

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Wednesday, 10 March, 1982

Time — 2:00 p.m.

**OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.**

**MR. SPEAKER, Hon. D. James Walding (St. Vital):** Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

**HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Brandon East):** Mr. Speaker, with leave I beg to table the Annual Report of the Department of Community Services and Corrections for the calendar year 1981.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Government Services.

**HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Lac du Bonnet):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the Annual Report of the Department of Government Services, and while I'm on my feet, Sir, I wish to also table the Department of Highways and Transportation Report.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Consumer & Corporate Affairs.

**HON. EUGENE KOSTYRA (Seven Oaks):** I beg leave to table the report, pursuant to Section 13, of The Trade Practices Enquiry Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**HON. ROLAND PENNER (Fort Rouge):** Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table the 11th Annual Report of the Law Reform Commission.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines.

**HON. WILSON PARASIUK (Transcona):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, with leave I'd beg to table a number of reports: first, the Annual Report of the Manitoba Development Corporation for the year ended March 31st, 1981; second, the Annual Report of the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board for the year ending March 31st, 1981; the Annual Report of the Manitoba Mineral Resources Limited for the year 1980-81; the Annual Report of the Manitoba Mineral Resources Division for the year ending March 31st, 1981 and the Annual Report of the Manitoba Data Services for 1980-81.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Notices of Motion . . .

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**MR. PENNER** introduced Bill No. 13, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before we reach Oral Questions, may I direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery where we have two school groups.

I am pleased to note the attendance is 65 students of Churchill High School under the direction of Mr. Saleski. This school is in the constituency of Osborne.

Also, we have 25 students, Grade 11 standing of the Murdoch MacKay Collegiate under the direction of Mr. Bruce Rand. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Transcona, the Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines.

On behalf of all the members, I bid you welcome this afternoon.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur.

**MR. JAMES E. DOWNEY (Arthur):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the statements made by the First Minister November 5th promising the beef industry and the beef producers in the Province of Manitoba, a beef support program — to the First Minister, when could we expect the details of that program to be announced?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member I am sure recognizes, the question is better directed to the Minister of Agriculture.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Minister of Agriculture.

**HON. BILL URUSKI (Interlake):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We hope to make that announcement in the next several weeks.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur.

**MR. DOWNEY:** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, to the Honourable Minister, can we expect that program to be somewhat along the lines of the Saskatchewan program?

**MR. URUSKI:** Mr. Speaker, I hope the honourable member will be a bit patient and await the announcement. We are working as hard as we can and we are still receiving submissions from producers and trying to make their views and incorporate them in the overall plan that we are developing.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Pembina.

**MR. DONALD ORCHARD (Pembina):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that immediate action was promised by the First Minister during the election campaign, and that is now three-and-a-half months old; in view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Agriculture when addressing a group of farmers at Oak Bluff on January 13th at the Agricul-

tural Outlook Conference in which he promised that a Beef Income Insurance Plan would be announced within four to six weeks, and that time has now expired; now that we have heard several weeks again for four-and-a-half months; when can the beef producers of Manitoba expect some action from the Minister of Agriculture?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin-Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I thank you. I wonder could the Minister of Agriculture or the First Minister advise the House how they can account for the lack of funds for the beef industry in the Estimates that were tabled last night?

**MR. URUSKI:** Mr. Speaker, there are other avenues in which the funds will be voted upon and brought into the Legislature.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur.

**MR. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, what avenue is the Minister referring to?

**MR. URUSKI:** If the member would like to discuss that during the Estimates, he will have an opportunity to, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. DOWNEY:** The question is, will there be money provided for the beef producers of the Province of Manitoba?

**MR. URUSKI:** Mr. Speaker, I indicated that the program will be announced.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye):** A question to the Minister of Education, I wonder if she could inform me as to the progress that is being made with regard to the expansion of New Bothwell School in the Hanover School Division?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**HON. MAUREEN HEMPHILL (Logan):** Mr. Speaker, the addition required or asked for New Bothwell School was approved by me in the early new year. I think it includes a gymnasium plus some additional facilities. Since they received the approval, they have come back to the Department of Education with their plans for the school and those plans are now a little bit changed from the original request. In other words, they have made some changes in space other than the approval that they received, so we have set up a meeting between the Department of Education and the School Division to discuss the differences. It basically has been approved, it's on track, and it's a matter of ironing out the differences between the approval and the plans that are now before us.

**MR. BANMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the

Minister for that answer.

Another question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, could he inform the House, or confirm that the Premier's Legislative Assistant, the Member for Ellice, is working on rent control legislation in his department?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

**MR. KOSTYRA:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. BANMAN:** To the same Minister a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the Premier's Legislative Assistant is working on material pertaining to the Minister's Department, could he inform the House whether or not that Legislative Assistant to the Premier has access to files dealing with his department?

**MR. KOSTYRA:** Mr. Speaker, yes the Legislative Assistant assigned to me by the Premier does have access to files and discussions related to the proposed Rent Control Program.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Pembina.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister. In view of the fact that the Premier has stated that he will not ask the Member for Ellice to drop his legal involvement with clients in the Logan area, will the First Minister suspend the Member for Ellice as his Legislative Assistant while he is undertaking this legal action involving the government of the Province of Manitoba?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honourable Member for Pembina for the question. The Member for Ellice received a very clear letter from the Legislative Counsel, Mr. Tallin, in respect to whether or not there would be any conflict of interest on his part in acting as a solicitor. The answer was very clear, there would be no conflict of interest. Subsequently, the Member for Ellice has received a letter from the Chief Legal Counsel pertaining to his role as Legislative Assistant. Again the answer was there was no conflict of interest.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the First Minister. A similar situation, I think, paralleled the Constitution where the Supreme Court said it was legally right and morally wrong, and in view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that a vast majority of Manitobans are concerned about the potential conflict of interest that exists between the Premier's Legislative Assistant, on one hand having access to information, now representing a group of citizens who are undertaking action against the provincial government. In view of that obvious concern by Manitobans, and in view of the fact that in the Throne Speech conflict-of-interest legislation was promised by this government, would the First Minister not reconsider his position and consider the suspension of his Legislative Assistant whilst he is acting on behalf of that group of citizens in Logan; a temporary suspension, Mr. Speaker,

not a permanent suspension?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Pembina must not have been present in the House last week when I indicated that the Member for Ellice was not privy to the files of the Land Acquisition Branch and I thought that was made very clear, and I believe it was also made clear by the Minister responsible for Urban Affairs insofar as access to files.

No, Mr. Speaker, if we were to apply that rule, I would have to as well prohibit the Member for Ellice from participating in Provincial Judges' Court, when indeed his is representing accused individuals in respect to actions brought by the Attorney-General.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

**HON. AL MACKLING (St. James):** Mr. Speaker, last week the Honourable Member for Swan River asked me a question about the plight of fish trapped behind a dam on the Birch River, I believe. This matter had also been brought to my attention by the Member for The Pas. I have made inquiry, and it is a problem that exists in respect to fish that go upstream from the dam, are trapped within the Saskerem Wildlife waters, and due to a lack of oxygen during the late winter and early spring, there is some loss.

As a result of that continual problem, the department has opened it up to fishing, but there has been no one take up the fishing there because the fish are small pike predominantly of relatively low value. That is a continuing problem, but the department indicates that they do not consider to be a major problem.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would like to also respond to the concerns of the Member for Lakeside who requested confirmation from me of a report as to some illegal trafficking in wildlife, fish and game. I'd indicated at the time that I believed that it was a confidential document, that the matter was a preliminary — as I understood, it was a preliminary investigative report upon the basis of which the department expected that there would be further investigation and likely criminal prosecution and conviction hopefully.

I regret to advise that the matter did become public prematurely and the question now is wide open. I am advised that as a result of the preliminary investigations there has been one charge laid and one plea of guilty entered. However, as a result of the widespread publicity about this now, it is not likely that we will be as successful in respect to further charges. I might say that we're still going to pursue the matter; it is a very important matter, but I would have preferred of course that the investigations that were ongoing had not been made public. It's certainly within the public domain. If this comes out, we have to indicate that it has occurred, but in this kind of matter we would like to work successfully, quietly until we get convictions. It is a very real problem; we're seized with it and we're acting on it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. HARRY ENNS (Lakeside):** Mr. Speaker, just a

further question to the Honourable Minister for Natural Resources and perhaps he can help me. It's really for my clarification.

Can the Honourable Minister tell me that when several thousand fish die when there is a Conservative Minister around, it attracts such notoriety for several weeks; papers, pictures, television coverage and I appreciate the Minister's explanation. They die of, unfortunately, natural causes; lack of oxygen. When the same thing happens a year later with an NDP Minister, can the Minister enlighten me why it doesn't attract any television coverage, any front page pictures in the media? Is there some difference? I think we both agree the fish were dead last year and the fish are dead this year. Is that not the case?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

**MR. MACKLING:** Mr. Speaker, there have been many answers already suggested to the honourable member and I don't know whether I could improve on them except to say that because he is a magnetic personality, the media are attracted to him — (Interjection) — like moths to a flame. I should have also added, Mr. Speaker, that there are copies of this preliminary report available through the Clerk's Office.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, one further question to the Honourable Minister. In view of the fact that our Estimates are coming up first in Natural Resources, I'm aware that the report commissioned by the previous administration on the wild rice industry has received some limited distribution. Would the Minister prepare to send over a few copies of the report to the members of the Opposition? I haven't received any yet; it would be helpful in the consideration of his Estimates.

**MR. MACKLING:** Mr. Speaker, I don't think I would have any problem with that. I will consult with staff and see whether they have any problem with it. I believe that it may be of assistance to me to have my learned friends giving some constructive criticism to me during the course of the Estimates.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Virden.

**MR. HARRY GRAHAM (Virden):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is the Honourable First Minister: since the Honourable Member for Ellice does not have access to files of the Land Acquisition Branch, can the Honourable First Minister tell us what other departments the honourable member does not have access to?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, in respect to the question posed by the honourable member, the Member for Ellice does not have access to files pertaining to individual case issues, whether it be Land Acquisition Branch or in other areas. He is dealing with the question of rent control in a general way, dealing with the matter of multiculturalism as well, but those are very important and very worthwhile functions; the Honourable Member for Ellice is doing an excellent job.

Mr. Speaker. I don't believe that Manitobans would want me to prohibit the Member for Ellice from engaging in the development of policy in respect to those areas, particularly when we have received legal advice from the chief legal counsel of the Province of Manitoba that there is no conflict of interest insofar as the Honourable for Ellice.

**MR. GRAHAM:** A supplementary question to the Honourable First Minister: does the First Minister have access to all the files of the various departments of this government?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. DAVID R. (DAVE) BLAKE (Minnedosa):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the — oh he's gone — the Minister in charge of Transportation Services. I'll defer until he returns to the Chamber, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the Honourable Member for Minnedosa now have his question?

**MR. BLAKE:** I'll defer it, Mr. Speaker, until the Minister returns because I'll just get the usual runaround.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, the Honourable Member for Emerson complained that his name was omitted from the telephone directory for eastern Manitoba as among the MLAs. Indeed it is and I notice for some strange reason the MLA for Morris is listed in the eastern directory of MTS and again, I'm not sure why that is.

However, I notice, and this was indeed published in March, 1982, but I notice in September of 1981 the Honourable Member for Emerson does appear in the Pembina Valley Telephone Directory as being the MLA for Emerson. I'm pleased to note that he is listed also in the eastern directory under the town of Grunthal, which is I believe his residence.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, I think the MTS are going to have to become more familiar with the provincial constituency boundaries in this province, so I'm directing the MTS to take a very close look at these boundaries to make sure that MLAs are listed in their proper regions. However, I might add that in this case the honourable member represents a constituency that happens to be in two telephone regions and therefore I'm pleased to advise him we'll make sure he's in both directories next time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Pembina.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister responsible for MTS carry on the policy of the previous four years and undertake to write to each and every recipient of the eastern regional telephone directory a personal letter from the Minister responsible for MTS indicating that the MLA for Emerson is Mr. Albert Driedger, and that they can reach him at — Mr. Speaker, I hear some protestations from the members

opposite. That is only a legitimate request to make sure that the constituents of the constituency of Emerson have access to their MLA, and I would ask him if he would do that for the residents of the eastern region, and particularly the residents of Emerson constituency.

**MR. EVANS:** Mr. Speaker, surely the Honourable Member for Pembina is not serious because he knows, or he should know, that there are 33,000 people who receive the eastern telephone directory and he's asking us to pay first-class mail, 30 cents per letter, that's 33,000 letters, I say that is a considerable amount of money and I think we're going to be a little more careful with the taxpayers' money than the Member for Pembina suggests we should be.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, I see the Minister has returned to his seat so I will start afresh and direct my question to the Minister responsible for Transportation. I wonder if the Minister can inform the House if he is still carrying on with the policy established by the previous administration with respect to disposition of agricultural lands or lands that were previously in the abandoned rail right-of-ways.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Government Services.

**MR. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to indicate to the member that we have asked for review of that policy in the nature of information to us in order to have an update as to what was transpiring and from that point we will then decide what we want to do from there on.

**MR. BLAKE:** Well, Mr. Speaker, there are some 400 or 500 applications on file now; I wonder if the Minister could inform the House and the people of Manitoba just where those applications stand or what process will be carried on to see them to a successful conclusion.

**MR. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the Member for Minnedosa that when we are clear on the direction that we want to take after having the analysis done, we will make that announcement during the course of Estimates review or in response to a question, or whatever.

**MR. BLAKE:** Well yes, Mr. Speaker, the final supplementary: there are quite a quite a number of those applications that were made in compliance with a signed deal with the previous administration and they relate to property containing, say, elevators that have been sold for considerable sums of funds and they are unable to disburse those funds until they conclude that deal and obtain title to that land so that people that purchased the elevator property are able to obtain title to it or move the elevator to another site; and it's causing some considerable problems in some areas. I wonder if he could give me some clarification to take to those people on what time span they might

be looking for before this government finally makes up his mind that owning those rail beds by individuals is not all that bad maybe.

