

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Monday, 19 April, 1982

Time — 8:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

MR. CHAIRMAN, Phil Eyler (River East): This Committee will come to order. We are considering Item 1.(f)(1) Manitoba Horse Racing Commission Grant Assistance.

The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Mr. Chairman, the structure of the Horse Racing Commission, there is a new commission, but there was a structure that had been put forth last year that, I'm sure would have been implemented. I wonder if the Minister is planning to have a Horse Racing Commission and a Director of Racing that would be working for the Commission on a year-round basis with the industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam Minister.

HON. MURIEL SMITH (Osborne): Mr. Chairperson, the structure we have at the present is the Commission plus — I'm not sure what formal title — the Executive Director, and that's what we have in place at the moment. So, we haven't addressed that other recommendation, but I will certainly ask that the Commission look at the pros and cons of that structure and make a recommendation to me.

MR. JOHNSTON: Thank you. As I recall, there is an Executive Director of the Commission there at the present time. There is a Secretary, I believe; there was also to have been as I mentioned, an Executive Director that would be responsible to the Commission or the Minister, whichever was chosen. He would be salaried by the Commission. The offices of the Horse Racing Commission was intended to be more or less a year-round office and the plans were to look for more office space or, if the expansion of the office space at the Downs proved to be satisfactory, they might stay there. It was felt that the Commission should possibly have office space more centrally located in Winnipeg. Has that been taken into consideration or been looked at?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, \$50,000 has been spent to improve the office that we currently have and the Executive Secretary that we have there is full-time and for the moment, that is the pattern we're going with. We have added an active Vice-Chairperson to the Commission itself.

MR. JOHNSTON: The paper reported that - and I don't know whether it's accurate or not, but - is it the intention of the Commission to bring in stewards from Ontario and the States?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the final decision is

not clear. There was a need to appoint stewards fairly quickly because the season starts very soon. There had been a death of one of the stewards that had been at the Downs. The prime concern in looking for stewards was to get people who were very capable and who would be available for the year-round season that we now are supporting. The final decision on those stewards has not as yet been made public. Again, I don't need to tell the honourable member, who a short time ago sat in my relationship to the commission, that rumours do abound and not everything that finds its way into the newspaper can be relied on to be an accurate reflection.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, there's no question that the stewards are exceptionally people. If the public ever the idea that there is something wrong regarding the betting out there, or something wrong between horse owners, and well any rumour that, as the Minister says, starts does affect the attendance at the track if they think things are not going well. Has there been any move to try to train stewards in Manitoba. The suggestion I make that there are a lot of inspectors in the lotteries who are not kept as busy as they might be who could be trained to be stewards for the Racing Commission and for the track, of course, there's also the rural meets, etc. I'm wondering if there is a thought of looking toward those people if they have the time or is there going to be a training for stewards from Manitoba, let's say?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I think that is an excellent idea. I'm informed that under consideration at the moment the top leaders are one ex-Manitoban, one Ontarian and one American citizen. Given the need for a fairly speedy appointment and the very highly specialized skills that are required to accomplish just what the member did refer to, that is an atmosphere of confidence among the betting public so that they feel that there are competent people in those positions and that they can rely very heavily on their judgment. So, for the present, as I say, the top three under consideration are the ex-Manitoban, the Ontarian and the American. There are five or six Manitobans next in line and I think it's an excellent idea that they be given some training so that we do, in fact, build toward more capacity in that area right here in Manitoba.

MR. JOHNSTON: Is it the intention of the Minister to allow the horsemen and the horse owners to participate financially with the track regarding the back stretch with the funds that are going to be made available to them? If so, is there a limit going to be put on it?

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, those questions are still under review by the Commission working jointly with the horsemen, the breeders and the track.

MR. JOHNSTON: I just have one more question. Well, we all know what the newspapers have been saying in the past few days and it's encouraging to

know that the track is a separate company of Mr. Gobuty's. I personally know he's worked very hard to make that track attractive to people to go to and participate in the racing. I know it's a little early and the commission is just meeting with him, is there any assurance from him that the racing will start and that there will be a complete season of racing in Manitoba?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, we do have that assurance both from Mr. Gobuty and from the banker that does look after the track account. I suppose the only outside thing that could happen is if national authorities at the bank decide otherwise. But we have, as you know, had our own auditor and the track has had an auditor in checking the books today and I've been pleased that the commission has been acting very responsibly and quickly to clarify the situation to give the public of Manitoba the protection they need and also to give the track owners every due consideration as well.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. JAMES E. DOWNEY (Arthur): Mr. Chairman, this may be a repetitive question, if it is I'll respect your judgment and you can indicate that it's been answered and I'll look in Hansard. The increase of some \$2 million, Mr. Chairman, has probably been discussed, could the Minister give us a breakdown of what percentage will go to the thoroughbred and the standard bred industry? Is there a new thrust within the Department of Tourism to encourage the standard bred racing in Manitoba through the Grant Assistance Program?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the split as it works out is approximately half and half, the standard bred increase was put in under the term of the — well I guess it was almost ready to go at the change of government — and we in fact, did endorse it. The other portion of the industry levy, that is going to be covered by the change in The Pari Mutuel Tax Act.

I think this afternoon I indicated that the division of that money is being negotiated at present by the new commission meeting with the breeders, the horsemen and the track, both together and separately and I have been told that they're very close to consensus on that. They've been encouraged to look at what their respective needs are and to recognize that as an industry they each need the other group to be in a healthy condition. So I'm quite confident that the process they've gone through is going to come very close to consensus and if there is areas that are still not agreed to by those groups the commission will make the determination.

MR. DOWNEY: The funds as the Minister indicates, and if I understand correctly, will be dispersed throughout and not just the standard bred racing at the Assiniboia Downs but throughout the Great Western Circuit throughout the Province and the work will be provided for the meets at the Agricultural Society race meets and fairs throughout the province during the summer months, is that correct?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, there is some increased funding

going for those purposes, \$30,000 for capital improvements to the Great Western Circuit and the other, the purse support, the breeders awards, the sires stakes are all 10 percent up over 1981-82. With regard to quarter horse racing the support of the development is \$5,500 and the purse breeders are up 2.8 percent to \$11,500 and the capital improvements are new and that's to the tune of \$25,000.00.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I wasn't keeping track of the numbers that the Minister was putting out but it doesn't seem anywhere near that the amount of \$2 million is being used up in that figure. It's been, I would think, less than \$100,000 the amount of money that she has indicated.

The basic question was . . . She has first of all indicated that 50 percent will go to the thoroughbreds which racing takes place at Assiniboia Downs . . .

MRS. SMITH: No, I didn't say that.

MR. DOWNEY: I misunderstood Mr. Chairman. I asked the question. There was an increase of almost \$2 million, if I understand it, we're in in (f)(1), is that correct? And that there's an increase of \$2 million. I asked if that increase, Mr. Chairman, would be divided equally, or she has indicated as I understood it, would be divided equally between the standardbred and the thoroughbred, and if that's not correct, I've misunderstood her answer. Maybe she would like to clarify that.

MRS. SMITH: Yes, I can appreciate the difficulty because I wasn't giving precise figures. There's approximately \$900,000 increase to each of the standardbred racing and thoroughbred racing and then, in the thoroughbred racing, there are the breeders and the horsemen and the track to be considered. There is also an additional amount of over \$200,000 that was voted in the revised vote '81-82 prior to the change of government that went to strengthening the Commission administration. That was for office and somewhat higher honoraria for the commission members.

MR. DOWNEY: So, if I understand it correctly, Mr. Chairman, she is indicating, through you to the Minister, that there is some \$900,000 going to go to the thoroughbred racing and some \$900,000 going to the standardbred racing of which the \$900,000 that the standardbred racing people will receive, will be added to the racing industry throughout the rural race meets that take place throughout the summer in Manitoba. Is that correct?

MRS. SMITH: Yes.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, that would seem to be a reasonable approach if it is going to be spread throughout the province to encourage the standardbreds at the rural race meets.

Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, the race-horse industry at the federal level is controlled or comes under the auspices of the Federal Minister of Agriculture; all the controls and the regulatory parts of that industry come within that jurisdiction. Does the Minister of Economic Development have direct

communications with the Department of Agriculture, because a permit has to be issued each year by the Minister of Agriculture within the province to allow horse racing to take place? I would ask her for her comments on the fact that there is two different jurisdictions of government responsible for one industry, does she feel comfortable with it the way it is? Does she think there could be some changes made to either give all the authority to the Department of Industry and Tourism, or does she feel that the Department of Agriculture should have more input? I just ask her for a general overall policy statement on that because I have seen it somewhat as a difficulty particularly when it is under federal jurisdiction, part of the permitting of the horse racing in Manitoba is under her department, part of it's under the Department of Agriculture and I sometimes feel that the industry would in fact, feel more comfortable if it reported to one Minister and one Minister only.

I know that some two to three years ago there was a submission put forward to me — and I don't know whether the then Minister of Economic Development had any part in the discussions — where they felt at that time that possibly horse racing should fall within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and I would ask this Minister for her thoughts in regard to that.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, we haven't encountered any difficulty coordinating. It seems to me that the nature of the industry probably — I think it would gain from having some kind of federal control, some kind of common rulings across the country. So I for one would not — unless very good arguments could be brought to the fore — wouldn't see myself initiating a separation.

I think there's some aspects of betting laws that are probably rooted in the Criminal Code which is a federal matter and any coordination that is necessary seems to be going on quite harmoniously at the moment.

As I say, I'm always open to reconsider if a good argument can be made or if difficulties arise, but I can quite honestly say I haven't encountered any as such as yet.

MR. DOWNEY: Well, I would hope the Minister is aware of the fact — I'm sure she has been made aware by her department — that if the Minister of Agriculture within the Province of Manitoba did not want to issue a permit, then the Assiniboia Downs could not operate, nor could any of the provincial race meets operate, that that authority does lie within the Ministry of Agriculture. Does she feel that permission should lie with her authority or does she feel comfortable that another Minister should have that responsibility?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, our Cabinet works as a co-operative team and we assume that we all share responsibility for all the areas as Members of Cabinet. We bring, as individual Ministers, particular focus to bear on the needs of our programs that come under our departmental responsibilities, but we consult and come to a mutual agreement on overall policies so I don't anticipate a problem. If there were a difference of opinion, it would get sorted out at Cabinet level and

I and the Minister of Agriculture would abide by that joint decision. I'm happy with that process and rule of the game.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, in light of the recent situation that has developed at the Downs, has the Minister of Agriculture been involved in the discussions and the current review of what has taken place because he is the authorizing Minister for the operation of the Assiniboia Downs? I ask the question, has he been involved or his department been involved in the review that has taken place?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, he hasn't though not by anyone rejecting his right to be so involved. In fact, he hasn't been in the city today. But I will in fact check through with him and make sure that we are on the same wave length.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I would hope that it would be the case, that when the Minister has to be the authority that has the decision to whether or not there is a race meet held or whether there isn't, that he be or his department be involved in that decision so that he's not blind-sighted or misinformed - misinformed is not the correct word - but at least a part of that overall review. Maybe I'm misunderstanding it but I think it is his responsibility to authorize the operation of that particular meet. If I'm not correct maybe the Minister could clarify the issue for me.

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, I'd like to take that issue under advisement and report back at the next Session of the Committee. As I say, there would be no block on my part to consult and I'm sure there would be full willingness on the part of my colleague to consult and, as I said before, if ever there were disagreement, we'll resolve that at Cabinet level.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, the Minister - I can't remember - she was on the visit to the Brandon Fair this winter and I would ask her - I think she was - ask the Minister - well, maybe she wasn't - Mr. Chairman, maybe some of her colleagues, particularly the Member for Brandon East who was there and well-informed, I'll ask her if she has had any submission to her as a Cabinet colleague, and if she has not had a submission to her from her colleague from Brandon East or Brandon West, there is a proposal coming forward from the people that operate the Provincial Exhibition and the Keystone and general Board of Directors from those organizations, to develop and build a race-track facility on the grounds of the Keystone Centre at Brandon; has she had a submission from her colleague or from any of the Members for Brandon to entertain the funding of a race-track facility on the Keystone grounds at Brandon?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, we have received a proposal and are recommending a grant.

MR. DOWNEY: I'm sorry I missed the answer. I was busy visiting with my friend on my right.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, we have received a request for support and are recommending a grant.

We don't have the exact amounts available but if the member would like to have that I can obtain it.

MR. DOWNEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, first of all I'd like to know the Minister is supporting a grant and I'm sure in supporting that grant she supports the developing of a racetrack facility at the Keystone facilities. She said that she has money available as a grant. Where in her Estimates has she got that funding made available? Is it in this particular appropriation, or is it elsewhere? Yes, I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, how much it is because prior to the takeover of government by the Minister who is now in office there was some \$600,000 committed to the development of the Keystone Centre or the further development. I would like to know what commitment this government has to the development of a racetrack and how much money they have committed.

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, I'm sorry for inaccuracy in my previous response. There here been a request come in but it hasn't been processed yet and we haven't made a recommendation. It does not appear in these Estimates because it appeared at a later stage. So I cannot at this time, give an opinion as to whether it would be considered in the affirmative, and if so, how we would propose to fund it or whether it would be something that would be taken under consideration for next year's Estimates. I was not at the Brandon Fair, perhaps where this got some discussion, or en route there or back. I was, in fact, attending a meeting out in Selkirk.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I apologize, I should be calling it the Manitoba Royal Winter Fair which it is and the Minister had indicated in an earlier answer that she did support it through funds and now she is saying she hasn't got funds, therefore she doesn't support it. I would hope that the Minister — she has received a submission — I would hope that she can now not see fit to back off as a Minister in the matter of policy matters in feeling she had put funds forward, she did support it and now because there aren't any funds she doesn't support it. They did and they do have, Mr. Chairman, to you, they do have . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam Minister on a Point of Order.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I did apologize for an inaccurate bit of information that was given and I would ask the honourable member to accept that apology and the clarification I made. A proposal has come in to the department but I have not yet received it or a recommendation on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur on a Point of Order.

MR. DOWNEY: On the Point of Order, Mr. Chairman, I accept the Minister's apologies that she did change her answer on the fact that there aren't any funds but I'm asking her on a policy matter, Mr. Chairman, and she is the Minister, she has to develop the policy and I would hope that she is prepared to take that responsibility as the Minister Responsible for Horse Racing in

the Province of Manitoba and I would hope on the policy matter, that she would clarify that.

I accept the point that she made that there aren't funds there and that she's not able to proceed with the granting of funds to that facility this year or the development of it. However, that does not give her reason, I don't believe, to say that she hasn't got a policy developed on that. She either supports the development of a racetrack facility at the Keystone Centre or she does not, Mr. Chairman. That to me, I would have thought would have been the responsibility of her colleague who is the Member for Brandon East, who was there and he saw the layout of the racetrack as they had it — a model that is very nicely developed — the Member for Brandon West, who I'm sure must sometime or other communicate with the Minister of Tourism on these kinds of issues that are of concern to the constituents of Brandon who, I know, feel in a pretty general sense that the development of a racetrack would enhance the overall tourism and the whole horse racing industry in Brandon, that the Minister must have some input from those members or she must have a policy of her own.

I accept her apologies for not having money. However, I don't think she can be excused for not having a personal and a Ministerial responsibility of saying whether she feels that a racetrack and the support of that racetrack is essential to the development of the tourism industry in Brandon.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I'm sure as the member opposite well knows, policy does not get developed in a vacuum, nor is it the responsibility of Ministers to invent policy off the top of their heads because they feel something would be good. I may feel all sorts of exciting developments would be terrific for Manitoba but I will deal with them in an orderly way when I either ask for information and get it or when I am presented with a proposal.

I think anyone who has worked with me knows that I'm not beyond asking fairly searching questions, getting more information, analyzing a proposal, looking at the pros and cons before I make a policy recommendation and that's certainly how I intend to deal with this particular issue. Both members from Brandon have presented a lot of issues to me but in all candor, that's not one we have yet addressed.

