

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY of MANITOBA
Wednesday, June 15, 1977

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Honourable Peter Fox (Kildonan): Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STERLING R. LYON (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, a question to the First Minister. I wonder if it would be possible for him to provide the breakdown of the figures that he gave us this morning orally — he undertook to provide us with the sheets — if that would be possible at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HONOURABLE EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmere): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'll have that typed up and made available.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable, the Minister of Education. It relates to the critical comments made by his assistant, the Deputy Minister, at an educational conference last Friday. My question, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister is, do these statements and these comments properly reflect the attitude and the policy of the Department of Education in respect to the operation of this school?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for Education.

HONOURABLE IAN TURNBULL (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, in response to that I can say that I, personally, had no knowledge of the remarks that were to be made by the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Cramer, about the operation of the R.D. Russell School; nor after reading about those remarks in the press do I in any way condone those remarks. Indeed I think that most of what I read in the newspaper, and here, Sir, I am relying on newspaper accounts, most of what I read in the newspaper was unwarranted and unjustified.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Minister. Could he tell the House if the same restraints which apply to his Deputy Minister in the making of public statements, apply to his Assistant Deputy Ministers?

MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Member for Brandon West that my approach to departmental administration is one that clearly leaves to the Minister the making of public statements and to the civil servants the detailed administration and routine administration of the department. That is a distinction in our parliamentary system that I think should be understood, not only by members here, but by all civil servants.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Honourable, the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Can the Minister advise the House what the total number of applications is to date that have been received since initiation of the Special Summer Job Creation Program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HONOURABLE LEONARD S. EVANS (Brandon East): Well, Mr. Speaker, as a matter of clarification, is the honourable member referring to the Jobs in Small Business or is he referring to all of the components of the Job Creation Program?

MR. SHERMAN: I am referring to the Jobs in Small Business, Mr. Speaker.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I can only give the honourable member a very rough or approximate estimate based on recent approvals. The deadline is July 15th for the Small Business component; but our latest estimate shows that as of about now, approximately 500 jobs have been created in the small business sector. But I repeat that this is an estimate and applications are still being processed. I would hope that there would be many more approved before the deadline is reached.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, for clarification, could the Minister advise when he says approximately 500, are those applications that have been received to this date, or applications that have been approved to this date?

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, that is an estimate of the number of jobs that have been approved. So, therefore, in some cases, Mr. Speaker, a company has applied for three positions, that is the maximum, and therefore that is not the number of applications approved, but the number of jobs approved.

As a matter of interest, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to note that it affects a wide spectrum of industry, not just the retail trade but also manufacturing, wholesaling and various other segments of

industry, and I am very pleased with the variety of response and I'm also pleased to note that there's quite an even balance between the number of jobs created within Winnipeg as opposed to the rest of the province.

MR. SHERMAN: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the House assume that that means that 500 persons have been employed, if 500 jobs have been approved?

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, those 500 people I presume are at work right now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Finance. I hope I am directing the question to the right Minister. Can the Minister explain why the interdepartmental Job Creation Program for the university students has been reduced to 50 percent of what it was originally intended to?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HONOURABLE SAUL A. MILLER (Seven Oaks): Well, Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer that question. I'm not aware of the details that have been stated by the member. I am not sure that the statement is correct to start with.

MR. PATRICK: I'll place a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister check his information bulletin or letter that's sent to the Students' Union in the University of Manitoba that 1,000 jobs would be created, that was on May 6th? On May 15th it was followed that this would be reduced to 500 interdepartmental job creations.

MR. MILLER: Well, Mr. Speaker, certainly I'll have to check that particular bulletin that's referred to. I don't recall that bulletin. It wasn't issued by me. But if there was a bulletin and if the member will give me the date of that bulletin, I'll have it tracked down and an answer will be brought to the House.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, it's a supplementary to do with Job Creation, but I'd like to place this to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Of the \$3 million that was allotted for Job Creation for small industry, can the Minister indicate, is it correct that only \$164,000 up to the present time or to the expiry date of the program has been utilized, only \$164,000 has been utilized?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, that is not correct. That figure, I think, the Honourable Member is referring to is a figure that is at least two weeks old. As I have indicated to the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, 500 people in Manitoba are now at work in the small business sector because of this Program. Therefore, we are looking at something like a half a million dollars, and this again, Mr. Speaker, I will repeat, is a very rough estimate and there will be releases of the actual figures, of course, as time goes on, dollar amounts as well as the jobs and I hope to show jobs by industry sector as well.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary question. Can the Minister get rural and urban breakdown? And also is the Minister satisfied that the Program is working since only half a million — taking his most recent figure right now — out of 3 million has only been utilized of the total Program.

