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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**DEBATES**

2nd Session

9th Assembly

Official Report

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1980**

**Pages 399 to 447**

Speaker: The Honourable Robert H. MacQuarrie, M.L.A.

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1980

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. George Braden, Hon. Tom Butters, Mr. Curley, Ms. Cournoyea, Mr. Evaluarjuk, Mr. Fraser, Hon. Arnold McCallum, Mr. McLaughlin, Hon. Robert H. MacQuarrie, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Noah, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Sibbeston, Mrs. Sorensen, Mr. Tologanak, Hon. James Wah-Shee

ITEM NO. 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Robert H. MacQuarrie): Item 2, oral questions.

ITEM NO. 2: ORAL QUESTIONS

Mr. Pudluk.

Question 54-80(1): Expansion Of School, Resolute Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, the Arvik mine that is going to be opened, it has been agreed upon that the federal government will start the operation in 1980, this year. The people who are going to be working at the Arvik mine are going to be living in the community of Resolute Bay. I want to find out how the school is going to be. Are they going to expand it when the Arvik mine employees start flowing into Resolute Bay because the school is going to be too small?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. Member for giving me notice of his question. However I regret that I did not pursue it and obtain the information he wants. I will do this and have a written reply filed in response to that query.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. Other oral questions. Mr. Tologanak.

Question 55-80(1): Dental Care In N.W.T.

MR. TOLOGANAK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister of Health concerning dental care in the Northwest Territories. The local medical care stations in the communities have limited training for preventive measures in the field of dental care. I would like to know what the Health department's plans are for improving the preventive measures and education in dental care in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 55-80(1): Dental Care In N.W.T.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, as the Member knows, there is a School of Dental Therapy in the Northwest Territories and it has been in existence for a number of years, seven or eight. This school, of course, graduates dental therapists, those people who can go out into the various areas of the North to do the work, or the majority of the work, that a dentist will do in the treatment of teeth, the prevention of bad dental health care and of course to promote a better response from individuals in the communities for dental health.

It is the intention of the Government of the Northwest Territories to continue to press for the existence of the School of Dental Therapy in the Northwest Territories. We had made representations to the health co-ordinating committee in that particular respect and have indicated to them, that is, the government has indicated to the health co-ordinating committee and indeed to past and present Ministers of Health and Welfare at the federal level that there is a need for this particular facility. There is a need for dental therapists in the North. However, there is some concern being voiced within that school and by others who are closely associated with it to take the school out of the Northwest Territories. As I indicated, we have pressed for its continued existence here in the Territories. We believe that there is work to do. That work has been identified by a number of Members here and a number of communities. So, Mr. Speaker, in reply to the Member's question we will continue to take that approach, that is, to retain that particular facility in the Northwest Territories and to promote good dental health in terms of prevention of poor health practices in respect to teeth. Hopefully we would be able to impress upon the federal government that in point of fact there is a need and that the school itself should make a more determined effort to attract graduates of our schools into that particular profession.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Other oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 56-80(1): Opening And Closing Of School Year, Rankin Inlet

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. My question is directed to the Minister of Education. Recently at Rankin Inlet the community education committee was a bit confused with respect to the jurisdiction of the opening of the school year and closing of the school year. Could the Minister assure this House whether or not this is their authority or the Department of Education?

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 56-80(1): Opening And Closing Of School Year, Rankin Inlet

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I will respond and it is quite possible I may have to correct myself during the debate on the Education estimates, but I believe the ordinance gives to the local education authorities the right to determine the time for opening and closing the school years. There is a set number of days each year that must be accommodated, 190. I think that the department may have recommended at some time for administrative purposes that if schools were open within a certain period of time and closed within a certain period of time it would be helpful for paying of cheques and fulfilling of other administrative responsibilities but my understanding is that as the Member has suggested, this right has been given to the local authorities by the ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Mr. Butters. I think Mr. Lal, the Legal Advisor, can add something to that.

LEGAL ADVISOR (Mr. Lal): Mr. Speaker, I can confirm the Minister's statement. Under section 67 of the Education Ordinance times for the opening and closing of schools each day, recess periods and lunch periods are to be established by the local education authority.

MR. SPEAKER: Other oral questions. Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Question 57-80(1): NCPC Rates, Pond Inlet

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I do not exactly know which department to ask my question. I have received a letter from the hamlet of Pond Inlet and my constituents have not agreed to this yet, but Northern Canada Power Commission said they want to increase their rate in April, 1980. So everything is going to be expensive, even the business owners will have to pay a higher rate. We have not agreed to this in our constituency. I wonder if this could be supported by the administration.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. Also the NCPC is not within our jurisdiction. I think the Hon. Mr. Braden would have some response.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that question as notice now and I will report back to the House as soon as possible with more detail about NCPC's proposals for rate increases. I think it affects all the Northwest Territories so I will try and give a comprehensive response.

MR. SPEAKER: Thanks, Mr. Braden. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think too that some aspects of the question deal with the responsibility that I have to report to this House relative to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board. I think it is my responsibility and I will determine whether or not the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board is looking into the particular rate increase that has been brought to the attention of this House by the hon. Member. I, too, will report back when I have determined what the situation is with regard to the activities of that board relative to this proposed increase.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, which just makes me think perhaps if the reporting procedure has been defined within the Executive perhaps the rest of us could receive a little organization chart. Maybe we have already and I have not read it, I do not know, but if not I think that would be very useful to us so that we know who to turn to with these questions. Other oral questions? Mr. Sibbeston.

Question 58-80(1): Tree Of Peace, Caribou Stew

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, we heard today on the CBC news that the department of wildlife has informed the Tree of Peace that they should perhaps not sell or continue the practice of having caribou stew which I understand is served to the public on a once a month basis. In light of the fact that this practice of the Tree of Peace serving stew and bannock to the public is of some social value in helping native and non-native people get together for eating caribou stew and bannock, I wonder whether the Minister responsible for this would consider changing the Wildlife Ordinance if in fact that is necessary in order to continue this practice?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.



HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, with regard to that request from the hon. Member from Mackenzie Liard, I would like the opportunity at least to have a chance to look into that matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Other oral questions? Mrs. Sorensen.

Question 59-80(1): Psychiatric Care, N.W.T.

MRS. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. People of the Northwest Territories presently have no access to a resident psychiatrist. In an effort of hospitals, practitioners and associations involved with the care of people in mental health crisis to respond to the anticipated increased workload as a result of having no psychiatrist, I would ask the Minister of Health what interim steps his department is taking to assist in this emergency situation?

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

Return To Question 59-80(1): Psychiatric Care, N.W.T.

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I think there is a conspiracy among the centre, left and south along with the Frobisher group in this regard, because I have had representations from a number of areas. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that in point of fact there is no resident person here to deal with the kind of difficulties that individuals are experiencing now. What I intend to do would be to place before my colleagues on the Executive tomorrow a proposal that we would enter into contract services with CIBER, that is C-I-B-E-R, and I think it is some kind of behavioral research institution and I do not mean to minimize this by saying "some kind". I do not understand the acronym or I do not know the acronym at the present time. Nevertheless, I would be proposing a short-term arrangement with CIBER to provide for psychiatric services upon referral of physicians and medical practitioners.

Now, that is the proposal that I intend to go through. I do not at this time want to propose a change to the existing THIS, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services legislation. I would hope that we would be, that is the Health department in general would be able to attract people to the North to provide that very much required service, so I indicate to the Member and to other Members who have expressed a concern in this area that I intend to make a proposal at the Executive Committee tomorrow which should provide a short-term solution to the situation that exists now.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: I assure you no conspiracy, Mr. McCallum. Other oral questions?

Item 3, written questions and returns?

ITEM NO.3: QUESTIONS AND RETURNS

Mr. Patterson.

Question 60-80(1): Unemployment And Employment Statistics

MR. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure who to direct this question to, but I wish to ask the administration, does the Government of the Northwest Territories gather statistics on unemployment and employment in the Northwest Territories and, if so, could current figures be tabled in the House? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. I suspect that would be for Hon. Mr. Braden, Minister of Economic Development. Mr. Fraser.

Question 61-80(1): Winter Roads, Mackenzie Valley And Great Bear Lake

MR. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the administration. I do not know who would be able to answer it, but I would like to know what winter roads are planned for this winter, 1980-81 in the Mackenzie Valley and to Great Bear Lake.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not really sure. Mr. Braden? Well, at any rate the question is recorded and someone in the administration, Mr. Fraser, will certainly respond to that. Other questions. Ms. Cournoyea.

Question 62-80(1): Government Role In Water Diversion Program

MS. COURNOYEA: I have a question on a matter of understanding. What is the present role of the Northwest Territories government in determining, setting policy and decision making in any water diversion program outside and within the Northwest Territories as it affects any water bodies in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Again I would suppose that is for the Minister of Renewable Resources, the Hon. Mr. Nerysoo. At any rate it is written and you will receive a written response. Other returns. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 11-80(1): Installation Costs, Utilidor

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I have four returns. The first one is to the question that was asked by Mr. Patterson on February the 4th in regard to high installation costs to private home owners. The Department of Local Government actively supports private home ownership in the Northwest Territories. The problem of high costs for hookup to utilidors and other forms of piped services has been reorganized and is under study at the present time. A policy proposal including a recommended solution to this specific problem is scheduled for submission to the Executive Committee in April.

In addition to the suggestion in the question that the cost of hookup be amortized over the period of the lease, the department is also examining other possible alternative solutions. For example: (a) provision of low interest loans to home owners to cover this cost; (b) including the cost of the hookup as part of the developmental costs of the land and thereby including it in the annual lease costs or the purchase price of the land; and (c) providing hookups without initial charges but recovering the cost of these hookups through a surcharge on the utility costs.

Depending on the solution finally agreed upon there could be a rebate of some form granted to those private home owners who have already incurred these costs.

MR. SPEAKER: Did you say you had others, Mr. Wah-Shee?

Return To Question 12-80(1): Impact Of Water And Sewer Capital Projects, Baffin Region

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I have three others, Mr. Speaker. This question was asked by Mr. Patterson on February 4th. Impact of water and sewer capital projects, Baffin. An integral part of the decision making process regarding piped water distribution and sewage collection systems is a review of the social and economic costs related to each type of system. Before a decision is made to move from trucked services to piped services, the cost of piped services over a period of time must be demonstrably less than those for trucked services over the same period of time. In making a decision to go



to piped services, the savings in costs over 20 years is often found to be very large. So large that if the decision is not made to go to piped services, the continuation of trucked services would result in an impossible tax burden on the residents in the municipality in future years.

In the specific case of Frobisher Bay, the long-term savings resulting from piped services were considered to be of such magnitude as to offset the social and economic factors. Although not a determining factor, this decision was reinforced by repeated requests from the residents, the council and the Member of the Legislative Assembly for this change in service delivery. In an effort to reduce the economic and social costs that result from displacement of present employees engaged in trucked services, the Department of Local Government in conjunction with the Departments of Education, Economic Development and Public Works will be establishing training courses to raise the skill levels of local residents to make them employable in the new jobs required in the operation of a piped service.

May I continue, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, certainly, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Return To Question 14-80(1): Devolution, Increase In Staff

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Another question asked by Mr. Patterson. Devolution, increase in staff. The Department of Local Government is fully committed to the devolution of programs to local community governments and to decentralization of program delivery responsibilities to regions of those programs that have not been devolved to local governments. The Department of Local Government began decentralizing the program delivery aspects of municipal affairs, town planning and lands and community airports in 1977. By January of 1978 regional positions representing these three divisions were located in Fort Smith, Inuvik and Baffin regions. In the Keewatin region the decentralization of program delivery responsibilities also occurred but the establishing of specific specialists in each of these areas was not requested at that time. Decentralization of program delivery responsibilities carries with it an obligation on the part of the headquarters for full consultation with the regions and thereby the communities, in the formulation of all departmental policies and programs and the establishing of priorities.

The town planning and lands division is composed of three sections; town planning, lands administration and water and sanitation. To date only the responsibilities of the town planning section have been decentralized. Remaining at headquarters are ten positions, with five positions in the regional offices. The positions at headquarters are responsible for providing technical advice in the town planning field to the regional officers, who are generalists, and to the tax based municipalities; for providing a centralized support service in the area of legal surveys, mapping and aerial photography; and for the planning and overseeing of major land assembly and land development projects.

The responsibilities of the water and sanitation section have not been decentralized and therefore there are no specific regional positions in this area. There are three headquarters staff involved in this program. The lands section consisting of eight people has not grown since 1974. It is not decentralized due to the presence of the land titles office and the federal office in Yellowknife. All land records for the Northwest Territories are centralized in these two offices and in the Department of Local Government. The devolution of airports responsibilities from the federal government is ongoing. In 1977 three positions were identified as an initial complement to begin accepting this growing program. The devolution schedule covers an eight year period and involves the transfer of four to five new or improved airports each year. The program, when completed, will involve the expenditure of \$80 million of federal capital moneys and the transfer of 38 airports.

In 1978 devolution from the federal government had resulted in the Government of the Northwest Territories having received sufficient operating responsibilities to warrant the decentralization of program delivery. Presently there are five regional positions and five headquarters man years. As additional airports are transferred to this government and as additional responsibility for training of airport staff, establishing block funding and negotiating the capital program is transferred to this government, the staff complement at both headquarters and regional offices will have to be increased. Additional man years and related funding will be transferred from the federal government in line with the transfer of the program.

