



The Yukon Legislative Assembly

Number 14

2nd Session

24th Legislature

HANSARD

Wednesday, March 28, 1979 — 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: The Honourable Donald Taylor

Whitehorse, Yukon

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Mr. Speaker: I will now call the House to Order.
We will proceed at this time with prayers.
(Prayers)

Mr. Speaker: We will proceed at this time with the Order Paper.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Speaker: Are there any documents or returns for tabling?
Reports of Standing or Special Committees?
Petitions?

Introduction of Bills?

Are there any Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers?

Notices of Motion?

Are there any Statements by Ministers?

This then, brings us to the Question Period. Have you any questions?

QUESTION PERIOD

Question re: Corrections Director's Resignation

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Justice. Can the Minister now inform the House if he has completed the investigation into the affair surrounding the resignation of the Director of Corrections?

Hon. Mr. Graham: No, I have not, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Will the Minister tell us when he will have this investigation completed?

Hon. Mr. Graham: I expect to complete it within the first part of next week, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Will the Minister tell the House who, other than the Deputy Head of his Department, he will be interviewing in the course of his investigation?

Hon. Mr. Graham: No, I do not think I will tell the Honourable Member opposite who I will be interviewing. I will assure him that I shall make every effort to interview everyone connected, even remotely, with the incident.

Question re: Transition Home

Mrs. McQuire: I will direct these follow-up questions to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Has this Government made any decisions on the acceptance of the transition house proposal and will this proposal be presented for consideration at the Yukon Housing meeting which will take place this coming Friday?

Hon. Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, no, the government has not made a decision in respect to the proposal put forward and there will be some discussion at the Yukon Housing Corporation meeting this weekend.

Question re: Business Licence Consolidation

Mr. Fleming: Yes, a question, Mr. Speaker, to the Tourism and Economic Development Minister in the area of licencing. I would like a short explanation in the Tourism industry on the highways. The licencing has been done, in effect, with every little area that the operator has; such as, motel, restaurant, gas, food, and so forth.

Has the Minister entertained any thoughts as to consolidating these licences in any way to make it easier for the tourism operators?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, being in the tourism business myself, for a few years, I know the frustrations that he feels.

However, the licence for this upcoming year is beyond our control. Hopefully, during the course of this present fiscal year, we will be reviewing it and; hopefully, we can come up with a different method of licencing tourist outlets.

Question re: Corrections Director's Resignation

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Yes, a further question to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister tell this House whether it was at his request or at the request of the Director of Corrections that nothing would be said about the circumstances surrounding his resignation?

Hon. Mr. Graham: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not believe at this time I will comment on that.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Will the Minister of Justice then tell the House what right he had to enter into any agreement with an ex-employee of this Government that forbids him to disclose the use of public funds?

Hon. Mr. Graham: Mr. Speaker, at this time, a Deputy Head, if he resigns or even if he is fired from a position, we have the ability, under the Ordinance, to give that Deputy Head three months leave with pay in lieu of any other job security that he may have. In this case, Mr. Mounsey was previously a Deputy Head and we decided at this time to judge him to be so when I accepted his resignation and as such, he, under the Ordinance, was entitled to a leave with pay.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: The payment of severance pay may be usual; however, the keeping silent about the reasons for the resignation are not, and I am wondering if the keeping silent was a condition of the payment of that severance pay.

Hon. Mr. Graham: I do not think I should comment on that at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Fleming: Mr. Speaker, we have received an answer from the Minister of Health on March the 26th, 1979. The answer was not really pertaining to what I had asked. I would like to rephrase that in a written question, Mr. Speaker, if I may?

Mr. Speaker: Proceed.

Question re: Medicare Payments

Mr. Fleming: This is addressed to the Honourable Minister of Health. Would the Minister give me the correct answer to the following questions:

1. What was the total accurate amount spent taking people to court under the Medicare Ordinance between April 1978 and March 1979?

2. How much money was recovered by this method?

3. What other methods of collection are used to recover monies from people who are in arrears in their Medicare Premiums?

4. What did each method cost the Government and how much money was recovered by each method during this same time period?

5. How many cases were dealt with by each method?

Question re: Government Insurance

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism and Economic Development who is also responsible for Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Several of days ago, the Minister alluded to an investigation, which is continuing under his offices, into the possibility of Government sponsored insurance of various kinds. Can he tell the House if the problem of owners of all the trailers who cannot get fire insurance is also being considered in this investigation?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, no, I could not be specific and say that the owners of trailers and their fire insurance are involved in this investigation; however, I would suspect that, seeing as how it is a fairly full-fledged investigation of insurance in Yukon, it would be included.

Mr. Penikett: Will the Minister give an undertaking if this matter is not now being considered in the investigation, that he will order that it be taken into account?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I would take that undertaking at this time or not. I think that this investigation is pretty far along and I do not know how much extra work would be involved in it.

However, I will ask my Department whether it can be done very reasonably and, if so, we will do it.

Question re: Fuel Costs and Taxation

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Speaker, I have two written questions that I would like to file, today.

Mr. Speaker: Proceed. Would you read the questions, please.

Mr. Penikett: Very well, Mr. Speaker.

To the Honourable Government Leader: what cost will the government have to pay in the 1979-80 fiscal year for: a) gasoline; b) diesel fuel oil; c) heating fuel oil; d) aviation fuel; and what amount of fuel oil tax in dollar terms would the government have to pay at the current tax rates and at the rates of tax proposed to come into effect April 1?

Question re: Dempster Highway Maintenance Costs

Mr. Penikett: The second written question I have, Mr. Speaker, is to the Honourable Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Section by section, what is the total estimated cost to maintain the Dempster Highway in the Yukon Territory in the 1979-80 fiscal year including, but not limited to, summer maintenance, winter maintenance and the items and the cost of those items that contribute to the total?

Question re: Medical Profession Ordinance

Mr. Byblow: I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Speaker. It does not deal with vehicle licencing.

Has the Minister had any representation respecting the reopening of the Medical Profession Ordinance?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, I have not had any representation but I can tell you that we are studying the Medical Profession Ordinance right now and we are rewriting a new Ordinance and; hopefully, within the very near future, we will be introducing it into the House.

Mr. Byblow: Is the Minister aware of any difficulties in the past year regarding doctors' certification as a result of changes to the Ordinance last year?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Byblow: Will the Minister take this into account in preparing the legislation?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think, the new Medical Profession Ordinance will take all that into account.

Question re: Public Service Commission Hiring Locally

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Government Leader concerning the Public Service Commission and policy directing that Commission. In view of the Government Leader's stated position that he is going to encourage the hiring of local people and is preparing to take some steps to help improve the qualifications of local people so that they may apply for jobs, can you give us some assurances of what kind of steps he will take to improve the situation?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, the first positive step that we have taken will become evident in next year's budget, about the first time that we could make anything positive evident in the House. We are, at the present time, in the process of doing our program forecasts for next fiscal year and we are trying to give priority to funds for this kind of program.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: In making the considerations, could the Government Leader assure the House that a scheme such as to give financial incentives to employees who take courses in the evening and on their own time might be considered?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, I am in no position, at this time, to give assurances of any kind. We will be looking at all alternatives.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: In the course of looking at all the alternatives, Mr. Speaker, will the Government be looking at the cost benefit analysis that results from the calculation of about, a \$10,000 cost per employee hired from Outside versus the funds they could allocate to upgrade existing employees?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, this of course is one of the prime criteria in the whole program.

Question re: Souvenir Industry in Yukon

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I have one more question, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. This is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Consumer and Corporate Affairs. As this Minister has the responsibility for DREE and the development of a sound economic base in the Yukon, would he be prepared to call a meeting of parties interested in establishing an organized and viable craft and souvenir industry in the Yukon?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, it is my full intention of developing a craft industry if possible. It has been one of my bugaboos for many years as to why we do not have it here, and that is one of my very prime areas and I will certainly be interested in anybody that has anything to say about it.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: That would include me, Mr. Speaker. In addition, if the Minister would undertake to involve the Yukon Indian Craft Society, as well as Mr. Jim Robb, could he give us these assurances?

Mr. Speaker: Was there a question?

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Yes, I was asking if he would include myself, Mr. Robb and the Yukon Indian Craft Society in his undertaking to proceed with the development of such an industry.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think, I could permit that question. I think that you were being somewhat facetious.

Question re: ARDA and DREE Applications

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary to the question on ARDA and DREE. Some time ago, the Minister responsible advised the House that applications under these programs would be vetted by the Executive Committee. I would like to ask the Minister if the Committee that was established to review this application has been advised of this development?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Yes, Mr. Speaker, they have been advised of it.

Mr. Penikett: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask then when they were advised?

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether it is really the Member's privilege to find out that, but I will tell him anyway. I advised the chairman of that committee approximately, two or three weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker: There being no more questions we will proceed on the Order Paper to Orders of the Day, under Motions other than Government Motions.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 1, standing in the name of the Honourable Mr. MacKay.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Honourable Member prepared to deal with Item Number 1 at this time?

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, seconded by the Honourable Member from Faro, that, in the opinion of this House, the Yukon Territorial Government should develop a co-ordinated social policy for Yukon.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to lead off the debate on this resolution and my remarks will be of a general nature with some specific items towards the end.

I would like to say from the start that the approach to social problems in Yukon, I believe, require some drastic revision, Mr. Speaker.

Many programs have grown up to meet needs as they are recognized and while each program may, in itself, be fulfilling its purpose, there are often gaps and overlaps reflecting an overall haphazard approach.

Some years ago, for example, the medical profession realized that the only way to cure disease and pestilence was to prevent it before it occurred. Thus, vaccines have nearly eliminated polio and various types of cancer have been brought under control by early detection.

My opinion is that this kind of approach must be followed for social problems too. Our present system is to treat the problems, in many cases, after they have become offensive. We lock up drunks in correctional institutes, to hide them from the general public. We build the youth centre for kids who actually need to be brought into society and taught to live in it. We build it in the bush and we surround it with wire fence. We make more laws to catch drunks, to hire more Magistrates to sentence them, and you request more policing to find them. We spend many millions of dollars doing this,

Mr. Speaker. I submit that we are only treating the symptoms and not preventing the disease.

While it is easy to criticize a phrase that I am sure is in the minds of the Members opposite right now, but it certainly is not my intention, Mr. Speaker, to make them appear culpable for this state of affairs. I do not want the Members opposite to listen to my speech in a defensive frame of mind.

We all have to find solutions to these problems together, and of course, all the solutions in the world are useless unless we have the money to implement them. I am sure that money is a serious problem, but surely, it only comes to what our priorities are in the end.

In fact, it makes good economic sense to spend some money producing productive citizens who will, in turn, contribute to the society in which they live, rather than to spend a great deal of money dealing with the full blown problems in a way that hides them but does nothing to alleviate them.

The ideas I put forth are not my own, all of my own. However, I feel comfortable with them.

Professional social problems must, surely, begin at home, and, indeed, parents are the ones primarily responsible for prevention. So how can a government help?

Well, the relief of poverty is a goal of all governments, Mr. Speaker, and a strong economy helps and the government is doing its best to build one.

A strong economy does two things. It provides jobs and it provides wealth. Wealth can then be redistributed through government and used to relieve poverty as well as to provide basic services; such as, education, municipal services, health, hospitals, and so forth. Our society has assumed this role of a universal provider so that no one starves, that no one goes without health care, and no one goes without education and this is good. Yet, we have found that the more we, as a society, give to others, the less the recipients appreciate it and, indeed, the greater the dependency on relief becomes. This is a problem with all western social democratic systems, it is not unique to the Yukon.

We, in the Yukon, face this problem just as every other jurisdiction has. However, over-laid on this problem is the fact that a large number of our poor people living in substandard housing, receiving state assistance, are of native origin and have traditionally been discriminated against by virtue of the Indian Act.

We, in this House, must recognize only people, people who need help, people who can give help. By recognizing that to truly give help, we must allow for different cultures, customs and beliefs. This is not discrimination, but a recognition of a reality and the only effective way to deal with the problem, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, you can say that today, nobody is starving, nobody is without medical care, nobody is without the opportunity for education.