**MR. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, we haven't made the decision that it is good or bad to have those parcels conveyed to individuals who have applied for them. We are merely reviewing what has been the policy and from that we will announce a policy of our own. In the meantime, if there are cases that provide some hardship or have hardship conditions because of those matters referred to me by the Member for Minnedosa, I'm prepared to look at them at an individual basis.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

**MR. ABE KOVNATS (Niakwa):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Natural Resources: can the Honourable Minister advise if the area in the Sandilands Forest Reserve, south of Hwy. 201 between Menisino and Piney is being opened up for timber cutting operations?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

**MR. MACKLING:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the honourable member did give me notice of his intention to ask a question in respect to this. I have information from the department; I don't know whether it will satisfy the honourable member, but I will give you it in all the detail that it has been provided to me.

A specific block of forest was set aside for those wishing to cut fence posts in the area off Highway 201 between Menisino and Piney. In order to supervise cutting, it is usual practice to prescribe the block in which cutters may operate. This winter the road was impassable due to snow. Two or three cutters, having some urgency, were allowed to cut elsewhere. We speculated that a few cutters who had previously been constrained to the block noticed these permittees cutting outside it.

Later, during the current year, 1,150 permits for cedar and tamarack fence posts were issued; people came from as far away as Boissevain. We would usually snowplow the road; in this case, they didn't snowplow the road this past winter. Seven permittees were permitted to go into an alternative area selected by the Regional Conservation Officer in order to eliminate the cost of plowing and the names are given of those permittees.

In December, 1981, Forestry wrote to one gentleman who had requested 50 cords of birch fuel and he was told to go 30 miles to a fuel cutting block near Woodridge. He was told that if he wanted only a little for his house, he could take it near home. It may be that there was a complaint by some of the people that they were being required to cut in places that others had been allowed to do. It appears that because of the heavy snowfall, the fact that the road had now been plowed, there was some discretion exercised. There may have been complaints that some people seem to have had some benefits that others didn't.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

**MR. KOVNATS:** I would like to thank the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources for his thorough reply on the question that I had given him notice of yesterday. I would just like to say thank you very much for his concern and I would hope that all people will be treated fairly in the area and not one given more preference than anybody else.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Morris.

**MR. CLAYTON MANNES (Morris):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Highways.

At this point, have contracts been signed with landowners for purchase of their property for the purpose of the four-laning of Highway 75?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Government Services.

**MR. USKIW:** Mr. Speaker, I didn't quite get the question. Was it whether or not we have signed any contracts? Yes, Mr. Speaker, I believe some of the transactions have been completed with respect to acquisition of right-of-way for the twinning of Highway 75.

**MR. MANNES:** Could the Minister of Highways confirm that The Land Acquisition Branch of government is continuing to purchase land for this purpose?

**MR. USKIW:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Kirkfield Park.

**MRS. GERRIE HAMMOND (Kirkfield Park):** My question is to the Minister of Finance. In the statement on the Estimates yesterday, he mentioned that the \$2 million special grant to be provided to Winnipeg School Division No. 1 was not included. Could he advise the House where he has made provision for this item?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**HON. VIC SCHROEDER (Rossmere):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no provision made in those Estimates for that \$2 million.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

**MR. GARY FILMON (Tuxedo):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education. Will the Minister now confirm that the \$46.5 million increase in the Education Support Program plus the \$12.4 million special grants plus other smaller miscellaneous special grants referred to in her recent press release, of that amount only \$42 million will come out of the Provincial General Revenues while an additional, approximately \$20 million will come out of the Foundation Levy which is assessed against property taxes in the province?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MRS. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, the specific information will be made available on Monday when we are giving complete information about mill rate application and where the money is coming from.

**MR. FILMON:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Cabinet, by Order in Council, last Wednesday passed or set the differential in the mill rate between the farm and residential property and the commercial and industrial property at 38 mills, can she now share with us what the specific mill rate figures are, since it's obviously available?

**MRS. HEMPHILL:** That information will be made public on Monday, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. FILMON:** Mr. Speaker, in the Estimates which were released last evening, the amount of increase for the community colleges funding in the province shows an increase of 3 percent over last year. I'm wondering in view of the number of references to increased commitments towards training and especially in areas of greatest employment need in this province, what her justification is for this amount of increase?

**MRS. HEMPHILL:** Mr. Speaker, I expect that the honourable member is referring to the difference in the increases awarded the universities this year and the amount of the increase awarded to colleges. There is a reason for it as there is a reason for all of the sizes of increases that we are awarding.

Colleges were treated very well over the period of the last four years. They received substantial increases and were allowed to maintain their programs and they were not put in a position of having to cut back on equipment, facilities and teaching the way the universities were, so the reason is that they received good funding in the previous years. The universities were cut back very drastically and that is the reason why we have made the awards that we have.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health and I would ask him whether the government is intending to proceed with the addition of two floors on Concordia Hospital in Winnipeg? I ask this question, Mr. Speaker, independent of the Estimates Review because it was a project that had been announced by the previous government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**HON. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are a number of programs that have been announced that are ready and a decision will be made fairly soon. We're looking at a plan and as soon as possible it'll be announced to the House.

**MR. SHERMAN:** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, can the Minister advise whether he's intending in the introductory process to the review of his Estimates

which is only a matter of a few weeks away to announce a capital program for 1982-83 for the Department and the Health Services Commission?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that it would be ready by then. I certainly have no objection to announcing it at that time or if it's ready before that, to make an announcement if it accommodates the members.

**MR. SHERMAN:** A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, can the Minister confirm that the addition of two floors to Concordia is one of the projects that is being considered in the preparation of that capital program?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, all the programs that have advanced to that stage are being seriously considered.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

**MR. RURIK (Ric) NORDMAN (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health. What is the future of Deer Lodge Hospital? Is there a phasing out plan by the Veterans' Administration, a phasing in of the Manitoba Health Services?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** For a number of years now, as the former Minister could tell his colleagues, there have been discussions between the Federal Government, who have been quite anxious to turn all of those veterans' hospitals to the provinces. The negotiation is still going strong. I think we are getting a little closer.

I have met with members of the Union, the Veterans, they have some concern. I have offered to meet with them and the Federal Government if they wish, and I hope, I certainly hope, that there will be an announcement during my Estimates or earlier if possible.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. MCKENZIE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the small village of Shellmouth is planning and actively promoting their Centennial this summer. Under the present policy, the little village doesn't qualify for a centennial grants, because the rural municipality of Shellmouth wasn't incorporated until 1907 and as a result will not celebrate their centennial until the year 2007.

I wonder is there some way that the policy can be varied for a village such as Shellmouth, who very much would like to celebrate their centennial this year, which is there 100th anniversary?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**HON. A.R. (PETE) ADAM (Ste. Rose):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Member for Roblin-Russell asking that question. We have sent out centennial grants to several communities this year, including

some of the larger urban centres as well, but many others.

It is correct that the town perhaps will have to come under the municipality which is not incorporated — is it 1907? We shall take a look at that and see if anything can be done.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Pembina.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Manitoba Telephone System. Can the Minister indicate whether the System is contemplating any purchase and/or building of additional office space this coming year?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member of Community Services.

**MR. EVANS:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I could take that matter as notice, but it may be better left to the time that we have MTS before us and we can discuss these items in detail.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Well, I would prefer the first course, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister could provide me with that information, because it may be some time before we deal with the Annual Report of the Manitoba Telephone System.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY  
SECOND READING — GOVERNMENT BILLS  
BILL NO. 3 - AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT  
RESPECTING THE OPERATION OF SEC. 23  
OF THE MAN. ACT IN REGARD TO STATUTES**

**MR. PENNER** presented Bill No. 3, An Act to amend An Act Respecting the Operation of Section 23 of The Manitoba Act in Regard to Statutes for second reading.

**MOTION presented.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**MR. PENNER:** Mr. Speaker, all of this is in a sense consequent upon the Forest decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1979 and since then the Opposition, then the Government, and now ourselves are moving to implement both the spirit and the letter of section 23 of the Manitoba Act, which has constitutional significance. Section 23 of the Act, of course, is now well known, it calls for the Acts of the Legislature to be printed and published in both official languages, namely, French and English.

Subsequently in 1980, the Act to which this Bill has reference, that is an Act respecting the operation of Section 23, was passed and among other provisions, Section 4(2) provided a method by which the translations could be certified and the present section provided for the Speaker of the House to designate a person to certify the accuracy of any translations of Acts after they have been passed in the House in the other official language.

Until now, the practise has been for the Speaker to designate a person to certify the accuracy of translation when the French version of an Act is ready for publication. To date most of the certification have

been provided by Mr. Norman Bellair, who has been on loan to the Government of Manitoba from the Office of the Secretary of State for Canada.

The problem is this, that where the Speaker is absent from the province on vacation or on Assembly business, or where the Speaker is unable to make a designation because of illness, the amendment would permit the Deputy Speaker to authorize the designation of a person to certify the accuracy of a translation.

The second problem is addressed in this way; that on dissolution of the House for an election, until the first meeting of the next Legislature there is legally speaking neither a Speaker nor a Deputy Speaker. The proposed amendment, which is technical in nature but important, would permit the Attorney-General to designate a person to certify the accuracy of translations during that period of time, that hiatus between one Legislature and the next when there is legally no Speaker or no Deputy Speaker. I would pass my notes on that to the House Leader Opposite.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Norbert.

**MR. MERCIER:** I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry that the debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**BILL NO. 4 — AN ACT TO AMEND  
THE GARAGE KEEPERS ACT**

**MR. PENNER** presented Bill No. 4, An Act to Amend the Garage Keepers Act for second reading.

**MOTION presented.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**MR. PENNER:** Mr. Speaker, the amendments to The Garage Keepers Act are in the nature of housekeeping amendments. Section 13 of the Act is to be repealed. This is the section which requires a garage keeper to post a copy of The Garage Keepers Act in at least three conspicuous places in his or her or its garage in order to be entitled of the benefits under the Act.

The right of a garage keeper to a lien is reasonably well known in the community, however, it appears that very few people are aware of the provision in the Act now for the posting of the sign. Very few garages, in fact, post the sign and my department is not aware of any complaint that has ever been received in this regard. Occasionally one may be looking for a fan belt or something, and see some greasy old piece of paper and that's about the effect of that provision. The new Subsection 13.1(2) merely adds clause (c) to the present subsection. It's just to make the effect of the subsection a little clearer in terms of the situation when an owner of a vehicle, with respect to which there's a claim of a lien, can pay money into court in order to obtain the vehicle until the dispute between the owner of the vehicle and the garage keeper has been settled. The amendment to Subsection 13.1 . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. May I remind members that on second reading it is debate in principle, a

member should not refer to specific sections or items of the Act.

**MR. PENNER:** Right. The other portion of the Bill was requested by His Honour, Chief County Court Judge A. R. Philp, and points out that the present wording requires that a trial be held before monies paid into court can be paid out. In particular, the present wording does not permit for payment of monies out of court where an action is commenced, but not defended by the owner of a vehicle. In a recent case — this sort of emphasizes the reason for these proposed amendments — a garage keeper obtained what is called a default judgment, that is in fact had a judgment, but was required to make a separate motion before the court in order to have the money that had been paid into court paid out to the garage keeper. Now with this amendment, the particular judge, who would have noted default and given a default judgment, would at the same time be able to order that the monies in court be paid out to the garage keeper without the necessity of a separate motion. So they're housekeeping amendments to accomplish these up dates in the Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Virdein.

**MR. GRAHAM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we are amending The Garage Keepers Act, there is something that causes me a little bit of concern. It's dealing with some other statutes which probably come under the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs dealing with the privilege to stay open for business on particular days that have normally been set aside for most businesses to be closed. Now I believe there is an exception for people in the garage service industry on days such as the 11th of November and things of that nature.

I wonder if the Honourable Attorney-General in bringing forward his proposed amendments has cleared any legal technicality that might occur, whether he has cleared it with the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs with respect to the identification. Just because you take down the placards, does that do anything to the problems that might occur with a person operating a garage and his ability to stay open on certain days that are designated as holidays and normal closing of business? Those are some of the questions I pose on this Bill.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, that the debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

### **BILL NO.5 — AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW OF PROPERTY ACT**

**MR. PENNER** presented Bill No. 5, An Act to amend The Law of Property Act for second reading.

**MOTION presented.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**MR. PENNER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The pro-

posed amendment to The Law of Property Act is to give jurisdiction to the County Court to hear cases of partition and sale of land. Presently under The Law of Property Act, only the Court of Queen's Bench has jurisdiction in these matters. Now, partition and sale which is a technical term to cover the situation in which property jointly held by two persons can be either sold or transferred in order to divide the interests, partition and sale is frequently required when dealing with separation of property under The Marital Property Act. The County Court has general jurisdiction for all other matters under The Marital Property Act. But where partition and sale is required to complete the division of property between two persons separating and bringing proceedings under The Marital Property Act, as things now are, an application is required to the Court of Queen's Bench, a separate application. It takes time, and it's costly and it's unnecessary.

By extending the jurisdiction of the County Court as this proposed amendment would do to permit the County Court Judge seized of the issue as between the parties to deal with partition and sale of land, the County Court will be able to deal with all matters under The Marital Property Act. So that in the one hearing, the matters between the party can be disposed of. The proposed amendment will give jurisdiction to the County Court, of the County Court district in which the land is situated or the County Court of a district in which the action has already been brought.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Norbert.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain, that debate be adjourned.

**Motion presented and carried.**

### **BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Would the Government House Leader indicate the next item of business?

**MR. PENNER:** The motion that was before the House last night, brought in by the Minister of Finance, was that the House do, at its next sitting, move into Committee of Supply. Now I don't know what the intention of the members opposite is with respect to that motion, whether they are prepared to consider that this is the next sitting, or consider that by the nature of the motion that we are going to move into Supply tomorrow.

**MR. SPEAKER:** If the Minister wishes to proceed with that item I will call it for debate.

**MR. PENNER:** Right, then I will call for the question on the motion that was introduced by the Minister of Finance yesterday that the House do now move into Committee of Supply.

**MR. SPEAKER:** On the adjourned motion of the Minister of Finance, it was moved that the House will at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to con-



sider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.  
The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. A. BRIAN RANSOM (Turtle Mountain):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to deal with a number of items that I think are of considerable importance to the people of Manitoba, and they are of considerable importance to this House as well.

I start first of all, Mr. Speaker, with the manner in which the Minister of Finance has drawn together and presented his Estimates, both to this House and to the public, because it is in my knowledge unprecedented that he should have presented them — the Honourable Minister should have presented them in the way that they have been.

