



PRAYERS

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. CUMMINGS – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Transportation and Government Services to consider the reduction or elimination of load limits on Highway 276 north of Ste. Rose to permit grain farmers to haul their grain to market using long-haul trucks and to consider upgrading Highway 276 to enable farmers to drive long-haul trucks on this highway and remain competitive. (R. Brunel, J. Brunel, G. Brunel and others)

Mr. DYCK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Family Services and Housing consider changes to the departmental policy that pays family members a reduced amount of money for room and board when they care for their special needs dependants at home versus the amount paid to a non-parental care provider outside the family home and to consider examining on a case-by-case basis the merits of paying family members to care for special needs dependants at home versus paying to institutionalize them. (E. Hildebrand, A. Kettler, M. Fehr and others)

Mr. Speaker presented:

Auditor General's Report – Dakota Tipi First Nation Gaming Commission and First Nation Gaming Accountability in Manitoba dated March 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 29)

The following Bills were respectively read a First Time and had their purposes outlined.

(No. 15) – The Gaming Control Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Commission de régulation du jeu

(Hon. Mr. SALE)

(No. 17) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Appropriate Educational Programming)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (programmes d'éducation appropriés)

(Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX)

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker interjected and requested that the word "lied" spoken by the Honourable Member for Arthur-Virden be withdrawn.

WHEREUPON Mr. MAGUIRE withdrew his remarks.

Subsequently during Oral Questions, Mr. DERKACH rose on a point of order regarding the availability of copies of the Auditor General's Report with respect to the Dakota Tipi reserve which was previously tabled and also the fact that the media had already received copies before the Members did.

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

Subsequently during Oral Questions, Mr. LAURENDEAU rose on a point of order regarding copies of Auditor General's Report with respect to the Dakota Tipi reserve being available to the media and not to the Members.

And Hon. Messrs. MACKINTOSH and SALE having spoken to the point of order,

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

Subsequently, during Oral Questions, Mr. DERKACH rose on a matter of privilege and moved:

THAT this matter, because of its seriousness, be moved to the Committee on Legislative Affairs and then be reported back to this House so that this matter can be cleared once and for all.

And Hon. Messrs. MACKINTOSH and GERRARD and Mr. LAURENDEAU having spoken.

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

Subsequently, during Oral Questions, Mr. DERKACH rose on a matter of privilege and moved:

THAT the Minister responsible for Gaming and his comments be censured for misleading this House deliberately and that this matter be referred to the Committee on Legislative Affairs, and then be reported back to this House.

And Hon. Messrs. SALE and GERRARD and Mr. TWEED having spoken.

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Messrs. FAURSCHOU and NEVAKSHONOFF, Mrs. SMITH (Fort Garry), Mr. MARTINDALE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

And on the Proposed Amendment of Mr. MURRAY,

THAT the motion be amended by deleting all the words after "House" and substituting the following:

therefore regrets this Budget ignores the present and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (a) failing to offer any vision and to reflect the priorities of Manitobans;
- (b) failing to provide a long-term tax reduction strategy that addresses the fact that middle-income Manitobans are now, under the Doer government, the highest taxed west of New Brunswick and our business taxes are not competitive;
- (c) failing to provide a sustainable provincial spending plan by introducing a budget with a spending/tax cut ratio of 11 to 1;
- (d) failing to reimburse, as promised, the Fiscal Stabilization Fund of the \$150 million "temporary transfer" taken in the 2001-02 fiscal year;
- (e) failing to provide a strategy to address the exodus of Manitobans to other provinces, an average of 12 Manitobans each day;
- (f) failing to address the challenges in health care, including: providing a cardiac care system that meets the needs of Manitobans in a timely fashion, ending hallway medicine within six months as promised, reducing waiting lists for tests and appointments; and recruiting and retaining health care professionals; and
- (g) failing to provide adequate supports to Manitoba's agricultural sector.

As a consequence, the Government has thereby lost the confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX, Messrs. HAWRANIK, JENNISSEN and SCHULER and Hon. Ms. FRIESEN having spoken,

And Mr. REIMER speaking at 5:30 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

The House then adjourned at 5:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 1, 2003.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker