

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, June 15, 1978

Time: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Before we proceed I should like to draw the honourable members' attention to the gallery where we have 28 students of Grade 4 standing, from Sacred Heart School, under the direction of Mrs. Sherbrook. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

On behalf of all the honourable members, we welcome you here this afternoon.

Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Charleswood): Pursuant to my remarks yesterday, I wish to lay on the table of the House, copies of a letter sent to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. I misspoke myself yesterday when I said "the Majority Leader," that was the previous position of the Honourable Thomas P. O'Neill the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. ARNOLD BROWN (Rhineland) introduced Bill No. 63, An Act to Grant Additional Powers to Thistle Curling Club Limited.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. EDWARD SCHREYER (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the First Minister will recall quite some several weeks ago I asked him a question with respect to possible course of action he may take relative to avoiding, in advance or pre-empting the possibility of problems of conflict of interest insofar as it involves Ministers of the Crown. I would like to ask the First Minister whether he has in mind yet, or does have it as something of high or medium priority, to require some declaration of beneficial interests held during the incumbency of a person occupying the treasury benches.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I recall my honourable friend's question of some several weeks ago. I have to admit that because of circumstances beyond my personal control, I have not been able to give the direct personal attention to that topic but I still share the response or the feeling toward the response that I gave to him at that time. I think it is a matter that deserves review, particularly with new administrations, and the matter will receive the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and if there are any further reports that result from that kind of review I will be happy to make them known to my honourable friend and to the members of the House. If he has an instances or matters that are troubling him in any way at all I would be happy to look into them for him.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, in responding to the invitation, I would like to pose this question and it has to do, I'm sure, with appearance rather than substance, but given the advertisement

run by a Winnipeg life insurance company which has prominently displayed among 15 or so individual salesmen and brokers a person who is currently at the present time a member of the Cabinet, can the First Minister say whether he accepts with equanimity the prospect of a Minister of the Crown appearing in commercial advertisements, promoting a given commodity or service or goods?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware of the commercial advertisement. I would be pleased to take a look at it and consult with the person in question. I am, however, not aware of any legislative restriction against members of the Executive Council holding outside positions, whether in the practice of law or in the practice of medical professions or in the practice of their other vocations, insurance or whatever, but I would be quite happy to look into the particular instance that my honourable friend has in mind and discuss it with the person in question.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, that really is all that's required I should think is the application of judgment. I might ask the First Minister that in the event that the firm in question does have a direct contractual relationship with the Crown for the providing of insurance service, as I believe to be the case, then this could become a problem. In any case, Sir, I can see that further pursuing it by way of question would be awkward at this stage.

May I therefore direct a question to the Minister of Health and ask the Minister of Health whether in light of yesterday's confirmation by Statistics Canada that the rate of inflation has climbed back up to 9 percent, and given that the estimates of funds required for our hospital and health institutions were determined at a time when the inflation rate was assumed to be in the order of 7 percent, and given that food is an important segment of any institutional budget and that food has increased in cost 3 percent in one month, whether in light of the conspiring of these two facts of inflation, whether the Minister of Health has it in mind to adopt some significant revisions in his proposed funding of our hospitals and other health institutions serving meals, in particular.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition certainly raises a troublesome and important question. It's not a decision that, were it to be taken, would be taken by one member of the Executive Council alone as the honourable gentleman well knows. I have not yet completed the examination or had completed for me, the examination of hospital budgets that were being submitted and sort of studied in consultation with the Manitoba Health Services Commission, to see what difficulties hospitals, on an individual basis, may be facing, that is a process that is expected to be completed by the end of this month. I'll certainly keep the implied suggestions and admonitions in the honourable gentleman's question in mind.

MR. SCHREYER: There was no admonitions so much as a search for logic, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Health if it is not self-evidently logical that if 2.9 percent was deemed to be defensible by the Minister, and that's questionable but we take that as a given, 2.9 percent as a ratio to 7 percent inflation, the same as "X" is to 9 percent. Now is the Minister of Health going to be putting his efforts towards some revision in our health institutional budgets so that they can cope with the new reality as announced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics yesterday? There's nothing discretionary.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, obviously the government has to address and grapple with that reality. I would only remind the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that emanating from the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Hospitals Association in Calgary last week there was what I would call almost unanimous reinforcement from jurisdictions right across the country including Alberta for the message that we have been trying to deliver throughout the health care system and the health community here in Manitoba, that there are services, there are levels of staffing and of service that need examination because of the difficulty that we face in health care costs escalation generally, and we will be addressing that with all reality in the weeks immediately ahead.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I recognize any other member, I should like to draw the honourable members attention to the gallery on the left where we have 23 students of Grades 5 and 6 standing from Polson School under the direction of Mr. Raynolds. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Kildonan.

On behalf of all the honourable members, we welcome you here today.

ORAL QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

Order please. The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

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MR. SAUL CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Education to ascertain from him whether or not an agreement has been completed between the Universities of Brandon and Manitoba dealing with the future of the Winnipeg Centre project.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. KEITH A. COSENS (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that that particular agreement is very close to completion.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, in order to attempt to reassure some of the concerned students of that program, can he indicate how soon it will be that they will have some assurance of a continuity of program and clarity as to any changes that may take place? And I mention that because I have been getting calls from constituents in that project who are very much uncertain as to the future.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I was under the impression that the students concerned had received that type of assurance but if the honourable member implies that has not been adequately done I will check into it.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate the undertaking of the Honourable Minister. I want to assure him that both yesterday and today I have received calls from students who say that in spite of a meeting they had with the Dean of the University of Manitoba, the meeting itself left them in a state of uncertainty as to the future and they are very much concerned because their personal lives are, of course, affected. So I appreciate his undertaking and I will attempt to report to them as soon as I hear from him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Environment. In conclusion of the Council of Ministers that he attended last week, I believe, could he report whether there was any decision taken by those Ministers related to the incidence of chemical spraying and the affect it may have upon the development of the respiratory disease called Reye's Syndrome? Was any decision taken by the Ministers as to how they intend to cope with that problem?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): No, Mr. Speaker, there was not.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister then whether the matter was raised on the agenda or discussed, and if he has any report that he can give, considering that he did indicate in his Estimates debate that he was going to bring the matter up at that Council and report back to this House on the conclusions of it?

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, the item was not put on the agenda for discussion at the CCRAM Conference. It had been our intention to have it discussed. It was an item that was suggested, but there was a considerable amount of discretion and backlog of topics to get on for discussion and this was not one of them.

MR. AXWORTHY: Well, as a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, can the Minister report whether at the present moment provincial authorities are undertaking any large-scale spraying in provincial parks or other areas of the province, using the chemicals that are attributed to be a cause of Reye's Syndrome, a disease that is experienced particularly by children?

MR. RANSOM: I am certainly not aware of that circumstance, Mr. Speaker, but I would be happy to make that enquiry.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Selkirk.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to pose a question to the Honourable Attorney-General, and depending upon the answer thereto, I may wish to move a motion of privilege. The Attorney-General is quoted as having indicated that some members of the Manitoba Legislature have been investigated during the past 18 months by the RCMP for other than national security reasons. In the statement he indicated that there was no evidence sufficient to warrant the laying

of any criminal charges. Would the Attorney-General wish to elaborate or to clarify those statements?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. GERALD W.J. MERCIER (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, if I can clarify the remarks for the honourable member, yesterday I indicated in response to a previous question from the Honourable Member for Inkster that there had been no investigations by the RCMP relating to national security reasons within the past 18 months. That was a question of the Honourable Member for Inkster, and I responded by assuring him that the Commanding Officer of the RCMP in Manitoba had advised me that there had been none. Having left this Chamber, I was asked by a member of the media whether any other investigations had occurred; I indicated that there had been, to my knowledge, one investigation on which there was simply no justification for the complaint and it was my understanding that the file was closed.

MR. PAWLEY: Would the honourable member then be prepared to indicate that the reference in the newspaper to "some members of the Legislature" is incorrect?

MR. MERCIER: Most certainly, Sir.

MR. PAWLEY: I wonder if the honourable member could indicate to the House whether in that one instance that he referred to, there was no criminal investigation involved but another type of investigation which did not relate to any allegations or any evidence pertaining to criminal conduct.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I don't think it's necessary to go any further with respect to the matter at all; there was no justification for any proceedings whatsoever and the matter has been closed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. Can the Minister of Education advise us as to whether the bill respecting The Public Schools Act is a measure which would give public aid to private schools in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that anticipatory questions are not proper for this Chamber.

The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. Can the Minister of Education advise whether the government intends to introduce legislation at this session of the Legislature giving public aid to private and parochial schools in the Province of Manitoba?

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

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation. In view of the fact that in an Air Canada publication "Enroute" he is advertising as a tourist attraction the presence of prairie whales, would he indicate the bodies of water on the prairies of Manitoba where prairie whales could be found and would he confirm that tours for whale sighting will be organized using the Lord Selkirk sailing on the Big Whiteshell in the near vicinity of the Jarmoc development?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HON. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye): Well, Mr. Speaker, No. 1, I can assure the member that there have been no sightings of whales in Burrows constituency of late but I would like to say that this particular promotion has gone over very well. We have had a lot of response to this particular ad for the whales that are found in the Churchill area, the beluga whales. The promotion is being well received by the public and the advertisement even received an award for the design and for the uniqueness of it. I would suggest that if the member has a free moment this summer, if the Legislature prorogues, maybe he can contact his colleague from Churchill and he might take him

out and show him some of those beluga whales.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I would then wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs. Would he check the advertisement appearing on Page 16 of the June, 1978 issue of "Enroute" as to the propriety of the statement which reads as follows: "A whale on the prairie? In Manitoba? No foolin'. And that's just one of the things that may surprise you in Manitoba this summer." So there is specific reference to whales being sighted somewhere on the prairies of Manitoba and not in Churchill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs.

HON. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Well, Mr. Speaker, in response to the member, I would think that to confirm the accuracy of the sighting of a prairie whale, one would need to determine with some accuracy the extent of the off-shore waters that relate to Manitoba and if the member is prepared to tell me in what area of Hudson Bay this sighting took place, I can then refer it to officials of my department to determine whether or not it is acceptable practice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

MR. SAMUEL USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of the Environment whether he can indicate to me, or to the House, as to the source of pollution of well water in the village of East Selkirk.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, I have had no further reports from my department since I last responded to the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

MR. USKIW: Would the Minister then tell the House whether it is possible through his laboratories, or existing laboratories within the province, to ascertain whether the pollution source is human waste disposal facilities or animal waste disposal facilities? Is there a laboratory facility that can make that distinction?!

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, they have been attempting to perform tests that would make that differentiation, as I understand it, and I believe I'm correct in saying that they had some evidence that the contamination did not come from bovine sources but I do not believe that they considered the test to be definitive.

MR. USKIW: Well again, perhaps the Minister may want to take this part of the question as notice, Mr. Speaker. Is the department — or do we have facilities that are capable of making that distinction? It's a technical question. Perhaps the Minister may not be able to answer precisely at this time.

MR. RANSOM: I'll inquire further, Mr. Speaker, and report back.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SCHREYER: Yes, a supplementary in order to obtain further clarification. When the Minister replied to a similar question some weeks ago, it was reported to the effect that one of the possible contributing causes was a quarry located on property owned by the Crown, MHRC to be precise, leaving the impression that it was a contributing cause of the problem. I would like to ask the Minister whether this Crown property and the quarry on it is in fact a reservoir or a receiver of the pollutant rather than a cause of the pollutant.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. RANSOM: I believe at the time, Mr. Speaker, I indicated that the quarry simply provided the connection between surface runoff and ground water, that there is surface runoff that could come, I don't know from how large an area but from a substantial area, into that quarry and that that is a means of connection with the ground water.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for The Pas.

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MR. RONALD McBRYDE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. I wonder if he could confirm that the two native persons, the director of BUNTEP and the director of IMPACTE, while away on sabbatical leave, had their positions terminated by the President of Brandon University?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

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

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could tell the House whether, by the expiry date of contracts this fall, whether there will be any native people left within the BUNTEP or IMPACTE Programs on staff.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, of course staffing is a process that goes on from day to day and it would be impossible for me to give a definitive answer at this time to the member.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister what efforts are being made by the BUNTEP and IMPACTE Program now they have been taken over directly by the president at community liaison with the communities affected by the program.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, the type of liaison that's been going on, of course, is the different people within the program have been meeting with people in the communities. To what extent or how many meetings have taken place, that type of detail, I cannot give the member at this time but I know that there have been some meetings.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. HARVEY BOSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the same Minister regarding the administration of these two programs which are for the purpose of training native teachers in northern Manitoba. Can he confirm that the contract which was drawn up by his department and which deals with the administration of the BUNTEP and IMPACTE programs and it is a contract with the University of Brandon has not yet been signed and therefore it is still under consideration?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, to the Member for Rupertsland, the parties to the agreement are in full agreement and he is quite correct, it has not been signed by myself, the other party to the agreement may have signed it yesterday or today. But I should also mention, Mr. Speaker, this is the first time, I understand, that there has been a formal agreement between the projects and the university concerned.

MR. BOSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the same Minister. Can the Minister confirm that since the change in administration of these two programs, there have been significant cutbacks in the programs that they were expected to offer in northern Manitoba in this coming fiscal year?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I cannot confirm that particular fact. I can confirm that there have been some other cutbacks. A suite or rooms in Thompson that were popularly called "the party rooms" by some of the residents of that area have been closed and the citizens of Manitoba are no longer paying \$300 a month for that particular room or suite of rooms that were at one time deemed necessary by the directors of the project.

MR. BOSTROM: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Given the dissatisfaction that has been expressed by native communities in the north with respect to the future plans of this operation and the way in which it will be delivered, the way in which it is administered, will the Minister reconsider the contract that is presently being considered and the present way this program is being administered by the President of the University of Brandon; reconsider it in the light of these dissatisfied comments that are coming out of the north at the present time?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, there have been concerns in connection with this program for some years, and have been coming out of the north from different people, and I don't think the fact that there are concerns at this time is anything new. These are concerns that we will certainly look at

and attempt to remove.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Attorney-General. Can the Attorney-General report whether there has been an investigation under The Fatal Inquiries Act dealing with the fatal accident that took place approximately on April 16th at Redekopp Lumber? The Honourable Minister said he would take it as notice approximately six weeks ago and come back to the House with a reply. I have not had a reply and I wonder if the Honourable Minister could report?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I haven't responded to that, but I will check into that matter immediately and provide an answer tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, a similar question to the Attorney-General: could the Attorney-General take as notice and indicate later whether it is definitely intended to proceed with an inquest into the drowning incident at Victoria Beach on the Victoria Day long weekend involving, according to witnesses, the swamping and breaking apart of a boat that had been recently purchased. Because of all the surrounding contentions can the Attorney-General confirm that an inquest will be held?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I'll accept that question as notice, too.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer Affairs. During discussion of his Estimates, he indicated that he intended to bring an amendment to the Rent Stabilization Program. Can he indicate if he still intends to bring in those amendments and will those amendments deal specifically with the question of what the grounds are for determining whether there is a voluntary vacancy of apartment blocks and what criteria will be used to judge them?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs.

MR. MCGILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker. As to the answer to the first part of the member's question, I can refer him to today's orders, page 4, where there is a notice that on Monday next, An Act to amend The Rent Stabilization Act will be introduced.

As to the contents of the bill, I must ask, Mr. Speaker, that the member await the printing and distribution of the bill.

MR. AXWORTHY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister provide some guidance as to whether, under the guidelines of the decontrol program, the Rent Review Board would consider a request by a landlord that they undertake renovations on an apartment, thereby causing a vacancy, to be an involuntary or voluntary vacancy, and therefore not subject to the decontrol measures?

MR. MCGILL: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a matter which would be dealt with by the Rent Stabilization Board on receipt of a complaint by a tenant who felt that the reasons for requesting a vacancy were somewhat coercive, and the Rent Stabilization Board would investigate if they felt that there was some substance to that claim.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I just have a final question for the Attorney-General. He took as notice last week a question I raised as to whether he had received a reference, or whether the Chairman of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission had received a reference asking for the Human Rights Commission to investigate whether MTS was in any way involved in an act of discrimination. Can he confirm whether that communication has been received and what disposition the Human Rights Commission intends to make of that correspondence or request?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I will respond to that question tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, at the risk of being labelled consistent, I would like to ask the Minister of Mines whether, given the attitude of his colleague with regard to the public paying for suites in hotels, whether the Minister of Mines will discontinue allowing as an expense the suite of rooms maintained in a Thompson hotel and other portions of the hotel, on a permanent basis, by the International Nickel Company of Canada; whether he will disallow that as an expense as against their taxes?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. RANSOM: Mr. Speaker, I would consider that that question would deal with a matter beyond my jurisdiction.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, can I ask the Acting Minister of Finance, whoever he may be, whether he will maintain consistency with his colleague who objects to the public paying for suites in hotels, by discontinuing to allow the International Nickel Company to deduct as an expense in the computation of their royalties, that suite of rooms which they continually have kept in a Thompson hotel for the purpose of parties?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps my honourable friend, the Minister of Finance, didn't carry the full, serious burden of my honourable friend's question. I thought I should ask him — because he used to brandish the share, at one stage in our mutual careers in the House — whether he was still a shareholder of the particular company to which he makes reference, and if so, why he doesn't go to the next annual meeting and raise objection to that practice if he finds it so offensive?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member should be aware that when I became Minister of Mines I had to transfer my shareholdings — to better stocks, by the way, such as Great-West Life — but I can tell the honourable member that it would be more effectively dealt with, the question of the expense allowance being charged, and I asked the Minister of Finance that, as an expense against income. It could be more effectively dealt with — I tell my honourable friend, if he doesn't know that — in this House, and therefore I asked the Minister of Finance the question.

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

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister without Portfolio responsible for the Provincial Land Use Committee. It is reported that the Minister, along with the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. McNairn, met with a delegation of protesters from the Rural Municipality of Clanwilliam, and that those protesters left optimistic that the Provincial Government would veto a plan of development proposed to the R.M. of Clanwilliam. Would the Minister wish to confirm or deny that any assurances were given to the protesters that there would be a vetoing of the development proposal approved by the rural municipality?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I don't want to be held responsible for the degree of optimism or otherwise that the gentlemen felt when they left my office. All I can say is that when the application does come in before the Planning Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs it will be looked at, and it will be looked at consistent with the land use policies that have recently been published.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the news that 240 bankruptcies were filed in the first four months of 1978 which is apparently a 60 percent increase over the same period of last year, is the Minister now

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prepared to review the government's economic policies with the objective of stimulating the provincial economy and reducing unemployment?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, my preliminary information is that the difference in the numbers between this year and last year, is that this year we stopped nationalizing them.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I recall in years gone by my colleague, my friend, the now Minister of Industry and Commerce used to ask me these questions regularly, so I would like to ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce whether he's prepared to show some leadership in the area of economic development of this province, and help offset the 240 bankruptcies and the failing economy that we are now experiencing in the province.

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

MR. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, let me say that the statistics which we are gathering now show a fairly encouraging trend in that as far as retail sales and as far as manufacturing shipments outside the province, are up slightly over last year so that we are experiencing a little up-turn. Let me also say that, after eight years of NDP, I guess a lot of people are going to try and clean up their act and start over again and I think that's what the people of Manitoba have indicated too several months ago.

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed, I should like to draw the honourable members' attention to the gallery on the right where we have 24 students of Grade 9 standing from McIsaac School under the direction of Mr. Klassen. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon. On behalf of all the honourable members we welcome you here today.

And while on I'm on my feet, I should perhaps advise the members of the Chamber that it has been brought to my attention there's a possibility there may be live television in this Chamber tomorrow.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I should like to move seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, with the Honourable Member for Roblin in the Chair for the Department of Health and the Honourable Member for Crescentwood in the Chair for the Department of Labour.\$

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY — LABOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Warren Steen: Lady and gentlemen, we have a quorum. Committee come to order. We are on the Minister's Compensation, Item 1.(a)—pass?

MR. PETER FOX: I hope we're not facetious, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, I'm waiting for somebody to interrupt me. The Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Very well, Mr. Chairman. Since we didn't get an opportunity to go at all the areas of the Labour Department, I am going to try to get some answers in respect to areas that were missed.

First of all, I wonder if the Minister could explain under Industrial Hygiene, the increase in Other Expenditures to almost three times as much under Other Expenditures, and what they are for.

MRS. PRICE: For the Honourable gentleman from Kildonan I wasn't listening.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would ask the Member for Kildonan if he might repeat his question. I might point out to the Member for Kildonan, that the Minister does not have her staff here which is customary during the Minister's Salary.

MR. FOX: Well, then I would hope that she would write those questions

MR. FOX: And I think that would apply to all the increases where the Other Expenditures are indicated that, for instance, Fire Prevention, Other Expenditures are up by almost 50 percent. Is that the reason there too? Fire Prevention, the Other Expenditures.

MRS. PRICE: I will have to take that as notice.

MR. FOX: I see, okay. The Northlands area, has that been moved out or just been eliminated period?

MRS. PRICE: Oh, I can tell you — I'm sorry I have it jotted down here about the Other Expenditures. This includes three compression stations and that is the possible increased cost of the operations of the inspectors. That's why that is increased.

MR. FOX: That's under Fire Prevention?

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. FOX: I see, okay. The other area where there is a large jump that I noted was — Oh, no, it was a decrease, that was under Apprenticeship and Industrial Training. Does that mean that there is going to be a reduction in apprenticeship industrial training? Salaries have gone down as well as the amount for Other Expenditures.

MRS. PRICE: I will have to take that one as notice.

MR. FOX: Okay. The Women's Bureau is the same; the saary has gone down. Does that mean there are less SMYs?

MRS. PRICE: Yes, there is one less. The director wasn't replaced, the assisting director was put into the position of director.

MR. FOX: And the Other Expenditures are therefore reduced for the same reason because there is one SMY less? I understand this department is more or less a promotion, education and so on, but that would probably come under Other Expenditures so therefore if there is less money allocated for the Women's Bureau under Other Expenditures, does that mean that the department will have less emphasis in respect to educating employers and employees in respect to women?

MRS. PRICE: As I mentioned, I will take that as notice for the member.

MR. FOX: Okay. Now, under Employee Relations, this is a wider field, I wonder if the Minister could take note and let us know how many violations took place under The Minimum Wage Act; how many were prosecuted, successfully or otherwise; what other kind of violations took place under The Employment Standards Act? If she could let us know of that later on, I don't imagine she would have that.

MRS. PRICE: I'll take it as notice.

MR. FOX: Okay. With respect to The Tradesmen's Qualification Act, would the Minister also — that is Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualification Act — would she also indicate to us how many of the various trades have been taking place, in what respect, and as I indicated when we were discussing the general administration, what kind of research was being done in order to determine what apprenticeship areas were necessary and which ones weren't necessary and whether we were just running courses or trying to discourage people from going into those areas where there may be less employment than there is at the present time, even though people may want to go into them.

MRS. PRICE: Well, as I mentioned the other day to the Member for Kildonan, the director of the apprenticeship is in liaison with the Federal Government as well as the schools here to keep abreast of that, to see which are more popular and which ones should be developed more fully. They keep quite a close liaison with them.

MR. FOX: Can the Minister indicate the relationship between the federal and the province with

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respect to The Apprenticeship Program? Is it cost-shared 50-50 or what is the relationship?

The other question I would like to ask is, is the education in respect to apprenticeship paid for through Manpower at the federal level or is it shared as well by the province and the government, or is it just paid by the province alone?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MRS. PRICE: The Federal Government pays for the salaries of the instructors and the supervisors.

MR. FOX: And we administer the supervisors and the instructors?

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. FOX: I see. Can the Minister indicate how many people are on this, or does she have these in her SMYs for Other Expenditure or for what purposes?

MRS. PRICE: There are 15 SMYs in the apprenticeship.

MR. FOX: And these are all paid for by the Federal Government?

MRS. PRICE: No, the SMYs in the apprenticeship, that's from the Director through to a different — well, there's five supervisors; there's two inspectors. I can't tell you just which ones are which, though. I know that the instructors and the supervisors are paid by the federal, but I can't tell you precisely which ones.

MR. FOX: Under Labour Relations, can the Minister indicate the number of SMYs there?

MRS. PRICE: Seven.

MR. FOX: Seven.

MRS. PRICE: Oh, pardon me; I'm in the wrong. There's more than that; we'll have to count them.

MR. FOX: That would be quite a high salary.

MRS. PRICE: There are 14.

MR. FOX: Fourteen.

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. FOX: Can the Minister indicate the areas that they operate in, Conciliation Officers, etc., I would imagine.

MRS. PRICE: Yes. There's seven Conciliation Officers, there's a Chairman of the Board, the Vice-Chairman, two Board Officers and three administrative support.

MR. FOX: The Pension Commission: does it meet regularly and can you outline its duties, please?

MRS. PRICE: Yes, the Pension Commission is a very active board; they meet regularly.

MR. FOX: What are their particular areas, their parameters?

MRS. PRICE: Well, to study the pensions of the people in the private sector, their registered plans, making sure that they are abiding by all the rules.

MR. FOX: Have there been any violations in respect to pensions set up that the Commission has found?

MRS. PRICE: Not to my knowledge.

MR. FOX: I see.

MRS. PRICE: I'd like to tell the Member for Kildonan that I'll get the questions from Hansard and get back to you.

MR. FOX: Okay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Logan, then Brandon East.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister tell us who the Acting Director is of the Womens Bureau at the present time?

MRS. PRICE: Lillian Mcllwain.

MR. JENKINS: And will there be a competition held in the near future to fill this position?

MRS. PRICE: We're not contemplating it at this time.

MR. JENKINS: Dealing with the Pension Commission and the Other Expenditures, there's an increase from \$21,700 to \$33,800, could the Minister explain this increase, is it a hardware addition item, or what?

MR. MRS. PRICE: The expenditures in the Pension Commission?

MR. JENKINS: Yes.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, that's the operating expenses in the offices, miscellaneous.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, but what causes the increase of approximately say \$12,000, is it additional equipment or what?

MRS. PRICE: I'll have to take that as notice.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you. With the Pension Commission, could the Minister — I remeer reading the report but I'm just a little bit hazy on it now. Who do we hold portability agreements with now? Is it with other provincial jurisdictions and the Federal and how about the CNR, do they hold portability pension portability?

MRS. PRICE: We have portability with the other provinces across Canada and the Federal Government, but I couldn't tell you about the CNR, I haven't heard of that one, I don't think so.

MR. JENKINS: Could the Minister check. There was some talk that there was going to be some portability, since they were a Federal Crown Corporation. I guess it's under this item too that we would deal with Worker's Compensation, is it not, Mr. Chairman, because there is no other place that I see where we can deal with it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, under the Minister's Salary, you can deal with it but as I mentioned to the Member for Kildonan, the Minister has followed, I guess, the course of most Ministers in the past and she doesn't have her staff here, so the detailed questions that are being asked under her Salary she's taken as notice and has agreed to get a written reply to the various members asking those questions.

MR. JENKINS: The question I'm going to ask is one that would be directly under the control of the Minister. There was a mention made last year and I know there was an attempt made to try and fill the position and I want to know if that position is still open within the Minister's staff, that was for a worker's advocate for Workers Compensation and I know they were having difficulty obtaining a person to fill that position, and I want to know if the Minister still contemplates having a worker's advocate and whether she's still actively pursuing that and if not she can say that she's not. I know that we were having quite a bit of difficult to get a person to do this very job. I know that there was money put into the budget last year for such a position but up to the time of the change in government we were not able to get such a person to act as a worker's advocate.

MRS. PRICE: The Vice-Chairman of the Labour Board has been working in that role.

MR. JENKINS: The Vice-Chairman of the Labour Board.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, Hugh Jamison.

MR. JENKINS: It was my understanding that last year that money was put into the budget— this would be a separate position, he would act almost like an ombudsman for injured workers. I know that the former Minister said that he was having quite a bit of difficulty of being able to fill this position and I guess it's not the easiest position in the world to find someone to fill and I just wondered if the Minister has money in her Estimates to cover such a position if such a person could be found.

MRS. PRICE: Not at this time we haven't money.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask the Minister a number of questions in two or three areas. First of all, I would like to ask a question with regard to inspection of plants with high-pressure boilers — I guess that's the expression. I am particularly thinking of plants in my own constituency of Brandon East, namely the Simplot Company Limited and also Hooker Chemicals.

The Minister may have stated this at some committee meeting but if she did do so I wasn't present at that particular time. Is it correct that the Minister has' as a policy, laid down the non-inspection, if you will, or the order that there shall be no inspection by her staff at Simplot during the evening? In other words, that the inspectors would only come during the day and not during the evening.

I have some other questions to ask, following that, but if the answer is "no", well then my other questions do not follow. So I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether that is the policy that she has laid down, that there should be no inspection at that plant, at Simplot, at night.

MRS. PRICE: I already answered that question during my Estimates. It's in Hansard, if you like. We have already gone through that.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I said that the Minister may have answered but I wasn't present. So I just wanted to know whether it is true or not. Is this the case or not?

Well, you know, I am going to assume that it is the case then if she won't answer the question. I just wondered as a matter of courtesy if she would tell me and then I could go on. I am just going to assume that that was the case.

If that is the case, I would also like to know whether she has laid down a policy that inspections will take place only upon notice to the company. I don't know whether that is the policy or not, so I ask very straightforwardly is it a policy that the inspectors will advise the company that they are on their way there to inspect the building, or inspect the facilities, before they come?

If it is the case that there shall be no inspection at nighttime, there is a question of why. Why would that be the case? Because the Simplot Company operates on a 24-hour basis. It has the same level of output, as I understand, during the night hours, during the evening, as it does during the daytime.

Oh yes, okay. Well, now my colleague, the Member for Kildonan does hand me the Hansard of Tuesday ' June 13th, and the answer given by the Minister of Labour at that time, and I'm quoting: "They are not going around at the turn of the shifts now because they have been told not to." So I presume that is a ministerial decision. Quote: "They are going around during the day and they are going around looking to see that the plants are operating in a safe manner, which we are of the opinion that they are."

Well, the point I would like to make is that these plants operate on a 24-hour basis and the danger is just as great at night as it is during the day; it's not as though they shut down or reduce their level of output; it's a constant flow and it would seem to me that if the Minister was concerned with safety and if she agreed with the inspection system as it stands, the fact that there are inspectors, somehow, somewhere, someone must have thought it was a good idea to have inspectors. They are still on staff and they have a job to do, they have a job to do under the Act, under the legislation. It would seem to me therefore that there is no reason why they would not be permitted to inspect

the plant and its operation at nighttime, and I would simply like to know why. Not only would I like to know why, but there are employees at Simplot who are now contacting me wanting to know why would the Minister take that position — if that is her position — that there should be no inspection at nighttime; they don't understand why that would be? They're not suggesting that the people who are doing the job aren't doing it well; I'm sure that the employees, the operating engineers, are very good people; they're doing a good job. I'm not sure whether there's a full complement at Simplot; I'd like to ask the Minister that. Is there now a full complement of second-class engineers at Simplot available 24 hours a day? I know there was some difficulty in getting second-class engineers some months ago, but since Hooker Chemicals at Brandon has begun to lay off people because of sagging economic conditions, there are more of these engineers available. So one would have thought then that Simplot could obtain the required number of second-class engineers, so I'm wondering if the Minister can advise now, are they operating with a full complement of second-class engineers?