However, I certainly thank the member for drawing it to my attention and perhaps the next time I go out to Brandon I can look at the model and I will certainly go out of my way to ask my colleagues from Brandon what they know about the proposal and what they, and indeed other Brandonites and people in that area, think of the proposal. We do have one member on the new commission who lives just outside of Brandon, has raised horses herself and I'm sure that her input as well will be very helpful.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, it's a very nice speech that the Minister has given. I would like her to, when she's asking the Members for Brandon what they think of it, it certainly, I think, would be helpful if she would establish a committee with those members or structure something that would be able to make a meaningful presentation to her and get them involved because it is of interest to that particular city, it's of

interest to the horse racing people and if that hasn't been done by the Member for Brandon West, I think there is something that she could mention to them on the side that they have let probably certain people down in their responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, I think in those remarks the Minister has made she said she has received a submission. I would like to know who she has received that submission from, No. 1. No. 2, who is the person she has appointed to the horse racing commission from the Brandon area?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the proposal has come to the department. It hasn't yet come to my consideration, that's a procedure that I'm sure you are familiar with in other departments. Irene Bauman from Minto is the member that was appointed from that area.

MR. DOWNEY: Who did the submission come from, Mr. Chairman?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, my department informs me that it came from Westbend Turf Club.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for her comments in this regard. I would look forward to, in the near future, her having her department forward to her their recommendations on the proposal that was put forward to them so that she, as the Minister who is supposed to be responsible for the department, can answer to the Legislature and the people of Manitoba. That's the process that I'm as well familiar with and I look forward in the near future to having her comments and her statements on policy as it relates to that type of facility at the Keystone Centre in Brandon. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: I have just one question to the Minister regarding that. There was a request, I guess, by the Turf Club or the Western Racing Circuit to have standard bred racing in Brandon at the Keystone — it's either a couple of years ago, I believe — and the Keystone Centre did not accept the recommendation from the Club. In other words, the Keystone Centre was not that enthusiastic or actually turned down standard bred racing for Brandon at the Keystone Centre.

You mention the request has come from the Standard Bred Association or the Brandon Turf Club. Have they resolved their problems with the Keystone Centre in that the Keystone Centre is now co-operating with them or wanting to have it? Because they can't have it if the Keystone Centre doesn't approve it, and I must say that I wasn't in Brandon either and saw the model so I'm not just sure how it's working.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, those are certainly questions that will be added to the group of questions that I would be asking on my own accord when the issue comes forward and I thank the members for raising them.

MR. JOHNSTON: There was some talk of a new

standard bred track on the east side of Winnipeg. Is that still being brought forward or has it pretty well been dropped?

MRS. SMITH: That request is not currently active.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(f)(1)—pass; 2.(a)(1) Operations, Strategic Planning, Administration—pass.
The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: If we're going to get that from the other side, we may stay with them longer. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister would just outline a little bit. There's a change; it's called Strategic Planning. I believe it was called Program Development and Technical Service. She did outline the change regarding Strategic Planning in her opening statement. When I say outline, she made reference to it. Could she give me just a bit of an outline of the change that will take place now that it's Strategic Planning?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson. I'm sure the honourable members opposite are quite familiar with the development of the Treasury Board Management Systems that were carried on during their term in office where the attempt to streamline, make more efficient and effective the government programs was making quite a lot of advance on the management side and the control side of public finance. What they identified in their studies of government was a need to develop a much stronger capacity within departments in the Strategic Planning end, because it's in the Strategic Planning that needs are identified and goals set, without which the setting of objectives and the identifying of the measures for evaluating whether these objectives are, in fact, met and therefore, the sort of basic structure which gives the Treasury Board some framework to work from and the auditors some basic discipline, if you like, some discipline framework within which they can audit effectiveness.

Those were recommendations that were in place when we assumed government and we were very pleased to see that because, as you well know, our economic program requires that we take a very careful planning approach to how much public, how much private activity there should be; what the balance should be between social and economic; what opportunities should be promoted and in what form. So, we were more than happy to endorse the creation of an ADM to be in charge of Strategic Planning and Economic Development. The task of this ADM will be not only to assist the department in developing the skills of goal-setting and objective-setting, setting evaluation criteria and carrying out their activities in a more structured way, but also to apply that type of planning to the economic development of the province. That means developing the analytical skills and the information systems that will give accurate feedback to those of us who have to make decisions.

I can identify the functions that will occur under that department; develop, monitor and revise the planning system; formulate or propose economic objectives and strategies; educate department officials in planning techniques; evaluate and consolidate functional plans; understand and propose policy instruments to meet provincial socioeconomic objec-

tives; search out and identify new economic opportunities; build on linkages between resource sectors and processing industries and initiate propositions or proposals based on selected opportunities.

MR. JOHNSTON: I think the second-last one you mentioned there was to search for industries?

MRS. SMITH: Search out and identify new economic opportunities.

MR. JOHNSTON: How does that tie in with your industrial development?

MRS. SMITH: Well, I think it would really co-ordinate very well with the industrial development. In a sense it would set the basic goals, priority sectors if you like, and then the industrial development would work within that framework. They'd provide the specialized expertise within the areas where they have the . . . Well, when we get to that section I can outline the special tasks which they would carry out.

MR. JOHNSTON: As the Minister mentions, that there was a movement afoot to have what we call a strategic planner, and as I mentioned in the opening statements that the Strategic Planning that was being looked at was to have a person or persons to advise, for example, whether a particular industry was good for Manitoba and whether the industrial development people should be continuing their efforts in that area or discontinuing them, if that may be. This is the area that particular program will come under. Is that it?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, because of our different approach to economic development, the Strategic Planning will have a wider task. They will be expected to look at both social and economic goals and to include public and private or joint investment opportunities. I would think that the emphasis in the previous organizational structure was primarily on the manufacturing and processing, and although that will continue to be the focus of the delivery programs in the department, the Strategic Planning group will, in fact, play a wider role and they will be doing some of the strategic planning for the overall economic programs of the government.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, I don't quite follow the reference to the social planning. I would assume that a strategic planner looking at an industry that is coming to Manitoba would take into consideration whether the industry was good for Manitoba with all aspects. I assumed that would be done regardless when I was looking at it. I don't quite follow the extension of social planning in this area.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I think it's perhaps because, traditionally, people have often separated business activity from social activity and we're saying that they should be looked at in conjunction; that the mix of who is employed; whether or not there is affirmative action programs for the traditionally disadvantaged; the quality of the work life; the wage rates; the health in the workplace; those types of issues, although we are not the lead department in those factors, we

nonetheless take them into account in evaluating opportunities. We see, therefore, that the capacity of the strategic planner, a person has to be able to see how these two types of objectives inter-relate and how they can be combined in an evaluation.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, wouldn't the evaluation of an industry that is being looked at in Manitoba, or Manitoba looking to have a specific industry in Manitoba, take into effect the salaries, working conditions, clean industry, all of that? I assume that all would be done with regular course. I was just having trouble with the extension of social planning that the Minister mentioned. I would be very surprised if Strategic Planning or social planning or anybody that made representation to a Minister that didn't have all of the details as to whether the business was a good one for Manitoba from a corporate point of view, salaries, environment and everything wouldn't be there. So, I really can assume that the Strategic Planning is basically as it was structured and will be doing the same thing.

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, if that's the case, well and good. We just didn't want to leave it chance and didn't see any problem with specifying it clearly and upfront.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(1)—pass; 2.(a)(2). The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: In the Technology section that remains at five people, the Director who is also the Director of The Manitoba Research Council, we'd had what we called product development engineers involved in that department before which were assigned to the Winnipeg Industrial Technology Centre. Has that remained the same?

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, the program is virtually the same, yes.

MR. JOHNSTON: Is the department still making a grant to the Electronics Technology Centre that Dr. Kismer operates at the University of Manitoba?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, yes, there is a \$50,000 grant but it doesn't appear in this part of the budget. There is still a grant being given to that activity.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, I won't dwell on it anywhere else in the budget if the Minister could tell me why it is down to \$50,000. I think we've had a grant of \$300,000 a year for two years or three years.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, there was a three-part grant, if it can be clear which one we're discussing. The three-part grant to the Faculty of Engineering started in second year '81 and this will complete the grant, total \$2,112,400 and that was a one-time grant of assistance to the faculty to assist them to measure up to the accreditation standards. The future of that grant is under negotiation with the University and with the Department of Education.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, I'm aware that the \$1 million is the final part of a three-stage grant that went to the

University Engineering Department. I guess I can wait. It probably comes up under Manitoba Research Council. There was a grant of \$300,000 a year to the Electronics Centre. There's a board set up for the Electronic Centre etc. They have their own income.

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, the Microelectronic Centre which the member is referring to is not the one that appears here under Technology Centre. It does appear under the Enterprise Manitoba accounts and there was the \$300,000, three-year total. The last payment of \$50,000 is to be made in the '82-83 period.

MR. JOHNSTON: Has there been any approach made from the University as to continuation of some funds from the Department of Economic Development or the government, to be made to the Engineering Faculty so that they can continue their work with industry in the province?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the Ministers of Education, Agriculture and myself have gone individually to speak with the University people and have also indicated to them that we wanted to co-ordinate any grants to the University. Since we were tied into the current pattern for this year, we have until next year to work out what a next step will be. As the member well knows, we feel some reluctance to go with operating grants to the University through separate departments. We'd rather co-ordinate all the operating grants through the Department of Education, and if there is to be some other relationship of grants to the University for applied technology or something that fits more tightly into Industrial Development then we could consider it. We are intending to broaden the role of the Research Council and draw in representatives of the University, industry, government and labour and see if we can get a clearer agreement on the specific roles in promoting science and technology to be carried out by each of the groups. We do recognize the value of the work done at the University in the full range of engineering and the computer departments and so on. That's where the talent and innovative people are developed that have so much to contribute to our future industrial development here in the province. So, we do realize it's in our interests to work out an appropriate system so that those people can move smoothly from their educational stage through the research stage into applying their skills and knowledge to industrial development here in Manitoba.

MR. JOHNSTON: Traditionally, the Department of Agriculture has supported the Faculty of Agriculture in the Province of Manitoba. I, quite frankly, would have liked to have had the money go through the group that handles the money for the University. But, I couldn't get any satisfactory answer that the money would go to the Engineering Department. Quite frankly, the Engineering Department was very close to losing accreditation in the Province of Manitoba because of lack of funds, and the University wasn't able to increase them to the extent that would be required. There is a very great importance for the University to be working with industry in the Province of Manitoba and all you have to do is look at where

there's any base of industry within any province, state or country. You will find that it's developed around an exceptionally good university that has the capacity to work with industry and also give their knowledge and brains, as the Minister says, to the extension and the business usually likes to come in and have the knowledge that there is a university, an Engineering Department that is going to be working directly with them. If there is no way that you can get a guarantee that money is going to the Engineering Department — I guess I could ask the Minister if she would insist — but I think that you should insist because if it gets in that mix out there at the University which I think personally is a dog's breakfast at times, I would suggest that you make a very strong effort that it get to the Engineering Faculty where it can be used to the benefit of Manitobans or the use that it was meant for. I hope that some continuation will carry on because we've had a good start there bringing the University into the business sector of the province and I wouldn't like to see it end.

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, I couldn't agree more that we want to promote the co-operation between the University and business ourselves and, as I said before, the employees, the people who will be working in all of these organizations. I submit I believe in the co-operation but I believe we can't all do one another's work and the question, therefore, is setting up a form where we can identify the range of things that need to be done and come to some clear agreement as to who does which.

I'm a little appalled at the idea of approaching the University in a co-operative spirit, meanwhile thinking under my breath that what they're doing out there is a dog's breakfast. Frankly, I'm more interested in approaching their funding and their development problems with an open ear and considerable sympathy to the kind of problems they have encountered with rapid growth in some faculties at a time when overall funding has been tapering off, indeed facing quite a reduction from the federal level. So I favour the co-operative spirit. I would like to urge and I have urged the University to be strong in its protection of some funds, where it can do basic research.

Basic research is not something that government or industry has a direct interest in, but I think we would all be the poorer in the long run if there wasn't an organization around that was doing some of that.

Now, it may be that the universities themselves, both in Manitoba and in the Western provinces, indeed across the country, are no longer going to be able to afford the luxury of every university doing research in every field. They may have to specialize somewhat more to make the best use of what is admittedly — if not a shrinking pie, a stabilizing size of economic pie — and that through thoughtful negotiation, that can be worked out. I think the task we have is to work with the university, industry, ourselves and our funding methods and work out some kind of a plan.

I agree that probably the problem you were faced with, with the Engineering Faculty being in a bit of an emergency state and not being able to work through the red tape which exists at the University the same way it does here, that probably the form of grant you

gave was wise in the circumstances.

We will be doing our best to plan what's the best way to fund in the future but I assure you that any negotiations we have are going to be carried out with a great deal of mutual respect and certainly a co-operative endeavour.

We want to ensure, I think, any funding that comes from us is at the applied end of research. We see that as our, at this point in time, as our prime responsibility. We want to get the fine new theories and technological discoveries into the form where they can actually be applied in a production situation and that will be end of the research spectrum, if you like, that I think will be our funding. At least, that would be my feeling at this point in time, that would be our prime area of responsibility. But we have yet to work out that plan.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, all I can say is that I hope the Minister works on it and gets it to a satisfactory situation. I may have been a little strong using the word, "dog breakfast," but I couldn't find any way to make sure that was going to the Engineering Faculty. I think it's very important that it does.

I don't know if the research that the Minister is talking about, but I hope she isn't saying the money would all be used in the form of inventing things; that is being done in the electronic centre in many cases. But the assistance to industry when they come across technical difficulties, the Engineering Department of the University can be of tremendous benefit to them.

MRS. SMITH: Well, I really have nothing new to say, Mr. Chairperson. I can assure you of my interest in the engineering field and my commitment to the value of industrial and computer technologies and their relevance to the development of our industry. I make that commitment very very sincerely and strongly and I'll certainly be doing my best to work out the best possible way of funding. I see my colleague, the Minister of Education, is here and she and I are in regular communication on this problem and we're going to come up with the solution that meets the criteria that our colleagues in Cabinet set. We're very very sympathetic to the University and supportive. We see it as a vital institution, all components of it.

The Business Admin course, that's another faculty that feels they've been very underfunded under the current method of allocating funds at the University. They've undergone great expansion of student population without the parallel — that they feel anyway — the parallel development in teaching materials, space and special equipment. I think they are also developing the kind of entrepreneurial management skills that we recognize as highly important to the future development of Manitoba. So I assure you that they're going to get a very sympathetic ear from us, but the question of how we best divide the limited resources is something that's going to take a lot of rigorous analysis, careful planning and I commit us to doing that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(2)—pass; 2.(a)(3).
The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: I know the position of the Mani-

toba Design Institute.

Can the Minister tell us who the members of that board are at the present time, the Chairman and the Board?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I can give you the names of the new people we have assigned, but I don't think I could recall all the existing members. Perhaps the Deputy will assist me here.

The new people, we've assigned our Deputy to replace Mr. Ian Blicq who has served very faithfully for many years. We have added Astrid Dispeau, who is a young Native artist; Ron Patrick who is an interior designer. I'll bring those names for the member tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(3)—pass; 2.(a)(4).
The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: I notice there's a reduction of two in this department and it was always being considered that the Department of Labour should probably be the department that handles this particular job, there was always discussion as to which department it should be in. Is the Department basically going to be calling on industry to assist them with — well as it says, the management of personnel, etc. and helping them to overcome problems is the reason for the reduction that the Department of Labour is taking over more of it?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, there were two people transferred out between the printed vote and our Estimates to the Regional Benefits Group so the reduction in numbers had already occurred. The task originally was not too clearly identified although it was an important area of the Human Resource development. There are three departments involved in this Human Resource development: Education deals with primary the institutionally based programs; Labour and Manpower with a lot of the other training programs, and then we had responsibility for the industry-based programs. Increasingly these functions will be under the Labour, Manpower and Education Departments and we will be working with them to see if there remains a special function for our department or not. But the current conditions seem to warrant a tightening here, until the strengthening of the Labour-Manpower function under Labour had done some further planning.

MR. JOHNSTON: Is this department still working with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and with the Hotel Association on the programs that were being developed for encouraging young people to become involved in industry? I believe the Minister knows of the brochures that are available on this.

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, the work is continuing with those and even if the functions of this section change we will ensure that that particular liaison function or co-operative function will not disappear. We'll ensure that it is done.

