

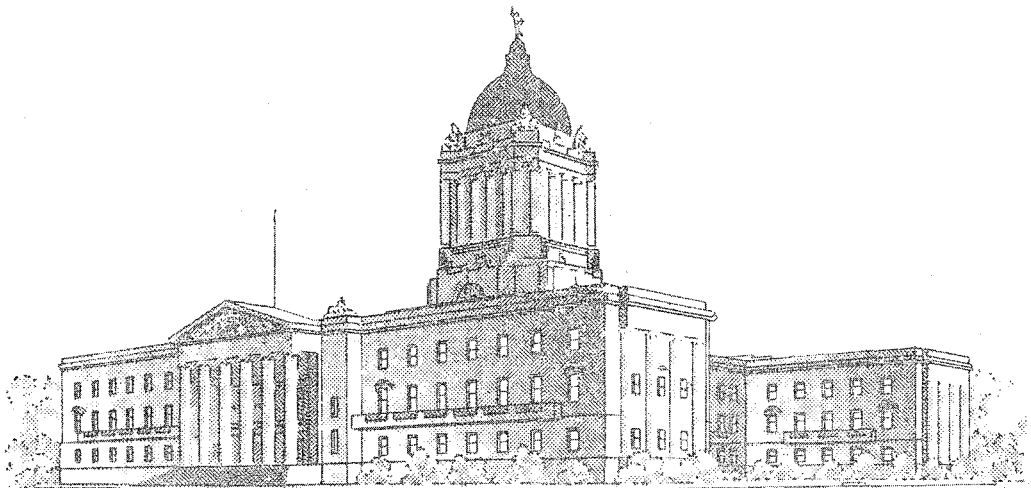


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



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DAILY INDEX

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Wednesday, January 27th, 1960

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions
Reading and Receiving Petitions
Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees.
Notice of Motion
Introduction of Bills

The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain that leave be given to introduce a Bill, No. 55, an Act to amend an Act respecting the Rural Municipalities of Lakeview and Westbourne and that same be now received and read a first time.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. W. C. MARTIN (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I beg in the absence of Mr. Scarth to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre that leave be given to introduce a Bill, No. 56, an Act to amend The Greater Winnipeg Sanitary District Act and that the same be now received and read a first time.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the CCF) Radisson): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd like to direct a question or two to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities. If I may just briefly preface my questions, Mr. Speaker-- I do so because of an article which appeared in the Free Press yesterday concerning the price of natural gas....

MR. SPEAKER: Order! There's been an objection to

MR. PAULLEY: My questions are, Mr. Speaker, of the Minister. What does the Greater Winnipeg Gas Company pay for natural gas from the Trans-Canada Pipe Line? And what does the companies serving the City of Portage la Prairie and the City of Brandon pay per thousand cubic feet of natural gas to the Trans-Canada Pipe Lines?

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Public Utilities) (The Pas): Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is a subject more for an Order for Return to the House. This information I believe has been filed with the Public Utility Board at a public hearing and is therefore public information. I must warn the Honourable Leader of the CCF Party though that this is a very complicated document that will have to be filed because it will actually be in the nature of an agreement between Trans-Canada Pipe Line Company and the companies that will be involved in this question. If you care to ask for an Order for Return, I'd be very pleased to see if I can get this information for you.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, on the reply of the Honourable Minister, I'm not seeking any details of any agreement, all that I am asking for is the price that these companies pay for the gas, which is public information.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, there's no simple answer. The answer is in this contract. There are many, many different terms in the contract and it depends on the quantities and many other conditions which apply, and in order to fully understand you must actually have the agreement, and study the agreement.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, will the Clerk take notice of this as an Order for Return.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I would like to correct an error or bring to the attention of the members an error in Hansard, Volume 4, No. 6, yesterday's, it is - page 70, where right near the top of the page it reports me as making a statement, and the statement should be credited to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I've no objections to the statements that were made there but I didn't make them. And again, Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would like to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, and they are these. In view of the threatened buying strike by prairie farmers, is the Provincial Government prepared to support farmers by urging the Federal Government to give serious consideration to their request for a fairer share of the national income? And 2, if so, what manner will this support take? And 3, will action

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.).....be taken before the small delegation meets the Prime Minister this coming Saturday?

HON. GEORGE HUTTON (Minister of Agriculture) (Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Speaker, that was rather a long question and I don't know whether I got it straight---could I ask the honourable member to repeat it please?

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, there were three questions, Mr. Speaker. No. 1: In view of the threatened buying strike by prairie farmers, is the Provincial Government prepared to support farmers by urging the Federal Government to give serious consideration to their request for a fairer share of the national income? And question No. 2 was: If so, what manner will this support take? Question No. 3: Will action be taken before the small delegation meets with the Prime Minister this coming Saturday?

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I think the questions asked by the honourable member are in the nature of questions on policy and that if I were to answer him, it would take a good deal longer, and it would take a good deal of consideration, and I don't think that the question is in the nature that I should be required to answer.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Leader of the Opposition) (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with I would like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Can the Minister tell us the reason, or the reasons, why the Province of Manitoba is so slow in comparison with the Province of Saskatchewan in dealing with the crop disaster program and payments?