A MEMBER: I thought you were going to say second-hand.

MR. EVANS: Yes. Second-class engineers.

MRS. PRICE: Well, firstly I'd like to tell the Member for Brandon East that there certainly is no advance warning given when the inspectors are going out. I would also like to assure you that there are no fewer inspections now than there were prior to August last year; in fact, there are more inspections going on per se per week now than there was prior to August last year. It was only in August when the former Deputy — I guess under his orders — ordered the inspectors to start inspecting around the clock, but prior to that it had never been thus.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I was advised today by personnel that work at Simplot that there used to be inspection at night, and this has gone on for years. Now I don't know; I'm only going on what I've been told, so I don't want to be accused of being a liar or something, but I have been told by personnel at the company that there used to be, and it was normal, and this has gone on for years, for inspection to take place at night from time to time.

Now, I don't know any detail. I don't know how frequently or who inspected or what have you but it would seem to me that this is a departure. It didn't start in August but it started, I was told and I can only repeat what I was told and I can only go on that, by someone who works there who is knowledgeable, that there used to be, for years, I was advised that there have been inspections at night because it was important to inspect it around the clock because it was an ongoing sort of a continuous operation. It wasn't something that shut down at night and went on a lower level of activity but it maintained pretty well a constant level of activity. So I wonder if the Minister would look into the matter and see whether it isn't advisable to inspect at nighttime from time to time, as has been the case for years. There is some concern, I understand, that that isn't happening and I don't know why there should be that change. This wasn't, as I said, something that started in August. It's been going on for years. Maybe it's been going on during the previous Conservative government for all I know.

MRS. PRICE: I will get a report for you from the director of the mechanical engineers but he has assured me that the inspections have been going on regularly and more than there was prior to August, as I mentioned to you before, that there wasn't any difference in them now as there was prior to August.

MR. EVANS: Okay, I'll look forward to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I thank the Minister for that answer and I'll look forward to that information.

The other area that I would like to discuss and ask the odd question is with regard to The Workplace Safety and Health Act and that is the role of the advisory council. There has been expressions in the media by various members of that council that they may becoming a rubber stamp. Now I know the Minister is also quoted in the paper as saying that there is no way it will become a rubber stamp which I am glad to hear. I'm wondering, however — and the Minister is entitled to use the committee as she sees fit providing it is within the terms of the legislation that was passed by the Legislature — but what I'd like to know is, how does she see the council being able to help her and her department?

She doesn't want it to be engaged in administrative matters but she wants it to be strictly advisory and what I'd like to know is just what area, you know, how is this going to function. It would seem to me it would have to get a lot of information as to what's going on in the different industries. It would seem to me that at some point, if you wanted to carry out the intention of this Act, that there would have to be some general survey, some general review of safety conditions and health

conditions, industry by industry, you know, taking those that have the highest amounts of hazards first of all and then, you know, gradually working down the scale. It seems to me that would be partly carrying out the intention of that Act. I'm asking the Minister, just how does she therefore see that council working in an advisory capacity without being engaged pretty intensively in some kind of a survey of those industries with regard to health and safety, or does she expect that that will be done by the departmental staff and the departmental staff alone will look at that without, let's say due reference to the advisory council?

MRS. PRICE: The advisory council has been meeting on a regular basis from fall until about, I guess it was January or February, but what they were doing was studying the Act clause by clause which I didn't feel was the idea the advisory council was set up for. What I have told them is that when this new committee that has been formed as of this week will come back in with their recommendations, then they will be handed to them to go into to study. Also as the Member for Brandon East has mentioned, there are different work places where there are things that need to be studied and those are the roles that I find for this advisory council, not studying the Act clause by clause and this is precisely what they will be doing. The input that this committee has given us will be forwarded to them and they will be asked for their advice on it. This is what I want them to look into and to research.

MR. EVANS: I'm glad to hear the Minister state categorically, you know, there is a positive role for them which is good. I'm just wondering though, if she wouldn't mind telling me, I'm not sure what committee she is talking about now. She said, "when the committee does its work." I'm not sure which committee she is talking about.

MRS. PRICE: Well, the new committee of three that has just been formed to go into the mining safety, that is one, and we will be getting them working quite actively.

MR. EVANS: And they will be looking into the other areas as well?

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. EVANS: Yes. I'm sorry, I don't want to be repetitious, but who is on the committee of the three?

MRS. PRICE: There is Claude Wright, a retired engineer, highly qualified, as the impartial chairman; there is Ken Valentine from the Steelworkers in Toronto representing the Steelworkers and the miners; and there is a Mr. Munn who is a retired president of INCO representing the industry.

MR. EVANS: I see. So this small committee after it's finished with mining will go onto other areas and then, in turn . . .

MRS. PRICE: No, this committee of three that I just mentioned is precisely for the mining safety but they will be feeding their findings back to the department who, in turn, will give it to the advisory council to have them look into these matters to check them.

MR. EVANS: I see. With regard to other industries then, those that are obvious candidates for excessive hazards, how does she see sort of a general review taking place of these other industries? Has she yet thought out or has she been advised how the council might operate with regard to other areas. I mean what is sort of the mechanism that will be at work? It would seem to me for the council to do its job, it's going to have to have a lot of information. You know, you just can't sit by and say, "Well, we think the XYZ company is very dangerous," and so on, you've got to have the information, you've got to have the statistics and you've also got to have expert advice because I don't expect the council itself to be, I don't think the intent was that the council itself be comprised of "experts", but people who are concerned. So just how would this process work?

MRS. PRICE: Well, as you know, there have been 313 companies designated to have safety committees and I'm sure that the people who are representing the labour on these different safety committees will be in contact with us if they feel there is something that needs upgrading in their workplace and we feel that this will be part of the role of the advisory council.

MR. EVANS: I see. Mr. Chairman, then I gather that the committees that have been set up in these different areas, these different industries, are working and in due course they will be bringing up

matters. That's fair enough. I guess this is what the Minister meant when she is quoted on June 14th in the Tribune, "It will be getting more work than it can handle in the very near future," she said. I guess that's what you're referring to.

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. EVANS: Okay. One other area I'd like to ask a couple of questions and that is this area of lead poisoning. I've got before me the article that appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press and while I know there is some reference to Mr. Rabinovitch and so on, it seems to me the article goes well beyond any comments he's making and it goes on — I don't know where it got the information — and talks about the problems of lead poisoning in Manitoba and, of course, it refers specifically to one company, namely Canadian Bronze and there's some concern that there may be some handicap that the departmental staff may be operating under inasmuch as they cannot directly get the reports of the doctors on those individuals that have been affected by lead poisoning. This article, this is the Winnipeg Free Press of May 30th, quotes a Mr. Luis Rufo who's the President of the International Molders and Allied Workers Union who seems to be, well, he's very concerned and he says in this article, "If nothing is done as a result of the investigation we will have to take some drastic action itself." Now, I don't know what that is, that's the union itself. There is reference to the fact that the safety division doesn't necessarily get the information about that worker that may have had a lead poisoning problem.

Apparently, I'm just again looking at the article and I'm reading a sentence here, so this is a quotation from the article, "The safety division would," that's of the department, "if it contacted the worker directly about a problem which his doctor had not yet informed him, be breaching medical ethics and infringing on a doctor-patient relationship." I'm sorry, I referred to Mr. Rufo as the President, I understand he's the business agent of the International Molders and Allied Workers Union.

So there is a problem it seems, Mr. Chairman, of getting this information and it says that Mr. Elias, I'm not sure who he is, but it says, "Elias envisages most company doctors co-operating if requested to by the division, but said there would likely be one or two hold-outs. The Minister of Labour has the authority to order a company to co-operate but we prefer to use compliance" Elias says.

At any rate, my question is just what has developed here? Is the Safety Division of the Minister of the Department of Labour getting this information now? Are the companies co-operating in this matter or is there still a problem in not obtaining that information in this way?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MRS. PRICE: I mentioned on Tuesday, I believe in this room, that there is a very thorough study done on Canadian Bronze. I said I would bring the report back to you gentlemen. Apparently the findings that they found were certainly not in concert with what this individual has made reference to, they found that it's quite the contrary but however, as soon as I have an official report I will be giving it to you.

MR. EVANS: So, you will either table it in the committee or table it in the House when you have had a report of that. Okay, one final question that I have in the safety and health aspect of the department, can the Minister advise whether there are any — we've been talking about anhydrous ammonia and we've been talking now about the problem of lead poisoning — are there any other industries that she knows of off-hand that do pose some considerable potential hazards. Are there some that she can advise us of that should be at the top of the list for any sort of review to see whether it is a hazard or not. Maybe it isn't, a lot of people may think there are hazards and there may not be hazards, or there may not be the degree of hazards that are being alleged, so can the Minister advise whether there are some other industries that should be looked at pretty quickly.

MRS. PRICE: I'm sorry that I didn't know that I was going to have these questions to answer. I have some particulars, there's 167 dangerous chemicals that are being used in the province today, not just the two we've been talking about, and the man from the Emergency Measures has given me quite an interesting piece of equipment, like a slide rule only quite thorough, listing all these different dangerous chemicals and what to do in the event of something happening due to one particular one on this sliding rule, as I say. I also would like to mention to you that our new fire book has come out in the department and in it is a three-day seminar that is being held precisely on the dangerous chemicals. It's being handled for 100 people by the department.

MR. EVANS: All right, I thank the Minister for that information.

MRS. PRICE: With regard to any specific companies, I have not been told any. Dr. Krywulak said that there are ongoing studies done continuously; research with regard to the chemicals and the lead poisonings he does not find that there has been anything that has been really effective to anybody.

MR. EVANS: All right, on a completely different subject. There has been for some years I guess, consideration of improved fire-fighting training courses for rural, particularly for rural fire-fighting departments, where there are a lot of volunteers being used as opposed to people who are paid a regular salary as you find in larger cities and centres.

Part and parcel of this effort to step up the training, I know there's been very good training, we've got some excellent people in the Fire Commissioner's office, but part of that was to set up — we had considered this in years gone by — part of that effort was to set up a fire-fighting school in the City of Brandon using what has been referred to as the old Indian Residential School and I see there's still some discussion in the community about that and I'd like to know whether this idea is still being pursued by the department, whether the Minister and her staff are looking at the matter of establishing a fire-fighting school in the City of Brandon. I should just say that this so-called old Indian Residential School is a very solid building and apparently it is laid out in such a way that it is suitable for dormitory living so that people would come in from the outlying towns and be there for a week or something and they would get the course, and they would do whatever they do in the way of practice and presumably improve their skills and their knowledge of fire-fighting. And there was a lot of consideration of that and it didn't seem to go anywhere but I'm pretty sure the office of the Fire Commissioner is very concerned about this and I'm just wondering is there anything in the works, is this still being considered and if the Minister has anything to say about that we'd like to hear it.

In the same book that I just mentioned about the seminar on the dangerous chemicals there are number of fire training schools taking place throughout Manitoba. There's also one taking place that opened yesterday here in Winnipeg for members from rural as well as Winnipeg. I was there yesterday at the Empress Lanes where they have a three-day seminar and as I say it opened yesterday . I would venture to say there would be about 125 participants.

MR. EVANS: Yes well, Mr. Chairman, that's very good and I appreciate that these training programs do go on in different parts of the province and more or less on a continuing basis, but my question related to a centre that would be established in Brandon, I guess mainly for that part of the province, but there was some intensive look at it a couple of years ago, and that is to acquire that particular building from the Federal Government for that purpose and I just asked whether that is an active consideration or it is not? I had received some information that it was; I didn't think it was, but . . .

MRS. PRICE: Yes, it still is a consideration. There has been a number of areas that people have wanted one, naturally, to take place in their area, but Brandon is the most logical one from an economic point of view and it hasn't been scrapped; it's still under consideration, and I'm sure that one day it will be, in the not-too-distant future.

MR. EVANS: Fine.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Flin Flon.

MR. THOMAS BARROW: I just have one question, Mr. Chairman, and that concerns the Workplace Safety and Health Inspector at The Pas. He left his job or quit in March and he hasn't been replaced, and my question is, are you going to replace him?

MRS. PRICE: Just a moment. I've had to interrupt for a message that I got; if you'll excuse me, I'm sorry.

MR. BARROW: That's okay.

MRS. PRICE: Sorry, to the Member for Flin Flon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would the Member for Flin Flon repeat that please, for the Minister?

MR. BARROW: Yes. We had a Workplace Safety and Health Inspector; he was stationed at The Pas. He looked after everything except mines. He retired or quit in March and he hasn't been replaced. I wonder if it's the Minister's intention to replace him.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, it is. We've had an inspector going out from Winnipeg that has been working quite well. We are looking for someone; it's not that easy, but if and when — I'll take out the "if" — when we get one, we are looking, and when we get one, the position will be refilled.

MR. BARROW: To be stationed at The Pas?

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. BARROW: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Burrows.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have two or three questions that I wish to direct to the Minister who was denied the opportunity and the privilege to present and defend her Estimates in their entirety. As a matter of fact, I think it should also be mentioned at this point in time, Mr. Chairman, for the record, that despite the government's apparent anxiousness to pass the Estimates of this Minister's department by imposing the closure rule, which is provided for in the rules, but strangely enough, for some reason unknown to me, the government seems to have lost interest and the desire in passing the balance of the Minister's Estimates today. Because as you may have noted, Mr. Chairman, on several occasions during the course of the afternoon — in fact, I would suspect even at this very moment — if a motion were made by the opposition that the Committee rise, it would pass. So it would seem to indicate to me that today, for some reason or another, the government isn't all that anxious to have the Minister's Estimates passed, or that even the consideration of the Estimates proceed at as rapid a rate as possible. —(Interjection)—

If the Honourable Member for Minnedosa wishes to enter into the debate, when I am through speaking he will have every opportunity to make his contribution. —(Interjection)— And honourable members who are just newly-elected to the House, eventually they may learn that during the Estimates debate, every member is at liberty to make whatever contribution he wishes related to the Estimates of that department, and some day perhaps the Member for Pembina may learn. —(Interjection)—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Member for Burrows is the recognized speaker.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Whoever it was that the Member for Minnedosa was referring to as a smartass — perhaps himself, I don't know and I'm not going to concern myself about it.

And without the assistance of the Honourable Member for Pembina, I feel quite confident to proceed in dealing with the matters that I intend to deal with. And he too — I'm sure Mr. Chairman will recognize him and he will have his opportunity to make his contribution, and the same applies to the Member for Minnedosa. —(Interjection)— And perhaps the sooner these two members cease interjecting, the sooner we'll proceed with the consideration of the Estimates of this Minister, Mr. Chairman. —(Interjection)— Well — no, I'm not confused, only I'm tempted to call the Member for Pembina a smartass just as he called somebody a smartass a minute ago.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please.

