

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
10:00 o'clock, Friday, March 20, 1970

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. CLERK: The petition of Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba praying for the passing of an Act to amend an Act to incorporate Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba.

REPORTS BY STANDING COMMITTEES

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for Osborne.

MR. IAN TURNBULL (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present the First Report of the Standing Committee on Economic Development.

MR. CLERK: Your Standing Committee on Economic Development begs leave to present the following as their First Report.

Your Standing Committee of the House on Economic Development was established by a resolution of the Legislative Assembly at the First Session of the 29th Legislature, on Friday, October 10th, 1969.

Your Committee, composed of Honourable Messrs. Evans, Schreyer, Toupin and Uskiw, Messrs. Beard, Desjardins, Doern, Gonick, Fox, Johnston (Sturgeon Creek), Jorgenson, Froese, McBryde, McGill . . .

A MEMBER: Sustain.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, should it not be read into the record? I think, Mr. Speaker, these reports should go into the record so that we have them because . . .

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources) (Inkster): If the honourable member wishes to have it read, I think he's entitled to have it read.

MR. SPEAKER: I'm wondering if I may suggest to the honourable members that the contents of the report will appear in Hansard. If honourable members wish to have the entire report read, no doubt it's their privilege, but may I suggest that for the sake of time . . .

MR. FROESE: On that same point of order, does the report go into Votes and Proceedings as well, then? Because I know we have another report on the Order Paper and I don't know just what it contains, and therefore I made this request.

MR. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, if I may, the other report that we have on the paper has been read, completely read, so . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Clerk informs me that this report could appear in Votes and Proceedings.

(First Report of Standing Committee on Economic Development given by the Clerk).

Your Standing Committee of the House on Economic Development was established by a resolution of the Legislative Assembly at the First Session of the 29th Legislature, on Friday, October 10th, 1969.

Your Committee, composed of Honourable Messrs. Evans, Schreyer, Toupin and Uskiw, Messrs. Beard, Desjardins, Doern, Gonick, Fox, Johnston (Sturgeon Creek), Jorgenson, Froese, McBryde, McGill, Patrick, Sherman, Spivak and Turnbull, was appointed to maintain continuous surveillance of the progress of Manitoba's economic development and the activities of the Government affecting achievement of provincial economic goals as suggested in the TED Report to the Legislature. Your Committee was also authorized to sit during recess.

Mr. Ian Turnbull was appointed Chairman, and the quorum was set at ten members.

Your Committee met on Monday, February 23, 1970 and Tuesday, March 10, 1970.

The Committee recommends that it be reconstituted during this Session of the Legislature and that the Committee, as reconstituted, consider the advisability of the following:

- (1) That the Minister of Industry and Commerce prepare a review of the past ten years of the economic progress of Manitoba with consideration of the current trends and potential development in the next few years.
- (2) That it will consider the question of the disclosure of the transactions of the Manitoba Development Fund, and make recommendations to the Legislature, and further, that the Economic Development Advisory Board be asked to

(REPORT BY MR. CLERK cont'd.)

- prepare comments on this question for the use of the Committee.
- (3) That it considers the possibilities of establishing a Provincial Bank, and investigate the problem of credit and capital availability.
 - (4) That it considers the advisability of a provincial incentive program to cover those areas in Manitoba not designated under the area incentive program of the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion, and consider all aspects of industry incentive in Manitoba.

Your Committee recommends that the Minister of Industry and Commerce present to the Committee a statement for consideration of the importance of reasonable hydro power price as a catalyst for economic development of Manitoba competitive ability.

MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Logan, that the report of the Committee be received.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. WALTER WEIR (Leader of the Opposition) (Minnedosa): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Riel, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. PETER FOX (Kildonan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit, on your behalf, the First Report of the Special Committee of the House appointed to examine and review the Rules, Standing Orders, Practices and Procedures of the Assembly.

MR. CLERK: Your Special Committee appointed to examine and review the Rules, Standing Orders, Practices and Procedures of the Assembly begs leave to present the following as their First Report.

Your Special Committee of the House appointed to consider and review the Rules . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Shall the reading be dispensed with? It too will appear in Hansard.

(First Report of the Special Committee of the House appointed to examine and review the Rules, Standing Orders, Practices and Procedures of the Assembly given by the Clerk).

Your Special Committee of the House appointed to consider and review the Rules and Standing Orders of the Assembly was established by a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly at the First Session of the 29th Legislature on Monday, October 6, 1969.

Your Committee composed of Honourable Mr. Speaker, Honourable Mr. Pauley, Messrs. Bilton, Doern, Fox, Gonick, Jorgenson, Johnston (Portage la Prairie), Turnbull and Weir was appointed to examine and review the Rules, Standing Orders, practices and procedures of the Assembly, with special reference to improving the functioning of the Committee system, expanding the role of the private member, bringing about a closer relationship between the Legislature and the general public, and generally strengthening the role of the Legislature in regard to the executive arm of government.

The Committee was also empowered to consider matters relating to the decorum of the House and allied subjects and to report its findings and recommendations of these matters to this Assembly during the second session of this Legislature.

Honourable Mr. Hanuschak, Speaker, was appointed Chairman, and the quorum was set at six members.

Your Committee met on: Thursday, November 27, 1969; Friday, November 28, 1969; Thursday, January 8, 1970; Friday, January 9, 1970; Friday, February 6, 1970; Thursday, February 26, 1970; Friday, February 27, 1970; and Friday, March 6, 1970.

Mr. G.S. Rutherford, Q.C., former Legislative Counsel, addressed the Committee with respect to the basic principles dealing with Regulations referred to the Standing Committees on Regulations and Orders under our Rule 69. The basic principles appear in our Journals of 1962 at page 16. Mr. Rutherford suggested that these basic principles be inserted and spelled out in our own rules. Your Committee agreed with the suggestion and recommends it to the Legislature.

Your Committee discussed the permanency of Mr. Speaker in office through successive Legislatures and Governments. In view of a Resolution adopted in the House it was agreed that the matter is now in the hands of the parties if they wish to carry out the provisions of the Resolution.

Your Committee reviewed the Rules, Orders and Forms of Proceedings of the House, and recommends:

(REPORT BY MR. CLERK cont'd.)

- (1) That an index of Mr. Speaker's rulings be set as an appendix to our Rules along the same line as the Rulings of Mr. Speaker in Ontario.
- (2) Rule 3 - That the closing hour of the Standing and Special Committees of the House sitting at night during the Session should be the same as the closing hour of the House until the eighty hours in Supply are completed.
- (3) Rule 8 - That documents tabled by a Minister become Sessional Papers and that the proper phraseology be "lay upon the table" or "tabling of a document".
- (4) Rules 5, 6, 7, 8 - That the ruling of Mr. Speaker with respect to decorum and the attire of Members in the House should stand.
That signs be affixed at the entries to the galleries requesting that no cameras may be used in the galleries, no demonstration or applause should take place and silence should be observed, also, smoking be prohibited.
That the Members' locker room be reserved for the exclusive use of the Members of the House, although members of the press may be allowed.
That a Committee of the House, composed of members of all faiths in the House, prepare a new prayer.
That the Board of Internal Economy Commissioners examine the accommodation in the galleries.
- (5) Rule 19 (1) - That Rule 15 (3) of the Standing Orders of the House of Commons (Ottawa), dealing with ministerial statements, be adopted.
That Rule 19 (1) be amended by adding after "Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees" the following item - "Ministerial Statements and tabling of Reports".
- (6) That Rule 19 (2) be amended to provide the allocation of time for Private Members' business whereby one hour a day between 4:30 p. m. and 5:30 p. m. will be devoted to Private Members' business. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 4:30 p. m. and 5:30 p. m. the Private Members, business will include Private Members' Resolutions followed by Private Bills and Public Bills by Private Members. On Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4:30 p. m. and 5:30 p. m. the agenda will include Private Bills, Public Bills by Private Members, followed by Private Members' Resolutions. That the speeches during the Private Members' hours be restricted to twenty minutes. That any Private Members' Resolution not disposed of on Private Members' days drops to the bottom of the Private Members' Resolutions. During Private Members' hour, no request shall be made by a Member that a "matter stand".
- (7) That the debate on the Throne Speech and the debate on the Budget Speech shall take precedence over Private Members' business.
- (8) That Rule 19 (1) be amended by adding "Oral Questions" following "Introduction of Bills".
- (9) That an addendum be prepared to the Rules, Orders and Forms of Proceedings explaining the "points of order" and "matter of privilege".
- (10) That Rule 26 (3) be amended by deleting the words "leave of the House to proceed" and substituting therefor the words "the support of the House", and that Rule 26 (4) be amended by deleting the words "asked for leave" and substituting therefor the words "received the support to proceed", and that Rule 26 (5) be amended by deleting the word "leave" and substituting therefor the word "support".
- (11) That Rule 26 be amended by adding thereto:
 - (a) That the time limit for debates under Rule 26 be limited to twenty minutes for each speaker.
 - (b) That at the conclusion of the debate the motion shall be deemed to be withdrawn.
 - (c) That at the normal closing hour the debate shall be deemed to be concluded and the motion shall be withdrawn.

(REPORT BY MR. CLERK cont'd.)

- (12) That Rule 57 be amended by deleting the word "made" and substituting therefor the word "accepted".
- (13) That another clause be added to Rule 70 to provide for the replacement of a member of a Committee in extreme circumstances such as death, long illness but not substituted for one occasion, and that The Legislative Assembly Act be amended accordingly.
- (14) That Rule 96 (2) (f) be amended by deleting the figures "50" and substituting therefor the figures "49".
- (15) Rule 100 - That an introductory Clause be added to this rule in the light of the changes to be made with respect to the allocation of time for Private Members.
- (16) The Committee recommends that the number of pages be increased to four, boys or girls, in order to permit them to alternate their duties in the House, and the choice of pages be made on a rotation basis from the high schools.
- (17) The guards in the galleries should be given definite instructions with respect to the conduct and behavior of the visitors in the galleries, and guards should be in uniform.
- (18) The Committee recommends the installation on a permanent basis of sound equipment, with recording and amplifying facilities, for Committee meetings in Room 254. The sitting Committee will decide in each case whether or not a transcript will be required.
- (19) It was recommended that the matter of the Members' indemnity be referred to an outside independent body of people, and that this independent body also consider all relevant legislative duties and remuneration or expenses in carrying out the function of being a Member of the Legislative Assembly.
- (20) The Committee recommends that each recognized party of the Legislature have a secretarial assistant all year around, paid out of public funds, and that provisions be made for other Members who do not belong to a recognized party.
- (21) With respect to the Committee system, the Committee recommends the departmental officials be allowed to sit on the floor of the House in front of the Minister after the first item is passed (Minister's salary) on the estimates in the Committee of Supply.
The Rules of the House be amended to permit:
 - (a) Officials to be present in the House in the Committee of Supply.
 - (b) The Minister to speak in the House, while in the Committee of Supply, from a place in the first row of benches. This is to permit the Ministers in the second row of benches to come down to the first row of benches near the officials of their departments.
- (22) Having heard the representatives of the Radio and TV industries it was felt that the views of the Committee were:
 1. The Committee would be willing to make the facilities available to all media.
 2. The Radio and TV media be requested to prepare recommendations or proposals of the requirements for the technical facilities which would be referred to a Committee chaired by Mr. Speaker.
 3. The Attorney-General be requested to prepare a legal opinion as to the immunity of the Members on the floor of the House should the Radio and TV media be in use in the House.
 4. The request from this Committee for recommendations or proposals by the Radio and TV industries be forwarded to the Manitoba Association of Broadcasters.
- (23) The Committee agreed to approve in principle the granting of funds for research to party caucuses on an equitable basis, the mechanics to be worked out by a reconstituted Committee on the Rules of the House.