MR. JOHNSTON: That's fine.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, the Human Resource Management or if I'm correct this would be the human development or resource management, increasing the ability of people to service the tourist industry, the hotel-motel trade and that type of thing, is that correct?

MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the focus was more on the industrial training but the other is one component. More of that took place in the Tourism section so that the main focus of this group was with industrial training.

MR. DOWNEY: I may be asking the question in the wrong place, I had an opportunity on the weekend to discuss with a motel owner, an individual who finds it somewhat difficult to be able to attain or to hire individuals who are trained in the specific servicing of people to the type of requirement that is, I would suppose, the way it was put - to meet the kind of demand that the public want when it comes to servicing the motel industry. If I am asking this in the wrong place, then I'll wait and ask it at another time, maybe the Minister could comment. Has she been directly in contact with the motel-hotel industry to see if they do have some input into the overall development of these kinds of service people? The concern that this individual had specifically, was that it was being left pretty much to trade schools or school training rather than to have involved the industry themselves to get their specific inputs and the kinds of training that they felt were important.

The question really is, has she been in contact, or would she get in contact with the industry and ask for their input on development of resource programs?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson, probably this is more appropriately dealt with under Travel Manitoba, but I have no objection to answering the question now. Approximately \$60,000 was spent last year on training in the hospitality area. We are in touch with the hotel people. I am sure that this is an emerging field in terms of numbers of jobs and the kinds of specialties that are developing and therefore the kind of training needs that are developing. There is a very fine program out at Red River Community College which is not specifically our responsibility but it is a co-operative program between the Hotel Association and the College, where students spend part of their time at the College and part of the time placed on the job getting specific training and it's a highly sought-after program. It's a two-year program and very high prestige among students. I've been involved with counselling several who wanted to get into it and they found it difficult to get in but I know felt very rewarded by the program.

I think that in the future, this is an area of training we should take seriously. When in Montreal a month-and-a-half ago at the Canadian Tourism meetings I had an opportunity to tour the training program run by the tourism industry in Quebec. It's actually run, not by the education people, but by the Tourism Department and they run an entire hotel and a series of restaurants whereby they give very effective, on-

the-job-type training in the whole range of skills required in the hospitality industry. I think that's probably a little beyond what our ambitions would be at this point in time but I think there are components of a program like that that we can develop.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, the basic concern was that the individual who is involved in this particular business felt that they had some particular input that they would like to put into the development of these types of personnel. They felt with the overall system that was available, that just to do it at the College or to not involve the trade was not in the best interests of development of those individuals, and as I understand the Minister in her comments, she thinks there is room to expand and move in that direction. I would hope that she would contact and work out with the hotel-motel people on-job training, that type of work that would have input from those owners of facilities so that we can hit the targets with training that is needed for the service industry. That's the only comments that I have, Mr. Chairman.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, there are funds available under our Travel Manitoba program where that can be developed and I would think that in our grants to tourism organizations that this would be one type of project that I think we could consider being a high-priority item for support. I do have the names of the Design Institute here if it would be appropriate to give them.

We replaced 4 out of 12, I'll identify the new names when I come to them. The Chairperson continues to be Iain Campbell; Donna Mallon is Vice-Chair; Mr. Enns is Director; Allen Finnbogason, R. King, Carl Johnson, Dave Cannell and new members, Astrid Disbrowe, Ron Patrick, Paul Zaidman, Robert Thompson and existing member, E. Lawlor.

Also, the 1981 grant to the Hotel Association, specifically for hospitality training, I had said it was about \$60,000, it's in fact, \$65,000.00.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(4).

The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: Under the Human Resource Development, is this the area of the Department of Economic Development that works with Labour and Manpower and, I believe, Education on the program of having the industry come in and identify the jobs and positions that are available in industry to students and students can come forward and ask what jobs are available, what the future is within the different industries?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, a service such as that might well be a needed service but so far, apart from what the employment centres provide, our main contribution here has been to either Career Days in the schools or in the Career Symposium. You may have been aware that an enormously successful Career Symposium was held this year in the Convention Centre. I think it was in February, and I think they had 35,000 young people and adults, in the evening hours, go through the displays and it seemed to be a valuable

way, really, if a one day can accomplish anything, to dramatize the range of jobs available. I would say that the industrial displays, displays of industrial-type jobs, were particularly attractive to people because there was equipment there where young people could get a hands-on exposure to some of the equipment and it was excellent display material. I say it's not a sufficient way to reach out to young people but it's certainly a valuable component and I'm sure that we will be looking to see that imaginative outreach to young people continues to occur, whether it's under this program or an associated one.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, it's the Career Symposium I was referring to and this department is a department that used to represent the Department of Economic Development with other departments in the co-ordination of that and I was just asking, is this still part of the duties of this department?

MRS. SMITH: Yes it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(4)—pass; 2.(b)(1).
The Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, this appears to be a small change. Industry Trade and Development, and it provides planning and direction to industry in trade development. Provides planning and direction in industry for trade development, is that a better word for it? I wonder if the Minister could outline just what this particular group will be doing.

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson. We've structured the Industry Development and Trade Development in one section with an ADM responsible. The industry development portion is set out under six priority areas and the responsibility of the specialists in these areas is to keep in touch with the industry as it exists here in the province in those sectors to see if they're encountering difficulties or if they're considering expansions, modernizations; and also to conduct outreach to potential investors in those priority sectors. The trade group carry out that side of the manufacturing process where new trade opportunities are sought and the ability of our local businesses to find new markets, to develop their marketing skills, and to reach out to fresh opportunities is developed.

MR. JOHNSTON: Is this where the sourcing program would come under?

MRS. SMITH: That comes under Regional Benefits, Mr. Chairperson, which is 2.(b)(3).

MR. JOHNSTON: Would this be the area that, when we talk about Industry and Trade Development, the development of the Aerospace industry, the development of the garment industry, etc.

MRS. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairperson.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Chairman, there is a very great need for industry development in the aerospace industry in the Province of Manitoba. As we know, it's 10 percent, or close to 10 percent of the industry in

Canada and certainly we did not receive as much of the fighter aircraft as we would have liked; but we still have a very good chance, I believe, of getting the support of that new aircraft in Manitoba, the support of the aircraft regarding the frame and the support of the 404 General Electric engine which is in the aircraft. We have the facility in Manitoba with Bristol, who has been the support of the frame on the Voodoo, but we have not had the support of the engine in the military aircraft; it's been down in Ontario. There is an extensive drive, I guess you'd call it, by the aerospace industry in Manitoba and certainly one of the companies in Manitoba, to put themselves in a position of being able to be the support or overhaul of that engine for the F18 and the work could be done in Manitoba.

There was a co-ordination between that company and the Provincial Government. There was no funding of any kind except for a study done under Enterprise Manitoba regarding the feasibility of the expansion of engine overhaul in the province. I imagine that study has been done, and is there still a co-ordinated effort being put forward by the government and the aerospace industry, and the one company in particular, to convince the Federal Government, or let's say the Department of Defense, that we're capable of doing it in Manitoba and that we will have the opportunity to quote on it.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, there are high priority programs moving along in the aerospace field. There's a feasibility study with Bristol examining the life cycle of the new aircraft; there's a feasibility study with Standard Aero looking at the GE404 engine; looking into the helicopter blade repair area and the possibility of a helicopter plant being located here is being followed up.

MR. JOHNSTON: Not helicopters again.

MRS. SMITH: They can't really fly you know.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, I would sincerely hope that the Minister has found that the talk of the lawyer in Winnipeg that the specific helicopter that got all the news was just exactly that, talk, after a lot of work had been done by the department. I would only ask on that one that the company was being asked to present a marketing program that would have to be given to the Federal Government before they'd even look at it and we weren't going to look at it if they didn't look at it. I'm just wondering if they have presented anything to the Federal Government as yet. They promised it two years ago.

MRS. SMITH: Well, Mr. Chairperson, they are several helicopter companies that we're dealing with. I think I can guess at the one that the honourable member is referring to but it wouldn't be appropriate to name any names here. I don't know what they have done with regard to the Federal Government but, believe me we are encouraging these companies to make a thorough assessment of the factors here that are important to them and as the member well knows these periods of exploration go on for some time. But I can assure him that we are playing a co-operative role. I think I'd finished what I had to say on that matter.

MR. JOHNSTON: There was a large aircraft company looking at making a small airplane in Gimli and I'm not going to mention names either because I don't know that it's — (Interjection) — all right, Sicotte, certainly Sicotte wholly owned subsidiary of Air France and the company has had studies done with us. We've had people over to visit them in France. They've had their executives in Manitoba. They've looked over the facility of Gimli. It was not going to be the biggest in the world but they would have a small start that could lead into something better. I'm wondering if that is still a possibility.

MRS. SMITH: Il n'ya pas de developpement nouvelle a reporter, monsieur, mais nous dix coutons en cour avec cette compagnie. We're still negotiating with that company but there really are no new developments.

MR. JOHNSTON: I wouldn't have pressed it if you hadn't had the help from the other side, Madam Minister. Well, it's pretty obvious, Mr. Chairman, that the fellows on the other side have not learned that there is confidentiality when government is working with people and it's not desirable to bring it out if you don't have to. Sometimes it could harm Manitoba.

Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister if the work that is being done by Sperry Univac — they're one of the two companies that are going to have the opportunity to quote on the technical work and the computer work on the Frigate Program for the Federal Government — that was in it's very early stages and I know Sperry Univac were putting together their presentation to the Federal Government. If they were the successful people, the Sperry Univac Plant in the Province of Manitoba would receive a considerable amount of work from it. Is that still moving forward at the present time?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, that possibility is still alive and warm.

MR. JOHNSTON: Well, on the working with the Federal Government on the Defence Program, has the Minister had any contact with the Minister of Industry and Commerce in Ottawa or when in Manitoba when she's been able to present our concerns that Manitoba did not get as much of the F-18 as we would have liked and that we would certainly be looking forward to the support of the F-18 and as much of the Frigate Program as possible? I just wonder if the Minister has had the opportunity to have those discussions with the Federal Minister.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, we've met personally with the Honourable Mr. Grey, the Honourable Mr. Lapointe, the Honourable Mr. Olsen and the Honourable Mr. Lumley and you may rest assured that with each one, even if it wasn't strictly in their area, we've raised that issue and demonstrated our interest in having some of that program come here to Manitoba.

MR. JOHNSTON: Has the department identified any further new industries? There was a specific identification of industries in the transportation, in the health fields, in the agricultural industry, mainly in the food-processing industry and were identified as industries

that would be suitable for the Province of Manitoba because they would fit with our province. Are those same categories being worked on at the present time? Have there been any new ones added?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, those remain the priority sectors for our department outreach. We're also taking some interest in carrying some responsibility in the resource industries as well.

MR. JOHNSTON: Responsibility in the resource industries, is it the responsibility of the department to make the decision, or advise, or on whether the government should go into ManOil or not?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, from one of the two clones, it's catching. We have an analytical role in relation to some of the opportunities in the resource field but we're also always interested in the processing opportunities that may be associated with the basic resource industry. To that extent there is a cooperative approach to some of the studies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I understand this would be the area in which we could discuss the trade office that has been established in Mexico and the efforts that have been put forward by the Department of Economic Development to enhance the trade opportunities in Mexico and other countries. Is that office still operating, Mr. Chairman?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, it was closed last June.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has indicated that it's been closed. What particular plans do you have as Minister to spend the \$114,000 — I guess it's \$114,000 total — in that appropriation? What is your major thrust in that area and what area of industry?

MRS. SMITH: Excuse me, you jumped to the next component.

Yes, we're participating in the usual mix of exhibitions that deal with our particular priority areas of interest. There's a Western Canada Office Exhibition in Calgary in April; an Agri-component Exposition in Kansas in May; a Vancouver Furniture Show in September; there's 15 to 20 solo trade shows throughout the year in Canada and the United States; the Educational Institutional Opportunity Show here in Winnipeg in September, cost-shared with other provinces; Northern Farm Show in Minneapolis in January, 1983; the Prairie Implement Manufacturing Association Convention, Winnipeg, February, 1983; Ag-Expo in Lethbridge in March, 1983; Farm Contrex '83, Regina and a seminar in electrical and electronics in the U.S. Midwest in November of this year, plus a sales mission to Minneapolis in June of this year.

MR. DOWNEY: So really what it is, it's a matter of supporting the private sector as mainly from what I've heard, mainly to demonstrate or to show the type of industrial manufacturing that is taken in over the agri-

cultural manufacturing of industry equipment at different trade shows throughout the country; throughout the United States, basically is what the major thrust of this will be. Am I understanding that correctly?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, yes, but if opportunities emerge during the year to include public sector manufacturing components, or at least products, they would naturally be included.

MR. DOWNEY: Could she give me some examples what public sector manufacturing she's referring to?

MRS. SMITH: Well, there are some components from the telephone group and potentially from ManFor. This is not currently our primary responsibility but it could be worked in over time.

MR. DOWNEY: That's okay on this side of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. WALLY McKENZIE (Roblin-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder could the Minister advise the Committee what kind of information she and her staff are sending out to Industry and Trade Development in the province today to provide them with planning and direction which we're expending these dollars for? Would you tell them to cut down their overhead costs, fight inflation, tighten up your inventory? What kind of directives are you sending out to the industry today?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, that's the type of advice that's given on a consultant basis where someone would go and help a business analyze their particular situation; in other words their particular mix of costs, the scale of their operation, the amount of inventory they're carrying, their marketing plans and look to get the best balance. I guess the well-managed company may survive the difficulties.

Increasingly, of course, we're encountering companies that are having difficulties not because of any fault or poor management on their part but because of the macro-economic effects that we hear about every day, the tight money and the high interest and so on.

We have, I guess in connection with this and in response to the growing number of bankruptcies and people out of work, just initiated a program which really what we've done is assigned some of our existing staff to be alert to businesses in difficulty and see if they can by offering a bit of advertising, make known the services that they can give a company when it's experiencing difficulty. Then should the worst come to worse and they get to the point of considering bankruptcy, to be willing to act as a mediator; help with the refinancing if that is possible and if worst comes to worse assist employees with dealing with their situation and improving their chance of seeking out other employment. But the success of such a venture is not likely to be spectacular but we felt that the onus was on us to do what we could in the worsening economic times.

It will also give us up-to-date information on the factors that are leading to bankruptcies so that if there

are provincial solutions to these problems, we'll be more likely to target some kind of assistance. But, we're quite frank in admitting that the macro-economic policies being followed elsewhere, the sort of extent of their impact is quite beyond the power of a provincial authority to do more than just mitigate. We really can't set them into reverse.

MR. McKENZIE: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister or her department are sending out copies of the election promises that were made to industry in this province? May I ask another question and this, of course, relates to businesses that are already closed. Let's relate to the Manco problem. What kind of memos has her department sent out to the Manco plants at Rossburn and Pilot Mound who are closed today? Have you told them there's any future for the dairy industry of this province? Have you suggested to them you have a market for their cheese? Have you sent any communication of any kind because I did put a question on the Order Paper today to try and direct those people that plants are closed, they're unemployed and I'm wondering if Industry and Trade Development has any hope for those two plants?

MRS. SMITH: Yes, in fact we did file our return to that question today but I think that two of the three departments had their answer and the other didn't. We were in fact not approached by Manco though. We did have phone communication.

The co-op development was taking the lead with that group. We have today though had contact with the employee group and are looking into it.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, that concerns me, especially when all the promises . . . Let's take a look at the forestry industry. What kind of directives are you and your department sending out to the forestry industry in my constituency? Let's say Roblin Forest Products and industry, have been thriving for decades, now it's almost shut down to nil operation. What kind of directives — is there any hopes for those people that are sitting there and waiting to go back to work or is that industry being told the future looks dim, it doesn't look good at all? What is going out?

MRS. SMITH: There is a joint study going on with Countertech on the feasibility of using poplar pulp which I gather is abundant in that area for ethanol.

MR. McKENZIE: This is lumber I'm talking about.