I begin, Sir, with the press release that the Honourable Minister has put out which indicated that there would be a 14.4 percent increase in spending. He was, I might add, quite successful in that presentation of spending because of course the Winnipeg Sun headlines this morning that expenditures or spending will be up by 14.4 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the expenditures have never before been presented in that way. The correct way, and I am certain the way that his departmental staff presented them to him, was that they would be presented as print-over-print, which simply means the amount of money that was initially presented to the Legislature last year plus the amount passed in Supplementary Supply. That is the only way to make a truly comparable presentation.

What the Minister has done is try to compare the total projected expenditures for 1981-82 with his initial expenditures for 1982-83, and he has deliberately left items out of the Estimates that were tabled before this House last night. When he was asked today, "Where was provision made for the \$2 million Special Grant to Winnipeg 1?" he said, "No provision has been made." Yet that announcement was made in this House some days ago by the Minister of Education.

They knew, Mr. Speaker, they knew that there would be funds required for that grant and they were not presented in the spending Estimates tabled in this House last night. Mr. Speaker, that is the sort of behaviour on the part of the Minister of Finance that is simply unacceptable to the members on this side of the House and I think it should be unacceptable to the public as well.

We also know that the First Minister during the election and other members of his party were promising immediate assistance to the beef producers of this province. There was not one nickel presented in the Estimates tabled in this House last night, Mr. Speaker, yet the Minister stands up in the House today and says there will be a plan. Mr. Speaker, if they know that there will be money spent on a Beef Income Stabilization Plan, then provision for that plan should be made in the Estimates tabled in this House. Instead, the public is misled with this type of press release which indicates a 14.4 percent increase in spending, which when put on a comparable basis to previous years, simply on the figures alone brings it to 16.9 percent, and if we begin to add in the items that these honourable members have promised and have not included in their Estimates, then the figure begins to go much

higher, Mr. Speaker. I think that we are entitled to an explanation at the very least from the Minister of Finance for that type of action.

We have seen how previous releases of information have been done by that Minister in the short period of time that they have been government. If this is an indication of the consequence of moving the Information Services Branch from the Department of Government Services, where it operated in an impartial way to the First Minister's Office, where it now reports to his top political gun, if this is the type of action that we're going to get, Mr. Speaker, then it's unacceptable, and I tell you that the Estimates tabled before us last night give me some concern.

They give me some concern about how the Information Services and other information disseminating groups are going to be used in this government, Mr. Speaker, because within these Estimates that were tabled last night, I dare say that the single largest increase falls within the Executive Council and that is a 824 percent increase in the Advertising Audit office within the First Minister's office, it goes up from \$128,300 to \$1,057,300.00 What do they do, Mr. Speaker? What is listed under there says that it provides an advertising media buying service for all government departments and agencies. That's their priority, Mr. Speaker, an 824 percent increase.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to place on the record once again some of the facts concerning the economic situation in this province when we assumed government in 1977, and when the members opposite assumed it some three or four months ago, because despite factual explanations that have been given, the First Minister in his presentation to the House last night continued to follow his revisionist type of approach to providing information on the state of the economy. Mr. Speaker, as long as that sort of misunderstanding continues to persist among the members opposite, then I will continue to place upon the record the facts, and the members opposite should be free to challenge those facts or to verify them.

When we assumed responsibility for government in 1977, we took over at a time when the economy was only growing at 0.8 percent a year. When those honourable members took over, the economy of this province was estimated by the Conference Board to be growing at 3.3 percent. Mr. Speaker, I believe that that is an increase of something like 400 percent, four times higher when we took over than it was when they took over.

The statements the First Minister has been making simply don't wash with the facts. Unemployment was 5.9 percent when we assumed office. It's 6 percent when they assumed office. Retail sales were 4.4 percent when we took over — 11.5 percent during 1981. The thing that the honourable members opposite continue to try and impress upon the public is that the economic capacity of the government is somehow terribly constrained because of the way we left it.

Mr. Speaker, I want to assure them that the economic capacity of the government, fiscal capacity, is in better shape when they assumed power than it was four years ago.

Let me reiterate the facts once again, that the deficit in 1977-78 represented on an annual basis 11.7 percent of the expenditures of government. When the figures

are in for 1981-82, it will show that the deficit is approximately 10.9 percent of the expenditures of government for that year. The deficit as a percentage of revenues in 1977-78 was 13.3 percent; in 1981-82 it will be 12.2. The total direct and guaranteed debt in 1977-78 represented 42 percent of the gross provincial product and I'll give you one updated figure, Mr. Speaker; I thank the Minister of Finance for providing me with the information yesterday afternoon. It is based on the most current projection of the gross provincial product for the province. The total debt for 1981-82 will come in, in the range of 35 percent of the gross provincial product, as opposed to 42 percent in 1977-78. In fact, the fiscal capacity of the government is stronger today than it was four years ago. Those are the facts, Mr. Speaker, I will continue to put them on the record so long as we continue to hear revision of statements made about the state of the fiscal capacity of the province.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to make reference to the general approach that this government seems to be taking to the management of the economy or to the extent that they are able to influence the economy; that is, that they generally appear to be treating the symptoms, rather than to be doing their part to treat the causes. I take, as an example of that, the statements that are made in the Throne Speech where the government refers to their continued call for a lowering of interest rates and that they will attempt to offset the most serious effects of inflation. Well, that's fine, Mr. Speaker. All of us would like to see lower interest rates; none of us like to see the higher interest rates that we have today.

We also don't want to see people suffering the effects of inflation, but it surely is incumbent upon a provincial government to lay out a strategy for how they see those things actually being accomplished. Because to simply call for a lowering of interest rates is simply to posture without being able to lay out at the same time some of the other events that they see taking place in order that they may give the people some confidence that they know what they are talking about; that if indeed they are proposing to take short-term pain for long-term gain, then at least they should lay that out so that we have some knowledge that they know what they are talking about. We haven't seen that, Mr. Speaker, all we see is a simple call for lower interest rates and some effort to offset inflation.

At the same time they want to flail out at President Reagan in the United States for the policies that he follows. Well, Mr. Speaker, they may not agree with the policies of President Reagan, and that of course is everyone's prerogative; I don't entirely agree with all his policies either, but he does lay out a plan. He does tell the people where he expects to go. There is a body of knowledge that leads him to that conclusion and they are having some success in controlling inflation because inflation today is approximately half in the United States of what it is in Canada.

I want to know from the government some time in the course of debate during this Legislature, Mr. Speaker, what they think is going to happen in Canada if their policies are followed with respect to inflation, because there are very knowledgeable people who say that if their policy is followed, it will lead to 20 percent inflation. I don't think that they want to see 20

percent inflation; I expect that then they would be calling for a reduction in inflation. I think we have reason to expect answers to those kinds of questions and so far we haven't had them.

Mr. Speaker, the members opposite talk about the necessity for economic development; we all acknowledge the necessity of economic development. It's how we see economic development being carried out where we differ and I must say that in looking through the Estimates last night, there doesn't seem to be very much there that is going to do anything to enhance the economy of the province. There doesn't even seem to be much effort and it simply reinforces the fact that in the Throne Speech there were only one or two paragraphs where reference was made to the private sector. We see now that in the spending Estimates for the Department of Economic Development, for instance, that even though there is a figure of some 8 percent increase for the Department of Economic Development that really, Mr. Speaker, if you look at that and see that \$2 million of that is for the Horse Racing Commission that the Minister of Economic Development is going to bring in Estimates that in fact are 1 percent lower than they were last year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what kind of message is that going to give the private sector in Manitoba? Does this government want the private sector to help in generating economic activity in this province or not? The amount of money that's made available under the Small Enterprise Development Program, for instance, is reduced. In fact, the entire Estimates of Economic Development are down by some 1 percent. What other action is there, Mr. Speaker, in these Estimates that would indicate something that's going to generate economic activity?

The Throne Speech talked about investing in resources, well, we know that refers at least in part to their intention to invest in ManOil and Manitoba Mineral Resources. We wouldn't expect to see that funding in these Estimates; we expect to see that in the Capital, but the way that they managed some of the other resources, I find somewhat alarming, Mr. Speaker.

Yesterday, the day before, we saw the Minister of Natural Resources stand up in this House and make just a very strong plea for the better management of our natural resources and the better management of water, and I turned with great anticipation to the Estimates to see how that kind of promise was going to be carried out, Mr. Speaker. What do I find when I look in the Estimates? The overall funding for water resources is up 5.6 percent, Mr. Speaker, what are they going to do with that? He read, I believe in glowing terms, from the Conservation Districts Annual Report and I agree they are excellent. What is there for conservation districts? Zero percent increase, Mr. Speaker.

They talk in glowing terms, Mr. Speaker, about the need for economic development in the north; they talk about concluding a Northlands Agreement. What do we see in these Estimates, Mr. Speaker? We see a reduced amount of money for Northlands. How are they going to deliver on their promises of economic development to the people of Northern Manitoba when they put less money in the Estimates than they had before?

There are in fact some other very interesting things

in the Estimates as well. The Throne Speech made specific reference to Highways, to maintaining the highway system in the province. Actually, Mr. Speaker, when you look at the amount of money that's in there for Acquisition and Construction in Highways, even though it shows a 16 or 18 percent increase. In fact, if one adds in the additional funding that was provided to Highways, it turns out that it is about a five-percent increase which of course under today's conditions of rising costs will not even maintain the level of activity that was undertaken during the past year.

What kind of commitment is it that is given in the Throne Speech that is then followed up with this type of spending? Does it mean, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Finance knows full well that he is going to come to this House again with further sums of money? He already knew, he admitted today that he knew there was a \$2 million grant to be made to the City of Winnipeg Division No. 1. It was not included in his Estimates. Never before, to my knowledge, has a Minister of Finance ever come to this House to table Estimates that left out an item that he knew was going to be required that had actually been announced in this House.

The Minister of Agriculture has promised a Beef Income Stabilization Plan to the people; they have been promising it immediately and on an emergency basis for months now. They know that the funds are going to be made available; they are not in the Estimates. I hope that the First Minister will acknowledge what has been happening here and will see that the books of this province begin to be kept once again in a responsible sort of fashion. —(Interjection)—

At least, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues behind me mention the general salary increase amount. I don't argue with the manner of presentation of that item; I simply point out that if the general salary increase was to be placed in the Estimates on the same basis that it was last year, it would be necessary to add an additional \$20 million which would bring the spending Estimates to an increase print over print which is the only way they've been presented before, which is the only way his staff would recommend, 17.7 percent and that falls far short of meeting the promises that they have made.

Mr. Speaker, these members opposite are in a fiscal no man's land because they have brought spending Estimates in last night that are already more than the people of Manitoba can afford, yet they fall far short of meeting and fulfilling the promises that the members opposite have made.

Last night, Mr. Speaker, and on a number of previous occasions, the First Minister and others have made reference to the actions of the previous administration somehow being responsible for the way in which this province is treated under equalization and established programs financing. Mr. Speaker, there are two ways in my view to approach that issue. One is that the First Minister is simply putting up a smoke screen; that in fact has not happened at all and I fully expect that is the case from my knowledge of my exposure to First Ministers' Conferences and to Finance Ministers' Conferences because I know that other provinces were treated the same. I know that the First Minister of New Brunswick has stood up and spoken to First Ministers' Conferences and indeed

travelled across the country and he said, I co-operated with that central government on bilingualism; I co-operated with them on DREE; I co-operated with them on the Constitution and look at the way they treat me, exactly the same way that they were treating Manitoba. I expect that's the case, Mr. Speaker, but if it's not, if that's the kind of —(Interjection)— yes, the member reminds me of the word we're looking for — capriciousness, that is demonstrated by our Federal Government; then this First Minister and his government should be standing up and defending the rights of provinces and saying that this is not the way that Canada was intended to operate, that the central government would somehow punish individual provinces because they happened to take stands that they believed were right and that were right in the eyes of many Canadians. Surely that is not the way that Canada was intended to operate unless, of course, we believe the First Minister of this country when he said indeed that co-operative federalism is dead.

I hope that the First Minister has some success in his approaches to the Federal Government, but I rather think that he may find that the best approach for him is to make sure that he looks after the interests of Manitobans and not the interests of Pierre Trudeau. Let me just recount for the information of the members opposite — perhaps they will find it useful — the sequence of events and the change in attitude that we experienced in terms of negotiating with the Federal Government over our four years.

When we came into power in October of 1977, we were negotiating a number of agreements with the Federal Government, a tourism agreement and an industrial development agreement and I remember that the Federal Minister came here, Mr. Lessard. We met with him personally, we sat down, we talked about the approach that they wanted to take and the approach that we wanted to take. We compromised, we agreed and we signed agreements, and it was possible to negotiate with that Federal Government. Then of course the election of '79 came and we dealt for a short period of time with the Conservative government and, of course, that was a great period of openness in dealing with the Federal Government, but unfortunately it was short-lived and we went back to having a Liberal Government from February of 1980. Mr. Speaker, in February of 1980, the attitude of the Federal Government changed; it was completely different than it was prior to the May, 1979 election. It was as though the Federal Government had made up their mind that they were going to centralize control within this country, that they were going to take away authority from the provinces; they were going to reduce funding to the provinces and it was impossible to have meaningful discussion and negotiation with the Federal Government. I tell the members opposite that is what was happening despite the best efforts that we could put forward. It was impossible for me to get the Minister for DREE to speak to me or to meet with me.

I recall one occasion I learned he was coming to Manitoba. We phoned his office and said, would it be possible to meet with you, sir, for 15 minutes in the airport on the way through? Do you know what the first question was, Mr. Speaker? How did you find out I was coming to Manitoba? That is what we were up against and, Mr. Speaker, that's what the members

opposite are up against. I expect that the Minister of Finance realizes that, because I think he's been in the front line of dealing with them to this point and I expect that his patience is wearing just a little thin.

When I see, Mr. Speaker, that in the spending Estimates that there is a reduced amount of money put forward for the Northlands Agreement, then I rather begin to expect that some of the other members over there know that they're going to have trouble negotiating a Northlands Agreement. Because last year, when we presented the Estimates, we were confident enough that there would be an agreement that we put all of the money for that agreement in the Estimates and we proceeded to spend, as far as I know, all of the money that the province had available. We committed additional money indeed to pick up some that the Federal Government did not. The Estimates before us indicate, Mr. Speaker, that's not the way the members opposite are proceeding; in fact, they're budgeting less money for Northern Development than was budgeted last year. They are going to have trouble on delivering their promises.