#### Relative Increases And Decreases In Staff

Over the past three years there has not been a decrease in the number of staff at headquarters nor has there been a substantial increase in staff at the regional offices. The headquarters staff has not decreased since additional responsibilities have been accepted from the federal government in the lands administration and airports areas and the total program has been expanded in the land assembly and assessment fields.

Although decentralization of program delivery responsibility has resulted in additional staff at regional offices, this has been offset by the establishment of local governments and the devolution of programs to the local governments with a resultant decrease in regional staff. For example, the establishment of hamlets results in a decrease in settlement secretaries and development staff, etc. The relationship of the number of staff at headquarters and in the regions is meaningless unless a very detailed analysis is undertaken of the programs added or enlarged, the programs decentralized and the programs devolved to the local governments. For example, in the airports program 14 airports have been transferred to the Government of the Northwest Territories and 13 of these have been devolved to the local governments. Headquarters staff has increased by two man years, the regional staff by five and the local governments now employ approximately 40 people. That is a long reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have one other?

#### Return To Question 45-80(1): Northern Preference Regarding Contracts And Tenders

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I just have one short one. This question was asked by Mr. Curley. It was directed at the Department of Public Works. This is in regard to northern preferences on contracts and tenders.

The Government of the Northwest Territories intends to support the construction industry in the Territories and the attention of all tenderers is drawn to the possibility that the Commissioner may direct that preference be given to a northern contractor in cases where his tendered price is not more than ten per cent higher for projects under \$500,000 or five per cent higher for projects \$500,000 and over, than the low tender received from a southern based contractor.

Without limiting the authority of the Commissioner to rule on the question, a northern contractor may be thought of as one whose business is registered and carried out in the Northwest or Yukon Territories and whose principals are resident therein. It follows that preference may also be given to tenderers who propose to make greater use of northern subcontractors. One of the prerequisites to qualify for this preference is that all subcontractors proposed for use by the general contractor must be included in the list of subtrades presented at the time of tender submittal.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Are there other returns from Ministers? I go to petitions.

Item 4, petitions.

Item 5, tabling of documents.

Item 6, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 7, notices of motion.

Item 8, motions.

Then we arrive at Item 9, consideration in committee of the whole of bills, recommendations to the Legislative Assembly and other matters.

Is it agreeable to the Members that we should now resolve into committee of the whole? Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

ITEM NO. 9: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS, RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND OTHER MATTERS

MR. SPEAKER: This House will now resolve into committee of the whole to consider those items listed on the order paper, with Mr. Tologanak in the chair.

---Legislative Assembly resolved into committee of the whole for consideration of Motion 9-80(1): Special Committee On Unity, Terms Of Reference; and Bill 1-80(1): Appropriation Ordinance, 1980-81, with Mr. Tologanak in the chair.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER MOTION 9-80(1): SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNITY, TERMS OF REFERENCE; AND BILL 1-80(1): APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1980-81

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. The committee will come to order. I understand that after reporting progress, the special terms of reference of the unity committee Ms. Cournoyea proposed -- I will try that again with the speaker on this time.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. The committee will come to order. I believe the committee had reported progress and was discussing the special committee on unity, the terms of reference, and I believe Ms. Cournoyea had proposed an amendment. The copies have been distributed and they have been translated as well. Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: What is your wish in terms of proceeding with this? I have gone over the suggested change. Did you want me to talk on that or what is your wish?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): I am sorry, I was not here yesterday but had you discussed your amendment?

MS. COURNOYEA: What I did do, I did make a motion to make changes to the section in the terms of reference and these were typed up and at the point in time when we dissolved and reported progress I had read out the changes and I did not know where we were going from there. If you want me to proceed and explain why those changes should be there I could do that, but maybe Mr. MacQuarrie would make some suggestions on how he feels that could be dealt with or what is the wish. I can do anything that is required.



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. MacQuarrie, would you elaborate?

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes. It would be proper for her to explain why she has brought in the amendment. I would certainly appreciate that. I will speak afterwards, yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Ms. Cournoyea.

Explanation Of Amendment

MS. COURNOYEA: The changes in the wording do not necessarily take away the meaning, but it was a matter of being more clear. In the original it says, in order to discuss the political positions of the groups. I felt that it was an examination of the political options that the unity committee was to discuss and look into and this was one of the changes, to suggest that it was the options that were available within the various groups. In the second section they had the possibilities of retaining a united political jurisdiction in the Northwest Territories and I felt that was sort of assuming that was the way we wanted to go and rather than assuming a position the suggestion was that when examining the political options that it read, "The modifications which might be necessary in order to make the single government acceptable to all people in the Northwest Territories ..." so it was placing a question rather than stating a fact which I believe the unity committee at this point in time is not, nor is the Legislative Assembly, in a position to say what should be but rather in a position to examine. Indeed the suggestion was, "alternatives to a single political jurisdiction," and what was left out is if the latter seems impossible to maintain and I think that goes without saying that any alternative that we might have to this single political jurisdiction because I believe various organizations and various interest groups may be proposing certain political jurisdictions and we are looking at or examining what those options are.

In the third part the additional thing is, "a determination of the political options preferred by the native associations," and this is when you are talking directly to those native associations as to what they would prefer. It is not what you would accept. It is placing before native associations the opportunity to come forth and tell us what options they do have and what they prefer and this is the report to the Legislative Assembly by the unity committee.

Now, one thing that I felt was left out was that, "resources to be made available to develop preferences or options;" and I think when you are doing this there is certain work which has to be done and these resources have to be made available and these are just wording changes and clarification on the wording that was presented by the unity committee. I do not think that these wordings say many different things. I just felt that it would make it clearer on where the unity committee was and what it should be doing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Ms. Cournoyea. To the amendment, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Amendment Makes Assumptions

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: To the amendment, well, I can reluctantly say that I will have to vote against the amendment, because I feel that we ought to have been given the chance to explain what it was that we meant in the original motion and I think it would be found that the amendment is, first of all, duplicating some of the things that were intended, but on the other hand it is making assumptions about the nature of the unity committee which I do not think reflects the understanding of the people who are on the unity committee entirely, or at least there is some question. So, well I just feel that it would be important to defeat the amendment and for people to question us very thoroughly on what we mean by the original motion and then if after that it is still felt that amendments are necessary then I would be much more amenable to looking at them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the amendment, Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I was not too concerned about the amendment when it came up, what I was more concerned about yesterday was the translation. I wonder if our fellow colleagues have the translation now.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Yes, we do, Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will now maybe speak on the motion and the terms of reference. We drew up these terms of reference and it was just something that we thought we should be looking into. We do not even know if we have the funds available until it goes through this House and it is passed. Some of...

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. Fraser, I am sorry, but we are talking about the amendment to include these words and possibly you can speak to the amendment, sir.

#### Difficulties In Financing

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I am speaking to the amendment. I said some of the options in the amendment will cause some difficulty in finances, particularly resources to be made available to develop preferences or options. I will vote against the amendment, Mr. Chairman, and I agree with the chairman of the committee, that on further questioning maybe we can clarify some of the points we have in the original terms of reference. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. To the amendment. Any further comments? Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if there is another way that we can handle this? Mr. MacQuarrie has stated that he did not have the opportunity to speak to his terms of reference and the reason I presented the amendment as quickly as I did is because no one was saying anything and a question was called. I did not realize that Mr. MacQuarrie was not allowed to speak on it, neither did I know that it was his intention, because the terms of reference were presented and someone said, "Question". So these are the ideas I had. Maybe there is an easier way if I take the amendments away for awhile so that the discussion can take place. What would be more comfortable to do at this point in time?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I would just like to make it clear that it was not that I did not have the chance to speak on this. I just assumed that if no one questioned what we had there that it was acceptable and so I was merely waiting until somebody said, "What do you mean by such and such?", and then I would have attempted to answer. So I was caught unawares when suddenly an amendment was presented. So, well, my preference if the hon. Member is willing, would be to have her temporarily withdraw the amendment and then invite very challenging questions as to what we do mean by what we have there and then certainly if some are not satisfied that what we have got there absolutely and correctly spells out what we intended, or else what we intended is what this Assembly does not want, then amendments are certainly in order in that case.



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: I certainly would like to make this discussion available and open. The only point is that I have already talked about the concerns I have with the past terms of reference, so I am quite willing to withdraw the amendment in order to allow discussion and questions if this is going to take place, but there was quite a long time, a long silence yesterday.

Motion To Change Wording Of Terms Of Reference, Motion 9-80(1), Withdrawn

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Ms. Cournoyea. So you are now withdrawing your amendment? Further discussion on the original motion?

MS. COURNOYEA: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: If I may then I will make a few comments on what we have there and then invite questions so that there is not a silence.

The critical part seems to be at the top of page two and so I will try to explain what we mean by what we have got there: "In order to carry out its mandate the committee may visit the leaders of Northwest Territories native groups, and other interested parties...". Now, for instance, I have since been informed that our own Executive Committee would like to talk to the unity committee so by all means, in order to discuss the following. The first is the political positions of these groups. Now, what I mean by that is it seems to be precisely what Ms. Cournoyea means by (c), "A determination of the political options preferred by the native associations." In other words, I know that there are native groups in the Northwest Territories who have already developed positions on political and constitutional development. My feeling is that these groups and, incidentally, everyone well knows that one of them, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, calls for a separation of the eastern portion of these Territories from the west and the Dene Nation publicly states that it repudiates the authority of this House, so those are positions which these organizations hold. It seems to me that it would be the height of affrontary or something to approach these organizations and not, first of all, invite them to explain to us very carefully, precisely what their positions are.

Committee Willing To Meet With Native Groups

Now, I have read their proposals, I have tried to understand their positions, but I am absolutely willing in a meeting to sit with them and hear again what their ideas are and why they advance them. That is what I meant by political positions of these groups and we simply wish to discuss them. In other words as we hear their positions Members of the unity committee will ask for a clarification, an explanation and so on so that we understand very precisely what they are proposing.

Then we would begin discussions on the possibilities of maintaining a united political jurisdiction in the Northwest Territories. That is the status quo. We now have a single Northwest Territories. There are dissatisfactions. I should not have said "the status quo", because you could continue to have a united, single political jurisdiction and yet it could be shaped quite differently from what it is now. It could be a metro kind of government where you have the Government of the Northwest Territories addressing itself to certain common concerns across the Territories and then you could have, for instance, Mrs. Sorensen the other day called for regional governments, so that could be under the umbrella of a single jurisdiction. So all I am saying then is we would begin discussions about the possibilities of keeping the entire North united.

I have no illusions that if we were to wish to do that, that we could do it leaving things precisely as they have been over the past several years because it is on that basis that some of these organizations have generated their positions of challenge, so presumably if we are to maintain a united political jurisdiction there would be some kinds of modifications which they would demand. That is not to say then that the unity committee or later this Assembly would necessarily accept those demands. It could be that what is being asked is just too radical or too different or too something for large numbers of other people to accept, but the unity committee's position is that we will get nowhere by avoiding serious issues and we might as well face them head on.

#### Acceptable Alternatives Would Be Discussed

Now if it seems that some of the organizations we talked to just could not find it possible, no matter what we did with this government to try to make it acceptable, and they still could not accept it, then we would have to talk a little bit about what other alternatives there are for the Territories. You know, two territories, three territories, seven territories. I do not know. And I would want everyone here to understand that the unity committee is only going to discuss these things.

We are not empowered to give any undertakings to any of these organizations. We are not empowered to be able to compel this Assembly to follow whatever we might recommend eventually. We would simply try to get a very clear picture of the political situation in the North and then mull over what we have learned and try to come up with some sensible recommendations which we would then bring to this Assembly and, of course, we would have to try to justify them in front of this Assembly and it could be that what are we, just 22 -- it could be 16 to five against whatever we recommend. I do not know. I would hope not if we spent the time seriously thinking about the problems, but that could happen in the end. So, in other words, we are not in a position to commit this government to any particular kind of development.

#### Informal Discussion

Just a couple of other remarks and I will turn it over to questions. We do not see ourselves as a royal commission. Two of the native organizations the last time around refused to speak to Mr. Drury and if this were a royal commission which would establish itself and invite people to come to it and say "Okay, tell us what you have to say and we will think it over and come to some conclusion", I can tell you they will not bother speaking with us. The idea is that there has been a lack of communication in the past and the whole idea of this unity committee is to initiate a dialogue which has heretofore been lacking and if we can do that that will have been something worth while I think. But if we adopt the pose of a royal commission or something they will just tell us no, they do not want to talk to us. It has to be informal. We have to go to them and we have to be prepared to talk about everything, some things we want to talk about, but certainly the things that they want to talk about as well.

I know that one of the Members of our committee was concerned that Ms. Cournoyea's amendment would make our committee rather than an informal committee more like a commission of some kind and we do not want that. We want informal discussions and certainly I really feel the one about resources is not applicable to us. We do not see our role as helping native organizations to generate political positions. They have been doing that all along themselves. They have gotten money from the federal government to do it and good heavens it is not up to us to do it. We simply want to be very clear on what those positions are and what exists here as our government might relate to them and what kind of understanding we can possibly come to.