MRS. SMITH: Well, I suppose the future of the lumber industry will depend on the construction industry moving again. Now provincially we're increasing our capital construction beyond the levels that they were at before. The holding back on the construction of housing has been a result of an abdication, in my opinion, by the Federal Government of any responsibility in that field. The policies that they've applied to the housing sector have really allowed that industry almost to die. As I say, we're committed to doing what's within provincial range of options. I think the future for the forest industry, we're going to have to be much more strategic in our marketing. How much lumber can reasonably be absorbed in the housing

industry of the future? To what extent are we going to have to convert our forest industry into producing what the market does call for?

We've also put in for a very extensive study on the ManFor facility to see if there is a product that can be developed there that will meet the market needs of the future. These are long-term changes; they're costly conversions, but we're committed to doing the prudent, the careful and the farsighted thing with regard to those industries.

MR. McKENZIE: Well, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, the pulp industry hasn't complained to me, as I sit here tonight, they're still cutting reasonable amounts of pulp and it's being transported to the market, but the problem is in the lumbering industry.

I'm wondering, will the Minister screw up her courage and tell Roblin Forest Products tool up, the first of June we're going to build 10,000 houses in this province. Has she met with the federal counterparts? Have you agreed that we're going to go and start to build 20,000 homes and say, boys get back to work June 1st, this program is going to be on the rails and we're going to build some houses in this province or has that not gone out yet?

MRS. SMITH: I think the member, unless he didn't ever quite understand what was going on in his own government's budget, realizes that to do that as a province, unilaterally, without a Federal Government behind you to assist with mortgage monies, is an enormous Capital expenditure. It doesn't mean it shouldn't be done, but I think the pace at which we can responsibly move into housing without federal support for mortgage monies is slow; it's not going to be on the scale that we would like it. Now we've been doing our lobbying to change the Federal Government's approach, but they're caught up in a reaction to the recession/depression that we find ourselves in by cutting way back on the housing; they said it's a frill. Now our Party has been loud and out front at the federal level, as well as at the provincial, saying housing is a social right and should be organized so that the public funding of mortgages and construction should be such that the need is met, that the total industry and people's needs are put together and a steady building program is going on.

But as I've said on many occasions, we are not the Federal Government, we cannot spring loose funds of that order, we cannot change their priorities - at least in the short run we haven't been able to - and, therefore, the realm of choice we have here in the province is narrower. Now we are going to step up provincial construction rates, but it's not going to be the magic or immediate cure. We don't have that capacity; we're doing what we feel we reasonably can. When the question of how much the public should spend and how much Capital investment there should be comes to the fore I expect that the member will recall his urging us to move holus-bolus into rapid building of houses. I wish we could find a way that wouldn't build up such an unacceptable level of deficit that we would be jeopardizing the long-term future.

I sympathize with the frustration. I think one of the problems that's surfacing now is that people in industries have sort of trusted that it would all work out

somehow but they haven't questioned why it didn't. What is it in the system that's causing this kind of extreme dislocation? What are the cures? I submit that a more interventionist and planning approach by both Federal and Provincial Government are necessary components to the answer, but at the provincial level we cannot do the whole thing as well as we would like.

MR. McKENZIE: We're back to square one, Mr. Chairman. We didn't make those kind of promises the last election; you did and now you can't deliver it. So I'll go back and tell Roblin Forest Products to put their tools away and, as I gather from this Committee, there's not much hope for their industry coming back on stream this year, that while they'll maybe sell a few board feet - and that's only one of the . . .

May I ask the Minister on, like gasohols, a classic example - I've burnt the fuel in my car, it works well - are you intending to expand that industry in our province?

MRS. SMITH: Yes.

MR. McKENZIE: Can you tell me where and when?

MRS. SMITH: No. The feasibility studies are being done on that issue right now, it looks very promising. The member must realize that these changes in an economy are not accomplished overnight. It took a long time for the thing to get where it's at and we cannot, overnight, restore the housing industry to its former level of activity. There were years when very little was put into that industry and I wish we had inherited a much more vibrant and active industry in the province, but we haven't. There's no sense crying over spilt milk. We have to pick up where we're at and build as responsibly and strongly as we can.

I don't recall promising overnight miracles. I remember promising a slow, steady, consultative approach and a building on a different set of principles and that is what we're engaged in doing.

MR. McKENZIE: Can I ask the Minister, it's at the feasibility stage, do I understand it, now? Why can't you use the feasibility study that's already in place? The Minnedosa plant has proved, beyond all shadow of doubt, it's an excellent operation, the product is excellent; I use it in my car, excellent performance. Just pattern it on that and start building them because the raw product is all over this province, it's only a matter of moving ahead. Energy costs being what it is today, and as long as the government is prepared to leave the taxes off, I suspect the day will come that we'll be utilizing more.

May I ask her what studies or what the department has done utilizing the wood chips for alcohol and producing energy?

MRS. SMITH: Well, I think the member has stumbled on the answer to the question he posed. Why have we not gone for expanding the Minnedosa plant? They are using barley and barley is a food which we think should be used, unless there's no other option, as a food.

The program that we're supporting at present is

working with poplar pulp and the virtue - I guess someone who's a little closer to the detail would have to tell me whether poplar pulp and wood chip, if we're referring to identical processes, but I suspect they're not too different - the virtue of the poplar is that there's a great deal of it, that it can be grown in, what they call, a silva culture way where you let the young tree grow - I'm not sure whether the first growth is a year or two - and then you cut it and it will repeat this rapid growth four or five times over before giving up the effort and you have to replant. The feasibility study is working out the detail of the best method of growing and cropping that product and also the most efficient way of converting it to ethynol.

MR. McKENZIE: One last question, Mr. Chairman. I wonder will the Minister - she's now talking about the feasibility of utilizing that resource - will she give me the assurance, or the dairy industry, that her department will do a feasibility study on what's wrong with the cheese market in this province and why can't we sell a food and, again, a food product, surplus good cheese, the best cheese I've ever tasted, out of these plants and we can't sell it; they're closed up. In the next year, would you assure me that your department will take a look at that industry, and see where whoever's gone wrong, I don't care who it is, and see if they can't get it back on the rails again?

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, the retailing of food is not a matter that I've been spending much time on in this department, but in a previous activity of mine where we were looking at the horizontal integration of the food business, we found that very often a local product, however good it might be, might not be able to get itself markets, because the food retailing in the province is increasingly dominated by very few firms which take these basic products and their process products from their sources, which may in fact not only be out of the province, but out of the country. Because we've allowed the whole food industry, if you like, to develop in this way, our capacity to break in for a particular product where we have a good-quality product is often limited. I regret that I haven't personally gone into this particular issue in greater detail. Well, it's an inherited problem - but I don't really cast blame on the previous government for leaving it to us but I do serve notice that we're going to attempt to overcome the problem - that there are many activities in the province that seem to relate to several departments or none. There are overlaps and gaps and that often produces a delay, a less than efficient response to particular problems. I know that one of the difficulties we were encountering with the cheese group, or that one of my colleagues was telling me about, was that there wasn't a single message coming from them, there were several messages, and there seemed to be some disagreement at the local level. But I admit to not knowing the detail on it and apart from that general comment about the food retail business, I really don't care to comment further.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, if the member hadn't put on the record this inherited problem, that would have been my last question. I can't accept that in any way shape or form. There's been governments com-

ing and going; I've sat here with five Premiers and I'm fed up with listening to Ministers of this government saying they inherited problems from the other government.

Historically, governments in the past, when they take office, that's their job to take over and I have in my time heard very few complaints until this government took office, about the past. May I ask her and her department; food, cheese, it's a surplus item in this province; under Trade Development, will you look at it and take a study and see if you can't move some of the surplus cheese? Like the Minister agrees, there's a lot of people hungry in this world tonight. We have a surplus product in this province; cheese, good cheese, and you mean to tell me you can't sell it. I don't buy that.

MRS. SMITH: I respect the member for his willingness to speak from the heart about a local issue that is frustrating, and I submit that the economic difficulties that are occurring all over this province are not only frustrating, they're terrifying, because in their cumulative effect, we can find that not only in this province but in this country, which probably has more plenty than virtually any other country in the world, somehow we haven't managed to organize our economic affairs so that people can produce and distribute and consume in some kind of orderly way. What I give my commitment to is building a more orderly process.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, it's been somewhat - I don't know just what words to use - but it's almost frightening to hear the Minister of Economic Development sit here and suggest that all those problems that we're now facing are unsolvable. As we look back prior to the 17th of November, there were certain commitments made and promises made by the now Premier of the Province that all these problems would not come about; that people could be assured they wouldn't lose their businesses, homes or farms; that he was going to reverse the interest rate policies and that there would be no bankruptcies. Now we've heard the Minister say that there are interest rate problems that she can't do anything about even though they do have an Interest Rate Relief Program, there's a growing number of bankruptcies, that she is now establishing a committee to try and assist those people who are being laid off or who are becoming unemployed. Where was she, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, where was she when the Manco plants were closing several months ago? I've asked the Minister of Agriculture why they didn't develop a committee between Agriculture, Economic Development and Co-operative Development to assist in those businesses that were having extreme difficulty, but only now is she saying that they should establish a committee to assist those people who are becoming unemployed.

I have a direct question for the Minister, Mr. Chairman: how many people have become unemployed in all segments of the industrial sector, whether it be in agriculture, whether it be in mining, whether it be in cheese plants or food processing since the 17th of November? I would suggest that it's staggering, the

number of people that have become unemployed; those very people that they committed to, not to having a government that would not allow their jobs to be lost. She's done absolutely nothing, Mr. Chairman, but now try and do some fed-bashing and say that if they had a different housing policy everything would be okay as far as the wood industry is concerned. I would say, Mr. Chairman, that she's admitting failure and that they've broken their election promises and can't, in fact, do anything about it.

Does she support as well, Mr. Chairman, the move that was made by the Manco workers at Pilot Mound to take 15 percent less for wages to keep that plant viable and operating? Does she not think it's time she made a recommendation to labour in this country that they back off and take some of the blows that the society is facing? Does she expect that the farm community who are now being asked to take less money for their milk to keep the cheese plant viable, or does she think that everybody in society should take just a little bit less to keep the whole system going? Apparently not, Mr. Chairman, when she was a member of a Cabinet who raised the minimum wage to \$4.00 an hour regardless of whether, in fact, there was anymore productivity put into the system.

I would think this Minister of Economic Development should come forward with some positive suggestions other than just to blame the former administration. As well, for the Minister's information, the gasohol program in this province was started by economic climate that was put in place by the last administration, removing the road tax so they could use barley, and for the Honourable Minister's information, I know she's concerned about using food and food products to produce alcohol. Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, if she wants to look at some of the historical facts and figures in this country, in the 1920s some 20 percent of North America was used to produce oats to produce horsepower, not unlike what is being proposed with the production of alcohol to produce horsepower for tractors. So, I don't think it's a great sin to use farm-produced goods to encourage price increases to add to the fuels that are to power the engines for producing a fuel. I think it's a good move to use agriculture commodities, barley, to encourage and enhance the incomes of the farmers. We aren't in a starving situation; plus the fact, through you, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, that the by-product of the alcohol industry, the gasohol production, can go into the food industry for beef cattle, hogs, to produce red meats. So, really we're only using the starches off the barley that are in surplus in the world today. We're not using the proteins. I think it would do her good to take a look at some of the facts and the way in which this province and this industry operates.

As well, Mr. Chairman, I've asked the Minister several questions. What has she done, through her or her department, or through the Department of Agriculture or the Co-operative Development as a committee, to recommend to the Federal Government that they restrict some of the imported cheese that's coming into Canada? Under the current trade negotiations there is some 50 million pounds of cheese allowed to come into Canada. Has she made representation to the Federal Government to suggest that

they lower that particular number so that we could have viable cheese industries and plants in this province, all areas that should be addressed by her as Economic Development Minister? I think we have a tremendous opportunity within the whole area of food processing and development of our export goods not only in agriculture machinery but also in the food industry. And I think they should work hand-in-glove with the Department of Agriculture to enhance the processing and marketing opportunities.

But, Mr. Chairman, again through you to the Minister, I think that her with her interest rate policies, in combination with the Minister of Agriculture, with the numbers of growing bankruptcies, the numbers - the hundreds, the thousands of people that have lost their jobs since the 17th of November is disgraceful, to say the least. That's being kind to a Minister who went to the people saying that there wouldn't be anybody losing their jobs, homes or businesses. That was a commitment that was made, Mr. Chairman, and I would hope the Minister would do a little bit more than blame the Federal Government policies on housing; to blame the Federal Government's policies on the economic climate that is created. She's now saying we're in a recession, that we're in a depression. I think, Mr. Chairman, that it's time that the Pawley government stood up and were counted on their election promises. I think it's a disgrace that we've seen two cheese plants go broke under her direction; nothing done for the employees, the dairy producers; nothing done to tell the Federal Government we should restrict the amount of cheese that's coming into this country under the current conditions. We would have done that, Mr. Chairman, given the opportunity of having that kind of difficulty develop.

I said in the Agricultural Estimates we put together, work towards the development of sales for that particular company's cheese. We're voting funds for a Minister who is sitting here giving us a bunch of fluff, Mr. Chairman, nothing more than a bunch of fluff and I think it's disgusting.

MRS. SMITH: Mr. Chairperson, I feel that somehow the member is making a good case for something that we've been talking about for years and that's the need for some kind of orderly approach to production, marketing, processing, distribution and also, let it be said, some sort of orderly approach to minimum wage so that the people who need the cheese and the milk and so on have the money in their pockets to purchase it. I think our approach to the economy recognizes that these balances between milk prices, cheese prices, the prices people have to pay, what organizations exist to distribute cheese are issues that have to be looked at in a whole. There has to be someone or some group with the responsibility to balance out the respective needs of the producers, the processors, the distributors and the consumers. I submit, Mr. Chairperson, that what we've had is an economy that did not have that sort of overall balanced approach either here at the provincial level or at the federal level. Consequently, what we've walked into is an economy that's creaking and showing the results, if you like, of that kind of abdication from economic responsibility at all levels.

Now, I know that the members opposite believe,

and I presume, sincerely, that there is some kind of balancing forces at work - at least I think that's what they believe - if government perhaps didn't exist, if minimum wages weren't, and if we just left things to this sort of magical working out of untrammelled market forces; if that's not what they believe, then I would like to hear what kind of public intervention or planning or balancing role they see. We, quite frankly, do believe in the planning and balancing role, but you do not balance out a multitude of factors overnight when you've inherited a system that's buzzing along in a downhill route in many cases with a lot of imbalances in it. It takes time to work out the adjustments; you have to make a choice as to which ones are the most important to deal with. We have chosen a strategy to deal on one side with emergency programs that help those that are most vulnerable in the difficult times.

I submit that something like minimum wage, if you have ever tried to live on a minimum wage in our society, the increases we have made are not princely. Those people have to pay rent; they have to buy food; they have to buy clothing. We're interested in a balancing . . .

A MEMBER: But often they lose because they don't produce more for the person that's paying them.

MRS. SMITH: . . . but you see, that's an assumption and I for one am not prepared just to take the face-value arguments on that. I worked for years productively as many other women in our society have at home for no pay, and we were productive but we were productive in a way that the public accounts never measured. Now, there are other people who are working in the economy who, I think, by virtue of being human beings who are working in an economic endeavour deserve for the hours of work they put in in a day, a decent wage so that they can have a fair share of the total society's goods. And I don't believe that the kind of society I want to live in is one where those benefits are spread around on the basis in which the market forces distribute them. I think that we have to intervene as a political group to remedy, first of all, the worst sufferings, the worst inequities, then to move with our emergency programs and then to gradually put in place the structural changes which over time we think can keep more of the basic wealth and resource here in Manitoba, develop it better and distribute it better. That's our intention, and we certainly have never fooled one another into thinking it's a quick and easy process; it is not.

I submit that we are moving along the path carefully; we are not flying off at tangents and trying to solve every problem that's beyond our means. We're being very realistic and careful and thoughtful, and we're looking at how things connect up, because what we want are healthy industries, healthy communities and if times are tough we want that the poorest, weakest members of the society don't go under. We don't think they're dispensable, we think they're important and have a right to be included and to be assisted to weather the storm. Because, believe me, when they fall way behind they're not giving up the luxuries like you and I might when our paycheque doesn't stretch so far. They're having to give up just

the basic necessities of nutritious food, and safe, let alone, pleasant and attractive housing.