(REPORT BY MR. CLERK cont'd.)

- (24) The Committee recommends a continuing study of the Standing Committee system of the Legislative Assembly.
- (25) The Committee recommends that each caucus be provided with a bound copy of Hansard.
- (26) In view of some of the recommendations of this Report your Committee recommends that it be reconstituted at the forthcoming Session for the purposes referred to in this Report.

MR. FOX: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, that the report be received.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Swan River, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. Boniface. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I had a couple of comments I wanted to make on the activities of the Committee before this was presented for the vote.

Just to go back into history, this committee was established I think in 1967, in the first sitting of the last Legislature 1967, but it came about as the result of I think probably the activities of one particular member of the Legislature who is now the Minister of Finance, who presented a pretty strong argument for its establishment earlier to 1967 and pretty well convinced the Legislature by that time that it should be established. One of the difficulties that I think that we have had is that through elections and changes of government and so on, we've had difficulty keeping any sort of continuity on the committee, and I think that it would be advisable, in re-establishing the committee, if the Committee to Establish Committees take into consideration that it would be worthwhile to provide this continuity, and in fact the Minister of Finance may wish to remain active on it himself since he was the proposer of the committee in the first instance and was absent from the makeup of the committee membership this last year.

I would also like to mention the fact that I feel that if we are going to go into this in more depth, that the government would take into consideration perhaps supplying the committee with a part-time version at least, a part-time secretariat, to provide again some continuity between the meetings. We have had persons like the former Justice Schultz who has done work on the committee and has in fact provided this sort of service at earlier times, and although I'm not presenting that name, I'm suggesting as a recommendation necessarily someone of that capability may in fact be able to bring a great deal to providing the continuity that's necessary for the committee.

I would also point out, Mr. Speaker, that when on the other side of the House we took a great deal of criticism - it went on at great length - for the manner of schedule that was set up for these committee meetings to take place. Now I must advise you, Mr. Speaker, that the schedule of meetings hasn't gone any better, I don't think, with the establishment and changeover that has taken place. This committee has met three times and we haven't achieved anything to date, and I think that it's high time that more formality was put into this and that this committee got under way and got its job done on a more systematic basis.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I was expecting certain remarks to come from that side of the House and I wasn't disappointed. I agree wholeheartedly with the first part of the honourable member's speech but I reject the second part, that is the scheduling of meetings, for the simple reason that when I was named chairman of this committee, I was given instructions by the committee to call the first meeting as soon as we received certain documents that were supposed to come from certain members of the Law Society. Immediately on the same day - this was during the last session - I phoned the gentleman, who is Mr. O'Sullivan, and asked him for the report as soon as possible. This was promised to me in a couple of weeks and the committee had decided to have a meeting called around the end of November, but Mr. O'Sullivan, through no fault of his own, was detained. It is work that they're not -- these people that had volunteered to give us these documents, to present us with these working papers, I might say, are not being paid and it took them a little longer,

(MR. DESJARDINS cont'd.) and as soon as we received these documents, Mr. Speaker, a meeting was called. I must admit that that's not too long before the session started, and we had three meetings after that altogether.

Now it is true that this committee did not achieve too much but at least, if we name this committee again, if the House names this committee, it will be ready to start because this committee did something that the same committee under the former administration had not done. It provided the committee with some working papers, with some documents that had been asked since 1967 by some members and nothing was done, so I object quite strongly to the last words. As I say, I expected them but I still object to them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I really am quite amazed that the Honourable Member for St. Boniface should have to get up and answer a charge that the committees that have been operating under this administration have not been an improvement over the committees that had been operating under the prior administration. Mr. Speaker, normally the House adjourns sometimes in May, perhaps towards the end of May, and between May and January, a period of many months, the committees are supposed to, in many cases, undertake their work, and during the period of the previous administration I can remember sitting on a very important committee, the Automobile Insurance Committee, which met I believe once previous to the session to say hello to one another. Other committees - I think the committee that the member is now referring to . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I think it had better be explained that the Honourable Member for St. Boniface closed debate and therefore I shouldn't . . . Mr. Speaker, there will be other committee reports and another chance.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, being unaware who the chairman of the committee was and who made the report, I think I should have had notice of this.

MR. DESJARDINS: . . . who the chairman was - the proposed motion standing in my name, so he should know that I was chairman.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. RUSSELL DOERN (Elmwood): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of the House to have this matter stand.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West) introduced Bill No. 6, an Act to amend The Brandon Charter.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: At this point I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery on my left where we have 35 students of an up-grading class from the Hole River and Little Black River School. These students are under the direction of Miss Lavoie, Mrs. Bouchle and Mr. Burston. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rupertsland. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you here this morning.

Orders of the Day.

HON. ED. SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I beg leave to lay on the table of the House the Annual Report of the Manitoba Development Authority for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Health and Welfare. Is it the intention of the New Democratic Government to continue with the practice of charging retroactively any increase given pensioners that receive a social allowance? I should give a word of explanation here. It seems that when they get their first pension cheque . . .

MR. GREEN: If the honourable member asks a question he's entitled to either a reply or the Minister needn't reply, but he's not entitled to make a statement.

MR. FROESE: I wasn't intending to make a statement; I was just going to clarify the question.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Services) (Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I'll take this question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, on a point of privilege, and it is indeed a privilege, I'd like to congratulate the Winnipeg Tribune for its editorial of yesterday. I think that they had the courage to state that the Tribune, as well as other papers in the past, have been interested in one party but they brought in a forward-looking policy.

MR. SPEAKER: I find it difficult to recall anything in Beausiesne or in any authority that would define that matter as a matter of privilege. The Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Leader of the Liberal Party) (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, with your kind indulgence, I would like to introduce the Member for Portage, of the federal constituency of Portage, to the House. He's in the Lounge. Mr. Gerald Cobbe.

MR. SPEAKER: We welcome you with us this morning. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to a question directed towards myself on Monday by the Honourable Member, the Leader of the Liberal Party, in connection with the increase in municipal assessment levy, I just would like to outline some of the reasons for that increase this year. One relates to the attempt to increase, or to catch up on the backlog of work which had developed in the assessment department. This meant that there was required an increase in staff, office and transportation facilities. Secondly, there was an area of salary increases, salary increments. The 1969 levy did not take into consideration the estimates last year, the 1969 salary increase. Now this salary increase was absorbed but the fact remains that the 1960 levy reflects the two salary increases which were not contained in the previous levy for the past year. In respect to the questions of back load, the Michener Report had recommended that reassessment should take place every five years. It appears that a number of the municipalities in Manitoba have not been reassessed for a period much longer than five years, some in fact for a period up to ten years.

Figures I'd just like to mention, that the increase -- the 1970 levy will raise \$1,050,250 as compared to the 1960 levy which raised \$870,000, an increase of \$180,230. That increase is made up of salary increases \$73,600, annual salary increments \$35,300; seven new positions -- 5 assessors, 2 clerical, \$31,500; and supporting vehicles, expenses, supplies, \$21,900; increased expenses re existing services \$17,900. The particular information with regard to R.M. of Portage, I would be pleased to meet with the honourable member to outline how that municipality's equalized assessment levy was made up.

MR. SPEAKER: The House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. GORDON JOHNSTON: A question to the Minister, Mr. Speaker. Did the cost of assessment to the municipalities go up in percentage, a true percentage, to all? For example, the R.M. of Portage's increase was in the neighbourhood of 16 percent. Did every municipality's increase come in this neighbourhood, in this area?

MR. PAWLEY: The mill rate and equalized assessment 1969 was 1.309, this year 1.4875, the same levy for each municipality. The Portage assessment for this purpose rose from \$23,603.00 to \$27,965 but there was a corresponding increase in each municipality on the same formula.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, last fall we passed a resolution establishing a port authority at Churchill and a year-round tourist reception centre. I don't believe it has been started as yet and I would wonder whether this is going to be done this year.

MR. SCHREYER: I'll take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. BUD SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the First Minister whether there were any initiatives that can be undertaken, and if so, are they being undertaken by his government, to attempt to persuade the Hudson's Bay Company to locate its head offices

(MR. SHERMAN cont'd.) not necessarily in Winnipeg but in Manitoba.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, the answer is yes. Certain initiatives have been taken both alone and in concert with the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg, the City of Winnipeg, and I believe other interested organizations.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I was asked yesterday with regard to the flood forecast. There was a forecast, as was my recollection, on February 20th and I have copies available for members of the House. This was released to the press on February 20th and therefore I am not going to bother giving the details at this time.

I was asked yesterday about the increase in the fishing license. I told members I would have the detailed figures today. Again, this information was released some days ago. Resident angling licenses are being increased from \$2.25 to \$3.00. Non-resident angling licenses are being increased from \$8.50 to \$10.00. This is seasonal. Non-resident angling licenses, 3-day licenses, are being increased from \$4.00 to \$5.00.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister tell us, or could he estimate how much extra revenue will accrue to the province because of this increase?

MR. GREEN: It is expected that there will be an additional \$80,000 or 20 percent increase to our realized revenue from angling licenses sales. Of course that's an estimate.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. BEARD: Mr. Speaker, subsequent to that question, will there be any of that additional revenue passed on to the vendors?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, there has been no change to my knowledge at this point as to commissions being paid to vendors for the sale of the licenses.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): In that connection, I wonder if the Honourable Minister would give some consideration to that. I believe he knows that over the years there has been a problem insofar as the issuers of licenses are concerned, the expense they are being put to personally; and I wonder in their interests would he give some consideration to that?