Mr. Speaker, one last comment that I would like to make — could you indicate how much time I have? Oh, thank you. One other item that concerns me, Mr. Speaker, is mention that the Minister of Finance made last night in page 14 of his presentation, and that is where he begins to raise the possibility that they're going to go back to separating operating from capital. They are going to try and present the figures on the deficit to show it to be smaller than it really is; I know the political hay that the members opposite tried to make on this over the years. I listened to the First Minister after his election on CBC radio, on an interview at noon one day, say that the previous Conservative government brought this in, in an effort to embarrass the previous NDP government. Well, Mr. Speaker, the record will show that the Provincial Auditor recommends that it be done this way. I believe nine out of ten provinces in Canada do it this way and that they combine operating and capital as being the bottom line because the government has to raise those funds. When you try and separate them out, you end up with all kinds of strange things happening, with paper clips going into capital.

When I took over I recall very clearly it was one of the things I had the most difficulty comprehending in the department is that I remember in Water Resources there were two pots of money, one was capital and one was operating, and for the life of me, Mr. Speaker, I couldn't differentiate the difference between operating and capital. Finally the staff said, well, really there isn't any difference, you just move money back and forth, from one to the other, depending on whether you have a little room to operate and you can put some capital into operating. If you don't have room to operate, then you take operating and put it into capital. That, Mr. Speaker, is no way to keep the books of the province.

I am especially concerned because I have seen two or three examples of how this Minister of Finance has presented information to the people of Manitoba and to this House within the short period of time that he has been Minister, when I see how the Information Services has been used to mislead the people of Manitoba as to the spending plans of the province. Mr.

Speaker, that is wrong, it is wrong that should be done. I hope that the Minister will begin to take recommendations from his very capable staff and present things in the same consistent fashion that they have been presented over the past four years.

I hope that when Mr. Broadbent's Executive Assistant is reviewing the information system of the province that he will approach it from a very objective way and will not attempt in any way to slant the system so as to favourably present the NDP government policies. I hope that he will look at it in an objective way, and I hope the fact that there is an 824 percent increase in the Advertising Audit Office doesn't indicate that, in fact, we are very rapidly seeing a propaganda service being developed among the members opposite, Mr. Speaker. The jury is still out; there still is opportunity for the honourable members opposite to begin to present information in a straightforward, objective fashion consistent with the past. I hope that we will begin to see that very soon, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur.

**MR. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, on speaking of the Estimates of the Government of Manitoba, the NDP party, I would like to start off by reading back to the people of Manitoba and putting on the record some of the statements that were made by the First Minister of this province — he wasn't the First Minister at that particular time, as well as the now Minister of Agriculture — some of the statements that have been made by him in regard to the election pledges, the promises were made to the beef industry of the Province of Manitoba. We can look back over the last two years that they were in Opposition and some of the questions and some of the pressure that was put on our government to get involved and to support the hog industry. A support program which was worked out with the hog producers, a program which I think, Mr. Speaker, will in the long run be the basis for a major stabilization program throughout Canada if the Minister wants to proceed and look at it in an objective way. I believe that the introduction of such a program with the hog producers and the Producers Marketing Board being involved in the establishing of that program was one which, I think, is certainly, again as I say, has the makings of a very positive and very firm program to give that industry in the Province of Manitoba a support that is required during a downturn in market conditions.

I know, the Minister who makes comments that we didn't have proper funding in place, that we had to do certain things — well, I'll just make a brief comment on that, Mr. Speaker, because we in fact during last year's Estimates, because the agriculture industry was in a business of market fluctuations, that we saw the industry recovering somewhat. Funds were put in place that were estimated to be needed; there had to be further funds made available through a warrant. However, the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation had the capacity and the capability to provide a grant, not a grant, but a loan fund guarantee to the hog industry. It had the capacity to do it, we put additional funds in it, Mr. Speaker, and of course — yet, Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not as a responsible person

discuss with the Manitoba Credit Corporation, then of course I don't believe that we should be taking any criticism for that kind of approach.

However, Mr. Speaker, let us deal with the real issue today, because the real issue today is what the First Minister of this province promised to the beef producers, not of any constituency other than his own, reported publicly in the Press by one of, of course, the favourite reporters of some of the members on this side, and maybe I'm one of them, in a report in the Winnipeg Free Press, Thursday, November 5th. That was a meeting with several beef producers in the Selkirk area. One of those particular individuals was one, or there was one of about twenty beef producers meeting in his home, Mr. Bodnaruk's home, to lay out some of the complaints to Mr. Pawley, who is now the First Minister of the Province. As well, at that meeting the newly elected member for the Constituency of Gimli, Mr. Speaker, was as well at that particular meeting.

Here's one of the comments that I would like to make or to put on the record that was made by that new member for Gimli. The candidate who is now the member said, "Countless beef producers in the Interlake have had to take up driving of school buses, part-time jobs, while their wives take jobs in hospitals or restaurants." You know, really laying out the difficulties that the beef industry was having.

Mr. Speaker, the comments that came from the First Minister — he wasn't then but he is now — the First Minister at this particular time at that meeting said: he gave the farmers his assurance that an NDP Government would come to their aid quickly with an Income Assurance Program; and note this — "similar to Saskatchewan's program," Mr. Speaker, and that aid would be coming very quickly. Well, Mr. Speaker, that was on the 5th of November, they were elected on the 17th. We are now sitting on the 10th of March, and we still have had the Minister answer me today, and the answer that he gave was: he would hope that the member would be patient, he would hope that he wouldn't have to hurry into anything, that they would be patient.

Mr. Speaker, I'm here speaking on behalf of the beef producers that his First Minister promised to them on the 5th of November of last year. Mr. Speaker, he immediately says that's when I set up my committee. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I set up a committee to tell our government what the beef producers felt they needed as a program, and yes, Mr. Speaker, what did the Minister of Agriculture do with that committee? He fired them, Mr. Speaker. He neglected to even listen to what they had to say. You know why, Mr. Speaker? Because they weren't totally all affiliated with the National Farmers' Union.

Mr. Speaker, let us proceed on a little further. What did the Minister of Agriculture say approximately on the 8th of January? He's reported again in the Brandon Sun as having said — he's asked the question that, "When will the program be in place?" and this is the 8th of January, Mr. Speaker. "It will be in the next month to six weeks." That, Mr. Speaker, was the Minister of Agriculture speaking, the Honourable Member for the Interlake. That was about the 8th of January, Mr. Speaker, reported in the Press as having him made that commitment in a month to six weeks.

Yet we saw the Minister of Finance introduce the

Estimates into this House last night and he didn't put one nickel in it for the beef industry in the Province of Manitoba after being elected. I'm sure a lot of the members — the Member for Dauphin — let him go back to Dauphin and have a press conference this weekend and tell his beef producers how much money they're going to get from that great — let's remember this — that great government that he's a part of. Let him have a press conference and go to the public in Dauphin. Let the Member for Gimli go and face his constituency with a promise that has been broken by the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier of this province, Mr. Speaker. Nothing but broken promises.

Let us proceed on a little further, Mr. Speaker, because remember the promise that the First Minister made was that "It would be a program like Saskatchewan." Well, like Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, let us start to put some numbers together. — (Interjection) — Well, Mr. Speaker, if he can't take the heat, then he'll have to get out of the kitchen. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture said to put in a program like the other provinces. The Minister of Agriculture said in an article — Mr. Speaker, I have an article here that says the Minister of Agriculture — oh, yeah, here we are, again on the 8th of January in the Winnipeg Free Press, the Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Manitoba who is leaving the kitchen said, "Certainly the industry needs help."

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Minister of Health on a point of order.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** At the request of a member of the loyal Opposition yesterday, you ruled that we shouldn't bring notice that people are either leaving or are absent from the House, and I would hope that especially if it's a request of theirs, that they will also play the game straight.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Pembina on the same point.

**MR. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, I would like you to rule as to whether this is a kitchen.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I didn't hear the honourable member's remark. I wonder if you can repeat it, please.

**MR. DOWNEY:** On the point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur on the same point of order.

**MR. DOWNEY:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the member if in any way it was taken that he was leaving or being a part of this Chamber. I did use the expression, "if he can't stand the heat in the kitchen, then he should leave the kitchen," Mr. Speaker.

**MR. ENNS:** No, I think you loused it up. "If you can't stand the heat, leave the kitchen."

**MR. DOWNEY:** Well however, Mr. Speaker. However,

the member is still in the Chamber and if he takes it that I am referring — I will refrain from making a comment on whether a member is absent or not, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I believe that the matter has been dealt with. The Honourable Member for Arthur should proceed.

**MR. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, I was going to start to put some numbers together for the Minister of Agriculture, which he has been quoted in the Press as given to the public of Manitoba and that's in the Winnipeg Free Press article on January the 8th where the Minister indicated — he said, "Certainly the industry needs help. No question of that." he said. "Manitoba would need to spend about \$35 million." — \$35 million which we didn't see in the Estimates, Mr. Speaker, would have to spend about \$35 million if it wanted to set up a support program like the one in Alberta.

Mr. Speaker, the government of the Province of Manitoba today was elected on a promise to introduce a program for the livestock producers in this province — (Interjection) — "Immediately," Mr. Speaker, again referring to the First Minister's comments on November the 5th. What have we seen, Mr. Speaker?

We see a false promise again being given by the Minister of Agriculture. He does not, and I put this on the record, I believe he does not intend to bring one cent forward for the beef industry in this province, because if we refer to the Minister of Finance's comments in today's Free Press, the Minister of Agriculture hasn't even taken a proposed program to Cabinet yet.

A quote again from the Minister of Finance said, "The Minister of Agriculture is preparing a program for beef producers. When that is approved by Cabinet, funding will be provided in Supplementary Estimates."

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you that the Premier who was told by beef producers in his own constituency, by his own member from Gimli how many people had to leave their operations to go and work — the wives had to work and the farmers had to drive school buses — they still cannot move to implement a program which they pledged they would do immediately. Mr. Speaker, let them go back and I again challenge the Member for Dauphin and the Member for Gimli and the Minister himself to go back to his own constituency and hold a public meeting and tell them where it's at because, Mr. Speaker, it's nothing more than a hoax; it's nothing more than a bunch of baloney that they've been giving the people of Manitoba, particularly the beef producers, because there was proof last night there wasn't a nickel put in the Estimates for the beef producers. If they'd live up to their promise, Mr. Speaker, as the First Minister said, a program like Saskatchewan, then there would be \$35 million in a one time payment and then they would work on a longer term program.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it's incumbent upon the Minister of Agriculture to come forward with a clear and plain explanation of why he is unable to put a program in place. First of all, he hasn't even screwed up his courage to take it to his colleagues in Cabinet. Mr. Speaker, he hasn't screwed up his courage to take it to his colleagues in Cabinet, and the Minister of

Finance told us last night that he hadn't. He said that the Minister hadn't been to Cabinet yet; it has to go.

Mr. Speaker, I challenge the Minister of Agriculture to come clean with the farm community of Manitoba. If he is a credible person; if he wants to live up to the reputation that the farm people expect of their Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker, I believe that he should make a statement today. Why didn't he make a statement today, but he said in the House, well, there's a vehicle to do that; I hope the member is patient.

Mr. Speaker, let's just go to some more numbers that we have. The Cattle Producers Association in the Province of Manitoba, the President of which made some comments on February the 5th and these are the kinds of numbers that our livestock producers — the numbers of dollars that they're losing, Mr. Speaker, on every animal that is going to market. It is estimated that for every 1,000 pound steer that is going to market that they're losing \$100 per head. Again, the Member for Dauphin maybe should take a look at some of these numbers because he has — (Interjection) — Mr. Speaker, let him look back at the debates and the proceedings of this House and see if he can find how many times his members, who are now the government, sat there and questioned me as the Minister of Agriculture on a Beef Income Assurance Program. The only questions that they had, Mr. Speaker, and they'll eat these words, were "How much money have you got back from the beef producers of the Province of Manitoba on the money they owe us, on the \$40 million that we gave them, how much money have you got back."

Those members, Mr. Speaker, their colleagues who are now the Ministers — (Interjection) — "Take them to court; take the beef producers to court. We want that money back, Mr. Speaker." You know, how soon it all changes, Mr. Speaker, how soon it all changes. We have the Minister of Agriculture, who is now sitting there fumbling the beef, I mean fumbling the ball. Mr. Speaker, I'm very serious because I think that the reputation of the First Minister, first of all — last night it was all very nice motherhood talk about the farm community being the backbone of Manitoba, you know, and we know that; that's nice and we believe in that as well. We've got members on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, who are a part of it. It's a very integral part of their whole livelihood.

Mr. Speaker, what is happening with the New Democratic Party who are in government now? They're trying to say what happened over the last four years? I'm reminding the Member for Dauphin who asked me, and maybe some of the other members who are interested, particularly the ones from Gimli, that when they were in Opposition and their members are now Ministers, their only concern about the beef producers was to pay the money back to the Government of Manitoba. Don't help them, but get that money back; money, by the way, Mr. Speaker, which was needed for that beef industry, but that wasn't their concern. They tried to make us look bad politically, but, Mr. Speaker, it backfired and let the Member for Dauphin go to Dauphin and hold a press conference this weekend when he's home and tell his beef producers how much money were in the Estimates and the kind of program that they can expect from their particular government.

Mr. Speaker, there is going to be a day of reckoning for that member and for those members, the Member for Gimli who lives in the Interlake, my colleague, I hope would be prepared to make some comments as well I'm sure, representing the Interlake and I say truly representing the Interlake like the Minister of Agriculture is, should have a feel, should know what's going on. He knows how much money those producers have lost. Again, go back to that number.

Mr. Speaker, each producer is losing approximately \$100 per animal, approximately 20,000 animals marketed in the month of January — part of the reason for the drop was because of Saskatchewan moving cattle into Manitoba, not totally the whole reason, but partially — and that put a loss to the farm community of several millions of dollars on a monthly basis and that is still going on, and the First Minister who promised a program like Saskatchewan which guaranteed, and I want him to remember this, it guaranteed 87 cents a pound, the cost of production. Nice stuff when you're in an election campaign. It sounds good for the people who want to vote for you.