But we must now look at the people who, in spite of these state benefits, are not making it in our society and there are a number of causes. There are many causes, perhaps, mostly among them, there still is poverty and there still is some starvation, there is a lack of education, adequate education that is to help one compete in the working world. There is a lack of opportunity and there is an alienation of cultural heritage and there is alcohol.

Alcohol perhaps, should not be overstated. The abuse of alcohol is not only a cause of some of the problems, it is also a result of some of the other factors. That is why we need a kind of co-ordinated approach to our social problems.

The essential quality which must be restored in people, in order that they can improve themselves, is pride. If we restore pride, we can prevent many of the problems. A man must have a job, a family a heritage.

I have philosophized thus far and I would now like to make some concrete suggestions in areas where I think this Government has some competence.

On education, we must be geared to giving a sound grounding in the basics, Mr. Speaker. But while doing this, it must accommodate different cultural biases. Our schools, we all admit, as we have stated before, need more native curriculum, not only for native children but for others who should understand the native heritage. Let us make that a priority.

Counselling should be available in schools, particularly at the secondary and junior secondary level, not only to deal with the social problems as they arise, but also to guide young people into vocations that will allow them to compete economically in our society.

Greater emphasis could and should be given to alcohol and drug education, beginning in the earlier grades in school and continuing through secondary school.

In the areas of opportunity, the DREE and ARDA programs designed to provide opportunities are now functioning in Yukon. This is good and by the large number of applications received so far, it is obvious there was a great need for them.

My question is: why have no funds been set in the budget for projects that are of a non-status Indian nature? There is not even the traditional \$100 under Programs to show the intent. That should have been a priority, I think.

In the area of justice, it seems that it is always our less fortunate citizens who are caught in the wheels of justice. Our justice system is creating, I think, more criminals through its way of handling them. I suggest that things can be done by this Government. I think that the Community Work Program which exists can be improved upon greatly. There are problems with it right now; I think, they should be looked at. I think that more probation officers could be hired, Mr. Speaker, particularly for the outlying areas and specific instructions could be given to them to get active in community affairs and to involve probationers in community projects.

I think, it might be a worthwhile exercise to look at the town of Mayo, who have had a probation officer there for some time, and see how dramatically the crime rate has dropped by his work, partially by his work. It is hard to define these things but undoubtedly there has been a drop.

I think that the Government should look very hard at a suggestion that has been made of forestry work camps. It gives the inmate both work and the opportunity to regain contact with nature. The bush; however you want to define it, gives him an opportunity to get outside and regain contact with himself. I think, work camps can also be used to help people with alcohol problems to get them out of the environment that often helps to create their problem. I think that education programs in jail could be introduced and improved upon, particularly in the area of developing basic literary skills.

I have suggested before, that the consideration of mandatory counselling as part of a sentencing should be considered for alcohol problems.

I think that the continuation of the hiring of native constables is good. I think that the native probation officers' training program is underway and should be continued and I also think that some way of hiring native corrections officers and training them should also be considered. That will help eliminate the cultural barriers that exist in the delivery of our justice system and will distort the view that some people have of it.

Let us remember, Mr. Speaker, that Canada has the highest prison population per capita of any western country and there are so many alternatives to incarceration. Finally, the treatment of alcohol problems has got to be a top priority in the Department of Health and, indeed, the whole Government. This will involve more money but can we really afford not to have it?

Crossroads and the Detox Center are beginnings; they are working well; they did not exist four years ago. We are making strides. But they need more trained and professional help which means more money. We need the best and we should go after it.

I will call upon this Government to respond to this resolution with enthusiasm and dedication, I hope. Nobody said the government was an easy job and this problem is one of the toughest of all.

Mr. Byblow: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion. It is with some deep conviction and feeling that I offer a few observations and ideas in this whole area of a co-ordinated social policy for Yukon. Mr. Speaker, all too often, I have shared the frustrations of dead-ending in dealings with problems; particularly with youth, because our social agencies have divergent policies, and are not pulling together and; consequently, they impede, they hinder, the successful grass roots handling of the problems, which is where most of them begin.

I think that there is a real need, a demonstrated need, for the various organizations and the government departments to really improve and co-ordinate their activities. They could share their problems. They could consult and they could jointly work on solutions.

I think too often we are offering band-aid solutions. We either gloss over the real social problem or pass it over as somebody else's headache. It is a piecemeal approach, Mr. Speaker, and too often the problem has to be of law-breaking proportion before it is dealt with. In some organizations they call this crisis management.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member before me spelled out some thoughts respecting the problems of delivering these services, of the responsibilities that we all have and the agencies have in attending to our social ills. Rather than restating the Honourable Member's logic, because I agree with it, I would rather focus on

some ideas I am more familiar with. As one Member put it, I went through the system.

Mr. Speaker, not only is our educational system sadly equipped to handle the social problems that pass through its doors but we are not taking enough advantage of an integral key in the delivery system of social services. Long before a youth has to face court charges and incarceration, his case could be handled, where preventative instead of disciplinary attention could be given or has to be given.

Mr. Speaker, it was with deliberate and calculated intent that I asked the Minister of Education, yesterday, for a breakdown of school counselling, of its service and of administrative policy regarding the handling of student problems. Except for the statistics, I have a fairly good idea of the answer. The answer, of course, will articulate beautifully the good intent, the prompt handling, the testing procedures, the referral system, the disciplinary measures and will probably refer to a very successful rate of handling cases.

Mr. Speaker, that is not good enough. In reality, I believe this system is in shambles in terms of a total social context. Let me qualify that. Within the strict framework of the school system, the department, through its administration, through its teachers, through its support staff, I believe that they are doing the best they can with what they have to work with.

The other day, the Honourable Member from Hootalinqua exploded in the House here with a denunciation of the school system and its irresponsible and disrespectful students and he probably shares that view with many others. In that view lies some merit, but I point no fingers and I lay no fault.

I point here, Mr. Speaker, in this forum where direction has to be given and action has to be implemented.

Mr. Speaker, over the past few days we have heard detailed and lengthy debate ensued respecting the various social services provided by this Government and there are good services provided.

We hear and we read of social assistance. We hear of family services, alcohol services, child care, services to unmarried mothers, adoption services, and so on, and this is good. We know that a problem, given persistence, will eventually be attended in one fashion or another, but my suggestion is that all of these social services are operating rather inefficiently and because they are operating separately.

To go back to step one, the school which is intricately linked with the family unit is really ham-strung by a lack of expertise, lack of facilities, and a lack of manpower to deal with problems that originate there or originate where they are first noticed. Let us face it, the school system is the first public stage where problems are most often found and the symptoms are demonstrated. Often, problems stem from a poor home environment and within the capabilities of the school the problems are tolerated, it is attended, sometimes it is patched over by a phone call and it is left to ferment.

You might suggest that it is the duty of administration or the classroom teacher to counsel problems in order to keep everything else in order and I submit that countless hours are spent by countless people after duty and during duty to attend this. The problems are more often beyond the school's capability to handle.

Even though they may just be a school problem, it is still social problem, it is still a problem for society. The classroom teacher cannot present a curriculum, counsel his twenty or thirty students, provide for their individual and special needs, maintain parental consultation, lobby for help and yet lead a normal life.

More, the problems that exist are in an environment where there are many and most who want to advance and learn and prosper and grow. What results is a catering to a sort of mediocre middle of standard. So why is not Human Resources, you know, with their two and one half million dollar budget, the RCMP, Justice, Health and Welfare, and all parts of their programs, their services, their budgets, in the school too? Sure, it is happening but the problem is a lack of co-ordination.

I said earlier and I repeat again, why do matters have to be in a crisis state, in law breaking proportions, before someone acts, or reacts?

You know, the only way Human Resources personnel will deal with a school problem is if the school submits a referral and they will only do it if there is an apparent social infraction in such a proportion deemed by school authorities to be knocking the system out of smooth running.

So the welfare worker gets into the picture and often very late because of his own heavy case load, and by this time a civil or criminal offence has taken place. The offender is up before the courts and any chance by the experts to deal with the causative and

preventative stage of the problem has long passed.

Even if Human Resources is able to get to the problem, all too often their personnel is also ham-strung by their own resources, by their own red tape, and by their lack of a comprehensive and total-approach policy.

The latter is in reference to all departments, that gets in the act to eventually deal with the problem, the justice, the courts, the police, even the hospitals. This, Mr. Speaker, leads to the fundamental thrust of my presentation.

I submit that this Government, in arranging their co-ordinated social policy, set up something of an interagency grouping, a personnel who will realize the common goals of their programs and of their services in order to streamline the services that we have to offer.

About three years ago, there was a Whitehorse conference in which this very idea was put forth and out of that conference came some improvements and the departments began to go into the school systems, but it is not enough and it is not co-ordinated.

It may firstly, be necessary to do a simple inventory and just find out what are the goals of every program, of every service provided. It may be necessary to consult. It may even be necessary to include public and private service organizations because they are often dealing, in their own way, with the very same problems that government departments are dealing with.

I suppose, besides this kind of a grouping, it would provide some sort of a guiding cohesiveness, as I would like to call it, to this delivery of the services. In addition, it would provide something of a sounding board for this government, for the public, where you can share ideas. You can mould your social policy. You mould it to the needs and you are receptive to this broad spectrum that it represents.

Mr. Speaker, I am not proposing that vast amounts of additional monies be appropriated for social services. I suggest that some simple staff reallocations, and reorganizations could be the first step. Primarily, only three agencies need be re-examined in this light, mainly Justice, Welfare and the schools.

I think that we should recognize, however, that there is a tremendous sensitivity and magnitude to entering the school system with Government social policy. For that reason, any intervention has to be with caution and universal approval. Mr. Speaker, I think that we have that approval. Parents of children, the children themselves, the society at large, are groping for help. There is discontent, accountability is in question, so the system has to be improved. We have the expertise. We have the talents. We are spending the money. Let us just rearrange the mechanics.

I suggest that the social workers be part of school staffing. I suggest that we take justice and the police into the classroom. I suggest that we create social service courses in education. I suggest that we educate and not react. I suggest that we get our things together and make our services available at the level where they will do the most public good.

Mr. Hanson: In listening to the last speaker, the Honourable Member from Faro, I do not know where he lives or what he sees in his world.

I live in the small community of Mayo and, at least once a month, the police, the social worker, the probation officer and the Indian Band Council and other people form a group that is an inter-governmental group and they study the problems of Mayo.

There is not too much reaction yet. They are asking for things, they are doing things, but at least they are doing something. That is part of the government planning.

I think that it is an on-going plan within the government that the communities do this within their own area.

I think that eventually it will help, but there is the other area that everybody forgets about. We all stand up and say it is our right, but nobody in the community wants to accept the responsibility of helping at all.

When we talk about Wolf Creek, there are several service clubs in Whitehorse. They could go out and help the kids at Wolf Creek. I do not think it is a very nice life for a kid to be put in there. I think that the police do go out. I know, in Mayo they attend all the meetings, the police do, to help the people.

I think, it is going on all the time. Things are improving. Communication is getting better and, I think, eventually we are going to see some good come out of it.

Alcohol, I think, is a problem, but it is going to take quite awhile. I do not think money is going to be the answer and, as the Honourable Minister of Justice said yesterday, people who want help can get it.

I thank you.

Hon. Mr. Njootli: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the speeches that the Opposition have made, I would like to make some comments with regards to the motion. The motion, to me, reads that the Yukon Territorial Government's social policy is not co-ordinated. In my opinion, as the Minister of Health and Human Resources, I do not think that is correct.

There were statements being made that my Department is not hiring people that are qualified to do the job. Again, that statement is wrong. We are careful in hiring individuals who we think will do the job and I think that they are doing the best they can and that they are coming out with good results. They have to go through the Public Service Commission in conjunction with the Deputy Head who obviously has certification in evaluating who is best for the job.

With regards to the comments made to the Health Department not being run under one system, but is channelling out to different areas under different programs, that is not, again, true, unless the Member is correct if he is referring to the health transfer where all the health services are divided under two Governments. If that is transferred, then we would have a co-ordinated health delivery system here in Yukon.