Now, our kind of program can't be implemented overnight. I submit that we're doing it in a responsible and careful planned way and we will continue to do just that.

I move committee rise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise

SUPPLY — HEALTH

MR. CHAIRMAN, Jerry T. Storie (Flin Flon): The Committee will come to order, continuing with the Health Estimates.

The Honourable Member for Fort Garry I believe has some comments to finish up.

MR. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I believe in keeping with past practice and custom. I have a few moments left in which to conclude my response to the Minister's opening statement and appreciate the opportunity just to make one or two points.

I was dealing at the time of the break for Private Members' Hour with the responsibility that I believe rests with Provincial Health Ministers to work together and help take the lead to improve the base for health care services and health care service delivery in Canada in the face of some considerable threats and some considerable dangers arising from, not only the inflexibility that has crept into the system in many ways but from the economic conditions that we face in the country.

I want to just refer to one or two specifics as I conclude my remarks. I might say in doing so that I was very pleased to hear from the Minister with respect to his commitment to program expansions and reinforcements in the department and under the insured program spectrum of the Manitoba Health Services Commission. Certainly they appear promising and reassuring insofar as the strengthening of health services to Manitobans are concerned and I'll be interested in exploring the details with him as we get deeper into his Estimates.

I was also pleased to hear him express his commitment to long-term planning and to budget increases in Community Health Services and to health education programs as an integral part of long-term planning. I must say I can't agree with the Minister's comment that he discovered in moving into the office that although I had talked about long-term planning and the need for it during my remarks in the Throne Speech Debate, that he hadn't seen any evidence of it in the office. In fact, I want to assure him that we worked very hard to develop a long-term planning capability. We, in fact, during the time I was Minister, conducted a cross-Canada search, a nation-wide search for a long-term planner. They're not easy to find. A long-term planner in the health field has to be a combination health economist, social planner, accountant and a person with some experience in building and design and a person with a sense for the demographics of the age; the changing age-ratios of the population and some considerable working experience with the different components and dynamics

that make up the whole health care field.

We in fact interviewed a possible applicant from Ontario, we pursued a possible candidate in Alberta; we were not successful in locating in the time that we had available to us, a long-term planning executive director who we felt could do the job, take on the challenge that faces us here in that area in Manitoba, that anybody coming into the position with whom we had been able to come into contact was someone who was going to need two years or more, either in the experience of the Manitoba health system or simply in the experience in the science of health economics and health care planning generally. As a consequence, the search sort of foundered on that frustration temporarily, but we were continually in discussion with the Health Services Commission and the community health side and public health side of our department to work out the mechanics and the concept of long-term planning as against operational planning, and I can assure the Minister that a great deal of effort, energy and initiative had been applied to that whether there was such a capability in place or not. It was certainly my ambition to see such a capability in place as quickly as possible.

Mr. Chairman, the obvious challenges facing the health care system are the challenges that confront us with respect to the changing age of our society, changing age demographics, the aging of the population, geriatric medicine, for one; the restiveness and disenchantment of some of the medical profession under some of the rigidities of the Medicare system, for two; and specialty shortages, manpower shortages in a number of medical specialties such as anaesthesiology and ophthalmology and psychiatry, for three. But really, behind all of those, Mr. Chairman, there is one identifiable major challenge which all of us, not only in this Chamber but all of us in Canada, must get at if we're going to preserve and strengthen our system and that is the absolute requirement to modernize the system. That begins with a reform of the hospital system.

I believe and I'm sure that the Minister does, that there are many things that could be done to improve Medicare — and I speak there specifically of Medicare, the medical care services side of the insured health programming spectrum and many things that could be done to improve health care delivery in general — if we could bring some reform and modernization to the hospital component which, of course, is the biggest component in the whole system and the most expensive.

So I think really we have to look beyond some of the surface and superficial difficulties and superficial solutions that have been offered both by governments and by health care professionals if we're going to really solve the problem that's confronting us. It's been pointed out by many health commentators and experts, the most recent being Professor Richard Bird in a contemporary article in Policy Options Magazine, that although expenditures on health care in Canada in terms of a percentage of our gross national expenditure, have remained fairly constant through the 1970's and certainly have not diminished. The cost of health care services has gone up enormously and much faster than the prices and costs of other components of the economy have.

As a consequence when we talk about the threat of increasing costs, expanding costs in the health care field, we're not engaging merely in rhetoric. It is real. It is real because it's costing government more to deliver the health services that are contained in the overall health programming spectrum. I believe the main challenge we face is to get at a reform and a modernization of the hospital system and I would hope the Minister, his advisors and his colleagues are looking towards that kind of an objective in the immediate future. I certainly hope to and intend to discuss that issue with him as we examine his Estimates in detail.

Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for his opening statement. I'll look forward to the study of these Estimates and I express again my satisfaction both with the personnel who worked for the public of Manitoba under the aegis of the Minister of Health and with the references that he has made to some program expansions contemplated for '82-83.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, my brief remarks will maybe not be helpful to the Committee but I think they should be put in the record for especially those that are new members in the Chamber and there is not many of us left.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Minister of Health on a point of order.

HON. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Excuse me. I don't object if the member is going to speak but I think we should remember the tradition that we've had that on this issue it's been a statement from the Minister and a statement from the official critic of the government side and then we've gone line by line. I certainly don't object if the member wants to speak at this time providing that not every single member feels that this is a debate that we'll stay on this forever. That is why we put the Minister's Salary at the very end. I don't object if he has anything as long as we follow tradition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The opportunity, of course, is there for every member to speak when we return to this item at the end of the Estimates.

Item No. 1.(2) Salaries — the Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. ABE KOVNATS (Niakwa): Mr. Chairman, on the same Point of Order I think that far-reaching debate can follow on Item 1.(a)(2) which is Salaries which includes the Deputy Minister and people of that nature. Almost everything is covered in that nature but I don't think that without the Honourable Minister's staff to assist him that we can get into great detail. But I think that if you want to cover a very wide-reaching area that even under a Point of Order it can be followed under the next item.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the Honourable Minister would like to bring in his staff at this time.

MR. DESJARDINS: That might be acceptable. I wasn't protesting too much as long as we did not start another tradition, that's the only point that I had.

Now I think the member is right, you can stretch things under Administration but I would hope that we will go line by line and then keep certain things for the Minister's Salary but I think we should be fairly lax as long as nobody abuses the time of the Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item No. 1.(a)(2) Salaries — the Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I thank the members of the Committee for their advice. I shall not be very long. But as I said in my comments earlier I think it should be spelled out especially to the new members of the Legislature and the present Minister of Health, who have done a most able job and the former government and the present Minister and others in this room well recall the costs of Medicare when the system was first brought into this province. I think, as I recall, it was \$25 million for the Federal Government and \$25 million to the province and there was a fee and etc., etc. but the costs have escalated and today we're going through these Estimates and we're looking at some \$913 million. So I just hope that all the members of the Legislature and especially the new members, recognize the amount of dollars that are expended for Health in this province and that they should make their contribution to the Minister and to the Committee to make sure that these dollars are well-expended.

Certainly, before I commend the former Minister, certainly we didn't solve all the problems of Health when he was the Minister, but he certainly improved the health care delivery system at Ethelbert. That's a new pilot-type of project that the Minister will likely be watching very carefully, but now that jurisdiction has left the area that I represent, but it certainly was working well when I left.

The other problem today, Mr. Chairman, when I heard the Minister make his opening remarks and I refer back to this mandate or whatever you call it, "A Clear Choice for Manitobans, Policies of the Party." I'm watching very carefully - which we are in Opposition every day - to make certain that this government lives up to all the pledges and promises that they made to the people of this province. I very quickly looked over some of the problems that are ongoing in my constituency and the Minister, and I understand his reasoning that he has to advise Gilbert Plains, Grandview that, as he said here, "I must advise that the Health Service Commission Capital Program for the next five years is still under review, active review by the government." But the tragedy is, Mr. Chairman, and to members of the Committee, this is not what they said in this historic document that I have in my hand and which was spelled all over Manitoba. That's going to create not only problems for this Committee, it's going to create real problems for this Minister because of the fact that these jurisdictions have been waiting for months for a meeting with Grandview and Gilbert Plains, have historically been waiting since December to meet with this Minister about matters which they think are of an urgent importance in the health delivery system in their jurisdiction; unfortu-

nately, as of the 8th of April, the Minister says, "My present schedule will not permit a personal meeting with you."

I understand the Minister's problems very thoroughly. I understand the problems that he's having with the doctors; I understand the problems that he has in reviewing these Estimates and going through them very thoroughly to make sure that he can, as a Minister, justify. But I wonder why this party and this Leader that they have opposite would go out and make all these statements and allegations and charges to the people of this province. Well, I want to put it in the record because I didn't promise it. I'm not the one that made these statements. I didn't put them in black and white, neither did my former Minister because we had some responsibility and understanding of what is expected of the people of this province and I just want to put on the record the concerns of the people in my constituency who are now pledged. It says here: "Manitoba Democrats would restore the health care system." Now can this Minister, or the former Minister, ever stand up in this House and tell me that the health care system in this province was ever destroyed when we're spending \$913 million and last year we expended \$732 million. —(Interjection)— No, I didn't make that statement; it was your party over there that made those statements.

It goes on here and says: "Increased spending on preventative care will eventually bring down our health bill by eliminating costly treatment for health problems that can be stopped early." This Minister is asking us to expend another \$188 million and this government. Mr. Chairman, that's not fair. Either that document should be withdrawn and the public of this province should be told it's not feasible and it's not realistic; and I hope the Minister will tell me and the committee that it's not fair to go and make all these pledges and promises to the people of this province because he can't deliver it. He's delivering, I'm sure, and there will be no problems with us approving the expenditures which the Minister put in the record today, and he's got a most difficult job, and I wish him well.

But I wonder why, in the left-wing philosophy and policies of this party that is sitting across there and is now the government of the day, would go and make those, I don't think they're fair statements, they're not fair statements to the health delivery system in this province because, as I said earlier, that Minister, when he was in government before did a commendable job and I don't think there is any member on our side of the House would ever say anything ill about the way he handled the portfolio. He handled it well; he expended the dollars well. So did this Minister, Mr. Sherman, the Member for Fort Garry. But to come out with all this junk in this manifesto that I have in my hand tonight I think is a disaster and it's an insult to the health delivery citizen; it's an insult to that Minister when he was government; it's an insult to this Minister when he was government because it ain't that way, it ain't that way. As one of the members who has been sitting around this Legislature for a long time, I'm most concerned about this ideological philosophy of members opposite, when we're spending \$913 million and come up with this kind of garbage in a manifesto, which goes on to say: "Quality health care would be

made available throughout the province." Can you believe that, Mr. Minister, that is in a manifesto that was around this province the last election campaign? Unbelievable. As a member that sat in this House since 1966, that's an insult to you, Mr. Minister; it's an insult to that Minister; it's an insult to the taxpayers of this province. I just want it put on the record, as a member that's been here a long time, surely the people of this province are smarter than that and understand when we're spending those kind of dollars that, in fact, quality health care could be made available through the province. Certainly there's problems in the north. I still have problems in Roblin today to keep doctors there. The Minister knows that; the former Minister knows that. But, I think with the number of dollars that we're spending and the resources that we have, this province has had good health care. The Minister sitting there today when he was Minister before has had good health care, the best we can afford and I wish him well for the future, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I believe that even the former Chairman of the Committee will feel that this is stretching things quite a bit. We could cover practically everything under these Salaries on their administration but certainly not the Manitoba Health Services Commission in the Capital Program. But, I'm thankful that the honourable member spoke as he did so early. I'm ready to play by any rules. We can look and we can scrutinize and I can give the information as best I can but we can have a gloves-off political battle right from the start. I'm easy. I'll accept any challenge. I don't know how well I'll do but I'll accept any challenge.

I want to set the member straight. I did not write these things. Collectively, I accept responsibility. I would hope that you realize you lost that election, and quit playing in the past. I'm not going rise to the bait every time you wave that thing like you've been doing the last three months. I'm not concerned about that too much. There's a lot of things that people can say during an election on all sides. In the field of health it's easy because nobody'll ever get perfection, no matter who. You can always do more so, it's very easy to do that. I didn't see exactly what the member was driving at about the personal care home and so on. We will have policies. The commitments that we made, I feel if they're good commitments, we'll follow; if not, I will advise my Cabinet that we should not deliver. I'm not going to be sucked in doing something which I feel is not right. I'm going to advise my Cabinet that we should not fulfill a promise even if it's a promise that we made. So far in the Department of Health I can't see any of those. We said that we would work on the Dental Program. We will. I'll resist the temptation of going all over the waterfront at this time but I think we should know exactly where we stand early in this debate. I'm ready to discuss the Dental Program. We've made some commitments there. We've made some commitments under Pharmacare and other programs to do certain services for the senior citizens as the Member for Fort Garry and former Minister said when probably the thing that is really facing us is around the turn of the century and starting around now, is the increase in senior citizens in the percentage of the people of Manitoba. I don't care to debate

this at this time. We could go on forever. As I said I won't rise to debate.

But, maybe I've got a little more experience than some others but I will not be tempted into rehashing another election. That election took place. It's finished. We could bring any piece of campaign literature and we can make a case. Anybody can do that; I've done the same thing when I've sat on the other side. I don't blame you people for doing it but I won't play your game. So, don't waste your time. You can do it on other Ministers if they let you, but I won't play this game. I'll give you as much information as I can on this thing. I'll try to be factual; I'll try to be honest; I'll give you my point of view. I might agree with you, I might not agree with you, but I hope that we don't waste time in this futile exercise. I don't think that's what the Estimate is for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(a)(2)—pass; 1.(a)(3) Other Expenditures—pass.

The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Chairman, all I would ask at this point is, would the Honourable Minister introduce the two members of his staff that are sitting with him? I understand one is Mr. Reg Edwards and I don't know the other chap but, I would hope that he would introduce his two staff and give us a little bit of the background as to their high school background just so that we could understand which is which.

MR. DESJARDINS: I would be very pleased to. To my left is my Deputy Minister and Chief Executive Director of The Manitoba Health Services Commission. His high school, he's too old. I don't know what school he went to — (Interjection) — I understand that you're his age and you went to school with him. That's what you were driving at. Well, you finally have proof that you did attend school because here's somebody that went to school with you. He's been working for the government - how many years Fred? - 25 years. I think I said that we were very fortunate to have him. I know that other provinces have tried to attract him and he doesn't like me to say anything like that. I personally feel very comfortable with him. He's somebody that I trust implicitly and I note that he has the welfare of the people of Manitoba at heart.

To my right is our Director of Administration, he would be the ADM of Administration, Mr. Frank Maynard, who's been with the department quite a few years. I think that the former Minister brought him into this new position when there was a division of the former one department and it became two departments. Peter Smith went with Community Services. He stayed with both departments for awhile, then with Community Services and Frank came with us and we're very happy to have him. He's done an excellent job, I hope he's done an excellent job with this book that I have in front of me and I'll tell you at the end of the Estimates and I'll tell him too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 1.(3)—pass. We're dealing with Item 2 — Administrative Services. 2.(a)(1) Salaries — the Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there have been sub-

stantial changes made in the administrative structure of the Department of Health arising out of the separation of the two departments, the splitting of the Department of Health and Community Services into Health and a separate Community Services Department. I wonder if the Minister could advise me whether the positions in respect to the new Administrative Services Division in Health have all been filled. I know he supplied me with a listing this afternoon of positions and vacancies but I'd appreciate some reassurance from him that change which required a splitting out from Community Services of a cadre of administrative services personnel under Mr. Frank Maynard has been completed and, if so, has it been completed without any required increase in the establishments of the two departments, Health and Community Services.

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that's a concern that we had and I'm sure that the former Minister had that same concern. We decided to have the Deputy Minister of both departments get together and they were instructed that if this was going to work we either would keep the same staff as was done before or we would not accept any additional staff or very little additional staff. Now all the positions except one, I think, has been filled and there is repetition or duplication. I think that we've done very well in dividing the staff. Doing the same work, the member will notice on this paper that I gave him, that there were 19 last year and 19 this year and I'm told that, although I wasn't here during the Estimates of the Department of Community Services, that the same thing was applicable for that department also.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm not sure whether this question falls properly under this line or actually fell under the preceding line and should have been asked then but part of the difficulty arises from the fact that the Estimates are laid out differently this year than they were last year for obvious reasons. I would ask the Minister where is the Program Planning section, there used to be a section in the Estimates identified as Program Planning.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to draw the attention to page 72 the same No. 2. that we're looking at, the very last one, (g) Research, this is the Planning component that we're going to get together.