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I'd be glad to accept this question from the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. The problem of determining --- formulating, the policy of administration in Manitoba was just a little more complicated than it was in Saskatchewan because of the nature of our agricultural industry in this province. The fact that our field crops are more diversified --- the fact that here in Manitoba for the first time in history the government gave the growers of special crops and vegetables consideration, and endeavoured to extend to them the same measure of assistance as to the other farmers in the province. And, as you know, whenever you endeavour to do something for the first time there are a lot of considerations to be made and I must admit that we are not as far along as Saskatchewan. I think when our program is completed --- and I have every right I think to feel that it can be wound up within another month --- that we will have done just as good a job here in Manitoba as they have in Saskatchewan, and we will have helped the farmers in this province to the extent that we can on a fair and equitable basis. There is no one that would desire more than I would that this job should be completed and this assistance in the hands of the farmers who need it desperately. But as I point out, because we have a little bit different situation here in Manitoba, because we had to develop an administration that would cover more exigencies than what they have to the west of us, it has entailed some delays in extending this assistance.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Honourable the Minister a supplementary question? Is it not a fact however, that the Province of Saskatchewan also was dealing with this type of a program for the first time?

MR. HUTTON: That is true. But in Saskatchewan they were dealing with the conventional field crops of wheat, oats and barley and I believe they -- it's quite true even though we are both dealing for the first time with the major problem, there were a lot more side issues to be considered here in Manitoba, when you deal with the beet grower, the potato grower, the vegetable grower, and we had to devise a means which would allow these people to qualify for assistance -- and especially in the case of the farmer who grows both cereals and beets or potatoes or vegetables -- and naturally it took a little more time to get rolling, but I think we're pretty well ready to roll in the field now that the applications have come in, and I don't think there will be any undue delay from this time on.

MR. J. M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Mr. Hutton re the Horned Cattle Trust Fund set up under the Horned Cattle Purchases Act. I would like to know the amount of money distributed, if any, (a) to beef breeds, (b) to dairy breeds, (c) to artificial breeding associations, and (d) to the University of Manitoba.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to accept an Order for Return for this information.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are called, and I'm sure that this won't be referred to for an Order for Return because I've already spoken to the Minister. Can the Minister --- The question is directed to the Minister of Health and Welfare. Can the Minister give us any information as to when the assets of the former Blue Cross will be available for distribution?

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health & Public Welfare) (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Honourable Leader of the CCF Party for notifying me of the question. The major outstanding problem in the winding up of the Blue Cross funds concerned the agreement that the former Manitoba Hospital Service had with the two railway companies and non-profit medical plans down East, and it is now -- I have been notified that by the 31st of March they hope that these arrangements will be completed and they will have wound up those matters. Following that of course, the estimate was that by the time advertisements, notifications and so on in the Press and other matters were dealt with, that the earliest date that the wind up would be completed would be about June 30th of this year.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Labour and I apologize to him for not informing him of this question as I did the questions in respect of Natural Gas. Can the Minister give us any information as to when the report of the board that was set up in respect of minimum wages may be making their report?

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, no, I'm sorry I can't give any information on when this report will be received.

MR. PAULLEY:Mr. Speaker. The Minister is aware that the former Minister of Labour suggested last October that it may have been done shortly after that time, or rather at our session in the summer, that it may have been available ---the benefits of it if any, may have been available to the workers some time in September or October?

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, yes, I am aware of that statement.

MR. D. ORLIKOW (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Does the Commissioner appointed to enquire into certain matters at Kelsey have the authority to make enquiries, ask for records, and then make recommendations on the following questions: 1. Are the rates of pay in line with rates of pay specified in the Fair Wage Act? 2. Are the hours of work actually put in, longer than the hours specified in the Fair Wage Act? If so, are the men receiving over-time rates of pay, and are the hours worked injurious to the health of the men concerned? 3. Do the health conditions at Kelsey meet the health regulations established by the Manitoba Government? 4. Are the provisions of the Manitoba Fair Employment Practices Act which prohibits discrimination in employment because of race, colour, religion etc. being violated at Kelsey in respect to Indians who have been hired to work there? And 5. Have the provisions of the Lord's Day Alliance Act in regard to one day's rest in seven been adhered to at Kelsey?

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier) (Wolseley): Before the Minister rises to answer his question, I think perhaps it might be advisable if I were to direct the attention of the members to the regular rules that guide us in the putting of oral questions on the Orders of the Day. I want to preface what I have to say by stating that the government is anxious to provide all proper information to members of the House. And what I have to say does not in any way bear on the endeavour to avoid answering questions because that is not the case. But it is obvious from what we have heard today that members are perhaps unaware of the general rules that have been involved over the years in connection with this type of question. And if I may take the liberty of referring them to Page 147 of the Fourth Edition of Beauchesne, you will find listed there, and I say this particularly for some of the newer members of the House, you will find listed there the sort of questions which should not be an oral question on the Orders of the Day. And they include, for example, embodying a series of questions which should be moved as an address or an order, or a series of questions which are too lengthy to be dealt with. Statements of government policy which might involve the House in a debate and many others. I think there are about 30 different thoughts that are listed here on Page 147, as the kind of things which should not properly be questions on the Orders of the Day. I think it would probably be a lot more satisfactory to members who may feel a little frustrated if their questions aren't answered right away, if they were to observe those regulations and to restrict themselves to the type of

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd.)....questions which are properly an oral question on the Orders of the Day.

