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| ***Province*** | ***Législature*** | ***Session*** | ***Type de discours*** | ***Date du discours*** | ***Locuteur*** | ***Fonction du locuteur*** | ***Parti politique*** |
| Terre- Neuve et Labrador | 36e | 2e   | Discours du Trône | 31 janvier 1973 | Ewart John Arlington Harnum | Lieutenant Gouverneur | PC |

I welcome you to the Second Session of the Thirty-Sixth General Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland.

My Government, since taking office one year ago, has been keenly aware of the enormous responsibility placed upon it. During its first year of office, it has established a sound foundation through organization and planning for the programs and policies which will be brought forward during this and subsequent Sessions of the House of Assembly.

My Government inherited a government structure which it felt could not adequately cope with present day problems, requirements, or the aspirations and desires of our people. It has, therefore, undertaken an extensive evaluation study and subsequent restructuring of Government Departments and the Public Service, so that the problems and challenges of today and the future can be met.

My Government, at the earliest possible opportunity, will bring before the Honourable House legislation to approve the restructuring of the Government of Newfoundland.

This restructuring completes fundamental stages of the realignment of Government administration.

My Ministers are committed to a policy of a flexible and responsive administration, which can be renewed from time to time as required to meet the needs of a continually changing world.

My Government is determined that these actions will result in a properly planned, long-term program for the normal and orderly development of this Province.

My Government, in concert with the restructuring program, has established eighteen Planning Task Force Sub-Committees. These Sub-Committees are designed to eliminate subjective and ad-hoc decision-making within the Government by using an approach that involves the planning of long-term programs and objectives for this Province. On these Sub-Committees are representatives of the Government of Newfoundland, the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion and other Federal line departments. Federal representatives have willingly agreed to serve on these Sub-Committees and their contribution is welcomed. Their participation is limited to advisory and consultative capacities.

The effectiveness of the planning and restructuring program and, indeed, the whole success of the effort to provide efficient administration depend in large measure upon the strength and capacity of the Public Service. While this Province has been favoured throughout its history with many loyal and dedicated public servants, my Government feels the time has come to strengthen the fabric and foundation of the Public Service. You will be asked to consider measures to establish a Public Service Commission which will be endowed with security of tenure and charged with the responsibility of seeing that all appointments and promotions in the Public Service are made exclusively on the basis of merit. It is my Government's firm intention to make the Public Service an even more attractive field for young men and women seeking a worthwhile and rewarding career. To this end, my Government will foster and encourage applications from young graduates of our University, with a view to strengthening the professional status and fabric of the Service. The Bill, which will be placed before you in this Session, contains other provisions to strengthen and upgrade the Public Service.

My Government is now in a position, working from the new administrative and planning framework which has been established, to change its emphasis to one of a forward program of development.

My Government will stress the development of resource-based industries, working closely with private business, so that Government policies and incentive programs will assist the private sector to expand.

My Government is greatly encouraged by the steps which have already been taken to assist rural development and intends to keep this program at a high level of activity and employment generating capability during the coming years.

My Government realizes the importance of Labrador and its vast industrial and tourist potential. It is also fully aware of and understands the many services required from Government by the people living in this important area of our Province.

Recognizing this, my Government has established a Royal Commission which will report to Government the feelings, opinions, and aspirations of the people of Labrador.

My Government also, in all of its programs for development and services, has included this region in its studies and planning. Labrador and its people will benefit most from inclusion in all overall planning for the Province, and this, I assure Honourable Members, is a priority of my Government.

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERSOF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:

Our human resources, our forests, our lands, our waters, our fisheries and our minerals, including one of our greatest potential resources - oil and gas - must be wisely developed for the maximum benefit of our Province.

My Government has underway an extensive resource development program and this program will be accelerated during the coming year, so that resource development can, as quickly as possible, make the maximum contribution to the economy of our Province and the well being of our people. The past year was a record year for gross provincial product and general economic growth and my Government has every confidence that this record will be surpassed in 1973.

One area which will receive special attention by my Government is the deepwater, ice-free ports in Newfoundland. Ten years ago, there were a dozen ports on the eastern seaboard of the United States and Canada which offered deep-water, ice-free conditions. That is not true today. All of the ports are either developed and operating at capacity or do not have sufficient room to accommodate some of the new giant tankers.