One Member stated, Mr. Speaker, that the Human Resources' budget has \$2.5 million. Again, that is not correct. We estimated money and are looking towards and helping needy people and people with problems. Regarding the motion that is now in discussion, there is some \$4,894,400.

The programs are co-ordinated under an umbrella of a Department called Human Resources. The Corrections Department meets regularly with Social Services on problems in the Yukon Territory. The Health Department is coordinated through meetings with the Human Resources with regards to Rehabilitation, Mr. Speaker, and Alcohol and Drug Services.

Again, with regards to problems in schools regarding my Department of Human Resources, regular meetings are being held where a principal or teacher is at a meeting within this Government building and the Human Resources Department.

The RCMP has a Special Constable assigned to work with juveniles, and again there, this particular RCMP visits the Human Resources Department to speak with my officials and try to help out wherever he can, regarding juveniles.

In the National Health and Welfare area, the Government of Canada here in Whitehorse does have a mental health team. They again, co-ordinate with the Department of Human Resources and discuss mental health and the public health nurses also come into the Department from the National Health and Welfare and we try to co-ordinate policies in those areas where problems arise.

The Rehabilitation Centre is a private agency, Mr. Speaker, and gives delivery of service. Human Resources deliver services for this private agency, Rehabilitation Center for specific clients.

One and a half years ago, Mr. Speaker, there was a Standing Committee set up within this Territorial Government and it is called the Standing Committee for Social Planning and Community Development. From what I gather, Mr. Speaker, the reason for setting up this Social Planning and Community Development Committee was to review and make recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Territorial Government and they submit these recommendations which lead into legislation or policy-making within the Government regarding social planning in Yukon Territory.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit also, the various departments that make up this Social Planning and Community Development Committee, the Standing Committee is chaired by the Director of Human Resources and the Committee includes the Chief Advisor of the Economic Research and Planning Unit, Land Claims Administrator, the Superintendent of Education, Director of Health Services, Director of Justice, Director of Information Resources, Director of Municipal and Community Affairs, Pipeline Co-ordinator, the Native Advisor, Manager of the Yukon Housing Corporation and the General Manager of the Yukon Liquor Corporation.

So, Mr. Speaker, in reply to all the statements that have been made in this House regarding social policy in the Yukon Territorial Government, have been co-ordinated by all these various departments. For instance, there were statements being made regarding inadequacy in justice, there is the Director of Justice within this social planning committee that is set up. That is just one example. Each of these departments have an input.

This motion here, as put forth by the Leader of the Opposition is not a motion that I will support because it does not reflect upon my Department or any department within the Territorial Government.

We try to help the Yukon people as much as possible. The Opposition has, up to now, agreed with the budget we have submitted to run the Government and each of these submissions reflect upon various departments that have something to do with the social planning in the Yukon Territory.

So, with that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I would like to move an amendment, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre, that Motion Number 17 be amended by deleting all words after the word "should" and substituting therefore, the following: "continue its efforts toward a co-ordinated social policy for Yukon."

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Minister of Health and Human Resources, seconded by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse South Centre, that Motion Number 17 be amended by deleting all words after the word "should" and substituting therefore the following: "continue its efforts towards a co-ordinated social policy for Yukon."

Is there any debate on the amendment?

Mr. Penikett: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must, at the outset, express regret that the Government finds it cannot support the original motion. However, I do not think that the amendment substantially changes the intent.

I think that what we are seeing here, is essentially a non-partisan debate. That is as it should be. I do not think any of us are, in fact, making express or specific criticisms of this Government. I think, we are speaking to a general concern in the Territory. I must say that I am, frankly, disappointed to have the comments received simply as narrow criticism.

Mr. Speaker, I would very much like to have had the time to prepare a thoughtful, reasoned statement on this question because, I think, it is a fundamentally important question. However, in the absence of some reasoned, well thought out statement, I would like to give you the benefit of a few thoughts off the top of my head. I think, I have something to say and I would like to say it at this time.

Historically, Social Democrats and Socialists share with Conservatives an idea of community unlike Liberals who, certainly in the 19th century sense, are traditionally individualistic in their philosophy. We do not believe in a society based on every man for himself.

Where the people of my philosophy differ from Conservatives, or have differed with Conservatives historically, I think, is in the conservative view of the structure of society. Historically, conservatives have believed in an ordered social system with a place for everyone and everyone in their place.

Mr. Penikett: The view or philosophy to which I adhere to is based on a different principle and that is the principle of equality, the notion of both social and economic equality and that is fundamental to the kind of democracy that we espouse.

I think that we believe that only in such an environment will individuals be able to achieve their maximum potential and only in such a society will individuals be able to receive all their needs. Our present society, I think everyone would agree, wastes an enormous amount of resources and a great number of people and I believe that only a real commitment to equality in the end can reduce this waste.

It is obvious that there are certain very hard realities to Yukon society and I do not think it does this House or anybody else any credit to ignore them. One of the most obvious realities is that most of the poor people in Yukon are Indian; most of the Indian people are poor. This is a situation which persists in spite of the fact that in the last generation there has been a fair welfare state built up in Canada. I think it is true that my Party has done a lot to advocate and fight for pensions and family allowances and medicare and some of the other pillars of the welfare state which we now take for granted.

The hard fact is, though, that none of these things have, in any substantial way, reduced the inequalities in our system and I think, I would like to look at that problem in terms of three difficulties which I think that governments face, when trying to deal with social problems.

I think, as has been said by everybody else here today, that the departmentalization by government, in its dealings with troubled people, defies their humanity. It splits a person up into parts and aspects of their character which makes little sense. I think that the second difficulty which we experience is the one identified by the Leader of the Opposition and that is the problem of always dealing with the facts rather than causes and ultimately, as we all know, to extend the Opposition Leader's medical analogy, the cost of dealing with a disease that is well-advanced is much greater than

would have been the cost had we caught it at the outset.

I think that the third difficulty we have is the practice of institutionalizing problems and I think this is an extremely difficult area because I will admit, there are no easy answers to it. The fact of the matter is that we hide, I think, kids in the schools. We hide old folks in the senior citizens' homes. In Canada as a whole and in most other countries, we put crippled people in some kinds of institutions. We put retarded people in other kinds of institutions. We take them out of society. We put them out of sight and to a large extent, out of mind.

I think that we are slowly coming to realize that as a whole, perhaps in some way that designers of these social systems never imagined, we lose something in our community by doing that. We lose something in terms of our own sense of humanity by not having, in our presence all the time in the way that rural society did, the ever-present evidence of the suffering of many of our brothers and sisters.

I think that many problems persist because of the economic circumstances, the economic conditions in our community which have been addressed by other people and I, for one, am not going to suggest for a moment that all the levers and all abilities to solve our economic problems reside in the hands of this Government. That would clearly be absurd.

It seems to me that we cannot ultimately do anything about the poverty which I think, is at the root of many of our social ills until we can effect a fundamental redistribution of income on a scale at least greater than the one that now operates.

I think it is obvious, and I know this from the experience of my own relatives, that an Indian kid cannot compete fairly and equally in the school system, if every day they have to go home and try to do homework in a one or two room shack with parties going on, perhaps fights, without proper food, not enough sleep, sometimes without proper clothing and in an atmosphere that is just not conducive to their gaining the best advantage from the educational system.

I think that there is no point in complaining about family decay in various parts of the community as a whole, when it is quite literally impossible in some cases for the provider in the family to compete with the welfare agent as the supporter of the family. I think that kind of situation is a powerful destructive force in terms of the family structure.

I really believe that there is no point in jailing young school dropouts ultimately, because we really do not know what else to do with them. I think, with all the best intentions of the world, we still have an education system which trains people for jobs that do not exist. I think too, that even our recreation policy tends towards an elitist and comparative system rather than a co-operative and educational form of recreation.

Everybody talks about the integrity of the family but we have done, I think, unconsciously, some things that have a very disruptive impact on families. We have, in the past generation, tended to want to segregate the very old members of our community and the very young members of our community and I think that kids grow up often without the benefit of the wisdom of their elders and I think that sociologists will tell us the obvious thing, that nuclear families are very unstable. I recall visiting, one time in Saskatoon, an institution with which I was very impressed, it was a health centre which had in the same building a senior citizens' home and a day care center and I was quite impressed with the sight of the children cavorting with senior citizens who are not necessarily related to them. The centre, obviously, gave them some contact with older people and it gave the older people something to do in terms of teaching and story telling and so forth. That seemed to me to be a place with some potential.

I think that in many ways in these difficult times that we have gone through historically. Recently, there are many people who see our society as one without a purpose. I think that the same feeling is often directed towards governments in that they do not have any clear social goals. I think that it is not, to reply to the Minister of Health and Human Resources, some niggling criticism about whether some co-ordinating committees exist within the government.

I think that it is a problem of a government deciding what kind of social objectives it desires for the community, and stating them clearly, before it begins to implement specific programs.

For I believe and I would say this with respect to the Government Leader, that a government without a clear social policy is doomed to eternal ad hocery and tinkering at great expense and little benefit in the long run to the community.

I think that it is probably true that an ideal community would only exist when workers and management, old and young, Indians

and whites, the miner in Faro and the trapper in Mayo deal with each other as equals, with mutual self-respect, with confidence in their social usefulness to society as a whole, with confidence that they really have similar stature to every other member of the community.

Today, our society is rife with all sorts of conflicts between unions and companies, social classes and racial groups. Various interests are pitted against each other in endless, and largely, unproductive disputes over the allocation of our scarce resources. We divide ourselves, mindlessly, into camps of winners and losers, cities and settlements.

I think that we have forgotten to address the great question and that is: what is the common good? What is in the best interests of society as a whole?

I feel that conflicts in society ought to be dynamic and creative, but it seems to me that this can only happen when the parties to any dispute meet and dialogue as equals.

I feel that the Quaker notion of a Society of Friends is quite close to my vision of the best possible type of community, but the leadership to achieve this end, I think, is lacking today. I do not address that remark in any partisan sense, I address it as much to myself as to everybody else here.

I think that as politicians, we tend all to be too concerned with peoples as votes, the same way that businesses tend to be concerned with people in terms of profits. You might say, even trade unions, with which I have had some experience, often, today, seem to have lost track of the social goals and forgotten the original meaning and purpose of that movement.

I think that as our legislature, we should be looking today, tomorrow, and continuing to look at the root causes of our social ills and digging out the weeds that are choking the garden. I think that, as other Members have suggested, there are some immediate practical steps that we can take. The Honourable Minister of Health and Human Resources has talked about the co-ordinating committee within the Department, that is fine.

I think that we need a similar kind of co-ordination at the field level too. I think that we should stop dealing with young people, particularly as either educational or recreation or social, or correctional problems. We should bring all these agencies together at the field level to work as a team. I think that we should have a system where a person with problems deals with one agent of the government. Such people seem to have great difficulty coping with all the teachers and social workers, and probation workers, and court workers, and welfare workers and inspectors, that handle their cases. I think that it is an unfortunate word, that, "cases".

I think that we should get these social services together at the field level in a kind of committee structure to review and pursue, review each person's situation, on an individual basis and then, perhaps, assign the most appropriate single public servant to assist them in their adjustment to full membership in society. I would say again, though, ultimately, this will all prove of limited value unless we can get back to basics and take a hard look at what is wrong with our system and our society.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would urge the Government Leader, who I believe is a fair-minded man, to consider this subject in an open-minded way, forget for a moment, the details, the dollars, the man years, for a moment and talk out the social policy for Yukon with his Executive Committee and his Caucus. Consider the big picture and come back to us one session from now or a year from now with an Ministerial Statement outlining a social policy for Yukon and then, let us debate it again, because I think that the subject deserves our attention, not only once, but several times in the life of this House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I just have a few comments to make on the resolution. I think that it is fairly evident from the comments that were made by the Minister responsible for this area, he has outlined very well the co-ordination that goes on within the government in respect to the responsibilities that have been assumed over the years by government and by this Legislature and previous administrations.

I think that there are a couple of areas that really have not been touched on. I noticed in the area of Justice that we talked about the criminal, we talked about the rehabilitation program, but not once, Mr. Speaker, not once, has anybody ever discussed why he or she has been incarcerated.