MR. GREEN: We are giving consideration to the problem. I might tell the honourable member that we have no problem of people desiring to sell these licenses.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. Is he aware that the Canada Grains Act is being replaced by another Act, and could he tell us whether the provision whereby farmers can order cars individually and directly, is it being retained in the new legislation?

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I'll take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Before the Orders of the Day I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. The municipalities of Shell River, Shellmouth, Hillsburg and Bolton have enquired of me as to whether or not the Minister is going to establish a veterinary clinic in the Town of Roblin.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the program will be revealed to the House during the course of my estimates.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce. Could he tell us which legal firm is doing the legal work on behalf of the Manitoba Development Fund with respect to the Churchill Forest Industries loan?

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Newman, MacLean Company.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister undertake to reply to the House the amount of fee that will be given to the firm for handling of the loan?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I think that the question is probably well in order but probably should be in the form of an Order for Return.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) Minister of Youth and Education. The other day I asked a question of the Minister of Tourism and Recreation with respect to extra camping facilities and the answer that I received from him, there were some conflicting reports in the paper. His answer was that there was no consideration of the government to build any and the Minister I understand made a statement that there was. I wonder if this is correct. Is there any intention of the Minister of Education or his department to build any summer camps?

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Youth and Education) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, if I wanted to deal with semantics I could answer no, there is no intention of the government to build camps. However, I think I should -- the questioner is entitled to an answer and I think what he is trying to find out is whether the government is thinking in terms of some sort of summer camp or camping programs this year. The Department of Education is looking at this matter. It ties in with the whole question of student employment and we haven't finalized anything; we are simply studying it. We should have some information within the next three weeks.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd direct a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I have a newspaper clipping of March 7, 1970, Winnipeg Tribune, which indicates that the Transcona-based Catelli Five Roses Limited Food Processing Company are leaving the Province of Manitoba. My question is to the Minister: has the Minister made any approach or indication to these people that Manitoba might still even yet be a good place to stay and carry on industry?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether I heard all the question but I presume you are referring to the Catelli plant which is now located in the City of Transcona. Is this the one you are specifically referring to? This particular enterprise, I might say, rather unfortunately for many years we have been informed by the particular company concerned, has been something of a losing proposition. For many, many a year the company concerned was not satisfied with the operations of that particular plant. I can also state that the Department of Industry and Commerce has endeavoured, through time, to help the company to improve its position, and at this very point in time we are hoping that we may be able to come up with some other type of processing which will enable that company to utilize the plant fully and correct the situation that has been announced by that company.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (River Heights): A supplementary question - I wonder if the Minister of Industry and Commerce would inform the House how many jobs were lost as a result of the closing of the plant and how many farmers who supply products to them will now not be supplying them?

MR. EVANS: I should really take this particular question, supplementary question, as notice. I believe there are about 69 positions involved. However, I'll check that and if it's in error I will correct it subsequently. With respect to the supplying of, was it cucumbers that you mentioned?

MR. SPIVAK: Products.

MR. EVANS: Yes. Frankly, the supplying of cucumbers, from the information I have had, has never been too profitable for the suppliers and I would hope that, you know, the effects would not be adverse in this respect, but . . .

A MEMBER: I think they were hurt more when you went on a diet.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, just as a point of information, they manufacture more than cucumbers and they buy more products from the agricultural community. I think it's important and relevant. Now I wonder if I could ask one supplementary question. Is the Minister aware that the company has announced that they are expanding an operation in Alberta for \$500,000 to take care of the output of the plant in Manitoba?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I will inform the honourable member that we had lengthy discussions with this company on its plans - they were very kind to give us information on how they expect to improve their profit situation. The main problem, and it's been a problem that existed while the honourable member was Minister of Industry and Commerce as well, is the lack of markets for certain products manufactured by the company, and it's in their judgment that these particular moves take place but this is something that has been around a long, long time, and although we would hope that we would be able to change their minds, they decided in the best interests of their corporate enterprise that these changes should take place.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. In view of the good deal of publicity over Versatile Machine Company, could he indicate to us whether Versatile is going to remain in Manitoba or not?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that is a matter that is under negotiation. There is nothing that can be said at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. I notice by this morning's Toronto Globe and Mail that the percentage of wheat cut in Canada will be around 26 percent. I wonder if the Minister has had time to find out what percentage Manitoba will perhaps be cut.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the Department is doing an analysis of the whole program and proposal of the Federal Government with respect to the wheat inventory reduction, and when we have a complete analysis I will make a statement to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he can inform the House whether the principal owners of the Catell plant are still intending to proceed with their major development in Manitoba in the convenience food field.

MR. EVANS: We have had very good relations with this group of companies and my information is that they are expanding.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation and ask him whether it is a fact that the ceremonial guard at Lower Fort Garry may have to be abandoned for lack of funds?

HON. PETER BURTNIAK (Minister of Tourism and Recreation) (Dauphin): I will have to take that one as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Transportation. Does the government contemplate any action in connection with the CPR closing down the 78 stations and depots, and naturally this means that these jobs will be lost. Is any action contemplated by the government in this regard?

HON. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Minister of Transportation) (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, the job of Commissioner of Railways has been changed into the hands of the Minister of Labour and I think the question should be directed to him.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): I gave the assurance, Mr. Speaker, some time ago that matters of this nature are under active review and that representations will be made by myself as the medium to whom railway matters in Manitoba are directed, and I will be meeting with the management very shortly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from La Verendrye.

MR. BARKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Last fall, I believe the last report we had, the selling of debentures was in arrears to the tune of about \$7-1/2 or \$8 million. Can he tell us if this picture has changed at all or is it perhaps getting worse?

MR. PAWLEY: I understand there has been some improvement, Mr. Speaker. If the honourable member wishes, I could bring more detailed information into the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Speaker. Has the Minister the information and could he supply it to the House with respect to delinquent taxes in the municipalities? I understand some municipalities are running as high as 16 percent in delinquent taxes. Has he any information on this?

MR. PAWLEY: I'll take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

MR. SPEAKER: Orders for Return. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Roblin, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing:

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd.)

1. The names of all ministerial assistants that have been hired since July 15, 1969, in each of the departments of Government.
2. The background and qualifications of each of the above.
3. The salaries paid to each of the above.
4. The duties that have been assigned to each of the above.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move, seconded by the Member from Churchill, that the motion be amended by substituting the figure 1969 with the figure 1958 in the second line.

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . the House Leader would want to say something about that. I think there was an understanding recently between him and myself on this matter. Part of that Return has been tabled.

MR. SPEAKER: Order. There's an amendment before the House.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that the usual procedure is for the government to state what it is prepared to do with respect to the Return. That is the rule, and I did advise my honourable friend yesterday on the understanding that was given to me by the Minister of Labour, stating what we are prepared to do with respect to the Return; there was a partial Return issued yesterday. The Minister of Labour has advised me that he is prepared to bring it up-to-date, which is what my honourable friend wants, and of course the added information would be supplied as a matter of course. That has no effect on the understanding between yourself and me. -- (Interjection) -- Well, I am merely indicating, as I am required by the rules, that the government is prepared to accept the Return on the basis that I indicated to my honourable friend yesterday -- and the amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: We're in a bit of a dilemma because if the matter is to be debated I don't think that we can debate it today. It'll have to be . . .

MR. JORGENSEN: I think there's a point of order here.

MR. SPEAKER: And then the amendment after the government's -- well, it hasn't been presented by me so therefore there is no amendment at the moment, but there's also the question of a proposed amendment to an Order which apparently has been accepted by the government, minus certain . . .

MR. JORGENSEN: May I help you on this situation then? I suggest -- on the point of order, on the point of order, may I suggest that the asinine amendment of the Honourable Member for St. Boniface is out of order because you do not amend an Order for Return. If the honourable member wants an amendment he can submit his own Order for Return, not amend mine.

MR. DESJARDINS: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, if it's asinine to find out what one government did, it's certainly just as asinine to want to find out what another government did in eight months.

MR. SPEAKER: I don't believe the honourable member . . .

MR. JORGENSEN: . . . the honourable member submits his own Order for Return.

MR. DESJARDINS: Am I out of order, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, I don't think that there is that much disagreement between members of the House. The Order for Return was put and an amendment was put. Now the government did not accept the Order for Return until the amendment was put. The House Leader did not state what the position was. So therefore you have an Order for Return with an amendment, and I see no objection to an Order for Return being amended. It's been done in this House before. And then I got up and said, as indicated to my honourable friend, we would accept the Order for Return which he has put in, in terms of bringing up-to-date the material which he got yesterday, and we would also accept the amendment that has been put in by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, so I think that everybody will get what they want and everybody should be satisfied.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, with due respect, it is not possible to amend an Order for Return. If the honourable member wants to submit an Order for Return, he can submit his own.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the precedence in this House is that Orders for Return have

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) been amended. I can't give my honourable friend chapter and verse at this point, but I'm quite certain that they have been amended.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, may I rise on a point of order even though I'm not an expert on the rules? And the point of order I wish to make is simply this: that an Order for Return comes before us in the form of a motion, a motion can be amended, the Member for St. Boniface has moved an amendment. It is as simple as that, and I suggest that the question be put.

MR. SPEAKER: Moved by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface . . .

MR. WEIR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if we're going to be technical I would think that if it was going to be amended it would take place during a debate, and under the rules of the House if we were to have a debate the debate should take place this afternoon and not this morning. But if we are being technical and if we are getting down to this point in the rules, I would submit, Sir, that that would be the fact of life.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I'm quite ready to listen to the more reasonable words of the Leader of the Opposition, and although this is quite in order I will move that the debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the honourable member a seconder?

MR. DESJARDINS: The Member for Churchill.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, can the member adjourn his own motion after he has put it?

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, just for clarification, the understanding then is that it is the main motion that has now been adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: That is right. I have not put the amendment to the House.

MR. PAULLEY: As long as that's understood.

MR. SPEAKER: Or the proposed amendment, because there is no amendment before the House at the moment.

MR. PAULLEY: Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I was off in cloud nine trying to figure that one out. I'm not a very knowledgeable person in rules but I'm getting more confused here every day, and if we don't get some semblance of order I don't know what's going to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Swan River, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing:

1. The total regional estimated cost of the Shellmouth Dam and Reservoir.
2. The cost of the Shellmouth Dam and Reservoir completed.
3. The cost of the federal share of the Shellmouth Dam and Reservoir.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the government will be able to fulfill the requirements of this Order.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I beg the indulgence of the House to have this matter stand.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? (Agreed).