Other questions, if they're submitted in the proper way, will be answered, as far as we can within the limits of policy, to the best of our ability. And I suggest to the Honourable Member who just asked his question that his is really a question that should be moved as an Order for Return. And if we would abide by that rule I think we would probably be much more satisfied than with the type of thing as getting up and moving a long question only to be told, well, it should be an Order for Return or something like that. I do suggest that we should adhere to this rule, not because we're trying to dodge any questions -- we have to do our best to answer them "willy-nilly"--but we do have this set of regulations involved, and I'd suggest, Sir, that it would be helpful if we'd try and stick to them.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate what the First Minister said but let me say this. First of all I gave the Minister a copy of my question yesterday; secondly, I'm not asking for government policy. These questions are merely asking whether the Commissioner has the authority under his terms of reference to look into these matters. That's all that I'm asking. If the government would like this, as an Order for Return, I'll be glad to put it in that way.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, in this case I find myself in almost complete agreement with the Honourable Leader of the House. I think he is perfectly right in suggesting that some of the questions that have been asked today are not the ones that should be considered as oral questions. I agree completely in that regard. But I think that I would not be in agreement with him -- and I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that you consider this matter yourself -- when he proposes that questions of this kind, of the kind that are not properly put as oral questions to the Ministers, should be asked for under Orders for Return. I think the proper way, and I submit this for your judgment, Mr. Speaker, would be to have them as questions appearing on the Order Paper, as I think the differentiation, if there is any fine one at all between the two, is that one such as the Honourable Member for St. John's says, are quite simple, and almost permit of answers 'yes' and 'no', usually, I believe, are questions on the Order Paper, and then it is the right of either Mr. Speaker, as I remember the rule, or the Minister concerned, if they think -- if either of them think that the question is of such a nature that it should be brought down as an Order for Return, to say so. And I would suggest that an example of that kind would be the answer that the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities gave today to the Honourable Leader of the CCF Party. I think there is a distinction there and in some cases, cases I would suggest such as the Honourable Member for St. John's asked, are better as questions on the Order Paper. Certainly I agree with the Honourable the First Minister that we should not have a lot of these lengthy and involved, and several parts to them, and different questions in one, asked orally before the Orders of the Day.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman,if I may just say this, that while the First Minister may be correct in quoting from the Encyclopedia that he did, who on this side are actually supposed to know as to how long or how detailed questions are. For instance the question that I asked of the Minister of Public Utilities this afternoon does not appear to be one which would require the perusal of various agreements. It is a question which the ordinary layman would figure that within a half an hour or so a Minister may be able to, within his department, find the answer. Now that not being the case apparently in this particular instance, I appreciate very much the reply that I received from the Minister, but it was a simple question. Insofar as the questions that have been asked by my honourable colleague, it is my understanding that on most of the questions at least it can be a simple concise answer. The questions were asked, or at least context of the questions were delivered to the Honourable Minister, as I understand it, yesterday. Now then, while I agree that for detailed reports or answers, of the necessity of Orders for Return, I'm somewhat amazed at my honourable friend, the Leader of the House, raising this point because I recall in the time I've been a member of this House, that on numerous occasions he has asked similar questions, or his group has when they were on this side of the House, respecting these and some of them, I would suggest, more complicated than some of those that have been asked for today.

MR. ROBLIN: Just one further comment, Mr. Speaker, I think that if members can find the time to present Ministers with written series of questions that they can probably find the time to put it on the Order Paper as well.

A MEMBER: You don't get the reply as quickly.

MR. ROBLIN: Well, I think that they get them pretty quickly. We're not I think, open to the accusation that we don't give the information within reasonable time where that may be possible. I would just like to point out however, that the matter of questions is not only oral but written. This reverts to the point made by the Leader of the Opposition. The type of restrictions that I have mentioned apply not only to oral questions but also to written questions as can be seen from examining Beauchesne who is our guide in this matter, and that it does definitely leave me with the impression that questions either oral or written must not embody a series of questions which should be moved as an address or an order, etc. However, I think, Sir, that we've probably discussed this matter enough and it might be sufficient merely to say that we will take the responsibility of raising this point before the special select committee which is now looking into our rules so that we may come to some agreement as to the best way of handling this matter.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, I note the suggestion of the Honourable the First Minister that perhaps this question has been discussed enough, but I think that I should say one word in connection with what he has just proposed to the House now. And I am speaking on the point of order, Mr. Speaker. There is a record where the greatest teacher that the world has ever known said, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures". And I would suggest to my honourable friend the First Minister that he errs in this case, by reading the Bible of the Federal House and neglecting our own, because as I have had occasion to point out many times in this House, where we have a rule of our own, then it takes precedence over Beauchesne, or Bourinot, or May or any of the rest of the many authorities. And on this point, Mr. Speaker, we have a rule of our own dealing with questions. We have the rule which is specific with regard to questions placed on the Order Paper. I'm sure you're familiar with it, Mr. Speaker. And then we have the practice, or tradition, with regard to oral questions. However, in case my honourable friend and I get into any further argument, let me say that I'm trying to agree with him. I think that we should restrict the oral questions to ones that can be reasonably, simply answered; the questions on the Order Paper to ones that are more lengthy and perhaps cover a greater variety of questions or points of the same question; and Orders for Return for the type of thing that involves more or less voluminous documents or correspondence.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my honourable friend for his strenuous efforts to agree with me. We'll consider this in the Committee.