MR. EVANS: Yes. Well, Mr. Speaker, to the first question, I can advise that the applications are coming in, or the approvals rather, are somewhat balanced between the City of Winnipeg and the rest of the province. I would say approximately 50/50. And again, Mr. Speaker, that information would be made available in due course when it is tabulated. But these figures are changing day by day or week by week as approvals are made. But nevertheless, there is a rather appropriate balance, I would say, between the City of Winnipeg and the rest of the province.

As to the satisfaction I have with the Program, I would emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that it is a new Program, that this is one component of the Job Creation Program where the individual or organization or company involved must put up his share or her share or its share of the moneys for wages. I think the figure of 500 jobs is fairly good but I would hope that it will be much better given the fact that we have approximately another month to go before deadline in this component is reached.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. BOB BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would direct my question to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation and would ask him if he could inform the House whether the government owned and operated Gull Harbour Lodge at Hecla Island is having severe senior staffing problems?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

HONOURABLE BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): No, Mr. Speaker..

MR. BANMAN: I wonder if the Minister could confirm that this week the Gull Harbour Lodge has advertised for a food and beverage manager, a *maitre d'*, and a chef to manage 12 individuals.

MR. HANUSCHAK: That is quite possible, Mr. Speaker, but that does not reflect a severe staff problem.

MR. BANMAN: I wonder if the Minister could inform the House as to who at present is managing that particular enterprise.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, the Lodge and the ship has a General Manager. His name is Mr. Gordon Phillips.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY: Well, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Corrections. A week ago he rejected a request that we made for an inquiry into conditions at Headingley Jail and in the general penal system. In light of the statements made by senior officials at Headingley Jail that there is no education program of any worth at Headingley Jail, is the Minister now prepared to reconsider that and provide for an investigation and inquiry into the improvement of conditions at Headingley Jail.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Corrections.

HONOURABLE J.R. (Bud) BOYCE (Winnipeg Centre): Well, Mr. Speaker, I sometimes have difficulty understanding the member's questions. I didn't reject an inquiry into Headingley Jail. His questions was raised relative to the report of the parliamentary committee in Ottawa and where I thought it was necessary to carry out a comparable Task Force investigation into the conditions in the correctional institutions in the Province of Manitoba.

With reference to the article that was in the paper yesterday, or over the weekend I guess it was, where some staff supervisor of educational services within Headingley, commented at a small workshop of six people on his understanding of what we were doing in education. I don't think that it warrants any further investigation.

MR. AXWORTHY: Well, a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. If that doesn't warrant, could the Minister confirm that, in fact, there is no educational programs being offered to inmates of Headingley Jail and vocational training or any kind of work programs that they can acquire skills, for those longer term prisoners who are there?

MR. BOYCE: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest once again that the Member go out there and find out for himself, what goes on at Headingley Jail. I have issued that invitation to every member in the House. It is just ludicrous to think that there is any validity to the question.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister plans to visit Headingley Jail to find out for himself what is necessary there, and whether there should be programs available?

MR. BOYCE: If the member wishes to stand in this House I'll not give him any quarter in sarcasm, Mr. Speaker. I repeat if he wants to know, the people in Manitoba will decide whether I am conducting the affairs of the correctional facilities well or badly. But if he wants to find out, I suggest that he go and find out for himself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. Final question.

MR. AXWORTHY: Well, Mr. Speaker, can we then say that the Minister is stating that officials of his department in their statements about the conditions in Headingley Jail are wrong and that he rejects those assessments of it. Would he be prepared to provide to this House any evidence to the contrary so that we can see for ourselves and not simply have to take his word for it.

MR. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, once again, I don't know whether this is a question and answer period or not, the member can understand whatever he wants to understand. Sometimes I feel he is incapable of understanding very much, but nevertheless, in this regard, if he will read what was in the Tribune as a result of that particular article, I think it was . . . reporting to date.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK: My question would be to the First Minister or the Minister of Finance. I wonder if the government is in a position to indicate at this time whether any evaluation has taken place with respect to the Job Formation Program and its results, whether we are on target with what was originally planned by the government, and whether in view of that other considerations for the future are being undertaken.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, an evaluation worthy of the name can hardly be carried out in less than the first 30 days since the inception of the program. It is certainly the intention to do such an evaluation, possibly within the course of the next couple of weeks. We have attained levels of job creation that are approximately in accordance with the realistic objectives. The data that will be available from Canada Manpower, Statistics Canada, covering the month of June, should give us an indication as to whether or not unemployment levels in Manitoba require a stimulation over and above the targets that we enunciated here about three weeks to a month ago.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, does the First Minister consider that the lead time, with respect to the Job Creation Program, was sufficient or should it have been earlier? Is there any indication as a result of the reviews so far that the lead time was not correct, and will this be a basis for a decision in the future?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, it is perhaps debatable whether the lead time was sufficient in respect to half of the overall extra effort program, but with respect to at least half of it the lead time really amounts to many many months, because the entire summer Temporary Employment Program relating to post-secondary students is a program of extra effort; it has been ongoing, the lead time has amounted to many months, indeed, a few years.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder if the First Minister can confirm that his government is now in the process of planning a program to follow the existing program that has been announced when it is