MR. ORCHARD: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I did not refer to anyone in this room as a smartass, and I would ask the Member for Burrows to retract that comment, because I didn't refer to anybody as a smartass.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I would ask, Mr. Chairman, on the same point of order, if the Honourable Member for Pembina will read Hansard, he will find that I made no reference to him having referred to anyone as a smartass.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, gentlemen. The Member for Burrows has been recognized by the Chairman as the recognized speaker; would the members at the far end of the table please let him carry on without any further interruptions.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I would wish to know, Mr. Chairman, what the Minister's position is on a matter which has become one of tremendous concern to the work force, and that is the matter of paid

educational leave, which is an item of negotiation perhaps laid on the bargaining table in the negotiation of many, many collective agreements at the present time. As the Honourable Minister may know — I think it was last fall sometime, in October or November — her counterpart, the Minister of Labour for the Federal Government, in speaking at an international labour conference, did endorse the concept, the principle, of paid educational leave and I would think that if the Honourable Minister would read the notes of the speech that he then made, that he in fact is encouraging employers to take into consideration the provision of paid educational leave as an item contained within the collective agreements. So I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, whether our Minister supports the principles of paid educational leave for workers.

My second question, Mr. Chairman, relates to the Labour Education Centre. Now, I did ask the Minister of Education whether there is provision in his Estimates for the conduct of the program at the Labour Education Centre and he indicated at that time that there was not, and in view of the fact that the program contemplated or planned to be offered therein is closely related to both departments, that of Education and Labour, I am wondering, Mr. Chairman, whether perhaps there is some provision for the Labour Education Centre contained in the Estimates of the Minister of Labour. And if there is not, I would want to know what the Minister's attitude toward, views upon the Labour Education Centre, are. Is this something that she would encourage her government, her Cabinet, to provide funds for? I believe that the matter was discussed between the Manitoba Federation of Labour and the First Minister and the Minister of Education, I believe, and I do not know whether the Minister of Labour was involved in that meeting or not. But I am sure that this is a matter of concern to her and no doubt she has certain views upon the matter that the people of Manitoba would appreciate hearing from her.

As she probably knows, the structure for the delivery of the program is already there. It was set up as a separate legal entity containing representation, or making provision for, because I don't know whether at the present time it does have representation from government or not. But there is provision for representation from government on its board, that of the universities of the Province of Manitoba and the trade union movement. So at this point in time the only thing that it lacks is the dollars to get the program going and the machinery is there ready to roll, as it were.

My third question, Mr. Chairman, is also related to labour education but not labour education for the people in the work force but whether she feels that there is a need to provide some type of a labour education program, an orientation program to familiarize the young ' people about to enter the work force of their rights, their responsibilities under labour legislation and other matters related to the world of work which no doubt would make our young people entering the labour force better workers and better informed workers all of which would be in the best interests of the province, I'm sure. So on that question, the third one, I would like to hear the Minister's views whether she feels that the matter of a labour education program be something that should be considered to be provided for our youth.

MRS. PRICE: With regard to the paid educational leave, I believe that comes under my Civil Service Estimates which haven't come up yet and you can discuss it with me at that time.

The education centre, as the member knows, comes under the Minister of Education. There isn't any funding in the Department of Labour for this. With regard to my own personal feelings towards a labour education centre, I think it would be a very good idea to have one. I think it would profit both labour and management to have one but I would like to see it under the university, under the umbrella of the university, more than as an independent education centre and I think there would be a lot to be gained by it. I would like to tell you that I am definitely in support of the concept of upgrading employees through an education centre such as this.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman, in my third question related to a labour education program for people about to enter the work force, because a labour education centre as it is presently structured is designed to offer a program for those presently in the work force and I would like to hear her views on the advisability and the merits of offering a labour education program for those about to enter the work force.

MRS. PRICE: Well, as I say, I am in complete agreement that there should be one. The thing is that we don't have the dollars. Hopefully, next year there will be dollars in the budget that there can be something brought in in that regard.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to paid educational leave, I was not referring exclusively to paid educational leave for the Civil Service, but I was referring more to her attitude toward the concept of paid educational leave as it may apply to the private sector or to anyone. In other words, does she support the principle, the notion of paid educational leave or does she not, because in my introductory remarks I did indicate to her that when Mr. Munroe spoke

of paid educational leave last fall he was not referring only to paid educational leave for the Federal Civil Service but he endorsed the concept of paid educational leave as it may relate to the work force, to the economy in general and encouraged employers and employee groups to consider the incorporation of a provision for paid educational leave into their collective agreements. So I simply want to know where the Minister stands on that concept.

MRS. PRICE: Well, the educational leave is normally a part of their collective bargaining or in the event that there isn't any collective bargainings, I believe that they are a company policy that there has to be between the employer and the employee. I'll reiterate, I am very much in favour of it. It gives an employee a chance to be better skilled and improve their wages and I do support the idea.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for St. Vital.

MR. D. JAMES WALDING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it was last Thursday evening that the Minister undertook to provide me with a British Columbia study on the minimum wage. I wonder if she has that study and if she could make it available to me.

MRS. PRICE: No, I don't as yet, but I will get it.

MR. WALDING: I ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, when I might expect to receive that.

MRS. PRICE: Soon. I'll get it as soon as I can for the member.

MR. WALDING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if I might ask the Minister where under her Estimates would I find the Fire Commissioner's Office?

MRS. PRICE: It's under the Workplace Safety here; although it doesn't come under the umbrella of the Workplace Safety, it is the Fire Prevention, that's where it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(d) — the Member for St. Vital.

MR. WALDING: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I ask the Minister what the budget is for the Fire Commissioner's Office for this year, or does this amount of \$536,000 all apply to the Fire Commissioner's Office?

MRS. PRICE: Yes, it does.

MR. WALDING: Can the Minister tell us if the staff complement at the FIIRE Commissioner's Office is the same as last year? If so, what is it?

MRS. PRICE: Yes, it is the same.

MR. WALDING: Can the Minister inform the committee whether she has given any new instructions or new policy directives to the Fire Commissioner?

4104MRS. PRICE: No, it's exactly the same procedures as there has been in the past, there has been no change. Just a moment, I would like to interject. Under the Fire Preventions, there is a Canada-Manitoba Northlands Agreement, as you see, there isn't any money estimated for this year. That is a complement of two people that had been working up north that we do not have at the present time and we don't feel that we are going to replace them.

MR. WALDING: So then there is nothing else under Fire Prevention other than the Fire Commissioner's Office, would that be correct?

MRS. PRICE: That's right.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Chairman, the Fire Commissioner's Office did a report on the Portage Home perhaps two years ago now. Can the Minister tell me, was that a part of an overall provincial review by the Fire Commissioner's Office of similar institutions and, if so, is that study and review now complete?

MRS. PRICE: I would have to take that as notice being as how it was before my time, I'm not familiar with that particular report. I know there was one taken but I haven't read the . . .

MR. WALDING: Perhaps the Minister will also take as notice, Mr. Chairman, the question as to whether the Commissioner was reviewing all government buildings or all institutions and what other buildings and structures was he reviewing? Again, is that review complete?

MRS. PRICE: I will take it as notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I want a couple of follow-up questions in respect to Simplot. Have the exemptions been lifted at Simplot now or are they still in effect?

MRS. PRICE: They're still in effect.

MR. FOX: They're still in effect.

MRS. PRICE: Yes.

MR. FOX: But the other day the Minister indicated that she thought there was a full complement of engineers. Can she indicate why the exemption would be in effect if there is, or else maybe there isn't, maybe that wasn't a correct statement I heard.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, I made that statement but there is an ongoing training taking place in both those companies and as the people progress they go up from fourth, to third, to second, and as of about three weeks ago they had a full complement. I don't check every day but there is no need to put it on and take it off, we just leave it as is and these people would like to have their full complement the same as anybody else would.

MR. FOX: All right. Are there any other plants short of qualified engineers that the Minister is aware of beside Simplot and Hooker?

MRS. PRICE: No, not to my knowledge.

MR. FOX: If they do become short will the Minister give them exemptions too?

MRS. PRICE: Not necessarily.

MR. FOX: Well, can she tell us what her policy is?

MRS. PRICE: Well, I was approached by one of the Crown corporations to do likewise and I saw fit not to do it so, as I say, it wouldn't be necessarily . . .

MR. FOX: Does she not believe this is an unfair situation for one company and not for others?

MRS. PRICE: Well, I think the Member for Kildonan, being an engineer, he knows that there are different sets of circumstances in different work places and the one that asked me the other time — I would not make it, for instance, for any institutions. There certainly would be exceptions to the rule; it isn't a blanket opinion that I have that they should all be exempted.

MR. FOX: Well, I agree that each case should be looked at on its own merits but then too, would not the Minister agree that once a full complement has been achieved where there was an exemption, that the exemption should be removed to sort of encourage them to stay at and within the regulations and within the statutes of The Power Engineers Act?

MRS. PRICE: I don't think that has any bearing on the operation in a safe manner of the plant. We would have to be giving it to them and removing it. We have more to do than that. I think that these people are people that are just as concerned about the safe operation of their plant as the honourable gentlemen sitting around this table and they are going to the best of their advantage to keep their complement up to par as they would like to have it. But, as I say, in some

cases, people go to greener fields and then they are again short of the odd second-class engineer and have to wait until one of them gets through his papers again. I think it's the lesser of the two evils than having plants close and then you'd be all crying because there was more unemployment.

MR. FOX: No one is asking that the Minister close the plants but I do believe that if we have a measure or a rule or a yardstick by which we operate, and it's a statute, that everyone should be treated equally. Now, I believe that if the Minister doesn't remove the exemption once they have their full complement at these plants that there would be a tendency to save money by using lower class engineers. I'm sure that they're worried about safety but they're also worried about their balance sheet and it gives them an advantage as long as the exemption exists. Now, under certain circumstances, yes, an exemption should be created temporarily until a situation that happens to be a crisis at that particular moment can be alleviated but it shouldn't be in perpetuity so, therefore, again I repeat, does the Minister have a definite policy of enforcing The Power Engineers Act in respect to all plants and that Simplot and Hooker should not have an advantage over other power plants that have to operate under The Power Engineers Act?

MRS. PRICE: The two companies that are being referred to certainly weren't given the dispensation because of a monetary gain that they could have, it was strictly from a point of view that they could not get the second-class engineers.

With regard to removing the exemptions when they are in full complement, that can be considered.

MR. FOX: In respect to the various areas where we have industrial disputes, can the Minister give us a brief resume of whether conciliation officers have been used at Safeway, also at the construction workers' strike and also the brewery workers and to what extent that conciliation has progressed?

MRS. PRICE: The conciliation officers are working daily in the construction and with the retail clerks and the Safeway. With regard to the brewers, we have not been asked to participate as negotiators with them.

MR. FOX: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Minister the other day indicated that under administration of The Workplace Safety and Health Act, which is Section (a), there were only two people and I understand from the description of how the Workplace Safety and Health Division is divided, this section takes in research, education as well as administration, but she indicated there were only two people in that particular department. Can she indicate whether there is research being done through the general administration research section or else through a particular person or one of those two people that are at the administrative level?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think I can point out to the Member for Kildonan that when we were on 1.(b) Administration and 1.(c) which was Research, I think Hansard would show that the Minister said at that time that they also do a lot of the research for the Workplace Safety and Health.

MR. FOX: Then who does the education, Mr. Chairman?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, I think that last Thursday evening the Minister spent quite a bit of time on that first section and on research and administration and it's in Hansard.

MR. FOX: I agree we spent a considerable amount of time but we didn't get a specific answer as to where the education would come from because the description in her annual report indicates it would come from administration but when she indicated there were only two people there, one person in charge and the other one a secretary, I'd like to know whether that person that's in the administrative area is going to do the education and deliver the training and the materials as well.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MRS. PRICE: The education process is an ongoing one through our inspectors, that's where it comes, and not from the administrative secretary or the director.

MR. FOX: So therefore the report didn't give a correct indication of where the education, the delivery of training and material would come from, is that correct? This is on Page 37 of the Workplace

Safety and Health Division report.

MRS. PRICE: I haven't got it in front of me so I can't talk about it.

MR. FOX: Well, I'm not going to quibble over it but it is the Department of Labour Annual Report for 1977 and it says . . .

MRS. PRICE: Except that I didn't bring them with me, my papers with me, as the Chairman told you.

MR. FOX: Yes, well I just want to indicate to the Minister what it says: The Division is divided into four sections, one concerned with general administrative matters, research and preparing, delivering, training and educational materials. The second is concerned with medical consultation and examination.

So I again ask whether the educational training and the delivery of materials will be coming out of that department aside from the kind of training and education that is done by the inspectors and the other various people in the various divisions.

MRS. PRICE: There is an overlapping of functions but the labour inspectors are carrying on these functions in their duties and as they are going around, they are providing education in all the different workplaces as needed.

MR. FOX: But in respect to the total overall view of the Workplace Safety and Health Division, it isn't co-ordinated at the administrative level because there is no one there to do it, is that it?

MRS. PRICE: Well, originally there were two SMYs which had been put into the Workplace Safety which had not ever been filled, one for an education and research officer and one for an administrative and they have not been filled or at this time are they contemplating being filled.

MR. FOX: Well, can the Minister give a reason why she feels that it is not necessary?

MRS. PRICE: We are in the throes of studying and changing the department around to get more flexibility in the department. Also the fact that the Workplace Safety was divided into six different areas made it pretty difficult for them to operate. We are now about ready to be under one roof in the Norquay Building which will be ready in a couple of months and we find that that alone is going to help the efficiency considerably.

MR. FOX: But actually The Workplace Safety and Health Act will really be under four divisions, divisions (c) and (d) are out or is it . . . Yes, I believe (c) and (d) are under the Minister and not under The Workplace Safety and Health Act, is that correct?

MRS. PRICE: No, (b), (c), (e) and (f) are under the Workplace Safety; (d) Fire Prevention is not under it.

MR. FOX: That would make it five.

MRS. PRICE: Pardon me, (b) is not; Mechanical Engineering is not under it. This set-up in the Estimates Book is not quite right. The Workplace Safety and Health, what they have under them is the Industrial Hygiene, and the Safety and Health and the Occupational Medicine. Mechanical Engineering is a separate division as is the Fire Prevention.

MR. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One other question, in respect to the strike vote that has taken place at the packing plants, was there a conciliation officer available? Did they have any use for him or did they not get to that stage?

MRS. PRICE: They haven't requested any as yet but we have people standing by that will be ready to go into it.

MR. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

A MEMBER: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, are we going to pack it in?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I was just going to let the member finish. In accordance with Rule 19.2, the hour of 4:30 having arrived, I am interrupting proceedings of the committee for Private Members' Hour. We will return at 8 p.m.

6 SUPPLY — HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. J. Wally McKenzie: Health and Social Development (e) the Care and Treatment of Adult Offenders, Resolution 63, Item 3. Community Agencies—pass — the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: I'll wait for the Minister so he can answer the questions that I have, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I thought that when we finished the sitting of the committee the other evening, the last time we were meeting, that I had responded to most of the questions that had been put with respect to the care and treatment of adult offenders at that juncture with the exception of a specialized question that was asked by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition, but I certainly would defer to my friend the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, if there is something I left unanswered. I recall that we were at the time discussing the general approaches that the government hoped to take in the field of treatment and care of adult offenders and some of the emphasis that we hoped to be placing on work programs, work projects, the development of the rehabilitation camp concept and the useful and healthy application of inmates of our correctional institutions and our jails, to work projects generally.

The question that the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition asked me as we concluded that evening's sitting had to do with a special project related to problems in the inner-city in a juvenile group or juvenile component that had received funding in the past from the United Way and from one or two other sources, plus funding that was made available through sort of a combined, but I would say only sort of quasi official approach of the Department of Education and the Department of Urban Affairs. This was a program that provided street-workers to work with teenage boys and girls with particular problems in that particular area and most of the problems were related not just generally to behavioural situations but to the non-medical use of narcotics and glue sniffing and that type of thing.

