

Supply

Mr. Crosbie: I agree. It could be useful later on if I am in the perilous plight of the former Minister of Justice. These are the people who treated Newfoundland so shamefully. There was no agreement under them. It was their way or no way. All of it was to be controlled and dominated by the Government of Canada. Now there is an agreement on joint management of offshore oil and gas. There is a Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board appointed by both, with a chairman selected by both. There is a \$300 million Canada-Newfoundland development fund. Does that sound to Hon. Members as if they are being treated with indifference and negligence—a \$300 million Canada-Newfoundland development fund to help put in the infrastructure which is needed for petroleum development in Newfoundland? I believe the contribution of the federal Government is \$200 million or \$250 million.

Mr. Rompkey: It is \$225 million.

Mr. Crosbie: It is \$225 million of the \$300 million fund. It is not a loan, it is a grant. Is this indifference and neglect? Is establishing the principle that revenue sharing shall be on the same basis as it is between Canada and other provinces indifference or neglect toward Atlantic Canada? How can the Hon. Member for Gander-Twillingate move such a resolution with that background? This one agreement alone means that Newfoundland will be able to establish and collect revenues from offshore oil and gas as though it was under the land in Alberta. Is that indifference and neglect? No, that is being saved from the indifference and neglect of the last seven or eight years.

I would not mind if this resolution had been moved by the NDP. I cannot blame its members for anything. In fact, some of them are perfectly likable. It is just like members of your family—you think they are useless but they are very likable because they are related to you and, after all, you can choose your friends but you cannot choose all the members of your family. That is the way I look upon NDP Members. They are perfectly likable, even though some of them are not all that useful, but we cannot hold them responsible. They have never been in power. They did not grind Newfoundland down. They did not say no to regional development. They did not take away the self-respect of Newfoundlanders. They did not tell Newfoundlanders that they were not as good as other people across the country and, therefore, could not be trusted to look after their own resources.

● (1510)

The NDP has never done that, but the Liberal Party has. The Party which the Hon. Member for Gander-Twillingate represents has done that. He stood by in this House year after year and let them do it. Now he has the gall, the crass hypocrisy, to move this silly jejune—you see I am bilingual—resolution about indifference and negligence towards Atlantic Canada.

I have to watch the clock. I will have to skip quickly. I cannot go into detail. The Canada-Newfoundland roads agreement to the tune of \$180 million was agreed to in March. That

is to be spent by the federal Government and the Newfoundland Government jointly on the Trans-Canada Highway on roads in Labrador and on the Avalon Peninsula over the next five to six years. That is the biggest roads agreement ever entered into between the two Governments. Is that indifference and neglect, especially with regard to transportation? Is this Member in the real world? Does he not know what is going on around him? When he gets in his car in the Town of Gander, he is right on the Trans-Canada Highway where \$180 million will be spent, and he says there is indifference and neglect. What does he want? Is \$180 million not enough?

Let me just list a few of the other things that have been done with respect to Newfoundland in seven months.

Mr. Rompkey: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I wonder if the Minister would care to clarify something. Is he telling us now that Cabinet and Treasury Board have approved \$180 million for Newfoundland? I know he announced that during the campaign. Little good it did him, but he announced it during the campaign. Is he telling us that he has Cabinet and Treasury Board approval and a signed agreement to spend \$180 million? I just want the record to be straight. I think the record should be set straight.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I regret to inform the Hon. Member that that is not a point of order. That is debate.

Mr. Crosbie: Mr. Speaker, let me set the Hon. Member's mind at ease. I have done what he could not do in four or five years. Yes, Treasury Board has approved it. Yes, the Cabinet has approved it. The agreement will be signed in the next couple of weeks. The work will go forward this year. Nothing to it. You just need to have a Government that is interested in helping the province.

I did not want to embarrass the Hon. Member, but now that he has annoyed me, I will. In the pulp and paper agreement, signed December 20, 1984, the federal share will be \$38.5 million and the total will be \$46.3 million. Of the \$180 million highways' agreement, \$12 million will come from the federal Government of Canada. That will be the federal contribution. We are only getting started.

Earlier in 1984, as the election date came closer, the federal Government at last signed some agreements—planning, mineral development, Burin Peninsula, rural development, ocean industries, and tourism. Those agreements were signed by the federal Liberal Government after holding off for a year and a half, bullying and punishing and trying to do all it could to damage the Newfoundland Government. They were signed as the election came on in the futile hope they could save some of their seats.

Mr. Rompkey: And we did.

Mr. Crosbie: They saved the hon. gentleman, but he is on a hair's breadth, he is gone the next time. That totals \$77.85 million which the federal Government will contribute under those agreements. What about the two agreements that we agreed to in the last seven months? The federal contributions