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for The Pas for an Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in answer to his speech at the opening of the session, and the proposed motion of the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition in amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had concluded that portion of my remarks which related to what I considered to be a rather exciting Centennial project at Brandon, the Grand Valley Days, and I would like to again suggest that the historical information that's being resurrected and the many historical items that are being collected have some wonderful tourist possibilities in the future, and this might be something which the Centennial Corporation of Manitoba should give further consideration to. We have had some particular and

(MR. MCGILL cont'd.) remarkable interest in the old river steamers that are now being discovered and dug out of the banks of the Assiniboine River.

And before leaving this subject, I would like to suggest to perhaps the Honourable Member from Churchill and the Honourable Member from Thompson and the Honourable the Minister of Cultural Affairs that there might be some real possibilities in the northern areas of Manitoba for tourist attractions. History suggests that in the year 1697 the HMS Hampshire was sunk with all hands, off the mouth of the Nelson River, and presumably lies somewhere in the sands of that estuary, and it was the result of the only naval battle that Manitoba ever had and probably ever will, and was sunk by the action of that great French commander, D'Iberville, and with all of the sophisticated electronic devices that now are available for the detection of metal, it's just possible that that hulk might be located and hopefully could be raised, and might become one of the great tourist attractions of our province. So I leave that thought with you, Sir, that might bear development.

But let me go on to a discussion and a few observations, if I may, on the resources of our province as they now appear to us; and first, of course, we must consider our human resources because in these resources of Manitoba - and we all agree - is rich beyond all our dreams and is a resource which has been made strong and given us great variety in the mosaic of the peoples who contribute to it.

And we have also got, Mr. Speaker, one of the finest processing plants for human resources, I think, on the continent and perhaps in the world, and I refer to our educational system which has been developed and is attracting the interest of people, certainly all over Canada, and possibly beyond our country. People are coming to Manitoba to make use of this educational system and we have developed it at great expense, as we all know. The Minister will agree that we're spending nearly half our total expenditures on education in the province and we're turning out a product that is second to none. But the tragedy perhaps of our situation lies here, Mr. Speaker, that we are having great difficulty in retaining these skills in our province and we have become an exporter of human skills for all the world that is becoming extremely expensive, and unfortunately there are no returns to our province for the exiles from Manitoba who are regarded so highly in many countries of the world. It's a mark of excellence, I understand, to be known as a Manitoban, but it's a very difficult export, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, for this province to continue to provide for other industries in other provinces and in other countries. We must do immediately all that can be done to develop the economic processes in our province so that these skills can be retained at home and so that the results of the money which we are contributing to our educational system may be apparent in the finished products of our industry.

In natural resources we're well aware of our great heritage, of the many primary products that are available for export, and these are being exported at a reasonable rate except perhaps in the field of agriculture where we find ourselves in an immediate and very urgent situation. And Ottawa now proposes to buy some time for us to try and sort out our problem, to try and find a way to relieve us of the problem we have with selling the food protein that we have in the primary product of wheat. We are having great difficulties in this and the debate seems to be more with the way in which this time can be bought rather than with an immediate solution to the problem.

Mr. Speaker, I think we must go immediately, as we have done, but we must go more seriously to the research and development end of this field in order to find a solution in the time that is being bought, and it can't be bought forever because this is an expensive way of dealing with a problem of surplus in wheat. We've had some breakthroughs in the processing of food products in our country and in Manitoba; in the field of potato processing we now are able to export - a satisfactory product and one that is not subject to damage by weathering or heat, and we must find a way to do this in the export of our other protein-bearing foods. I suggest that if we don't do it through research and development pretty soon, that we may be in the position of buying back from some country perhaps like Japan, a form of protein extract from wheat that is in an easily transmittible form and can be used for a variety of food purposes. This country has shown us a great deal in how it may take our primary products and process them and sell them back to us in the form of radios and TV sets and so on. Unless research and development can be established in our province to find out a way to turn the protein of wheat into something in the nature of a newsprint type product that can be exported to the warm countries of the world where they need protein foods that will not suffer from

(MR. MCGILL cont'd) damage due to climate, then our troubles will continue and we will continue to be the source of primary natural resources, and for the main one - one of the great continuities in agriculture is our wheat program - we are faced with a product that has less and less appeal in the normal markets of the world.

So, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the Minister of Agriculture cannot take the whole share in research and development in this field but he can do a great deal, and he and his government should be looking very carefully to the facilities we have for research and development to build up this processing industry in Manitoba.

In the field of natural resources, of course, we must go again to the north country, and I started with the rivers of Manitoba and suggested that they provided the motherhood for Manitoba, that Manitoba was in fact the child of its rivers. But they've been for sixty years completely forgotten. They were a source of food and a source of transportation, but in the last few years they have become the sewers of our "effluent" society. But we're going back to the rivers now because maybe they just contain the greatest source of natural resource that we have available to us, perhaps greater than the metal resources under the surface of the Canadian shield in Northern Manitoba. They possess the energies, Mr. Speaker, that are the catalyst and basic requirements for all development of processing industries, for all economic development in our province.

Everything in an economic sense depends on a basic supply of abundant and cheap power. It doesn't make much sense for International Nickel to ship nickel mat to Port Colborne just because Niagara Falls produced a lot of cheap power before we knew about the Nelson River. It doesn't make much sense for Falconbridge Nickel Mines to ship nickel to Norway because they have hydro-electric power in abundance. We have it in abundance to the north and we have to develop it and we have to do it very quickly because all of our industry waits, all of the developments wait for the abundant power which we have potentially to sell. What great developments might occur in northern Manitoba - an electrolytic refining of metal at International Nickel and sometime, hopefully, in the future, for Falconbridge Nickel Mine and Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting. Power is the source; power is the key, the catalyst. When the Honourable Member for River Heights . . .

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the honourable member would permit a question? Mr. Speaker, is the honourable member suggesting that Falconbridge is not developing smelting facilities in Manitoba or in Ontario because of lack of power?

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, I'm suggesting that electrolytic refining of metal has not taken place in Northern Manitoba up to this point because of a basic requirement for cheap hydro-electric power, which is one of the main factors in all industry, and this is one of the industries where we may look for development in the future providing a maximum of cheap hydro-electric power.

MR. GREEN: Would the honourable friend tell me the source of that information because I've never had any such complaints from Falconbridge; that's not been their approach to me.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member is referring to a question I asked yesterday, I was referring to developments at that time of smelting processes there. Smelting processes are, in my view, somewhat different from electrolytic refining, which is a further process that goes on from that point. But I would hope that in the future we might share in not only smelting but in the electrolytic refining of nickel.

But if I may continue, Mr. Speaker, the reports that we have been receiving since the last session about the intentions of the government in relation to the Nelson and the Kettle Rapids projects have been to me at least rather disturbing. We were given to understand last fall that the options were still all open and that a decision would likely have to be made early in the spring of 1970, but that in the meantime considerable amount of research was being done on the best of the options available. And later it was suggested that perhaps by the middle of March we might have some reason to know what the options would be, but the middle of March has come and gone and very recently we read in the paper that it is no longer really necessary, no longer urgent that this decision be made, that there is abundant power, and failing a breakdown of one of the massive turbines of the various hydro-electric projects or some other break-out perhaps that would occur to reduce water levels below anything previously established, we have enough power to go on for a while and the decision doesn't need to be made just immediately as we had previously been given to understand it should be.

But, Mr. Speaker, there's a concern here. What happened to change the observations

(MR. MCGILL cont'd) and the forecast? Was it a misplaced decimal point or was it some source of power that had been set aside that was forgotten about? What changed the situation? Who is this man who is acting as Solomon to say that we don't need lots of power immediately and as quickly as we can get it; that there is plenty of time in the future. I think that's a very difficult decision for any one man to take and I think the responsibility for that decision has to be taken by the honourable members opposite. They are the men of destiny for this Province of Manitoba, because all of its economic future may well depend upon this decision.

Now I mentioned in my remarks yesterday that the phrase and the slogan "Honest Mistakes Our Specialty" might apply to one or two of the minor decisions that had been announced and then forgotten, but this would be no honest mistake; this would be a very, very serious problem if the wrong decision is taken. I am concerned; I have a great love for the Province of Manitoba and I feel that its economic future must be in good hands. I have a suspicion that the points and the decisions that are being taken may just not be the proper ones for our future. I am concerned - I hope I am wrong - but if I'm right, Mr. Speaker, and the honourable members opposite are toying with the economic future of this province, then I suggest to you that July 15th may well be the blackest day in the economic history of this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, following the usual custom I wish you well in the future. So far so good; your problems have been many and varied, and I for one anyway realize what is going on within yourself as this House proceeds. I must admit, with all sincerity, that I'm part of the game now and I sort of enjoy making it a little rough for you. However, as the days go on, I'm sure that we will accomplish the things for the good of Manitoba with your guidance.

I recognize too the effort made by the Honourable Member for The Pas and the sincerity that was shown in his remarks. Also, I recognize the seconder, the Honourable Member for Point Douglas; I thought he brought before the House matters of urgent importance and that is the problem of drugs that seem to be taking hold, not only of our young people but those that are getting along as well. I agree with him entirely that the situation should be grappled with for the good of our community and for the good of our people.

I applaud the fact that Her Majesty the Queen and members of the Royal Family will be visiting our province during its Centennial Year. We all like to feel, Mr. Speaker, that we are part of the Commonwealth of Nations, some 35 nations of which she is represented. It is the Crown, the Crown that she wears, that is symbolic of this family of nations. To me it is a proud moment for Manitobans and I would hope that the fact will be recognized that we are part of a family of 800 million people around the world and that on the days that she is with us, the five days that she is with us, they could be glorious days. I think, or at least when I think of the Royal Family I think it is generally recognized that they are an ideal family which are respected throughout the world and, as such, I feel that the children will look forward to the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family and I would hope that every effort will be made to see to it that they take part in the celebrations as closely as possible to that great lady.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot but pause and remember the efforts of the people this past 100 years that have brought our fair province to its present high standard of living. It is amazing that this great city in a few short years, Mr. Speaker, has travelled from board walks and dirt roads and oxcarts to the vast development of the complex that it is today and recognized as a developing city. The pioneers, Mr. Speaker, refused to rest on their laurels and moved out into the province and prospered. I hope I'll be forgiven if I be a little parochial at this time, but I feel that the area that I represent played a prominent part in the early history of the province and as such I feel I'd be remiss if I did not put on the record some of the accomplishments. Yes, Mr. Speaker, in a little more than 70 years these folk for the first time set eyes on the Swan River Valley between the Duck Mountains and Porcupine Mountains. They cleared the land and gave us what many people call throughout this province the Garden of Eden of Manitoba. Records substantiate what the 17,000 people I represent contribute to the province year by year and will continue into the future.