That program which is carried out under the general aegis of the Winnipeg Boys and Girls Clubs Incorporated, still is in place, still is continuing, but the street-worker aspect of it was I think funded to some extent, I think about \$35,000 last year through a one time only grant that was made available through the Departments of Education and Urban Affairs. There was no direct funding from the Department of Health and Social Development or the Ministry of Corrections and Rehabilitative Services, so I'm not able to take responsibility for that or to answer in definitive terms to the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition except to say that I know that those connected with the program and the project are seeking additional sources of revenue this year. It's my understanding that they have something in the neighbourhood of \$114,000 in funding already assured, but whether there will be funding coming from Urban Affairs and Education for that street-worker component, I could not say, he would have to ask those questions of the those departments in those respective departmental Estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Chairman, the evening when we were discussing this item before we, I think, got into a particular area of looking at some of the alternative measures for institutionalizing criminals in the province. What I don't think we fully examined was really what's happening in the primary institutions, particularly those in Headingley Jail itself.

I think that public attention has been drawn to conditions in jails by the activity of the parliamentary committee that looked at federal institutions this last year and reported some pretty drastic and severe kinds of conditions and one that gave rise to some real concern about the way in which the operation and administration of our penal institutions are involved.

Now, I know it's not possible to make a total transition to the two, but you know it strikes me, Mr. Chairman, we have never undertaken a similar kind of inquiry in our own provincial jail systems, that we have always relied, I think, on the voracity and validity of remarks made by the Minister in Estimates debate but have never really opened up those institutions for examination of that kind.

I took with some interest the fact that the Minister indicated that some 300-odd people were

last week incarcerated in Headingley Jail. It seems to be substantially above what the capacity is. There have been reports in the past about severe lack of training on the parts of the guards in that area and the difficulty with the Remand Centre, and the total lack of facilities for counselling or for consultations between lawyers and clients, the total lack of those kinds of facilities, the idleness that the Minister himself referred to, which appears that there is no change taking place.

It is my question to ask whether there is any intention, upon the part of the Minister, to investigate conditions in our primarily penal institutions on the provincial level to determine what the kind of situations are and to receive the reports from the prisons themselves, which I think is one of the major assets that the Parliamentary Committee was able to provide. It wasn't simply listening to the administrative side, it was listening to the side of those who are in the institution itself.

It also leads me to a question which I am curious about. I see that the Minister of Public Works is in his chair and he may provide an additional answer. There was some major question about the building of an additional federal penitentiary in the Province of Manitoba last year, located at Selkirk, and it appears to me, as I gather, that the land on which that federal penitentiary is to be built is provincial land. No decision has been forthcoming on that. As I gather, the matter is still before the Executive Council to determine the allocation of that land for a new federal penitentiary. And I am wondering if, in fact, does the Provincial Government have reservations about the building of that second maximum security prison in the province and is that the reason why there has been the inordinate delay in a decision on that. Perhaps the Minister can indicate to us whether there is any review taking place of that placement of a second penitentiary, and whether there has been any attempt to suggest alternative forms of care custody in the province, as opposed to the second maximum security.

If there isn't, perhaps he could indicate to us when a decision might be expected by the Provincial Government, transferring the land to the Federal Government for the construction of that prison.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the latter question of the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge, I don't have any information that I can give him directly on it because my department has not been directly involved. I think the questions would have to be put to the Honourable the Attorney-General. I can certainly pursue that with the Attorney-General on the honourable member's behalf.

I believe the general determination as to community location has been satisfactorily resolved but the specifics as to the precise parcel and piece of land are not, to my knowledge, resolved and I can't give my honourable friend any information on that. I will pursue that with the Attorney-General, however.

As to his first question, the answer is, yes we do recognize the value of examination and intents of assessment of our institutions, and the value of measuring performance and effectiveness, and productivity quality both inside and outside, both with respect to those confined in our correctional institutions and those who serve in them in a custodial or administrative capacity. We are, as a consequence, carrying out management audits of all our correctional institutions now along the lines of the management audit that was implemented under the previous Minister and the previous government, and reached a conclusion shortly after the election of our government and which produced recommendations which have since been pretty broadly implemented. The same type of management audit is being undertaken in our six adult correctional institutions and also in the three rehabilitation camps, for a total of nine.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Chairman, then I understand from the Minister that those would be in-house management audits, that they would be done by the staff of the department undertaking this. If that's so, is there any inclination to provide any public knowledge of those or would it be simply a matter that the audit would be conducted and the examination analysis done, and then the certain decision taken as to the corrections that may be necessary on those.

So I would be interested to know if there would be any inclination to provide for public release of the results of those examinations. I would certainly personally be interested and I think probably other members of this House would be, because it has been a matter of some debate and discussion in certainly the years that I have been here, as to really what is the condition in the jails and the correctional institutions, and what should be done to improve upon them. And it may be that there would be some value in having those released.

I would also be interested in knowing what kind of programs are presently available to prisoners, in terms of dealing with counselling, in terms of dealing with proposed post-rehabilitation practices. I am mindful, again, of the large number of native people in the jails — I think some 30 percent or 40 percent of the jail population is native — whether there is any working done with the native

organizations like Native Clan to encourage and support the work that they would do in our provincial correctional institutions, and what kind of support the Provincial Government supplies to these institutions — I think it's to the chaplain's visits that's run by the Catholic Church, and other groups — to ensure that there is that kind of contact and communication, and counselling and support for prisoners and their families in the jails. Perhaps the Minister could elaborate on exactly what are the programs that are available in terms of the kind of support services in the jails that are required.

MR. SHERMAN: The function of the management audit is being aided and assisted, Mr. Chairman, by outside expertise, by persons from the general public and the general community with particular assessment expertise in this field who are not employees of the department and who, therefore, are not in-house personnel, but they are being used as consultants and, therefore, are members of the team or teams that are carrying out the audits, and the teams are generally in-house teams, as the honourable member suggests. So that although we're using some outside expertise as consultants, I couldn't argue that there's independent public input as such.

His suggestion is certainly worthwhile and I'll take a look at it. I'm not sure of the complications, the difficulties that might ensue. I'd have to ask for advice as to how the management audit was conducted and reached its conclusions with respect to the Youth Centre and whether or not there might have been better results and better efficiencies and wider input obtainable by doing things a little bit differently and what kinds of difficulties are possibly likely to arise if the audit operation is conducted in a more public way.

I would imagine that there are some benefits to that kind of participation, but like everything else in the world I am sure there must be another side to the question. There might be some drawbacks, some negatives to it; I'm not familiar enough with it to be able to offer a judgment but it's certainly a worthwhile suggestion and I'll discuss it with my department officials.

With respect to the kinds of treatment and services and consideration in the training and rehabilitation and readjustment area available to our jail populations in the adult field, Mr. Chairman, the range of such services or opportunities includes educational opportunities, including high school and college courses, religious programs conducted through the chaplaincy service and through the administration of the institutions themselves, upgrading of work skills, general training and familiarization in life skills. There's counselling in terms of personal problems and the psychological adjustment necessary to enable persons with this difficulty to recognize and cope with the values and the realities of society that they have to meet as a challenge on their release.

There's work experience in the shops and in the kitchens and particularly in the work activities that I referred to the other evening when we were last on this particular item. There's access to vocational training; training by corrections' staff in such skills and crafts as carpentry, painting, barbering and tailoring. There's access to day parole and full parole based of course on the nature of the sentence and the responsiveness of the individual.

Temporary absences for purposes of treatment or employment. Access to alcoholism workers' programs through the Alcoholism Foundation, through the community, through volunteers and through staff, psychological assessment and counselling, financial and debt counselling, visiting programs, recreation programs, hobbycraft and inmate councils.

There are some other areas of opportunity and activity under consideration too, but I don't think it's necessary perhaps to belabour the point, Mr. Chairman. Those give honourable members an idea of the sort of general spectrum.

The so-called Skills for Living Program, which is an integral part of the system involves the exploitation of pre-release opportunities; work in bush camps, the volunteer program that I referred to the other evening involving members of the Headingley inmate population in working with residents of the Manitoba School for the Retarded at Portage la Prairie; and the work in the gardens, in the greenhouse area — the garden and greenhouse technology — related to the Headingley property itself. Those would be the general highlights that are available in this area, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: —pass — the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J.R. (Bud) BOYCE: Mr. Chairman, when we were reviewing this item last Tuesday, the Minister had said that there were 310 people resident in Headingley as of Monday, 60 of whom were on remand and 103 were in the Remand Centre. Perhaps the Minister could give us a breakdown on the disposition of the other 250 people who are under sentence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, as of June 10, which was last Saturday, the Headingley population broke down this way: The gross count was 447. The total of those sentenced was 352 and total

remands were 95. So that was the 447; 95 there on remand. Those inside the institution were 316 and the rest included 34 at camp, 68 on day parole or temporary absence, 5 in hospital or police custody, 17 illegally absent, and 7 on intermittent sentence. So the total in the institution was 316 and presumably that would have included all the remands. The 95 remands would have been in the total inside the institution, I presume.

MR. BOYCE: Yes. I think there's an advantage in having this on the record and perhaps the Minister can take under advisement the issuing from time to time of profiles of people who have been sentenced because there may appear as if there's an immediate political advantage by making it appear as if the former administration allowed people to sit around and do nothing.

The breakdown of this population, as I mentioned earlier relative to some other figures which were presented in the annual report, makes it very difficult to disperse this population in any meaningful employment, and that better than two-thirds of it is under sentence for less than nine months when you take into consideration the parole.

But, Mr. Chairman, just in listening to the Member for Fort Rouge and other comments, and especially some times that people get on to the system, I want to put on the record that when people are reviewing the system, I had said earlier when I was involved in it and I will even further add to this, that when the former government took over from the previous administration they came into a well-operated system and I'm glad to see Mr. Lawrence back from his sojourn into Alberta. I know Mr. Gillingham, the Assistant Director of Corrections, is quite capable; and Mr. Carruthers I was glad to see was appointed Superintendent of Headingley. But from time to time there are difficulties in this institution. I'm sure the Minister would be the first to add that he will have difficulties also. The way that the staff moved to head them off at the pass, if you will, I was very much impressed with their agility. The only serious problem, I suppose we had, was exacerbated by the assistance of the AIB in that the people wanted 12.4 percent.

But in this area when people get talking about brutality and all the rest of it, police brutality, guard brutality — I was reading in the paper today where the staff had been exonerated in an incidence last November — the one thing that astounds me is the infrequency of such events, not the frequency, because people forget that this is a very very difficult role. I have nothing but respect for people who spend their lives working in these institutions because the abuse that these people are expected to take in the name of the public, with very very little recognition, it just surprises me. People phone up and complain and when you ask them if they have ever been in one of these institutions, they say, no, they've never been there. So I always used to suggest that they go and look.

But generally in this particular item, time will tell whether the Minister has the capacity dollar-wise to fulfill his apprehended difficulties. Perhaps the Minister could tell us just exactly how much the special warrant was required. I know I budgeted not quite enough for food last year in this particular item and perhaps he could advise the House what the special warrant was relative to this particular item.

MR. SHERMAN: That amount, Mr. Chairman, was three-quarters of a million dollars.

MR. BOYCE: Is that for the whole Ministry or just relative to the Adult Corrections?

MR. SHERMAN: That was just for Adult Corrections, Mr. Chairman.

MR. BOYCE: And of course the Minister finds himself in a comparable position when food prices go up 3 percent in one month. But perhaps we can expedite things somewhat, Mr. Chairman, if we pass . . . I don't think that there's anyone else on this side who has any questions at this moment. It would be our intention to pass (f) and (g) with the only comment that we regret very much that the Minister was unable to exhort a few miles of roads from his colleague, the Minister of Highways, to carry on this important work. As pointed out by the Member for Fort Rouge if the Federal institution is developed in Manitoba, they are once again going to compete with the provincial system and attract some of the people out of that system and it would be necessary to have the staff developed.

So with the general comment, unless the Minister has some items that he wants to raise relative to (f) and (g), I suggest we pass (f) and (g) and perhaps down on (h) the Minister could take as notice, the question, we would like the grants in 1977-78 and the grants of 1978-79 on these External Agencies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (3)—pass; (e)—pass; (f)—pass; (g)—pass; (h) External Agencies—pass — the Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the External Agencies being supported or for whom support is being sought by the Legislature for 1978-79 are rather much the same as they were for 1977-78, with some exceptions and I'm prepared to provide that information of course. I just want to check with my Deputy on one point, Mr. Chairman, for half a moment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I could just interrupt the Honourable Minister while he's checking.

I direct the honourable members' attention to the gallery where we have 20 students from the Pine River School from Pine River, Manitoba. They are Grade 9 students under the direction of Mr. Don Curtis. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Roblin.

I would ask the honourable members to welcome the visitors in the gallery. Thank you.
The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Just while the Minister is looking up the answers to those questions, our visitors should realize that this is not all the members that run the affairs of the province. Most of them are down in another committee down the hall. The House is actually into committee.

I would agree that — being somewhat parochial in this regard — I would suggest that more attention be paid to it. But nevertheless, it always seems to be the case when things get a little tight that the first place they squeeze the money out of the dollars, is in this area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the External Agencies being dealt with this year in an External Agency sense, a strict classification as External Agencies, include the John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Society, Converse, Rossberg House, Native Clan Organization, Open Circle, Manitoba Society of Criminology and the Diversion Project which is jointly funded on a Federal-Provincial basis.

There are additional funds being made available this year in another area, however. If the honourable member, or members, are looking purely at External Agencies it may appear on the surface that funding is reduced this year; but if they will just revert — not for purposes of debate but refamiliarization — to Item (e)(3) under the Care and Treatment of Adult Offenders, the item labelled Community Agencies, members will note the increase in funding there. And that results from the fact that there is expanded use and support built into the appropriations this year for Group Homes and Half-Way Houses including the Native Half-Way Home, Grosvenor Place, United Church Half-Way Home, the Home of the Good Shepherd, X-Kalay, the YMCA, and boarding-houses. So that in total we are looking at a larger appropriation in the area of external agencies *cum* community agencies, in 1978-79, Mr. Chairman.

I'm certainly fully prepared to give the specific amounts to the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre but I think he might agree with me, from his experience in the Ministry, that it is probably not desirable to get into a public debate on those amounts. I can certainly make the information available to any individual who is interested but there is a danger in probably getting into a public debate on the various amounts because in these cases we're contracting for services. We purchasing services and I think comparisons can often be odious and controversial, Mr. Chairman. But the total amounts that we are looking at are \$123,500 for 1978-79 for external agencies, compared to \$145,500 last year, and \$140,500 this year for Community Agencies, compared to \$62,800.00.

So overall the support for this kind of service is expanded this year.

MR. BOYCE: Well, I thank the Minister for his explanation. It's really not a reduction in that sense if it has been transferred to the other items, as he said. Then perhaps I haven't been long enough out of the saddle to disagree with him on the point of bandying the figures about, because people have a tendency that when budgets are built up that these are guidelines and cash-flows are set up, and there is no absolute guarantee that they will get that particular amount. But they start screaming for the money just as soon as somebody makes this figure public. In fact, it is most difficult to apportion funds even at the best of times in this regard. I think perhaps, somewhat facetiously, the only solution would appear at times is to rent a helicopter and have the money changed into one dollar bills and drop it at the corner of Portage and Main and let them scramble for it, because it is most difficult.

The next item, Mr. Chairman, is an nil-appropriation. I would suggest that we pass (h) and (j), and consider The Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, before we do that, for the record can I make a correction, please, Sir? I want to correct the list of External Agencies that I just gave the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, because the information I gave him was not correct.