The Member for Gimli was at the meeting; he was there. It's reported; it's a direct quote from the First Minister and they haven't got the intestinal fortitude to stand up in this House; he hasn't got the intestinal fortitude to take it to his Cabinet to this point, to say I need \$35 million, that's what it's going to cost the people of Manitoba; he hasn't got enough intestinal fortitude to go to the Minister of Finance and say put in your Estimates \$35 million for the beef industry in Manitoba because they need it, they're losing millions of dollars a month. It's a lot of money, Mr. Speaker, but it's a commitment that they have to live up to.

Mr. Speaker, you know we hear all these rumblings from the backbench and we hear all these concerns about the welfare in the Province of Manitoba. The Member for Brandon East is very proud that he put in place a welfare program and increased it by 16.5 percent. It was great reading, great stuff, but you know the real people that make it go in this province need some assistance as well and it isn't welfare; it's a stabilization program and it's a short-term, Mr. Speaker, program that will give them some help through a short period of time; not a drag on society forever, but give them some hope that there is somebody in society that cares.

Mr. Speaker, there's only two ways that a producer gets money; they either have to pay for it over the counter when they go to buy their beef steak or they have to do it through their tax dollars. Mr. Speaker, I guess the way it is today, we have a Minister of Agriculture who sits amongst a bunch of ministers who says, we're getting a pretty good deal on our beef; why should we give you approval to go ahead and pay any money through the taxes to support that industry?

Mr. Speaker, I have no other alternative but to suggest that is what's happening, but let's just go over the whole process again. I want it to be very clear.

On November the 5th, the First Minister — the man who's now the First Minister of the province — pledged a program to the beef producers of Manitoba immediately, a program like Saskatchewan. His Minister of Agriculture some several weeks ago said, that to help the beef industry like the other provinces they'd need \$35 million. Mr. Speaker, he again said it would

only take a month to six weeks. That time has now lapsed, Mr. Speaker. And remember this, I think it's very important to remember this, that the beef producers you just can't turn them on and off, it takes a long time to build up a herd of cattle; it's a life-time investment and, Mr. Speaker, it doesn't take many minutes to put them on the market and lose that money.

What is the immediate response you get from a Socialist or those people who believe in supply management. You know I'm not against supply management; I was touted as being against supply management when I first was elected, but the producers of Manitoba found out that wasn't the case. But you work on the principle of supply management, Mr. Speaker. The principle of supply management is you reduce the supply of a commodity to increase the price. Well, Mr. Speaker, how would that work today, because that's the problem. People aren't consuming it at the price that it's at, so if you try to reduce the supply, all you do is reduce farmers. You don't increase the price to people or consumers that aren't already prepared to buy it at the price that it's at. Mr. Speaker, you just eliminate farmers by removing those people that are producing. So supply management just won't work. It is a stabilization program where, in fact, the taxpayers through a program of tax money has to be put in place for periods of extreme lows. You know, it wasn't the New Democratic Party who invented or discovered that kind of support.

Let's look at what happened and how the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation was developed. Mr. Speaker, that is a program of support for the grain producers of this province; they are subsidized by the taxpayers, so don't let them stand up and say, you know, why are we doing everything for the beef and hog producers. The taxpayers of the Province of Manitoba subsidize the premiums on crop insurance; they subsidize the administration costs on crop insurance, so there is a support program put in place for the grain producers, and it was put in, yes, Mr. Speaker, it was put in by a Conservative Government. The gentleman who was the Premier of the Day is now a senator, Senator Roblin. He saw the need to support Manitoba's backbone industry. What are we hearing on the other side? We're hearing that great motherhood statement, but it's pretty hollow, it's pretty hollow; there isn't any meat on the bones, because they proved it last night.

In fact, I would say last night what we saw was one of the biggest fraudulent acts that a government ever put before the people of Manitoba. That piece of paper, all those Estimates, Mr. Speaker, weren't complete. They aren't telling the story for the taxpayers of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker. They aren't telling the story at all.

In concluding my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would challenge those members, particularly from Gimli, the Interlake, the Member for Dauphin, to tell it as it is, to say there isn't any money for the beef producers of the Province of Manitoba; that you, as a beef producer, if you voted for the New Democratic party, thank you very much for your vote, you have no hope of getting any program because all our Minister of Agriculture is standing up and saying is this: I wish that the honourable member would give me some time, be patient. Be

patient when every cattle producer in the province is losing \$100 a head everyone he sells. How can he be patient? And the Minister of Community Services immediately increases the welfare by 16.5 percent. Mr. Speaker, their priorities are a little off. She's a little heavy on the one side and I have to think it's to the left.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again say that the comments that were made by the Minister of Finance in the Press last night, that he believes the Minister has a program some place out there, the fact that it hasn't gone to Cabinet yet, I would make a speculative judgment, if the Member for Dauphin wants an answer to his beef producers, is that you know under the normal process, and we've heard the Premier of Manitoba say, well Caucus have to be a pretty major part of any decision. Does it go to Cabinet and then to Caucus or does it go to Caucus and then to Cabinet? Or, Mr. Speaker, does it do it this way — has the Member for Gimli forgotten that he was at that he was at that meeting on November 5th, where the First Minister promised a program like Saskatchewan. Is the Member for Dauphin so glary eyed when he saw all these lights in here and he really hasn't got down to the basics of representing the farmers in the Dauphin constituency? Has he really forgotten what he came to town for?

Well, Mr. Speaker, I again challenge him to go home and tell it as it is to the beef producers in the Dauphin constituency. You know, there is one individual that I have to just remind that he is now a member of the Treasury Bench as well, and that is the Member for Ste. Rose. Ste. Rose is a pretty nice town, a nice constituency — (Interjection) — great cattle country, and who would ask the questions in the Opposition days? What is the Minister doing about a feed freight assistance program? What are you doing about Crown land pasture for my cattle producers. He was a great concerned member of the Opposition. He said he was a great constituency man. Let him go home as the Minister of Municipal Affairs, because he's telling us about all these — I don't know whether they're constituency offices he has set up throughout his constituency or political offices, but I can bet you that it's the taxpayer that's paying for them one way or another — let him go home to those offices and let him have a meeting of those beef producers in his community who are losing \$100 a head; let him stand up and tell them some of the details, because he isn't prepared to tell us the details, he hasn't seen them in Cabinet yet and I don't suppose he's seen them in Caucus yet.

Mr. Speaker, this is quite an interesting thing we have seen. I, Mr. Speaker, am not going to let the First Minister or the Minister of Agriculture rest one minute in this House until they've introduced a program that is meaningful to the beef industry of this province. I will close on that, Mr. Speaker — (Interjection) — Well the member opposite said, "what did I do?" The landslide from Thompson says, "What did I do?" What did I do? Mr. Speaker, I was about ready — we had a committee, Mr. Speaker, put together to make recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, I will close on that and I thank you for the opportunity to debate.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. ENNS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we're not ready for the question, Mr. Speaker. I believe the kind of rather astonishing and rather frightening display of fiscal integrity that we now are only starting to fathom the whole depth of and the picture of, it calls upon us to at the first moment, in fact it's in our rules, Mr. Speaker, that when the Opposition feels that there is something to be concerned about or something that is being done that is not in accordance with past tradition, not in accordance with the accepted procedure in this House, that the Opposition take their earliest and the first opportunity to bring it to your attention, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, I rise, and not because I'm going to repeat all what my colleague, the Member for Arthur has said so well, but I want to underline the very real concern as expressed so capably by my deskmate, the Member for Turtle Mountain.

Mr. Speaker, to have this demonstration of the way this government obviously is going to handle its fiscal reporting is a frightening thing, Mr. Speaker, that it should come so early in their life, so early in their life.

Let me put it on the record. It is a fact that I am a representative in the Interlake, I am a producer myself, and I have many cattle producers of immediate interest in my constituency, many of whom during the election campaign, as we campaigned like, nose-to-nose, cheek-to-cheek with the Honourable, now the Minister of Agriculture, just north of me; why couldn't you fellows, why don't you promise that instant solution, that help to the beef producers, that the Honourable Member for St. George is promising? That the NDP are promising? I said, "Well, we happen to have had the experience and the responsibility of government for four years." You cannot make instant promises no matter how attractive they are on the election hustings, because unless we know where the dollars are coming from, unless we know our capacity to respond to a real problem, and unless we have those answers, we were not prepared. We suffered for it. We were not prepared to make that kind of an election platform speech that so many members have referred to, and indeed, Mr. Speaker, that are forever imprinted in the minds of the voters throughout Manitoba and so well recorded for posterity. We will have the pleasure of course of reminding the honourable members opposite of that.

Mr. Speaker, it is not as though honourable members, particularly those, and the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, the First Minister was in this House for the four years, was exposed to the kind of fiscal reporting that they were accustomed to from this government just past. Mr. Speaker, we had difficult times in those four years. We faced floods, droughts, unprecedented forced fire prevention costs, and those were all the kind of costs that governments cannot accurately predict.

I'm not suggesting that we always in the year of their occurrence, in the year of flood, were able to put those costs into our fiscal reporting, into our spending Estimates, in their total, in their complete figures in the first instance. But I ask you, check the books, check the past Estimates and you will find substantial sums, \$15 million, \$20 million, \$30 million put in there as a reserve for the knowledge that we knew we would have to come up with those dollars, and they were



reported by our Minister of Finance. We put unusual higher forest fire prevention costs into our budgets at the time that the spending Estimates were introduced, because we knew that we were facing those kind of costs. Not conclusive, we couldn't, the final costs would come in the following year. We did, because we had signed a two-year agreement with the Civil Service, we put the full cost of the Civil Service into our spending Estimates. I'm not suggesting that the honourable members opposite can do that. They have reverted back. Except that in that case, procedure that has been done in the past, not knowing what the costs will be for the Civil Service rise in salaries, they put in a nominal figure, Mr. Speaker.

But, Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps the most shocking thing happened just this afternoon on this question, when as a result of a question from this side of the House, to the Minister of Education, a question was asked, well surely, you know that \$2.1 million or \$2.2 million dollars to Winnipeg School Division 1 was in this 14.4 percent increase, or in the lengthy explanation in the speech made by the Minister of Finance. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education quite rightly got all her credits from the educators and the school trustees for the assistance and the grants that she made on that occasion. She makes a very presentable, you know, person in representing these increases at a formal press conference. The figures were not, they were not maybes, or we hope to add some extra monies to Winnipeg School Division; they were precise, they were precise to the last cent, to the last dollar.

Now, Mr. Speaker, for those kind of figures not to be included into last night's presentation by the Minister of Finance is just unexplainable, Mr. Speaker; unless of course, Mr. Speaker, you understand the devious and the real concern that our members opposite have.

They know, Mr. Speaker, that intuitively people do have a concern about governments that simply have gone wild with our spending. No matter how attractive it is to any special interest group to get extra funds, to the school departments, the school divisions, to the farm community, to the health services and agencies, but collectively people, Manitobans, get nervous when they feel all of a sudden that, particularly at this time of our economy, 1982 there appears to be a run away spending on the part of a government. Knowing that, Mr. Speaker, and I give them full marks, they knew that, so they sat down and spent many hours, and knowing the finance officials that they work with, they worked towards that headline, Mr. Speaker. You know that was what they wanted to do, they wanted to present a reasonable figure, you know, percentage of increased costs, in that headline, and they were prepared, I suggest, to do what the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain said, is to display unusual and a rather frightening lack of fiscal integrity in reporting the actual spending Estimates as they will be.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to prolong my contribution on this matter, but I want to indicate to honourable members opposite that it's a slippery slope that you've decided to get onto so early in your life, and I can't really understand why you would feel compelled to do that, Mr. Speaker. The consequences of this kind of reporting will transcend all other spending estimates, all other budget estimates, all other financial

arrangements that this government enters into, because of the method that they have chosen to present their Estimates on this their first occasion.

Mr. Speaker, there had been in the past some very serious arguments, differences of opinions, as to how costs, or how figures, or how dollars are shown or handled in this House. We have had great arguments as to what constitutes capital account, what constitutes current accounts, and those are legitimate arguments that sometimes flow back and forth in the House, but the dollars were always up there, they were always available for us to be seen. We may argue about how they were reported. I can remember when a substantial change in a fiscal reporting was undertaken early on in the life of the administration in 1977-78. We had considerable difficulty, individual Ministers had difficulty in sorting out what was capital, what was current, in the reconciliation of the different figures; that was some difficulty, but the argument was not that \$5 million wasn't shown here, or \$5 million was missing there, the argument was how it was being shown.

Mr. Speaker, what we're talking about now is, it's not there. It's just not there, and what is doubly insulting, Mr. Speaker — and that's after Ministers have gone out and reaped all kinds of political credits for dollars, some actually promised, some committed, some spent, and some just hoped for as is the case of the beef plan.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude just on the beef plan, because I have a great interest in that. I'm not charging the Honourable Minister of Agriculture that he necessarily come up with a program as rich as Saskatchewan's or Alberta's. I recognize, Mr. Speaker, the fiscal capability of our province, but, Mr. Speaker, they made a promise, and they could have just as easily picked out a figure that he could have hammered through with his Cabinet, through his Treasury Board, just as they picked a figure out of the air for interest relief. They said in their subsequent releases and in their statements, they've acknowledged it, you know \$22 million, or \$23 million isn't going to solve all the interest relief problems in this province, but obviously sitting down, even before they were government, they said we will dedicate ourselves up to \$22 million for interest relief, and that's what they said they would do and that's what they're now carrying on.

Well, Mr. Speaker, why could the same not have been done on the cattle plan. We've got eight or nine cattle plans functioning across this country unfortunately, instead of one national one. It doesn't take a great Houdini to figure out — new plans don't have to be devised. They were involved in a massive plan for five years, not that long ago, some of the same actors, some of the same actors. So they could have come up very easily, Mr. Speaker, if they wanted to, if they wanted a report with some fiscal integrity, a figure, \$20-\$25 million, to come up with an income support plan for beef producers in this province. Mr. Speaker, they chose not to. Mr. Speaker, not so much because in my judgment I still have some faith in them, unlike my colleague, the Member for Arthur, I believe that they are going to help the beef producers but, Mr. Speaker, that did not fit in with their overall strategy of making sure that they got this kind of a headline.