A little touch of early history, Mr. Speaker. I might say to you that the valley relates and became part of the highway from York Factory, traversed by the Hudson Bay Company whilst trading in the area. The North-West Company came by way of Lake Superior and Lake Winnipeg. It is said that about the year 1800 saw the erection of many trading posts throughout the area and towards the north and the Hudson Bay. In 1876 Lieutenant-Governor Liard and his council held their first session on March 8, 1877 in that area.

(MR. BILTON cont'd)

With due respect to the comments of my colleague yesterday from Brandon, I should tell you, Sir, that when the decision was made to connect the east with the west, with the CPR to run a line from Selkirk to cross the Narrows on Lake Manitoba in a northwesterly direction to the Swan Valley, then on to Battleford and Edmonton, the firm of Sifton, Glass and Fleming received the government contract to construct a telegraph line from Selkirk to Fort Livingstone west of the Swan Valley. The location of the new government had been established at that point and the site of the proposed North-West Mounted Police headquarters was established there at that time. The contract called for the clearance of the right-of-way of 132 feet wide for the railway; the telegraph line was completed and in operation from Fort Livingstone to Selkirk in 1876.

It was in 1897 that the government threw open the Valley for settlement. A trek north by oxcart and wagon train was a backbreaking task so we are told. A small band of hardy folk, drawn from four points of the compass across Canada and beyond its shores, set up a camp at Favel River close to Minitonas. The spot became known as Tent Town where the pioneer families lived while land was surveyed, divided up into townships, allocated and cleared for the men and their families to move onto. Of the 5,000 Doukhobors, Mr. Speaker, that came to Canada in 1898, a third of them went to Yorkton, others went to Rossburn, and 1,500 settled in the Swan River Valley. Down through three score years, Mr. Speaker, the Valley's history is studded with names of men and women who tilled the soil and doing a massive job in agriculture and town settlement. They were augmented by doctors, teachers, nurses, clergymen and storekeepers, all of whom faced the elements, broke the land, suffered untold hardships, persevered and mastered the impossible. If only they could see the fruits of their labours today - modern schools, hospitals, roads, senior citizen homes, outstanding farms and cattle herds, the equal of which is nowhere in Manitoba or western Canada.

Today, Mr. Speaker, during this Centennial Year, I salute them all as I am sure the House does, and I would wish that our young men and women would shake themselves and show the same spirit of adventure. This province, Mr. Speaker, or this country for that matter, owes no one a living. The challenges were met by those pioneers and overcome, many of whom are with us today. I would say to the young people of today, to show the muscle which they possess and which the pioneers led the way. Why do we have to go beyond the borders of Manitoba to bring in forest workers? Why do we have to go abroad to bring in miners? The Throne Speech talks of equalized opportunity being emphasized by the government. Personal initiative, Mr. Speaker, somehow must find rebirth in the hearts and minds of young Manitobans if the next 100 years of development are to be as glorious as the past.

Mr. Speaker, mention has been made by His Honour of the need to abandon ideas, dogmas and traditions. May I say, Mr. Speaker, this province or this House has hardly stood still in this direction during the past 100 years. I am all for changes to meet the modern society's needs. This of necessity must take place, but I've become very wary, Mr. Speaker, of those who would make changes for changes sake, sometimes for self-glorification and without an eye to the consequences.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that our province has reached its present stature by trial and error, some of which has created bitter and unnecessary memories. So I suggest the old adage, at least in part, is to make haste slowly if society is to continue to respect some of the traditions that may be old but have stood the test of time in fair weather and foul. Surely if nothing else, Mr. Speaker, history has taught us that as a nation and as a province, it is only as great as its accomplishments in the past. My colleagues have emphasized various fields of endeavour throughout the province, then they've gone into depth of the problems as they have occurred to them. So I will leave that for the moment and say to you, Mr. Speaker, that I was pleased His Honour made mention of the activities of the Northern Task Force. It was a privilege to be part of that party. While it is my intention to vigorously participate in this subject in the ultimate deliberations as they unfold in the House, I want to briefly comment on my personal observations.

Mr. Speaker, I can hardly tell you that we as a people have problems in Northern Manitoba, and the greatest of these problems, Mr. Speaker, and I say to you most humbly, is the human problem. We went and we saw and I personally came away with the conviction that while efforts have been made and money expended in those efforts, a fresh look must immediately be taken in the basic fields of housing, health, police protection, education, jobs. I must

(MR. BILTON cont'd) say too, Mr. Speaker, that this has got to be a two-sided effort; dollars spent, Mr. Speaker, is not altogether the answer. Expenditures are important but the native people, to some degree, must brace themselves. They must grasp the hand offered to them and persevere in no uncertain terms toward the uplifting of their people toward a better way of life; to do less they would fail themselves. There is no question whatsoever but the hand is out to give a hand and the thoughts are there to improve the situation, and collectively surely, surely something will be found to better the circumstances and the way of life for these people.

The current situation, Mr. Speaker, did not happen overnight. Somehow or other along the line a generation has slipped back. Having said that, I am not suggesting it is the fault of the native people. Their very nature, Mr. Speaker, their culture and language lends itself to distinct fear and resentment in the fast-moving society around them. Somehow, somewhere and soon, the gulf must be breached. I am one of those who feels that these people have a place in this society and we people that govern have a heavy responsibility to help them toward that goal. Mr. Speaker, I emphasize that the matter is urgent and I am convinced it can be done.

The Honourable Member for The Pas in his remarks was anything but just, I thought, when he said he was concerned with the drift and inaction of government, the hesitance on the part of government to listen to what northern residents were saying. Naturally he was referring to the previous administration, or at least that's the way the message came to me. The first impulse was to say that he ought to know for he was an employee of the government working with our northern people. Surely he did not entirely mean what he said in those remarks that I have quoted from the text of his speech. While I am in agreement that there is much to be done, I must say that he obviously has a blind eye when he ignores the steady and consistent improvements of these past 10 years throughout the more settled areas by way of hospitals, schools, roads and communications. He failed to mention the effort of the provincial Department of Education who in cooperation with the Federal Government have a six year plan commencing in this very year of 1970 of school construction in excess of \$14 million. This, Mr. Speaker, is to be spent in the remote areas and is in addition to what has been done during these past few years.

Nor did he say, Mr. Speaker, that 10 years ago the high school enrolment of Indians was less than 10; today it stands at 1100. Nothing outstanding, but nevertheless it is something worthwhile. There are some 34 Indian students in our universities. Nor did he say that presently some 5000 school children attend provincial schools regularly every day. This, Mr. Speaker, is an effort that has been made. It is a good effort and it must be added to, but I feel in mentioning it, it should be recognized that it is, as I said a little while ago - a two-sided effort on both sides.

Much must be done, Mr. Speaker, and I would call for a massive push into the remote areas to improve conditions and at the same time plan jobs, for as you know and I know, idle hands cause nothing but chaos, misery and despair. I have always said that we in the north pay a heavy premium to be residents in that area and something must be done to lower the cost of living, because after all, the Task Force did find and were convinced that the freight rates were at the very root of the evil.

The honourable gentleman from The Pas spoke of 200 to 300 people working in the bush with no more than 25 people from northern Manitoba. He's right. He did not however mention that even at this early date of development in The Pas a union card is paramount towards securing employment. Maybe these things go with progress, Mr. Speaker, but they are entirely new in our country, that is, in the ordinary folk that we are trying to help, whose lives we are trying to improve and who we are trying to put to work and become part of our society. That being the case, Mr. Speaker, I feel there must be better understanding between management, the native people, unions, labour government and the general public alike if we as people are to be successful in eliminating the blight affecting this section of our population.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. URUSKI: Sir, it is certainly reassuring to know that you have assumed your post as Speaker during this Second Session of the 29th Legislature. I know the task of keeping law and order in this Chamber should be made somewhat easier with the commitment of cooperation from the Leaders of the other parties. To my colleagues, the Honourable Member for The Pas and the Honourable Member for Point Douglas, I extend my congratulations on their effectiveness and sincerity in moving and seconding the Speech from the Throne.

I would like to make several comments here on the speech of the Member for Brandon West, or at least one or so. I am sorry he is not in his seat right now. He mentioned in his speech that he was advocating, I believe - that's the meaning I got - cheap hydro-electric power for a type of electro smelting for the Falconbridge Mines in the north. I would ask him if he has made any comparison in the hydro rate of Manitoba Hydro in comparison to other provinces, and if in fact what the rate for industrial smelting of this type would be, whether they would be cheaper in other places in Canada, and if so, would you recommend that the Hydro subsidize the company to go into this type of smelting?

I would like also to make several comments on the speech of the Member for Assiniboia when he mentioned in his speech - I didn't quite get the full meaning of it, but the gist of it I believe is that he is in opposition to the government if it should do so, to go into government sponsored automobile insurance. I have an article here from a St. James paper here of Wednesday, March 11, 1970 in which his company, I believe Patrick Agencies Limited, is one of the sponsors in this drive against the government going into automobile insurance, and the heading is: "The Myth of Government Operation." And I would like to quote the first paragraph if I may, in that article, stating: "One of the principle arguments of those who favor a government plan for Manitoba is that there would be a better coverage and better service at less cost. The theoretical advantages of government operation of business, any business, are many, but these theoretical advantages disappear quickly as bureaucracy sets in. Red tape and inefficiency become the rule and suddenly the customer is always wrong and he cannot go elsewhere because the government has the monopoly." Well I do challenge you to that statement. I would point out to you that while you are sponsoring, your company is sponsoring - or one of the six that are advocating this statement - do you say that you are turning this statement down? -- (interjection) --

I'll get to that.

I would say -- would you say Manitoba Hydro or Manitoba Telephones, if the customer has a complaint that there is a bureaucratic system that he cannot get service, or would you have any complaints against this government type of operation as you say that the customer is always wrong? Or another point I would like to make is the Federal Government, a party of the same make-up as yourself, when they implemented the Canada Pension Plan -- (Interjection) -- well I don't think -- it's a form of insurance, and if in fact the private companies could have offered insurance at the best rate, they could have gone into competition or at least offered the same privilege to the people of Canada as the Government of Canada has. I think you must feel that we are so socialistic on this side of the House, and I think you really must hate us, but I feel you are only contradicting the party that is in power in Saskatchewan when your firm - I shouldn't say you - your firm in their comments here are degrading or have arguments against the government going into automobile insurance, when in fact your counterparts in Saskatchewan claim that your pamphlet which the Insurance Agents Association of Manitoba had come out with stating - and I quote from the Tribune on Wednesday, March 18th 1970: "Insurance Pamphlet Lies - The Minister in charge of the Saskatchewan Government Insurance office says that there are deliberate lies in the Insurance Agents' pamphlet."