Assembly Direction For The Future

So with those remarks I will leave off absolutely and invite questions. I do not want to push anything through which this House is leery about. That would be the last thing that I would want to do. I would invite Members, if you have concerns, to speak very frankly so that we do know precisely what we are doing when we go out and what is expected of us. I hope that the expectation is not, as I said in my report, is not greater than the expectation we have imposed on ourselves, that we want to initiate a dialogue. We believe that dialogue will be valuable, but we do not see ourselves as being able to in one fell swoop solve all the constitutional and political problems in the Northwest Territories, but we might be able to point some useful directions so that this Assembly during its life will be able to come to some very firm conclusion as to the way it and the people of the Northwest Territories ought to go in years to come. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: I just want to make one comment. The only thing that disturbed me a bit about the terms of reference is that already the promises or the suggestions that were made in the fall about the committee completing its work within a year seem to be watered down and now we have a tentative promise that the report should be ready by the spring of 1981. My concern with this is that we are running out of time. Nunavut is not going to slow down for the unity committee. The momentum is already significant and gathering and my only concern about the terms of reference is that they show that it will be some time yet before we even have the recommendations before the Assembly. I thought earlier discussions aimed for presentation of a report by the fall of this year. I realize that there is no real commitment in the term there, to completing the report by the spring of 1981 and it could be ready earlier, but I am just terribly afraid that if that date is in there everyone will slide into accepting that date.

Aim For Earlier Date

Quite frankly many groups in the Northwest Territories, including interests in my region, I think are not willing to wait that long. That is the only part of the terms of reference that I am not really happy with. I think by singling out a date instead of saying "as soon as possible" or aiming for an earlier date than the spring of 1981 we might be sentencing this committee to oblivion because it may well be that other initiatives will occur before the committee even has in its report, the same kind of fate that may befall Mr. Drury whose report we do not know where it is now, although I gather it is finished. The point is simply that I am not satisfied with that fate and I would be interested in what other Members might think about that. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Any further discussion on the motion on the terms of reference of the standing committee on unity? Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: If I can maybe give a response to Mr. Patterson's concerns, I can only say I suppose that I was putting it in a way that would give us the greatest amount of leeway, not intending to use it, but just not trying to put down a date that might be impossible. What I would say is that our intention certainly is to get busy with these meetings immediately, during this session, once our terms of reference are approved and we have some budget, to get going immediately and in March and April, again in the summertime and I would hope that we will have a report in the fall and certainly it would be my aim to try to do that. If you would like to name the fall, a fall date, we would do our best to try to meet that deadline.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you. Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I would agree with the comments of Mr. Patterson and now Mr. MacQuarrie has indicated that. I think it would not be remiss or out of order for us to expect that at least we would get an interim report during this particular year, that is 1980. I would recognize that it is going to require a great deal of time, a great deal of consultation in addition to trying to put something together as a final report, but I do not think it would be the intent of the committee to keep Members out of the picture as to what is going on in relation to what they have been able to determine from their discussions with various leaders of territorial native groups, other interested parties. So I would not want to delay the passing of this particular motion.

#### Interim Report For Fall Session

Suffice it to say that the committee would recognize that in point of fact, we should have some kind of interim report, preferably sometime this fall. I do not expect it to be exhaustive, but certainly to give us in committee of the whole again, an indication of what has transpired, with whom have they met, what has been the tone, if you like, of their discussions with various people and groups, I would expect them just as a common courtesy, I would expect them to have some kind of an interim report later in this year when in fact we do get together.

I have no difficulty with the terms of reference as they are placed before us now. I think it is a means of trying to get consensus. Mr. MacQuarrie has indicated that in point of fact it will be a recommendation or there will be recommendations of a committee of five Members. The recommendations that are determined or the report of that committee he could suffer as he indicated the consequences of having a number of people not agree with it, but at least by having an interim report it would allow this committee, this Assembly some kind of further input into it upon hearing what has gone on over a period of five to six months.

So I have no difficulty with the purpose of the committee or what they intend to do. I would hope that they would get to the job at hand and begin their kind of consultations or kinds of visits or whatever would be required, to bring forth to this House just what they have been able to find out from discussions they will be holding with groups, with various leaders. I would hope that the scope of those kinds of discussions is not too narrow a scope, that it is a scope in the totality of the Territories and in fact I would prefer them to go out and go meet directly with those people, not expect people to come to them.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Wah-Shee.



HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would probably suggest that the committee could probably consider cutting down the length of time in submitting a report to the Assembly. I would probably suggest that the unity committee can submit a report to the Legislative Assembly at this coming fall session. The reason why I say that is because there has been some indication made by some of the native organizations that the length of time for consultation and reporting back to the Assembly seems to be a bit long.

Other Negotiations Might Precede The Assembly

The reason why I suggested the fall session is that the major native organizations in the Territories hold their annual assemblies during the summer, late summer at that, so that when we have our fall session in November that would be sufficient time for them to attend the annual meeting if they are invited and also do consultation work. I feel that by that time when a report is submitted to the Legislative Assembly then this Assembly can determine in their own wisdom whether additional time is required from there and so that would be the comment that I would make. I think that if we leave it too long then the native organizations may be progressing in their negotiations with the feds, so this committee would be left behind in a sense.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. Fraser.

MR. FRASER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just from listening to comments around the room we have to take into consideration that this committee is only working part time. There are five of us on the committee and when everybody could be available that is when we will try to get out and visit these communities, but we are getting nothing in between.

Somebody talked about the Drury report. If the Assembly would agree here to give us \$2.5 million we will give you a report every week. But for us to go ahead and try and give you a report in such a short time when we have to travel to the communities and come back and sit down and draw up a report, we will give you a report possibly, I am not going to speak for the chairman, I will let him speak for himself, but I imagine if we go to a community we will come back with what results we have had and I am sure we are not going to keep anything secret.

Funding Not Yet Arranged

It could be published for Members of the Assembly as to what we accomplish, if we accomplish anything, but let us not get carried away with this report, because we are going to do our best, and if we can get it into you in six months, well that is good, but if it is going to take us a year, it will take us a year. We cannot ask too much of this committee because like I said we have not even got funds approved yet. We do not even know if we are going to do it. We have to have funds to get to these different communities and find out from these different leaders, native groups, councils, hamlets and you name it, there are a lot of people involved that we have to see. I am sure nothing will be kept from the Members of the Assembly as to what we have accomplished. If the first report does not look too good then all you will have to say is, "Do not do any more" or, "Carry on" or whatever, but I think we do not want to be too technical and remember that we are not getting full pay for this report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Fraser. Mr. Braden.



Modifications To Existing Form Of Government

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a couple of general questions. In both the motion and the amended version there is reference to modifications which might be necessary in order to make a single government acceptable and, second, alternatives to a single political jurisdiction. Now, as one who has had some experience in learning about government at various levels and developing modifications I can say that this is a lot of work. Just as an example and I am sure the hon. Member from the Western Arctic region can testify to this, the process of examining regional government in Canada, or North America and assessing the viability of regional government, regional forms of government in the South and comparing them to the North is really a lot of work. I guess my first question to the unity committee, Mr. Chairman, would be at what level does it see proposing these modifications to the existing form of government and, second, if it concludes that alternatives to a single political jurisdiction are necessary, what level of detail can we expect their recommendations to encompass?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would be at, which is a better word, at a fundamental or a general level. In other words, this committee cannot function as a constitutional conference or something like that where parties actually negotiate particular constitutional terms. It is at a more fundamental level with respect to modifications. In other words, it might become apparent that certain parties would not accept this government unless there were a regional government that had jurisdiction over education, and such and such and that they could not accept it otherwise.

In referring to alternatives to a single political jurisdiction, again it would be at a fundamental and general kind of way recommending, for instance, that if it is apparent that not only the leaders of ITC but a variety of people in the Eastern Arctic simply will not be turned away from the Nunavut proposal then our concern would be, of what interest is that to other people in the Northwest Territories? If there were to be a referendum who ought to have the right to vote in it? That sort of thing, but it is not at the kind of detailed level that someone who is actually trying to structure a government system would deal with, Mr. Braden. I cannot see us doing that.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Braden.

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Thank you. I just have one more question and then you can go on to others. Does the committee on unity intend to test its recommendations at all before it submits its report to the Legislative Assembly?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Could Mr. Braden explain what he means by testing its recommendations?

Recommendations Would Not Be Tested With Groups

HON. GEORGE BRADEN: Well, on the basis of the position, opinions and so forth that you collect and your subsequent analysis I assume you will come up with recommendations. Now, do you intend to formally or informally test these with the native associations, the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities and so forth before you come to this House?

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: My answer to that would be no, that we would bring our recommendations to the Assembly and then if the Assembly felt that they could not discuss them effectively unless they were referred to other groups as well that would be up to the Assembly.

One thing that I would say is I have often noted in the course of human life that occasionally someone has what amounts to a good idea and then people start working on it. The first thing you know it becomes so elaborate, seems so important, that so much has to be done and when you find out how much has to be done well then everybody says, "Well, jeez, we cannot really do that, it is too much of an undertaking", and that could be what is happening here. The fact is that a year ago the Government of the Northwest Territories was proceeding as though there were no people in the Territories who disagreed with this approach. There were voices crying in the wilderness that they were not being heeded at all. I felt, and apparently a number of other people felt that they ought to be at least listened to because we would run into serious problems if we did not and, therefore, some structure ought to be devised in order to communicate with those people and that is the purpose of the unity committee. It may not be something that is going to be able to bring sophisticated constitutional papers to this Assembly and outline everything about how our political and constitutional progress should take place in the Territories, but at least it should be able to present the views of some representative people in the Territories who had a particular concern and who did their best to try to initiate that dialogue and then to try to tell everybody else what the results of it were.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Sibbeston.

Future Of Dene Nation Concerns People From Regions

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I just want to point out the way that I think the meetings with the various native groups will go and this will get me into the amount of time that I think will be needed in order to eventually report back to this Assembly. The contact that we have had or that I have had with the Dene Nation, for instance, is that they are interested in meeting with the unity committee, but they do not see us just meeting with two or three people in the office here. They intend to bring in people from the regions so that when we are talking to them it is not just a couple of guys who are deciding the whole future of the Dene Nation. From what I understand they are taking the whole thing quite seriously. My understanding is that there will be a number of these meetings with maybe a dozen or more people, then eventually, if some agreement is reached then the Dene Nation's position or their decision will have to be ratified at a Dene Nation assembly this summer.

So it would only be after that whole process of meeting with the unity committee that they will be in a position to state definitely "Yes, we agree or we are prepared to take part in this government if these changes are made". So I know that is kind of like the schedule for the Dene Nation.

I do not know what it is for the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement or ITC but I would think that it is not a process of just meeting with a couple of boys in the office and coming to some agreement. It is quite a process because if it is going to have any value, if it is going to have any support amongst the people of the North the leaders will have to check with their followers. So I think that certainly by the fall, late fall it may be possible to have reached some recommendations or some conclusions, but it may be that with ITC -- I do not know when they have their meetings, but I think they have their meetings in the wintertime so maybe no final report can be made until after everybody has had a chance to have their general assemblies.

Conclusive Agreement Not Up To Committee

The other thing I feel is that certainly the most that we can get done by this unity committee is show the general direction that constitutional development should go in the North. I do expect a detailed conclusive kind of agreement. All we can do is state that we see a solution if we were to do things in a certain direction, that is, a regional type of government, I think that is about the most that we would be able to accomplish. So I do not expect to be able to eventually present a report and say "We have got the solution. You just have to follow these 12 steps." I do not see it as that. I see it as the direction that we ought to take in trying to resolve all these problems we should be able to report that to get a solution we should take this route, and state it in a general way.

Then it is up to the native organizations to pursue it with the federal government because in the end the agreement is not with us. It is between the native people and the federal government. Hopefully, we will be consulted. But I do not even like to think that we have the most say in deciding what the eventual political or governmental position would be or type of government we are going to have in the North. I go on the belief that the native groups have the most say in all of this and we are just trying our best to help them along and help them come to some conclusion.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Mr. Curley.

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make some general comments on the motion. I have said before that I was a reluctant Member of the committee and I will confirm that again. I am a reluctant Member of the unity committee. The reason for that is because I have said many times we are playing with politics in the Northwest Territories and now we have got another grand design committee to try and deal with that as a first priority of the Assembly in terms of public consensus. On that basis I felt earlier in October and November we went ahead a bit too fast, too quickly in forming a committee when in fact we should have been debating the position papers of ITC or the Dene in the Assembly or inviting them first to appear in the House, then from there on decide whether we wanted to approve their positions or not and then go on to the public because I do not know whether this is the appropriate time or not.

Groups Should Appear Before Assembly Now

We still have yet to see the Drury report. We still yet have to see the constitutional land claims paper of the Government of the Northwest Territories. Presumably that is going to come to a vote. We are not sure we are going to approve it yet. If we do not approve it, we may have to go about setting up another committee. I do not know, but I think this should be looked at seriously, whether or not the unity committee at all is the best approach to deal with the political situation. Is it not the time right now for this Assembly to invite those groups to appear in the House and give every Member of the Assembly an opportunity to question their officials first before getting into further attempts to negotiate or attempting to come to a consensus with that? On that basis I am not at all too sure whether or not the unity committee is well respected or accepted by these groups yet. They have not stated so. That is just a piece of information I would like to present to you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tologanak): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I am going to speak Inuktitut. (Translation) It is after 2:00 o'clock now and I think we should break for tea. When we resume Mr. Patterson will be chairing the meeting. I have to go to a meeting at 3:00 o'clock and I will be going home tomorrow because I am homesick. When I return we will be facing a new government. We will see you on Tuesday. We shall meet again on Tuesday.

---Applause

---SHORT RECESS



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): There is a quorum now. I call the meeting of the committee of the whole in order to resume discussion of Motion 9-80(1).  
Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: The last speaker was Mr. Curley who regrettably is not here right at the moment, but nevertheless I would like to comment on his remarks. First of all to point out that the sentiments he expressed have been known to us all along, the fact that he is rather reluctant to be a Member of the committee because he sort of has I guess a sentimental attachment to the idea of Nunavut and yet he is willing to go through the process of discussion and deliberation which is very commendable.