MR. M. A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, my question is very much in order. As we have no Minister of Immigration I will direct my question to the Premier. The Minister of Immigration from Ottawa was in the city the other day - my question is whether there was any negotiations or discussion about bringing in more refugees to Canada or to Manitoba? I'm not dealing with Canada, I'm sorry.

MR. ROBLIN: No Sir, I'm afraid the visit of the Honourable Minister must have been an unofficial one because I'm aware that she's left town but I didn't know that she had arrived. It was a pretty quick job -- I can give no information on that.

MR. E. GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the First Minister. There's a report in papers from Eastern Canada that more refugees with tuberculosis are being brought into Canada. Are any of those coming to Manitoba?

MR. ROBLIN: Is my honourable friend for it or against it?

MR. GUTTORMSON: Can you answer my question?

MR. ROBLIN: I have no information on that at all. I must point out to my honourable friend, that among the other rules about questions is one respecting reports and papers of the type that he mentions.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I issued an address last year and I'm still waiting for them -- that's over a year ago -- two of them.

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, isn't one of the rules against expressing an opinion? And if so, I wonder why the question of the Honourable First Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: No member of the Legislature is required to answer the question unless he chooses to.

MR. DESJARDINS: Is it permissible, Mr. Speaker, to give an opinion?

MR. SPEAKER: If he desires to give an opinion, it's quite in order. If he does not he

(Mr. Speaker, cont'd.).....can refuse.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would like to direct these two questions to the Honourable the First Minister. Has the Federal Government committed itself on a definite undertaking for payment of a part of the proposed flood control program? 2. If so, what percentage of the total cost is it ready to pay for?

MR. ROBLIN: I can inform my honourable friend that the matter is under negotiation at the present time.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Speaker, back to my question. If the Honourable Minister of Labour would like it as an Order for Return I'll be glad to do it. I'd just like some direction.

MR. CARROLL: Mr. Speaker, while it was a very complicated question, I must confess, the answer is really quite simple and I'd like to thank the Member for St. John's for providing me a copy of this question yesterday. Well now, as you know this Industrial Enquiry Commission was set up under the Labour Relations Act to investigate certain alleged violations under that Act, and it does not cover any of those points which were mentioned in this question by the Member for St. John's.

Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd like to lay on the table of the House the annual report of the Manitoba Telephone System, the Manitoba Power Commission, the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board, and a progress report for the year 1959 of the Manitoba Telephone System.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Speaker, I presume that in connection with these reports which have been just laid on the table that all the members will receive copies of all the reports?

MR. CARROLL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, all members will receive copies of the reports this afternoon.

MR. STAN ROBERTS (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd like to direct a question to the First Minister. Would the First Minister please tell us of the progress made so far on the purchasing of the right-of-way, or at least the protection by options and easement of the flood control scheme.

MR. ROBLIN: I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that we will have full opportunity to discuss these details at a later date.

MR. SPEAKER: If I may revert back for a moment to the question under discussion, that is questions which may be asked properly, it seems to me that the urgency of the answer should have --- the member should give some consideration to that. If he doesn't require the answer immediately it's better to put in an Order for Return. And if he requires the answer almost at once, well a question is the better way to handle it. But, however, when the committee is called together on rules, we will endeavour to lay down a stricter plan for the operation of the House in respect to questions. Orders of the Day.

MR. E. R. SCHREYER (Brokenhead): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Fisher, that a humble address be voted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for a return of all correspondence between the Government of the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada with respect to deficiency payments to western farmers, as agreed to by this House on July 30th, 1959.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion, and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Second reading of Bill No. 3. The Honourable the Attorney-General.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Attorney-General) (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, that Bill No. 3, an Act to Correct Certain Typographical Errors in the Statutes, be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Members for St. Vital; amendment by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition; the amendment to the amendment by the Honourable the Leader of the CCF. The Honourable Member for Brokenhead has the floor.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak in this Throne Speech debate, I would at the very beginning like to tender best wishes to you for the duration of this session and the many sessions to come. I would also like to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Both of them spoke at some length, and indeed it was a most interesting speech and full of information and other worthwhile detail. I would moreover like to congratulate the seconder, the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, on the winning of the by-election this last summer, although I must confess--and I am quite sure that he is well aware that I did my best to see that he didn't come back here. Although, of course, that's politics. I would like to say that I had the privilege to meet his family last week, and here again I would like to congratulate him on his nice family.