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the honourable member will permit a question? Does the honourable member favour government operated insurance?

MR. URUSKI: I believe this; I have circulated a pamphlet through my constituency advocating government auto insurance if it is the best way to lower premiums and give the best service to the public, yes. Now the comparison that was made - I am only relating to the newspaper clippings and the ad in that St. James paper with respect to the pamphlet and the Saskatchewan insurance plan, and that is the only plan as you stated in your speech that is in existence, and I believe - I am not quite certain - that you stated that that is the only government in Canada that has government automobile insurance. I can assure you I feel that within the next several years that there will be many more governments in Canada going

MR. URUSKI Cont'd) . . . for government sponsored automobile insurance if it is the best way to provide the best service for the people.

The claim in that article in the St. James paper states that the Saskatchewan plan is expensive and not self-supporting and it is complicated. Well I assure you I think most Manitoba motorists, for one thing in the complicated field, don't really know what coverage they are really getting from the insurance firm in comparison to the Saskatchewan plan, and I can say that the Saskatchewan plan has a standard booklet of 21 pages which describes in detail, in very simple terms that even I can understand and I am a pretty simple man.

I would refer to a comment also made by the Minister in charge of the Saskatchewan insurance stating that the Saskatchewan automobile insurance plan is self-supporting, without contribution from either the Saskatchewan Government Insurance Office or the Treasury of the province. I note in here that the premium tax which is paid by -- it states in your article that in all general insurance premiums the premium tax of two percent is paid regardless of whether the company has an operating profit or loss. I say to you, Sir, that the Province of Saskatchewan pays a premium tax of three percent which is a percent higher, into the revenues of the Province of Saskatchewan. I would ask you this: would you in fact support a plan - you asked me if I would support a government insurance plan - would you support a plan in which Manitoba motorists would possibly, as direct comparison to Saskatchewan, receive 85 percent of every dollar of insurance dollars put in, in benefits. Could you refute this? And as the green book in Manitoba states, that the percentage of premiums paid in benefits to the people is only 62%, or 62 cents on every dollar of premium paid. I would ask also this question of you. Of the monies or the capital profits that the corporations make, where does this money go? Is this taken into account into benefits for the people, or what happens to this capital. Does it in fact stay in the province, or what happens to it?

There's also a comment in this article stating that no-one knows for sure what the net loss in jobs and taxes would be if a government monopoly took over. It can safely be assumed that many salaried employees would be laid off and many rural agents, particularly in the rural towns, would be forced out of business.

I would mention to you, Sir, I believe the statistics in Manitoba state that there are 240 or 250 full-time agents only in the province, and approximately 1,500 part-time agents selling insurance, and I would compare this to the Saskatchewan plan of the agents that are operating in Saskatchewan and there are approximately 2,000 full-time agents, so I kind of hesitate to say that any jobs in fact would be lost. I'm not advocating that if a plan was entered that there would be this many people employed - I don't know, but I say that the jobs lost in comparison to another province would be -- I think there would be jobs gained. I'm assuming this.

There's another point that I have recently found out, that the taxes paid by Manitoba in corporate - the Manitoba insurance firms - in corporate and premium tax amount to, I believe, approximately a million dollars, and should these taxes be returned into the province, should there be a government-sponsored insurance plan, that would be approximately three quarters of a million dollars less taxes that would go to the Federal Government. And in turn there would be three quarters of a million dollars in tax revenue that could go back to the province on the profit as shown by the insurance company. But this in turn can also be benefitted by, and I'm not familiar with the terms, what they call equalization grants, from the Federal Government, that if in fact there's three quarters of a million dollars less taxes going to Ottawa, Ottawa in turn will equalize this portion by equalizing less taxes going to Ottawa by an additional grant in an equal amount back to the province, where in fact we would be gaining. Instead of giving Ottawa three quarters of a million dollars we would be benefitting by receiving approximately a million and a half dollars in revenue to the province.

I would also point out that the administration cost in Saskatchewan as compared to the private plan in Manitoba is relatively inexpensive as those of Manitoba. It is proven that the expense ratio of Saskatchewan is somewhat 15% of every insurance dollar, where in fact in Manitoba the formula for private insurance companies is approximately 33% - over twice as much. In addition - I'm only comparing Saskatchewan to the plan as this is the only way that you have compared it to in your article - I might say that the Saskatchewan plan has earned over \$8 million in interest on investments that they have made from their profits for the people of Saskatchewan. I ask you, what has the Province of Manitoba gained in investments from the insurance companies from their profits?

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the honourable member can tell me what has Manitoba gained in investments, last year for instance, from the insurance companies in Winnipeg. Does he know? Or Manitoba.

MR. URUSKI: I do not.

MR. PATRICK: I can tell you. The total investments in Manitoba is over \$44 million which is more than they received or taken in in premiums. Do you know that? That's \$44 million and they've taken \$36 million in premiums.

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. URUSKI: In what type....

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Was the honourable member asking a question? The honourable member may continue if he's put his question.

MR. URUSKI: what investments the insurance companies made in Manitoba.

A MEMBER: He knows now.

MR. URUSKI: That's the point, which....

MR. PATRICK: All insurance companies operating in Manitoba.

MR. GREEN: Are you talking about all the insurance companies?

MR. PATRICK: In Manitoba.

MR. URUSKI: Are you talking about automobile insurance companies, or all insurance companies?

A MEMBER: That's what we're talking about - automobiles.

MR. URUSKI: Do you know whether or not automobile insurance companies made \$44 million of investments into the province?

MR. PATRICK: invested, not made, in Manitoba - investments.

MR. URUSKI: In '69. I would say that none of these huge investment earnings of the private companies are taken into account in setting rates. Furthermore, I would suggest that the Saskatchewan plan has announced that there will be no rate increase in this coming year. However, there are Manitoba companies who have announced increases of 10% and I feel probably many more companies will follow.

All in all, in closing, I feel that if the Province of Manitoba should venture upon an insurance program - and I say "if" - that all these factors be taken into consideration, and I don't know whether the report on automobile insurance is complete or what the report will be, but I would hope that all these factors are taken into consideration, and that -- I'm sure there are, could be a more satisfactory plan made in comparison to the one in Saskatchewan, if in fact the province does go ahead, and as I stated, I would in fact recommend that if this is the best way to help the people of our province, the average person, in reducing, in giving benefits to the people of the province in capital and capital investment from the earnings of a corporation such as this, as well as reducing the rates, I would wholly advocate that the province go into this.

As mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, and I quote: "A healthy agriculture is still one of the pillars of our provincial economy."

MR. PATRICK: I hope the honourable member doesn't mind me asking one more question because he's just finished the insurance....

MR. URUSKI: Yes.

MR. PATRICK: ... part of your remarks, and before you leave that I'd like to pose another question. Are you aware how many people in Saskatchewan have to buy supplementary insurance coverage? What percentage of the....

MR. URUSKI: Do they have to or they choose to?

MR. PATRICK: How many people choose or buy supplementary coverage in Saskatchewan? How many?

MR. URUSKI: I don't know.

MR. PATRICK: How many - 65%. Would you think there's....

MR. URUSKI: I'm only....

MR. PATRICK: I have a supplementary question - supplementary question, yes. Is this an indication of ---(interjections) --

MR. URUSKI: I have only -- as I stated, I've only made a comparison as to the Saskatchewan plan, and as I stated that a plan, should Manitoba go into it, could be a more sophisticated plan with improvements and changes, and I have stated that. There could be many more benefits to it.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary question.

MR. HARRY C. ENNS (Lakeside). If this is in fact. If this is in fact.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order. I'm wondering if the best purpose of debate on the Throne Speech would be obtained in proceeding in this manner or whether it would not be best for those who may disagree with what is said to participate in the debate when the time and the opportunity arises, not unless there is some point does arise which a member wishes clarified, which he may have misunderstood, or some incidental questions that I realize do arise and perhaps should best be answered at the time they arise. Does the Honourable Member for Lakeside have a question?

MR. ENNS: I just have a request of the speaker whether he would permit one simple pertinent question.

MR. URUSKI: It's up to him I think. I think I've answered quite a few questions, or attempted to.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe the honourable member has replied to your question, that he would rather proceed.

MR. URUSKI: As I stated, and I quote from the Throne Speech, "a healthy agriculture is still one of the pillars of our provincial economy." I would like to make some remarks and compliment the Minister and the government on the moves that they are making in an endeavour to bring assistance to farmers so they can achieve a decent way of living. I must point out that the previous governments ignored the marketing aspect of agricultural produce, and concentrated on the efficiency of production. The Province of Manitoba is caught in a North American market in agriculture and can do very little to influence this market structure. For instance, the producers of hogs and cattle in Manitoba share only approximately one percent of this North American market, while the State of Iowa alone produces approximately one half of Canada's production in hogs. Therefore I say that an increase in hog production, if it should happen in Manitoba of even 50%, would have little influence on the total picture of the North American market. This indication is only a sample of the need of a comprehensive marketing mechanism for our province. Too often have we geared ourselves up to the necessary production and efficiency but neglected the development of the selling mechanism and markets through which we can move our products. The development of marketing has to go hand in hand with the development of production. It is no use producing a lot more than we can sell, or at least we think we can sell, and end up with surpluses of one commodity or another. I am certainly glad to see, for the first time, that our Agricultural Department is emphasizing the importance of marketing, and I am pleased that some sort of marketing machinery will be established in the Province of Manitoba. I must say that things are really happening around 1965 in comparison to the days of - need I say more?

Last December the province returned into the direct lending field by allocating \$6 million for this fiscal year ending March of 1970. I feel that the program being used is a much more comprehensive approach to the administration of credit. Every loan that is made is really based on a cash flow picture as opposed to a loan made in the traditional fashion from the bank, which is based on one's present assets. What is happening is that the corporation is looking at the enterprise, or the farm, and the capabilities of the borrower, and offering assistance to improve that capability. From time to time I would hope that experts from the department will make management suggestions to people that will help to improve their income.

Another approach taken is one of providing the incentive within this credit program. There is a 20% forgiveness clause in the cow-calf enterprise, whereon the fifth year the province writes off 20% of the debt on a maximum of 15,000 plus the interest on that 20%. I believe that there is a need for development of the livestock industry in our province, and this incentive program is a very directional approach in the way agriculture should move. It may be noted that the Manitoba production in cattle has dropped about 150,000 head in the last three years, and probably because wheat sales were not moving so well in the last three years. With this approach being used, I would hope that Manitoba could re-establish itself as a major livestock producer.