Now obviously, Mr. Speaker, if one is incarcerated they have violated the rights of someone else. They have broken the law. Nobody ever talks about the victim. Nobody ever says, about the individual who has been wronged, that maybe, government has a responsibility to them as well.

Politicians too often get on the bandwagon and they say we are going to save the world. We are going to have everybody stop drinking; we are going to have everybody stop taking drugs; we are going to institute another program.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that it is time we evaluated what our role is here, and what the roles of the departments are and analyze the programs that we do have, that we are spending taxpayers' dollars on to see whether or not they are meeting the demands that are being placed upon them.

Mr. Speaker, one Member says spend more money. Well, we have seen what has happened, nationally, when we spend more money. We have got the advent of the \$.84 dollar and, if one really analyzes it, the \$.42 dollar if you compare it to 1970.

Where is that money coming from, Mr. Speaker? That money is coming from the people who elected us. The individuals who, every four years, go to the ballot box, cast their ballot and put their trust in their elected member to take the responsibility of government decision-making off their backs so that they can go on with their private lives and hope and see that the government is moving in a direction that is acceptable to their philosophy.

I think, it is important, Mr. Speaker, that we analyze where the problems are coming from. I think that the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West made a very good point when he talked about the disincentives that have been put into place, more on a national level than, I think, at the territorial or provincial levels, where it is more economical for an individual to go and drink beer everyday as opposed to going to work because he makes more money.

I think that is a real problem area. I think that this is where government has taken it upon themselves to say that we are going to solve all the problems by giving them more money. That does not solve the problem. What we have seen is genocide by generosity in some cases. I think that we had better start realizing that.

Further to that, Mr. Speaker, when you talk about more money, and it is easy to sit up here and philosophize, and say we are going to spend more money, where is that going to come from? Is it going to come out of property tax? Is it going to come out of sales tax? What method of taxation are you going to take it from, because in the final analysis, that is where it comes from.

When you do that, Mr. Speaker, you are increasing the cost to the individual family, to the breadwinner to the point where he is forced, the family structure is forced, to have to have the wife going to work.

So what happens to those children? Through the economic situation, the mother cannot stay home, although she would like to stay home, and those children are put off by themselves and then we wonder why we have a problem?

I think, Mr. Speaker, these are the areas we had better start to analyze and we better start to analyze them very soon, because we have a responsibility and a responsibility is just not to a minority in the population, it is to everybody in the population and one of those areas and in the last three weeks, it has not been mentioned, that is to the taxpayer.

So, we better analyze that accordingly and what I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is we better ensure that our social ideals to not exceed our economic capability of coping with it. If it does, Mr. Speaker, we will have socialism, we will have equalization of poverty.

Our system is set up with incentives for people to go to work, to get ahead and we must maintain that, otherwise, Mr. Speaker, we are going to have a country, all right, we are going to have a welfare state where it is not a case of raising taxes, we will have to go and buy another mint and print more money which is worth nothing.

So, Mr. Speaker, what I am saying in the final analysis is the state has the responsibility, but let us never ever forget that the citizen has a responsibility, and it works hand in hand.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, it is a problem. I would very much have liked to have supported the Honourable Member from Riverdale South's motion; However, the implication is that we must develop a co-ordinated social policy for Yukon. Mr. Speaker, I think it is very, very important that everybody realize that we have, in fact, a co-ordinated social policy in place, albeit, lacking in some areas, I doubt, Mr. Speaker, very much whether we will ever be in a position to stand in this House and say we have a social policy that everyone is satisfied with. It cannot happen, and it will not happen, I am certain of that.

This motion is very non-partisan, as has been suggested, in that it is a concern of everyone in this House. We, on this side, feel the concern very deeply. We have been working toward ensuring that our co-ordinated social policy continues and is expanded.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are no easy answers, we are aware of that, we are looking all of the time for answers, none of them easy.

I think that the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs has brought up a valid point. We must be concerned with costs and where we are going with them. It is an easy matter for any of us, any of us, Mr. Speaker, to stand up in this House and say it would be nice to have this social program or we should have that program, but the buck does stop in this House and we must produce them, so that is and it does not have to be and should not be an overriding concern, but, Mr. Speaker, that too, must be a concern. If we are going to exercise our responsibility in a meaningful way, then we have to be concerned with those costs as well.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Mr. Fleming: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I might put in my twenty-five cents worth, but after the eloquent speeches that have been made here, today, it will probably only be worth a dime.

I believe, in the first motion, and the amendment, I will be supporting. I have a feeling that somehow the amendment is put in by the present Government to ease the pain, as you may say.

There has been some things said today, such as the Minister for Health when he said that when the problem arises, the Government is going to be prepared to do things about it. I think, in that instance some Members on this side have said, no, let us fix the problem before it arises which, I think, is the right way.

The Minister of Consumer Affairs felt that the programs you have now should be more or less put together. I, the Member from Faro emphasized this very much. I do not think anybody is in real opposition to each other here in this amendment or the motion.

The Government side has asked to continue its efforts toward co-ordinated social policy for Yukon. I think that they weakened it a little, in some sense, because I feel that the motion, in itself, before, was very plain and brought forward and I do not think it was really meant to.

But I will support the amendment, in this case.

Mr. Falle: Yes, Mr. Speaker, in listening to the Honourable Member from Faro, it was rather news to me that I attacked the school system. I do remember attacking the RCMP.

Since then, I have found out that the extra amount of money we are spending and the extra people we have on staff on the RCMP justify it. One of the reasons is situations like small towns, Old Crow, and a few other places where they have to have two on staff. I thought there, for a minute, that they were not working so I checked into it and they have 56 cases per man, to the average 39. So, obviously, I apologize for the statement I made about the RCMP.

Going on with this welfare thing, I want to make it very clear that we realize that there is a problem somewhere in our system. We do not know where it is yet. I do not think anybody does. We are going to find it.

I think, to that end, that is our main project right now, is to try and find that loophole where our system seems to be breaking down and people are having a lot of problems with the law.

Also, I am really glad to hear Mr. Penikett state that he does put a very, very high priority on mothers. The other day I was a little bit offended with him. He did not think mothers earned their way, but, to me, I think that is one of our most important jobs in our country that of my wife being able to stay at home and raise my family. In my way, she is doing a heck of a good job.

Thank you.

(Amendment agreed to)

Mr. Speaker: Is there any further debate on the motion?

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Yes, Mr. Speaker, in case my voice was not heard, I did agree with the amended motion because I do not think it changes the intent which is to draw attention to the social problems that do exist in Yukon.

I would like to say though, that I am disappointed by the official responses, from the front bench opposite, to the concerns that we have been expressing here today.

I might add, for the benefit of the Minister of Health, that committees are somewhat dangerous. There was once a committee formed to design a horse and we now have a camel. So I do not think that we should rest everything on a committee.

It came as a surprise to me, Mr. Speaker, from our Member from Whitehorse West, that Conservatives actually have more in common with Socialists than they do with Liberals. I find that an interesting analogy.

The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, I thought,

spoke from his heart. He spoke with conviction. He really meant everything he said. Unfortunately, I think he has a hard heart.

I think that that is perhaps a trait, in some ways, that having worked for a living and having made a success of himself, as he has, as have all of us here today, we are successful in every different kind of way but we are successful, it is all too easy to forget that there are many who are not a success, and that sometimes, it is not sheer ability and hard work that gets us to where we are, that there is a considerable amount of luck. Luck in being born into a family that helps get you an education, that shows you the values of the work ethic, that gives you a sound grounding of where you are going. That is luck. None of us here can claim any credit for our parents.

So, I go back to that position that we are fortunate, a fortunate few here. We must not forget the unfortunate many.

I think that our social ideals will probably always exceed our pocketbook and so they should, because we should always be striving to do better than we have. A pocketbook is not much fun if you can only share it with one or two other people.

I think that a little exercise of responsibility in this Opposition and this Government will exercise its responsibilities to the taxpayer, not only in safeguarding the taxpayers' dollar, but in trying to ensure that it is spent in the best manner possible to produce the best results. That is one of the purposes, perhaps the primary purpose of this motion, was to try and find some ways of improving it, of improving the delivery of our social services and, in fact, improving the whole philosophy that goes into them.

I echo my colleague from Whitehorse West, when I say that I hope, Mr. Speaker, this will not be the last debate that we have in this House on this subject in this term and that the Government will look hard and not take a defensive posture on the suggestions that have been made here, today, and that the Government will look hard at his social policies, to see if the committee is working, is it working at the grass roots level. It may be working upstairs all right but is it actually functioning where it is supposed to be functioning.

I think that actually, the most eloquent speech all day was the member from Mayo, it showed more good sense and grassroots approach than everybody else and it so happened, it was the shortest. I will take the hint on that and sit down now.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member, now having twice spoken, has now closed debate.

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Clerk: Item Number 2 standing in the name of Honourable Mr. Penikett.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Honourable Member prepared to discuss Item Number 2.

Mr. Penikett: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West, seconded by the Honourable Member from Klane that this Assembly urge the Government to institute an affirmative action plan for women within the Public Service of the Yukon Territorial Government.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Speaker, at the outset, I feel bound to respond to the remark from the Honourable Member from Hootalinqua. I want to assure him that I, too, have a mother and that I love her dearly.

Mr. Speaker, when I was sixteen, I went to work for a bank and in that bank were a large number of women who had been employed there for several years. I spent my first few weeks at that bank being trained by those women. After they had finished training me, I was put in charge of them. Whenever I think about the situation of women in the work force, I am reminded of that experience which was my first in the labour market.

Foothills Pipeline Company will be expected to have an affirmative action plan for women and I think that it would be hypocritical of the Government not to do the same for its women employees.

Discrimination on the basis of sex is deeply imbedded in our places of work including governments. In 1975, the Federal Government introduced a five-year plan to improve job opportunities in the Public Service but, as yet, no trend to reverse this inequality in that government is evident.

The majority of women in the public service are concentrated in a few job categories where the wage rates are low and where the work tends to be monotonous and unchallenging.

In the Federal Public Service, thirty-four per cent of all public service employees in 1977 were women. In the Yukon government, of a total of 1,006 people employed as of December, 1978, 461 or forty-six per cent, were women.

That appears to be good. Almost half the Y.T.G. employees are women. But the picture soon turns gloomy when a look is taken at what jobs women hold and, perhaps, more important, what they are paid.

Of the 461 women, 370, an unbelievable eighty per cent, earned less than \$17,000 per year. Of the 545 men employed 422, or seventy-eight per cent earn more than \$17,000 per year.

There are almost no women holding jobs paying more than \$33,000 per year, while twenty-nine men are employed in these high paying managerial positions. Only seven women are employed in the Y.T.G. in jobs that pay more than \$25,000 a year, while ninety-five men hold such jobs.

This clearly shows that women are not holding Yukon Government jobs that are worthy of their ability and capability and they are not being encouraged or given the opportunity to get jobs with Y.T.G. that require a fair degree of skill or responsibility.

The breakdown is as follows: of 461 female employees, women at the Y.T.G. earning less than \$17,000 a year number 370, women in the Y.T.G. earning more than \$17,000 a year number 91.

The breakdown of the 545 male employees, the men earning less than \$17,000 a year in the Territorial Government is 123 or twenty-two per cent, the men earning more than \$17,000 per year with the Y.T.G. is 422 or seventy-eight per cent.

The total breakdown of the 1,006 employees, the workers earning less than \$17,000 a year is 12.2 per cent men and 370 women, workers earning more than \$17,000 a year is 422 men and 91 women.

The picture gets a little brighter when teachers are included with "regular employees" percentages show that women are in a better position with a higher number of them earning more than \$25,000 a year. The fact remains that there are almost no women in jobs paying more than \$33,000 a year.

The breakdown here, is as follows, women earning less than \$17,000 per year are 477, or 71 per cent, women earning more than \$17,000 per year 193 or 29 per cent.

The breakdown for male employees is men earning less than \$17,000 a year, is 184 or 29 per cent, men earning more than \$17,000 a year is 448 or 71 per cent.

The most remarkable observation about this situation is that in terms of wages and salaries, the situation is totally reversed for men and women. Seventy-one per cent of the women employed including those teachers make under \$17,000 a year, while seventy-one per cent of the men make more than that.