The information with respect to the moneys is correct, but the list that I gave him of those External Agencies being supported individually is not correct. The list breaks down this way: That where

in 1977-78 we provided funding for the Canadian Congress on Corrections, there is no funding provided in any appropriation this year. John Howard and Elizabeth Fry was supported last year and is supported again this year. Native Clan Organization was supported last year and is supported again this year. Manitoba Society of Criminology was supported last year and is supported again this year.

Open Circle was supported last year and is supported again this year. Converse was supported last year and is not being funded this year. Rossbrook House was supported last year and is not being funded this year. The Diversion Project was not funded last year, is being funded this year. And there are miscellaneous grants that totalled \$3,000 last year that are not included this year.

But the total amounts that I gave the honourable member are correct, and also the addition of the amount of funding that I noted for the record for expanded use of the group homes and halfway houses, including the YMCA and boardinghouses, that is all correct.

But the original information in which I was detailing the specific External Agencies, I think in my first statement to him I included Converse and Rossbrook House and they should be excluded in this current year, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (h)—pass — the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Well, with that correction, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Minister can share his rationalization for the exclusion of Converse.

MR. SHERMAN: The educational program that was being conducted and administered by Converse has been picked up, or is being picked up, by the John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Society. Mr. Lee Glassco was seconded from the Ministry to act as Executive Director of John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Society, and they will be responsible for the Converse Educational Program.

MR. BOYCE: Did I understand the Minister correctly when he said that a staff had been seconded?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. BOYCE: So that the moneys for his salary is included in the grant to the John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Society, and this would appear on the internal documentation of the Ministry that this is a vacant staff man year; is that correct? HIS YEAR. Rossbrook House was supported last year and is not being funded this year. The Diversion Project was not funded last year, is being funded this year. And there are miscellaneous grants that totalled \$3,000 last year that are not included this year.

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MR. BOYCE: So that the moneys for his salary is included in the grant to the John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Society, and this would appear on the internal documentation of the Ministry that this is a vacant staff man year; is that correct?!

MR. SHERMAN: It doesn't appear as a vacant staff man year, Mr. Chairman. It's just a secondment. The SMYs of 1978-79 in Adult Corrections total 381, in comparison to 369 for 1977-78. In the case of this particular staff person, it does not appear as a vacant SMY.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (h)—pass; (j)—pass; (k) The Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba—pass — the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: We have been at this particular Minister for a month and I'm trying to expedite these Estimates as quickly as possible, but nevertheless this is going to be somewhat contentious. So we will take a little breather, perhaps, and wait for staff.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are on Item (k) The Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba. The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Well, I have just one question for the Minister at this time — why?

MR. SHERMAN: That's a brief and terse question, Mr. Chairman, that probably deserves or requires a very lengthy answer. I will try to keep the answer relatively brief, however.

The government is not convinced, or has not been convinced up to this point in time, that we are proceeding in precisely the right direction with The Alcoholism Foundation functioning as a free-standing corporation and a free-standing entity, and we have not been entirely satisfied with the kinds of apparent conflicts and divergencies in view and philosophy existing between the Foundation, or some components of it, and some other agencies working in the alcoholism and drug addiction field. And as a consequence, when we were going through the Estimates process during the winter, there was considerable emphasis placed in our deliberations on a desire to contain growth and expansion of The Alcoholism Foundation until we had satisfied ourselves as to the right way to go, and the right agency, or the right entity to lead the work in this field.

I didn't want to rush into precipitous decisions, as a new Minister, until we had had a chance, and I had had a chance, to assess and analyse and seek opinion. But short of making changes that would have been changes of a traumatic and dismantling nature, I had at least, and with my colleagues we had at least to recognize we felt the legitimate pressure to contain expansion of the Foundation, while doing our best to ensure that there was no reduction or cutback in either the extent or quality of services offered in the field, while we satisfied ourselves during the calendar of 1978 as to the best way to deal with alcohol and drug addiction and the best agency through which to do it.

The result is the reduced appropriation being sought in the Legislature this year, which honourable members see in front of them.

I am not ignorant, Mr. Chairman, of the reasons for the expansion in the Foundation's budget in recent years. I know that they can be very superficially deceptive, that to a large extent a substantial amount of the increase was due to the fact that agencies formally funded independently and separately through other areas of government were brought under the funding aegis of The Alcoholism Foundation and therefore those millions of dollars are assigned to the AFM budget. But it's money that goes out to these independent agencies, external agencies, and it should not be read as an expansion of the AFMs operating budget, and to so read it is a misrepresentation of the position. I am aware of that. I am also aware of the reputation which the AFM has in Manitoba and, particularly, I might say, in northern Manitoba, where I have certainly had very strong and very extensive endorsements of the AFM and its work made to me.

But I'm sure that in what has been done here we have not crippled or dismantled, or minimized, or significantly diminished the capacity of the AFM to continue with that work, at least for this particular year. It may be more difficult for the Executive Director and his staff. It may be more difficult, in terms of caseload, for some of our counsellors and treatment workers. It may be somewhat more difficult in terms of pressures of work on some of our administrative people. But generally speaking, having gone through pretty exhaustive examinations with the Chairman and with others related to the Foundation of what is necessary and what we feel needs to be done here, I am satisfied, Mr. Chairman, that the people of Manitoba will still receive full value for their dollar in treatment and counselling of personnel and experts in the alcohol and drug addiction field under the budget assigned to the AFM this year.

The final decisions with respect to the directions in which we want to go on alcoholism treatment counselling and prevention have not been made. This is another subject that is under study and review by me, as Minister and by my colleagues in government and on which I don't expect a final decision, or a resolution, and never did so expect one until later this year. There simply was not time to do it responsibly and prepare for this session of the Legislature. Any action aimed at

or reorganizing, either the Foundation or its direction, would have been irresponsible this winter and spring because there wasn't time to examine it responsibly.

The one thing we did in the interests of restraint and under the pressures and urgings of our own conscience and the message coming through from others in the community, was try to take steps to ensure that growth and expansion of the Foundation was contained in line with the kinds of economies we wanted to practise, and that in particular, the administrative structure of the Foundation was monitored and contained.

I'm still working with the Foundation and its Chairman on a "see-as-you-go" basis. My door is as open to him as his is to me and I intend to continue consulting very closely with him to make sure that our effectiveness is not diminished, and that we're getting the job done properly and where there are difficulties and constraints that hurt, we will be available and amenable to re-examining them. This has been the philosophy up to this point, Mr. Chairman, and we feel that we can handle this year on this basis.

MR. BOYCE: Mr. Chairman, if the \$4.691 million which was spent last year was increased by the same even small percentage, the 2.9 percent, I would accept as valid the Minister's arguments. But the fact that it has been cut by some \$690,000 renders invalid, I would suggest, his statement that decisions have not been made.

I'd like to spend a few moments on this particular item, Mr. Chairman somebody was asked to make a paper clip, make one paper clip, and you want to build a machine to make that one paper clip, it would be rather expensive. But after you have built in the machinery to make paper clips, relative to each paper clip the cost of manufacturing is infinitesimal. I say that as a preface to what the Minister was talking about, the administration of the Alcoholism Foundation.

For years this problem has been ignored in our society and why the Betty Fords and Bud Boyces of the world can't drink and learn not to drink, I don't know. In fact there's an article here in this month's issue of Saturday Night alluding to the problem once again.

When the former government accepted some of the recommendations of the Ledain Commission, which suggested in Canada the cost of providing our citizenry — as they should because they asked for it — alcohol in our society, it cost us in those terms about a billion dollars a year. Well if you inflate that to current day costs, it's about \$1-½ billion, the cost of providing alcohol in our society.

The revenue to the Crown is about \$71 million and I don't know what it is for the last year. I asked the Attorney-General the other day, but I guess he hasn't got the figures as yet; \$75 million roughly accrues to the Crown as profits. But when you think of the people who are in institutions because of alcohol, the people who are in jail because of alcohol — there was a young lad here sentenced the other day, 18 years old and the Judge said to him, "You should get help with your problem."

But to get back to my building of the paper clip: The biggest task in doing something new, going from the roughly a quarter of a million dollars to some \$400 million, was to get together once again, as I said relative to another item, is a competent, capable staff. I think this has been done. And for the new government to come in and say that they've looked at the operation of it, sure, you'll get bitches from various segments of the community. Perhaps I should gloat a little bit because those people who have bitched the loudest are going to get burned the most with the thrust that is taking place at the present time.

But if you're going to expand this to a provincial program rather than just a small locality in Winnipeg, then that's what we had to do, we had to develop a provincial system and the Board of Governors of the Alcoholism Foundation and the senior staff at the Foundation, in my view did an excellent job. I had thought that the government would show the eminent good sense to allow it to continue for a year until they did have an idea of what they were going to do with it. Because in the building program over the past two years they had reached the point where I, too, was in a position of having to assess whether we were getting to where we wanted to go or not and had to make decisions during this year as to where we would go. But to cut it back — you know you cut the foundation out from underneath something and the whole thing is liable to collapse.

The people who initiated this, Dr. Pincock who just passed away recently, one of the people who dedicated his life in this community to this problem with very little thanks. A fellow by the name of Christie who started off this AFM, I think the budget was \$56,000 in the first instance and the many people who followed along, Bill Potoroka in the Alcohol Education Services, might just have killed himself in this field.

But what is happening once again, Mr. Chairman, is those people in the middle income and lower incomes will not have their needs met because those people in the upper middle income and the higher incomes have personal physicians who will put them in hospitals, and this happens time and time again. In fact many people in the medical profession say one-third, from 33 percent to 35 percent of the people who are in hospitals are in there as a direct cause of alcohol.

I understand that one of the people who is involved nationally in this particular field is opening a new facility out in British Columbia that will be supported primarily by the private sector, where the fees are \$3,000 a month.

As one of the staff of the Alcoholism Foundation and I found out on a trip to Orange County in California, about what it costs in one of the programs that is offered down there. It's a good program, but it costs \$100 a day for somebody to go there. It costs us \$100 a day in the hospital. What are the per diems now in the hospital, Saul? \$125 a day? It costs us \$125 a day in the hospital.

So what the Alcoholism Foundation did — and the guidelines that were given by the Minister was that they do that which they could with the moneys made available — is they tried to attract the best possible people within the limitations of the budget that we set for them. I think by and large they had a good mix. They had a good mix of professionals; they had a good mix of recovered alcoholics; they had a good mix of New Careers; they had a good mix of interested citizens.

No matter what system is put in place you will always get those people who think that their approach is the only approach. That I personally am of a Christian persuasion and follow that particular route, that's my personal business. That other people find a different way in an A.A. fellowship, if it works for them, it works for them. And what the staff and the Foundation did, was try as best we could to provide the different modalities that worked for different people.

Manitoba is almost unique in the country as a political entity in that over half of your population lives in one city. So once in the main city you can provide perhaps a more sophisticated program than you can in Churchill, for example.

I know my colleague from Churchill who has a day to day experience with the constituency will be referring to what is occurring relative to the cutbacks — and once again it's a cutback, Mr. Chairman, a drastic cutback — so I would suggest to the Minister, I know I've expressed it to him before, that I wish he'd fought a little harder. Perhaps there's two or three miles of road which didn't have to be built this year that we could have allocated the resources to help these people. There's a lot of flack which we directed at the Minister. And when I have some constructive criticisms to make, I certainly will take his offer and share them with him.

But to go back to the costs and the moneys: In my judgment in this particular field in the area in relative terms, we should be directing about \$12 million to this particular field. But I'm sure the Chairman of the Alcoholism Foundation will advise the Minister that I didn't want this thing to grow any faster than we could provide control of it; we could attract the people to perform the functions. When I say that 35 percent of the people who are in hospital are in there because of alcohol-related maladies, you can't take them out of the hospital and put them somewhere else if you haven't got th physical place to put them, or the people to deal with them when you put them there.

The relationship between this particular line and Corrections in general, when the Minister has the opportunity to go out and sit and have a cup of coffee and wander through Headingley Jail and he takes a look at the people who are in there and he sees the average age of these people, and he talks to them and he says, "How did you get in this particular fix?" So many of them will say, "I got drunk and . . ."

So many cases are like the chap who sober was an average individual, walked down the street, minded his own business, spots a car with the keys in it. Somebody was foolish enough to leave the keys. He's into the car, he's off, the police are after him, the car is smashed up, so what's he in for? Being foolish? Which was what he was. But nevertheless he's not in there because of his problems with alcohol, he's in there because of stealing this piece of capital equipment and wrecking it. And he goes begging; he's back out on the street and back into the same thing. How do you break these cycles? How do you help people learn different lifestyles, those who have to.

In this particular article, "Alcoholics Are Just Like You and Me," they get into the argument about behaviour modification that people can learn to drink. I honestly don't know whether they can or can't but in this particular article they suggest that for it to be successful you have to get people young enough, that for some people who reach middle age and develop the problem progressively worse, it doesn't appear to be that effective.

I don't think at this point in time it will do us any particular good to rave and rant and roar. I am quite annoyed with it but nevertheless I think the Minister was given this line and they said that's what you have. Perhaps some others may have some specific questions on this item and I'll bring up some more details in a few minutes, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could provide the committee with the problems that are regional or a regional analysis of where the problems are in the province. If there is one area or some areas of the province where the problems /co of alhol are more prevalent

than others, if you can identify it for the committee and for the record?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Yes, I would like to follow up on what the Honourable Member for Roblin just asked in a little bit more specific detail and pertaining in specific to the north. I would like to ask the Minister what AFM funding for programs or projects, or for activities in relation to this item is being directed specifically north of the 53rd?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for Roblin asked about regional area problems and identification of specific problem areas. It's a little difficult to separate and identify a problem of alcoholism and alcohol addiction on a regional or community basis. It's a problem that is pretty general province-wide. I don't have records or statistics or information that would indicate that it's necessarily any worse in a numerically comparative or percentage point of view in one region of the province than it is in another. But of course, because of the social and economic conditions and situation peculiar to that part of the province north of the 53rd parallel and some of the pressures and difficulties which exist there that don't exist to quite the same degree in the south, the native community and the native population in the northern part of the province certainly has its substantial share of difficulty with alcohol. I don't think that I could really zero in on an individualized problem any more definitively or specifically than that. We have problems with alcohol addiction and drug addiction in the City of Winnipeg and in urban centres throughout the province. We have to approach it on a province-wide basis and we have not differentiated and I do not intend to differentiate as between regions unless there is very conclusive evidence and statistical evidence that is undeniable that would indicate the practical and sensible way to go would be to zero in specifically on a region-by-region basis. So far we've taken a general approach to it, but it has to be admitted that, as I say, the native population in the north certainly for reasons that I don't suggest should be laid at its doorstep, has its fair share of the problem.

As far as programs in the north are concerned generally, we have, as the Honourable Member for Churchill knows, terminated the operation at Lynn Lake and he had asked me about that in the House earlier this year and I attempted to provide him with the rationale, the reasons for that. There is a reduction in the amount of funding available at the Churchill Health Centre, but I would suggest to the honourable member and the committee generally, Mr. Chairman, that there is no reduction in terms of the effectiveness of the program available in Churchill, as far as counselling and as far as identification of the problem and of individual sufferers from the problem are concerned. Where treatment is necessary, I would admit that there is perhaps not quite the opportunity in Churchill for treatment as there is in some other centres, but this has existed in the past and is not a result of the reduction in staff at our Out Patient Clinic in Churchill. The persons there requiring treatment have generally as a rule been transported to other centres, Thompson among others, for those treatment courses and when we looked at what we were able to deliver in Churchill, what the population was, the decline in numbers, the reduction in Churchill's population, the per capita dollar amounts being expended in all pockets in all corners of the province on this problem, we could not justify the expenditure that had been originally requested for Churchill, and that had been budgeted last year, in this year of restraint.

