*

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a point of personal privilege. It is with considerable regret that I rise here today in the House to inform the Members of this House that I will be unable to continue as a Member of this House. I will be unable to continue to represent the members of Whitehorse South Centre.

Mr. Speaker, I will be working as a surgical consultant in a hospital outside Yukon; I will therefore no longer be able to sit in this House.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege and my pleasure to represent the people who live in Whitehorse South Centre for the last six and a half years. Although I will no longer be able to act directly on behalf of these Yukoners, their concerns and their welfare will still be of major concern to me. I am hopeful that I will be able to continue to represent them in other ways and to continue to promote the aspirations of Yukoners.

Mr. Speaker, there has been one guiding principle by which I have been a Member of this House and have become interested in politics and have followed it closely; that is my concern over what the rôle of government should be. Mr. Speaker, it has been my personal philosophy that government has two primary rôles to fulfill. The first one is what I consider to be its social responsibilities. There has been, over the last several decades, considerable change in the social structure of our community. As such, government has had to assume a greater rôle in many of these areas. I refer, of course, to such areas as education, assistance to senior citizens, and to other such programs. I welcome this, Mr. Speaker, because I believe that that is a responsibility that representatives of the people have; because that is the wish of the people, for government to carry out such things on their behalf.

The secondary one, Mr. Speaker, is that of the economic climate in which government operates. In this area I am most disturbed by the trend that I have seen in all governments, as government assumes more and more of the economic rôle in all of our lives. Mr. Speaker, this disturbs me primarily because, as it takes on more and more of that function, it reduces the initiative of the individual, who no longer assumes full responsibility for his own affairs. More and more the government becomes the shepherd and the citizens become the sheep. To me, the essence of a human being is that he retains that individual spirit and that individual ability to carry on his own affairs and to make his own decisions.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would leave that with you: my primary concern is that this Government, as other governments, should continue to fulfil its rôle in those areas - that is indeed necessary - but I would also like to see government reduce its rôle in manipulating its citizens, to where they are more capable of performing for themselves.

I forgot to mention that it is my intention to make my resignation effective when I am no longer resident here, at the rising of this Session.

**Mr. Penikett:** Well, having added that thought, I must say to the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre that perhaps our parting words will have to be postponed for a few days yet.

I want to say though, on this occasion, because I do not imagine it has been an easy decision for the Member, nor one which he has had much joy in concluding, that I, personally, from this side of the House, will be sorry to see him go. We have not always agreed on questions of policy in this House, but I will say that the Member has always been, from my point of view, an extremely agreeable associate in committee work: that work which makes up much of what we do in this place, but

which is invisible to the majority of the citizens. Having said that, I want to emphasize that, whatever our disagreements, I have enjoyed our association, and I look forward to whatever relationships we may have in the future, either as private citizens or with some of us in public office. I hope they will be as pleasant and as edifying as in the past. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I rise also with a great deal of regret. For those that are relatively new in the Yukon, I have had the pleasure of serving with my colleague for the past six and a half years. For those Members who served in the previous Legislature, you will recall that it was a very tumultuous time, one of political evolution which was difficult not only on all of our personal lives but also the political maturity of the Territory, as we evolved to the party politics structure.

I think that it has to be said, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Hibberd has contributed a great deal of his time, both his private life, as well as his public life, to serving on behalf of the people of the Yukon Territory and I think that he should be commended for the work and the effort that he has put forward on their behalf, not just for those members within Whitehorse South Centre, but the Territory as a whole.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that I can speak for many of my constituents, as well as being a personal friend of Mr. Hibberd's, that we all look at Mr. Hibberd's departure, perhaps, as for a short time only, and hopefully, some day, he will be able to move back to Yukon and take up residence again. If that is not the case, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that we, and all Yukoners, will welcome him back at any given time during the year as a visitor to Yukon, and will always honour him as a Yukoner.

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, while I regret very much the timing of the Member's resignation, in that it will leave the residents of Whitehorse South Centre without representation in the Assembly, I do express my own personal feelings about the Member. I have known him for a number of years and have always found him to be very cordial and forthright, and I wish him luck in his new job.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, this is a day that I have dreaded for a long time. It has seemed inevitable that Mr. Hibberd would find it necessary to resign from this House. It is a pity that this had to happen. It is very regrettable, in our opinion, because Mr. Hibberd has proven to be a valued colleague and a man of true dedication — one of great knowledge and an excellent representative for those people who live in his constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I think everyone recognizes that Mr. Hibberd has gone through a terrible, terrible time. It has been very difficult for him; it has been very difficult for his wife. He is to be commended for hopefully finding the right track for himself. I am personally very happy for that, although I do sincerely regret that he feels the necessity to leave Yukon at this time.

His leaving, Mr. Speaker, is a definite loss to this Territory. I am confident it will be a definite gain for the community that he is going to. I would encourage him, Mr. Speaker, to not lose sight of his high ideals in respect to politics and government. I am certain that he has a rôle to play wherever he lives, in respect to representing people, because he can do it so ably.

Mr. Speaker, from every one of us on this side of this House — from our caucus, from our party — a sad farewell to Jack Hibberd.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will now proceed to the Order Paper. Are there any returns or documents for tabling?

**TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I have for tabling the answer to a written question asked by Mr. Penikett on November 6th, 1980, concerning studies and reports produced by the Economic Research and Planning Unit.

Mr. Speaker, I also have, for tabling, By-laws of the Association of Professional Engineers of the Yukon Territory, required by Section 10(3) of the *Engineering Profession Ord-*

nance.

**Hon. Mr. Lattin:** Mr. Speaker, I have for tabling an answer to an oral question asked by Mr. Penikett on November 13th, 1980, concerning lots for sale by tender.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any reports of Special or Standing Committees? Petitions? Reading and receiving of petitions? Introduction of Bills?

**BILLS: INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Faro, that *An Ordinance to Amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance* now be introduced and read a first time.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse West, seconded by the Honourable Member for Faro, for leave to introduce and give first reading to *An Ordinance to Amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance*.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further bills for introduction? Are there any Notices of Motion for the Production of Papers? Notices of Motion?

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to give notice of motion respecting the federal constitutional package.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to give notice of motion with respect to the COPE Agreement in Principle that has been signed by the Government of Canada. I will be putting forward a resolution for this Legislature's discussion, with respect to the support of the Government of the Yukon Territory.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any further Notices of Motion? Are there any Statements by Ministers?

**Motion of Urgent and Pressing Necessity**

**Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 31, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

I move, seconded by the Member for Faro, that this Assembly recognize and commend the unparalleled efforts of Don and Elsie Sumanik and of all of the volunteers who organized the World Cup and North American Cross Country Ski Championships for Whitehorse; and further that this Assembly recognize the great benefits that these events have brought to Yukon, and in particular Whitehorse, both as a tourist attraction and as an incentive for Yukon skiers in their pursuit of excellence in the North American and world class levels.

**Mr. Speaker:** The presentation of such a motion under Standing Order 31 requires unanimous consent of the House. Does the Honourable Member have unanimous consent?

**All Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse West, seconded by the Honourable Member for Faro, that this Assembly recognize and commend the unparalleled efforts of Don and Elsie Sumanik and of all other volunteers who organized the World Cup and North American Cross Country Ski Championships for Whitehorse, and further that this Assembly recognize the great benefits these events have brought to Yukon, and in particular Whitehorse, as a tourist attraction and as an incentive for Yukon skiers in their pursuit of excellence at the North American and world class levels.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** This now brings us to the Question Period. Have you any questions?