Today, the deep-water, natural harbours in Newfoundland are the only potential port sites east of New Jersey that can be developed for profitable, future operations. My Government has already obtained the highest level of expertise in helping us assess the future of such projects, and my Government will report to the Honourable House during this Session on its progress in this regard.

My Government since it has taken office has reviewed all arrangements previously made with respect to the Province's off-shore petroleum resources.

On October 17th, 1972, my Government made the position of the Province clear with respect to claims made by various companies, and has been successful in its negotiations to return to the Province's control the vast majority of the 280,000,000 prospective acres off our shores. Subsequent negotiations have resulted in major oil companies establishing in the Province, and they will continue to expand their offshore drilling explorations.

The prospects for a commercial find of oil and gas are considered good by officials of my Government and oil authorities generally and the prospects for the vast part of the Province's continental margin for the location of extensive commercial finds of oil are most promising.

This potential presents the Province with a great opportunity and challenge and my Government plans to ensure that it has the technical expertise capable of analyzing the many problems associated with major oil finds. The Energy Division of the Department of Mines and Energy will be expanded to include specialists in the following fields: petroleum geology, petroleum engineering and economics, and marine ecology. In addition to maximizing employment and business opportunities in our Province, my Government will establish an Off-Shore Petroleum Industrial Advisory Council to include industrial and government membership. To ensure that the Province's very important fishing industry is not impaired by off-shore petroleum developments, this Council will include representatives of the fishing industry. Representatives of the labour movement in the Province will also be invited to participate.

My Government, in an attempt to avoid a protracted legal dispute with the Government of Canada concerning ownership of the Province's off-shore resources, is acting in concert with the Governments of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, to negotiate with the federal authorities in an effort to attain a just solution to this problem.

While entering into these negotiations in the hope and spirit that a mutually satisfactory solution will result, my Government is resolutely determined and aware that the Province has a special case with respect to rights off its coastal areas. To this end, my Government has been preparing the case of this Province and wishes to assure this Honourable House that it will not hesitate to assert these rights, through the courts if it should prove necessary.

At this time, my Government asks for the full co-operation of members of this Honourable House of Assembly in support of its attempt to protect the Province's interest in this whole area.

With regard to conventional mining, my Government is working towards a modified concession system and a claim staking system, which will encourage a much higher degree of mineral exploration than has been the case in the past. It is the first time that such a system has been introduced in this Province. As well, a detailed study is underway to identify the opportunities which exist for the further processing of minerals within the Province, to retain maximum employment opportunity and all other benefits which would accrue.

Another natural resource which can be developed to the great benefit of the Province is the Lower Churchill River. It is, however, imperative that this project must be developed on the most favourable terms. To do this, it is necessary to proceed on a different course than was followed in the development of the Upper Churchill. This project must result in substantial and lasting revenue benefits to the Province and my Government will not move hastily to our disadvantage.

The products of our forest have traditionally been an important source of income for our people. To formulate plans for better utilization of this resource, my Government has formed a Federal-Provincial Task Force comprised of three top-ranking professional foresters from each of the Federal and Provincial forestry services. This group has been assisted by nine committees comprising some thirty-five professional foresters and economists from across North America. Through meetings and extensive field work, they have examined all aspects of forestry in Newfoundland.

My Government expects the final report and recommendations of the Task Force to be completed by the end of March.

In the area of forest development as well, my Government can count several major accomplishments in 1972, including new building construction; improved forest fire protection; a greatly expanded forest access road program, which is oriented toward providing access for the sawmilling industry; reforestation studies and the establishment of a 300 acre forest nursery station; forest improvement programs, forest surveys and the near completion of the Federal-Provincial Forest Inventory Project for Newfoundland.

In keeping with my Government's commitment to foster and encourage logging operations in our Province, my Government, in the preceding year, has spent over $600,000, for the provision of forest access roads, which represents twelve times what had been spent in the previous year for this purpose.

My Ministers intend to continue to expand this program, and will markedly increase expenditures for forest access roads in the ensuing year.

My Government recognizes the growing demand for trained technical personnel in the sawmilling industry. To meet the demands, a course has been established at Stephenville by the Department of Education to develop the expertise required by the industry. With the increase in sawmill operations in our Province, primarily the opening of new mills, trained people are essential to a well-functioning, productive sawmill operation.