Now, I must pose a caution here, because you can sometimes spoil a good thing. I would suggest that the experts in the various branches would caution the producer when he embarked into these ventures. For example, in the cattle business. He should not go beyond a certain level of expansion; he should not pay more than a certain fee for a calf or so much for a yearling. --(interjection) -- So that he doesn't overdo things. Perhaps there may be an overheating

(MR. URUSKI Cont'd), . . . of the market so he should lay off for a month or so. It appears that a good program can be spoiled by not properly controlling the development of such a program.

MR. JORGENSON: He just turned his farm over to Sam Uskiw. This is what is going to happen.

MR. URUSKI: I would hope the experts would watch this very carefully and work together with the credit corporation in such a way that a gradual but consistent increase of cattle or any other production is allowed in Manitoba.

MR. ENNS:

MR. URUSKI: This all hinges back on a program of market development and knowledge which this government is embarking on. It is my sincere hope that the program. . .

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, on a minor point of privilege, I wonder if I could point out to the Minister or to the speaker, that of the four marketing structures now in the province, all four were created by the former government.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that the honourable member has a point of privilege.

MR. URUSKI: It is my sincere hope that the program of establishing regional veterinary clinics being instituted by this government will play an important role in the bringing about of broader veterinary services to the livestock industry. The current shortage of veterinary surgeons in this province is a prime example of why emphasis is needed to place in this situation.

The items which I have mentioned are but a sampling of legislation and programs being proposed by this government in an endeavour to find solutions to many of our social and economic problems facing Manitobans today. Thank you.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make a correction. I think the honourable member asked me the total premiums that were received, were they for automobile and fire, or automobiles only, and I think I was sitting in my seat and I said automobiles. The total premiums received were over 36 millions for fire and auto; the greater portion was auto, and the majority of the money, or more than what was received in premiums which was 44 million, was invested in Manitoba. I just wanted to correct that for the record.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE C. HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, first I want to wish you all well in this our Centennial year. Although we seem to be using different approaches I feel sure that within this House all mean well and have the interest of their constituencies at heart, so no matter what office you hold or which party you belong to, I want to wish you all a happy Centennial year.

Although it has been said that old ideas, dogmas and traditions have outlived their relevance and usefulness, I want to say that the principles such as honesty, love, thrift and faith and that there is no disgrace in an honest day's work, that these principles and beliefs that have brought us to such a wonderful standard of living must continue or our country will be destroyed from within and not by others.

I was very pleased to hear the remarks from the honourable member from Point Douglas and I agree with him 100 percent. I believe that something should be done about the illegal and non-medical use of drugs amongst our young people. I also believe, Mr. Speaker, that where we have young people wilfully doing damage to property of others that we should have more law enforcement. We must teach these young people that they cannot get away with acting in such an irresponsible way. Yes, and this also applies to the older people. I believe we should back up our university administrators and our law enforcing officers in a real way. If people will not discipline themselves then we must discipline them for the protection of others. There seems to be some intellectual people these days who seem to have what I call "a gift of the gab"; they seem to be able to influence young people and this is not always for the good. These same intellectuals are authorities on everything and yet they cannot run their own business. I would not want to think that I am referring to anyone in this House or to the majority of intellectuals, but unfortunately there does seem to be a small percentage of these individuals and they seem to be getting considerable coverage. This is unfortunate.

I have read the Throne Speech several times and I have tried to figure out what to expect in this legislation. I must admit that I haven't been too successful because it is in such general terms that it makes it hard for me to feel sure. Take automobile insurance as an example. It reads: "My government will introduce changes in legislation affecting automobile insurance

(MR. HENDERSON Cont'd)...in Manitoba." What does this mean? It could mean many things. I hope that it means correcting our present form of insurance where it could and where it should be corrected; but I for one, believe that the government have no business getting into a compulsory automobile insurance plan.

So many things in the Throne Speech have been so vague that I believe it could safely be called an election speech. However, the Premier of the province has said that he will not call another election unless he is defeated in the House so I guess we have nothing to worry about. -- (interjection) -- No, I'll let them do it; they have the majority, they shouldn't be defeated so I guess we have nothing to fear.

Mr. Speaker, I must say that there are also several items in the Throne Speech that I do agree with, things like extension of our telephone system, veterinary clinics, recognizing the expanding role played by credit unions, a major program of market research and marketing development will be established. I could go on and state other things that appear that I believe are good but I have decided to wait and place my judgment later. But, Mr. Speaker, I will assure you that I do not intend to oppose things that I believe to be good for this country. Such things as more welfare without careful scrutiny I am opposed to. I do not believe of legislation, "I believe in taking from the doers and the savers and giving it to the lazy people and the spenders." This is not fair to the man who is working for a living, who is proud and who wants to pay his own way. These are the kind of people I have in my community and I can take no other stand but this and I am not ashamed of it. The way I feel about it, if a man or woman is healthy and he will not try and make his own living, he can go hungry. I also believe that he will go to work long before he starves. -- (interjection)--You'd probably better look after them but you'd better starve him a little.

MR. GREEN: You want to starve them too?

MR. HENDERSON: No not the children, but if a man is able and healthy and will not work, he should be starved a little bit; and he'd go to work long before he starved to death.

I want to say something about the assessment and additional taxes that will be put on farmers who are already having a hard time. An increase in assessment without a large drop in the mill rate means nothing but higher taxes. When assessments are supposed to be related to productivity and to sale value, there is no reason why there should be an increase in assessment. I know that assessments are supposed to be reviewed by the committee on municipal affairs and I know that this government and this committee have been busy, but it seems to me that the delay has caused property owners to pay more tax.

Mr. Speaker, I have a few remarks that I would like to make to the Minister of Agriculture, particularly regarding his livestock program. While it has some good features in it, such as cheaper loans for farmers under 35, as well as a forgiveness clause, it has several bad features, such as, if a farmer has already borrowed money, and has it at a 5 or 6%, if he is to get the loan it is to be consolidated and it must go out at the new rate of interest which is 7 1/4%, and which is also 9 1/4% if he is over 35. Mr. Speaker, the average age of a farmer in Manitoba is 57; taking it into consideration a man over 35 can rarely use it to his advantage. Many of the boys that are under 35 would also do well not to take it, because if they have money at a cheaper rate this is not a good program for them.

Another point I would like to make is in regard to the acreage payment where you get \$6.00 for each acre that you take out of wheat and put into summer fallow. Mr. Lang with the help of our Minister of Agriculture, pulled off a dandy. This program will really be of very little help to the people of Western Canada. How can they imagine that the program could cost \$120 million I will never know. It bothers me to see headlines in the paper that say we are going to receive \$120 million in acreage payments reduction when so few people can make use of it.

As the Honourable Member for Morris pointed out so ably yesterday, I believe the people of Manitoba have been misled. What are we supposed to do. It is not fair to blame our Minister of Agriculture for all this because we know it is handled by the federal government in conjunction with the Wheat Board. However, Mr. Speaker, there is one thing that I must blame the Minister of Agriculture for, and that is for thinking that he knows it all and that nobody else knows anything. Do you know that since this government has been formed we have not had one single meeting of the Agricultural Committee, not one single meeting --(interjection)-- Well I'll tell you another thing that I think is wrong, and it's this - we have an arrogant bureaucracy down in Ottawa which do not care about the west; they are concerned mostly about their own

(MR. HENDERSON Cont'd)... interests and not about us. I also want to make it clear that this goes whether it's a Liberal or a Conservative government down there. How can the Canadian Wheat Board sell grain to other countries if we will not trade with them? Coupled with this, we have had one blunder after another with the Canadian Wheat Board, the railway and the labour unions. It is high time they all had a major shake-up.

It has been said on the other side of the House, it has been said on this side of the House, it has been said on the radio and it has been said on television that there are half of the people in the world who go to bed hungry and that there are millions that are starving. What is wrong with our distribution and trade policies? Something is going to have to be done in a way of finding markets and selling grain. Mr. Speaker, this acreage reduction is a backward step; to be putting land into summer fallow and not producing is wrong.

My last comments are on the northern task force, and I have to be rather brave to do this because so many people have been talking about the northern task force and all the good it is going to do and how they are going to continue it. Surely by now we have had enough reports and commissions on the north. The task force has held over 40 meetings since the legislature closed. These reports should be studied, but if something should be done, let's go ahead and do it. There has been enough government money and time spent on this now. If the northern members want to continue on what looks to me like a political campaign, let them go on their own expense like the people in the south do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable member for Logan.

MR. BEARD: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question? I would gladly give up my seat on the northern task force if the member will take my place.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Speaker, I didn't get the question. But we all do know that there has been an awful lot of reports on the north and we have had a task force studying it long enough. Surely we have paid into it long enough. To me it really does seem like as if they are competing in a political campaign in the north.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable member for Logan.

MR. GORDON JOHNSTON: Might I ask another question, Mr. Speaker, of the...

MR. SPEAKER: If the honourable member will permit.

MR. JOHNSTON: He had some devastating remarks to make about people in Ottawa who are responsible for the selling and marketing of wheat. Has he any suggestions as to what should be done?

MR. HENDERSON: Yes I have. You know what I would like to say but I wouldn't say that. But really you must know as well as I do that our percentage of the world market has gone down while others gone up, that we have been having strikes, railway holdups, and different things when we should be selling our grain. They need a real shake-up and you know it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: (Logan). Mr. Speaker, may I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your return to the House as Speaker and to wish you well in your office for the current session. I know that you will carry out your duties with a strong sense of fair play and justice for all members of this assembly just as you have shown in the past. I would also like, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne for their contribution in this debate and for the concern that they have shown for Manitoba and its citizens.

It gives me great pleasure to note that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip and members of the Royal Family will be joining us in our Centennial celebrations, and may I join with others in extending a warm welcome to our royal visitors and to hope that they will enjoy their stay in Manitoba as much as we will enjoy having them here.

As the Throne Speech has indicated, Mr. Speaker, new social and economic policies will be advanced at this and successive sessions of this Legislature, aimed at giving Manitobans the best our rapidly changing society can offer. The shifting of \$24 million from flat rate premium taxation to that based on an ability to pay by reducing the medicare fees in the last session was a step in the right direction. I would like to suggest here that both medicare and hospital fees be waived for students over 20 years of age who are in full attendance at university or post-secondary education who at the present time are paying the full medical and hospital fees, as part of the proposed financial aid for students over the age of 18.