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**Food Prices**

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. The President of Kelly Douglas, in his visit last week, indicated that Kelly Douglas adds its markup or up-charge to transportation costs between Vancouver and Whitehorse. Does the Minister and his Govern-

ment condone that business practice?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Honourable Member has put a resolution forward for discussion during this Session in which we will be discussing various aspects of the consumers' questions with respect to food prices throughout the Territory.

I would indicate to the Member opposite that that was the major concern raised with the President of Kelly Douglas. He has indicated that the proven price differential is a concern to him as well. He is going to report back to the government, with respect to the reasons for the differential between prices in the lower mainland, as they relate to Whitehorse and to our rural communities as well.

Mr. Speaker, that is of concern, and it is a concern that this government is actively pursuing with the people in question.

It should be indicated to the colleague across the floor, Mr. Speaker, that transportation is very much of a factor with respect to a lot of our goods, not just strictly in the area of food commodities; it has to do with every aspect of our lives and is one of the problems of living in the north. We will be pursuing it accordingly, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Veale:** With respect to the practice of adding a mark-up or up-charge on transportation costs, what specific action does the Minister intend to take to put an end to that practice?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I find the Member opposite pursuing two courses: a) he wants a public inquiry, which is probably going to cost the taxpayer of the Territory in the area of hundreds of thousands of dollars, but would probably do one good thing, depending on the way you look at it, Mr. Speaker. It would probably bring in seven or eight new law firms into the Territory, so that along with feeding my own family I would have to provide the financial remunerations so that they could conduct their everyday living.

But, Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that it is a concern and that we are following it up. We will be discussing the problem more in-depth, with respect to the resolution that was put forward by the Member across the way. I share his concerns, Mr. Speaker, probably a little bit more than he does, because I take a look at my food bill every two or three days, and I am probably more concerned, really, when it comes on a personal level, than he is.

**White Pass and Yukon Route/Financial Assistance**

**Mr. Penikett:** Yesterday, the Government Leader confirmed reports that this government will lend the White Pass Railway one million dollars. A resolution of this Assembly, which I am sure most Members will recall that I proposed and which was adopted unanimously by this House, made full financial disclosure a condition of any government aid to that company.

Can the Government Leader now show this House that this condition will be met?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot say that that condition will be met in the same context that the Honourable Member across the floor is saying. Mr. Speaker, what has happened is that during the course of the CTC Report, the White Pass and Yukon Corporation and, in fact, Federal Industries, was subject to severe financial disclosures by the CTC because of existing legislation.

Mr. Speaker, an awful lot of those disclosures have been made public in the CTC Report. There are further disclosures, further facts that have not been disclosed, that cannot be disclosed because of legislation. We will not get that information; but, Mr. Speaker, we do have the CTC Report and all of the financial information that was disclosed in that Report.

**Mr. Penikett:** Will the Government confirm what I believe he has just indirectly indicated: that this government's representative on the board will be the only direct access to financial information about the company for the government? If that is the case, could he indicate whether it is his intention to appoint a Government MLA to that board?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, we are still in negotiation, but we have suggested to White Pass that, should this one

million dollars be forthcoming from this government in the form of a loan, we think it would be advantageous for this government to have someone on that board. Mr. Speaker, frankly, we have not given any consideration to whom that appointment might be.

**Mr. Penikett:** Due to the fact that the company last year had a profit of 1.6 million dollars and its parent company is currently planning new capital acquisitions as reported in the *Financial Post* and *Globe and Mail*, will the Government Leader, at some point in this Session, be making a ministerial statement to justify the need for the one million dollar loan to the corporation from this government?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, if we must go through all of it again, I will do so. The fact that White Pass, Mr. Speaker, did make a profit during the last quarter of last year, is completely irrelevant to the long term question that was raised by the CTC. In fact the CTC said that under the right circumstances White Pass could make money. Mr. Speaker, they will not continue to make money, and everybody knows it, if these loans are not forthcoming.

Our one million dollars is not critical; it is the smallest amount involved in this whole thing. But it does help us, Mr. Speaker, to keep our hand in, with respect to this railroad.

#### Wire Tap/Minister of Justice

**Mr. Byblow:** I have a question of a very sensitive nature that I will direct to the Government Leader. It surrounds the wiretap incident of this past year.

There appears to be some contradiction in the Government Leader's statements to the Special Committee on Privileges, as to whether the former Minister of Justice was under a criminal investigation.

Is the Government Leader prepared to make a statement to the House, in order to clarify how the Committee came to be misled?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that the Committee was misled. I heard and I recognize that some of the media seemed to be misled, but I was not aware that the Committee was misled. If it was, I regret it very much. Mr. Speaker, I would be most happy to try to clear it up.

Mr. Speaker, I stated unequivocally to the Committee that to the best of my knowledge and belief, then and now, Mr. Graham was not under investigation by the RCMP at the time that Committee sat, at the time that I talked to the RCMP in December of 1979 in Mr. Graham's office, nor at the time that the investigation was going on against Mr. Bellchambers. I have never, ever changed my view on that.

Mr. Speaker, there is a specific day on which I became aware of the fact that Mr. Graham was under investigation and it was within four days of that that Mr. Graham tendered his resignation to me.

I might say while I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, that that is just about two months away, and I personally am beginning to really wonder about justice. It is a most extraordinary thing for the Minister responsible for Justice to say, but I have to ask whether there really is justice, because, Mr. Speaker, it is getting to the point now where justice delayed is justice denied. Mr. Graham has been on tenterhooks for close to two months; we just have not heard a thing.

He did the right and proper thing. He was the Minister of Justice; he felt that when he was told by me, Mr. Speaker, because I had been informed by the RCMP that Mr. Graham was under investigation; when I told Mr. Graham that he was under investigation, he immediately tendered his resignation. I accepted it because I felt very deeply that it was the right and the proper thing for him to do.

However, Mr. Speaker, it is getting to be a difficult matter not only for Mr. Graham, but for this government as well, to sit and wait and wait and wait. Truly, if ever the adage was true it is now: "Justice delayed is justice denied."

**Mr. Byblow:** Can the Government Leader, then, confirm that his first awareness of the former Minister of Justice's being under investigation was two months ago?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Yes, about five weeks ago, Mr. Speaker. I must qualify that to one degree: I am aware that Mr. Graham, along with a couple of other Members of our caucus, was interviewed by a member of the RCMP with respect to the Barry Bellchambers affair. I am well aware of that. I think everyone was aware of that. I am confident that the Committee was aware of that. I think I made that point clear.

I am also aware, Mr. Speaker, that his telephone was tapped for a period of two or three months prior to that. But, Mr. Speaker, I must reiterate that I was under the impression then, and I am still, that his telephone was tapped as part of the Barry Bellchambers investigation, not as part of an investigation of Dougie Graham.

**Mr. Byblow:** Since what the Government Leader is saying raises the apparent possibility that the former Minister of Justice may very well have been under criminal investigation during the time of the Committee investigation, does the Government Leader intend to recreate the Committee, to look into this any further?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Now, Mr. Speaker, I have no reason. I think the Committee's report was very, very explicit in what it said. I think what the report says is that, if a Member of this House is under criminal investigation, any rights that he might have can fall away. If he is not under criminal investigation, the RCMP should be advising the Speaker of this Legislature that they have his telephone tapped. I believe that is all that the report said.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to respectfully put it to this House that if Mr. Graham was under investigation all of that time, my statement with respect to the delay of justice is even worse than it is now. To my knowledge he has been under investigation for two months now, or five or six weeks. I feel that is long enough. If it has been longer than that, that makes it even worse.

**Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, before advising the Special Committee on Privileges of the Member's innocence, did the Government Leader ask the buggers, the investigating officers, about the MLA's status? Failing these assurances, on what did he base his assertion as to the absence of any investigation of the Minister of Justice?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, two things: I asked two members of the RCMP in Mr. Graham's office, in December of 1979, whether Mr. Graham was under investigation. The answer from those two members then was in the negative. No, he was not under investigation.

Also Mr. Speaker, there has been another occasion when a Member of this caucus, in fact a Member of this Government, was under investigation. Mr. Speaker, the RCMP notified him immediately. I assumed, obviously wrongly so — I say "obviously wrongly so", because I am aware now that the investigation of Mr. Graham started before I was officially advised that he was being investigated — but I was under the impression that should a Member of this government be under investigation, I would have been notified; I was not.

**Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, the fact that a member of the RCMP may have misinformed or misled the Leader of this government is a matter of some serious concern. I would, with respect, suggest that it raises issues which ought to cause the Government Leader to contemplate very long and very hard about the appropriate remedy before this House.

Let me now ask him in respect to his statement about justice denied and delayed, a sentiment which I share, if he can advise the House of the status of the former Minister of Justice, as regards his Cabinet position at this point in time.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot, other than that I was advised by the RCMP that Mr. Graham was under investigation. The method of advising me was a phone call from an investigating officer, asking me to make a statement with respect to their investigation. I did so. Another Member of this Cabinet was also asked to make a statement and he has done so. Mr. Graham, at that point in time, was out of Whitehorse. Immediately upon his return I advised him of the

request that I had received from the RCMP.

Naturally when I went down to the RCMP to make my statement to them, they were fairly explicit in explaining what the investigation was all about. I transmitted that information to Mr. Graham, and he tendered his resignation.

I do not believe that I was misled by the RCMP in the December prior: I honestly do not think that they had Mr. Graham under investigation at that time. That would mean that they had had him under investigation for a year and a half. Number one, I did not find out about it; number two, they had not come to any conclusion regarding it. That just does not make any sense to me.

**Mr. Penikett:** With respect, does the Government Leader not find it an incredible situation to have a former Member of his Cabinet, with his career, reputation and income, waiting in limbo for the imprimatur of some police officers — supposedly servants of this government and this House: those same police officers whom the Government Leader has admitted inadvertently or advertently misinformed the head of this government, or at least failed to inform the head of this government that the member was under investigation in the first place?

I ask the Government Leader, is not that not only incredible but as well a totally unacceptable situation, in terms of the relationship between the police and the Minister of Justice, as he now is?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is an unacceptable situation; however, I respectfully submit to this House, Mr. Speaker, that because the situation is upon us right now, I do not feel that I can raise the issue properly, or in propriety, with the RCMP while this investigation is going on.

Mr. Speaker, I feel very strongly that they must resolve the issue with Mr. Graham first. Either the federal Department of Justice, who laid the charges, must lay the charges, or they must say that have ceased and desisted with their investigation: one of the two. It must be put to bed one way or the other before I can sit down with the Superintendent of the RCMP, as the Government Leader, and say, "This has been a bad scene, what are we going to do about it?". I do not honestly believe that I can do that properly until this matter is out of the way.

#### **Food Prices (Continued)**

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, I have a less spicy question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs - nevertheless, spice related: Did the Minister, in his meeting with the president of Kelly Douglas last week, give a commitment to Kelly Douglas that, if they cooperated with the Government, there would be no public food prices inquiry?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, in my discussions I indicated there was some discussion of a public inquiry. I indicated to him that I wanted it to be a cooperative effort with respect to the situation as it exists in the Yukon and, at least at that time, I did not support the concept or principle of a public inquiry which, Mr. Speaker, we will debate at some length next week. But with respect to any commitments to Kelly Douglas, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that Kelly Douglas has made a fair number of commitments to people in the Territory that they will have to report back on.

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, on the same day that the President of Kelly Douglas met with the Minister, he indicated that he had an assignment from the Minister to rationalize the price difference or price discrepancy between Whitehorse and Vancouver. Has the Minister asked Kelly Douglas for a public or confidential disclosure of the financial information to back up that anticipated rationalization?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** No, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that it would be polite and proper to wait until the time we receive the information we have requested, with respect to the explanation of the cost differential between the price of food in southern British Columbia as compared with Yukon.

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, the President of Kelly Douglas also indicated that the rationalization process that he was undertaking on behalf of the Minister would take him two to three weeks. Will the Minister agree that in two to three weeks

the reply or report of Kelly Douglas will be made public in this Assembly?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I would refer the Honourable Member to the press release that was issued at that time. I believe that if he reads it properly he will see that it indicates that any information that becomes available from Kelly Douglas on this matter, as discussed earlier, will be made public.

#### **White Pass and Yukon Route/Financial Assistance (Continued)**

**Mrs. McGuire:** Mr. Speaker, I, too, have a question regarding White Pass for the Government Leader, in regards to YTG's loan agreement, mentioned yesterday, wherein it is stated that an agreement between the federal government, White Pass and Yukon Railway, Anvil Mines, and the Government of Alaska was reached.

To clear up some confusion, perhaps the Government Leader could tell this House why, as of today, the White Pass President, Tom King, has not seen the agreement and that, in fact, no agreement has been signed?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, with respect, if the Honourable Member had been listening to the answer to a previous question, I think I stated that we are still in negotiations.

Mr. Speaker, there have been some things agreed to. The things that have been agreed to are that the Government of Canada is going to loan White Pass five million dollars; the Government of Yukon is going to loan White Pass one million dollars; the Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation is going to pay an agreed rate of transport for their ore; and, the Government of Alaska is going to make available a so far undisclosed sum, because that part of it has not been dealt with yet.

There has been no agreement yet as to our board member; there has been no agreement yet as to when these loans might take place. So, there is still an awful lot of discussion going on. Nothing has been signed yet, per se.

**Mrs. McGuire:** I would like to ask the Government Leader if this agreement will be available to us in the House as well as to the public?

As well, is this an interest-free loan? If not, what would the rate of interest be?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, once again, it will be — it may be an interest-free loan. We are going to be making the funds available to White Pass. The rate of interest has not been agreed to; it is still being talked about, Mr. Speaker. Certainly things like White Pass's making a bit of money in this last quarter may well enter into those negotiations, and be a factor in respect to what any interest rate might be. So, there are still a lot of things to be decided.

Mr. Speaker, the matter of the loan will be a matter before this House, because if we find it necessary to enter into this agreement prior to the next sitting of the House, obviously we would have to have it here as a supplementary estimate.

#### **AMAX/Mactung Production Site**

**Mr. Byblow:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question I will direct to the Minister of Economic Development regarding AMAX. In view of the comments in the Throne Speech yesterday about the AMAX/Mactung site, could the Minister indicate to the House just when he discussed this development site last with the AMAX officials?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, could the Member clarify the last part of his question, I did not quite hear it.

**Mr. Byblow:** Mr. Speaker, I made reference to the development site. The Minister recalls there was considerable discussion as to the location of the actual site for the production of the ore. Have there been any recent discussions to clarify where the actual mine will be located?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, there have been ongoing discussions with the people involved with the AMAX property. As he knows, there has not been a decision made, with respect to production, so consequently no decisions have been made with respect to the location of the various assets of such a mining interest.

At the present time it would appear, from an environmental

and geographic point of view, that at least some of the assets would have to be located in the Northwest Territories.