My Government will continue to develop the forest potential with the conviction that it can become an even more valuable contributor to the economic life of this Province.

My Government, in the two previous Speeches from the Throne outlined its intention to put special emphasis on the improvement of the commercial fishery in the Province. In the past year, much has been done to expand this program and many new records have been set. Under the Fisheries Loan Board Construction Program, a record total of 321 boats were either completed or begun with a total value of another record of $15,000,000. These boats, unlike most built previously, are extremely versatile and are capable of activity in the fields of longlining, gill-netting, scallop dragging, shrimp fishing and Danish seining.

The program of building access roads for fisheries facilities was begun with the start of seven projects and my Government plans to continue this program this year.

During 1973, my Government expects to commission three new 65-foot steel boats which are now being constructed for experimental fishing around our coast.

Construction is taking place at the Marystown Shipyard.

My Government intends to introduce legislation for the establishment of a forty million dollar fund for the construction of deep water fishing boats. These deep water fishing boats, when constructed, will be equipped with the latest technology including mid-water trawling capability. My Ministers feel that such a program will be of great benefit to the present fish processing facilities around the Province, and will permit a marked increase in employment opportunities.

It is the intention of my Government to make every effort during the coming year to ensure that food products produced in the Province for export, will be taken to the most advanced processing stage possible.

Another important resource in our Province is agriculture. My Government is continuing discussions with Ottawa concerning the new ARDA Agreement, and has begun many new and important programs in the agricultural field.

My Government has established an agricultural complex on the West Coast of the Province, which is being activated now and will include a soil laboratory, a hog breeding station, an experimental farm, and an abattoir for the processing of hogs and poultry as well as an egg grading station. The swine breeding aspect is one of major importance and, by the coming summer, new breeding stock will be available. Already, my Government has received requests for information from other Governments in Canada concerning this program.

My Government will also be establishing four Farm Equipment Banks this year, to provide our farmers with ready access to mechanized equipment.

My Government is continuing a blueberry land inventory survey which, it is hoped, will be completed in 1975 and will proceed during this year with the construction of a sheep-breeding station to be established at Victoria, Carbonear.

An important part of my Government's resource development program is the further development of our tourist industry. This Honourable House will be asked to approve the establishment of a new Department of Tourism, which for the first time brings together tourist services, parks, wildlife, cultural affairs and historic resources.

Already, those who will be in this new Department are working together to coordinate and improve our tourist services and our tourist promotion.

My Government will hold immediate discussions with Trade Schools and Canada Manpower with regard to the implementation of properly developed courses to prepare many of our people to become part of an expanded tourist industry.

Our natural environment, pollution free, attractive and relaxing, is one of our great natural tourist assets. The lack of accommodation, however, especially in our smaller rural communities, has prevented many potential tourists from enjoying these natural benefits. At the present time, my Government is considering homes in various parts of the Province for licensing this year as "hospitality homes." These homes will expand the benefits of the tourist industry to many areas of the Province which have been unable to benefit in the past due to a lack of accommodation.

On March 31st, 1974, Newfoundland celebrates twenty-five years as part of the great Canadian Nation. My Government is determined to celebrate this Anniversary in appropriate fashion and will invite our fellow Canadians and other friends to participate in this important event with us.

Steps have now been taken to appoint a Committee to formulate the programs and generally to ensure that the celebration will be remembered as a great occasion in our history.

My Government, in co-operation with Ottawa, has established the Newfoundland Development Corporation which it feels will have a profound effect on the economy of our Province.

My Government is pleased that we have been fortunate enough to obtain as President of the Corporation a native Newfoundlander, who brings to his new post a wealth of experience in the North American business community.

My Government is determined that local industry will benefit from the creation of this Corporation, and that every industry and business which might provide employment opportunities for our people will have an opportunity to establish and develop through its guidance and assistance.

My Government will bring before you measures to amend The Revenue and Audit Act to restore the power to this Honourable House to determine the amount of public borrowing. Implementation of these measures will take time in order to allow the required administrative changes to be made to ensure effective execution.

My Government, acting in accordance with the authority conferred by this Honourable House in The Stephenville Linerboard Mill (Agreement) Act, 1972, has acted to bring this great project to completion. The mill and its allied facilities at Stephenville have been completed, and the necessary steps have been taken to appoint permanent management and to hire all of the personnel necessary to operate the mill and associated functions. The top management organization of Labrador Linerboard Limited is now being completed with the appointment of the President and the mill itself should be producing linerboard during the early part of 1973.