That was what they were after and they said, look it,

we will help you out, Billie, later on. Don't worry, we won't leave you in the lurch, we won't tell you how much, but the main thing is pair this down. They even allow it because school board pressure was on the Minister of Education, go out and tell them what a great Minister you are and address some of the imbalances, as she described them, in the previous program that was announced by our Minister of Education a few years ago, a year ago. But because the pressure is on, they said, fine, go out there, promise Winnipeg No. 1 an extra \$2 million in special assistance, but don't send any memorandum down to the Finance Department right now because that is going bother with this headline. That would push this headline up to 17 percent to 18 percent up to 19 percent. I don't know what that figure finally will be.

Mr. Speaker, when one innocent question, out of the blue, discovers \$2 million, I hate to think of what we can do in the next few days by asking a few more questions as to what others costs that have been committed, that have been identified, are not included.

I rather suspect that when we get through with the Honourable Member of Minister of Health, the Member of St. Boniface, and we start talking about Misericordia and we start talking about additional floors on Concordia and when we do a few other things like that, we will find some "lulues"; we will find some dandies.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the Opposition has every right to be exercised at this particular time and to delay getting into the spending Estimates. Frankly, Mr. Speaker, —(Interjection)— No, we are delayed. I am prepared; I would like to go into those spending Estimates and I look forward to being first up with the Department of Natural Resources, but I would like to know that those printed spending Estimates are more or less what the government is going to spend. They are pretty well what they are going to spend.

I appreciate there will be Supplementary Supply; I appreciate there will be unscheduled or unknown costs that will accrue. We have all the mechanism of dealing with that. The Minister of Finance comes into the Chamber and presents Supplementary Supply at the appropriate time but, Mr. Speaker, for them to do this so early in the life of their government and to do it in such a deliberate fashion tells us something about the character of this government and tells us about something about the integrity of this government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable House Leader.

**MR. PENNER:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, addressing the motion —(Interjection)— well, that's what I'm doing. Right? Mr. Speaker, I would not have ordinarily have risen to speak on the motion because we are anxious, and I am sure that the people of Manitoba are anxious, that this House address itself to the business at hand; that is, to get away from the kind of rhetoric, raving, roaring and ranting that we have heard in the last hour-and-a-half and to begin the detailed examination of the Estimates.

There is the prime opportunity for the Opposition to take the time that it wants to examine our proposals for spending, to ask all of the questions which it wants, but there they will by the very nature of the exercise, Mr. Speaker, be required to be specific, to look very

carefully and to get away from this kind of demagoguery which has taken the time of the House unnecessarily and . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain on a point of order.

**MR. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, I believe that demagoguery is considered to be an unparliamentary expression.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am not sure whether the word would add to the level of debate in the House. I wonder if the Honourable Attorney-General would like to consider the remark.

**MR. PENNER:** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, I didn't catch your ruling.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am suggesting to the Honourable Attorney-General that he reconsider the remark. It would not seem to add to the level of decorum in this House to use such a word.

**MR. PENNER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Honourable Member for Lakeside said that the absence of some items in the Estimates were to him inexplicable. I want to just put something in context, that is, that at the time when, on the mandate of the people of Manitoba which we received in such substantial numbers and with such a substantial vote, we took office, there was, Mr. Speaker, waiting on the desks of each and every one of us, the Estimate books that had been prepared by the members opposite, those that occupied the Treasury Bench. They were sitting on our desks and we were faced with a monumental task. One, was to examine these Estimate books which had been prepared under their guidelines; secondly, to get them ready through the process of ministerial review in a time to be tabled in the House, but to do that, as the members opposite know, in such a way that we could meet the House as quickly as possible and to present to the House our election promises in the forms of legislation because that was a promise we made to the people of Manitoba, Sir, and that was a promise we intended to fulfill.

What did we find, what did we find? In going through the Estimates, in order to get them ready for print, and the members opposite who occupied front benches know the number of days it takes to get Estimates into print. I want this to be known because I, as the person chairing the Treasury Board, sat through the exercise. Even to get them into the stage where they were, where we tabled them, we had to cut out \$155 million which they had left us in those books to bring them in the shape that we brought them in. \$155 million, \$155 million of fat, \$155 million of excess, including substantial numbers of extra hiring that they proposed to do. —(Interjection)— That's true, that is true and I am stating that for the record. I want that to be known. They're there accusing us of all kinds of fiscal irresponsibility — \$155 million cut out in order to bring in responsible Estimates. —(Interjection)— From their Estimates. Now, we knew, Sir, that the Estimates as prepared by the then government, by the Ministers who occupied the Treasury

Benches prior to November 17th, reflected their program thrust.

We wanted to operate responsibly; we didn't think that we could delay the meeting of the House, that we could take the time to analyse every particular program. We knew that there would be things which we would want to introduce, that of necessity we would want to be carefully articulated before we introduced them. It would have been, in our view, irresponsible to simply put in a line before we knew with respect to a particular program, whether it would be a combination of grants and loans or loans alone, we were not going to play fast and loose with the spending Estimates for the Province of Manitoba by guesswork. We knew, and we will accept the political responsibility for it, that we would have to bring in Interim Supply and the members opposite, who are now criticizing us, my goodness they are past masters of special warrants and Interim Supply. We can learn nothing from them on Interim Supply and Supplementary. We can learn nothing from them, they are past masters at it, but in saying that, I don't want to appear to be too critical. It is known that every government, as it develops its program, as it meets needs that develop that cannot be fully understood or fully grasped at the time that you prepare the Estimates, must at some time or another bring in Interim Supply and special warrants if the House is not in Session. That is knowing, we make no apologies for that.

We make no apologies for the fact that on analyzing the situation with respect to public schools that certain additions were needed that could not have been anticipated fully when we had to let the Estimates go to print. I want to congratulate the Minister for Education for having the political courage to say to Caucus and to Executive Counsel and then this House, that this was needed and that it is being announced as a program, and we'll ask for the money. It may not be in the print, but we are not hiding at all the fact that we will need that money and we will ask for it and we will ask for it in the normal processes of this House.

So, too, with our election promise with respect to assistance to the beef industry. That's a complex question. We want to examine the alternatives. We were not, no pun intended, about to be stamped into some kind of a rough shot program made up of bits and pieces. No! When we said, Mr. Speaker, that we believed in the consultative process, we meant it, and we will demonstrate as we are demonstrating with respect to the Beef Support Program that we intend to consult, not with the former Minister of Agriculture who has not demonstrated that he has an acute understanding of this problem in terms of what he has done in the past, we will consult with the beef producers. The Minister of Agriculture is consulting with the beef producers and he will come forward with the best possible program that will meet, to the extent we can, the needs of the beef producers, the cattle producers and still demonstrate the measure of fiscal responsibility.

I want to say in concluding these remarks, which I felt I must make in response to the kinds of remarks we heard from the two previous speakers, that the House should understand, and I'm sure that the public will understand, that we came in at a time when the former government had already in essence through its

department and through its guidelines, because those Estimates were prepared on their guidelines, had prepared the Estimate Books and my goodness gracious how fat they were in terms of the amount of money.

I repeat again, and I'll close with these remarks; we had to cut out, and I want this to be known and that's why I'm emphasizing it, \$155 million, and now we will present the Estimates. We are anxious, I hope you are, members opposite, I hope the members opposite are, Sir, to get into Committee of Supply and to begin to look at the detailed Estimates item by item, and there will be their opportunity, not this kind of flag waving which is occupying the time of the House unnecessarily.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

**MR. MCKENZIE:** Mr. Speaker, I hope I can assure the Honourable Attorney-General that if I'm flag waving today, it's for the beef industry and trying to save it in this province, and I hope that he and his Caucus and the Treasury Bench will bear witness to what is taking place in the debate this afternoon and why we are concerned.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly recognize that it is quite possible there was some \$155 million in the Estimates that were before the Treasury Bench when they took office, and I suspect that they went through those Estimates — they weren't the final Estimates by any way, shape or form — and they revised them to the form that they brought them before this House. The one concern that I have is that there is nothing in there for the beef industry, and that was an election promise of the First Minister of this province, promised in Selkirk and within weeks, within weeks, promised to the industry. If the House will bear with me, I am most concerned today to see this government starting off like that, making pledges and promises to the people of this province and not living up to them.

I'm pleased in many ways, Mr. Speaker, we have one member in this House who was at that Selkirk meeting, the Honourable Member for Gimli was a witness to what was said at that meeting, it's all quoted, and I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, he's going to rise to his place and try and defend his Minister and his government as to why they are not coming to the rescue of the beef industry as they had promised.

Mr. Speaker, maybe I am a little remiss today in not rising earlier on this matter because I suspect some of the finest beef cattle in all of Canada is in Roblin-Russell constituency. I dare say there is no jurisdiction in all Western Canada that's got a beef stock comparable to the people, the farmers that live . . .

So, it is my duty and my responsibility to rise on their behalf today and express some concern and anxiety, especially when the Minister tabled the Estimates in this Chamber last night, there was nothing there for that industry.

Then, of course, came the headline today, Mr. Speaker, in today's paper. The phone has been ringing all day by the beef producers in my constituency wondering what is going on? How long does the industry have to be studied? How long do they have to realize that there is a problem out there, and a serious problem? I think the former Minister of Agriculture

spelled it out pretty quickly this afternoon.

It is a serious problem and I'm sure the Member for Gimli knows how serious it is. He pointed out in the article there that there were people out doing other meaningful jobs to try and save their cattle herds on the farm. That's how serious it is. I think it's time well spent in this Chamber this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, for us to discuss that and hopefully get some answers from this government.

I was shocked when I was sitting in my place today, Mr. Speaker, and got the answer that I got from the Minister of Agriculture in this province who absolutely refused to give the farmers or me any assurances whatsoever that he has a plan. In fact, I doubt if he has got it even through Caucus yet, because reading this article in the paper, it says that it hasn't been to Cabinet. So, how much longer is it going to take? When you read back and see what was said in Selkirk by the First Minister of this province on November 5th, when he said, and I quote it from the First Minister, "Pawley gave farmers his assurance that an NDP Government would come to their aid quickly with an income assurance program similar to Saskatchewan's." He went on to say, "I don't mean by dragging into months and years," he said.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what do we expect from a First Minister of a province who stands up and makes a statement like that on November 5th, I believe it was, in Selkirk and now is reneging on it, and his Minister of Agriculture is reneging on it? There are no funds in the Estimates and we have got no assurances today from anybody over there that there is any money forthcoming at all. Why doesn't somebody stand up and give us the assurances that we are asking for? The Attorney-General rose in his place and said, "There was \$155 million worth of fat in the Estimates," but he has never given us one word of assurance that there is a plan there, that it's going to be in six weeks, three weeks, or is it going to be there at all. I am left with the impression that there is no beef plan, there is no beef plan. Why can't we give a deadline? The monies are not there.

Mr. Speaker, what concerns me most of all, is you see the First Minister now is hedging, he's hedging and saying he didn't mean to say the things that he said; in fact he said here to the beef producers that he's being forced, he's now being forced, into something at the provincial level. Did he say that on November 5th when you were in his company, my honourable friend for Gimli, did he say to you then that he was being forced? Not a word about being forced. He's going on, Mr. Speaker, he was careful to say here at a news conference — an article out of the Winnipeg Sun — that Manitoba couldn't afford a massive subsidization plan. Did he say that in Selkirk on November the 5th, Mr. Speaker? He did not say that in Selkirk; he never said a word about that. Did he go on and say, "We cannot under any way, shape or form support and subsidize beef producers in the same way as Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario can." Did he say that in Selkirk? Did he say that when the Honourable Member for Gimli was present in the room?

Mr. Speaker, I don't think he did; I don't think he's told half the truth at all and that's why I'm concerned on behalf of the people in my constituency, and that's why I'm concerned on behalf of the beef producers of

this province because the First Minister is misleading people in this House; he's misleading the beef producers and we can't get any answers. We can't get any answers at all. They said weeks, the weeks are long gone, Mr. Speaker, and I am most concerned by the lack of information, the lack of integrity of this government and their lack of interest in the beef producers in this province.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Emerson.

**MR. DRIEDGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also want to rise and speak in support of the comments of my colleagues of a few minutes ago. I found it very interesting when the Attorney-General got up and indicated that we were delaying the activities of the House by not going into Estimates. Somebody indicated there — I believe it was the Honourable Minister of Health said that we have a right to debate it.

We don't only have a right, we have an obligation, because what happened here yesterday when the Estimates were tabled, and I'm concerned when the Attorney-General says, we have a majority; the people of Manitoba gave us a majority. To do what? Whatever you like? To deceive the Manitoba public. That's the impression he was leaving and as I indicated in my speech to the Throne that there is a deception going on and the people across there, the government, they are deceiving the people of Manitoba. They did it in the Throne Speech. There was an anticipation that there would be monies coming for certain programs.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Member for Springfield on a point of order.

**MR. ANDY ANSTETT (Springfield):** Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to do this, but the word "deception" has been used throughout the last 10 days, and I would refer you to the same citation which was cited earlier with regard to the use of the word "demagoguery" and ask the member to refrain from using those kinds of words which impute certain things to this side of the House.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I thank the honourable member for those comments and trust that the Honourable Member for Emerson will bear them in mind as other members will, I'm sure.

**MR. DRIEDGER:** Mr. Speaker, if the word "deception" is not to be used in the House, I will then retract that and I'll use the word "hoodwinked." I was taught at home that a spade is a spade and you call a spade a spade. How do you get around the fact that if people are being misled, if the government is misleading people, how do you properly word that?

**A MEMBER:** Hoodwinked.

**MR. DRIEDGER:** We'll use that word then. I've been very concerned . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. Order please. I am sure that the use of the word "misleading" when levelled against the government is as much out of order as the word "deception" is. Would the hon-

ourable member like to reconsider his choice of words?

**MR. DRIEDGER:** —(Interjection)— True. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm getting limited to how I can describe my feelings as to what is happening, but I'd like to make some further reference to the Attorney-General who made a big deal out of this \$155 million, the part that they cut off and this type of thing and that they couldn't change things that we had initiated. Well, it didn't take them very long to change the Agricultural Crown Lands sales policy. Boom! You know, they fired boards. It didn't take them very long to change various boards, no problem with it at all. They are the government.

Now, all of a sudden, it seems to me they're trying to push the ball back to us. If that is how the government feels, Mr. Speaker, we are glad to take over and we'll implement a beef program in a very short order and we hadn't promised; we were working on it at that time. The board that the Minister of Agriculture at that time had set up was fired three weeks after they got into government. Maybe some of the members in the House do not realize that Manitoba is the only province that does not have a Beef Income Assurance Program of some kind and these people were raising flack here and saying, what's the big deal? Give us time.