I made a trip last fall to that particular area of the Territory, and the mine is right on top of a mountain. I cannot imagine how they even found it, to be quite honest, when one goes up in the late fall and sees what is taking place up there. It is a question of discussion with the people involved; once anything comes to fruition, I will inform the House, Mr. Speaker.

Along with that it should be pointed out that the Government of the Yukon Territory, in cooperation with the Government of Canada, got a Mac Pass Task Force together, of the various interests in the area, and these are areas of discussion in respect to what is going to take place, not only in the short term, but the long term also, as far as that particular area is concerned.

**Mr. Byblow:** I can certainly appreciate the Minister's reference to the Mac Pass Task Force; it is probably one of the most commendable exercises this Government has produced.

Very specifically, back to the AMAX question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to query the Minister whether he has made this government's position clear as to where the site of that mine should be located, in view of the infrastructure use that would be required by that company.

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, it has been verbally discussed with them. It would be very advantageous, from our point of view and I believe from theirs, to have whatever assets they have, located on the Yukon side of the border; there is no question. But also, Mr. Speaker, we have to look at the logistics. Environmentally, what is the best location for such a plant? Right now, it would appear, unless we hear evidence to the contrary — and we are looking at the information we have available to us — just exactly what the position is going to be in respect to that particular mine in question.

#### **Constitution/Mobility Clause**

**Mr. Penikett:** I have a question for the Government Leader. Given that the Mobility Clause in Mr. Trudeau's constitution renders the pipeline job guarantees for Yukoners meaningless, what specific steps is the Government Leader taking to protect pipeline jobs for Yukoners in this area, one of the areas of highest unemployment in the country?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult for us to move really quickly. We are still in negotiations with the Government of Canada with respect to the signing of those terms and conditions. We have not heard yet exactly what the changes are going to be, as regards the hiring capabilities.

Mr. Speaker, we are also in the process of putting together a training package, which we hope will really give Yukoners a job preference when it comes to that pipeline. I anticipate that either the Minister of Education or I will have something quite definitive to say to the House, during the course of the budget debate on this matter.

**Mr. Penikett:** I thank the Government Leader for his commitment for a further statement on training in this question. What I want to ask the Government Leader is: since Mr. Munro's lawyer's offer to find a loophole in the Constitution for Yukon workers is about as reassuring as Mr. Lysyk's Heritage Fund or Mr. Trudeau's own promises of wage and price controls, what guarantees are this Government looking for, in terms of pipeline jobs for Yukoners?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, it is not a case of looking for guarantees for workers. What we have been trying to do is offset the impacts that we foresee from a great in-migration of outside workers.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we feel that our training programs, our educational programs, that we are entering into in conjunction with proponents of the pipeline, will be such that any Yukoners who want to work on the pipeline will in fact be able to work on the pipeline. I do not think that the case of guarantees of employment for local people is as big a concern to us as mitigating this impact of the in-migration.

**Mr. Penikett:** In the light of all this betrayal of Yukon social and economic interests in the pipeline issue, and in the light of the Alaska precedent where local hire laws were found uncon-

stitutional, what plans can Yukon now contemplate for dealing with the deluge of in-migration, given that the kind of legal means that we previously expected to be able to use, will probably now be unconstitutional?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I gave notice of motion today with respect to the federal constitutional package. My motion will reflect directly upon what we can see - it may well be a futile move but it is about the only positive thing we can do right now. We are stymied. Mr. Speaker, if our suggestions with respect to mobility are unconstitutional, Yukon has a major problem. It is a problem that we are dealing with with the proponents and the involved unions at the present time. All we can do is talk right now; there are no solutions at the moment.

#### **Energy Subsidy Program**

**Mr. Byblow:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Government Leader in his capacity as Minister of Finance. A press release from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, on February 21st, announced a new subsidy program for energy that would be introduced into Yukon and administered by YTG. When will the details, the eligibility of applicants, the available forms to be filled out, be made available?

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, save and except for the forms. It is, of course, one of the items that is in the Budget Speech, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Byblow:** In the same press release, there was reference to the fact that Yukon will be participating in a comprehensive northern energy policy review with NCP and DI-AND; this was also in the Budget Speech. In fact, it is my understanding that there is a meeting tomorrow with representatives from NCP.

Could the Minister indicate what is on the agenda for that meeting?

**Hon. Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I do not think I would be prepared to indicate the agenda items of any meeting. I think the Member should be more concerned with what the results of the meetings are, as opposed to what individuals have said or how they have argued.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that it would be my intention later on, during the life of this Session, to inform the House of how things are developing in that respect.

**Mr. Byblow:** Will the energy subsidy program being introduced by the federal government, as announced, be a supplement to the existing subsidy program of YTG, or will it be in place of it?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I do not think that the question would be quite in order; you are asking, I believe, a question respecting another government; however, I will permit a Member of the Government to answer if they can.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** I just rise to point out to the Honourable Member that there is no YTG subsidy program at the present time, Mr. Speaker. We had to cut it out with the November billings, as we advised the House when we last discussed this issue in our Estimates last year.

We informed the House that when we ran out of that money, that was going to be it. We ran out of it and that was it.

#### **Selkirk Street School Roof**

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education. I am sure the Minister is aware of the fact that the Selkirk Street Annex School still has a leaky roof, necessitating pails to be placed in the hallways and classrooms on a regular basis.

What has the Minister done to ensure that these leaks have been repaired, so that this situation will not continue?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Mr. Speaker, I personally have not taken any action regarding the leaks. There is going to be a meeting next week, discussions with Selkirk School, and anything to do with the school will be talked about at that time.

**Mr. Veale:** Will the Minister give a commitment to the Assembly that the leaks will be repaired?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Mr. Speaker, I have confidence in our maintenance people; I am sure they will be.

**Mr. Veale:** The Minister has more confidence than the students at Selkirk Street Annex do.

**Mr. Speaker:** my final supplementary is: in the event that they are not able to complete the repairs this year, will the Minister give a commitment to the House that a new facility will be in the Capital Budget this fall?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** No, Mr. Speaker, I will not.

#### Medicare

**Mr. Penikett:** I have a question for the Minister of Health. Last Saturday, CBC Radio quoted Alberta's Minister of Health as saying that the Territories were opposed to the recommendations of the recent Hall Report on Medicare. I would like to ask the Minister of Health if this was an accurate report of the Government of Yukon's position?

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Mr. Speaker, the Hall Report made many recommendations, some of which I agreed with and some of which I did not. Can the Member be more specific?

**Mr. Penikett:** It would be my pleasure to, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister: on exactly which points was this government opposed to the recommendations of Justice Emmett Hall — and I am particularly concerned with his principal recommendations, those dealing with extra billing, opting out or compulsory arbitration and fee negotiations.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I believe the way the question has been put would require a very lengthy reply. Would the Honourable Member be perhaps a little more specific in the phrasing of his question?

**Mr. Penikett:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, the question would require a "yes" or "no" answer, anything more than simply that would be unnecessary.

Specifically, I am asking if the Government of Yukon is in agreement with the recommendations of the Hall Commission on Medicare, in respect to three principal matters: extra billing, opting out, and compulsory arbitration and fee negotiations.

**Hon. Mrs. McCall:** Mr. Speaker, I have taken no part in negotiations in Yukon, with regards to medical fees, specifically because I could be said to have a conflict of interest. I think I will hand that over to the Government Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, we are in negotiations with the medical profession, with respect to what is going to transpire during the forthcoming year, but from this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, it is safe to say, because we have transmitted this to the medical profession, that we are opposed to extra billing, to opting out, or to balance billing. I am not sure whether that makes us in agreement with the Honourable Mr. Hall on these points, or opposed to him.

**Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to move into another question. There seems to be nobody else.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry, if there are additional questions, the time for the Question Period has since elapsed.

**Mr. Penikett:** In that case I will ask a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry, the Question Period is now closed.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY TO SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, moved by myself, seconded by the Honourable Member for Tatchun, that the following address be presented to the Commissioner of Yukon:

May it please the Commissioner; we, the Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, beg leave to offer our humble thanks for the gracious speech which you have addressed to the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse South Centre, seconded by the Honourable Member for Tatchun, that the following address be presented to the Commissioner of Yukon:

May it please the Commissioner; we, the Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, beg leave to offer our humble thanks for the gracious speech which you have addressed to the

House.

**Mr. Hibberd:** Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a pleasure for me to open the replies to the Speech from the Throne. I am particularly pleased to be able to offer my congratulations to the new Commissioner on his appointment to that office.

Over the years, I have known and worked with Mr. Bell, and he has always impressed me with his diligence and with his unwavering concern for the welfare for the people of the Territory, and I am sure he will continue to fight for their interests in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Commissioner outlined for us the economic difficulties which Yukon has faced over the last few years. Economic growth has been nil, or, at best, slow, but most of these factors in controlling this economy are out of the hands of those of us in Yukon. We obviously do not have control over metal prices, or transportation costs, or access to cheap power.

In the face of this, Mr. Speaker, it is gratifying to see in the Throne Speech the effort and the money which this government has expended in developing local industry, in nurturing the local job market, and in developing training facilities and programs to improve the job qualifications of Yukon citizens. More and more Yukoners will be able to found businesses, find work, and improve their employment skills.

This dedication on the part of this government is well illustrated in the subagreements which YTG has developed. For instance, Mr. Speaker, these will see over \$12 million flowing into Yukon. Such things as campground facilities have been dramatically improved. The tourism industry, generally, which offers a large number of employment opportunities, will reap large benefits.

Mr. Speaker, one of the continuing concerns is the availability of land for Yukoners. The right of its citizens to own land is accepted as a basic right in this country, but that right has not yet been extended to Yukon. I am very pleased to see that my government is in the process of acquiring the cottage lot subdivisions, and, because of our belief in the right to land ownership, this land will soon be owned by individual Yukoners. But we must continue to strive for more Yukon land. There are many other uses to which this land can and should be put.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is a balance in land use and land management between the government and the private owner.

I readily acknowledge that it is the responsibility of Government to lay down certain rules to ensure that land is not wasted or destroyed. And there are other areas, such as parks, where Government must retain ownership, for the benefit of all of its users. But beyond these two restrictions, Mr. Speaker, the role of the Government should be kept to a minimum. It is not necessary for Government to retain ownership, or to impose exacting controls, to ensure good development.

Leases, Mr. Speaker, are good examples of excessive Government presence. In keeping with this principle, Government, and I refer, of course, particularly to the Federal Government, must place more confidence in the private sector. As long as there are guidelines in place, the private entrepreneur can often function more effectively than Government. This support of private industry and of the individual is a basic premise of this Government, and it must be a guiding principle in our economic development.

Mr. Speaker, I am immensely pleased to see in the Speech from the Throne that our Government has continued to recognize its responsibility for the well-being of its citizens, many of whom have less of the advantages than do most of us.

Measures have been taken to improve the life style of our senior citizens. This is of great personal satisfaction to me. The Pioneer Grant, instituted by the Minister of the day, the Honourable Flo Whyard, is a major milestone in maintaining the quality of life for seniors. In this budget this Government has continued to recognize the importance of this program, and to build further on it.

I am also pleased to see that progress is being made in the introduction of pharmacare for seniors. The White Paper to be



introduced is the result of a motion supporting pharmacare, introduced in our last session by Members on this side of the House. I would only urge that this seniors' pharmacare plan be implemented as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Members Opposite will take the opportunity to respond more adequately to the Speech from the Throne than the dribble they transmitted to the local media in the interim. I certainly hope so, because they leave me confused.

One Member Opposite states there are fifty or sixty items in the Speech; all well and good, and with such an array it is inevitable that all Yukoners will find some benefits somewhere, directly or indirectly.

On the other hand, however, another Member Opposite, after his first day in this House, states that his greatest concern is what is not in the Speech.

What does he want, Mr. Speaker? One hundred programs? Two hundred programs? A thousand programs? And, Mr. Speaker, I am sure he will be willing to support all the tax measures that will be necessary to support his dream budget, or his speech.

Mr. Speaker, let me dwell on one issue that has been raised by the new Leader of the Opposition. He is concerned about Yukon food prices. All of us on this side of the House are at least equally concerned. All Yukoners are concerned. But what does the Member suggest for a solution? Does he want a co-op? That is fine; go ahead, but I must remind the Member that that has been tried many times and has not yet been successful.

Does he want to curtail freight rates? He well knows that that is beyond the jurisdiction of this government. Perhaps he can ask his big Liberal brothers in Ottawa who are in power there for a hand-out. He also knows that we are well into the subsidization business on transportation at the present time.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if he wants other entrepreneurs to come into the field, so that the competition motive will force prices down. Then join the line-up. This Government has encouraged and continues to encourage others in the industry to move into the Yukon market. As far back as 1978, I initiated correspondence with other major suppliers, and I know that Mr. Graham, as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, intensified these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I say "Welcome to the Bandwagon" to our new Member. I am confident now that he will support this government in their already concerted efforts in this difficult field to reduce food prices, as well as other prices.

But I have one area of disturbance from this, Mr. Speaker. I am afraid the new Member has fallen into a rookie trap. His answer to higher food prices is to form a committee. Mr. Speaker, I do not need to remind you and other Members that this is always the easy way out. We want yet another independent committee. Such will not only delay any action possible but will bury the problem, like an ostrich with its head in the sand. Needless to say, such a committee will cost money, and, Mr. Speaker, a committee has not yet been successful in lowering food prices.

Mr. Speaker, it has been brought to our attention in the Commissioner's address that our health care facilities are still being managed by the senior Government. I would like to remind all Members that we are paying 85 per cent of these health care costs, and yet we do not have the right to say how these funds are being spent. The decisions are not being made by the people who use these facilities. It is not a reflection on the people who are in there directing these facilities, Mr. Speaker, but it is only reasonable that the people of Yukon, who know the local needs, should have the opportunity to make the decisions regarding their own health care. They are paying for the services, and they are the users of the facilities. No-one, living in Ottawa, or directly responsible to Ottawa, can have the same understanding.

Mr. Speaker, I have watched the growth and development of the Yukon's major hospital here in Whitehorse since it was opened in 1959. It is a good institution. The building was de-

signed to take care of Yukon health needs for a long time to come. But, it has not kept up with changes in Yukon, and especially, it has not kept up with changes taking place in the field of medicine.

To name a few examples, there are dedicated people who man the lab, the x-ray department, the physiotherapy department, and yet they are working in areas with equipment that is either outdated, or inadequate, to handle the present patient loads. This is a problem that has been known for years, but little has been done.

Another major lack is that of no ultrasound diagnostic scanning equipment. It is standard in most hospitals of this size, but there is none here.

I would submit that as long as the overriding concern is with budget restrictions, and not with patient needs, this hospital will be hard pressed to maintain a high standard of care. But there is one area in which patient care outranks anything that I have seen in other communities. Despite the criticisms against it, the medical evacuation plan that we have is superlative. There are great distances in the Yukon, both between Yukon centres and to outside major medical centres, and yet these citizens have good access to medical care. I would have to remind Members, Mr. Speaker, that this is a YTG service.