MR. SHERMAN: So, 2.(g) Research incorporates what was Program Planning. Mr. Chairman, I'd have a number of questions to ask about Planning which I will then deal with when we get to Research. I would just ask the Minister whether that includes long-range planning? Does that Section (g) encompass long-range planning or is long-range planning under the Manitoba Health Services Commission?

MR. DESJARDINS: I could elaborate a little more under this area but to make sure that we cover this there will be at least a 4 staff man year that will be transferred from the Manitoba Health Services Commission to the Research component and most of the Planning and Research will be there. I'd like to inform the Committee and the member that this is just in the

form, we haven't got a Director of Research at this time either. We are looking for one and we're going to advertise this position fairly soon and start looking but the intent is to get under research to combine the planning, as much as possible, not so much the planning construction, that will definitely stay with the Manitoba Health Services Commission but the planning for the actual programs and so on, most of it will be done here with the Directors of Program, what program is affected, of course.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. MCKENZIE: We've mislaid our copies of the Annual Report, are there extra copies?

MR. DESJARDINS: The one that's available, I haven't got any spare copy at this time, was just the one from last year. The one from this year has not been filed yet. It's '81, we just finished '81. The former Minister will remember that the 1980-81 was tabled in June last year. The 1981-82 was just finished and it will take a while before it is . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(1). The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: 2.(a)(1) is all right, that's Salaries, Mr. Chairman..

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(1)—pass. 2.(a)(2) Other Expenditures.

MR. SHERMAN: 2.(a)(2) The Other Expenditures item, Mr. Chairman. The Minister made reference in his opening statement to the Immunization Monitoring System, I wonder if he could update the Committee on where that stands. There was a program that, of course, had been developed and implemented but it was being done so in phases. Is part of the expenditure requested for this year an expenditure that goes to an expansion of the phasing of that system?

MR. DESJARDINS: If the member would be willing to bring this up under the Medical Public Health?

MR. SHERMAN: Medical Public Health?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(a)(2) Other Expenditures—pass. 2.(b) Personnel and Administrative Studies, 2.(b)(1) Salaries—pass; 2.(b)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; 2.(c) Management and Analytical Services, 2.(c)(1) Salaries—pass; 2.(c)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; (c)—pass; Page 72, Item 2.(d)(1) Statistics, Salaries—pass; 2.(d)(2)—pass; (d)—pass; 2.(e)(1) Health Education and Professional Development, Salaries.

The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there's not a great deal of difference in the appropriation requested for Salaries under this item in '82-83 as against '81-82, but I think that there are certainly some differences in function. Does this Health Education and Professional Development Branch encompass Professional Development for the whole department, e.g. the train-

ing of psychiatric nurses, mental health workers and the like, which formerly appeared under a different section of the Estimates?

MR. DESJARDINS: No, those programs are not covered here at all. There's been very little change, if any change, the same staff and so on pretty well doing the same work.

Excuse me, the training that you have, of course, includes the management and staff training and I think that was like done previously.

MR. SHERMAN: The Minister advises me that the training includes management and staff training, but where then would the training of the psychiatric nurses and mental health workers appear? The Mental Health Services section is laid out in the Estimates this year which is different from the way it has been laid out in the past. It doesn't specifically make reference to any of that kind of professional training.

MR. DESJARDINS: This will be under one of the Mental Health sections. Professional Training, Mental Health, 4.(a)(3). That's where you'll find it, on Page 74.

MR. SHERMAN: Oh, I see. All right, thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, that training occurs under Professional Training, 4.(a)(3). On this one the Salaries item is all right, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(e)(1)—pass; 2.(e)(2) Other Expenditures — the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: What are the programs encompassed in the Other Expenditures? I know that there have been immunization programs and the like that have been promoted in the past, Mr. Chairman, and of course V.D. awareness campaigns, campaigns of that nature, but there has also been considerable thought given in recent years to some lifestyle programs and senior citizens programs.

Could the Minister advise the Committee as to what the Health Education spectrum is going to include this year under this \$273,000 requested vote?

MR. DESJARDINS: Any programs for Senior Citizens would be under Research Grants. These are the ordinary things that you have, the publications, the films to reach the people with different types of Health Education programs and this year there has been a mass media emphasis on non-smoking, which is some of the things that you're talking about, lifestyle, no smoking and also initiating feasibility of setting up school clinics on teen pregnancy. I have here, there's been a \$74,600-increase and that represents \$25,800, \$20,000 of that refundable from Federal Government for the pilot project related for a feasibility study of family planning for teenagers, adolescent clinic in the Winnipeg school area. The school-based training operated in the Ramsay County, St. Paul, Minnesota, has been highly successful in terms of the reduction of teenage pregnancy and this clinic has been in operation for the past eight years. At this stage, the department is interested in the pilot project and will review recommendation at the appropriate time to determine if this could work here in Manitoba.

There's \$10,000, as I said, allocated to anti-smoking campaigns and the \$18,800 remaining related to the price increase for publication, printing costs, new films for the film library, equipment, freight, subscription and so on.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, did the Minister include an immunization program in there? I have one or two other questions on the same item, but let me just ask him that to begin with.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, not the program of immunization, but the publicity, the education and so on certainly would be in here.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister referred to certain lifestyle programs. There was consideration being given to the development of some mass media programming aimed at senior citizens which was going to consist of distribution, for example, of the Seniors' Handbook and various other methods of communication that had been proposed by the Council on Aging. Is that included in this appropriation?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, that'll be under Research Grants and the Council on Aging could be discussed at that time.

MR. SHERMAN: The other point I wanted to raise with the Minister, Mr. Chairman, he may have already mentioned it in his earlier comments, but if he did, I missed it.

There was an intention at least, to pursue a federal grant in the family planning area in order to operate a pilot project in family planning at a school in Winnipeg which is to be based on a model developed in Minnesota, I believe, and was to take the form of a Winnipeg school-based adolescent health clinic aimed basically at the problem of teenage pregnancies and family planning education. That was envisioned at the time as I recall as a Health Education item. Is that included in the appropriation we're looking at?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I think the member was busy getting his notes in order because I did mention that. I mentioned it was the first program that I spoke of, that's \$25,800 and \$20,000 of that will come back from the feds. We're looking at the pilot project to see if it'll work here in Manitoba.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(e)(2)—pass — the Honourable Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. GERRIE HAMMOND (Kirkfield Park): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I was just interested in that Family Planning Program and the pilot project. How exactly will that be introduced? Will it be introduced into a number of schools or into one division or how exactly is that introduced?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, if we decide to work with this it would be set probably at one school, an adolescent clinic, used as a pilot project and if it works, it might come in more schools and you'll enlarge the program to cover as many people, as many parts of the prov-

ince as possible, but the intention would be a pilot project as an adolescent clinic in one of the schools.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, when the Minister mentions the word "clinic," is that as it sounds or is this just a program right within the division, like it would come right out of, say if it was No. 1 Winnipeg, they would run a clinic or would this be attached to a school? I'm just not quite sure what this is.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the member said: "Is it 'clinic' the way it sounds?" I think I understand the question. If you're thinking of "clinic" with people in white smocks running all over the place and so on, and sick people, it's not that type of clinic. It would be in a school where the lectures and education would be given to these people to try to help them out with that problem.

MRS. HAMMOND: The other think I wanted to ask about was the smoking. Are they having any luck in reducing the teen-age smoking, especially where it pertains to girls, which seems to have been on the rise in the past few years, and is there any way that the department is able to keep tabs on that sort of thing? How is it working and is it successful? Do they need to take another tack?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, as far as Manitoba is concerned, I think it's a little early to have this. Smoking, especially with the young girls, is still up. As I said, we intend to spend some money to have an anti-smoking campaign promoting the campaign and from the work that has been done by the Federal Government in the past year I think there is a big improvement although we have a long way to go on this. You've seen some of the advertising and so on. I think that there is a demand; that people were at one time were pretty well afraid or embarrassed to say: "I don't smoke." Now people are insisting and I think, if nothing else, the people that aren't smoking are fighting and standing up for their rights. You'll find that in restaurants, they're looking at the possibility of bringing in legislation that there would be a non-smoking area in a restaurant, on planes and in areas like that.

The people that we work with on this, the people who are really concerned, the members of the Smoking and Health Manitoba Council on Smoking, would be the Lung Association, Cancer Society, Heart Foundation and Health Education Branch. I think the medical profession is doing an awful lot of work in the area. I have never been told as many times to quit smoking. I keep saying I'll put on more and more weight and they say: "Go ahead, smoking is worse." I've never seen as much as we've seen in the last few years of people going in that direction and insisting on their rights. Now, this is something fairly new in the campaign; we hope it will work and I hope that if you pass this money, if you allow me this money, next year I'll tell you all about it.

MRS. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, I realize it seems to be working with adults because more and more adults seem to be smartening up and quitting smoking. If you just look around your neighborhood, if you're ever near the schools, more and

more teen-age girls seem to be smoking and I don't know what the reason for that is particularly, but if we could get back into the schools. There seemed to be a program a number of years ago when my children certainly were younger that seemed to be scaring everyone off smoking, and whether that fell off or if they just got used to it, I don't know. But I do believe that the schools certainly are the place to aim, and possibly you may get together with the Minister of Education because I understand that some of the schools have smoking rooms, which I think is ludicrous, in some of the divisions. I really do feel that's one spot that probably could be legislated right just from within the Department of Education I would think.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, part of the plan is certainly aimed at teen-age girls. I think that the member has identified one of the areas that is a major problem and I would thank the member for her advice. This is something that we've set up, an interdepartmental committee, with the Minister of Education, myself and the Minister of Community Services. We want to bring in a lot of these areas, for instance, junk food in schools and many of these areas, and the recreation fitness, eating habits and all those things. We want to look at that and we certainly will bring this situation up. I was not aware that they had smoking rooms in schools; that is a complete surprise to me and I'll certainly discuss it with the Minister of Education.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MRS. CHARLOTTE OLESON (Gladstone): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Back to this program on teen-age pregnancy, I'm wondering if this, within the schools, is going to be an ongoing program in a curriculum. Is it going to be a one-shot during the year? Is it going to be done by specialists or are classroom teachers going to be trained to do this clinic?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, to the member, a pilot project determines these things. A pilot project means that you're trying it out and if it works or you might find out that it works in a certain area and not in another area that you should modify it, and right now it's only a pilot project. I hope that it will work and then it would become a service that the department would render and deliver to all Manitobans.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(e)(2)—pass; (e)—pass; 2.(f)(1) Salaries — the Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Between (e) and (f), I would like to ask a question. Could the Minister advise us, Mr. Chairman, where Pharmaceutical Services are this year and where is the Drug Standards and Therapeutics Committee? I ask the question for obvious reasons. The Estimates are laid out in a different way and they don't appear in this year's print.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I thank the member for bringing this to my attention. The position of the pharmacist, Mr. Brown, has been transferred to the

Manitoba Health Services Commission. The Commission delivers Pharmacare and it was felt that it would be easier for him to work in that area, so that will come out when we look at Pharmacare under the Commission's program.

MR. SHERMAN: So, Mr. Chairman, does the Drug Standards and Therapeutics Committee come under that item too?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Continuing with Item No. 2.(f)(1), Salaries — the Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: There's an increase of one staff man year I see, Mr. Chairman, in Medical Supplies and Home Care Equipment. What position is that?

MR. DESJARDINS: The . . . Support System Program will expand to include rural Manitoba and this is where we need that new staff man year to permit this expansion.

MR. SHERMAN: Is this the Home Oxygen Support Program?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(f)(1)—pass.

2.(f)(2) Other Expenditures — the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: I wonder if the Minister could provide the committee, Mr. Chairman, with a breakdown — I don't mean a printed breakdown — but just for discussion purposes in this committee of the \$449,000 — if I'm reading it right — I think it's a \$449,000 increase in the appropriation presumably devoted to the different types of home care equipment and medical supplies meeting the various programs under this branch. Could the Minister give us an outline of that list and those expenditures?

MR. DESJARDINS: I'll start giving you last year and this year and then, Mr. Chairman, if the members of the committee want more detailed information of any program, I'll try to do this. The general home care equipment '81-82 is 165.4 thousand, this year 256.8; standard wheelchairs, 75.6, this year 149.5; motorized wheelchairs, last year 53, this year 104; Osteotomy Supply Programs, 237.6, 358.8; respiratory support systems, 38.4, 104; warehousing, delivery, general office, 150.8, this year 165.2; for an increase of 449 or 56 percent.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's a fairly substantial increase requested for both categories of wheelchairs, standard and motorized. Could the Minister comment on that fact? My recollection may be faulty, but it seemed to me that we had reached a point where we had, if anything, an over-supply of standard wheelchairs, and certainly there was an increase in demand each year for motorized

wheelchairs, but if memory serves me, it seems we were substantially supplied in standard wheelchairs and, in fact, they were not all in use. Does the increase in the vote mean that there is a suddenly expanded request for standard wheelchairs as well as motorized or is it a matter of replacing existing stock that is worn out?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, it's a bit of both. First of all, the replacement, 1982-83, is 200 standard wheelchairs, 50 additional units and 20 more motorized wheelchairs. I might inform the members of the committee that apparently last year's increase did not appear, the cost has gone up quite a bit. The increase had been 50 additional standard units at \$500 each, that's \$25,000.00. The price increase during 1981-82 which has not been budgeted for was 71.4. I guess they didn't know what the cost would be. We're allowing 15 percent for '82-83 or 21.2; that makes up 124.9 for the wheelchairs. The standard wheelchair on loan, as of December 31, 1981, we had 3,535; in stock 333. Motorized wheelchairs on loan, 131; in stock, nil. So, like the member said, that's where the biggest need is.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, do most of these increases in the equipment expenditures under Medical Supplies and Home Care Equipment reflect increased caseload, increased demand or simply increased costs — the cost price factor and the inflationary factor?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, there is certainly some replacement, some increase in volume, but the main thing is the increase in price. The increase in price, the devaluation of the dollar, many of these things are — I think there is a product of petroleum which is very costly. Well, as I said, the caseload is increased also; it's a combination of everything.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, on the Osteotomy Program for example, Mr. Chairman, would the caseload as of the beginning of this calendar year, January 1, 1982, be significantly greater than the caseload one year earlier?