The Minister of Agriculture has left — I will retract that. The Minister of Agriculture is ignoring the pleas and the people are wondering why we're debating this issue here today. The past Minister of Finance, the Member for Turtle Mountain, indicated what is happening with the tabling of the Estimates, the hiding of the monies. The concern that I have here as I indicated before in the Throne Speech that the government is not relating all the facts. They're putting out blinders; they're putting out bait in a sense and people believe in this kind of thing. The same thing is going to be happening, I assume, with some of the other programs that have been enunciated in the Throne Speech; the Main Street Program, the Interest Rebate Program which is supposed to be helping some of the farmers that are in dire straits. Twelve out of a thousand have qualified; that is help? The people of Manitoba are beginning to realize what kind of government we have.

I don't know why there is such concern about helping the beef industry. When you consider the Province of Ontario, they're helping the auto industry; Chrysler has been helped. The major industries up there, they are being supplemented by the government. Our major industry here is agriculture and this government here has no compassion for the rural area.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The time for Private Members' Hour having arrived, unless it is the wish of the House by leave to move into some other item of business, there being no further business before the House, the House is accordingly adjourned and will stand adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 p.m.

The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. RANSOM:** On a point of order, Sir, . . . Private Members' business to be conducted that it isn't automatic that we would proceed with the business before

the House.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable House Leader on a point of order.

**MR. PENNER:** I would be prepared to accept that submission and this side of the House would in any event grant leave to continue the debate until 5:30 if that's what the members opposite wish to do.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I understand that our rules take precedence over traditional practice; however, if the House does give leave to continue then by unanimous consent, we may continue.

The Honourable Member for Emerson may proceed.

**MR. DRIEDGER:** Mr. Speaker, I just have a few more comments. I am concerned about the role that the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation has been playing. I understand that the farm community is in deep trouble. I think everybody agrees with that and the present Minister of Agriculture has changed the role of M.A.C.C. There's no more monies being borrowed for many of the people that are in dire trouble, and I want to just illustrate our concern that we had with the beef industry and the agricultural community in the past.

The previous Minister of Agriculture through his four years dealt with the Beef Income Assurance Program at that time, the beef assistance program, which was a five-year type of yoke that was hung around the farmer's neck at that time. We finally got that cleaned up and in conjunction with that we were faced with, as was mentioned by the Member for Lakeside, we dealt with floods one year, various programs had to be initiated for the farm community. The next year, we dealt with draught, we had various programs to assist the beef industry, the agriculture community in that area, the feed assistance program.

The question has been raised, time and time again now, since we got into the House, based on the promises that were made by the First Minister and the Minister of Agriculture to help and now we expect and we demand that you act on these things.

One more item, Mr. Speaker before I conclude my remarks. I would like to also indicate to the Minister of Agriculture, as I did in my Throne Speech as well, that he is living under the umbrella of supply management. The Federal Minister has indicated that he is prepared to initiate that kind of a program, a uniform program across the Dominion of Canada, and what does our Minister of Agriculture do? He refuses to discuss it, he refuses to make a statement, he makes no statements for the people of Manitoba, and hides behind it and says, "Give me time."

As indicated by previous speakers, there is no provision for money there. If the government wants the people of Manitoba to believe that they want to instigate a program, then give us some facts, give us deadlines, give us amounts of monies. The fact that they are not in the Estimates is what is creating concern on this side and as the Member for Roblin indicated people are phoning, all the beef farmers are phoning. They are finally receiving the message that there is no money available to them after the promises that were made. We will keep bringing this issue up until the

government of the day is going to act on it.

Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Tuxedo.

**MR. FILMON:** Mr. Speaker, in speaking to the motion, I just have a few remarks that I would like to make in addition to those that have already been made and the points that have already been well taken by members on this side.

The fact of the matter is that the Estimates that are before us, that were presented last evening, give us a very straightforward indication of what this government's real priorities are. If you examine the Estimates that were tabled last evening and compare them to the statements that were made, both during the previous election campaign, and more recently in the Throne Speech, you find that indeed those things that they say they believe in, or that they put forward in greatest priority, they don't really carry through with the kind of fiscal support that is needed to carry them out.

I speak in particular of a few items that came forward both in the Question Period and in the Throne Speech, dealing firstly with the area of training, the area of need in this province for providing skilled people, people skilled in technologies, in trades, and in areas of endeavour that are in great demand in the employment community in Manitoba. The Throne Speech makes a number of direct references to it, Mr. Speaker.

Firstly, I quote, "Manitoba's Community Colleges will provide increased training opportunities in occupations in which there are shortages of skilled workers. Priorities will continue to be directed towards increasing apprenticeship training, particularly within trades experiencing critical shortages of labour."

There is another reference further on that says, "Efforts will continue to be directed to increasing the accessibility of training and employment. These efforts will help Manitoba to keep the human resources that are critical in a modern economy."

Further along, there is reference to, "The government will participate in programs to train core area residents for long term employment in identified jobs in both the public and private sectors."

Mr. Speaker, what has happened in the Estimates, that have been laid before us, is that the government has shown what its true priorities are, its true commitments are to training and improving the opportunities for skilled people in this province by giving a 3 per cent increase to community colleges for their budget.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we know that that will not even cover the cost of the salaries, since the major portion of the budgets in the community colleges are salary based, that will not cover the normal increase in salaries that are being projected this year over last year. Mr. Speaker, that must mean therefore that this government is prepared to cut programs to redirect its priority efforts away from those areas that they can provide skilled people with opportunities for employment in this province.

We see, Mr. Speaker, that their priorities are indeed not what they said they were during the election campaign, not what they said they were during the recent Throne Speech.

Further to that Mr. Speaker, there were some very,

very strong comments made in the Throne Speech on Community Services and Corrections and I quote again, "Significant provisions will be made in the expenditure budget to reflect the needs for additional child care, care for special needs children, and to recognize the inflationary pressures on publicly funded daycare centres."

Mr. Speaker, we have to compare just exactly how these departments that are going to carry out these so-called expanded programs fared in comparison to the average increases that were allotted in the estimates. The average increases, print-over-print, despite what the Minister of Finance said they were in making some other type of funny comparison, print-over-print the average increase was 16.9 percent. The Department of Community Services and Corrections is getting 11.6 percent, that to carry out so-called increased programs that they have in mind, despite the fact that they have already indicated that they have given a 16.5 percent increase on social allowances. How are they going to do it, Mr. Speaker? The fact of the matter is, they are not going to do it and it is not a priority, and that's what the Estimates have now shown us.

Further, to that, Mr. Speaker, we have some strong statements in the Throne Speech on what they are going to do with respect to Northern Affairs. I quote, "Northern Manitoba is a source of rich mineral resources, but many northern communities suffer from the loss of economic activity and very high unemployment. My Ministers want to make sure that northern concerns are heard and that northern development is encouraged. My Ministers are hopeful that the continued consultation and negotiations in the Northlands Agreement will lead to economic development for Northern Manitoba. There will be a concerted effort to insure that Northern Manitobans are able to take full advantage of the opportunity to participate in the development of northern projects. As well, my government will place an increased emphasis on the development of strong, local government in northern affairs communities."

Stirring words, a 5 percent decrease in funding this year over last year in Northern Affairs. Where are there priorities? Where are they going to come through with the funding to carry through the promises, the commitments they have made in the Throne Speech? They are not there. They are obviously elsewhere. They are elsewhere in some hidden agenda that they have of priorities for this province, that they are not coming out with. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that all that glitters is not gold, and all that they have promised, they will not keep.

More so than that, Mr. Speaker, it is becoming evident just how little they know about true accountability, about true fiscal responsibility. The Attorney-General got up and lectured us as a first time Minister on just how tough it was to go through the Estimate's process and what a horrible time they had in preparing \$150 million. He made it look as though all of those things that were months away from completion when we left office, at least a month away from coming to final completion, all of those so-called asking budgets that were put forward by the departments were commitments that we had made.

Not so, Mr. Speaker, let me tell you he has obviously

had no business experience, no experience in dealing with budgets in the past, he has lived in that airy-fairy world of theory so long that he doesn't even know how to deal with true budget procedures, the realities of dealing with what people want and what the government can afford to give them.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that I support the position of Ministers or even senior bureaucrats in departments coming forward with needed programs and saying these are very important to us. And everyone of us, if we believed that what we did was worth while as Ministers, would come forward with that kind of commitment, with that kind of enthusiasm for the job that we had at hand. But the fact of the matter is that when we all came together and dealt with those asking budgets, the reality of it was that we had to come forward with a figure that we were prepared to live with for the forthcoming year, that we felt that the province and the people of this province could afford to live with for this coming year.

It is up to the government, up to the Cabinet, to set the guidelines and the limits and decide what its priorities are and what the limits of the expenditures are and then cut the suit to fit the cloth. That's exactly what that side — (Interjection) — cut the cloth to fit the suit. Thank you for the correction. Obviously I'm not a tailor, perhaps some of the others in the crowd are. In any case, that's why you're in government is to make those decisions, to make those priority decisions. The difficulty I have is understanding what your priorities are from the Main Estimates of Expenditure that you've put before us.

The Attorney-General says that they are very big on the consultative process, but it obviously works from the kind of things that we've had, those little patchwork additions that came in, the \$2 million for the City of Winnipeg School Division No. 1 and all of those other little things that haven't been included in these Estimates. Obviously, their idea of the consultative process is that the person who talks to them last before they walk in to make their statements gets theirs included, without any real fiscal responsibility, without any overall plan and comparative priority and that's his idea of the consultative process.

Well, I suggest to you that the real fiscal responsibility isn't just a patchwork make-do response to those special interest groups that they have I.O.U.'s out to as a result of their election promises and campaign. It's more than that; it's the true tests of the fiscal responsibility of this government and I suggest that they don't really understand that.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

**MR. LLOYD HYDE (Portage la Prairie):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, it won't take me that long to say a few words in support of the Beef Production Stabilization Program in Manitoba, that is the lack of it I should say.

Mr. Speaker, I come from an area which is not one of the largest beef producing areas of the province but what cattle we do produce in that area is good cattle as well.

Mr. Speaker, I want to ask first of all, how long does the First Minister expect any business person or any

businessman in the Province of Manitoba to continue to function while they're losing money?

The predicted deficit for 1982, Mr. Speaker, has been predicted as \$46 million. Now, Mr. Speaker, as I have pointed out when I spoke to the Throne Speech, I spoke that, "How long can a person hang on with losing money the way we're doing?" These cattle producers in the province here today certainly are up against it and it would appear that they're just being overlooked by the present government.

During the past few months while we were preparing for the election, the Premier travelled across this province and said what great things he was going to do for all aspects of the economy and for the Province of Manitoba. What has he done? Today he has done very very little. Promises that he cannot fulfill and will not fulfill, Mr. Speaker. . . . Yes, what about the licence plates? My goodness, yes. The money that he spent on that he could have very well looked after many other programs. Mr. Speaker, he won that election on promises that he cannot fulfill.

One of the promises that he made was that he would help the beef producers of Manitoba. Now, it has been pointed out probably this afternoon, that he made promises while he was speaking in Selkirk and it's true. It's right in the news release where the Premier did make the statement in Selkirk on the night of the fifth. So, Mr. Speaker, his promises mean nothing — nothing.

The First Minister also stated time and time again, he would aid the family farm, which is, he has admitted, the backbone to the agricultural economy of the province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I did not want to miss the opportunity just to say a few words in support of this here much needed program. The Minister of Agriculture today stated in Question Period that help was coming. That's not good enough. He had his opportunity last night — the Minister of Finance had the opportunity to make that announcement that there was a fixed figure coming for the producers of Manitoba, but he didn't have it; he wouldn't make it known that there wasn't definite support for the beef producers of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it's evident that the majority of the people in the Opposition are not acquainted with the plight of the farmer and I don't believe they're interested in the farmer. It is obvious up to date that they haven't been showing any interest towards the benefit of the farmer. I would suggest that if they want to be re-elected in another four years down the road they better start and be looking and taking some consideration towards the family farm, the beef producer, the farmer in general, because after all, when we as farmers stop producing those people will be mighty mighty hungry.

It is known, Mr. Speaker, where the producer of cattle today is losing as much as \$100 per head by the time that animal is either purchased or raised on his farm, fed to the point where it is in condition to meet the market. Unless the producer gets assistance very shortly, Mr. Speaker, there is going to be very very few cattle producers left and available to help the economy of this province.

Mr. Speaker, last night I was disappointed when the First Minister and his Minister of Finance did not make mention at all of monies available for this program and

it was very noticeable to me and will be very noticeable, Mr. Speaker, to the people of Portage la Prairie, that there was no mention in that speech last evening for monies to build the pool for the citizens of Portage la Prairie and the residents of the Manitoba School for Retardates in Portage la Prairie. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Mr. Speaker, I wouldn't want to let this opportunity pass without saying a word or two on behalf of the beef producers in my particular area, but firstly, I would like to say a word in relation to the remarks made by the Attorney-General. I don't blame him for getting up when they've been sallying forth from this side, one upon the other. I don't blame him for getting up to try and defend a rather defenseless position of his Finance Minister, but I want to remind him seeing as he's a newcomer to this Chamber, when he talked about delaying the business of the House and holding up the affairs of the House, that if he'd just go back a few years and there are still a few over on that side of his kind that will well remember what happened when they were on this side. So I just advise them to keep that in mind when we're accused of obstructing the business of the House or anything of that nature.

Mr. Speaker, I too cannot help but on many occasions — I know they're going to be very very frequent in this House — to hearken back to the well delivered and excellent material in the speech that the seconder to the Speech from the Throne made, the Honourable Member for Burrows, about honesty in government and obviously he's going to have to go and — (Interjection) — and responsible government and being responsive to the needs of the people. I think he's going to have to take some of the members, Mr. Speaker, on that side into his confidence and really explain to them again what he meant in that speech. I know he spoke with feeling and spoke from the heart when he delivered that message in seconding that Speech from the Throne. But he's going to have to take those gentlemen on the front bench aside and give them a little more direction because they were not listening, Mr. Speaker, when they prepared those Estimates and brought in the spending Estimates like they did last night with — I'm looking for the right word so that you won't rule me out of order, but I have very very much difficulty in finding one that's not going to be unparliamentary — but to the say the least, there were things in that Budget that should have been in those Estimates that were not there. We understand that money is going to have to come from somewhere now. Today we find out that there are several millions of dollars that are going to be spent and we are just very very concerned, Mr. Speaker, of how much more we're going to turn up in the next few days, in the next few weeks with some more of our questioning, how much we're going to find that hasn't been included in that Budget.