My Government will be laying before you full information on the moneys expended to date on the linerboard project and on all phases of that operation since the Government last reported to you in May of 1972. You will be asked to vote further moneys for the completion and operation of the project, which has required much time and effort on the part of my Ministers to bring to completion, and to save and make useful the tremendous investment of public funds that were made in the project up to the time my Government took office on January 18, 1972.

My Government will bring before you legislation respecting conflict of interest.

My Government will present to this Honourable House legislation to repeal The Alcoholic Liquors Act and to replace it with an Act to establish the Newfoundland Liquor Corporation as a Crown Corporation responsible for the management and merchandising of the sale of spirits, wine and beer throughout the Province.

My Government will also lay before you legislation to provide for an independent Liquor Licensing Board to control the licensing and inspection functions previously exercised by the Newfoundland Liquor Commission.

My Government plans to implement several of the aspects of the Cohen Report on Labour and is now giving consideration to proposals made for changes in present labour legislation by the labour movement in this Province.

My Government recognizes the need to hasten, where possible, certification procedures, the hearing of grievances, and the appointment of arbitrators to deal with grievances, especially in the construction industry.

My Government intends to improve the administration of industrial standards legislation.

My Government is redrafting The Public Service (Collective Bargaining) Act which was passed in 1970 and which will not be proclaimed in its present form.

My Government is establishing a Communications Branch in the proposed new Department of Transportation and Communications. This Branch will influence and guide the development of all types of communication systems throughout all areas of the Province, to ensure that they are adequate, in terms of availability, reliability, quality and efficiency, for the general public, institutions and business.

My Government will lay before this Honourable House extensive legislation dealing with the protection of consumers in the Province. This legislation will include Bills regulating the activities of collection agencies; credit reporting agencies; unsolicited goods and credit cards; registration and regulation of automobile dealers and salesmen; and further amendments to co-operative credit union legislation. This legislation is being developed in consultation with other Provinces in Canada and is designed to enable my Government to administer a program under which the consumer will be afforded a greater degree of protection in the market place.

My Government will introduce to this Honourable House legislation dealing with environmental management and control. This legislation will deal with solid waste management, amendments to The Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority Act and an amendment to The Logging Camps Act.

My Government feels that the greatest area of pollution in this Province is that of solid waste disposal. The careless disposal of solid wastes has caused a serious situation and, if it is not properly handled, results in an unsightly and unwholesome deterioration of our environment. The necessity to clean up our barrens, woods, ravines, shorelines, beaches, rivers, lakes and streams cannot be over-emphasized.

My Government is determined that all possible will be done to ensure the orderly development of our natural resources while at the same time protecting the environment in which we live.

My Government is pleased to note the closing of the Hospital for Chest Diseases. This is a tangible example of how medical science is conquering a disease which in previous years has ravaged our people.

My Government now turns its attention to the very real need of improving conditions at the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases and this Honourable House can be fully assured that these changes will be implemented as soon as budgetary conditions will allow.

My Government is studying mental health services in all parts of the Province, and ways in which they should be improved. This study includes how these services can be made available in a number of regions in the Province, and my Government is developing forward-looking programs in forensic psychiatry, mental retardation and other mental health needs.

My Government is concerned about the provision of dental health care for all citizens, and especially our children. To help overcome this problem, my Ministers are considering a new concept in training people as dental nurses and dental assistants so that they may provide basic dental services in schools, especially in rural areas, under the general supervision of a dentist.

My Government intends to make a study of all industries in the Province to identify the areas where health hazards to employed people may exist. With this information available, consideration will be given either to establishing a Division of Industrial Health here or, in association with the other Atlantic Provinces, to making arrangements for the elimination of these hazards.

A program was begun in September, 1972, to assist Social Assistance recipients to locate and take advantage of employment opportunities. Since its inception, over five hundred persons who had been receiving Social Assistance have been placed in jobs. This was accomplished by two special projects; one in St. John's and one in Corner Brook with a Special Project Officer at Confederation Building.

This is an example of what can be achieved through providing the proper type of Government assistance and dramatically shows the desire of people on short-term assistance programs to work.