concluded, so as to take us between the fall and winter periods.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is precisely what we hope to evaluate and come to grips with with respect to the period of the end of June or early July. We, of course, do not presume to be able to crystal ball just whether the Canadian economy will be turning up in accordance with Federal Government expectations or not, but we hope to have more information of that as we go along. I think that if we can maintain a level of employment which results in Manitoba having at least two and perhaps as much as three percentage points of unemployment less than the Canadian national average, is about as realistic a goal as we could expect to achieve.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights. Final question.

MR. SPIVAK: On the basis of the information that is available and the projections that have been made by the government, and the basis of the experience so far, is the First Minister in a position to indicate whether his government will, in fact, be introducing a new program at the conclusion of this program?

MR. SCHREYER: That is precisely what we hope to be able to analyze more realistically in the course of the next few weeks. We do believe we have achieved unemployment reductions in the order of one full percentage point already thus far, and conceivably we can carry this further, but I repeat, just so there is no ridiculous assumptions, that if we can achieve a level of unemployment as a result of a special job creation activity, that results in Manitoba having between two and three percent less unemployment than the Canadian national average, that that is about as much as we can realistically hope to achieve.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, my question is of a consumers nature and I believe I should pose it to the Minister of Agriculture, where a number of customers have informed me that — it is in the purchase of potatoes — in recent weeks and months that the quality has not been of the best. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to the consumers of this province what assurances can they have that when they buy potatoes they are of the quality indicated on the bag.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HONOURABLE SAMUEL USKIW (Lac du Bonnet): Well, Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Member for Rock Lake would know that potatoes have to have a Canada grade approved and we have a Canada Department of Agriculture Inspection Service, which has to approve each truckload or carload of product which goes into the system and distribution throughout the province, and those are the checks and balances available. Now, that doesn't mean that it is foolproof, and it never has been and probably never will be, Mr. Speaker.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question in regard to potatoes that are imported. Could the Minister indicate whether the Vegetable Marketing Board is responsible for those potatoes that are imported from the United States?

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, the member also knows that we have no jurisdiction, in terms of our constitutional rights, over imported product. That is a matter for the Government of Canada, and countries with whom the Government of Canada has tradings with.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. WARREN STEEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works and ask the Minister if he would inform me as to whether a Mr. Dave, or David Chomiak is his Executive Assistant and if the person is, is he a member of the public payroll?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

HONOURABLE RUSSELL DOERN (Elmwood): He is, Mr. Speaker, but he's seconded.

MR. STEEN: A supplementary question to the same Minister, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister confirm whether this person is working two or three days a week in the First Minister's constituency office in the Rossmere constituency?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, I could indicate that the person in question is, as the Minister has indicated, seconded to my office. I have no problem in acknowledging that since I do have one of the smallest staffed complements of any Premier's office in Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. ROBERT G. WILSON: I have a question for the Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. WILSON: Can the Minister confirm that since 1973 he has given Mr. Lester Glantz taxpayers' grants near \$200,000.00? He runs the Medical Products Institute and I wonder if that's true, why?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I didn't hear the entire question. Who is the honourable member referring to? I didn't hear the question. If he's referring to the Medical Products Centre, the Medical Products Institute is a subsidiary, in effect a *de facto* subsidiary of the Manitoba Research Council. It's a non-profit organization designed to transfer medical technology into commercial production. I didn't hear the individual's name, but perhaps the honourable member is referring to

the manager of that organization. I repeat, it's a non-profit organization. It's a subsidiary, in effect, of the Manitoba Research Council and we're hoping to produce medical products in Manitoba.

As a matter of fact I am very pleased with the support and help we're getting from the various members of the medical profession, particularly certain people attached to hospitals that are concerned about certain devices, artificial devices, that can be used as an aid in health. And we are hoping that some day we will have more of these devices manufactured in Manitoba.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Speaker, what I was trying to get was the amount because I want to know, since 1973, how many new inventions have there been? How many new companies have been started?