The decision, therefore, was to reduce the program in Churchill by one worker out of three and do it in such a way that community counselling work was not impeded or diminished in any way and that there was sufficient funding to support two workers continuing in the program area in Churchill.

The money in total amounts for Churchill is certainly reduced sharply, but as I say, taken in terms of the per capita expenditure on people in this field throughout the province, it can be justified. We were looking at an original request of something in the neighbourhood of \$90,000, the budgeted amount of 1977-78 in Churchill of \$92,000, we're looking at a population of 3,000. I leave it to you, Sir, as to what that comes out to in terms of a dollar amount available for this problem in Churchill on a per capita basis. That far far exceeded and out-stripped the dollar amounts available in the other parts of the province for the same problem and measured in those terms of equity in this year of restraint and considering the fact that the two essential workers are still there and that treatment was always being offered in other centres to which Churchill sufferers had to be transported anyway, I feel that we can say that the program in Churchill is being maintained at the level of need, is not injured or diminished.

Elsewhere in the north, the program remains the same. We have the same centres and clinics functioning and the reduction in large part in the overall budget has come in the administration area as much as that was practical and to a recognizable extent in the provincial program area

having to do with evaluation and research and some prevention programs.

MR. COWAN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was wondering if the Minister, and I seek his direction on this because he knows better than I do, if the Minister can indicate the number of clinics and the number of centres and the number of programs that are functioning in the north under this item, if that list would not be too long.

MR. CHAI Honourable AN: members, I would believe that before I would allow the Minister to answer, we're almost to the time of Private Members' Hour, so in accordance with Rule 19, Section 2, I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour and will return at the call of the Chair.\$

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

ADJOURNED DEBATES ON SECOND READING — PUBLIC BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: We are now under Private Members' Hour dealing on Adjourned Debates on second reading of public bills.

On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Emerson, Bill No. 5, An Act to amend The Liquor Control Act; and the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre in amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

BILL NO. 6 — THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge, Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the subject matter of this bill has been before the House on several occasions; and lest I be accused of having a mediocre mind and even braving that possible suggestion, I believe that my remarks will be consistent with respect to this measure.

I will again, Mr. Speaker, try to indicate that I believe that this Act is an Act for the promotion of secrecy in government. I have to say that, Mr. Speaker, not because I believe that my honourable friend, the Member for Fort Rouge wants secrecy, but because my friend, the Member for Fort Rouge and other people who have looked at this legislation, or who have looked at the title to the legislation, have been suggesting that those who oppose the legislation are promoting secrecy in government. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, since the motives of the opposition to the bill are in tune by a suggestion that we are promoting secrecy, I tried to make my honourable friend realize that it would be just as silly and just as wrong an argument for me to suggest that the people who are promoting this bill are promoting secrecy, and therefore in the hope that I will arouse his ire at least so that he can turn it on himself and on those other members, I say that this is an Act in their words for the promotion of secrecy in government. Because, Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that if the principle of this legislation were enacted that we would have more secrecy in government and less freedom of information.

The principle of the bill is, that a person who is unable to obtain the information which he seeks through the parliamentary process and through a government Minister is entitled to sue the government for the production of that information and at that stage, a court will make a decision as to whether the person is entitled to that information or not.

Now what is the essential difference between the system as we know it and the system as the bill would have it be? The system as we know it is that I stand on this side of the Chamber, I face 15 Ministers of the Crown and I say to them that I want information; I make my position for the wanting information as sound as I can and then a Minister of the Crown has to do one of two things. He has to give me the information, which is usually done — which is usually done — or he has to have the courage and the conviction to say that the information that the member is seeking is such that it would not be in the public interests for me to release that information, I tell him that and I am willing to go to the people of the Province of Manitoba and defend my position in that respect. That's the situation as it is today, Mr. Speaker, and I will concede, because no system is perfect, that there will be occasions when Ministers will wrongfully hold information; that there will be occasions in which information would not flow from the Minister to the person seeking the information; but I suggest' Mr. Speaker, that far more information — far more information — will flow than under the alternative system.

Now what is the system that is proposed? The system that is proposed is the following: That

a person will seek information. He will go through the channels and presumably be denied because if he's not denied then there's no problem. He will stand up in this House and he will then ask for the information and the Minister will say, Mr. Speaker, and I predict that if this kind of legislation is passed it will happen that a Minister will say, "It seems to me that this information is privileged, but you needn't depend on me, and we needn't argue it out here. There is a piece of legislation which entitles the member or the person seeking the information, to hire a lawyer, go to a courtroom, have the pressure taken off me, have the argument translated from a political argument to a legal argument, and have the arena under which that information is sought not the political arena which is where the pressure will be the strongest but before the judiciary."

Now, Mr. Speaker, in previous years I used to say I appeared before the judiciary and I can tell the members some of the things that happens there. I do not have to talk now in the past. That's not an advantage. I'm not bragging, I'm complaining. I am now before the judiciary on a regular basis. And I tell my honourable friends that with respect to the kind of thing that they are seeking, the political arena will result in far more release of information than the arena that my honourable friend is seeking.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there have been and will be differences of opinion on this question. There is indeed some case to be made for saying that perhaps the manner in which a person can gain individual information about himself, which is held in the files of government, could be improved, could be made more clear, could be crystallized. This group has always been of the opinion that that can be looked into and will, I am sure, speak with approval for that kind of thing being done.

But as to the principle of this bill, Mr. Speaker, which transfers the pressure point at which a decision is going to have to be made about the release of information and takes the onus off the Minister and lets him be a cop-out and get away with it by suggesting that it's going to be referred to the judiciary, that is a principle, Mr. Speaker, which we cannot agree with.

We did not agree with it. I, personally, did not agree with it when I was in opposition. There will be various nuances, I'm sure, presented by various members on this side of the House as to what problems will exist and what problems need to be overcome; but, Mr. Speaker, the principle that the political arena is one which will be translated into a judicial arena and that that way there will be less secrecy of information, is one that I cannot agree with.

I tell my honourable friend, he can believe me if he wishes or he can disbelieve me. I believe . . . Well, Mr. Speaker, he disbelieves me. All right. Then I want to tell my honourable friend, I believe that he, on the basis of his answer, that he wants to bring this bill for the purpose of having secrecy of information in this province, Mr. Speaker. I tell you that because he doubts the sincerity and has indicated his doubts of the sincerity of those who say the opposite. —(Interjection)— Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that I can prove to my honourable friend that he is wrong, but he won't accept it because he knows better. He believes that he is right and everybody else is wrong; that everybody who agrees with him believes in openness of government; everybody who disagrees with him believes in secrecy.

Well, Mr. Speaker, there is a cop-out Liberal government in the Province of Nova Scotia. And the honourable member has said, "Other jurisdictions have adopted this legislation." There is a cop-out Liberal government which he says has adopted this kind of legislation. I've got that marvelous document in my hand. Do you know what it's headed? "This Act may be cited as the Freedom of Information Act."

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a marvelous example of Liberal cop-outism. Listen to what this Act does that he refers to in other jurisdictions. "It permits a citizen to obtain information about the organization of a department, administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect the member of the public. Rules of procedure, descriptions of forms available or places at which forms may be obtained, statement of general policies or interpretations of general applicability formulated and adopted by a department; final decisions of administrative tribunals." Listen to this.

The Nova Scotia government — Liberal government — had to pass a law that a citizen will be able to get final decisions of administrative tribunals as a result of their legislation. But you haven't heard everything yet, Mr. Speaker. "The annual report and regulation of a department." They can get the annual report of a department as a result of this bill, and the regulations of a department they can get as a result of this bill.

They can get programs and policies of a department. They can get "each amendment, revision or repeal of the foregoing." And, Mr. Speaker, they can get personal information contained in files pertaining to a person making the request. That is the only significant thing that they can get. But, Mr. Speaker, you ain't heard nothing yet.

What happens if they don't get this information? There is an appeal, Mr. Speaker. There is an appeal if the information is refused. "The first request shall be directed to the Deputy head of the department where the information is kept," and if he doesn't give it to you, Mr. Speaker, there is an appeal. "Within 15 days after his request is denied or deemed to be denied, the applicant

may writing appeal the denial," to whom? To the Minister. This is this freedom of information, Mr. Speaker.

You know, we can go and ask the Minister right away, but . now we've got a statute which gives you freedom of information, so you make your request to the department and then you —(Interjection)— Pardon me? Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has referred to the statutes that have been passed in other jurisdictions, that this thing is catching on. Well, Mr. Speaker, you ain't heard nothing yet.

What happens if the Minister denies the information? Well, what would people think would happen if the Minister denied the information? —(Interjection)— Pardon?

A MEMBER: Throw him in jail.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, no, that's not what happens. Where a request has been denied by the Deputy head and an appeal of that denial, made to the Minister, and the Minister has upheld that appeal, the person to whom the information is denied may appeal to the House of Assembly — the House of Assembly — and that's it, Mr. Speaker. That's it, Mr. Speaker. That's this secrecy of information bill.

Up until this damned legislation was passed a person could get up without the usual rigmarole and he could say to the Minister, "Would you give me the information?" And the Minister could say, "No," and then he could say, "I move that the Minister give me the information," and the Assembly would vote, no. But now, Mr. Speaker, we have freedom of information in the Province of Nova Scotia and the freedom of information comes back to a parliamentary decision. Well, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member says debate; debate his bill, not this bill.

A member of our group brought to my attention yesterday that this bill is better than the Member for Fort Rouge's bill. Why is it better, Mr. Speaker? I think it's rubbish. I think it's not worth being used as toilet paper. I think it's rubbish. But a member of our group brought to my attention that this bill is better than the Member for Fort Rouge's bill. So you know where that stands; because this bill at least puts the decision in the hands of the Assembly. But the decision is already in the hands of the Assembly; but that this bill is better because it leaves it there, whereas the Member for Fort Rouge's bill takes it out.

So, Mr. Speaker, let us not be misled by the so-called rights-giving statutes. The Labour Movement of this province has been made many times weaker because some cop-out Liberal administration many years ago gave every person the right to be a member of a trade union, and then attached horrendous conditions as to bow that right will be used, when it will be used, which judge you have to get to okay it, which labour board will have to stamp it, and what the trade unionist was led into believing is that before the statute was passed he didn't have the right to be a member of a trade union, that he needed the Member for Fort Rouge and the Member for Morris and the Member for Inkster and a bunch of politicians to give it to him.

Mr. Speaker, beware of politicians bearing gifts. This legislation that is being proposed will not give freedom of information. This legislation will facilitate secrecy and the honourable member doesn't believe that. He can adopt that attitude for one of many reasons. It could be a particular vindictiveness on his part. It could be a lack of understanding on his part. It could be a failure to appreciate not only the parliamentary process but the political process. Or it could be a combination of all of those things, and, Mr. Speaker, I will suggest that there is some argument, and always has been, for this type of thing. It is reflected in many types of enactments. It is reflected in a constitutional Bill of Rights. —(Interjection)— Well, Mr. Speaker, I am trying to be in some way fair. There are those who believe in a constitutional Bill of Rights and there are those who believe that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and that if you have a constitutional Bill of Rights you have built yourself into a system which denies liberty rather than gives it.

I am willing to recognize that there is an argument for one side that I disagree with, but the honourable member says that anybody who argues the other side is arguing it for bad motives, for the purpose of trying to prevent openness.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable member will have to explain why the constitutional Bill of Rights in the United States was that enactment which protected slave holders in the United States. When the argument about slavery came up the Supreme Court of the United States held, in effect, in the Dredscot decision, and it is much more complicated than I am making it, but nevertheless, in effect, that slavery was guaranteed by the constitution, that the right to slavery, the right to hold slaves, was guaranteed by the constitution. The United States Constituion also was that law which was held to guarantee that you cannot have a graduated income tax or a minimum wage, or many of the things that Roosevelt wanted to do in his New Deal.

So, who are we to trust? Are we to trust an enactment which gives us a so-called right to secrecy? Or are we to rely upon the continual use of the democratic process and on the parliamentary process

to make sure that those who try to become secret are dumped. Mr. Speaker, one of the main reasons for the dumping of the Conservative administration in 1969 was its refusal to give certain reports with regard to South Indian Lake, and I venture to say, Mr. Speaker, that if this — the Member for Fort Rouge's bill — had been law, it would have gone over to a court house and two lawyers would have argued it, and the judge might just as well have come to the conclusion that it is not in the public interest to release this information. So what will have been achieved.

I say to honourable members that I personally do not accept the principle of this bill. Yes, I am willing to consider any and all suggestions, Mr. Speaker. Any and all suggestions as to how we could make sure that people who are being deprived of information have means of getting it, have greater facilities through their MLA, have greater facilities through the Ombudsman, have greater facilities perhaps through legislative committees, have machinery whereby their search for information is made part of the parliamentary process.

But, Mr. Speaker, I do not have so little faith in how the citizens will punish those who try to become secret. As a matter of fact, if ever there was a good incident, it is the American example, Mr. Speaker. Secrecy, the attempt to be secret, punishes those who use it, and I respectfully submit that parliament is the best way of exposing those people who would so be self-punished.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I want to indicate that I am against the principle of the bill, that I am not indicating that there are't processes that could be taken to deal with this question. I am sure that there will be members on this side who will be presenting various suggestions on it. But as to a bill which in effect undoes the parliamentary process for the purpose of giving illusory rights to people to pursue through lawyers and courts information that they have not been able to get from government, would be an act to promote secrecy of information in government. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I cannot support the Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Selkirk that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 32 - An Act to amend The Human Rights Act — the Honourable Member for Pembina. (Stand)

Bill No. 33 - The Venture Investment and Research and Development Corporation Registration Act — the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce. (Stand)

On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for St. Vital, Bill No. 49 - An Act to amend The Electoral Divisions Act — the Honourable Member for St. Matthews. (Stand)

On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for Brandon East, Bill No. 17 — the Honourable Member for Gladstone. (Stand)

On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for Rock Lake, Bill No. 37 - An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Wawanesa and District Memorial Hospital Association.

BILL NO. 37 - AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE WAWANESA AND DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Well, Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief on this. I have perused the bill. I think that the best place to deal with the various issues of it are in the Committee, therefore I am letting it go at this time.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Second Reading of Private Bills. Bill No. 34, An Act to exempt the OO-ZA-WE-KWUN CENTRE INCORPORATED from certain provisions of The Liquor Control Act — the Honourable Member for Virden. (Stand)

On the Proposed Resolutions, Resolution No. 5 on Capital Punishment — the Honourable Member for St. Matthews. (Stand)

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I think I should point out that you don't stand Resolutions. It drops down to the bottom of the Order Paper.

MR. SPEAKER: **RESOLUTION NO. 6 ON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS WORK PROGRAM**

MR. DOUG GOURLAY: I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Roblin:

Whereas many inmates in correctional institutions operated by the government do not perform any useful work while in the institutions, etc., and

Whereas the exposure to proper work habits is a helpful aspect of inmates' rehabilitation,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the government renew and expand the program to permit inmates in provincial correctional institutions to work under supervision on provincial properties, provincial parks, and other Crown owned properties, either directly out of provincial institutions, or from supervised work camps.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. GOURLAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This Resolution was initiated as a result of a recent tour by some members of the government caucus, a tour that took us to the Headingley Institution just recently to inspect the correctional facilities at that location. One of the things that we were concerned about as we toured through the institution was the number of people that were there of a relatively young age. I understand from the people that work there that the average age of the inmates at Headingley is something like 24 years of age.

At the time of our visit, which was about 11:00 o'clock in the morning, most of these inmates were idle in their cells and we were concerned that perhaps this wasn't the best way of rehabilitating these people, that there were certainly many work projects that could be instituted that would take up at least eight hours a day to keep these people occupied, and less time to think about further crimes and so forth.