It is a good example of what can be accomplished, when the voices of the local users of a service can be heard and their voices can be acted on.

Mr. Speaker, when one has the opportunity to speak in this House, it is difficult to avoid the basic constitutional dilemma facing Canada today. One obviously cannot review all of the issues at such a time as this, but there are basic principles which we must keep in mind. I think we can agree, Mr. Speaker, that simple patriation of our Constitution is desirable, and we most certainly can agree that Canada must remain as one country. But thanks to Mr. Trudeau and his Liberal lackeys, this is not what is happening. Despite a distinct lack of popular support, and despite guarantees in the *BNA Act*, we are being forced to accept a Constitution which will remove the legislative powers from the Assemblies elected by the people, and place these powers in the hands of the courts.

These people of the courts are appointed by government. They are not responsible to the citizens of the country, and Mr. Speaker, that is not democracy in Canada as I know it. Mr. Speaker, if we enshrine in our Constitution the supremacy of the two central provinces of Ontario and Quebec — and this is indeed what is planned — then I would suggest that not only are the citizens of the remaining provinces to become second class citizens with rights that are less than those of the most favoured areas, but also the peoples of the Territories will have, even less. We drop from our present second-rate status to a third class status.

Mr. Speaker, I would remind Members that this is not a flag debate as occurred in the Sixties; this will not go away once the changes are made. We will be forced to live with these constitutional and economic inequities forever. Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne delivered yesterday tells me that this Government has come a long way since its election two and one half years ago. It has gained more rights on behalf of Yukoners, and our voice is starting to be heard in the seats of power in southern Canada.

Most important however, the matters raised in this speech show me that this Government has stayed in close contact with the people of Yukon. It has heard their concerns, and it has now reacted to them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Tracey:** Mr. Speaker, on my behalf, and that of my constituents, I would also like to congratulate the new Commissioner of Yukon, and wish him well.

Mr. Speaker, during the two and a half years that we have been privileged to form the Government of Yukon, we have seen changes, the likes of which the Yukon has not seen since the gold rush. We have made great strides in growth towards forming responsible Government, albeit against great resistance from the Liberal Government in Ottawa, and from the

Liberal Opposition across the floor. In fact, Mr. Speaker, if it had not been for the Tory Government in Ottawa, under Mr. Clarke, we would probably still be trying to convince Mr. Trudeau and his followers, here and in Ottawa, that we are not children to be led around by the hand and told that colonialism is what is best for us, but we are adults who are capable of recognizing the need for change, and who have the will and determination to make those changes.

We are capable of self-determination, and we will not rest until we are equal citizens with the rest of Canada. Yukoners have been recognized as citizens who should have equal status by many of our southern and eastern neighbours, who, but a few short years ago, would have been hard pressed to answer any query regarding political status in the Yukon.

I thought it significant, Mr. Speaker, that when Mr. McKay resigned last fall, he felt forced to comment that he regretted his opposition to the political evolution in this Territory. I would only hope that his successor does not follow the same path, to his future regret.

We have only begun our march to fuller responsible Government, and we have a great distance to cover yet. If the Liberal Government in Ottawa succeeds in bringing in its proposed constitutional package, we may never achieve that goal. Hopefully, the Liberal Opposition is taking a positive stand against Mr. Trudeau's package, and if they do not, as expressed by Mr. McKay, come to regret that, it will surely not be enough to satisfy the constituents in Yukon. Surely they should be standing four square against Trudeau's refusal to include a section dealing with the creation of new provinces from the Territories, and surely they would also disagree that Ontario and Quebec should have an absolute veto against any future amendments.

Why are they not speaking out against the document that will forever relegate us to second class citizenry? Are they fearful that their bosses in Ottawa will refuse to dip into the goodie bin, when their political course has run out, and come up with some such goodie as an appointment to a board or some other organization? Or are they truly unable to recognize that it will soon be too late for them to redress their wrongs to the Yukon electorate? May they do it soon, Mr. Speaker.

Our government has introduced much-needed legislation covering many subjects that were begging to be addressed. Subjects such as small claims, survivorship, or presumption of death. We have brought in the *Medical Profession Ordinance*; the *Municipal Ordinance*, and amended the *Game Ordinance*, all of this in attempting to make Yukon a better place to live. We have introduced some that we have not yet been able to implement yet. Mr. Commissioner mentioned one yesterday: the *Business Development Assistance Ordinance*. This program, when implemented, should be of great assistance to businesses attempting to build and grow in our Territory.

We have also brought in an energy conservation agreement to help people cut some of their high energy costs and to give them more efficient energy use. The tourism sub-agreement was brought in to help develop our tourism potential. We used part of the money available to build a beautiful ski chalet up the hill — an investment that has already helped to put the Yukon on the map as an excellent cross-country skiing area. As time goes by, we will undoubtedly see other areas where available monies will be put to good use.

Most important of all, Mr. Speaker, we are projecting our perception of Yukon as a great country anxiously awaiting any and all who would share in the greatness by building for future development of this Territory. Slowly it is starting to be self-fulfilling. We are about to see a period of unprecedented growth in our Territory. We are seeing many mining properties being prepared for opening. We are seeing proposals for multi-storied hotels and for expansion on others.

We are on the verge of another building boom in residential housing. Sceptics of today are going to look back in a few short years and wonder why they missed the golden opportunities that are developing around them today. Others will recognize these opportunities, and they will enjoy a much enhanced life-

style because of the advantage they will have taken of them. We can only hope that present-day residents will be in the vanguard of that latter group.

I am happy that our government has taken the bit in its teeth and made a commitment to up-grading our educational standards in Yukon, not only by building new schools and up-grading others, but also by implementing measures to train residents in skills that they do not have today, so that they will be able to take part in our growth, with better jobs at higher pay. The day that we start construction of our new Yukon College will be a welcome day, at least to this member of the Legislature. Meanwhile, the building of much needed mobile training units will help greatly to overcome some of our shortage of training capacity.

I was also heartened the other day when I read in the papers that Cyprus Anvil Mines, the Steel Workers Union and the Government, have reached an agreement to train apprentices at the Faro mine site. More apprenticeship training is necessary if we are to have the skills needed by our residents to fill the demand for the skilled labour required for new developments. We are going to have to look at other innovations in labour training, if we are to avoid the skilled labour shortage that is prevalent in all other jurisdictions in North America.

Many of my constituents, and I am sure many of yours, Mr. Speaker, will welcome any innovations that we are able to develop. Such an innovation has been our training in-fill for positions in our public service.

Before I leave the subject of education, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the past and present Minister of Education, and his department, for the work that has gone on to develop the school complex at Pelly Crossing. This complex reflects the wants and needs of a small community, lacking in basic facilities for decent educational instruction. After eighteen months, Treasury Board has finally approved our budget for this complex, making it unnecessary for us to chop, and change, and, ultimately, to come up with something that would be not what the community wanted. This school project is unique in Yukon, in that the residents have been involved in the conception and design process from the very beginning. It will truly be their school, when finished.

Another item mentioned in the Throne Speech that gives me pleasure is the announcement that we are increasing the pioneer utility grant by 20 per cent.

There are no more deserving people in Yukon than those who have lived and worked and built their homes here, helping to build this Territory while doing so. Though it is a relatively small amount of money that we expend to ease their financial burden, it is only a small token of the appreciation we feel for them.