The situation is reversed for women earning over \$17,000 a year and men earning less than that. The percentages in both cases are identical, 29 per cent. The situation is worse only when "regular employees" are taken into account.

Even with further examination, it shows how bad the situation really is, on how far the Territorial Government has yet to go to achieve the true equality of the sexes in its employment practices.

Segregation in the Public Service is becoming less and less related to women, lacking educational skills. It is more closely tied to actual discrimination and unequal access to job openings. The statistics themselves, are evidence of disparate treatment based on sex. Promotions are slow because departments depend on women to provide cheap and efficient support services. Women are bypassed by young men and then expected to train these newcomers. More and more women, particularly married women with children, are told they should not be working.

Not only are women expected to do the majority of typing, filing, bookkeeping, and telephone answering, they are also expected to do it for subsistence wages. In some jobs or departments, where women are performing identical or similar work, men continue to earn more. Even in these female job ghettos, men seem to rise to the top of their pay scale much more quickly than their female counterparts.

True equality in compensation depends, in the long run on desegregation of the Public Service. On International Women's Day this year, the Minister of Manpower and Education said he would consider an affirmative action program. He supported the opening of new career opportunities for women and removal of sex stereotyping in the school curriculum. That is good. It is a beginning.

However, in the long run, genuine equality of opportunity for women in the Public Service depends on the development of affirmative action programs. Equality of opportunity is a state where all jobs are open to qualified persons, regardless of sex. However, when women are concentrated in the few occupational categories, they do not have equal access to all jobs, no matter how qualified they are. This is because of certain criteria, which must be met

before one is eligible to enter internal competitions. Here, for example, I would like to give a case in the Federal Government where the practice of defining competition eligibility in terms of group, level and salary has in many ways restricted the determination of merit instead of facilitating it.

The prerequisite for real equality in the Public Service is the development of affirmative action programs. Unlike equal opportunity which emphasizes opening up of competitions to women and removing barriers and attitudes which discriminate against women, affirmative action implies special and remedial efforts to ensure women are represented proportionately throughout the Public Service. Such efforts include: establishing targets and timetables for female representation at each stage of the employment process; and intensifying efforts to train and promote women already in the public service.

Positive action has been promised by the Government in the form of special trades training courses and the creation of a women's bureau. However, I must tell the Minister frankly, that gifts of flowers to women on International Women's Day and a lack of clear priorities for the women's bureau reveal some painfully traditional attitudes in the government.

There obviously has, in the past, been little interest in Yukon Government in developing an affirmative action program. Things may in fact, be improving, but we do not have the figures, to show it.

The general atmosphere of restraint has, as in some cases and in some governments, adversely affected the cause of equality for women. It is a reality in our economy that women are still the last hired and the first fired.

Instead of cutting back in this area, I think that the Government must, in the interests of simple justice, move forward.

We probably ought to have less reliance on paper qualifications and inflated job qualifications and greater attempts to relate educational qualifications and relevant experience to the job which is to be done.

We ought to have adequate employee appraisal systems for the identification of women with potential.

The Government appears to be interested in training its own employees rather than continuing the slave trade in public servants from the south. That is great and I look forward to the results of the Government Leader's initiative in that area with enthusiasm.

Finally, the Women's Bureau should be asked to develop an affirmative action program for women in the public service in Yukon. Women's equality in employment should start, not with Foothills, but here in the Territorial Government; in this building. I suggest that we should put our own house in order first. Let this Government lead by example rather than by regulation.

I would say, Mr. Speaker, if the Government will, today, commit themselves to such an affirmative action program, they will have my wholehearted support and I am sure the appreciation of all women in the employ of the Government of Yukon.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Graham: Mr. Speaker, I welcome the Honourable Member's remarks on the affirmative action program. I might note, Mr. Speaker; however, that I am very surprised that the Honourable Member is not including such other minority groups such as handicapped and natives in his motion for a positive affirmative program for the Y.T.G. Just before continuing on...

Mr. Penikett: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we hear the Point of Order.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Speaker, I would be quite prepared to accept an amendment dealing with that subject.

Mr. Speaker: I do not feel that the Honourable Member has a point of order.

Hon. Mr. Graham: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before continuing the main body of my speech I would like to make a comment on a couple of figures that the Honourable Member Opposite gave to the House. I believe that he stated that as of December, 1978 women comprised approximately, 12.2 per cent of YTG's managerial employees and yet, Mr. Speaker, the managerial competitions reviewed by this Government showed that roughly 11.3 per cent of all applications received for those managerial positions were women. If this government were upholding the merit principle and no discrimination were being exercised, and 50 per cent of the applications for those positions were in fact women, one would expect that fifty per cent of the vacancies filled would be by women. Given that in actual fact, Mr. Speaker, 12.2 per cent of the YTG's managerial employees are women, it would logically follow that 12.2 of the

applications received for those positions should have been women.

In actual fact, Mr. Speaker, we did only receive 11.3 per cent of these applications from women and as I have stated before, women do comprise 12.2 per cent of the managerial positions within this government. So I do not believe from those figures that there is any evidence that YTG is in any way discriminating against women.

The basic problem lies, Mr. Speaker, in the fact that there are a limited number of women qualified or unqualified available that are applying for these managerial positions. I think that is the essential problem, whether or not they are qualified, I do not know, but I do know that we are not receiving enough applications for managerial positions.

Going on, Mr. Speaker, an affirmative action plan or an affirmative action program consists of a specific series of action steps designed to counteract the effect of past discrimination and to further enhance the ability of certain people in society to participate on an equal basis. While this government does not, in fact, have an affirmative action plan for women per se, this is not to say that we are not taking steps to counteract the effects of past discrimination on women in employment.

As the Minister responsible for the Status of Women and to reiterate what I have already stated in this House, the Women's Bureau is currently preparing a broad plan of action for women. This plan includes women in the family, employment, education and training and statistical analysis. Discussions have been held with the Public Service Commission concerning in-house training programs for support staff.

The statistics of salary by sex are being looked at and will be compared with employees in other jurisdictions. A pilot project, as I believe the Honourable Member opposite mentioned, a pre-trades training for women at the Vocational School will be implemented in the coming year.

Mr. Speaker, affirmative action programming is very complex. Within the Territorial administration, a number of departments are involved. We cannot hope to implement an affirmative action program without the consent and cooperation of these various departments within the government.

The Fair Practices Ordinance is currently under review by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and my department, the Manpower Department, will be working in co-operation with my colleague's Department in this review. The legislative authority required for affirmative action initiatives, by the Territorial Government and throughout Yukon, will be addressed at this time.

The Public Service Commission would have to play a lead role in establishing an affirmative action plan within the Territorial Government. Without the co-operation of all departments, an affirmative action program would be doomed to failure. The success of any affirmative action plan, as I have stated, depends on the unequivocal support of all senior management in all departments. An affirmative action program must be broad and well thought out. Accountability and review processes must be in place before a plan could be implemented.

We are talking of changing the whole attitude, not just implementing regulations. The whole attitude must be changed and this is a very slow but necessary process if an affirmative action program is to be successful.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member opposite highlighted an area which we are addressing. I think that the record will show, at this time next year, that the steps being taken by this Government to address the needs of women in employment and training, both within the Territorial Public Service and in the Territory generally, will be accepted and will, in fact, show a progressive thought process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mrs. McCall: I am gratified that the male Members of this House have shown great sensitivity on this subject and acknowledge the need for reaching out, encouraging and developing further.

I would like to move, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Graham, Minister of Education that Motion Number 18 be amended by repealing all the words after the word "to" and substituting, therefor the following: "that this Assembly urge the Government to continue to develop its affirmative action program for women within the Public Service of the Yukon Territorial Government through the Women's Bureau established last year".

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved from the Honourable Member from Klondike, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Education that Motion Number 18 be amended by repealing all of the words after the word "to" and substituting therefor "continue to develop its affirmative action program for women within the Public Service of the Yukon Territorial Government through the Women's Bureau established last year".

Mr. Penikett: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if you would be prepared to give a ruling on this? I have some problem with the amendment in that I fail to see how it substantially differs from the principle addressed in my motion and I would, therefore, request some ruling from yourself as to whether the proposed amendment is in order, in that it does not substantially change the motion.

Mr. Speaker: It would appear from the Chair that the intent of the original motion is not altered to that degree in terms of substance by the amendment. The Chair can see no problem here. The amendment is quite in order.

Mrs. McCall: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the difference is in the word "institute" as compared to the words "continue to develop".

Mrs. McGuire: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have seconded this particular motion, not for reasons that you may think, not, for instance, that the motion concerns only women. On the contrary, I would not hesitate to move or second any motion that would bring to light issues of vital importance that have been severely retarded, because of the short-comings and the short-sightedness of many politicians.

The affirmative action plan is just one of many programs needed to improve the representation of a designated group of people in all areas of the workforce. To endorse this motion with this government's approval will not only show that this government is acting in the best interest of all people, but will also show your sincerity in your unanimous pledge to support the objectives of International Women's Day.

Mr. Speaker, we hope to have this motion passed today, although we expect to encounter strong resistance from some individuals who are sitting in this Assembly.

Women, on the whole, have proven themselves time and time again. They have shown that they could be competent and secure, both as ordinary members in, or as directors of, the workforce making valuable contributions to social progress.

Many women have developed specific career goals which they are working to achieve. However, for the majority of these, the accomplishment of these goals is a disheartening task and the reason is the absence of equal opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, the basic formula for the successful woman is to clearly identify herself as a person setting out to achieve a certain goal, giving no thought to failure, even though chances of failure outweigh chances for success by a very wide margin.

Now that we have outlined the formulas for the successful woman, Mr. Speaker, I would like to enlighten this House as to the means by which a government can be just as successful.

First, let us identify a governing body. A government is not a machine nor an instrument, but is made up of warm-blooded human beings, usually of two species. These warm-hearted creatures are usually bearing in mind at all times the golden rules of this country.

What better proof of this could there be than that this Assembly consider methods to overcome barriers and obstacles to equal rights. By doing so they will create a union of solidarity.

To accomplish this, we must first divest ourselves of personal opinions and personal grievances. We, in fact, gave up the right of exercising our prejudice when we were chosen as administrators of this Territory.

We each, in our own way, believe in fair play. We all respect the basic human rights, so let us put this practice into full force by affirming our full support of this motion.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Byblow: Mr. Speaker, I assume the debate is on the amendment?

Mr. Speaker: This is correct.

Mr. Byblow: I have some difficulty and then, I do not have difficulty.

The amendment is hardly any different from the intent of the original motion. If we are looking to change the intent by one word, I am not sure what is being achieved. Nevertheless, I will support the amendment because it achieves the same as the original motion.

In this debate, I have some trepidation of conscience because most women in the Territory, including my wife, make far greater incomes than I do. Seriously though, the tendency by society to stereotype the male-female role, as we witness in the "Dick-Jane" pattern, certainly should not and cannot be encouraged. It may be acceptable for some, but it should not be forced.

That, in fact, is what appears to be the case. Not only do we see

the evidence of this stereotyping in literature throughout our school system, we see the evidence of stereotyping around us all the time.

There is an interesting set of statistics extractable from Manpower data. Inquiries for job seekers reflect an almost 50-50 male-female ratio. However, most of the women have quite well developed skills of one kind or another, whereas the male tends to be unskilled.

Then, to add insult to injury, in order to qualify for any Manpower slot at the Vocational School, one must be unskilled in terms of potential earning capacity. It is a rather complicated contradiction.

This results in a situation where a woman with rusty secretarial skills, for example, might qualify for an upgrading course but not for any complete retraining in a higher paying field.

The origins of this discrimination, they seem to be sort of multifaceted. Admittedly, the mentality that women are not qualified for much more than skills in typing and shorthand and bookkeeping, it certainly has changed a lot over the years, but when you think about it, this is really mainly the skills that the girls are coming out of the school system with. We know that these areas of skills do not earn much money.

From the Vocational School, we have the ratio of men to women in the non-traditional courses at something like ten to one. Slots, say, for women in these courses are most often never filled. Why?