MR. DESJARDINS: The caseload on that is only about 5 percent and that would be 15,000, but the price increase during '81 which is past, which we know, was 25 percent for 59.4; and the allowance for price increase, we are allowing 15 percent this time which would be 46.8 for a total of 121.2.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister where we stand on the home oxygen supply system, the respiratory support systems. He has made some reference and answered one or two questions with respect to it earlier which were questions that were actually raised in relation to another item, perhaps inadvertently. There was some discussion in recent months of a reasonably significant expansion of this program, and the Minister in his opening statement, advised the committee that service is being expanded. Could he report to the committee in a little fuller detail? He made reference to expansion in his opening statement. I think that the program did serve a fairly limited number of Manitobans, of course,

there would be a fairly limited number relatively speaking who required that kind of service, but certainly the service was not able in its earlier form to reach all those persons in Manitoba who could be helped by a home oxygen support system. The caseload was somewhere around 25 or 30 of Manitobans being served by the program. Is the expansion that the Minister has referred to sufficient to expand that caseload? Will there be a significant number of Manitobans requiring home oxygen support service who now will be able to get it?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the member knows that we can't do everything in the one year. The intention now is to expand, what I announced is the expansion in rural Manitoba. Now, in the past, the people in the rural area received mask and tubing but they had to buy their own oxygen. Now the intention is to buy 20 units at approximately \$3,000 per unit; 20 units at \$3,000 would give us \$60,000 and an allowance of 5.6 percent allowing for price increase. Now, I don't think we'll cover all Manitobans but at least we're going in a direction to expand in the rural area which wasn't covered before. For added information, we have 48 units at this time; so, if we're asking for 20 more, that's a pretty good increase.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, I thank the Minister for that information, Mr. Chairman, that puts it in perspective. Those figures are very helpful.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(f)(2)—pass — the Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a couple of questions of the Minister on (f)(1) and (2) in this regard. I also noted that there was a very heavy increase in Other Expenditures, almost \$5 million, but it's been explained and I understand that. But what I would like to go back to is the wheelchairs and I go back to the Canadian Ukrainian Veterans, Branch 141, who have projects of supplying wheelchairs to people who require these wheelchairs. I was wondering whether the Canadian Ukrainian Vets, it was one of their big projects, and they did one hell of a good job over the years. Have they withdrawn this type of assistance to the government of the Province of Manitoba, or are we just expanding to the point where they can't keep up with the supply that they normally would give to the government through these projects that they have, or have they just decided that they're not going to be involved with the government or these wheelchair projects at this point?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to tell the member that they're not involved with the government. They're rendering a service but they're not delivering anything for the government. I don't think that we know too much about them; I can't get that much information, but there are other groups such as that or nonprofit organizations that do these kinds of work. Now, there's an awful lot of people that need wheelchairs; you have a lot of handicapped people. There's an area, for instance, one of the concerns that the former Minister will remember of people going into personal care homes; they had to buy their own

wheelchairs. If they had home care, we would try to provide them with a wheelchair but if they were admitted into a personal care home then the family or themselves bought the wheelchairs. So I would imagine that there is room for government and I, for one, would welcome other people that want to participate and help us. It's not an empire that I want to jealously safeguard and say hands off. The more that other nonprofit organizations can help us in this field, I think, it makes a better province and better people. I think that those that are fortunate enough to be able to help others should be encouraged. So we are not discouraging that at all and I'm told that there is certainly no duplication. The former Minister has said himself that there is less, we're only getting 50 more wheelchairs and the population we have is not that much. Motorized wheelchairs is something else; those are quite costly. We'll try to find out though, I thank the member for bringing this to our attention. I've never heard of this program by this group, I'll try to find out from our staff.

MR. KOVNATS: Thank you to the Minister. I think that there are many groups around the Province of Manitoba who are doing worthwhile projects similar to this and it's just not only in the wheelchairs but I was wondering whether, in fact, we can get some of these groups to be interested in assisting in the home oxygen delivery service also to help defray the costs to the Province of Manitoba because these volunteers are looking for worthwhile projects. Now, just to go a little bit further on the oxygen delivery system, I was wondering whether the Honourable Minister can advise whether, in fact, we have expanded our assistance to people who are travelling through the Province of Manitoba who do require oxygen or refill of oxygen tanks when they're travelling through on summer vacation or just travelling through in this regard. Do we have a program that would come under this home delivery service or is it a special program that's different from this home delivery service altogether?

MR. DESJARDINS: This is quite a sophisticated program; the equipment is expensive. It's not everybody that knows how to handle it and besides that sometimes it could be practically life and death. You have to rely on it and there are a lot of other things that we could have volunteers do, but I think we'd prefer to handle that program ourselves at this time. I think we would be asking for trouble. But if you have any volunteers, I tell my honourable friend, let us know because we have a lot of programs, we can put them to work in many areas.

MR. KOVNATS: Just to go back a little ways, I recall not too long ago being at the Winnipeg Arena and seeing a person taking a heart attack and expiring right there in a matter of minutes. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation was tried and couldn't revive the person that passed away. When the ambulance service did arrive, I can recall some mention made that if there was some oxygen service there that there was half a chance that this person who had taken the heart attack might have survived. Now, I know that there was nobody who was trained to give this oxygen at

this particular location but could a program be set up where there could be people trained, particularly in the City of Winnipeg. I don't think that we could to expand to the rural area at this point, but could we not have a program something like that where there were facilities available at locations around the city? If it saves one or two lives, I think it's worth it. Has anything of that nature been discussed through the Department of Health?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there are two areas. I think the St. John Ambulance will do some of the work, will train some of these people; the Manitoba Health Services Commission will also and this year, I think, when under the former government there was a certain amount of money — it was last year — put aside for the Immediate Response with the City of Winnipeg to retrain and train some of these people. I think there will be a special unit, Immediate Response, that'll be operated by the Fire Department and we've agreed to give them — I'll add that under the ambulance service if you can be patient — but it's a fairly large sum that will go exactly to train these kind of people. But in an area such as the arena, the people at the arena will have to accept the responsibility of doctor attendance and that kind of service; they should have that with the city. We'll do everything we can to try to provide training and that kind of thing, but the responsibility should be theirs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: To the Honourable Minister, I say thank you, because as long as these things are being looked at and not just pushed to the side, you know, one or two lives are of some importance.

I just have one other point and it's just a matter of asking the Minister where I can ask this; it's concerning volunteers. I mentioned the Canadian Ukrainian Vets where they have volunteers that help to raise money for wheelchairs, and I didn't finally get an answer on people who are travelling through the province who require refills of oxygen. Is there a service for them to get this refill of oxygen as they're travelling through the province, would it be part of Manitoba Medical? Would there be an additional cost to them? Is it well advertised? Do people know that they are able to receive this type of service as they're going through our Province of Manitoba; friendly Manitoba, you know, come to us we'll give you free oxygen as you're going through?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the information that I received, we have nothing to do with these things as such. If I understand the question, somebody that comes in from another province going through, he would have to go to the local suppliers. There are people that are supplying oxygen and he would have to his tank refilled, but I don't imagine they're too difficult to find, the suppliers. There are quite a few because you use that for many reasons.

MR. KOVNATS: As long as it's available, I don't care whether they have to buy it or not. As long as it's available, and they know that it's available, so that they know it's friendly Manitoba and these services

can be provided.

Now, one more question. It's just a matter of asking the Minister where I could ask this question. It's concerning volunteers who help with the Meals on Wheels and go and visit different senior citizens' homes, and the cost of transportation and them supplying, just offering their services, has increased to the point where it's starting to become a hardship on some of these volunteers. Is there any service available where these volunteers can be compensated, at least, just for their carfare, their taxi fare or some gas mileage for them to go and assist and be volunteers? Is there any way that they can be compensated or be given some concession on riding the Manitoba Transit or Winnipeg Transit or anything of that nature? The Honourable Minister doesn't have to answer it now if he can tell me at a point where I can ask that type of a question.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, we can talk about volunteers when we come in Community Health, Regional Personal Services. There are all kinds of volunteers needed in that area. I'm sure that under personal care homes also, we can talk about that because we'll talk about home care — well, home care will be covered under Regional Personal Services — but home care also, because many of these services like Meals on Wheels, the Buddy System or the One Call a Day and those kind of services, are delivered by volunteers. Now, I am told that there's no area, that we have no programs as yet where we pay anything to volunteers, even the expenses. I think the volunteers are expected to — right now, some of the nonprofit organizations might do that by hiring volunteers and maybe provide a car under certain areas or give them a few bucks for cars. I understand the concern of my honourable friend, but this is a very difficult program if we start doing that, you know, where the administration would be very difficult, and it could run quite high.

MR. KOVNATS: Yes, just one more point then. If the Honourable Minister could just keep it in mind where he could make some arrangements with the City of Winnipeg to allow the people who do volunteer — and I don't know how you would distinguish them one from another — to travel on the Winnipeg Transit, if that's what it is still called — Winnipeg Electric — no, I guess that's more than two or three years ago, it's been changed — but if there's any way that these volunteers could be given just that slightest concession so that it doesn't cost them any extra money, because a lot of them are old age pensioners themselves, and it wouldn't cost them any extra money just to volunteer their services and be of help in this community today.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I'm told that we've never had any complaints about volunteers that wanted to be paid. Now, the — (Interjection) — well, yes, the expenses. Mr. Chairman, I think that the member identified a certain area with the City of Winnipeg. The City of Winnipeg, unfortunately, anytime you think, you don't dare make too many suggestions because they'll say fine, but it'll cost you so much money. Now, they are strapped. They have to raise the

taxes also and one of the areas is the bus transportation system. They're losing money. This year, this government — this is not my department but I happen to be on the Urban Affairs Committee — gave certain grants to the city. Most of them were block funding but there was a specific area where we said, you don't raise the price of the bus, and that has kept the fare down much lower because they felt that this was a way and they weren't too happy with us. They felt that this was an area where they could get some revenue and we wouldn't allow it or we would make that grant. We insisted that was earmarked for a special thing, and I think that you know that senior citizens can get a special pass and have a lower rate than other people; but that's the City of Winnipeg, that's their kindness, not us.

MR. KOVNATS: Well, I was just hoping. I knew that the Honourable Minister was correct in saying that when they make negotiations to give the City of Winnipeg some extra monies or some funding, they made the arrangements that there wouldn't be any increases, but I thought maybe when they were doing such a thing, that they could also look after these volunteers. But you are right concerning the senior citizens. I remember my dad at 92 years of age, before he passed away, used to go into the bus and show his identification card, and I think it cost him 10 cents plus identification card, and he would always show it. I would ask him why, and he says, "Well, you've got to prove you're that age." And at 92, I said, "Dad, he knows you're that age." He says, "But that's the rules." And I remembered so vividly. Thank you to the Honourable Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(f)(2)—pass — The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, there is a program that supplied physically disabled, physically handicapped people, basically wheelchair citizens, that is contracted for from a private firm that supplies an orderly service; essentially, it's a male nurse's aide service. I don't recall, I'd ask the Minister to refresh my memory as to whether that is contracted for under Medical Supplies and Home Care Equipment or whether it comes under the opposite, Continuing Care?

MR. DESJARDINS: You're contracting for the service and that would be under Home Care.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, on the same general subject, there was consideration given to development of a Spinal Cord Injured Supply Program. I'm not asking the Minister to spend more money. He and the government are asking for approval to spend \$913 million in Health Care and that constitutes a full third of the total provincial Budget. Certainly one has to be realistic about available financial resources, but in the prioritization of programming for his department was consideration given to a Spinal Cord Injured Supply Program and, if so, one has to assume that it certainly didn't make the priority list for this year. That being the case, is there consideration being given to that program on an ongoing basis or some modification

being developed whereby it might be practical to introduce it at an early stage in the future?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this is a very interesting and important subject. This is something that we'd like to do but we found that was something that the previous government had looked at, had not made a decision on that, and we felt there was no planning capacity at the time in the department, no central planning unit that could develop the criteria that would assist in prioritizing the certain proposal. It's quite difficult now and we have all kinds of them. I could name them: there's been the spinal cord injury that the member is talking about, the mini-lung, cystic fibrosis and there's all kinds of them. We wouldn't want to make just an emotional response or let a pressure group decide which one we're going to push. So this is something that we'll be looking at in the plan. You try to set up a thing that will prioritize for us, and as the member knows, there are only so many dollars and we've got to do the things that we've started. I would hope that some day I can come here and say that: "Hey, I'm cancelling this program, I've have something better." You don't see that too often in departments; we always want new things. It's something that we certainly would be very interested in but unfortunately we didn't have the funds to put into this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(f)(2) pass; (f)—pass.

2.(g) Research: 2.(g)(1) Salaries — the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the staffing list for the department with which the Minister supplied me shows a request for one additional staff man year under this branch, Research. The Salaries appropriation represents a fairly substantial increase, certainly on a percentage basis, \$157,000 being asked as against \$117,000.00 I'm not suggesting for a moment that a researcher of competence might not be worth \$40,000 but if that's the case then the other five personnel who make up the complement of this branch are certainly paid at a substantially lower level. I wonder if the Minister could explain the increase in SMYs for the department. What will that person be and the difference in the salaries requested other than the normal incremental increase or is the increase entirely just a normal incremental increase?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I think that with the form that I gave the honourable member, he will see there will be an increase from five to six; that one increase will be the director, that increase in Salaries represent the increment and also that salary of the additional staff man year. It will be four of them, there are about four or five in the department who will be brought in, in different areas of the department, the planning. We've asked the Manitoba Health Services Commission to identify some of them. There will be at least be four from the Manitoba Health Services Commission that will come in and there's one that the former Minister had in his office, the Minister himself, that will be a transfer there, so we will have at least nine or ten people to start with the Director. We have a certain amount of money. I know that we have to be

careful, if you're farming certain things out, if you contract things out, but I think that is a necessity.

The member awhile ago mentioned how difficult it was to get somebody in research and I agree with him. If you're going to be too fussy and if you're going to look at all the qualifications, maybe you'll never find one. I think that you have to have a team approach, you have to have a director that can get these people to work together and then in certain areas you might need something just for a special one-shot deal. I think that it's a good idea to have term people at certain times in a special program and also to have a certain amount of money that you can do something, then you're not stuck with a staff man year that you've got to find a place later on and, unfortunately, that happens too often with civil servants, that you have people and if they're permanent.

There is one Director of Planning; there'll be a Researcher — I said Minister, yes, I give that and four presently in the department and four from the Manitoba Health Services Commission, and \$84,000 in contract money.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree with the Minister in the position that he takes with respect to term positions for a capability such as research and planning. I would hope that there would be a group of planners and researchers who would head up and initiate the searches for various answers, various solutions and various objectives but that cadre would feel free to go out into the community and recruit the expertise that it needed on a part-time basis to supply the information, the knowledge, the background and the experience that any good research and planning project requires. So I would agree, there should certainly be some provision for term employment. I don't see that though in the staff man year breakdown that the Minister gave me, Mr. Chairman. I don't see any provision for term employees under the Research category. I wonder if the Minister could expand on that or explain that apparent anomaly.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, if I understand the question, the member is absolutely right. You saw they had five last year, now they are only going to have six and that position will be the Director, but there are four that are presently being paid under the Manitoba Health Services Commission who will be working with us. There is no intention of changing the pay of the staff; they will all still be with the Commission. There are four in the department also. Presently in the department there is one that was in the Minister's office that will go, so that's nine. There will be in certain areas, certain things, other people will be seconded from the department and outside department, if need be, from the Department of Community Services or Education. I would want to set up the Planning Committee that we had in the Minister's office. I think that it worked well with my style of operation anyway. We would work in this area and, of course, if you're talking, for instance, about planning in Ambulance, you would go and get somebody at the Commission that is working in that program so you would have somebody on the administration side that would look at the cost, what was done in other provinces, and so on. You would have somebody that would

have to deliver the program, would have an input on that, and then you would have the planners and, if need be, I'd say you would second to other people.

Now it might be that I'll come back next year, that you will see an increase and we will transfer these people permanently from the Commission. We're not that sure if we're going to keep the Commission. I guess we have the same concern that the member had a few years ago. I don't know if we'll make any change, but we're looking at that also at this time, but the team will be there. The team will be at least 8, 9, or approximately 10 permanent, plus those that are second, plus that money to engage people to contract certain things out.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, could the Minister describe for the Committee at least the nature of the jobs currently held by the personnel in the Health Services Commission who are going to be on this planning committee? In other words — (Interjection) — And some vacant ones? Well, I think it's very important that we — obviously there will be a planning capability at the Commission. There has to be, but basically that's an operational planning capability. I think what the Minister and I have talked about and agreed upon in various exchanges across the floor to the last little while, Mr. Chairman, is that we need a long-term planning capability in Health. This is not to denigrate the capability of the Commission to do operational planning in any way, but there is a difference between the two types of planning as the Minister would readily admit. Can he advise the Committee who the Commission personnel are, not necessarily by name, but by qualification or capability or present category who will be coming into this long-term planning cadre?

MR. DESJARDINS: On the Commission, there will be two vacant positions that will be reassigned, an economist and a nurse.

Maybe I could read a statement that I have on that: "The Department of Health and Manitoba Health Services Commission propose to establish a joint, long-term planning and Research Secretariat. This will combine the research and planning capacity of the department and that of Manitoba Health Services Commission using existing staff. It has become evident that their fragmented and independent planning functions can not provide the cohesion of an integrated approach required to best serve the urgent needs for health related policy analysis and planning. What we need is an overall approach to program planning, instructed staff to identify staff man years within the Commission . . ." and that has been done ". . . and the department which when added to new resource to be added this year, will result in the significant resource for the development of long-term planning and policy development." The construction part of it will not be part of that . . . That will stay where it . . . "The Planning Secretariat will assist us in developing criteria for powerizing proposals for program development and will then be able to deal more effectively with meeting the needs in the various areas of service for the elderly, preventative health services, mental health services for children and so on. In addition, the Planning Secretariat will be

responsible for the policy-realization assessment program effectiveness evaluation, will also assist in preparing policy analysis and will assist the department in operational planning and evaluation." And we intend to work more closely in certain areas with other departments and we might second; for instance, it might be in an area that was mentioned just a while ago with the Department of Education, and we'd have people working on certain projects that would come from there in that area.