We hear so much of the promised assistance to the beef producers. I hope that the remarks I'm going to make doesn't jeopardize in any way any plans that the Minister of Health might have for my constituency because they're not really directed at him but, Mr.

Speaker, I don't know how much money they're going to come up with in Supplementary Estimates for the beef subsidy program. But I don't want to go through and repeat all of the promises that were made by various members on that side of the House and especially the First Minister because he does have beef producers in his area. I have a lot of good beef producers in my area that are phoning continually and saying, where does the program stand? How far is it along? Is the Minister having meetings? What happened to the committee and all of the work in the meetings that were held by the former Minister? Was that not passed on? Was the continuity not there? Was the information not available that he could have come up with a program within a couple or three weeks or a month after being elected such as he promised in the election campaign? Many of the other members promised it. I'm sure the Member for Dauphin promised his beef producers help immediately if this government should be elected.

Mr. Speaker, those people are now becoming very impatient because it's going to be market time very very soon, and those fellows are not going to be able to market those cattle and take another loss of \$75 to \$100 an animal and withstand another season of feeding animals at such and such a loss. The Member for Gimli, as was mentioned many times, was with the Premier when that promise was made that fast action would be taken, not as rich as he would like maybe, but fast action would be taken. I urge the Member for Gimli to get up and get into the debate and tell us what has happened to that promise the First Minister made, so he can justify it to his constituents — this lack of action that is so apparent to us today, Mr. Speaker.

I don't know how our economy can survive much longer, Mr. Speaker. I think all the speakers on that side and certainly on this side have acknowledged how important agriculture is to the economy of this country and this particular province. It doesn't take very very long for the disaster in the rural areas, a drought, bad crops or a disaster such as hit the beef producers of this province to be felt in the City of Winnipeg. It doesn't take very very long for that to filter down through our particular economy to affect every merchant and every citizen in the City of Winnipeg.

So there's no question that the effects of agriculture on our economy are very very predominant. But you know, Mr. Speaker, of all the promises that were made during the election and won't be kept, there's a great many, it's just going to be impossible for them to keep them and they might as well fess up to some of them now and admit that they were a little rich because there's no question about that. Our beef producers can rest assured that there is going to be pressure on them, Mr. Speaker; there'll be pressure on the Minister of Agriculture; there'll be pressure on the First Minister day by day until this program is in place and a satisfactory one is in place for the beef producers of this province.

Mr. Speaker, when I talked about election promises I can't help but think back to a number of years ago, a headline that appeared — I just don't have it here, but I know some of our members have it — that was made by a former Premier of this province who has now solved his personal war on poverty and is lavishing



down east in a regal role. He once said and was quoted in very large headlines, "The name of the game is being re-elected, even if it means bending your principles a little." There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that his message was taken to heart by the members opposite because they have certainly gone a long long way to bending some of the principles of the people over there. As I say, when I refer to the remarks from the Member for Burrows, he spoke with feeling on honesty and responsibility in government and he is going to have to have another chat with the front bench over there because we haven't seen much of a display of it to date, Mr. Speaker. I hope that we're going to have some good, solid, convincing answers from the Minister of Finance when he gets back in and speaks on the Estimates and on the further debates that occur in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

**MR. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek):** We've got all kinds of cattle raisers in Sturgeon Creek. Mr. Speaker, I just want to refer to the Estimates that were presented last night and certainly the excuse presented by the Attorney-General.

Mr. Speaker, many years ago when I was Chairman of the St. James Police Commission and Mr. Maltby was the Chief then, who is now the Ombudsman of the Province of Manitoba, I approved the expenditure of funds to hire the present Attorney-General to do some lecturing to the Police Department of the City of St. James, and had I known now then what I know now I might not have made that approval.

Mr. Speaker, I can say to you that the Minister has got up and said that there we were out there, or the Minister of Education was out there, who had boldly come and said to the Cabinet that we have to do this and we have got our Estimates done and so she went out and announced it, because we all know that the printing had to be done.

Mr. Speaker, it takes approximately, and I tell the honourable members on the other side, ten days to two weeks to print the Estimates in this province, and there were many occasions where there were changes made when I was on the Treasury Bench and in Cabinet, changes made right up to that time and they were still put in the Estimates that were presented to this House. It's nearly a month ago that the Minister of Education was making the promises to the education people in this province regarding the funds she was going to put in and that \$2 million was part of it. Mr. Speaker, that is not a very good excuse, and for the Minister to get up and say to us, you know, that here we were with \$155 million of cutting that we had to do.

Mr. Speaker, in 1977, when I took over the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation, there was a request for \$110 million worth of public housing and the amount of money available from the Federal Government was \$42 million. We did some cutting, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that the amount, the first draft of budgets, that is gone through all the time. I commend the honourable gentleman for taking a look at the budgets that were there before them and analyzing them as to what they wanted to have in or what they wanted to have out. So, Mr. Speaker, the

excuse that's been given to us today is wrong.

The Attorney-General is showing his little bit of temper about the fact that we are speaking today; he will have to learn that in this House, Sir, — and you are well aware of it, Mr. Speaker, because you were in Government and you were in Opposition the same as I was — that the Opposition has the privilege of speaking in this House on more occasions than he will probably realize that we have and the members of this side will take the opportunity to present their concerns on the basis of the constituents and the people that elected them. As a matter of fact, this is one time when the people in the back row over there could have gotten into the debate, but probably have been told to "Cool it fellows, cool it fellows. I haven't got that in my plans." — From your House Leader.

So, Mr. Speaker, let the House Leader be very sure and let him be reminded that there were times when the Interim Supply was held up when we were government to the point where it became very crucial. As a matter of fact, we held it up one time when we were in Opposition and the government of the day, which was the NDP Party, walked down the hall and passed an Order-in-Council for the money — (Interjection) — illegally, correct.

So there will be times, and I say to the Attorney-General, Mr. Speaker, that his temper and his fact that he is going to have his way completely in this House is not going to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I will say sincerely about the Estimates, I will say this: all the Estimates; we have a set that are not accurate, we know that; you know it too; you know the salaries aren't accurate; one of the main expenses of running this government, they're not accurate. — (Interjection) — Well, you're going to pay out more than \$10 million in salaries.

Mr. Speaker, the other thing that I wanted to bring to the attention and my colleague did today, the Member for Turtle Mountain, is the exaggeration and the literature and the talks, since they've been government, about what is going to happen in Economic Development; and when the Minister of Finance went to the trouble of pointing out 8 percent increase, Mr. Speaker, the increase is \$2 million approximately, and it's going to the Racing Commission. You know what that is? That's to pay out the money for purses to the Racing Commission, and you pay that out after you've taken it in. In other words, you pay out less than you take in. Your increase in Economic Development is the purse support that is done for the Racing Commission and to the racing industry, and the reason why it's higher this year is you've got standard bred racing going on at the Downs that were never there before.

So, Mr. Speaker, the Economic Development Department on the operation side is down. Now, if this government feels, and the Minister, who has every right to present their Estimates and the Cabinet and Treasury Board, feel that that's the way they want to go, Mr. Speaker, they have every right to do so and they have every reason to expect to be criticized for it, I can tell you that. But, Mr. Speaker, let's not present something to the people that is not factual, because these figures don't show the actual circumstances as they are in this House.

So, Mr. Speaker, as I say, there are, as you know, Sir, the Opposition in this government, in this democratic

system, has the privileges that we have which makes our system as good as it is and we intend to use them, Mr. Speaker, regardless of the little tantrums of the Attorney-General.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Swan River.

**MR. D. M. (Doug) GOURLAY (Swan River):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I think for people on this side of the House, and particularly those members that represent a rural area, we had to be very disappointed last night when the Main Estimates of Expenditure were tabled and there wasn't one red cent in there for a Beef Stabilization Program.

Now, the members opposite say, what have you done in the last four years? Well, I'd just like to take you back for maybe more than four years. In 1975 and 1976 the government of the day was the same as the present government and they introduced a Beef Income Assurance Plan, and it was needed at that time; the beef farmers were in a very depressed state and the Beef Income Program was brought in and it was a legal nightmare, I might add. There was about 75 percent of the beef producers in this province signed up in that program during 1975 and 1976. Then there was an election in 1977 and the beef prices were pretty good for the next couple of years. In fact, they were so good that the people that had signed up in this program were obligated to pay money back to the government, but because of the loopholes in the program and the mess that had been created in that program it was impossible for the government of the day to administer that program effectively in the way that had been originally set up by the then NDP government.

Now, I believe late in 1978 the beef prices again became quite depressed, and until 1981 the situation was becoming serious again. Our Minister of Agriculture at that time appointed a body to look at the whole beef program to see the best way to handle it, in view of the fact that the federal people were not about to introduce a national stabilization program which would have been the best method to handle this type of program. But at least, the Minister of Agriculture of the day, the present Member for Arthur, had established this committee to look in and bring recommendations to the government so that we could look at a program that could be effectively handled and paid for by the people of this province.

I might say that during the election campaign last year there was a long hard cry, especially from the NDP members, that there should be a beef stabilization program brought in, and I might say that the NDP candidate from my area, who is a very competent individual and one that I have a lot of respect for, campaigned hard and long on this program to bring in a stabilization program. As a matter of fact, they brought in the Minister of Agriculture from Saskatchewan to a meeting in the Swan Valley area, to expound the advantages and the good aspects of the Saskatchewan stabilization program. The present Premier at a meeting — I believe it was quoted in either Selkirk or Gimli — indicated that he would bring in this program similar to Saskatchewan in a matter of months after

being elected.

Obviously, the members opposite had some kind of game plan in mind, because they went out and promised the farmers of this province that they would bring in a Beef Stabilization Program equal to Saskatchewan's. They must have had some idea of how much this program was going to cost Manitobans and — When was the election? Three and one-half months ago, and here the Estimates were tabled last night, there isn't one red cent in there for the beef income program.

I think that this is really a matter of principle that we are debating here right now and this is supposed to represent the Main Expenditures of this province for 1982. You can't tell me that the members opposite didn't have some idea of what a Beef Stabilization Program was going to cost the taxpayers of the Province, so that it could have been brought in with these Estimates.

I would have to say that the people of Manitoba, particularly the beef producers, are particularly disappointed in that the Minister of Agriculture today has further announced that it will be some weeks before any possible Beef Stabilization Program can be announced. Certainly this will be too late for a lot of beef producers in the Province of Manitoba and particularly in the Swan Valley area.

Now I know that I mentioned that the NDP when they were campaigning for the election, they hollered loud and long that there would be a Beef Stabilization Program brought in immediately. The candidate in my area, he campaigned on many platforms and he said that the people in the southeast part of the constituency of Swan River were particularly hard pressed, and I know that I speak for him to that he will be disappointed that there is no money listed in these Estimates to come to the rescue of the beef producers, not only in the Swan Valley area but in the Province of Manitoba.

So, Mr. Speaker, I didn't want to miss the opportunity to bring these comments and put them on record at this time.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before recognizing the honourable member, I wonder if I might direct the attention of the Honourable Members to my gallery on my left, where we have 46 people from Towner County in North Dakota. They are members of the North Dakota Farmers Union under their Co-Ordinator, Mr. Terry Jacobson. On behalf of all the members, I am pleased to welcome you this afternoon.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE (Cont'd)

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

**MR. KOVNATS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to take this opportunity just to spend a couple of minutes, and I am not going to take that long, if I could have the attention of the honourable members, just so that they could listen to what a city member has to say concerning the Beef Stabilization Program.

I have heard all of the remarks being made concerning the rural members, but the city members support

the farmers who are raising the cattle also. It is not just a rural problem, it is a urban problem also.

I just got to come up with a few points and then we will carry on with the business of the House. I have no intention of prolonging the business of the House.

I do qualify to speak on the Beef Stabilization Program, because I don't know about some of the rest of you, I worked at Canada Packers, I worked on the beef kill, and I have been very close to this industry, and I know some of the problems.

I would just want to say that the farmer in Manitoba, who is raising cattle today needs help now. You are going to give him that help almost right away, so why not do it now? You are not going to get the credit for it, we are, because we forced you into it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Order please. Order please. Would the members give the honourable member the courtesy of their attention. The honourable member will recall, I am sure, that he should direct his remarks to the Chair and not directly to other members.

**MR. KOVNATS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Speaker, I beg your pardon.

I would just like to get back to what I was speaking about, Mr. Speaker, that it has to be done now. You can't wait any longer. They have picked up the song "Manana." Do you remember the song "Manana, it's good enough for me." That was their song, but it is not good enough for me, Mr. Speaker. Manana is tomorrow. Again, they need help now.

I would just like to make reference — I saw the Honourable Member for St. Johns, and he is doing a wonderful job in helping to raise food and clothing for the poor, unfortunate people over in Poland, and he doesn't care who gets the credit. He wants to see that the help has to come now. With that type of an attitude, I don't know why it doesn't permeate throughout the whole of that group on that side, Mr. Speaker, and my remarks are to you, Sir, that they should be doing it now.

I was out in Menisino over the weekend, and there is a farmer out there who raises cattle, and he lost one cow over the weekend. I know how it hurt him to lose that one cow. It is so important that we do something to bring this cattle business up to the point where they can make a living and live with the dignity that is required to be a cattle rancher here in the province. Let us give those cattle ranchers the dignity that they need, the support that they need, and let's do it now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are you ready for the question? The question before the House is on the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance that the House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

**QUESTION put, MOTION carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable House Leader.

**MR. PENNER:** Yes, on the adjourned proposed motion of Mr. Schroeder, I would ask that the question be called on that motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** On the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance that the House will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of Ways and Means for raising of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. RANSOM:** Stand, Mr. Speaker, but on a point of order I would ask that the — or perhaps did you read it, Sir, as saying "at its next sitting?"

**MR. SPEAKER:** I believe I did so, but if not that was my intent. Is it the will of the House to let that matter stand? (Agreed)

There being nothing further before the House, the House is accordingly adjourned, and will stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. tomorrow afternoon (Thursday)