One thing he did say was we ought to hear the positions of these groups and again I will reiterate that the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada is coming here on February 22nd. They have requested that they be allowed to present their views to us at this Assembly and we agreed. In connection with that I would like to say that by all means it is not the aim of the unity committee to try to be jealous about any initiatives that are taken by anybody else to try to improve communications and bring a degree of understanding between this government and other groups in the North. We will not feel badly about that at all. We will commend that kind of effort.

One other thing I would say too is that it is not our intention to interfere in the process of negotiation that goes on between the federal government and native groups. That is an established procedure and we accept it. If it continues while we are doing our work, we will have no problem accepting that at all. The one thing that we would not want is that some final decision is made about the fundamental political future of the North without this Assembly having considered our recommendations.

With respect to your concern, Mr. Patterson, about the time, would this satisfy you? If so, I would be willing to move an amendment. This committee will continue in existence until it has fulfilled its mandate. It will attempt to submit a final written report with recommendations to the Assembly in the fall of 1980. Would that be acceptable to you?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I do not know if I am allowed to answer that question, Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Darned right you are.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): If you say I am and if Members agree that I vacate my impartial position for a moment, yes, I would be satisfied. Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Not a formula as yet, but I suggest that is a possibility. There may be many other amendments too.

#### An Examination Of The Political Options

MS. COURNOYEA: Just to go back to the terms of reference as we were discussing previously, I still believe that the terms of reference are not really quite clear. It is my understanding that many of the positions that have been put forward are already written up and the reason why I say examination of political options is because I would assume that this committee would take the trouble to do its homework before it goes and bothers organizations. You know, surely the people who are involved with those organizations are people who are working in different agencies and have a lot of work to do. I am certainly not one who would ask the good will of people to sit down and say "Look here, I am just here to discuss it." I think the examination has to take place in order to be serious and I would like to see that we approach it not just to discuss, but to examine the political options as they are either written and made available. The Drury report will be coming out and I hope that will be examined by this unity committee so when you go forth and you talk to people you know

what the hell you are talking about because it is a little tiring for me to have people come up and say "Well, gee, we just want to discuss it." To say a committee is going to create unity, I think the biggest problem that has been is because people have come up and made assumptions about what people are doing. So there is a certain process you have to go through.

As for Mr. MacQuarrie, I was rather disturbed when I found out that he had made a public declaration that he was going to write to the Minister to say that there would be no political change or request there be none. Political change is taking place every day and certainly as a first public statement of a chairmanship of this committee I would say that was impromptu and that was not brought forth before this Legislative Assembly. I think what we require is a report and make a summary of the different options we have and that was the whole intent of the examination of what is already available. There is nothing that is not new and the approach I think is very important and the approach is always important in terms of justifying yourself, being accepted by the people who have done a lot of work in their own areas of concern and I really believe that we have to say it is an examination of the political options.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you. Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Unity Committee Will Be Aware Of Various Group Positions

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Perhaps a little misunderstanding and I can clarify it perhaps to Ms. Cournoyea's satisfaction. I see now why you were disturbed. There is no question at all that we are going to examine the positions that these groups have taken and at our last meeting and it is written up in the minutes I had a list -- I brought in a package of documents which I felt every Member of the committee ought to read and become very familiar with. They included the COPE land claim proposal, a position paper which has been put out for discussion by the Dene Nation and the Nunavut proposal, which all of us received from ITC back in the fall. It includes the Eighth Assembly's position paper on constitutional development. It includes the Drury report when we finally receive it and I did admonish all Members of the committee that we ought not to go visit anybody without already being very much aware of what their position is. I simply mean it is a matter of courtesy when we go there to invite that group to explain their position to us if they wish and we ought already to know, to be very familiar with it, and I certainly agree with that, Ms. Cournoyea.

The other thing is with respect to asking the Minister not to take any action. We will not write any such letter to the Minister until, and if, this Assembly approves that we do so. We have not done that yet and we will not do it and this Assembly will have the final word on that, that is simply all there is to it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Any further discussion on the motion? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, as seconder to the motion to adopt, I just wish to use the opportunity to congratulate the five Members of the unity committee for the work that they have done in putting together what would appear to be very workable terms of reference. The thing that impresses me most with regard to the terms that have been placed before the House is that they appear to be very flexible and they appear to allow the committee to use their discretion to obtain the answers and the objectives and the ends which this House obviously seeks and requires. So my comments at this time are just a word of congratulations to them on the work that they have carried out to date and Godspeed on their efforts in the months ahead.



SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Any other comments?  
Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Amend Term Of Committee

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I will move an amendment then to the motion. On page two under "term" the first sentence will stand as is. The second will say: "It will attempt to submit a final written report, with recommendations, to the Assembly in the fall of 1980."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the amendment. Any discussion on the amendment?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The question has been called. The amendment just to read it again reads: "The committee will attempt to submit a final written report, with recommendations, to the Assembly in the fall of 1980." All in favour of the amendment? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. FRASER: Mr. Chairman, do you need a seconder for that amendment?

Motion To Amend Term Of Committee, Carried

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): There is no seconder required for an amendment, Mr. Fraser. Did I ask for abstentions? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

So that "term" as to the time of the final report is now amended. Now, to the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 9-80(1), Carried As Amended

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The question has been called. All in favour of the motion as amended please signify. Opposed? Abstentions? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Perhaps I can ask the committee for advice at this point. It was suggested to me by one Member that votes in committee of the whole, to assist the government in policy making, etc., should be recorded as to numbers in favour and numbers opposed. Is it the wish of the committee that for the record the numbers in favour of a motion and opposed be recorded? I do not see anybody calling for that to happen, so -- yes, Mr. Butters.

Recorded Votes

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, I was the one who suggested it to you as you well know, Mr. Chairman. I do think that Members will have frequent occasion to go back and re-examine the Debates of the House and I think frequently when there is a division it is interesting to know just how many Members did feel moved enough to vote. If 11 supported a motion and two opposed it I think this is good to know so that the determination of the House collectively can be assessed by anybody who re-examines the Debate records in the future.

THE CHAIRMAN: (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Having raised the issue I note that really the rules do provide a way of recording the number, in that any Member can request a recorded vote which of course, would contain the numbers as well and perhaps that is the solution, that if any Member feels that a vote should be recorded they should do so. Yes, Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, there is another way and that is if any Members wish to see a record be made to raise their hand, be recognized by the chairman and say, "I see, Mr. Chairman, that vote was carried 11 to two."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I am told it has never been done but it could be done, Mr. Butters, thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: It has been done.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would just like to know since I did not count carefully, I presume that the 11 to two figure was not a figure referring to the way the terms of reference of the unity committee were carried. I would not want that to be thought if it was written in the record.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, Mr. Chairman, I was not referring to anything that had preceded my comments, I was speaking almost to a point of order and not referring to the previous business of this House.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, so I assume then that Mr. Butters did recognize that there was a significantly much larger number than 11 who favoured the terms of reference.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): You have made your point, Mr. MacQuarrie, thank you.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is three times.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The next item on the agenda of the committee of the whole is consideration of the main estimates, a general discussion of the Department of Social Services. Would the witnesses come forward and the floor is still open to general comments and general questions?

MS. COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, a point of order. Mr. Chairman, when you were making a decision on the terms of reference for the unity committee I was assuming you were voting on the amendment, but since Mr. Butters has clarified that you were voting on the whole terms of reference, which is the motion before, I would like my vote recorded as not accepting the terms of reference as written.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes, that will be done, Ms. Cournoyea, thank you. General comments on the Department of Social Services? Mr. Evaluarjuk.

Department Of Social Services

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, thank you. I do not have all that much to say except I would like to ask a question. I think it was talked about yesterday -- perhaps maybe I am going to make a mistake, if I do let me know. Mr. Minister, I remember in 1976 there was an agreement that perhaps one million dollars -- the people who do not have social assistance, when they are not allowed to get social assistance, there are not enough jobs in the North in Social Development and Economic Development and jointly the regions were going to be given, perhaps to the Keewatin and Central and Eastern. For example, in Igloolik we tried to apply to those people and they could give jobs instead of getting social assistance. For instance there is a building

that could be built but there is not enough money for that and also the co-op has a lot of work to do but there is not enough money to hire people to work on that. The money that was available I wonder if somebody could tell me to which settlement it was given or if it could be used for the young people? If I am incorrect on this you could tell me. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson); Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member is referring to the Subsidized Term Employment Program, the STEP program, those funds are in the hands of the regional administration offices and in each of those offices there is a review committee of the superintendents of Economic Development and Social Services. I do not have the information as to the breakdown of that amount of money in each community or in fact in each region here. You could possibly get that from Economic Development and Tourism when that particular department is before this committee.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Any other discussion of a general nature on the Social Service department, comments or questions?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, perhaps if you will allow me to indicate to Members as a result of some of the questions that were asked yesterday in regard to the kinds of rehab programs that are now in place within each of the correctional centres.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes, please do, Mr. McCallum. Do you mean rehabilitation type of programs?

#### Rehabilitation Programs

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I indicated yesterday, Mr. Chairman, to committee Members that there is a classification committee involved when there is an individual committed to those institutions. I think the question that arose yesterday was: Is there a difference in the type of rehabilitation programs as an individual frequents the place? The classification committee's primary purpose is to ensure that each inmate is placed in the appropriate work treatment or dorm area. They review the inmate's privileges, security rating on a weekly basis and the inmate is reviewed for eligibility and suitability for transfer to other institutions. In fact, probation I would imagine is involved as well and suffice it to say that there is a classification committee.

#### South Mackenzie Correctional Centre

In the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre which is a minimum security centre with the facilities to house 35 male inmates, classification of candidates based on the type of offence, the length of sentence and nature of the criminal history and disposition of the inmate is carried on. That primarily is done at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre but obviously with co-operation and input with the staff at the South Mackenzie.

All programs except for housekeeping, that is kitchen and cleaning duties, are community oriented. Five to ten inmates participate in and receive training in commercial fishing techniques, both winter and summer. This particular program not only is involved with commercial fishing but of course exposes them to other forms associated with it in the maintenance of the fishing equipment, the boat, working with other people over long periods of time and other activities related to running a successful commercial fishing enterprise. They receive minimal pay for the work done and this program is totally self-sufficient except for the salaries of the staff and I think that is very noteworthy.

There is a work release program as well heavily used or accepted in that community. Usually an inmate in the last part of the sentence or who has been determined to be no security risk is hired out and works for a wage on a temporary absence pass. On a number of occasions this kind of work developed into full time employment when the inmate completed his sentence. Other kinds of community work would be wood cutting, a wood cutting project where the wood is cut, hauled, stacked and sold locally. This project primarily is active in the winter months. Of course, the money from the sale of this particular commodity is used primarily for maintenance and replacement of equipment and any surplus would be put into an inmate welfare fund. They do other community work projects such as snow clearing, maintenance of grounds and painting community buildings. These programs have not only been positive in terms of the inmates by assisting in rehabilitation, but have contributed to a very positive relationship between the centre and the community itself. Now bear in mind again as an individual comes in the classification process goes on. As an individual would be committed to that particular centre for the second or third time then, of course, there would be an evaluation of his suitability to take on and be exposed to those kinds of programs.

#### Baffin Correctional Centre

In the Baffin correctional program where the present occupancy is 14 this again is a minimum security centre with a maximum capacity of 16 male inmates from the Eastern and High Arctic. This centre is staffed totally by Inuit staff with an experienced superintendent whose main purpose is to bring performance up to acceptable standards and to train selected Inuit people for superintendency positions. The major program at the Baffin Correctional Centre is centred around the traditional lifestyle of the Inuit people. The staff of that institution regularly takes groups of inmates out on the land in the pursuit of hunting and fishing. There is a work release program as well employed from time to time in suitable cases and again with inmates who are nearing the end of their sentence. All inmates become involved from time to time with the housekeeping, cooking and general hygiene activities. For those inmates who show a desire or an aptitude there is the opportunity to learn basic skills in the repair of equipment, that is, small motors, boats, power sleds and building komatiks.

At the women's institute or institution the average occupancy has been six to eight. It has a maximum accommodation or a maximum number which would be approximately 16 inmates. One of the basic rehabilitation programs carried on here is of course the exposure to the vocational centre in Fort Smith in terms of upgrading and training courses. In the past year more than half a dozen, six to ten people, took part in various kinds of programs at the vocational centre in Fort Smith. Where the aptitude, the desire is expressed for upgrading or specific training in secretarial skills, other programs that are there, the management programs, the cooking programs, people are encouraged, inmates are encouraged to take part in them. There are as well other informal training programs, homemaking skills, programs involved with housekeeping and management of a home. These are all components of the major programs.

There is as well an alcohol treatment program through the Northern Addiction Services Program that has been used over the past and with those who are motivated or assessed as being motivated to participate in this program and there have been a number in the past year. There is as well a community work release program again in the latter part of the sentence where inmates work for local businesses on a temporary absence pass. It is again a very worth-while program for those inmates who have demonstrated the responsibility to be involved and again this program is very well accepted by the community and it has a very good usage.