I suppose, to a large degree, as the previous speaker has spelled out, the need to establish goals and identity and equal opportunity have to be re-examined. How do you do this in practice?

It is obviously going to be a very gradual process. There is no doubt a need for a much greater awareness that there are other careers than the traditional ones.

I am not sure that the true Women's Liberation is really a liberation until there is economic liberation and somewhere a greater encouragement must be entertained to permit the career oriented female to prepare in skills that do not inhibit her capability to grow and progress in this male dominated, high-earning position.

Somewhere also, I think that along with any demand comes a justification and I think that right here, we have a demand for some approval of an affirmative action program. I think that it is fully justified. I will support it.

Mr. Fleming: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I, too, had some problem with the wording of the amendment. As I say, in the last amendment we had it more or less, from the government side of the House saying that we do have all these programs and everything is in order and all we wish to do is amend so that we will go along with this, the fact that we are doing it, but we are willing to keep going.

However, I am very surprised at the amendment and the motion itself, in many ways in the House. It seems that every four years and a new government is appointed that the same motion must come forward somewhere to do the same thing. I find it over and over.

I wonder, the basic fact must be that it is not being done, really, or we would not need it every four years, every new government.

However, I hope that maybe, in the next four years, if there is a new government, that the ladies will get their rights, actually equally with us, and that we do not see this type of motion again in the government.

I will be supporting the motion and the amendment, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must admit that I rise under some disadvantage in this debate in that in the gallery I have my mother and sister looking on, so I will have to take great care.

I also have to indicate some surprise that I have a lot more in common with my friend from Whitehorse West than I ever imagined in our backgrounds.

He told of joining a bank at age sixteen. I, too, joined a bank at age sixteen. He told of being trained by a lady to do the work. I, too, was trained by a lady, but there the circumstances changed. I can add a little story that really tells a lot about what is happening in our society.

That particular lady who trained me had, sort of, snuck into the bank labour force. I think that it must have been during the war that she managed to get in. This is in Scotland where things are a little more traditional. By the time I was working for her, Mr. Speaker, she was about age forty-nine and among the younger workers on the staff, I might add. She was called "the girl". This was her name.

I might add that this sixteen year old junior apprentice was shown more respect, he was called "Mr. Boy".

I believe that we have all come a long way and Mr. Boy is now referred to as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

Women have also progressed a long way from that time. As the Member from Whitehorse West points out, there is much still to do. Underlying the obviously unequal treatment that is received by women in our workforce, is the fact that their role in society is changing and changing very rapidly. They are widening their horizons. Women want to do other things.

The Member from Hootalinqua has told of his expectations of his wife, the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs said in his various statements that women are being forced to go to work. I think both of these sentiments are personal in nature but the Members are perhaps, not aware of the "new" women, the one who not only wants to raise children, not only wants to share a home, but also wants to work, wants to exercise the brain, wants to earn some money. She wants to get out and meet other people, wants to be part of the wage economy.

There are many such women. Many of them are highly educated at a great expense to our society and who are very valuable as contributing members in our workforce. Nevertheless, because of the dual role and perhaps, because of periodic absences due to pregnancy and things like that, these women have difficulty in pursuing these careers. The fact is, though, that many women are now rising to the top. We only have to look at the chief executive officer of the Territory for some indication of what is happening.

There are many, many more women, Mr. Speaker, many, many more women who face discrimination of an unspoken, undefinable kind. That is why an affirmative action program is necessary. That is why I will support the amended motion. I would not like to think that by supporting the amended motion that I was agreeing that Government is doing everything it can do at this point and I hope, through this motion, through this debate, more will be done.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Falle: Again, I am on the hot seat. If you people misunderstood me, I am not a male chauvinist over here. I am just trying to make one main point that women definitely have their place in the workforce, but I also think it is an honourable job for them to raise their children. My wife, she is educated and she has a trade. It has not hit me that hard yet, that she has to go to work. It will, I think, if I do not make any more money than I am making.

The main point that I want to stress, women that do stay home and raise their children contribute an awful lot to society. Before this, we were wondering where the fall is in our society.

If you want to look into statistics, a lot of kids that get in trouble, are kids from broken homes, women that work and go out and leave their children. You check the statistics but that is one problem, I do not know if it is the only problem, as I stated before, we are going to definitely look and try to find out where our system is breaking down but I think, women either at home or on the job, they contribute an awful lot to our society.

Dr. Hibberd: Mr. Speaker, I do not have very much to add, I just have a couple of comments that I would like to bring forward. In view of the information supplied to us by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, perhaps, we can now refer to him as "Wee Boy" henceforth.

Mr. Chairman, I think that the amendment that we are now addressing does have considerable effect on the motion that was originally presented to this House. It is my impression that the original mover of this motion was trying to hang this government on the basis that they had nothing going on in this area at all. The word used in the motion is "institute" and the protestation on this side of the House is that there are programs that are now being developed. Now, we all agree there is a long way to go, there is a lot to be done but it must be pointed out that these are indeed, already started at the present time. I think that that has to be recognized in any motions dealing with this.

It should also be pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that this motion is referring to the field of action in the Public Service of this government and what we might be able to do in that area. It certainly does not absolve us of the responsibility for other measures that might be required in some way that we might be able to manipulate the conditions in the work field in other areas outside of this Government. I expect that from our own agency now started, we will be dealing with those problems as well.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member from Whitehorse West has already spoken on this amendment and can no longer speak.

Mr. Penikett: I have a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

My Motion, as it is printed in the Order Paper today, reads "that

this Assembly urge the Government to institute an affirmative action program for women within the Public Service of the Yukon Territorial Government".

That word "institute" seems to have caused some problems and therefore, the amendment has been proposed "to continue to develop its affirmative action program for women within the Public Service of the Territorial Government" et cetera.

Mr. Speaker, I quote from Hansard Monday, March 26, page 223, where I introduce my motion and I would like to read the words in the motion as I introduced it. "Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of motion, seconded by the Member from Kluane, that this Assembly urge the government to initiate an affirmative action program for women within the Public Service of the Yukon Territorial Government".

It seems to me that some confusion has arisen around the word "institute". I do not want to muddy things impossibly, and end up in some pointless procedural debate but I would say that the amendment is acceptable to me, Mr. Speaker, but it seems to me not to do that, we could end up quibbling for hours about something which is pointless.

Mr. Speaker: In response to the point of order raised by the Honourable Member from Whitehorse West, I have a copy of the motion as submitted and it says "That this Assembly urge the government to institute an affirmative action plan for women within the public service of the Yukon Territorial Government". This has been restated on the Order Paper in its original form, so I must conclude that the Honourable Member does not have a point of order.

Mr. Penikett: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to point out an error in Hansard which may have confused several people.

Mr. Speaker: Just one point that I might bring to the attention of the House in relation to the amendment. The amendment has a typographical error. It must be assumed by the Chair to be one.

It refers that Motion Number 2 be amended. Of course, this is intended to read Motion Number 18.

(Amendment agreed to)

Mr. Speaker: Is there any further debate on the motion as amended?

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Speaker: May I have your further pleasure at this time?

Mr. Hanson: I move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Hootalinqua, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker: It has been moved by the Honourable Member from Mayo, seconded by the Honourable Member from Hootalinqua, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve to Committee of the Whole.

(Motion agreed to)

(Mr. Speaker leaves the Chair)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Chairman: I now call Committee of the Whole to order.

At this time we will take a short recess.

(Recess)

Mr. Chairman: I call Committee of the Whole to order.

This afternoon we are doing the First Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, Bill Number 4. We will continue where we left off last day, which was page 285 of the blue book, Vote 16, Government Services.

We have finished Establishment 1602.

Establishment, 1603, Public Affairs Bureau, \$388,300.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I think that during the supplementary debate we asked a question with respect to the number of press releases that this department had produced. I am wondering if we were given the answer.

As I recall, it worked out to be close to about 1,000. If you divide that by the number of dollars in this budget, which is probably not too fair, but it indicates something, it is about \$1000 a press release. That is a comment I will pass. I do not think it is necessarily a valid one.

There are four people, though, in Information Services and I would like to get some kind of description of what four people were doing in Information Services.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, no, it is not a fair statement on the whole \$388,000. It represents much more work than just press releases.

Of the four people in Information Services, there are three Information Officers and a Clerk Typist I. The primary function of these Information Officers is putting together press releases of departmental statements, information that is disseminated both inter-governmentally and to the general public, and information that is disseminated to other governments, as well.

It is also responsible for collecting information from other places, press releases and this type of thing, that may be of interest or effect the government in some way.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I am curious about the practices of the Information Services, are they given instructions, Mr. Chairman, to ensure that all the press releases are of a non-partisan nature?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that principle is very, very strictly adhered to.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I am pleased to hear that, Mr. Chairman.

The other question I have, is I just received a press release before we came into the House, it has some curious datelining on it. It said it was due for release at 6:00 a.m., March 29th, and I am curious as to why that this department would issue a press release for 6:00 a.m.?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, I have not received that press release.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: That is because it is not 6:00 a.m. tomorrow yet.

Mr. Chairman, I will probably ask that question again in Question Period tomorrow.

(Establishment 1603 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: I will direct your attention to page 300 which is for information only.

I shall direct you to page 293 Capital Estimates, the first one is 1650 Furniture and Office Equipment for \$125,000.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, this is a capital fund established for the purchase of new and replacement office furniture throughout the Government of the Yukon Territory. It is spent by departments making requisition to Supply and Services. Somewhat on a first come, first served basis, so that when the fund is depleted, if we have not voted enough money in it, then we do, in fact, run into the situation where later on in the year if it is necessary, if it becomes absolutely necessary to purchase a desk, it may well have to be rented.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I am curious for an explanation on that. We talked on it yesterday, Mr. Chairman. It appears to me that when any other capital budget is overspent, that the process is that the government comes back with a Supplementary at the end of the year, and I am curious as to why, particularly in Office Equipment, that practice would not be followed.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman. In respect to capital, our capital estimates are such that our working capital, our O and M capital, must be kept separate. Working capital has to protect over-runs on contracts, and major expenditures of this kind. It has been the policy of this government to adhere very, very closely to this particular figure. When that money is spent, that is it for the year. I can think of occasions in the past when there have been some supplementaries, when it has been obvious that there was going to be a surplus of capital money needed for one reason or another. In the immediate past years, it has been very closely watched.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I would think that the reasoning behind the fixed figure is an attempt to put a lid on the capital expenditures, and I refer back to my previous point, Mr. Chairman, that in the process of trying to save money by putting a lid on capital expenditures, we may well be spending more by having to revert to leasing, and so I suggest, respectfully, that this kind of policy should be reviewed by the Government to see if it is, in fact, producing the direct result of a saving to the government, which is obviously what it is intended to do.

Leaving that point, in setting the \$125,000, do the departments supply a list of equipment that they intend to buy?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, what happens is the departments submit a list of equipment that they anticipate that they may have to purchase during the course of the year, or that they would like to purchase during the course of the year, and as well, they list the replacement of equipment that they would like to replace during the course of the year. This is looked at, and we hope that it is a realistic figure.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Would it be possible to have a copy of that list, if such a thing exists?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, these are working papers that, at this point in time, I would have absolutely no idea of where they are.

(Establishment 1650 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: Establishment 1651, Supply and Services Equipment, \$5,000.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, Supply and Services moved offices. The warehouse is situated out in the Marwell area and this is simply \$5,000 for shelving in the Central Stores warehouse, in the Marwell area.

(Establishment 1651 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: Establishment 1655, Public Affairs Bureau Equipment, \$18,000.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, we have, as you note back in Establishment 1603, photographic services, and the photographic services branch has not had any new equipment for the past three years. It is suggested this year that it is time that some of their equipment be upgraded.

Mr. Chairman, it is very, very expensive. I have some lists here that may be of interest to the members. Requirements for the replacement of a Nikon F2AS lens, \$1,350; a standard lens, \$230; one 300-millimetre lens, \$1,535; a flash unit, \$500; a print dryer, \$1,250.

So, we are talking about very expensive equipment.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Could this equipment be doing a function which had previously been done by say, an outside contractor?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: No, Mr. Chairman, I am sure all Members are aware of Wayne Towress, and the work that he does. An example of Wayne's work is the current Commissioner's Annual Report, and this is why this equipment is used.