My Government regards this achievement of placing over five hundred people in jobs as one of the most important accomplishments during its first year in office, and, indeed, it heralds an entirely new approach in the field of social services. My Government plans to expand this program throughout the entire Province during the coming year. To this end, my Government has been instrumental in commencing negotiations with the Government of Canada for the purpose of implementing an incentives program into the present Social Assistance plan. This will allow recipients of welfare benefits to retain a greater amount of earned income and thereby encourage and foster fuller employment in the Province. It has long been the opinion of my Government that many recipients of assistance are desirous of working but the regulations have discouraged this course of action. My Government has taken the lead in attempting to implement this program and it is noteworthy that this is being closely observed by other Provinces.

My Government further proposes to continue Its improvements in the child welfare and corrections fields. During the coming year, special emphasis will be placed on the adoption of older and handicapped children.

My Government feels that senior citizens have contributed much to the growth of our Province, and their reward should be nothing less than comfort and enjoyment in the twilight years of their lives. Fortified with this feeling, my Government is embarking on a comprehensive program with Regional Groups to provide homes for senior citizens at strategic locations throughout the Province. Strategic placement of these homes will alleviate the need for senior citizens to move from the environment to which they have become accustomed. These homes are not intended merely to provide accommodations for our senior citizens but to co-ordinate all aspects of life and living for them. Recently my Government has announced approval in principle for the construction of Senior Citizens Homes at Grand Bank, Lewisporte, and St. Anthony. In addition, two further areas are now being considered as possible locations.

My Government will designate a Senior Citizen's Day to draw attention to the contribution made by this segment of our society to the growth of our Province.

My Government is dedicated to helping the physically handicapped help themselves. The small unit previously set up by my Government has partially filled the need in the area of rehabilitation. It is now the intention of my Government to place even greater emphasis on the process of rehabilitation by expanding both the service and the staff of this unit so that it will be in a position to react meaningfully to the many needs of the physically handicapped. This would include assisting in job placement.

My Government accepts its responsibility to respond to the needs of the youth of our Province. In this regard, a major division of the new Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation will be devoted to youth activities. It is the hope of my Government that this division will provide meaningful dialogue between youth and the Government. Youth Advisory Councils will be set up throughout the Province made up of people from all walks of life. The intention of this major thrust towards youth is not to tell youth what is best for them, but rather to ask them what they want and to help them in attaining their goals and objectives as functioning members of our society.

My Government is presently awaiting the Report of the Joint Federal-Provincial Committee on Corrections. It is the hope of my Government to implement as many as possible of the recommendations of this Committee where they are directly applicable to the youth presently living in our correctional institutions.

It is the intention of my Government to provide facilities and support to the recreation and sports enthusiasts throughout our Province and, in this connection, my Government intends to review the existing grants structure, both capital and operating, with a view to providing as much financial aid to sports and recreation bodies as is possible within the context of the Province's financial picture.

My Government further intends to co-operate with the various recreation and sports organizations throughout the Province, such as the Newfoundland and Labrador Amateur Sports Federation, and the Newfoundland and Labrador High School Athletic Federation, in an effort to complement their efforts to provide expanded opportunities for all the people of our Province.

The development of the human resources of the Province poses a most demanding challenge to my Government. It is imperative that the school curriculum be diversified so that a broad spectrum of skills and potentialities of our sons and daughters may be developed. In certain areas, more specialized attention is necessary so that problems of learning and growth may be identified and corrected as early as possible. While it is obvious that there must be adequate physical facilities for our school population, it is increasingly evident that the quality of instruction must be our chief concern. This requires relevant dialogue, proper motivation, and a pursuit of excellence at all levels of education and training.

There will, in the future, be closer liaison and integration between our facilities for technical and vocational instruction and our academic facilities.

During the present Session of this House my Government intends to present legislation setting up procedures for collective bargaining with the Newfoundland Teachers' Association. Such legislation will be an important step forward since it will establish a statutory framework for future negotiations between the Government and the teachers of the Province.