### Yellowknife Correctional Centre

At the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, which is a general security institution that accommodates maximum, medium and minimum security inmates, many of the programs here are institutionally oriented because of the complexity and the general nature of the centre itself. There is a full time teacher providing instruction and upgrading to the grade 12 level for those who demonstrate an interest and are willing to put forth an effort in this area. In taking part in this upgrading or academic training the inmate must have a sufficient length of time of course to reasonably complete his segment of this. It is available to all inmates in the general population of the centre. In the past there have been correspondence courses in post-secondary education when the occasion demands and these have been administered and have been tutored by instructors. There is a vocational training program. Two instructors are employed in this area to teach and demonstrate skills related to a number of maintenance trades, primarily painting, carpentry, welding, but also with mechanical areas, small motor mechanics and minor automobile repairs. In individual cases hours can be applied towards apprentice requirements. Again the interest and aptitude and the desire to learn are required for participation in this particular program.

In the area of gardening, that is in the hothouse or open air, there is a program here where vegetables are grown, cultivated for use by the institution and, of course, their skills teaching people how to care for this is part of the program. Ground maintenance is of course again part of a program in terms of what inmates can do; small power equipment, hand tools and this of course goes on year round. The minor building maintenance, the housekeeping activities, kitchen, laundry and cleaning, these activities are primarily reserved for those inmates who by reason of their classification are not eligible for community oriented programs. These are the people who are involved because again, Mr. Chairman, we recognize the complexity of the centre itself and that it is maximum, medium and minimum security.

Work release is as in other institutions. It has been going on and this provides the opportunity for inmates to again near the end of their sentence help to make a transition from institution to the community more successfully. Community activity projects involve volunteer work in the community under the supervision of institutional staff such as work during the winter, taking care of snow removal for example at the senior citizens' home, ground maintenance at public recreational facilities, painting and minor repairs for non-profit community organizations. We believe that this develops some responsibility by these constructive programs.

At the halfway house, Arctic House, a facility for day parole or those on temporary absence programs, this facility is staffed by counsellors who assist inmates again in the latter part of their sentence to attempt the successful transition from the institution to community life. Inmates again who are motivated and have proven by past performances in the institution that they are suitable for taking into this program.

### Quyta Lake

At Quyta Lake a potentially effective land skill program for young offenders who wish to acquire skills in basic outdoor endeavours and traditional pursuits is undertaken. There is a closer communication and co-ordination with the private operator of this program that will hopefully ensure a clear identification of the objectives and methods used to achieve particular objectives. We believe this program should be exclusive to young adult offenders. There are other programs operated periodically such as firefighting, training for forestry, driver training, sports clinics and the teaching of a soapstone carving by skilled inmate carvers to younger inmates. There are other outside programs which are used, Northern Addiction Services program, life skills. Where applicable we get the psychological services as well. There are other activities which could be classified as programs, but I am not going into detail on them such as arts and craft work, recreation.



We would be pleased to provide further information on these if that indication is shown to us. I believe as well that we have been attempting to do more for inmates in an attempt to have them participate more in those kinds of programs to enable them to make that transition from the institutional way of life to taking up a more successful place in the community. Again, Mr. Chairman, you must understand that we go through a classification process whereas people come in, the classifications are reviewed, various programs are open to various individuals. Individuals are taken into various areas.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make some comments about Social Services in general and direct some questions to the Minister about the role he sees in the future for the social service committee or the welfare appeals committee or social assistance appeal committees as they are known, especially as they operate in the Baffin region. A few observations first.

#### Urgent Problem Of Juvenile Delinquency

In communities in the Baffin region, even in the one community where there is a juvenile court judge resident, Frobisher Bay, the courts and the RCMP and the professional social service workers seem to be relatively helpless to deal with the growing problem of juvenile delinquents who are identified by the police and brought to juvenile court. If anybody can do anything with these delinquents which seem to be the vast majority of the Inuit portion of the population in Frobisher Bay, it seems that the juvenile court committee has the means and the knowledge and more importantly the credibility to do something. Juvenile court committees have been formed in other communities in the Baffin region and have shown themselves very concerned and very willing to do what they can about the urgent problem of juvenile delinquency. There is a very serious epidemic of juvenile glue, gas solvent sniffing in certain communities in the Baffin region as I am sure the Minister is aware.

Similarly, there are in most, I think I can say with the exception of Frobisher Bay, in all settlements of the Baffin region, alcohol committees. Like the juvenile court committees the alcohol committees have got the credibility that individual workers and individual policemen just do not have because they represent an amalgamation of the best wisdom and leadership of the community. There is no question, Mr. Chairman, that these days there is an erosion of parental authority, that some parents just seem to be out of touch with their children. I think it is a reflection of the rapid change that is undergoing, that is occurring in the Baffin region and the result of it is that it is only groups and committees of concerned parents and elders who really have the credibility and the clout to do anything with juveniles and adults who have these serious problems.

The alcohol committees in some places are extremely active. In Igloolik, for instance, as you know the alcohol committee there looks after the drinking problems of the whole community. They ration each individual and they approve each application for liquor and it is a very extensive job. In many other places, especially where there is no RCMP, the alcohol committees as I am sure the Minister knows, handle the drinking problems. If there is a drunk person in Broughton Island who is causing a problem the alcohol committee member is called and usually three or four of them and sometimes if they have to sit on the guy all night until he sobers up they do it. They work hard and they are seen by the community as people who are responsible for the social problems.

#### Devolution Of Responsibility For Social Services

The social services committee in Frobisher Bay which is now a committee of the Assembly, of course, I think have already demonstrated the workability of devolution of responsibility for social services to a community council or a community committee. They have already shown that they do things differently than they have been done before and I think the project is going to be a success.

In 1976, proposals were made to officials of your department, including the then chief of corrections and other officials, it came out of Frobisher Bay for what is called a diversion committee. A number of interested citizens from Frobisher Bay wanted to form a committee which would seek to divert people away from the court system wherever possible, especially young people with drinking problems and obviously this would have meant a tremendous saving in the cost of administration of justice in Frobisher Bay. As the Minister knows there is a pilot project in Cape Dorset now, whereby your department has provided an honorarium to a similar kind of committee. This is an amalgamation of the alcohol committee and the juvenile court committee and for the first time it has been recognized. I think this is on an experimental basis that if people are going to take on the significant obligation it is a good investment in terms of reducing the cost of administration of justice, in reducing the cost of juvenile delinquency, reducing the cost of social services and correctional services later on down the road. It is a good investment to start at the grass roots level and pay people to do a job that the police and even your individual social service workers really with the best will in the world are not equipped to do because of the severity of the problems.

#### Future Of The Social Services Committees

Now, I guess my question, Mr. Chairman, is, I see in the Baffin region a strong call from committees and from community councils and the like to have a collective responsibility for the social service problems in the communities in the Baffin region. Now, with all respect to your social service workers in the Baffin region whom I am delighted are in the settlements in the region, they are all native persons and I think this is most commendable. I think your staff should be congratulated for having gone this far and I know you are training an area superintendent in Frobisher Bay who will be again a native person dealing most appropriately with people who are primarily Inuit in Frobisher Bay. The point is particularly in settlements in the region my observation has been that the social service workers as full time employees really do not have a great amount that they can do. I think in many ways you are overstaffed in that the individuals do not seem to be able to be all that active unless they can involve themselves with a committee and bring the resources of the elders in the community together. It is difficult to expect the kind of younger person that you are recruiting to take on these significant problems.

My point that I am trying to get down to making is: Do you accept, first of all, the future of the social services committee? By the way, designating them as vehicles to receive appeals from people who are dissatisfied with social assistance is no duty for them at all. I think the number of social assistance appeals are so minimal that if that is their only function as a committee, the committee does not need to exist. In my experience at least there are very few appeals in the Baffin region, but I am asking you what are you going to do with these committees? They are advisory right now, they are unpaid, they are willing to take on more responsibility but they say time and time again "If we are going to take on responsibility for juvenile delinquency in our community, if we are going to look after alcohol problems in our community" and as they said in Frobisher Bay, "If we are going to be a diversion committee, this is a big job. We can do it, we are willing to do it, but it is a very demanding job in terms of our time and our emotions and will you give us recognition in terms of money? Will you pay us to do these jobs?"

#### Committees Taking Over Social Services In Communities

Now, concomitantly I think you are going to have to scale down the role of the individual workers, but in 1976 your officials said, "No way will we pay anybody to do this kind of work. It has got to be done on a volunteer basis. We do not want to create dependence on the government", etc., but increasingly the dimensions of these problems in the communities I think requires that these committees must be encouraged to form and the condition that they are saying is that they will take on these responsibilities and I do not think it is unreasonable is, "We want some recognition, we do not want full time jobs but we want some kind of honorarium to pay the babysitter." Now, I think to do that without expanding the budget of the department significantly you are probably going to have to scale down the roles of your individual social service workers who are not very well paid and I think underworked.

Now, do you see in the long run social service committees eventually in the Baffin region taking over social services in the communities, replacing the individuals and collectively assuming the responsibility, because of course this is the way it was always done long before us white men came onto the scene in the Baffin region? I think this is the direction the people want. Is it the direction that the department wants?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Patterson, thank you for the brief question. I just point out that you came close to reaching your ten minute limit.

MR. CURLEY: Yes.

#### Social Services Committees Are Advisory Committees

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I guess Mr. Patterson brings up quite a large number of particular -- in his comments and in his questions he talks of a number of things that I would like to comment on, but to answer specifically his question, yes, that is something that we would like to work towards, but by simply saying that, might not be satisfactory and I do not want to go into a long, drawn-out answer. We believe that the social service advisory committees serve a purpose, not just in appeal situations but they are advisory. I know from experience that they do assist our community social service workers. I know from experience where there is consolidation that has taken place that they do contribute a great deal, not just in advice but in taking on some responsibility. There is an honorarium paid now, albeit maybe not that substantial where there is a consolidation of community, that is appeal, assisting appeal committees but we do provide a yearly honorarium to them.

I could not agree more with the Member that juvenile court committees are in fact an excellent concept. I know they work and in some areas they work voluntarily such as the Member has suggested. They do demand of those people involved a great deal of time, energy and a disruption to their own life. In a lot of cases you are talking about people who have families of their own and who have jobs of their own, but who have indicated that they want to be involved.



The alcohol committees again in the communities do a great job. We agree again with the concept whereby Frobisher Bay and other communities are taking on responsibility. We recognize them for what they do, you know we have attempted and I say it without hesitation, of all government departments this department has really devolved responsibility. We have really been involved with training and hiring local people, native people. That has been the request of past Houses to do this and I think we have been able to respond to it.

Support Of The Work Of Social Services Committees

You know, pre-trial diversion of course as the Member well knows is a responsibility of another area in terms of justice, but we support the consolidation of these committees. We support the work that they are doing. We see these committees as vehicles toward devolution, no question. Where the community and the local council agree and request this and we have that liaison with the local councils, that is the road that we would like to pursue. That is the road I suggest to the Member that we have in this department been pursuing. So I again come down I guess to the final question or to his question: Do we see the gradual assumption of responsibility by these committees for social services? The answer obviously is yes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no further general comments or questions. I merely wanted to say that the information that Mr. McCallum read into the record earlier I believe was in response to a question that I asked yesterday and I simply wanted to thank the Minister and his staff for the very full treatment of the question I was given. I still have an interest in the problem of rehabilitation. Rather than take up the House's time I certainly look forward to the report that will be generated by the department on recidivism and I will take an opportunity myself to become personally familiar with some of the programs of rehabilitation between now and perhaps the session in the fall. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Any further general questions or comments? If not, is it the wish of the committee to go into the detailed estimates?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): There seems to be general agreement. If so, I will refer the Members to page 13.02 in the main estimate book. Is it agreeable to you, Mr. McCallum, that we start off with administration and discuss that department and go through the order which is presented in the estimates?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Yes.

Social Services, Administration, Total O And M

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Is it the wish of the committee then that we consider the first item in the administration budget, namely, operations and maintenance, the first item being a total of \$4,265,000 in administration? I believe if you want to have a breakdown of that \$4,265,000 figure in administration you will find it on page 13.02 in the blue book which is a support document for the estimates. It gives more details as to how these figures are arrived at. I see that it breaks them down on a regional basis. Is it the Members' wish that we go into this detail now? I do not hear any protests. Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.



HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I notice, perhaps I am just one page ahead of you still, that there was an actual drop in man years -- pardon me in 1978-79 actual dropping from 300 and then the estimates for this year are 279. I have just gone a page ahead and I am just asking specifically where have you lost manpower and what effect is it having on the department if at the same time for instance you say there have been more incarcerations this past year and so on? Is the staff managing to cope with it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the reduction in the man years and I take it the Member is referring to page 13.01, the reduction from 1979 to 1980 of 300 man years to 279. There has been a reduction at the headquarters staff. There has been a reduction in some of the regions except Keewatin and, of course, there will be a reduction in receiving home staff. I had to do it.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I am reminded that the clock strikes four so we will take a 15 minute break for tea.

---SHORT RECESS

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I recognize a quorum so the committee will come to order and we will continue consideration of the first item in the Social Services estimate, the activity of administration contained on page 13.02 and I will entertain questions on that subject of administration. If there are no questions, is it the wish of the committee to put this subject to a vote?

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, just one comment. I was not clear about what was meant by administration and I would suggest next year that people who actually deal with clients should be considered to be administration and perhaps next year there could be some kind of notation that is maybe a little more meaningful.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Does anyone have any further questions on the administration? The item we are considering, the first item we should consider is operations and maintenance and then capital. Is it the wish of the committee that we vote on these subjects now?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Agree with the numbers. That is all.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I hear agreement. All right. The first item I think we should specifically look at is operations and maintenance on page 13.02. The total vote for salaries and wages, grants and contributions and other O and M is \$4,265,000. Is it agreed that we -- Mrs. Sorensen.