Mr. Chairman: At this time, I would like to welcome Mr. Wilson as a witness.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I happen to be a very good fan of Mr. Towress, and he in fact decorated my office with about fourteen of his colour photographs, so I do appreciate his work very much. That would not perhaps, stop me from criticising the theme of the Commissioner's Annual Report, while it is a very artistic production, the theme of showing broken down old houses and broken down old bits of equipment to represent a forward looking Yukon would perhaps, leave something to be desired. That is not a criticism of the art.

I notice that there is a considerable increase in the photographic services salaries and wages, are we taking on an extra photographer now?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is an additional man year, and this is for a technician. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition has acknowledged Mr. Towress' expertise and it is deemed inadvisable to have him wasting his time, or using his very, very valuable creative time, in such jobs as working in a dark room, filing photographs, filing film, and this type of thing.

It is proposed that there be an increase in man years by one for a photographic technician.

Now, Mr. Chairman, while I am on my feet, I should say that when I was in Vancouver last weekend, and at Yukon Night, one of the major things that was a topic of conversation by the 750 people there was, in fact, this self-same Commissioner's Annual Report. The reaction to it was phenomenal. In Vancouver, it was very well received.

(Establishment 1655 agreed to)

Mr. Fleming: Mr. Chairman, just a question, if I may. I know it is just for information only on page 292, on Expenditure Recoveries. Could I have a question on it?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Fleming: I just wondered if we could be informed as to what is the procedure in the sale of surplus equipment?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, as this equipment is replaced, it is what is termed, "boarded". We have a board set up within the administration that looks at the equipment and agrees that it is time to be surplus. That equipment is then taken by Supply and Services and, at appropriate times during the course of the year, there are auction sales held. The revenue from those auction sales is reflected here.

The majority of the sales are against the replacement of the \$125,000 item here, the majority of them. Sometimes there are other items, but, in most cases, it is office furniture and equipment that is sold at these sales.

In respect to the sublease on the Vancouver office, Mr. Chairman, I am sure all members are aware we have moved our Vancouver office from Hornby Street, where the rent was very high, and where we have a lease, and which is now being sub-leased, and

we are netting \$10,000 on that.

Mr. Chairman: If there are no further questions, I refer the members to page 304 and 305, Loan Capital Summary, Expenditure and Recoveries, in the amount of \$5,000,000.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: As the comment was made in some earlier debates that this government is not a bank, perhaps we could have some explanation of what they are doing lending \$5 million.

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Chairman, we have another ordinance to come before the House, the Municipal General Purposes Loan Ordinance, which allows for the lending of funds to municipalities. We have another ordinance, the Loan Agreement Ordinance, which allows our government to borrow from Canada. The funds that we do borrow go to two sources. One, to the municipalities, and the second source is for land development.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Do we charge the same rate of interest to the municipalities and to the purchasers of land? Do we charge the same rate of interest as we are charged by the Government of Canada?

Mr. Wilson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we do.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I can see why the government does not want to get into the banking business!

Mr. Chairman: If there are no further questions, shall the recovery for the amount of \$5,000,000 carry?

(Recoveries, \$5,000,000 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: On the next page, 305, Loan Amortization, Expenditures and Recoveries in the amount of \$5,405,000. Are there any questions? Shall recoveries in the amount of \$5,405,000 carry?

(Recoveries, \$5,405,000 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: The First Appropriation Ordinance, Clause 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the First Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Mr. Chairman, is it in order to say a few words about the summary of debate we have had in this budget throughout?

Mr. Chairman: No, when we get into Appendix, I will allow that.

(Clause 1 agreed to)

(On Clause 2)

Mr. Chairman: I refer the Members to Clause 2. I will not read it out. Continuing on from Clause 2, I refer you to Schedule A.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Thank you. I will not have very much to say. I think, as a general comment at this time, though, with respect to the debate that we have had on this Budget would be in order, and I would like to say that I appreciate that the Ministers who have been fielding our questions have shown great patience and forbearance in some of the ignorance that has been shown on this side, and; hopefully, the process we have gone through has educated us, and I suspect it has also educated some of the Members opposite as we go along.

I think that it is proper to say, as the indication was made in General Debate today, on another matter, that because the Opposition had not been violently jumping up and down and saying, "no, you can not do that," and trying to amend the Budget, and so forth, that we have automatically approved everything that has been in this Budget. That is certainly not the case. I suspect that if the Members over there were free to speak their minds, they would say that they do not approve everything, either, because they have inherited quite a lot of it from the previous administration.

So, I would like to draw to the attention of the Members that, because we have not drawn blood, or done any of the great historic things that could be done, they should not construe that as wholehearted approval of their budget. In fact, we have, as we have gone along, pointed out the areas where we are dissatisfied.

Recognizing that the Government has to proceed, we have not chosen to try to hold up the budget debate to try to make the point any more strongly than we did in the words we chose, and I trust that the Government does not feel that their budget is without criticism at this point.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: I appreciate very much the remarks of the Honourable Member, and I too, appreciate the attitude of all Members in respect to this Budget. It is true that we inherited an awful lot of it. However, we did have some input and, on the whole, I think that we have to say that we are prepared to work within this Budget during the course of this year.

So it has been gratifying for us that the Members opposite have viewed it constructively. Their questioning and their observations have been constructive. I do not know whether there has been no blood let. I think that there has been a few drops of blood let; however, I am confident in the future, there will also be a few drops

of blood let. That is part of what it is all about.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to congratulate you, in the manner in which you have carried us through this budget. I think that if we look back over other years, we will find that we have done this in a very, very constructive and realistic way, in a relatively short time.

Mr. Chairman: If there are no further comments, Schedule "A", Yukon Legislative Assembly, for \$847,900, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Administrative Services, \$824,700, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Education, \$24,032,600, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, \$661,300, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Human Resources, \$4,894,400, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, \$22,796,300, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Economic Development, \$1,227,400, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Justice, \$6,978,600, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Highways and Public Works, \$25,764,000, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Public Service Commission, \$988,300, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Office of Pipeline Coordinator, \$348,400, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Finance, \$2,733,700, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Library and Information Resources, \$1,296,400, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Renewable Resources, \$2,923,200, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Health, \$11,857,700, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Department of Government Services, \$2,106,700, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Yukon Housing Corporation, \$1,315,200, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Loan Capital, \$5,000,000, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

Mr. Chairman: Loan Amortization, \$5,405,000, shall it carry?

(Agreed)

(Clause 2 agreed to)

(Clause 3 agreed to)

(Clause 4 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: The preamble and the title, Therefore the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of the said Territory, enacts as follows: First Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80.

(Agreed)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, I move that you do now report Bill Number 4, First Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, without amendment, to the Assembly.

Mr. Chairman: It has been moved by Mr. Pearson that I do report the First Appropriation Ordinance, 1979-80, to the Assembly without amendment.

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: We will now carry on to Bill Number 5, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979.

(On Clause 1)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this Bill is to authorize the Commissioner to enter into a financial agreement with the Government of Canada to provide for payment by Canada to the Territory of an operating grant in the amount of \$22,893,000, a grant in lieu of income tax in the amount of \$12,877,000, and a capital grant of \$15,481,000.

(Clause 1 agreed to)

(Clause 2 agreed to)

(Clause 3 agreed to)

(Clause 4 agreed to)

(Clause 5 agreed to)

(Clause 6 agreed to)

(Clause 7 agreed to)

(Clause 8 agreed to)

(Clause 9 agreed to)

(Clause 10 agreed to)

(Clause 11 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: The Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of the said Territory, enacts as follows: Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979.

(Agreed)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, I move that you do now report Bill Number 5, Financial Agreement Ordinance, 1979, without amendment, to the Assembly.

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: We will continue now to Bill Number 6. This Ordinance may be cited as the Loan Agreement Ordinance, (1979) No. 1.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this Bill is to authorize the Commissioner to borrow from Canada up to \$5,000,000 for the purposes of relending to municipalities loans on CMHC Second Mortgages for the development of sub-division land for sale as residential lots and financing community improvements outside municipalities.
Hon. Mr. MacKay: With respect to loans and CMHC second mortgages, I was not aware of such a program being in use at this present time. Can we have some kind of explanation on that?

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Chairman, the loans, second mortgages, are authorized under the Housing Ordinance. It is a very short ordinance, two pages, basically, and it is a loan that provides up to \$2,000 for a second mortgage, for a term not exceeding 35 years. The Ordinance is available for all Members.

(Clause Number 1 agreed to)

(Clause Number 2 agreed to)

(Clause Number 3 agreed to)

(Clause Number 4 agreed to)

(Clause Number 5 agreed to)

(Preamble and the Title agreed to)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, I move that you do now report Bill Number 6, Loan Agreement Ordinance (1979) No. 1, without amendment, to the Assembly.

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: I continue on now to Bill Number 7, Municipal General Purposes Loan Ordinance 1979.

(On Clause 1)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this Bill is to allow the Commissioner to loan funds to municipalities to enable them to carry on a program of municipal works. These funds are issued under debenture, and are fully recoverable by installment payments from the municipalities.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: May I ask the Government Leader if the figure of \$2.5 million contemplated the sum of \$1.5 million that may, in fact, be needed to build the recreation centre?

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

(Clause 1 agreed to)

(Clause 2 agreed to)

(Clause 3 agreed to)

(Clause 4 agreed to)

(Clause 5 agreed to)

(Clause 6 agreed to)

(Clause 7 agreed to)

(Clause 8 agreed to)

(Clause 9 agreed to)

(Clause 10 agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: The preamble and the title, The Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of the said Territory, enacts as follows: Municipal General Purposes Loan Ordinance, 1979.

(Preamble and title agreed to)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, I move that you do now report Bill Number 7, Municipal General Purposes Loan Ordinance 1979, without amendment, to the Assembly.

Mr. Chairman: It has been moved by Mr. Pearson that Bill Number 7, Municipal General Purposes Loan Ordinance 1979, be reported without amendment to the Assembly.

(Motion agreed to)

Mr. Chairman: Continuing on with Bill Number 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance.

(On Clause 1)

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the amendments to the Fuel Oil Tax Ordinance are as follows:

(1). to convert imperial measure to metric measure;

(2). to increase fuel oil taxes to these rates:

(a). diesel fuel to .042 cents per litre (from approximately .035 cents per litre).

(b). gasoline to .032 cents per litre (from approximately .031 cents per litre).

(c). aviation fuel to .007 cent per litre (from approximately .005 cents per litre).

(3). to change heating fuel tax to .002 cents per litre (which is no increase).

The propose rates will increase tax revenues by approximately \$437,000.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: Yes, in speaking to the general principle of this Bill, I think that the opposition we have to this has been stated previously, Mr. Chairman, I will not dwell on it at length except to reiterate that in a time of a faltering economy and inflation, an increase of tax which, as we had indicated before, will increase our freight rates thereby, just about everything we buy in this Territory. This increase, is, to say the least, ill-advised.

I think that the Government could and should have dipped into some of its reserves to fund the additional \$400,000 deficit that it had this year, that it would have had had this not gone through. It is already budgeting a deficit of some one million dollars or somewhat more that this one would not have bled them dry to not have put forward this increase, so I will be opposing it in principle and in detail as we go through it.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask your indulgence. I have some amendments I would like to propose to Clause 1 and I am just in the process now, of getting the necessary courtesy copies for the Members and I wonder if I could be allowed that indulgence before we proceed through Clause 1?

Mr. Chairman: I declare a brief recess at this time.

(Recess)

Mr. Chairman: I shall call the Committee of the Whole to order.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Chairman, as I said at the second meeting, I believe that this measure is both regressive and inflationary and I think that is disappointing in the government that was elected on a platform of fighting inflation.

I believe these increases will work their way through into the freight costs, the heating costs and the travel costs of all the people in the Territory and will have a profoundly negative impact both on the fairness of the tax system and the cost of living in the Territory.

I recognize that the Government stands to recover a significant amount of revenue from this, but I think that has to be offset against the prospect of 10,000 drivers having their gasoline bills increase by approximately \$163 annually.