I have been here for three sessions now, Mr. Speaker, and I have not as yet spoken at any length on my constituency. I don't intend to bore this House with any details or any long tirade of words as regards the constituency of Brokenhead, but I feel that I would be remiss if I did not point out some rather pertinent facts about the constituency which I have the honour to represent. The constituency of Brokenhead is perhaps unique in this province in that it is half rural and half suburban. Populationwise, about 50% of the people derive their living from the soil; the other half make their living by working in industry in and around the Greater Winnipeg area. So, in a sense then, Mr. Speaker, I represent a farmer-labour area, and it is my hope that in the course of sessions to come I shall be able to represent these two kinds of people, these two segments of our economy, in the best possible manner.

I might say that this year was a particularly unfortunate year for most of my constituents, and for that matter, a number of constituents in the constituency which my friend the Honourable Member from Springfield represents. In the spring there was excessive moisture conditions which prevented seeding operations, and then in August there was considerable hail damage in the area just east of the Red River--East St. Paul--Oakbank. Now, I realize that this crop disaster scheme, federal-provincial emergency aid is doing quite a bit to alleviate the conditions for these people, and I wish to commend this government for working on this matter as quickly as they have. I realize, of course, that it is always possible to be a little faster about things, but I think that there is no complaint of any serious nature. I might say, though, that I hope that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture is giving serious thought with regard to those farmers who suffered hail damage. They are in a rather special position. The hail damage was complete and devastating, and I am sure, or at least I hope I'm right when I say that I think the Honourable Minister is just as distraught about this as I am. And it is a rather unusual situation.

Well I would like, of course, like most speakers, to have the chance to digress as much as possible and speak about many things, but if I do that I might run the risk of being called to order by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition, or someone sitting very near to him, so I shall attempt to contain myself to the subject matter of the sub-amendment itself. But before I do that--before I do that I would just like to digress for a moment and deal with the statement--some of the statements made by the Honourable the Member for St. James when he was speaking in this Chamber yesterday. He made some rather good points but I could not help but feel that he stressed the other side of the picture. He did in no mild way state that labour was perhaps more responsible than any other single segment of our society for the fact that we are in a rather upward price spiral. Now of course, newspapers throughout the country, and newspapers being backed by business, this is understandable--they have been propagating, writing propaganda in their editorials, and in some of the news articles, to the effect that labour must be careful lest we price ourselves out of the world market. And this is about the sum total of their fears. Who would deny that labour, in the course of the last 10-15 years, has made some progress with regard to wages? But what newspapers fail to state with any amount of conviction is that one other reason for there being an upward price spiral and inflationary pressures has largely to do with the pricing policies pursued by business and business corporations.

I assume that all of you members received yesterday a copy of the Dominion Bridge Annual Report for 1959, and it will serve the purpose for proving a point. Members, when they have the opportunity, turn to page two of the report. They will find that in an eight-year period from 1951 to 1959 the company dividends per share increased by 65%--an increase of 65% in

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) . . . eight years--and I would ask you if wages have increased 65% since 1951? They have not. Also, I would point out the tremendous increase in net worth of the company--an increase there of about 100%. I would point out the increase in the book value per share--an increase there of about 100%. Although profits have been increased, and of course those who are the spokesmen for business will say, "well look, the profits haven't increased." That is a rather valid point, but what they will never say, of course, is that the companies and corporations keep the money within the corporation and do not show it as profit. But the money is being made, and one can only conclude from that that besides labour there is some other force, perhaps a much more sinister force, responsible for this upward price spiral, and that is the pricing policies of big business itself.

We accuse labour unions of following policies which are encouraging inflation. We must, therefore--those people who will say that can not deny then that they feel that labour is unjustified in asking for any further wage increases. Who will say that labour in this country, the labouring people in this country, are enjoying a standard of living much higher or just as high as they deserve? People who might be called the labouring class in this country should take every advantage of any opportunity they have in the next 10 years, 20 years, to bring their standard of living even higher. This they can do by receiving better returns for their daily work. I wonder why newspapers and spokesmen who back up big business, corporative enterprise, why they don't make mention of such information as the salaries of the executives of big business.

I have before me a copy of the Canadian Packinghouse Worker, and in this copy there are certain facts and figures which are revealing. We expect Canadian people to live on \$55.00 a month in their old age. We expect people of the labouring class to live on \$200.00 a month on their pension when they retire--and perhaps this is somewhere near being adequate--but I suggest that this is not very satisfactory when one compares it with the kind of lush pension schemes the companies have provided for their executive status employees. The president of one Canadian firm will receive an annual pension of \$58,000.00 a year when he retires; the senior vice-president, \$46,000.00 a year; the chief secretarial officer, assistant secretary, treasurer, chief technical officers, will receive pensions averaging at \$20,000.00 a year. Now that is only dealing with pensions. Their salaries--the average salary, the average executive, the average corporation in this country, certainly isn't under \$10,000.00. And there are many people who are just as responsible for inflationary trends in our economy--more responsible than those who work for an hourly wage--but no mention is made of this segment. And we can only put part of this blame on the newspapers--only part--and the other part can lay at the feet of those who sit in legislative chambers and make no mention of this, while at the same time accusing labour of being the sinister villain in all this.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I felt that this digression should be allowed me because it does in a sense work in--tie in to the matter of the sub-amendment itself. Why do we ask for health insurance? Do we ask ourselves that question? We always come back to the problem "can we afford it?" and "will it be desirable in point of view of standard of service?" One of the main problems underlying any society, Mr. Speaker, one of the main problems is the matter of distribution of national wealth, and we have in this country, despite the fact that this is one of the richest countries in the world, and despite that the standard of living in this country is among the best in the world, we have here a situation in which the majority of people can not afford the type of medical care that every human being should have. Though the fact that our standard of medical care is better than in some undeveloped country is of no consequence in this debate; the fact remains that we have in this country the majority of people not getting the same kind of medical care as those who can afford it.