#### Plans For Female Offenders

MRS. SORENSEN: I cannot let this go by without asking a question. It concerns the Fort Smith detention centre for women. When we met in December with the department and went over the estimates there was some talk of the possibility of closing down the centre and thereby gaining a saving of \$150,000. There was talk of going to a group home situation or perhaps sending chronic offenders south. I wonder if there has been a change in attitude by the department on this.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Excuse me, Mrs. Sorensen. I think you are addressing a question on the subject of corrections and I would like to put your question off until we get to that item.

MRS. SORENSEN: Is that not part of O and M?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Is that part of O and M, Mr. McCallum? Is the Fort Smith centre for women included in your administration budget? Can you enlighten us?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I will attempt to, Mr. Chairman. The administration included in this activity are the salaries and wages of all social services employees except for institutional staff which includes staff in correctional centres, receiving homes, the Akudlik Transient Centre and the Joe Greenland Transient Centre.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It would be correct to defer your question, Mrs. Sorensen. We are just talking about social services staff and not people who work in institutions of the department. So is it the wish of the committee to vote on this item of O and M for administration? Are there any more questions? If not, Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: Is it normal procedure to vote on each item as you go along? Is that normal procedure?

#### Procedure For Voting Main Estimates

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think the normal procedure is to go department by department and approve the totals for O and M and capital. Do you have any other suggestions, Ms. Cournoyea?

MS. COURNOYEA: No. I was just wondering if we were going over the budget and we are asking questions, I am just concerned that after a couple of weeks we can ask questions as the items come up and sort of allay our fears but at the same time how do we know three weeks from now we are not going to come down with saying we just do not have the kind of money we are looking to and then we are approving these items as we go along? I was wondering if maybe we could just say "Well, they are okay as they are read and at the end of the whole shooting match once and for all..."

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I think the procedure we would have to follow if we came to the end of a department and decided we did not have enough money would be to go back and rescind our motion where we had earlier approved a vote in a particular area. So that option is open. In other words, we approve administration today and decide to make a cut in that area later. The vote would have to be rescinded by a majority of the committee of the whole.

MS. COURNOYEA: So it appears necessary to vote on each item. You cannot just accept it?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It is necessary. I do not think we need to be too formal. I am not necessarily going to ask for a show of hands but I think I will say "Is it agreed that we approve this item in the amount of X dollars?" And if I do not hear any "nays" I will take it that no one wants to veto but it will in fact be recorded as a motion and a vote in the committee of the whole which we would have to rescind if we wanted to change it by another motion later on. I think that is the way it is done. We try to be fairly informal but it should be regarded as a vote and if there is any question at all we should vote by a show of hands. Is that all right with you?

MS. COURNOYEA: That is fine. I just wanted to know what the procedure was.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I am just going by advice as to what the practice of past Councils has been. Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Leave Administration Vote Until The End

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I certainly accept what you have suggested, Mr. Chairman, but in the case of the Department of Social Services it seems to me that the label "administration" is kind of a catchall; whereas we have corrections and we have services to aged and handicapped. I personally would feel much more comfortable if we dealt with corrections, all the specific ones first and then any questions that are left over would somehow fit into the administration one. What I sort of fear is if we say yes right now to administration and then in about ten minutes we want to ask a certain kind of question we would be told it is too late because that was dealt with in administration. So I would just like to see the very specific ones dealt with first and then deal with that administrative one last if that is agreeable to other Members.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Is it agreeable to the committee that we leave the item of administration and go into the other activities? Is it generally agreed that we should proceed as Mr. MacQuarrie suggests? Mr. McCallum, yes.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just a comment on the Member's -- what he had indicated about administration. When we are talking administration in this activity we are talking about headquarters staff, the regional administration and the community social service workers. Now, you cannot break that down into "others" because they are involved with family and children's services, the social assistance, the probation work and other activities within the department. So when we are talking administration so that we are aware of what we are talking about, it is that we are dealing with headquarters activities, regional administration and community social workers. I indicate again that it is difficult because the community social workers are involved with a number of the other activities within the entire division.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, I think I may have been misunderstood. I did not want a similar breakdown elsewhere. My simple question to Mr. McCallum would be, would he mind if we start with corrections? Is there some specific objection to starting with corrections?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Would you mind? He would not mind. Is it agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Corrections, O And M

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): It seems to be generally agreed. We will move to corrections which is on page 13.03 and in the blue book the breakdown is on the same page. The first item is operations and maintenance. Mr. McCallum, do you wish to make a general statement about this? No. Any questions? Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: Are you dealing with just the administration of corrections or can I ask a question regarding buildings and works?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Might I suggest, if you do not mind, we will start off with operations and maintenance and approve that item, vote on that item and then move to capital. Is that satisfactory to you?

MS. COURNOYEA: That is fine.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mrs. Sorensen.

MRS. SORENSEN: Mr. McCallum, do you want me to repeat my question concerning the detention of females?

N.W.T. Correctional Centre For Women

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, do I have a choice? No, I do not mind Mrs. Sorensen repeating her question, in fact, I understand that a recommendation of the standing committee on finance was that the Northwest Territories Correctional Centre for Women should be closed down thereby realizing or effecting an annual saving of \$150,000.

Then the further question of the Member was: Has the department had second thoughts? I am not sure what the first thought of the department was in terms of it. I think it was maybe an alternative to the kind of expenditure, but I am of the opinion as Minister of Social Services that the Northwest Territories Correctional Centre for Women should not be closed down. I do not think that that can be accomplished, that is the closure of the Correctional Centre for Women, without having alternatives in place. There will always be some female offenders who because of the nature of their offence would be sentenced to an incarceration term. Approval would have to be given by the Assembly to establish an agreement with one or more provinces to care for these individuals as one alternative. Sentencing alternatives would have to be explored and established with the judiciary and approval would have to be given within the sentence to have some other facility set up so that it could be used for probationers as a condition of probation to spend some time in a limited controlled environment.



I am not satisfied that in point of fact where with male offenders we are attempting through the Yellowknife Correctional Centre to take people back into the Territories why we should now in terms of female offenders move them out of the Territories. I would not want to see the institution then closed down at this particular time. That does not negate in any way what I indicated in my opening remarks that as the Minister of Social Services I have instructed the departmental staff to prepare a report outlining alternate ways in which young and multiple offenders may be dealt with in terms of incarceration or offenders per se, male, female, young or adult. I still would expect the department to come forward with that kind of a paper or report to me, but at the present time I think it is safe to say that my advice on this is not to close the Women's Correctional Centre at this time.

Corrections, O And M, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Anyone else? The question has been called on operations and maintenance under corrections. The amount is \$2,979,000. Is it agreed that we approve this item?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Corrections, Capital

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Now we move to capital. The amount there is \$947,000. Ms. Cournoyea.

MS. COURNOYEA: It is just a general question and the item is not in the budget and I would like to ask some information on the item concerning the corrections service building that was supposed to be built in Inuvik. I see that there is additional money for the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre in Hay River. The property and pilings for the proposed Inuvik centre have already been put in to place and I just wonder at what level that particular corrections institute is at?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct that there is no indication that we are at this time going ahead with the Inuvik correctional centre. In 1977 when this was contemplated there seemed to be a need for such a centre. However, that year went by, there was a reduction in the number of people who could have been incarcerated or could have been sentenced to that particular facility and it was demonstrated to me because I think I was at that time involved with Social Services as a Member of the Executive and it was demonstrated to me that there was not the need for that facility at that time.

Now, if there is a demonstrated need that such a facility is required again then obviously we would have to reassess our capital planning to take that into consideration. That is part of the capital planning process regardless of where there is a need indicated, so that in point of fact what we are doing with the capital money in corrections this year is finishing off what is required at the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre and doing some maintenance work within the Fort Smith centre and in the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, but the possibility of putting a correctional centre in the Delta at Inuvik is still part of a five year capital plan. At the present time it has not been demonstrated to us that it is required and that is what we would work on.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): We are on capital, corrections. Any more questions? Mr. Curley. Ms. Cournoyea, did you want to ask any more?

MS. COURNOYEA: I was going to ask about the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre in Hay River and what is the magnitude of that building? Is that a brand new building?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that is. It replaces a combination of older buildings that were put together, trailer units, so this is a new facility that was begun this year and the money for the capital is on a two year basis and that is why the extra funding for the coming year.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Curley.

Correctional Centre For Women In The Baffin Region

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. I would like to ask you a question with respect to the Baffin Correctional Centre. Have you considered at all putting women's quarters in the Baffin Correctional Centre, or is it a policy that they can share the same rooms with boys or whatnot? I do not know.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not think that there is any move to make these co-ed at the present time. I guess as with all things when there is a demonstrated need to build facilities such as these, that is when the incidence occurs at a rate where it would require those kinds of quarters, those kinds of institutions to be developed in other areas, I guess we would react to them then. At the present time I do not believe that there are that many female offenders in the Baffin or Keewatin that it would require a particular unit in and by itself. Again we are not going co-ed.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: There may still be a demonstrated need.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: If there is, Mr. Chairman, then we would react. Well, I will just let it go at that.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Please do.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): I recognize Mr. Curley.

Female Offenders In The N.W.T.

MR. CURLEY: Yes, supplementary to that, I think the question is important because surely the department is not going along with the general understanding that all offenders are male and, therefore, that they should not be providing facilities for women's quarters. So then what has been the practice if women are sent to that kind of an institution?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I assure the Member that it is not prejudicial on our part, that we are simply looking after the incarceration of males to the exclusion of females. I realize and I appreciate it and I do not mean to bring levity to it in terms that it is not a serious question. At the present time female offenders in the Territories are sent to the Women's Correctional Centre in Fort Smith. At the present time, as I indicated earlier this afternoon, there are six to eight inmates there now. I would have to have it determined very quickly I guess, how many are from the East.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: I think, Mr. Chairman, there is one female offender there now from the East. Is that copacetic?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Minister, the fact that we have correctional centres in various places in the Territories, where would they be, Hay River, Yellowknife, Frobisher Bay? Is that the extent of it at present?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: At the present time, Mr. Chairman, Yellowknife, Hay River, Frobisher and Fort Smith.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Fort Smith is both male and female? Just female I think.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Just a female centre. There is only one female centre, Mr. Chairman, and that is in Fort Smith. There is the juvenile centre there as well.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: With the three correctional centres for males is it purely a regional matter or is there any differentiation between the function of these? What I am thinking of particularly is, is one of the facilities particularly for first offenders, you know, trying to keep them segregated from people who have returned again and again or is it purely on a regional basis?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the greater percentage of people committed by the courts to those centres are to the Yellowknife Correctional Centre. As I indicated earlier, the Yellowknife Correctional Centre is a combination of maximum, medium and minimum security. In the case of the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre inmates from the Yellowknife Correctional Centre are then allowed to move down to that as they progress within their sentence. In the case of the Baffin Correctional Centre more and more -- check that -- to a greater degree people sentenced to a centre from that area are being directly placed in the Baffin. That is not to say totally. Some of them still come to the Yellowknife Correctional Centre and then are sent back as well so it is a combination.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you, Hon. Mr. McCallum. Any more questions? Are you ready to vote on capital?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Corrections, Capital, Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): The question is called. The item is \$947,000. Does the committee approve that expenditure for capital?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): So be it.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services, O And M

I think we have finished with the department or the division of corrections then and we will move to family and children's services. May I ask the committee is anyone willing to take the chair for this department? Would the committee allow me to take part in the discussion? I would rather surrender the chair to someone.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I believe it would be correct for me perhaps to ask that someone else take the chair, if Mr. Patterson very much wants to participate. Mr. Clerk, would you understand that?

CLERK ASSISTANT OF THE HOUSE (Mr. de Vos): Yes.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: I would ask Mr. Nerysoo would you mind chairing the committee of the whole?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I do not mind at all.

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Very well then. You would prefer someone else other than a Member of the Executive. All right.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. MacQuarrie, there has been some concern expressed about the precedent of having a Member of the Executive take the chair. I will carry on with this discussion now and perhaps someone can be identified. I do not want to hold the business of the committee up. We are on family and children's services. Are there any questions?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, personally and I do not know about other Members but I do not see any difficulty if you want to ask a question if it is brief and to the point.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Evaluarjuk.

MR. EVALUARJUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I think I understand that the chairman, everybody agrees that he could speak to whatever subject we are talking about if everybody agrees to that, that he is able to speak to that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Is it agreed that I could ask some questions on this particular department only? I am particularly interested in it and that is why I made the request. It seems to be agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Are there any questions from Members of the committee? Mr. Sibbeston.

#### Adoption Of Northern Children

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering whether in the last few years the department has finally resolved the matter of children being sent South when they are adopted or else having them placed in foster homes elsewhere than in the North? What is the present government policy?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I had indicated in my opening remarks that at the present time there are 32 children in the care of the superintendent of child welfare receiving services of a long-term nature in the South. It is as I indicated as well that, it is our determination, the expression of determination to have children adopted in the North and placed -- if not, at least to make use of the numerous foster homes that we have identified in the North for foster home care for children. I think it is safe to say that the basic policy of the department in relation to adoptions and/or foster homes is to attempt this in the North to the greatest extent. Those children who are in other provinces to the South, in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and in some cases Quebec, they are there obviously because of, if you like, emotional difficulties of long standing. I think that what we have attempted to do as a policy is to carry on adoptions and use foster home care in the North for children.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Yes, Mr. Sibbeston.