On checking this out further from staff personnel within the ministry, we find that there are approximately 700 people in institutions in Manitoba and another additional 150 to 200 people who are being held on remand. And of all the work projects that are underway at the present time, there would be approximately 100 to 120 people who are working on a full-time basis on various work projects. \$\$\$\$

However, in addition to this, there are a fair number of people in Headingley, for instance, who do work in the institution in areas such as the kitchen, laundry, and gardening to some extent' but this only takes up a very small portion of a day's activity. So that the rest of the time they are inactive, they are idle in their cells.

Now on checking with the personnel within the department, who I might add are very supportive of this type of resolution, and I wasn't in the House the night before last, but I understand there was some discussion with respect to work programs for inmates that did come up in the Minister's Estimates.

Two of the main reasons that there seems to be a lack of support or success for this type of resolution, and I have a couple of areas that I was able to identify. Apparently, there has been a lack of a major policy thrust to pursue the development of employment opportunities within the adult correctional institutions.

The other major problem, perhaps, is the bureaucratic inflexibility which probably precludes supervisory staff from permitting inmates to perform routine maintenance work in the life within the institutions.

Now I think as a result of the lack of the policy thrust on the part of the government, over recent years at least, and this probably goes back four or five years as far as I could determine. The bureaucratic inflexibility results from one department to another where there is no emphasis or priorities put on this type of program, where inmates could be used in a useful work experience while they are trying to become rehabilitated.

I might just briefly mention what the current situation is at this time. There are some rehabilitation camps, of course, and most of the members, I'm sure, know about these camps. Bannock Point Rehabilitation Camp, where I understand there are currently some 30 to 35 inmates working on a full-time or an eight-hour work day, in which these inmates receive some \$3.00 per diem for their efforts. These work projects are located in various areas, but it includes brushing' raking campgrounds, nursery work, maintenance, and that sort of thing.

At the Egg Lake Rehabilitation Camp there is an addition 30 inmates at this camp and their work areas include cleaning park areas, removing stumps and brush, sawing and splitting wood, burning garbage dumps, cleaning up park areas, and so forth.

Another rehabilitative work camp is located in the Spruce Woods and the type of work activity there is similar and it involves another 20 inmates.

As I mentioned, in the various correctional institutions there are those that do laundry, kitchen,

general cleaning, grounds maintenance, and so forth. And apparently as well at Headingley and The Pas there are some of the inmates that are working on Highways work crews and this possible could be expanded upon. The larger institutions also operate tailor and barberships, which does involve some of the inmates in those areas.

Well, what about the expansion of this program? I have listed here a number of areas that might be included for expansion, involving a larger percentage of the work program involving the various 700 inmates, that could be activated in work programs. I'm sure there are other areas that could be included, but I have listed some here.

The Assiniboine River — A cleanup of the riverbanks in the area, both east and west of Headingley. And this could involve, I understand, at least 20 to 40 inmates.

Additional highway work crews — Apparently there is an agreement with the Department of Highways to employ 10 Headingley inmates as general labour on road maintenance in the general vicinity of Headingley and I understand that this probably could be expanded.

The third area, Landscaping — Expansion of the present outside work crew to upgrade the present greenbelt around the Headingley area.

No. 4, a Tree Farm — Recommendations to develop a project which would produce mature trees for government departments and municipalities could be instituted.

No. 5, Concrete Fabrication, Carpentry Projects and Other Projects — Negotiations are currently taking place with other departments to establish various work projects which would produce needed materials for those departments.

No. 6, Rehabilitation Camps Expansion — Recent discussions with the Parks Branch, the Department of Tourism, indicate a desire for the expansion of the number of rehabilitation camps in provincial parks, particularly sites in the new Grindstone Point area were mentioned. Further planning is underway by both departments, I understand.

No. 7, Beaudry Park Project — As the Parks Branch develops Beaudry Park, it is projected that 20 to 30 inmates will be involved in fence construction, brush clearing and so forth.

Another area involving all institutions — A greater emphasis could be placed upon allowing minimum security inmates to be employed in day work for employers in the vicinity of the institutions.

Other departments and agencies — Other departments and agencies have labour intensive projects that might be undertaken in close proximity to provincial correctional institutions. For instance, tree planting, brush clearing, many employment opportunities could be generated for inmates of these institutions if departments were called upon to develop work projects.

Another area that has been discussed and I think could be included is the demolition of the old Brandon Correctional Institution. The new facility, I understand, will soon be open in Brandon and the old Brandon Jail will have to be demolished and I understand that inmates could do this out of the Headingley Correction, and also from Brandon.

I think, in summary, this resolution is fairly simple and straightforward. I hope that it would have the support of members on both sides of the House. As I mentioned earlier, there has already been some support indicated by members of the opposition in discussing the Minister's Estimates. I think that one thing we would be careful of is that we would not deprive citizens, private citizens, from jobs that would be available. We wouldn't want to have inmates taking away work jobs from private citizens.

But briefly those are all the remarks I have to make on this resolution. We feel that when you visit the institutions and see able-bodied people with an average age of 24 and they are idle and sitting around and lying around in their cells for days on end, hours on end, that this is not really a rehabilitation program when this is in existence. So that I would hope that there would be support for this resolution. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Well, this appears to be the continuation of another topic, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry to hear that the government has no policy. They inherited a policy — a fairly well-defined policy — and the programs that the member mentioned are ones that were designed and ready for implementation at any time by the former administration.

There seems to be some variance in the figures used by the member and those used by the Minister earlier today. Like he said 750 people in the institutions in Manitoba. Well the capacity of Headingley is 350; I don't know where the other 400 are. Is he telling us that Brandon is that overcrowded, and The Pas? There are only four institutions. There is one at Headingley; there is one at The Pas; and there is one at Dauphin — three main institutions. So that I don't know where he has these other numbers.

But one of the difficulties, Mr. Chairman, is that people visit these institutions and they see people laying around doing nothing and there is a natural reaction. I, for one, don't like people getting

a free ride or free lunch — as the Minister of Mines is happy to say — it annoys me, too, that's why the programs were developed. Your tree farm was devised months ago, and all the rest of it.

But the problem is, Mr. Speaker, as mentioned by the Minister earlier today, 103 of this number — whatever it is — are in a remand situation in the Remand Centre. Another 60 are on remand, and you can't do anything with these people, this population itself.

I would like the people who find it so flip to solve the problems that people have addressed their minds to for years to come up with a rehabilitation program for Berkowitz. You know, he is on a remand situation. We'll just turn Berkowitz loose and we will have him, you know, hoeing stuff or we will put Lucas out with his axe again. People forget that all people who go into the whole penal system go in through the provincial system. The people who are in a remand situation are those people who the courts, in their wisdom, did not grant bail. These are the most difficult to deal with.

It's on the record, and I ask the Minister to read it off so we would maybe perhaps, finally, get out in the press, you know, a profile of the daily population in the correctional institutions. And I don't take credit that we solved all the problems while we were in administration. I said during the Minister's Estimates it was a good system when we took over and I tried to keep it that way, and I think that the present Minister will also.

But out of this population, whatever it is — 700, 450 or all the rest of it — I think that you will find that for the past number of years that those people who can be out are out, on whatever type of release that they can be released into someone else's custody. You used to mention numbers, and I'm going to play the numbers game, I got into that last year and got in hot water over it. But you have so many people working on the highways. You have so many people up in Bannock Point that are clearing brush, and the rest of it, in arrangements with the Parks Department. I'm sorry I haven't been to that place since they rebuilt it, because they really have one of the best camp supervisors around, and he is a farmer, a very pragmatic man and he deals with these people on a very simple basis. If you ou want to work, fine; if you don't, go back into Headingley. And it's a good program. It develops a competitive spirit among the people, and they work while they are out there.

But to suggest, and it's so easy, I noticed it in the press the other day that the Miniseer is going to get all of these people — maybe I'm reacting to it; I don't know, but some people try to leave the impression that the former government let these people sit around and rot. That's not the case.

But if you go into, as I say, the profile. What are the programs that the Minister announced that he was carrying on? Temporary absences, day paroles. The people are out and they are working in the community. They are working at regular wages, on regular jobs with people who hire them. One organization that the Minister mentioned in External Agencies that he is continuing a grant to, I am very pleased to hear, is the Open Circle. The value that we get for the dollars that we give to that particular agency is very, very small, very small. I think we give them a grant which all it does is really pay the rent of the little office they have. And these people ferret out jobs throughout the community for these people who the administrators can release are released.

But this is one of those motherhood things, once again, where I suppose we should amend the resolution that the government continue all the good things that we did because really that's all that is being said. The fact that the member visited the institution and saw people laying around, I don't think that he wanted to imply that he was an instant expert. I was pleased to hear that he and a number of others had visited the institutions. But to suggest that the number of people that you see laying around are there just because of some design of the staff to keep them idle is just ludicrous.

I believe it was under another administration, going back a few years, they planted some potatoes at this particular location and a forest fire came up. So during the time when they should have been harvesting the potatoes those of the residents who could be deployed to fight fires were sent to fight fires.

I mentioned in the debates of the Minister responsible for this department that Bill Bennett, the former Director of Penitentiary Services in the United States, had written a little book and he called it "I Chose Prison". And he was in that from just after the First World War until 1967-68, when he retired. It was a goodly number of years. And one of his biggest problems that he tried to resolve was just exactly what the member is alluding to: How do you have people involved, productively, with longer sentences? The only thing that seemed to fall into the category of acceptable, as far as all of the different interest groups was, was making licence plates and mailbags.

There have been some inroads made in this regard, but if the member would take the Department of Health report for last year, and I don't want to repeat . . . On Page 200 of the Annual Report for last year, it says on Table 9, Adult Correctional Institution, Sentenced Offenders, and it breaks down — and I would assume, Mr. Speaker, this was on an annual basis that the 3,336 or all of

the people who had been through the institutions in that particular year. But those who have been sentenced for seven days or under, 467 — perhaps we can do some rough, fast arithmetic — under a month, 916. So that's roughly 1,500 of the 3,000 right there off the bat who were in there under a month. Add to that another 400 under two months and another 600 under four months. And one must remember and you have to also remember — I digress very briefly — that the correctional institutions themselves do not determine the length of the sentence; this is the function of the courts. All this agency of government does is fulfill that which the court has decided, so that if a court decides that somebody is sentenced to nine months, they are eligible for parole in three months. So, if a person takes all of those people, out of the 3,336 two-thirds of them are eligible for parole within three months.

We get into the argument, and one of my arguments was that those people who are sentenced for less than a month, that time they are sentenced to jail should perhaps be slightly punitive, that perhaps being locked in a cell for a — if they get seven days, and they have to spend a third of that seven days — I think our friend Mr. Borowski used to go for a week once in a while, and in two or three days he would be out, and he would tell us all the things that happened in there. But if a person is sentenced for a week and he is out after three or four days, what can you do for a rehabilitative program or a work activity with this individual? In my judgment it is better to perhaps give him a quiet period of contemplation. So that if we are talking about over two-thirds of the population who is eligible for parole, and I have to expand on that but briefly, Mr. Speaker, and when they are sentenced — and on top of that, if they're sentenced to nine months and they have been in a remand situation for six months of those things — they are usually turned loose within the next week or so because the courts, on most occasions, will take into consideration the time already served, one way or the other.

So this resolution, while it's a motherhood resolution, and I don't think anybody is opposed to the idea behind it, nevertheless it is one of those things which for some reason or other, the member or the government decided that they would try and give the impression that the former government was sloppy, that they allowed a lot of these people just to sit there and languish in their cells when they could possibly be doing productive work. It is interesting to note also in this regard that a government member is putting forth a resolution which will add to the necessity of having additional staff, because if you are going to have people who are in custody outside of the institution, they have to have somebody to supervise them.

One of the reasons, Mr. Speaker, that the decision was made to get rid of the farm at Headingley Jail, which at one point in time was an excellent idea; it was an excellent farm. They had an excellent herd, in fact, they carried out animal husbandry there in co-operation with the University of Manitoba, and they discovered a lot. But as time went by, it didn't fit into the current sentencing profile available to them as far as work was concerned. On the farm itself — it was a section-plus, I think, at that time — they had seven people working on that farm, but they were correctional officers, they weren't farmers. In fact, I went out there one day five years ago or so and there was a pile of manure sitting in the corner in the barn, and it was dirty. And I said, "When are we going to get rid of that pile of manure?" And one of the fellows said, "Well, you know, the superintendent thinks he can get me two fellows on Thursday." This was the first part of the week. And I said, "Well, why can't the staff take that out?" "Oh no, we're correctional officers."

MR. ENNS: Why shouldn't they have taken it out?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: The Minister of Highways wants to suggest why they shouldn't have to take it out.

MR. ENNS: Why, was the honourable member yielding the floor for me to enter the debate at this time?

MR. BOYCE: Okay.

A MEMBER: Ask the question again.

MR. ENNS: Well, I think that's . . .

MR. BOYCE: No, you had a question, I believe?

MR. ENNS: Well, the simple question was that if there was some work to be done, some useful work to be done, why indeed should staff be doing it? I think that's the gist of the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: Once again, the Minister wasn't listening, Mr. Speaker. I just said that the superintendent told him on Thursday he would have available two men; when the superintendent had the men to give him, he would give them to him. That all the other people at that particular point in time were deployed, as I had said earlier, doing that which they could do. You know, on highways there's some people working, you know; these ten people go out and work on highways, these 21 go over here, these 35 go over there and you start adding up totals, you'll find that everybody, except the . . . Maybe the Minister of Highways wants Mr. Lucas with his axe, maybe he wants him out on the —(Interjection)— the clear right-of-ways — Mr. Lucas.

MR. ENNS: You put a big enough ball, and a big enough chain around him, and I don't mind him having him out there at all. You know, just according to the problem, you add the weight, that's all.

MR. BOYCE: I do enjoy the Minister of Highways.

MR. ENNS: In fact, he is the one person that should be out there working; he is the one person that should be out there.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I'm just as guilty as the Minister because you know, one thing I used to enjoy on the other side of the House is that he was always chirping from this side and I enjoyed it, because he makes more sense in his seat than he does when he's on his feet.

But to get back to the issue at hand, the resolution —(Interjection)— the Greeks said it. Now we're getting another one chirping from the — they're pressing me, Mr. Speaker, to be completely out of order. The Conservative members in the House must have advised their new members that Boyce, every once in a while when he's stalling for time, gives a Greek speech, and they're getting these big demands for the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Would the honourable member please address himself to the subject matter at hand?

MR. BOYCE: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, that I have digressed from the point, but we'll have to blame it all on the interruptions of the Minister of Highways. Since it's 4:30, I think I have finished that which I had to say. It's a motherhood resolution, Mr. Speaker.

MEMBERS: It's 5:30.

MR. SPEAKER: We have one minute left on the resolution. The Honourable Minister of Highways.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker . . .

A MEMBER: Come on Harry, tell us all you know.

MR. ENNS: Pardon? —(Interjection)— No. Mr. Speaker, I do want to address myself to the issue raised by this resolution. It's one of importance, I believe, something that I believe that not enough people have really taken the time to concern themselves about. It's generally left to those immediate professional people involved. This is an important question that you will find those that have fixed and opinionated views on the subject matter, it's always these people that will tell you what you ought to do about this matter, and these are the very sources of information that never properly reflect the true views of the people . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MEMBER: What do you do with those people, and they . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member will have 19 minutes when this subject matter next comes up.

Thursday, June 15, 1978

The hour being 5:30, I am leaving the Chair, and the House will return at 8:00 o'clock in Committee.