I would quote at this time from a very reliable source, a pamphlet issued by the Citizens Research Institute of Canada, and it deals almost exclusively in this case with health insurance and hospitalization. And in this pamphlet the author, Mr. Hardy, goes on to say that people with an income of under \$4,000.00 spend approximately 40% less on health care as do families with higher incomes. Now, when you couple this with the fact that people in the lower income bracket tend to have larger families, this means then that the expenditure per capita is much less in a low income family compared to that of a higher income bracket family. And I say--and it is the responsibility of all legislators to uphold this--and I say that when it comes to health care, monetary consideration should be much in the background. Obviously, and here

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) . . . I quote just one sentence from what was said by my honourable colleague from St. John's. Here is some very exact details: "Families with incomes between \$1,500.00 and \$3,500.00 per year spend on the average \$88.00 per year on health care compared to families receiving \$5,000.00 a year or more spending \$158.00 a year on health care"--almost twice as much. Now surely this is not a desirable situation. Health of the human being is of concern whether that human being be rich or poor, being more affording of it or less. And how can we do anything toward making sure that all people in this country, or in this province, have equal care? The only way we can do it is by a type of comprehensive government health plan. I know that there will be those who will immediately cry and shout "socialism--beware of the bad black dog--the socialist philosophy"--but if that's the case I would ask them how they can account for these statements made by, in the first instance, the Progressive-Conservative Party, 1948, quote: "In the field of social security, the party stands for retirement pensions at 65 without a means test; accident, sickness and disability benefits; health insurance, including adequate medical and hospital care; extended unemployment insurance benefits", etc., etc. The Liberal Party, 1948: "The Liberal Party stands for a national program of social security in collaboration with federal-provincial governments, with the following objectives: useful employment for all who are willing to work; standards of nutrition", etc., "social insurance against privation resulting from unemployment. The program will include a steady extension of insurance on a contributory basis to protect all its citizens from a temporary loss to income and to provide for their old age; health insurance--health insurance covering medical, dental, surgical and hospital services on a contributory basis".

Now, if what we are advocating in this sub-amendment is socialism, and we have no other conclusion to draw because that's what the newspaper reporters are saying, that this is sticky CCFism or socialism, then what business did the other two parties have to make these--pass these resolutions in 1948? It has been said that we in the CCF, in proposing this sub-amendment don't know where we're going. Well we've been asking for health insurance now for a long time. We still ask for it. We know where we're going, but when we have two political parties passing, at the national level, resolutions calling for the same thing, and then when 11 years later they turn around and vote against it, or at least so indicate, then I ask the question, who doesn't know where who's going? When it comes to the matter of being sticky about socialism in this sub-amendment, I would remind honourable members that in 1919 the Liberal Party advocated health insurance at the time of the rise of the late W. L. McKenzie King. Now, 41 years later, there is still no health insurance, and if we're sticky, then the Liberals have been stuck for 40 years because they haven't moved. They haven't moved a bit. Now surely, and I say this not with any malice, but surely if a party advocates something for 40 years the time has come to make a stand at some time. I am surprised that our colleagues to the right haven't spoken on this sub-amendment. Now even if they're not going to support it they shouldn't ignore it because this isn't a light matter. The health of people and the dangerous thing of socialism is not a light matter. If you favour health insurance for the benefit of the people, support this. If you fear socialism more than you do seeing the benefit of adequate health care, then by all means speak against this resolution, but this matter is serious enough to warrant some consideration from all groups in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, before I take my seat I would say that what we are asking for in this sub-amendment is much more than just health insurance. We are asking for protection for the people of the province. We are asking this government to urge the Federal Government to move forward a little faster on this particular problem. This does not in any way mean that we are going down the wrong path. I know that those who are very much afraid of socialism will protest against this, but I would say to those who are that they might not agree with socialism, but it is not such a terrifying thing, and if they are convinced that it is, then they must find scant comfort in the fact that perhaps the most important block in the world today is the so-called socialist block comprising countries in Scandinavia and the now developing underdeveloped countries in Asia and Africa. In the past ten years, Mr. Speaker, it has been rather fashionable to spout off about the dangers to individual liberty and freedom which lie in following the path toward socialism. Mr. Speaker, I contend that in the last 50 years all attempts to block progress have been rested mainly, or have lain mainly on this particular statement. Those who would not like to see progress, those who would like to keep the underprivileged

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) .. underprivileged, always come out with the slogan "danger to individual freedom and liberty". Mr. Speaker, more crimes have been committed against humanity under the guise of liberty and freedom than under any other two concepts. Five hundred years ago there was not very much governmental control. People who are afraid of socialism should have liked such a society, because the government didn't take anything away from the people. And what kind of society was it? It was a society in which the law of the jungle prevailed. The strong could look after themselves and the meek, or the more fair in soul and mind were trodden under. And I protest as much as I possibly can against these statements that governmental control, or governmental action rather--that governmental action endangers freedom and liberty, because while it is in an extremity true, in what socialism advocates, the very opposite is true. Mr. Speaker, as I said before, this matter of health insurance we have advocated for a long time. We have the right to keep on advocating it because by the very fact that we sit here and we have consistently supported this, must mean that people--at least some people, and a very significant group in minority--still want health insurance. Some people are uncommitted or uncertain, and it is up to this legislature to give this matter serious attention. And that is what we are doing.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

.....continued on next page.