I would, therefore, like to now, Mr. Chairman, introduce four

amendments which we have now had time to circulate to all Members.

I would move, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that Bill Number 8, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Tax Ordinance, be amended in Clause 1 at page 1 by deleting paragraph 4.(1)(a), the effect of which, Mr. Chairman, would be to remove the heating oil tax.

I would like to move, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that Bill Number 8, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Tax Ordinance, in Clause 1 at page 1, by deleting in paragraph 4.(1)(b), the word "sevenths" and substituting the word "fifths".

I would move, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that Bill Number 8, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Tax Ordinance, be amended in Clause 1 at page 1, by deleting in paragraph 4.(1)(c) the words "four and two-tenths" and substituting therefor the words "three and five-tenths".

I would move, seconded by Mr. MacKay, that Bill Number 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Tax Ordinance be amended in Clause 1 at Page 1 by deleting Paragraph 4.(1)(d) the words "three and two-tenths" and substituting therefor the word "three".

The effect of my amendments, Mr. Chairman, if carried would be to reduce the impact of the imposition of this tax.

Mr. Chairman: Bill Number 8, entitled An Ordinance to Amend the Fuel Tax Ordinance be amended in Clause 1 at Page 1 by deleting Paragraph 4.(1)(a).

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Chairman, this Government is trying to be a responsible government and in order to do that we have to generate revenue from some area. If we do not get it from the fuel tax, we have to take it from somewhere else and it is going to affect inflation wherever it comes from, so we picked the avenue that we thought was going to be the least harmful to the economy and that was in the fuel tax area.

We kept the tax down on the home owners purposely, to protect them more but we felt that the increase on the transportation industry would not be felt so much by the people in the Territory.

The increase on the fuel tax would only increase the cost to the trucking industry by .4 per cent on their cost and that would only increase the freight rate by .6 per cent and on the railway it would only be .2 per cent increase and .2 per cent increase in freight rates. We felt that in order to generate this revenue that this would have the least effect on the Yukon Territory's economy.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I have to take issue with the previous speaker with respect to looking around for what would have the least impact. The least impact would have been no increase. I can understand that perhaps, fuel tax looked like an attractive area to raise some more taxes because it does not seem to affect the average guy as much. It works its way through as an indirect tax and; therefore, is not something a man sees when he picks something off the shelf and says, "Oh, there is the government getting tax from me." There is that attractiveness to it, but it does hit at the basic causes of our inflation. I think that the multiplier effect of a two per cent increase in freight rates, when it goes all through the system, would be a somewhat more than .2 per cent increase in our food costs. The way that our industry works, it appears that they multiply any increase all the way through until they get to the end. So it could well be a one per cent increase in freight rates by the time it gets through to the shelf.

I also think it is done at a time before we can anticipate at least a twenty-five per cent increase in our fuel costs as a result of the OPEC situation. I am not holding this Government responsible for the OPEC situation. You will be pleased to know this one thing about that, but that is the kind of consideration now, that we have to look at before we proceed with this Bill, the fact that our fuel costs are going to be extremely high before the end of this year as a result of outside influences and this increase will only aggravate the situation.

A statement was also made by the Minister that this Government has to be responsible and raise its taxes. I take no issue with that, it has to be responsible in the expenditure of public funds. The other side of that equation, of course, is when you raise revenues you spend it and it is not just a question of saying, "Well, we just have to raise the revenue." That decision is made after you decide what you have to spend.

My friends likely have some suggestions how you could save that money. I think we have been through the budget in detail now, and we have actually been pressing you to spend a little more in some areas. Nevertheless, there is no doubt in my mind, with the faltering economy and inflation on the rampage, that this will be an inflationary thing and with the surpluses that this Government has racked up over the last couple of years, that dipping into that surplus for this purpose would have been a good move on the part of the Government to try and combat the effects of inflation.

Hon. Mr. Tracey: Mr. Chairman, as the Honourable Member across the floor said, we did not see anywhere in the budget where he suggested that we should cut the money. I thought you wanted to open up another road instead.

But, we also have to consider that the increase in the fuel tax is also going to pass some of this cost along to truckers that are passing through this Territory, which any other form of tax that we have in the Territory would not do.

So, we have taken a very serious look at it and you can say that we should be dipping into our surplus, but we are going to have to replace that surplus and it is going to be inflationary at whatever time we replace it.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Chairman, the Minister's department has just provided us with some information today for tomorrow morning which talks about food prices having risen in the last two months about two per cent, which gives us an annual rate approaching--

Some Member: You are not supposed to release that.

Mr. Penikett: I am not releasing it.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Penikett: Mr. Chairman, we have been plotting inflationary increases in this Territory considerably. We are talking about double digit inflation again in this Territory. We are talking about a situation where we are certainly, already going into a period again, where inflation is increasing faster than wages.

Now, it seems to me that it would not take some very sophisticated computerizing to calculate the effect that this increase will have going through the economy. It will be a negative one.

The Minister can talk about .4 per cent increase in freight rate costs, but we know enough that that will not necessarily be reflected in a .4 per cent increase in food. It may be something much greater than that and so will it be for all the other commodities we consume.

The fact of the matter is that the Government was committed to doing something about inflation, it has not done anything about it. In fact, one of its first moves is something which has exactly the opposite effect, which is inflationary.

Hon. Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, this is all fine, except that we come down to one factor. The budget that we are considering at the moment is a deficit budget. We have dipped into the Territory's reserves. We have dipped in so far that we do not dare dip in any further and it was absolutely necessary that we raise this paltry \$500,000 some way.

Mr. Chairman, it was considered prudent that we could not dip in any further, that we had to have this \$500,000 in one way or another. All things being equal, it was our considered opinion that this was the best, most equitable way to raise it.

Hon. Mr. Lang: I would just like to make a comment. I think that a few comments from the opposite side have been misleading.

The impression has been given that we have increased the costs of heating fuel. This is not correct. We have deliberately stayed away from heating fuel because this is a necessity of life to all Yukoners, no matter what their political persuasion.

I think that is an awfully important point, that we have deliberately stayed away from the area of heating fuel because we realize the costs of heating fuel to every home owner in the Yukon Territory.

Also, we have deliberately stayed away from the gasoline area, for two reasons, the fact that it is a necessity in Yukon because of the long distances between communities and the utilization by the public of the Yukon Territory and for the tourist industry, to stay away from that area, to try to keep gasoline down to a level that the tourists and the public, here, can afford.

The other point that I think that has to be raised, is that we have done very little in the area of aviation fuel, we kept out of that as well.

Now, I think that there is a point that has to be raised here, and, I think, it has to be considered, you talk about the trucking industry, the fact is that the operations and maintenance of our highways are ever escalating. That money has to be found somewhere.

The Honourable Member talks about the Dempster Highway. As he well knows, it is an 85/15 per cent split under the Contribution Engineering Agreement with the Government of Canada. Subsequently, the amount of money that we are putting in that area is not that great as opposed to what it is costing.

The other point that I want to raise that I think it is totally irresponsible of any Member saying that you should be going to your working capital to the point that you do not have any. I hear all Members on this House the other day talking about White Pass,

that is exactly what they did. They do not have any working capital. Subsequently, they are in the problems they are in.

I think that we have done a responsible thing, to try to bring a measure in here that will be acceptable and at the same time not only is going to have some effect in respect to the general public here, but more importantly, you are going to get the trucking industry that is going from the Lower 48 to Alaska.

I just think, Mr. Chairman, that after the debate on the budget, where I never heard once, through all those estimates, where anybody was prepared to cut, they all wanted to add. They all wanted various things in Education, they wanted various things here they wanted various things in various establishments. At the same time, Mr. Chairman, nobody is prepared to bite the bullet and say, look, it is going to cost them money. I think, it goes back to the resolution we were talking about earlier today.

Mr. Fleming: This is very interesting. I realize the Government's situation, they do have to raise money, and they do have to do it in more or less this manner. I, of course, do not concur entirely in the way they have set it up. I have arguments to the opposite effect to the Honourable Minister who has just spoken, possibly.

In the area of the trucking industry, you must realize that any rise to them, drops right from the top completely to the bottom where the poor people are. It does end up there, the freight rates, into this country, is for everything that is brought in here, for food, for clothing, every item that is brought in this Territory. Therefore, even though, and I will have to agree with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, that we need some form of collecting taxes from those truck firms that go through our Territory, I have no qualms. I have to agree and we should hit them hard enough to pave the way too.

It goes right completely to the bottom once you do strike the trucking firms.

So, I would have felt that possibly the Government would have come up with a more evenly balanced situation in that case between the people who actually use gasoline and the trucking companies, because you might say, sure, we are not going to touch the people who are using the gasoline because they are residents of this Territory, but, Mr. Chairman, the people who can afford gasoline and who can afford a car in this Territory are not really the poor people either. Anybody that has these things can afford to pay for them, usually.

I find that you would not hit them too hard if you tax that area. I have a lot of votes there and you do not want to touch them too hard, but those votes are only votes and I am thinking of people, right to the bottom of the heap.

I would not mind saying again the same thing in the aviation industry. They have no problem when they raise their price to us and possibly they would raise their price again to us, but I would just like to ask you who is using the airplanes today. It is not really the poor people. People who can afford to ride airplanes usually can afford to ride airplanes and if the price goes up a little because we must tax somebody, I am not too afraid to tax that type of situation.

I would have hoped that they would have had it a little clearer. I am not in total agreement with the amendments and of course I would want them to go through one at a time, anyhow, rather than all four at once. I certainly will not vote on them all at once. I may vote for one and not the other.

That is all. I am in sympathy with the Government. I absolutely realize that they have got to raise some money. As I say, that is my only problem. I think it is not a significant rise in any case, I will agree with that. They have not really booted us as they can in some situations. I am not going to oppose it in that sense very much.

I just have those comments that I would like you to appreciate.

Mr. Hanson: I am very much against the raise, of course, because there are a lot of placer miners in my area but there again, I have to accept the fact. I will be voting against the amendments.

Hon. Mr. MacKay: I would just like to make a couple of comments with respect to some of the remarks made by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. The Minister was making a big point of saying that they had not raised the heating fuel. I am very glad you have not. But I suspect that there is more of a motive than was indicated. I think that is exactly where people will see a tax increase. We are talking about an indirect tax where we tax the diesel. That works its way in an insidious way, as the Member from Campbell has pointed out right throughout and onto the shelves of the stores where people cannot see it as a taxation increase.

The same reasoning applies, I think, to gasoline tax, that is something you would want to stay away from too, or take it pretty easy on because that is something that hits the pocketbook just as it

hits the gas tank and people will notice that as well.

Maybe I should go back a little bit and say, okay, you are agreed to dip into the till to the extent of a million dollars. Mr. Chairman, the last two years the Territorial Government has produced surpluses in the region of ten million dollars, combined for the two years. Now, these surpluses were accumulated in what I would call pretty good economic times. The Yukon has been going ahead and doing quite well in that time; revenues have been good; expenditures have been well controlled or being over-estimated in the first place; whatever the reasons being, the surpluses are there. Now for a sum that the Government Leader admits is paltry, we cannot dip into our resource which we have accumulated in good times when we are now looking forward to, I would suggest strongly, a rather poor year in the Yukon.

It has been felt already in the business sector of the community and this is a cause for some concern on my part and I think, everybody's part here, that the Yukon's economy is faltering and that unless there are some positive actions and some of the actions the Government is proposing with respect to Kaiser and so forth, are trying to meet that but in the meantime nothing really is going to happen to improve the situation. As a matter of fact, if we do not pass these amendments things will be happening and having a bad effect on the situation. I think the Government could have left these rates alone, quite happily, and not had to go through this rather agonizing debate in trying to prove that we are all responsible when everybody is responsible and nobody is blaming the government for trying to be responsible.

All we are saying is: read the economic times, see what is happening and do not aggravate the situation which is not very good at the moment.

Mr. Chairman: If there are no further discussions, shall the amendment carry?

Some Members: Agreed.

Some Members: Disagreed.

Mr. Chairman: I declare the amendment defeated by a vote of nine to four.

I now call recess until 7:30 tonight.

(Recess)