To this end, I am also glad that the Pharmacare Assistance motion made last fall by Mr. Hibberd is actively being worked on. When we implement this program it will be of further assistance to these worthy people.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to touch on an issue that will have a great effect on my constituents. The resolution of this issue will have a profound effect on them, as it will have on the rest of the Territory. Our government has been very instrumental in negotiating a just settlement of the Yukon Land Claims; perhaps we will see the signing of an agreement in principle this year. We have managed in the past two years to have replaced the attitude of mutual hostility between our two peoples with one of mutual respect. This has not been an easy process, Mr. Speaker, since to change the hostility and the refusal-to-bargain attitude of three years ago into the process we are involved in today, meant that each side had to be willing to meet together somewhere in the middle.

We have been fortunate to have had the sort of people involved who were capable of doing so. We can only hope that when the agreement is signed, the rest of us Yukoners, white or native, will be able to walk that extra mile so that we can begin a new era in Yukon, where everyone will work together and plan the development of our great potential.

We can do it, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure we will.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, I, too, welcome the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory and wish him luck in his new vocation.

Unfortunately, sir, the Speech from the Throne had no imagination, and offered very few new initiatives that this government is going to take in the Territory. If one had simply read the newspapers in this Territory for the last two months, Mr. Speaker, one would have the content of the Speech from the Throne before him.

There are two new items, Mr. Speaker. There is \$100,000 being spent on an Ottawa office, and there is the statement of the intention to make some as yet unspecified changes to the Cabinet Ministers' conflict of interest guidelines.

But, the bulk of the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, dealt with something that one could read in the Annual Reports of Cyprus Anvil Mines, Cattermole, or United Keno Hill; the government wished to bask in the sunlight from those annual reports.

Of course, we all laud private enterprise, and what it has done for this Territory, and one would have hoped that this government would have learned something about private enterprise and entrepreneurial spirit. The only demonstration of that has been a very sad one, Mr. Speaker, and I refer to the recent disposal of the Whitehorse Credit Union Building, which was purchased at a price of \$450,000, and sold for \$252,000. Now, there is a Government, Mr. Speaker, that knows about private enterprise, and how to make a profit and avoid a loss.

The big dollars, Mr. Speaker, in this Speech from the Throne, appear to be dollars going to tourists. Our pampered tourists are going to get more facilities all across the Territory. But what about the disabled: \$10,000. How does that compare to the Ottawa office at \$100,000?

What is the government going to do, Mr. Speaker, about daycare? Well, Mr. Speaker, that comes down to precisely nothing. They are simply doing a transfer payment, and I will deal with that a little later.

When we take something that this Assembly unanimously agreed upon in the last sitting, Mr. Speaker, pharmacare, one would have been very surprised and shocked if they had not brought forward actual proposals to introduce pharmacare. The senior citizens of this territory cannot wait forever for pharmacare. But what are we getting, and what are the senior citizens getting? Well, they are getting a White Paper, and that means that we will not hear anything on pharmacare for some time to come.

No, Mr. Speaker, the significance of the Speech from the Throne is, as the Member from Whitehorse South Centre indicated, significant for what it does not speak about.

What issue, Mr. Speaker, affects every Yukoner's pocketbook, every day of the week?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am wondering if the Honourable Member could remain at his desk in order that the reporters can more clearly hear through the microphones.

**Mr. Veale:** I am sorry to give the reporters a distraction, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Proceed.

**Mr. Veale:** Mr. Speaker, food prices affect the pocketbook of every citizen of this Territory, on a daily basis.

There was not one word in the Speech from the Throne about food prices. We even have a finding of facts, based on the admission of Kelly Douglas, that they add a mark-up to transportation; a most incredible thing for them to admit. How could it possibly be justified? One does not even need an inquiry, Mr. Speaker, to determine that that is absolutely and totally unacceptable.

We also have, of course, the weekly evidence in this Territory, Mr. Speaker, that a small store in Porter Creek regularly out-competes the largest store in the Territory, which, of course, has all the advantages of having quantities and being able to give discounts to the people of this Territory.

What has the government done? Well, it has not said anything in the Speech from the Throne; you have to read the

newspaper, Mr. Speaker. This government has given an assignment to Kelly Douglas, and to use the words of the President, his assignment is to "rationalize the price discrepancies between Whitehorse and Vancouver".

Now, is it not incredible, sir, that there would be no comment on such a statement? I do not believe the President of Kelly Douglas will have any difficulty in rationalizing the price discrepancy.

The Member for Whitehorse South Centre, I suppose, Mr. Speaker, is less concerned about prices these days; he is leaving the Territory and I wish him well. What we are asking, Mr. Speaker, is that prices in this Territory be fair. That is not too much to ask.

We ask, also, Mr. Speaker, for an inquiry, not a committee. This government operates as a committee, sir. We are asking for an inquiry, a one person-inquiry, to investigate this matter and bring some relief to the citizens of the Yukon Territory.

I note, Mr. Speaker, that there may be a small small ray of hope in the Speech from the Throne in that the government is going to introduce inter-provincial subpoena legislation. That, of course, Mr. Speaker, takes away the excuse that the government has been trotting around, that it cannot subpoena Kelly Douglas. I am pleased to see that in the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne stated that this is a government that listens. Well, it must be a government that is hard of hearing, sir, perhaps even deaf. It did not hear what the people of Faro unanimously petitioned to this Assembly in the Fall Session. It has not heard the continual concern in Watson Lake for the raw sewage that pours out behind the houses of residents in that community. The government response to that is to build a tourist information booth. The government, of course, is well aware of the fact that a hotel has burned down in that community. The government is offering financial assistance for, indeed, another hotel in Dawson City.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard lofty words in this Assembly about decentralization, and the plans of this government. I do not believe the word was mentioned, sir, in the Speech from the Throne. There has been nothing concrete from this government to stem the centralization in the City of Whitehorse, and expand the number of civil servants who are working in small communities throughout this Territory, to expand the economic bases in those communities.

Mr. Speaker, in the Speech from the Throne, the government has indicated that it has heard of a resolution from their party, a resolution on day care, which is a step, a tiny step, Mr. Speaker, in the right direction. It is something that should have been implemented in this Territory two years ago, to subsidize the day care expenses incurred by people that really do not have the income to afford them.

But, Mr. Speaker, that subsidization does not in any way increase the dollars that are going into day care centres in this Territory. It does not in any way enhance the standards or the facilities in day care centres.

We have heard a great deal about the assistance promise for Dawson City and the hope of the Minister that there will be further assistance, but there is nothing in the Speech from the Throne to give the people of the Yukon any hope that money — and it is only a small amount of money, Mr. Speaker, that is required to really assist the day cares in this Territory, a small piece of that one hundred thousand dollars for the Ottawa office, Mr. Speaker, would do just fine.

Mr. Speaker, what is most incredible about the Speech from the Throne is the lack of any meaningful legislation that this Government is bringing forward in this Session. It does indicate that there will be a *Lands Ordinance* that we have been waiting for two years, and we look forward to that.

The *Petty Trespass Ordinance*, of course, is being bounced back from the last Session. Mr. Speaker, what about the *Municipal Aid Ordinance*? Are we going to hear in this Session about the formula that this Government will be proposing regarding per capita grants for the municipalities and communities of

this Territory? I look forward to hearing about that in this Session, Mr. Speaker.

Are there any amendments to the *Labour Standards Ordinance*? The Government started out on that task some time ago. We have not heard since.