MR. SPEAKER: Order for Return. The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I believe the honourable member is looking at our Annual Report where we do publish the amounts of grants given to any association or organization. —(Interjection)— Well, if not, it's in there, and if it isn't in there it should be in the Public Accounts. But that is public information, and as I said, we're referring to a non-profit organization, really, which is a subsidiary of the Manitoba Research Council.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney-General. Some time ago he announced that the Provincial Government would be taking over responsibility for the city lock-up jail, for remand cases. Can he tell us what the timing will be on that take-over and transfer into provincial responsibility?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HONOURABLE HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, the question, I believe, should be referred to the Honourable Minister of Corrections.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for Corrections.

MR. BOYCE: Hopefully, Mr. Speaker, as I announced we'd be in a position to have operational control by September 1st. There's two agreements: one, as far as the operation of the Ministry of Corrective Services staff is concerned. The turn-over point is with the City of Winnipeg Police. That's an operational agreement.

Then there's a lease agreement between the province and the City of Winnipeg. The lease has, I understand, been pretty well finalized but there's a meeting taking place this afternoon to try and finalize the final details relative to the operation of the facility.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister indicate whether the actual lock-up itself would be removed from the Public Safety Building and be established on another location?

MR. BOYCE: Well, of course, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the things that we have been trying to establish, and it is a shortterm lease. Hopefully within the three years we can rationalize the needs within the City of Winnipeg to deal with people in custody.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister indicate whether he or his officials have held discussions with different members of the judiciary, magistrates and provincial court judges, who indicate that their own inclination of sentencing is being influenced by the poor conditions at the city lock-up, and that therefore it is affecting their ability to provide that kind of sentencing?

MR. BOYCE: Several members of the judiciary over the years have expressed that as a concern to them, Mr. Speaker, and in my judgment we're moving as quickly as possible. The circumstances are difficult, I agree. But for people who are familiar with the City of Winnipeg and how it operated, the Public Safety Building was finally approved after, I believe it was three plebiscites, to move the old Rupert Street jail to the present location, and it is a manifestation of a camel being a horse designed by a committee, because while it was supposed to deal with people for longer periods, it was designed and built in the first instance as a lock-up, it was never built to function as a remand centre and we're dealing with that problem.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to either the Honourable, the Minister of Industry and Commerce or the Minister of Urban Affairs. I would like to ask the relevant Minister whether the City of Winnipeg is hiring personnel under the Jobs in Small Business Program.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Yes. There is an allocation under the municipal component for the City of Winnipeg, and I believe the allocation is \$1 million. —(Interjection)— This is under the small business municipal government component. As part of the Job Creation Program there is a component referred to as "municipal" or local government and the City of Winnipeg is taking full advantage of this.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would those hires be included in the approximate total of 500 which the Minister gave me earlier?

MR. EVANS: No, Mr. Speaker, what I was referring to, the figure of 500 is strictly for the small business component. Besides the small business component there are several others — community associations or local groups, another component is municipal governments, another component is school boards, and another component is hospitals and personal care homes, and there are some other ancillary, but those are the major components.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. KEN DILLEN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Tourism, and it relates to an advertisement in the paper, the Winnipeg Tribune is advertising for a short order cook and I want to know if that is a reflection of staffing problems at the Winnipeg Tribune?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, for all I know, it may well be.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

MR. THOMAS BARROW : Mr. Speaker, with leave I would like to make two changes on two committees. On Statutory Regulations the name of Adam replaced by that of Turnbull, and on the Agriculture Committee the name of Bostrom replaced by that of Shafransky.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it agreed? So ordered. The Honourable House Leader.

HONOURABLE SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with what I had suggested this morning, I would suggest that we now recess until 5:30 p.m., and at 5:30 p.m. we resume to determine just what our proceedings will be for tomorrow or this evening. So if you would just leave the Chair until 5:30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable House Leader wish to have the bells rung at 5:30 or just prior to?

MR. GREEN: Since we have now told the honourable members 5:30, I don't think it is necessary to give another warning.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. I am now leaving the Chair to return just prior to 5:30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with the time, the House is now adjourned and stands adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. Does the Honourable House Leader wish to make a comment?

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to indicate that tonight we will be sitting in both Committees that sat this afternoon, that is the Committee on Statutory Orders and Regulations and the Committee on Agriculture, so that it's not intended that the House meet tonight. It is just those two Committees, the same Committees that continued this afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

MR. BARROW: Just one change, Mr. Speaker, in the Statutory Regulations, the name of Malinowski replaces that of Jenkins.

MR. SPEAKER: On which Committee?

MR. BARROW: On Statutory Regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: Right. The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON: Yes, I have one change, Mr. Speaker, on the Agricultural Committee. Substitute the name of Enns from Lakeside for Jorgenson from Morris.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. Agreed? So ordered. Consequently the House is adjourned and stands adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.