In order that Newfoundlanders may be able to take the fullest advantage of employment opportunities arising from the offshore exploration now in progress and likely to increase and also to benefit to the maximum from opportunities resulting from the offshore discovery of oil in exploitable quantities, the Department of Education will be organizing this Spring a conference relating to offshore manpower needs involving the industries concerned, the College of Fisheries, College of Trades and Technology and the Vocational Schools, to which representatives of the University and the Federal Department of Manpower will be invited. The Department will organize such conferences on a regular basis so that the manpower needs of all our existing and new industries may be properly assessed. Our institutions will then be in a stronger position to prepare Newfoundlanders to take fullest advantage of employment opportunities in our own Province.

In order to examine and make appropriate recommendations on the complex needs relative to education and human resource development, a Task Force is now at work. When their findings are completed and taking into account the knowledge and experience of other groups with which the Department of Education is in regular dialogue, my Government will issue later this year a Government White Paper outlining plans for the further development in these areas.

My Government intends to make access to, post secondary education available in areas outside St. John's. Such colleges would offer first and second year university courses. It is essential that these colleges be designed to serve not only the University population but also a broad spectrum of educational and social needs of the population. It is intended that the first college will be commenced this year.

The forecast for the coming year is promising in the field of municipal government. The groundwork has been laid and the framework established for a whole new concept in local government, including a Royal Commission on the matter; the St. John's Urban Regional Study; the Study into the Town of Stephenville--Harmon Complex; and also the Grand Falls - Windsor Study. My Government has requested the reports of all these groups by the fall of this year.

It is also the intention of my Government to bring before this Honourable House a number of amendments to The City of St. John's Act, arising out of the Report of the Phelan Royal Commission. Of major importance is an amendment to confer universal suffrage upon the citizens of St. John's, to become effective in November, in time for the municipal elections. A number of other amendments will be introduced to improve the effectiveness of local government throughout the Province.

In the area of housing, my Government is keenly aware of the hardship which inadequate and overcrowded housing is working upon many people in this Province. The weight of this hardship falls most onerously on those in the low income categories. My Ministers are aware too that, in addition to the crying unsatisfied needs in our urban areas, there are in our smaller towns and rural areas, equally urgent housing problems to be solved. These problems in general, cannot yield to any simple program which can be brought to bear upon them. Further action to provide subsidized rental accommodation in urban areas is planned and greater emphasis will be laid upon devising effective means to place more people in a position to achieve home ownership.

We look to an expansion of the small mortgage loans program so that its benefits will be available to a larger number of people in our smaller communities. Rising costs of serviced land are also recognized as a problem of prime concern and means will be sought to moderate the situation and, at the same time, every effort will be made to increase the supply of serviced land wherever it is needed in our communities throughout the Province.

My Ministers are encouraged by the emphasis which is being placed by the Government of Canada on its housing policies in making greater response to the needs of lower income families and we look forward to receiving from them, increasing assistance in this aspect of the housing problems of our people.

My Government is aware of another important aspect of housing policy in which the Government must concern itself and that is in the field of landlord/tenant relations. The necessary legislation will be introduced to clarify and improve landlord/tenant relationship and, in particular, to give adequate protection to tenants in their relationship with landlords and in the quality of rented accommodation.

In the overall matter of housing, my Government is intent upon giving it its due place in the priorities of Government both in policy and expenditure and will emphasize, as a central theme, home ownership for the greatest number possible as a principal element of policy.

My Government intends to proceed with a Bill to effect redistribution of the Electoral Districts of the Province. This Bill will provide for an equitable distribution of our electoral districts, taking into account geographic factors and population trends.

My Government realizes that the year which has just closed showed a much improved economic trend in this Province. Government expenditures must not be allowed to out-distance responsible borrowing. My Government is now completing a five year financial plan which will allow for long term, orderly spending.

The past year has been a year of action for our Province in the field of planning and organization. My Government has completed its work in this area through the development of an administrative system which is flexible, ongoing, and sensitive to the needs of our people. At the same time, my Government has concentrated on making basic services available throughout our Province, and has brought services in Newfoundland to a stage where we now enjoy a normal growth rate in these areas.

This year will be a year of action and forward development of our natural resources together with further concentration and expansion of our rural development program. This new emphasis by my Government will see concrete actions taken to strengthen and stabilize the economy of our Province.

My Government has outlined its plans to you today. Its program is positive, straight forward, and designed to produce the best results for our people.

You will be asked to grant supply unto Her Majesty. I invoke God's blessing upon your labours as you give careful consideration to the matters laid before you for the welfare of our beloved Province.