What about a Pre-judgment Interest Ordinance, Mr. Speaker, which has been adopted in almost every jurisdiction in this country, to ensure that people who get injured as a result of motor vehicle accidents will receive interest on their damages from the date of the accident to the date of their judgment in court. Why are not these pieces of legislation being brought forward, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, there was no mention in the Speech from the Throne about the third level of Government in this country that is so important. I refer to the small communities and municipalities throughout this Territory. Surely the party that is so in favour of provincial status would mention the communities in its Speech from the Throne, because that is the third level of government that really has the most direct contact with the people of the Yukon from day to day, but there is no mention of them. They have completely neglected the financial assistance that they are going to propose and the formulae that they are going to propose to assist our communities.

They have heard a plea from the Yukon Association of Communities for financial assistance to hire an executive director so that the communities can get together and do things for the people of this Territory. There is no response from this government to that plea.

The Speech from the Throne indicates that Land Claims will be of utmost priority to this government. It said that on Page 21, but I do not think that should in any way detract from holding the government to that statement. The government also seeks to do the health transfer, not that it does not have enough on its plate already. It has some difficulty meeting the day to day obligations of government, but it is my sincere hope, that this government will tread very carefully on that transfer, and ensure that the transfer is acceptable to all Yukoners before it embarks down that path that was so disruptive in the past.

The conflict of interest guidelines that are binding on the Ministers of this Government may be in for a change. We do not know as very little was said, but there was a hint. Let me express my concern, sir, to this Assembly, that there should be absolutely no reduction or watering-down of those stipulations for Ministers of the Crown. I sincerely hope that the government is not going to go down that road, because a Minister of the Crown has an obligation to all the people of the Yukon Territory.

He or she should be able to forget any private business interests that may be involved. That distinguishes a Minister of the Crown, Mr. Speaker, from other Members of this Assembly. The Ministers of the Crown are the ones who make policies which are so important to this Territory, and they must be above and beyond any reproach.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Mrs. McGuire:** In my reply to the Throne Speech, I would like to say that I was impressed - and I should not say I was overly impressed - but I was impressed to hear that this government is making great strides towards Yukon independence. The Government Leader's appeal to our southern neighbour, Alberta, would appear to be a step in the right direction in gaining sympathy for Yukon's concerns. Also, Mr. Speaker, it worries me greatly that the rest of Canada, and in particular Ottawa, may view the Yukon as being unduly influenced by Alberta. We must recognize the fact that Alberta is not exactly in Ottawa's good books. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that Yukon, in order to achieve independence, cannot afford to attach themselves to any one province. If an appeal is to be made, then make that appeal to all provinces.

Mr. Speaker, it is recognized that Yukon's ultimate goal is provincial status, all in due course. But in order to reach that goal, you must at all times appear to be responsible in gov-

erning your own affairs, and to practise responsible government.

It is clearly understood that all Yukon citizens and government are working towards a just resource ownership and revenue-sharing agreement with the Federal Government. With Alberta demanding the impossible with their resources, it would be detrimental for us to be viewed as being too closely aligned with Alberta. I would, therefore, Mr. Speaker, caution this government not to be taken in by visiting Alberta delegates, who arrive in Yukon with the pretense of offering advice and support. It is quite clear to me that the purpose of the last visiting delegation of Albertans was to inflict propaganda on the Yukon public, to gain sympathy for their unjust cause of putting the squeeze on Ottawa, to meet their greeby demands on their energy prices.

Mr. Speaker, Alberta has refused to accept the fact that one day Canada will be in control of our energy future. Canada will be independent of all multi-nationals. Alberta has refused to recognize that this achievement requires equality and fairness amongst all Canadians. Let us not make that mistake.

Mr. Speaker, I must say that I am extremely pleased with the appointment of Ione Christensen to the PetroCan Board of Directors. Think of what this could mean to Yukon. We are on the brink of discovering our own energy potentials and options, and to have a Yukoner actually participating in shaping our energy industry is to our advantage. One must keep in mind that in order for Mrs. Christensen to exercise her full potentials, she must require full cooperation from this government. We must put aside our partisan criticism, however hard that may be, to work towards a resourceful Yukon.

Mr. Speaker, the overall synopsis of economic development indeed looks great. Hopefully, this government will get a firm grip on the door knob before the door opens. Up until now we have nothing but political haymakers, and very little action.

For example, I will refer now to the exclusion of owner-operators at the Quill Creek project. It has become quite clear to me, Mr. Speaker, that unlike British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the unions call the shots in Yukon. And Foothills goes along with them, while this Government sits idly by, refusing to enter into the dispute for the people they supposedly represent. Mr. Speaker, such discriminatory exclusion clauses that were established by the unions and blessed by Foothills are intolerable, to say the least.

Mr. Speaker, Foothills Pipelines Limited is, of course, the over-all culprit responsible for allowing this to happen, since they have the authority and responsibility to ensure that all their contractors and subcontractors who enter into collective agreements with unions, do not violate any licence or permit conditions that Foothills has officially agreed to and signed, such as the land use permit. There appear to be controversial opinions on the legality of the land use permit terms and conditions, which very clearly spell out not only environmental conditions, but also social and economic conditions. To be specific, Mr. Speaker, Annex B of the permit is a hiring provision, which states that Foothills shall give preference for employment opportunities to permanent Yukon residents, in the planning, construction, and operation of the facility, and Foothills shall ensure that the provisions of hiring local residents are applied to its contractors and subcontractors, and that Foothills shall provide Yukon businesses with a fair and competitive opportunity to supply goods and services for the construction and operation of that facility.

In my opinion, these conditions were not complied with, with the exclusion of owner-operators. It is also my opinion, Mr. Speaker, that the Land Use Permit is a legal document - for it is an agreement between two parties - which permitted Foothills Pipeline to take possession of and use the land at Quill Creek.

Ken McKinnon, of Northern Pipeline Agency, admits that the agency does not have the terms and conditions in place, because of various hold-ups in Ottawa. Mr. Speaker, I seriously question whether it is the fault of Ottawa. If Ottawa is the

hold-up, then why were the terms of British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan approved? That is the question we have to ask ourselves. I believe that the only people dragging their feet on this issue are in the Northern Pipeline Yukon office. Even though it is a federal office, with federal employees, this Government has every right, as a representative of the Yukon people, to ask for replacements at the Northern Pipeline Agency. If this government does not move now, we could very well find ourselves in the aftermath of the pipeline, wondering what happened.

Mr. Speaker, I have scanned this Government's Throne Speech very thoroughly, and have not discovered any other controversial issues of any interest. The contents dwell mainly on federal funding projects and private enterprise, except for a section on health service transfer, which will probably raise a few questions in the House. Mr. Speaker, it would be very interesting to hear how this government has overcome all the obstacles that has blocked the health transfer in the first place, such as the Land Claims settlement.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your patience and attention. Thank you.

**Mr. Byblow:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Whitehorse West, that debate be now adjourned.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Faro, seconded by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse West, that debate be now adjourned.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** May I have your further pleasure?

**Mr. Graham:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that the House do now adjourn.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the Honourable Member for Whitehorse Porter Creek West, seconded by the Honourable Member for Mayo, that we do now adjourn.

*Motion agreed to*

*The House adjourned at 3:22 p.m.*

**The following Legislative Returns were tabled March 25, 1981:**

81-4-1

Economic Research and Planning Unit — Studies and reports

(Written Question 17, 3rd Session)

81-4-2

Lots for sale by tender - November, 1980

(Oral, Hansard, Page 672, 3rd Session)

**The following Sessional Papers were tabled March 25, 1981:**

81-4-2

By-laws: Association of Professional Engineers of the Yukon Territory