MR. R. SEABORN (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, may I join with the others in expressing my extreme pleasure that you are again in the Chair, and I hope that you will be there for many years to come.

I would like to give my congratulations to the mover and seconder of the motion in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I must agree that I would certainly like to hear more from the Honourable Member from Rupertsland. I found his contribution most interesting.

Now Sir, I do not think any of us were particularly surprised that the socialists would bring in a suggestion of national medicine for our province, but they always appear grieved that nobody else falls for their socialistic ideas--the reason being of course, that every time they make a suggestion of this sort, there is always the element of compulsion.

I cannot help thinking of the parable given to us of the good Samaritan. I think this story best exemplifies all the teachings given by the founder of our Christian religion regarding our relationship to the needs of others. The story is well known, of course--how a man was beaten by robbers and left to die and a priest and then a Levite came along, and as it should be, the choice of helping the man was left entirely with each of them, and both chose not to help him. Then the Samaritan came along. He personally and voluntarily accepted a responsibility for the man who was in need. He knelt down and bound up the man's wounds, took him to the nearest inn and paid for having him cared for until he could return and pay for the entire bill. In accepting his personal responsibility for the need of his neighbour, I believe he acted in accordance with God's commandments.

But we should remember that in this immortal story, that Christ did not say that part of the duty of the charitable man was to levy a tax upon the priest and the Levite so that they would be forced to pay two thirds of the cost of helping the wounded man, even against their will, while he would pay the other third which, of course, would be his under such an arrangement. The excuse of "good motives" in voting to confiscate another's money can hardly be adequate. For how can charity--the love of a person for his fellow men--ever be connected with force and compulsion in any form? Are not these two concepts--the voluntary law of love of person for person, and the compulsory law of force of person against person--directly opposed to one another?

Now, Sir, I know that there are many things about our present system that certainly do give good grounds for complaint. But when we turn to correct them I think we would do very well to remember the old adage about the frying pan and the fire. This matter is well illustrated, I think, by the spread between the price of steers and beefsteaks, or let us say wheat and bread. When Colin Clark inquired into the relative prices of the socialist republic in Russia, at the end of 1935, he found that the primary producers received but 15 to 18% of the retail price. In this case the spread went for taxes and substantially to support the planning bureaucracy.

Now socialists everywhere always bid for power with elaborate promises of new freedoms, and this to me is a strange paradox, for freedom is the exact opposite of coercion. Where is the prospect of freedom when its source has been destroyed? In an exhaustive study of economic planning, the international economist, Paul de Hevesy, concluded that: "Efficient state control of prices, profits, wages, exchange, migration, etc., cannot be carried out without abolishing all vestiges of self-government, without setting up a secret police and without maintaining the ever present shadow of the concentration camp. And if anyone should think to protest that what happened in socialist Europe has no lesson for us, it is to be recalled that in drawing up a constitution for the co-operative commonwealth of tomorrow, the Fabian socialists held up the adoption of socialism by a large part of Europe 40 years ago (mainly in Russia and Germany) as an example of the good way of life with explicit instructions that quote: "Open-minded students in every nation should watch the experiments in order to learn what is likely to be successful in their own countries. With the fruits of these experiments within our own knowledge are we now expected to be deafened by propaganda and be driven blindfold to run our heads against the wall?" This is the question that was asked by de Hevesy when he wrote the 900th page of his inquiry in 1940, as the world entered on a new world war in which a socialist state of the left led the way with a five year plan, in 1928, providing for re-armament while a socialist state of another wing, in 1939, dropped the first bombs.

I again repeat that our present social order is by no means perfect. It leaves us with

(Mr. Seaborn, cont'd.) : . many unfilled wants. But what have we to gain by intentionally accepting another social order that, while substituting compulsion for free will in the service of society, has never anywhere made good its stock promises of equality and security? Yesterday while my colleague from St. James was discussing the high cost of production in this country, the socialists were crying out against profits. Now just last November, Mr. Speaker, the Labour Party in Great Britain held a post election conference in Blackpool, and it was generally conceded that the major factor in their defeat in the last election was the matter of nationalization of industry. Mr. Gaitskell said "we must face the fact that nationalization as such will not be popular until those industries already nationalized are clearly seen to be performing at least as well as the best firms in the private sector". This is a remarkable admission that free enterprise is certainly the most efficient. Mr. Gaitskell went on to say that "we do not aim to nationalize every private firm or to create more and more state monopolies--our goal is not 100% state ownership". When Mr. Bevan protested that "we will never be able to get the economic resources of this nation fully exploited unless we have a planned economy", and Mr. Cousins supported him by saying "there cannot be socialism unless you have nationalization", Mr. Gaitskell maintained that "there was no doubt, if we are to accept the majority view of those who fought this last election, nationalization--on balance--lost us the votes".