Treatment Of Juvenile Delinquents

MR. SIBBESTON: The area I am interested in is that of some treatment centre for some juvenile delinquent children. I am just wondering, the home or centre you have in Fort Smith, is that simply just a home where the kids go and are looked after by people and not have anything more than that or is there some specialized program in attempting to deal with and help the children who are there?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated I think again in my remarks that we are attempting to upgrade the facilities and have been, in terms of the personnel, involved with the juvenile centre in Fort Smith with something that would provide them with much more than being housed there. The staff are undergoing upgrading and training to provide services more than just as if it were a housekeeping service to youths who are delinquent and who have been sent there by the court. As well there is a group home in Fort Smith associated with the juvenile centre and its major purpose of course is to provide a period of transition, back into a family environment before the youth would return to his or her home community. As well, as I indicated, youths, juveniles who are sentenced to that centre participate in the school in terms of education and we think that with that kind of a combination the youths there have been, and are now, and hopefully will be, in the future well served.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Thank you.

MR. SIBBESTON: One final question dealing with the closure of the home, the children's home in Hay River. My understanding of the primary reason why the home was closed was that there were only approximately four children in the home and there were something like 13 or so staff looking after the few children. I take it that the main reason for closure of the home was simply the fact that there were not very many children in the home and this being the situation it was much cheaper and perhaps better to place the children in foster homes. Is this correct? Another question you may answer is what is to happen to that building that the government had used for a children's home?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

Hay River Receiving Home

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, in relation to the Member's last question we are looking at other means by which that facility can be utilized. There are maybe different uses which we can put it to you such as the possibility of a nursing home. This department is trying to develop a policy on nursing homes in general, personal care situations rather than possibly nursing homes. We would hope that we would be able to make use of that facility as we make an inventory of the community itself.

In relation to the actual closure of the Hay River receiving home there is no doubt that economics was a factor, but I want to make it perfectly clear and emphasize, underline that that was not the fundamental reason for the closure of the Hay River receiving home. I admit it was a factor, but it was not the fundamental reason for closing that home. It is my belief and I believe that it is a belief shared by a large number of people certainly within the department that a family home, family environment or, if you like, pseudo-family environment that is, group homes are fundamentally, basically a better environment in which to bring up children and that was the fundamental reason because we believed children belong in a family environment and not in an institutional environment. We believe that those children should be housed within their own communities in family environments. We have embarked upon a program with increased emphasis on determining, securing and developing foster homes to provide a better situation for infants and pre-schoolers of a much less institutionalized manner. We hope

that will occur. In fact we have been very heartened by the response of the community of Hay River in this regard.

There is, we believe, a decreasing need for this type of institution or residence or residential care in the South Mackenzie and in fact by and large throughout the North. Now, there is no question and you can look at statistics, you can analyze them concerning the utilization as has been demonstrated by receiving homes and in point of fact as of today, the 14th day of February -- today is Valentine's and I kind of hope I get the flowers -- that today there are three children that were at that time involved. There is a 13 year old being returned to his own home, his own parents. There is another youth who will be placed in a foster home within the Indian village and there is another child from the Baffin region who will be placed in a foster home there.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. Sibbeston.

Closure Of Other Receiving Homes

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering what happened to all the staff who worked in the receiving home in Hay River? Are they absorbed into the system and, if not, does the budget reflect a decrease in the number of employees and, accordingly, money for salaries and also if that is your general intention when might the group home in Fort Smith close? Do you foresee that happening this year perhaps?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: In relation to the closure of the other receiving homes in the Northwest Territories, that again is part of a total review that is going on within the department as to what further use or future use these facilities may have. I do not at this particular time see foreclosing the Fort Smith receiving home this particular year. Now, I say at this particular time.

The question as to staff, they are Public Service Association members. By their contract they are given three months notice which, of course, was the reason why this occurred at the end of December -- the 1st of January, because we required three months notice and have that reflected within our budget for the coming year in relation to a reduction of man years and moneys involved. These people at the last count that I know of, approximately eight to ten of them have already been offered employment within the government in other areas. In point of fact, three as I had indicated I think in my opening remarks, would be employed as community social service workers. Others have been offered employment within the government. They are all secondary wage earners. We anticipate that in point of fact these people will be able to find employment within similar allied or other government areas. In fact, one that I know of and possibly two have left the community and were contemplating leaving the community before the closure itself. I should say that if the need arises to provide some kind of other situation, other than foster homes in Hay River, we will pursue the idea of group homes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Patterson): Mr. MacQuarrie.

An Obligation To Children

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I notice in a number of places, for instance in the goals above on page 13.04 that one of the goals is of ensuring that children can remain in their own homes whenever possible. Then in your introductory remarks the basic philosophy is that the family is the unit for having the child best realize his potential. Of course that is a philosophy that I am not going to challenge at all, but I do have a concern that there is a possibility that a commitment to that philosophical

ideal might sometimes blind some people to the reality that the family can be a problem in some cases. I know, for instance, of a specific case where unfortunately there had been family breakdown and eventually it was decided that the children would have to be removed from the home and placed in foster homes. I know that the people in the foster home cared very much about a child that was placed with them and did a great deal to try to get the child on the right track educationally and in other ways and so on. Then suddenly they were informed that the home was okay again and the child could go back. So the child goes back but unfortunately it is for a very brief time and then the need recurs.

So I am just wondering and I know we do not want a society where the government comes along and disrupts families and takes children away and so on, but I think on the other hand we have an obligation to children to be sure that if they are going to be placed back in a home environment that it is truly rehabilitated. I am just wondering then are there some specific objective criteria that the department uses to determine if things are all right again, or what sort of instructions does it give to the workers who are involved in these cases?

#### Assessment Of A Home Situation

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, as a general rule, children would be returned to a family when that situation comes up, when in the opinion of people who have the training and professional expertise would so determine. Now, what kind of factors are involved? I am not a social worker or I do not have any expertise in that. I have enough, I guess, problems with my own. So you deal in terms of how you assess it. Now, what those factors are in assessing that, you are dealing with other humans and you attempt to assess a situation that is very difficult, to not place children back in a home when in fact the parents would request them back. I think that what we would do is that we would assess the parent or if there is a real improvement in the home in the family situation, and I guess it becomes to a great degree an assessment of an individual in consultation with other workers in an area.

Now, again I cannot break down those criteria, but it would seem to me that not in most cases, it would hopefully be in all cases, that that kind of expertise in assessing a renewed family situation, a situation where there is a coming together again of the family unit, that that comes under the individual social worker who obviously knows the people, who knows the history of the parents, a history of the family because of his or her association in the community itself with those people. I think that is a very difficult and I do not mean to go round and round and not in essence say very much, but it is a very difficult situation. I do not think that you can take a check list and check it out. You have to deal with individuals and human beings and there are factors that are involved that you just cannot put down on a check list and check them off as being good, bad, indifferent or improved. I am not saying that some of that does not quite possibly go on, but I do not think that we would be placing back into homes without being assured that the parents (a) really want them back, (b) that the family unit has come together in a more positive manner and I would think basically and be convinced within our own minds that this is in the best interest of the child. Now, I recognize that that family unit may break down again, but there are no guarantees regardless of any family unit always being together and for the best possible situation of any member of a family unit.

#### Greater Onus On Parents To Demonstrate Rehabilitation

HON. ROBERT H. MacQUARRIE: My concern particularly, Mr. McCallum, is that workers in the field very pointedly knowing what the philosophy is, might feel under pressure to act prematurely sometimes. Let us say there is a family with serious drinking problems and it breaks down, the children are removed from the home and the parents are shocked at what has happened and stop drinking and rehabilitate themselves as soon as possible. I would agree the family should be brought back together again, but what I am saying then is after a passage of three weeks or a month the same thing happens again, then to me it is a kind of



different problem then. There is an old Chinese proverb that says, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me." In other words, you have got to learn something from the fact that the family while it expressed a desire to be together again and become rehabilitated that I think there is a greater onus on the parents to demonstrate a second time that there really has been a change because I feel that children are damaged from being in this environment for a brief period of time, being taken away from the family and being placed in a different environment and then they are back to the family again. It is kind of confusing to young children and I really think that a second time there is a greater onus on parents to demonstrate rehabilitation in that case. Does the department make any distinction?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. McCallum.

Attempt To Have Children In The Best Possible Situations

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I just do not know how to go about making further comments, I recognize and appreciate what the Member is saying and I suggest to him and to other Members of the committee that we do attempt, we use the other adage as well, you try, try, try again.

Now, in the case of some older children within a family, they want to go back and to make an effort to keep the family and that is very difficult. I know from personal experience that a child who has been bandied about from home to home regardless of the age and I say I know from experience, within the first few months of that child's life and I mean months -- that can leave very serious marks on a child. But again I can only say that we attempt to have children in the best of possible situations and we make every effort to do so. It is very difficult to refuse a family their children, even though you or I or somebody else may think it is not right, the child would be better off somewhere else. Now, that is an assessment or an evaluation that is difficult to make taking into consideration that of all the institutions in society the family is number one. We, I think as a principle, try to work towards that particular goal. So I appreciate what you are saying. How we could go to a family and say, "Look, the last time we returned your child or children to you it lasted three weeks after a period of time that you were able to come together for, say, two months. This time when they are taken away from you, you are going to have to prove for six months or a year that the unit is together," and that is very difficult. I appreciate what you are saying and I know that a continual disruption of a family unit is difficult. It is difficult not only on the child but it is difficult on the parents as well. We attempt, as I say, as a principle to bring the unit together.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Is that all you have now, Hon. Mr. MacQuarrie? Mr. Curley, do you still have a question?

Akudlik Transient Centre

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. My question is with respect to the transient quarters in Churchill, Manitoba. I think it used to be a receiving home as well for children and some of the disabled or whatnot, children used to be treated there and it became a home for many, many of the children previously. I am wondering, there has been some discussion about those quarters; first of all there was talk about transferring it one day to the North and I do not know whether this was a regional anticipation of the people. Could you explain to me whether or not that centre is still being used for treating children as a home or are there any plans to move that centre in that region to the Keewatin district rather than being in Manitoba or whether or not you have any plans to relocate it at all?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Hon. Mr. McCallum.



HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, that particular centre is used, children do use it while they are in transit for medical travel. Yes, we are exploring the possibilities of moving that kind of a facility or the function of that facility into a region closer towards the town. I think it would be at least a teacherage rather than the old centre. The centre itself has been condemned as a building and that is why we have leased the teacherage closer to the town. The Member is asking whether we are contemplating moving it out of Manitoba into the North. I think that that as well is under some kind of consideration and we would hopefully be able to do something in that regard.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does that answer your question satisfactorily, Mr. Curley?

MR. CURLEY: Not really because I know there was a whole lot of anticipation by people in that region to eventually see it transferred and I suppose it is tied up with the medical facilities. Maybe the Minister could explain what he means -- I do not know the word he used, some kind of consideration.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I indicated that we are taking that into consideration because we would hope to be able to tie that into any kind of development in a health facility for the Keewatin. In terms of the utilization of the old facility and the lease of a new facility in Churchill, a teacherage to which we referred. The department through the regional office did consult with people in communities and they wanted to use that outside, that is, in Churchill. So for that reason we went ahead and leased a teacherage. When I say it is under consideration what I mean by that is that we would hope to be able to tie that kind of a facility into the development of a medical facility in the Keewatin.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Is that fine, Mr. Curley, now? Mr. Patterson.

#### Placement Of Older Children

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am getting very impatient with the tributes to the family and the virtues of placing children in family homes. Now I agree that that is a very good type of placement for juvenile delinquents or children who are in need of protection under the Child Welfare Ordinance, but I wish to ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, does he not agree or does he not know that there are children who cannot be placed in families? Older children are almost impossible to place. Six to eight year olds in many cases that I am aware of are bounced from home to home because they are impossible for any family to deal with. There is a serious problem with delay in placements. Your placement committee causes delays of up to a couple of months while children with very serious emotional and other problems are still in the home that led them into juvenile court.

I sometimes wonder whether people in your department are spending time in juvenile courts these days because there are young people under 16 involved in murder, yes. I personally know of a case where a juvenile committed this crime. Very serious crimes of violence. They are getting into booze and getting into very serious problems. You have not had a placement in Ranch-Ehrlo where we used to send juveniles for some time at least as far as I am aware. Juveniles are being jailed, Mr. Chairman, jailed in RCMP lockups all across the Northwest Territories and that is against the present law. Juveniles are not to be jailed under the Juvenile Delinquents Act and yet the Minister is telling us, Mr. Chairman, that we are moving towards placement in homes which is fine for normal children, but there are certain groups of young people who simply cannot be placed in these homes and now you are telling me the facilities that we do have are being closed down.

When a child comes into juvenile court this is the first time that we have, when a child is most amenable to change and rehabilitation, this is the first opportunity that we have, Mr. Chairman, to rehabilitate the child and if necessary by putting the child in a facility away from the home community, away from the family situation into the hands of professionals to deal with some of the very specialized problems that come up and in telling this House that we are moving out of the juvenile facilities and institutions I put it to the Minister that this is a serious abdication of your responsibilities which are growing, not decreasing.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Hon. Mr. McCallum.