The Throne Speech mentions the enlarging of the borrowing authority of Manitoba

(MR. JENKINS Cont'd)... Housing and Renewal Corporation to meet housing needs and the requirements of elderly persons housing. Logan constituency, Mr. Speaker, which I have the honour to represent, is part of the urban renewal corps of Winnipeg. Among my constituents are many retired people who own their own homes after many years of hard labour and sacrifice but are finding it difficult and in some cases impossible, to keep up with rising taxation on their fixed income. It is heartening to note that steps are being taken to deal with this emergency that has arisen in the wake of inflation. The proposed study of the Municipal Assessment is the first step in a long process of easing the burden on our long suffering taxpayers. Also in connection with urban renewal, we're glad to note a new expropriation bill will be introduced during this session to protect individuals whose property is taken in a compulsory way by the state. Some of my constituents live in substandard dwellings under appalling conditions that have apparently escaped the eye of previous administrations. They are gratified to know that their plight has been recognized and that action will be taken to remedy it. The revision of The Landlord and Tenants Act will also be welcomed in my constituency, and the establishment of community health and social service centres in local communities will fill a long-felt need.

Part of the urban redevelopment sector in the Logan constituency, and it is a sincere desire of my constituents and myself that public, private and cooperative housing projects be mixed in building projects to fulfill the need of our people. We do not want ghettos of public housing as the Toronto and Ontario Housing Project Authority in that city has erected. Let us learn from the experience of other places where all types of housing have been successfully blended so that no one can point a finger and say "That's a public low cost housing project." Though the mention of Sweden is anathema to some members, I have been there and have seen that integrated housing works very well with no stigma attached. It is impossible to find any difference between the types of housing or the people living in them. This type of development we need and the people of Logan heartily endorse such projects.

We hope also that in the process of improving the quality of life in Manitoba, a hard-pressed and growing segment of our society is not overlooked. This is the steadily increasing number of deserted and separated wives who are bravely carrying on, running homes, raising families and attempting to be both father and mother in a desperate age when two parents sometimes are not enough to combat the evils of our times. Our "Minus-Ones" need all the help they can get.

My constituents are happy to see the new labour legislation is on the books. Mention is made of an upward revision in the minimum wage in Manitoba and this is good news. Misgivings have been voiced that increasing the minimum wage will mean financial disaster for some companies and chase others to cheaper labour areas, and this, Mr. Speaker, is not quite true; this is not true. Facts do not bear out these gloomy reports and I refer to -- I will quote from The Federationist, a publication of the American Federation of Labour, CIL in the United States dealing with the minimum wage, and I quote from an article of July 1969 by Francis X. Burkhardt who is their staff member on legislation and I quote: "In the United States in 1950 when the minimum wage went to 75 cents an hour, the over-all employment created by this employment rose by 1.3 million. In 1956 it went to \$1.00 an hour and again employment increased, this time to 1.6 million. In 1962, after the minimum wage was increased to \$1.15 per hour, the increase again rose by one million following a slight decline during the recession of the previous year. After the 1966 increase to \$1.25 an hour total employment increased by 1.8 million, and rose 1.5 in 1967 and another 1.5 in 1968 as the 1966 amendments went into effect. The Labour Department - Federal Labour Department of the United States - "after trying to find out if there was a possible disemployment impact from the increase in the minimum wage to \$1.40 which went into effect in 1967, the Labour Department could find only 63 people in the whole country whose lay-offs may have been related in some form or other to the higher minimum wage."

So much for higher minimum wages in relation to the industrial dislocation. An economy based on rock bottom wages is a rock bottom economy. People who earn more spend more, pay more and keep off the welfare rolls and my honourable friend from Morris will be glad - no, from Pembina - will be glad to support that I think.

The improvement of compensation in The Workmen's Compensation Act and changes in labour legislation to improve employer-employee relationships will be welcomed by the workers in Manitoba.

(MR. JENKINS Cont'd)

Other measures, such as changes to The Civil Service Superannuation Act and The Teachers' Retirement Fund Act, will provide for improved retired benefits for people who have been retired for a number of years and their pensions do not meet today's costs.

Youth has not been forgotten in the legislative program outlined in the Throne Speech. Steps will be taken to provide student 18 years or over with an equitable assistance program for their vocational and/or post secondary education. New composite schools are being built in Selkirk, Dauphin, Swan River and Metro Winnipeg. Larger appropriations will be sought for education with specific provisions for student financial aid and approval for a new system of grants sought for handicapped children and children with special learning disabilities, and I think this is long overdue for Manitoba. These are all worthy objectives and we must keep in mind that our children are the hope and the future of our province. We must give them adequate preparation for the tasks that they one day will have to assume and leave them a heritage they will be proud to own.

It was with great pleasure that I heard the honourable members - and I see they're not in their seats - from Ste. Rose and Rhineland say that while they were not socialists they would support Crown corporations especially if the Crown invested the largest share of capital required to establish an industry in Manitoba. It's my sincere hope that if and when such legislation is proposed, these members will support it just as enthusiastically at a later date. In this regard the public will benefit from the proposed legislation to report information to the Legislature, and the public transactions of the Manitoba Development Fund can be transferred in the new legislation into the Manitoba Development Corporation. This, Mr. Speaker, is participatory democracy in action.

And in conclusion, may I say, Mr. Speaker, that we are greatly encouraged by the First Minister's recent statement that the province will proceed with capital works projects if recession symptoms hit Manitoba as a result of the nationwide battle against inflation. With the national employment figure steadily rising, the people of Manitoba can take heart that the Manitoba Government is prepared to act to combat inflation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: I just wondered if the honourable member would permit a question? Would the honourable member permit a question?

MR. JENKINS: Yes.

MR. CRAIK: In your reference to the Manitoba Development Corporation and participatory democracy, can you indicate what changes there will be in the corporation compared to the legislation that existed for the Manitoba Development Fund?

MR. JENKINS: That's a matter of policy that will be announced when the legislation is brought forward.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the honourable member - the same reference - if the Manitoba Development Fund did not have the powers to take equity position without changing the legislation, if he wouldn't mind answering?

MR. JENKINS: I will refer the question to the Minister.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (St. John's)....the Act....

MR. WALTFR WEIR: (Minnedosa). Mr. Speaker, I just question the rules. I wonder...

MR. CHERNIACK: I'll tell him privately.

MR. CRAIK: I know the answer, Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if the speaker who made the statement -- (interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, I didn't make the statement; the Honourable Member for Logan made the statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Order. The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

MR. JACK HARDY: (St. Vital). Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, Sir, may I extend my sincere congratulations to you on your appointment as the Speaker of this Assembly. I sincerely hope also that your task is going to be rather a relatively simple one and I hope you have the wisdom of Solomon and the ulcers of -- well, not the same as those as some of us have.

With respect to the mover and seconder, I also must congratulate the mover, the Honourable Member from The Pas. I do believe that his remarks were in fact very sincere remarks, and his philosophical approach to some of the problems that are facing people today, I hope in fact they become the point where in all practical purposes, or for all practical purposes some of them can in fact be introduced.

(MR. HARDY Cont'd)... To the seconder, the Honourable Member from Point Douglas, Mr. Speaker, here again I would like to congratulate him because there was considerable meat in what the honourable member had to suggest and had to state. One item that stood out as far as I was concerned was the inability, the inability of individuals who, in many cases through no fault of their own, were denied access to - in this particular case I believe it was medication - but in this respect I will have comments later.

So far as the Speech itself, I must admit, Sir, that I wish that I had the author as my next campaign chairman. It was a well-written document and I would congratulate those, from that point of view, that were involved, the architects of this document.

I think it's most appropriate, Sir, at this time also, as we are into the Centennial Year, of the Province of Manitoba, I think all members are perhaps aware to some degree of the part that the provincial constituency of St. Vital, which includes a portion of the City of St. Boniface and the City of St. Vital itself, the part that the pioneers, the people that have settled this area many many years ago, the part that they played in Manitoba in fact coming into existence. There are many names: Lagimodiere, Tache, Riel, and others who in fact if it was not for their perseverance, their forward outlook, perhaps Manitoba would not be today. With this same type of foresight, this same type of drive, I must suggest and congratulate the 16-year-old St. Boniface girl who just yesterday was named by the Greater Winnipeg Junior Achievement organization as the winner in the Metropolitan area, Simone Beauchamp of Lyndale Drive. Our sincere congratulations to Miss Beauchamp. I think, as I said, this augurs well for the type of people that we still have in that constituency.

Again being perhaps a little parochial, I would suggest to members of this Assembly that names such as the St. Vital Bulldogs, the Senior Dominion champions in football, are from this constituency. But here again this is the organized sport, this is the organized recreation, but in many cases - and I refer to community clubs, church organizations and things such as this, through their efforts they are making this section and other sections of Metropolitan Winnipeg a much better place in which to live.

I think a prime example of this forward-going outlook has to be the recent Festival of the Voyageur. The Honourable Member from St. Boniface mentioned this yesterday and I would wholeheartedly agree. This in fact was the Mardi Gras of the north. It was a most successful, a most successful venture and it was only due - and it's very difficult as the member from St. Boniface suggested, it's most difficult to point out individuals, but I would have to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that His Worship Mayor Turner, Magistrate Trudel and hundreds of others that were involved, in fact made this the success that it was. It was also extremely successful because of the participation of people. I think any members of this Assembly that were present or formed part of the 1200-odd that attended one of the balls, made you feel that the mosaic that has been suggested that comprises Manitoba in fact came to full bloom that evening.

Not taking anything away from the Manitoba Stampede, my honourable friend from Morris, Swan River and all of these other community organizations which in fact are outgrowing the community, they are becoming provincial, and my honourable friend from Brandon, the Provincial Exhibition. These are all things that in fact -- (Interjection) -- well, the Trappers' Festival - The Trappers' Festival. Gentlemen, the members are well aware of the numerous, the numerous items, the numerous events that are in fact taking place during Centennial Year and I would have to congratulate the Honourable Minister Without Portfolio in charge of the Centennial organization. -- (Interjection) -- Not the last time I looked at the book, no, but certainly congratulations are to be extended to this organization for the very fine method or manner in which in fact they are carrying out the duties of the Centennial Corporation and putting Manitoba where it rightfully belongs.

We're also looking forward to the visit of Her Majesty the Queen. I think we are all doing this. I may suggest, Mr. Speaker, and I do not mean this facetiously, but perhaps you, Sir, and I don't really care at this point in what tongue that God Save the Queen is sung, but may I suggest, Sir, that in fact it is and that it is in this Assembly.

And I would also possibly suggest, dealing more so, more specifically with the speech itself, and one of the main items....

MR. SPEAKER: Order. I wonder if I may remind the honourable member that it is 12:30, and if he wishes he may continue when this matter next appears on the Order Paper. It is 12:30; I'm leaving the Chair to return at 2:30 this afternoon.