And this repudiation of socialist principles is not confined to Great Britain alone. Last August, after I accepted the statement that the new party was going to be a Socialist Party line, I read in the Tribune this amazing statement, allegedly given by Mr. Stanley Knowles: "At one time the CCFers saw nationalization of many of the basic industry as the answer to economic security. Today the situation has changed". Now just what are we to believe? The expressions of antagonism against the profits of private industries that we heard yesterday are echoed throughout the whole CCF Party. Profits are inherently evil to these socialists. Yet we find them saying "we are not going to take over the means of production, distribution and exchange. We are going to allow private enterprise in our society." Does this mean that the socialists are going to live with sin? This is indeed a strange inconsistency and a soft-peddalling of the brave declarations made in Regina when the Socialist Party was first formed.

Now I know you will forgive me, Sir, if I refer back to the last session, but at that time I was accused of connecting our local socialists here with those socialists over there--meaning in Russia. And last week I was given a copy of the Commonwealth dated January 6th, and when I looked at the editorial page, lo and behold, I found a glowing account of what has been accomplished in the Soviet Union and what a planned economy can do. Now then, what are we to believe? And what are we to say to those who repeat the tattered slogan that "Democracy needs Socialism"? In this part of the world we pride ourselves in our literacy. Just one moment's reflection will reveal that there is a contradiction of ideas within that phrase. It is the duty and principle of democracy to reduce state compulsions to the minimum. Socialism depends on compulsions. In its mature stage, socialism extends coercion to practically every stage of our lives.

The social structures are as complicated as modern society, but actually the core of the issue is crystal clear. Is society better served by voluntary co-operation or is it better served by compulsory co-operation? Our system, horrid as it might be pictured by those who oppose it, nevertheless has given us the world's best standard of living and about the world's best average standard of education. We have excellent hospitals and unexcelled provisions in the general field known as social welfare. Surely it would be unwise to follow a course that will eventually undermine our order of society and replace it with an order of collectivism that never, anywhere, has provided plenty, and in its course of development from Moscow, through Berlin and Rome to Madrid, has brought with it only dictatorship. Yet, it seems there are people in this country who accept the social doctrine that has made Europe what it is today. To me this is strange--almost incredible. It is the strangest feature of the times in which we live.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot possibly support the amendment to the amendment as advanced by the CCF Party.

MR. D. ORLIKOW (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the last speaker would permit a question. Are you opposed to the present system of universal compulsory hospital insurance which this province has at the present time?

MR. SEABORN: No, not in its principle, but I am opposed to the compulsory aspect of

(Mr. Seaborn, cont'd.) . . it, I must admit.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? Those in favour please say Aye. Those opposed please say Nay. In my opinion the Nays have it and I declare the motion defeated.

MR. PAULLEY: The Ayes and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members. The question before the House is the amendment to the amendment to the Throne Speech which reads as follows: The proposed amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words: we also regret the failure of the government to take the initiative in promoting a comprehensive federal-provincial health insurance plan.

A standing vote was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gray, Harris, Hawryluk, Orlikow, Paulley, Peters, Reid, Schreyer, Wagner, Wright.

NAYS: Messrs. Alexander, Baizley, Bjornson, Campbell, Carroll, Christianson, Corbett, Cowan, Desjardins, Dow, Evans, Froese, Groves, Guttormson, Hamilton, Hillhouse, Hryhorczuk, Hutton, Ingebrigtsen, Jeannotte, Johnson (Assiniboia), Johnson (Gimli), Klym, Lissaman, Lyon, McKellar, McLean, Martin, Molgat, Prefontaine, Ridley, Roblin, Roberts, Seaborn, Shoemaker, Smellie, Stanes, Strickland, Tanchak, Thompson, Watt, Weir, Witney.

MR. CLERK: Yeas - 10; Nays - 43.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion defeated. The question before the House is the amendment to the Throne Speech which reads as follows: This House regrets that Your Honour's government have failed to implement many of the important promises it made and repeated during three election campaigns to the people of Manitoba. Are you ready for the question? Those in favour please say Aye.

MR. W. G. MARTIN (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre that the debate be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Gladstone. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. R. G. SMELLIE (Birtle-Russell): Mr. Speaker, I would request--(applause)-- Thank you.--I would request the indulgence of this House to have the matter stand.

MR. SPEAKER: Order stand. Adjourned debate on the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain. The Honourable Member for Dufferin.

MR. W. H. HAMILTON (Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, I beg the indulgence of the House to have this matter stand also.

MR. SPEAKER: Order stand? Order stand. Adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. M. A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I am being pressed by the Liberal group here to have it stand.

MR. SPEAKER: Order stand. This brings us to the end of our Order Paper.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Speaker, I rise to make the most popular motion of the day, which I do, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House adjourned until 2:30 Thursday afternoon.