#### Juveniles Sentenced By The Court

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Member said he is very impatient or growing very impatient with the way in which the department and I are looking after the problem of juvenile delinquents. I had indicated to the Member that in the case of juveniles when they are sentenced by a court, we have a juvenile centre which receives them. I indicated that we are upgrading, retraining, training again, staff to deal in this particular problem. He asked whether I agree or not that there are children who require other than that kind of care, that is, other than family kind of care. I want to remind the gentleman in question that I have been associated with children for a lot longer period of time than he has and all kinds of them. Certainly six to eight year old children can be difficult. I recall my own family, but I believe that we are not abdicating any kind of responsibility in terms of juveniles or youths because we are concerned not only with attempting to find foster homes for children. I indicated we are trying to get into a family situation in group homes.

It does take a long time to assess in terms of placing people for adoption. I know. There are children who require individual and a different kind of care because they are all different. I do not think the closing down of receiving homes is going to do anything in terms of what the Member is suggesting. I do not believe that we have to institutionalize children always. There are juvenile court committees that are operating in the Northwest Territories and very well. I heard the Member indicate that and I can give him an even greater example before a child, before the juvenile gets into difficulties, before he goes to court. I do not believe we are abdicating in any way the responsibility that we have and for every example that the Member would want to put forward here in terms of where we are having difficulty I can give you examples where we have provided for children and for juveniles.

#### Children Should Be Kept In The North

I do not agree with the judiciary and what they believe we should be doing. I believe that the route that we are taking is the correct route toward rehabilitating individuals and we do have children at Ranch-Ehrlo. There are two there now. Maybe we have not put as many there as the Member would like over the past number of years. I do not think we should be sending them outside. I think we should be able to do something with those children and those juveniles in the North. I believe that we have to do more in looking after emotionally disturbed, handicapped children and other juvenile delinquents.

The Northwest Territories is not peculiar in having juveniles commit serious crimes, murder, as the Member indicates. This is not the only place where that would happen. I have had children, juveniles in school who did the same thing, not in the Northwest Territories though. I think the charge the Member levies against this department and me that we are abdicating is wrong and I think that we are attempting to handle it. Mr. Chairman, I am going to have to apologize to you and to the other Members because when I began this in reply to the Member I tried to keep my voice down. I have not. I am not that

kind of person to do it all the time, but when you are dealing with children and I think I have had some kind of experience with them over the years, I believe that it does take at some times a change in the tenor of your voice or to raise it an octave or two to make a particular point. In his capacity, in his profession he can bring about and indicate examples where children and juveniles get into trouble, all kinds of it. Very few of them do not. We are not all Little Lord Fauntleroy's, sweet little Alice's in blue gowns. I am not suggesting that they are all good and things go along well. They do not, as it does not go along well with adults, but I think that we are coming to grips with the question of dealing with children with difficulties. We do not have the total kinds of facilities in the Northwest Territories to completely deal with all the difficulties that juveniles or children have, but I say to you, Mr. Chairman, and to other Members that it is better, much better to have them in family kinds of environments than it is to put them in institutions and I am not saying...

---Applause

...I am not saying that we should not have institutions of some kind. You have to protect society and there are going to be individuals who will come against the rules of society and break them for which they must be institutionalized but I think that we are coming to grips with the problem. Having inherited receiving homes from the federal government in 1967, 1968 and 1969 surely to God we have learned something in the ensuing ten years and I say to you, Mr. Chairman, and other Members of this committee, the Department of Social Services with its personnel involved in the field and in headquarters has learned something and it is doing some constructive work in dealing with children.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Patterson.

Facilities For Detention Of Juveniles

MR. PATTERSON: A supplementary, Mr. Chairman. I do not mind if the Minister raises his voice because I think I did too. Mr. Chairman, I am not opposed to the principle of families looking after children, most children, but I want to address my question more specifically: Are there any facilities for detention of juveniles who are in serious shape or in serious trouble with the law in the Northwest Territories other than RCMP lockup cells? If the Minister accepts that juveniles are being locked up in RCMP lockup cells is it the department's intention that this is something that should continue? If not, then is there a detention centre in the Northwest Territories? Is there a plan in the Northwest Territories for a detention centre and I am talking about a secure place for those juveniles who need to be protected, either against themselves or who need to be incarcerated for the protection of society? That is the specific question.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, if the court so decides in its wisdom to have juveniles locked up then obviously they are. The question, coming from the Member who is in the legal profession, is obviously a leading question. Prior to asking the question if I say no he is going to quote particular examples where it is because he knows whereof he speaks. At the present time the department does not have a lockup for juveniles. As I indicated, at least in the instance or the area that I am aware of, when the RCMP do apprehend a juvenile they contact the juvenile court committee who then stay with that juvenile, not in a lockup but in a home that is used for that particular purpose. So in answer to the question, no, we do not have a lockup. Yes, there may very well be juveniles who are by court order locked in RCMP holding -- whatever you call them -- cells or lockups. The Fort Smith juvenile centre is the area to where these juveniles are sent.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Patterson.

Wilderness Camp For Juveniles

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A further supplementary. In view of the undoubtedly significant cost of sending juveniles to Saskatchewan or to wilderness camp facilities and in view of the Minister's indication that it is the desire of the department to have other options to the foster home placement for juveniles and children who are neglected, will the department work to establish a similar type of wilderness camp situation in the Northwest Territories instead of spending significant amounts of money shipping juveniles off to Saskatchewan?

---Applause

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I was under the impression the Member in the beginning of this exchange was indicating that we were not sending enough children out into the other areas. However, yesterday Mr. Curley talked about setting up these kinds of situations. Yesterday I answered his question and suggested, yes, that we were open to that kind of a facility. I indicated yesterday and I think again today that we do in fact have these kind in operation now. We have the kind of operations where we attempt to have children, juveniles if you like, get into other kinds of situations. I indicated that in the total review of the department that we are attempting to recommend alternate ways in which young offenders can be dealt with. We would see the use of, I think in my opening remarks I talked of summer camps, camps year-round, that we would be open to any kind of proposals that are put forward to the department either directly to the headquarters or to regions so that, yes, I think we are open to different kinds or alternative methods of looking after the needs of juveniles or children, younger children.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Patterson, before you proceed I would first like to ask other Members if they are interested in speaking to Mr. McCallum with questions on this division of the Department of Social Services, re the operations and maintenance? I have not seen anyone else so you may proceed, Mr. Patterson, with another question.



Young Offenders Act

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, notwithstanding the direction that the Social Services department is taking in juvenile facilities which you may think are better than the directions being taken in other parts of Canada, is it not true that if the Juvenile Delinquents Act is replaced by the young offenders legislation which is under consideration in parliament, is it not true that if that legislation which I realize is presently only in draft form, but is it not true that if that legislation were to be passed by the parliament of Canada as it exists now, is it not true that the Northwest Territories would suddenly find itself in the position of having to provide a considerable variety of facilities for the care of juveniles and institutions and forms of treatment ranging from the industrial school or the replacement of the industrial school to the care for the mentally disturbed young persons to the maximum security type of detention centre? Is it not true that the Northwest Territories would have to suddenly, all in a tremendous hurry, spend significant amounts of money to produce facilities which it does not have now and is this something that your department is preparing for? What sort of money would we have to spend all of a sudden if we have to meet these standards imposed by that legislation?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, what the Member says essentially is correct, but not just as it applies to the significance of that act, that is the change to a young offenders act, that is not just a change to the Northwest Territories. That is of concern to all of the provinces as well and at the present time the provinces and the Territories are being asked and have been asked to analyze the implications behind the change to a young offenders act and what it means in terms of money, in terms of facilities for each particular jurisdiction. That is a topic that has come up at interprovincial and territorial conferences at a ministerial level since this particular act has been contemplated, but essentially the Member is correct. What we are doing is exactly what the other provinces and the other territory is doing, is to analyze the implications of it and to make those known to the federal government whomever they will be, but certainly that is the kind of thing that we are at present undergoing as are other jurisdictions.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Wah-Shee.

HON. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I was going to suggest that maybe we should consider voting on the estimates.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Are there any other Members who have questions on this item? Mr. Patterson.

Hay River Receiving Home

MR. PATTERSON: I do not want to monopolize the floor, Mr. Chairman, but I think the Assembly should come to grips with the implication of closing the Hay River receiving home and I think before we vote on these estimates we should decide whether that facility should be closed down in total or whether there is a way of keeping it open. I would like to see further discussion on it and I think it is relevant whether or not that facility, for example, would be required under the new federal young offenders legislation. I was going to ask the Minister if I have a chance before we vote, what sort of costs the Government of the Northwest Territories would have to bear, if they have calculated that, if the young offenders legislation went into place tomorrow and if, for example, they would have to re-open the Hay River facility and other facilities which might be closed in the future in the event that that legislation did go into effect?

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, we have been asked as I indicated as have other jurisdictions to do economic analyses of what the implications would have been had the young offenders act been in effect in 1978. If in fact there is a need to use that particular building, the building will be there. We are not going to dismantle it. I indicated in response to an earlier question that we were looking for other uses for that building, but the Hay River receiving home is not the first receiving home that has been shut down.

I think Members should realize that a receiving home is not set up to accomplish the kinds of things the Member is referring to. It has been used on occasion to have a child or a juvenile placed there for an indeterminate time. By "indeterminate" I mean overnight, for a day or so, but it is not the kind of facility that would be used to take into account what may have to be provided when the young offenders act comes into being. Whether he agrees or not with the closure of the receiving home in Hay River for the use it has been put to in the past he may have his own opinion. I do not know how that is shared by other Members but if there is a need to use the facility for a different purpose when the young offenders act comes into being, if in fact it does, the building will be there.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Curley.

Contract Services

MR. CURLEY: Thank you. I have a question with respect to the detailed support document under contract services. Could you explain to me what the total amount is? It seems to be quite high next to the salaries and benefits. What kind of contract service does that figure cover in all of these regions? It is the amount of \$1,065,000.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Where are you in the budget now? We are dealing on page 13.04 with family and children's services.

MR. CURLEY: I am dealing with the same page.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Right, okay. Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the Member is referring as I understand it to the \$1,065,000 which is the total amount of money for contract services in all four regions and headquarters. That is money that contract services there take. Some of the things concerned here are foster care home payments, institution moneys, comfort allowances for children there, travel by children. Mr. Chairman, in actual fact it is the cost to keep children in homes, foster homes, in and out of the Territories and the charges by institutions that are non-departmental. In essence I will break that down into some of the things that I indicated just a moment ago.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Curley, do you have anything further on that?

MR. CURLEY: Yes. My question concerns looking at the breakdown of their wages, \$130,000 figure for the Keewatin region, I compare that with a region like the Baffin region where they are only provided with \$20,000 as opposed to the large figure in the Keewatin. That would likely involve Manitoba, would that not be correct?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, yes, it would if there were children from that area out there.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): If those are all the questions Mr. Curley has, I will recognize the hour as being 6:00 o'clock. The committee will therefore rise and I will report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Since we had different Members in the chair during committee of the whole I would ask first of all Mr. Patterson to report progress on the terms of reference for the unity committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF MOTION 9-80(1): SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNITY, TERMS OF REFERENCE; AND BILL 1-80(1): APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, 1980-81

MR. PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to report that your committee has been considering Motion 9-80(1), Special Committee on Unity, Terms of Reference. It was adopted with the following amendment: This committee will continue in existence until it has fulfilled its mandate. It will attempt to submit a final written report with recommendations to the Assembly in the fall of 1980.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Latterly, Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to report your committee has been considering Motion 9-80(1) which was adopted with amendments and Bill 1-80(1) on which I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Announcements and orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Remnant): For next week, Mr. Speaker, Monday, February 18th a meeting of the standing committee on finance at 9:30 a.m. in Katimavik A. For Tuesday, February 19th a meeting of the standing committee on legislation at 9:00 a.m. in Katimavik A. I inadvertently may have said 9:00 a.m. in respect to the standing committee on finance meeting. That should be 9:30.

ITEM NO. 10: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, February 15, 1980, 1:00 o'clock p.m., at the Explorer Hotel.

1. Prayer
2. Oral Questions
3. Questions and Returns
4. Petitions
5. Tabling of Documents
6. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
7. Notices of Motion
8. Motions: Motion 13-80(1), 14-80(1), 15-80(1)
9. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills, Recommendations to the Legislative Assembly and Other Matters: Bill 1-80(1) being the estimates of the Departments of Social Services and of Health
10. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: I believe -- may I clarify this? Did you say Social Services and Health?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: That is what he said. It is wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to make a correction, Mr. McCallum?

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I thought he said the Department of Social Services and Health. Maybe he said the "departments".

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I may not have enunciated clearly. I said the departments, plural, of Social Services and Health.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry for confusing everybody but I heard a conversation earlier today, Mr. McCallum, in which you had hoped to have a little respite and thought that the Department of Health might come after the Department of Education if that was agreeable to everybody and that is what I am asking about now.

HON. ARNOLD McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, you are absolutely correct. Not only was it a conversation but I think it is an arrangement that we have made so it would be the Department of Social Services and the Department of Education. You must by now be getting tired of me.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege I would just like to ask if maybe you could give some notice if the Executive Committee is going to be meeting nearly all morning. When we were attempting to have a caucus meeting this morning we had quite a time trying to get a quorum. I wonder if you would ask Executive Committee Members to advise you if they are going to be having an Executive meeting so that some of us would not be wasting our time sitting around when they are supposed to be at a caucus meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Point well taken but I will redirect it to the caucus chairman. He should be advised by those Members who cannot come and I hope that Members would do so, not only Executive Members but all Members.

This House stands adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m., February 15, 1980, at the Explorer Hotel.

---ADJOURNMENT



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