Now part of the other program, you know, it's like a jigsaw puzzle. The more pieces you have, the closer you get to a true picture. Now we are going to probably look for a person in charge of gerontology for the department. That certainly will play a part in some planning anyway, especially when you're dealing with senior citizens, psychiatry and mental health. The Minister will know how difficult it is, how poor the situation is — has been for the last four, five, six years — we're going to try and improve that. They certainly will play some part. You talk about the planning wouldn't be complete without talking about that. We use Dr. Johnson in that area also as one of the medical consultants.

I think the main thing, and maybe this is where the misunderstanding occurs, the member seemed to be a little hurt that I said there wasn't any planning. I think it was the co-ordinating of the planning. I think that no doubt there was some planning, but it was piecemeal and I think it has to be co-ordinated. We hope it'll be successful. We know it's a difficult thing, but this is what we're trying to do, to co-ordinate that and make it more cohesive and be able to plan better for long-range planning.

MR. SHERMAN: Will that Planning Secretariat work out of the office of the Minister or the office of the Deputy Minister, Mr. Chairman or will it be located somewhere else?

MR. DESJARDINS: There will be a Director of Research, the same as we have there, and I think the man would be dealing directly with the Deputy Minister but we don't have that concern between the Deputy Minister and the Minister, if we can get away from this House and do the things we want to do and settle the MMA situation. I think that we, as I said, we want to work closely with a Planning Committee and I want to take a very active part in that also.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, will the Committee or Secretariat for Planning work in close liaison with the Manitoba Health Research Council? There were a number of recommendations that emanated from the first report of the — excuse me, I said the Manitoba Health Research Council, I meant the Manitoba Council on Aging — although I want to ask about the Health Research Council too, but I want back up half a line, Mr. Chairman, in my remarks. I meant to say the Manitoba Council on Aging.

There were a number of recommendations that emanated from the council's first report. Some related specifically to needs for particular types of gerontological services and facilities, others having to do with the requirement for availability of information on various health and social service programs for the elderly

and design requirements, both in terms of transportation and in terms of elderly persons' housing and a whole range of such recommendations. Will the Planning Secretariat be working with the Council on Aging to explore and pursue recommendations of that kind?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, yes, very much so. I'm talking about the Manitoba Council on Aging. The first one, what was it that you mentioned? — (Interjection)— Yes, the Research Council is something more scientific, it's not quite the same thing. If there is any need for it we certainly will but I would like to add, I don't to mislead the member, the Manitoba Council on Aging, we're looking at the whole thing now, all the different groups. There is the Society of Seniors that have had problems, there is the Council on Aging and we don't want to duplicate a thing, we want to try to work either that advisory committee, use that maybe in a different way, or I think we need kind of an umbrella group to deal with all these groups. We can't go and fund all of those and that is under review. But the person that was assigned, the liaison between the Manitoba Council on Aging as you probably know resigned a few months ago and we're placing that on the Provincial Gerontologist. I approved that today, we will advertise for that now. He will be working for the province in that field especially and if we keep this the way it is, he would be a liaison also but he will do more than that. So definitely there will be an awful lot of planning in that area and any advisory group we have or other groups like that with certain expertise will certainly play a large role and will work with us on that.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased to hear the Minister's announcement that he has designated a position of Provincial Gerontologist and the government will be seeking a candidate to fill that position. I certainly welcome that initiative, but there is sort of a disjointed network of bodies and committees that are engaged in various forms of planning at the present time. There is a Standing Committee on Medical Manpower; there is a Standing Committee on Nursing Manpower; the Council on Aging; the Manitoba Health Research Council, although that is a slightly different matter because it's more scientific as the Minister points out or more scientifically oriented. There are different official and quasi-official bodies of that kind. There is a Health Manpower Committee, not only of the Western provinces, but a national Health Manpower Committee in which we have representation. All of these committees and bodies have responsibilities for pursuing questions that are exclusive of each other in many ways but they're all very relevant to the whole subject of health care planning for the 1990s and for the 21st Century.

Is it the intention of the Minister to maintain those individual planning bodies to pursue their own specific targets or does he foresee the evolution of this Planning Secretariat into a planning group that would take on all those assignments; that would look, for example, at the field of health manpower; that would look, for example, at the field of nursing manpower; that would look, for example, at the field of, well, let's just say fiscal requirements in medical research, or

will there still be these individual bodies doing their individual work?

MR. DESJARDINS: The concept, the idea will still exist, we are not going to replace these groups that the member is talking about, mostly advisory. They go a little further than just the advisory capacity, but they are advisory committee and the planners and the Director of Planning would co-ordinate that and would certainly work with them as much as possible. Now, I say one will not replace the other but I certainly intend to look at all that. There are some that I'm sure if my honourable friend were to come back in this position he would want to do the same thing. There are some at times you might want to cancel others and then you will have to create others in other areas of need. I would hope that we will co-ordinate that.

I'm a little concerned about these things. I think that we have to try to co-ordinate that because sometimes you have people that are interested in certain areas and they start this group. I'm not going to name any but I have a few that could cause maybe problems fairly soon, they want to push in an area, and that becomes very important. They have a role; you need these militant people but as the Minister of Health I'm sure that you will understand that we have the responsibility of all the people in the province, we have to prioritize, we can't just go with those that are more militant that are pushing a little more. So we would want to co-ordinate that as much as possible and then if we have something from any of these groups, we certainly would have the research of working with them, not replacing them.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has embarked now on a search for the particular personnel that he wants to fill this long-range planning complement. He's looking for a director for that component. —(Interjection)— That's a chronic ongoing perennial search. In the meantime he has indicated that these other planning groups and bodies that I've referred to are carrying on with their normal function, their normal responsibilities and that they will continue to exist in the future but the whole exercise will be co-ordinated. There will be close liaison between the individual bodies to which we referred and the overall planning directorate. So I'd like to ask him specifically now where we stand with respect, for example, to the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower. Is it functioning within the parameters and is it pursuing the objectives that were in its terms of reference? Is it operating the way it was intended to operate or have there been some changes and modifications made where that committee is concerned? I would like to ask him that, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask him what the results have been in a tangible way, if indeed they have been tangible, of the efforts of the Standing Committee of Medical Manpower and the previous government to meet and resolve some of the manpower shortages in specific medical specialties in this province, one of them being anaesthesiology in particular. It's only one, we face urgent requirements to address shortages in at least four specialties, as the Minister knows, including ophthalmology, radiology, psychiatry and perhaps some others.

In the past year or year-and-a-half one of the most crucial problems has arisen in the field of anaesthesiology and there were some initiatives that we attempted to undertake when we were in government to redress that manpower shortage in that specialty. I want to say at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, and I'm certainly not afraid to say it to the Manitoba Medical Association — I've said it to them, I'll say it again to them — that part of the problem rests with the Manitoba Medical Association. The Minister of Health can't solve all those manpower shortages. The MMA has a very recognizable responsibility to move on some of those manpower shortages themselves to make adjustments with respect to their own administration of the association's affairs; with respect to their administration of the affairs of the different sections of the association; with respect to the approach that they take to the fee schedule and the way it's structured and their negotiations with the Provincial Government, etc. They can go a long way towards helping to resolve some of those specialty manpower shortages, but there still are roles that can be played by the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower and by the Minister's office. I wonder if the Minister could advise the committee of the current status of the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower's work with respect to those shortages.

MR. DESJARDINS: We haven't had time to ruin that one yet. It's working exactly the way it was going. The only thing, there's been a change in chairmanship. Dr. George Johnson is now the Chairman and I think we could cover that a little more for the member. There's none under the Commission because the committee reports to the Commission. I understand that it's progressing quite well. It has made certain grants and it's addressing the problems that my honourable friend has mentioned. No, there hasn't been any change in it except in the chairmanship. It's going in the same direction.

MR. SHERMAN: What about the Standing Committee on Nursing Manpower, Mr. Chairman? Is it reporting to the Minister and the Deputy Minister?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, the concern that I have on this was brought to my attention. We have to have the Chairman, I think, to resign. That hasn't been done.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, I take it there haven't been very many meetings of the Standing Committee on Nursing Manpower in recent weeks or months. Is that correct, Mr. Chairman? I take it that there haven't been very many meetings of the Standing Committee on Nursing Manpower in recent weeks or months. I know that the Chairman resigned, but presumably there is in most instances when situations like that occur, there is either a Vice-Chairman or an Acting Chairman or somebody who can fill the role on an ad hoc basis so the committee can get on with its work. I am somewhat concerned that I have had disquieting questions asked of me by some people with a direct interest in the committee in recent weeks which suggests that the committee is virtually nonfunctioning at the moment. Is that correct?

MR. DESJARDINS: No, Mr. Chairman, I understand that the committee met on five occasions since it was set up by my honourable friend. The last meeting was held on November the 18th, at which time the chairperson resigned. In the intervening months, several sub-committees have met to develop materials related to specific nursing manpower concerns. The sub-committee of . . . and it's my understanding that the last of these sub-committees just completed its task and that a full committee meeting will be able to be called shortly and I intend to name a chairperson fairly soon.

I'm told that the monthly nursing vacancy survey requested by the committee has been very successfully undertaken by departmental and commission staff and I under the results are rated on the basis of the committee's first report to me as the Minister of Health. You will be pleased to note that currently Manitoba is in the enviable position of having a balanced supply of registered nurses. That's another thing, I don't know whether that committee should get all the credit or certainly some of the credit, but unlike our western provinces colleagues who are experiencing a shortage, we are not at this time. In Manitoba, the situation has been much improved.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, the Manitoba Health Research Council was not set up to function under this particular branch of the department, but there was never really a specifically categorized branch before that was purely known as research. I wonder if the Minister could clarify that position for me. Is there, under the way this branch is now operating or going to operate, a connection between it and the Health Research Council?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I think that my honourable friend would be pleased to know that something that he's been working towards that will happen this year; I'm not bringing too much legislation but there will be a legislation. That's about the major legislation that we have under this department, setting up the council as such and we're working pretty well the same way. It's getting started. It's only been there for a few years. There hasn't been any change, but when the Act comes in I think that's what their first priority is right now, that's what they want to see and there'll be legislation. You will be asked to approve legislation at this Session.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, I will look forward to that legislation, Mr. Chairman, but where can we deal, for example, with the amount of money being budgeted in 1982-83 for the Manitoba Health Research Council? Does that appear under this appropriation or would it come under the Commission?

MR. DESJARDINS: Yes, it is under the 8,776 and it's \$600,000 for the Research Council this year.

MR. SHERMAN: \$600,000 for the Research Council for 1982-83, is that what the Minister said, Mr. Chairman? It's a little difficult to determine how that compares with 1981-82, unless I go by memory and I don't particular want to go by memory on it. It seems to me that the appropriation for 1981-82 was \$500,000.00.

Is that correct?

MR. DESJARDINS: I wish I could lie a little bit. It might stop an argument. No, it was the same thing; there has been no increase this year. It was \$600,000.00. There hasn't been any increase. We're looking at the situation. We're looking at the funds from if possible — I don't want to say this too loudly — but maybe from the lottery like is done in other provinces, but, this year there has been no increase. The 877 is made up of 600 Research Council; the handbook and the honorarium for the Council on Aging was 157; in other research in Health manpower, \$120,000 for \$877.00.00. That includes also the \$84,000 for long-term planning contracts that I mentioned earlier, but the Research Council is exactly the same as last year, no increased at this time.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, I'm delighted to hear, Mr. Chairman, that it was \$600,000 in 1981-82. Now that I recall I think that we did originally talk about — Mr. Edwards could confirm it for me — \$500,000 and then I went out on a limb with the researchers and I assured them that we'd get them an extra \$100,000 and Mr. Edwards told me that we didn't have it and it wasn't there. I said, well, do you think we can find it and he said, yes. I guess we got it for them.

Well, that's good. I am pleased that then it's at least continuing on the plane on which it has been established and hopefully we'll be able to increase it in future years. I know the Minister would agree with me that although it's a very difficult thing to sell to a Minister of Finance because Ministers of Finance always want to see bricks and mortar; they want to be able to drive by a thing and then they can see what they're spending their money on, but if you talk to them about research, most Ministers of Finance, including my own colleague are a little wary of it because it can't be demonstrated that it's going to produce the way a capital project can, but I am sure we would all agree that it can't produce if the initiative isn't there and if the effort isn't made. There has to be a very strong effort made insofar as our revenues will permit it, in this province anyway, to expand direct funding for medical research because we're in a highly competitive arena where medical research is concerned now and we have a great resource of researchers and scientists in this province and we don't want them discouraged and we certainly don't want to lose them. So, that's gratifying to hear that we are on the plane that we all hope to be on and hopefully it can be increased in the not too distant future.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister made reference to the fact that he had designated a position of Director of Gerontology just today, or within the past day or two, for the province. One of the recommendations of the Council on Aging called for the establishment of a Gerontology Centre in Manitoba. Is there anything in the Estimates or would it appear under another programming line that points to the establishment of a Gerontology Centre in the near future?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, we felt that the first priority should be for us to find somebody that can do this work and give us this advice. This is an area that we're quite interested in and we have very

little time this year. There is nothing on this. I know that it was an option under the former government. This is something that we will review. We would hope to work with the University also, maybe get a chair at the University. This is an area that I, personally, and the department is continuing to be very interested in, so we would hope that we would have something for next year, but this year there's nothing at this time.

MR. SHERMAN: Also in the field of gerontology, Mr. Chairman, there had been some fairly persuasive proposals from Westman region, particularly from a number of specialists at Brandon General Hospital who work with and around Dr. Stuart Hampton. Where do we stand on the proposed Westman Geriatric Centre and the whole concept of a Westman Geriatric Program?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, because I guess of my interest in the need and the advice that I have been receiving, we were quite sympathetic to that approach. I met with Dr. Hampton at least two or three times and I have also referred him and asked him to meet with the Youville Foundation. I think that they are working somewhere around achieving the same goal and he has met with them. He thought that it was very successful and I intend to meet with them again and to try to develop that program with the gerontology. In fact, I wouldn't mind having him as the . . .

MR. SHERMAN: I think one of the initial objectives or initial building blocks in that kind of a concept, at least as envisioned by Dr. Hampton, was a survey of the senior citizen population, the geriatric service needs in the whole Westman region. Can the Minister advise the committee, Mr. Chairman, as to whether that survey is being considered and whether that approach is perhaps nearing adoption?

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I think there was more interest because of the doctor, the personality himself. I think this need is pretty well the same all over the province and I think he was probably ahead of his time, ahead of many of the people in Manitoba, and the same goes for the St. Boniface, who probably were the first ones under the Youville Foundation, that group. The whole project is under study and as I've said, we hope to have something fairly soon, for next year anyway.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Chairman, where could I extract some information from the Minister about the Day Hospital at St. Boniface and our new Director of Geriatrics at St. Boniface, the fine young doctor whom we obtained from Liverpool not very long ago who is really, I suppose, in sequence the successor to Dr. Skelton who left some time ago. Where does the Minister want to discuss that, under this appropriation or under the Commission?

MR. DESJARDINS: Under the Hospital Commission and under Hospitals.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 2.(g)(1)—pass; 2.(g)(2) Other Expenditures—pass; 2.(g)—pass. That completes the items to be considered under Resolution No. 75.

The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. KOVNATS: Yes, I think just before you close off Resolution No. 75, just on the whole of the Resolution, where the Honourable Minister made some remarks earlier using the crutch of gaining weight to give up smoking, I have been sitting here stewing about it because I think the Honourable Minister is just using it as a crutch whereas he is going to be putting on weight if he gives up his smoking. I've given up smoking over a year ago and there is really nothing to it and I make a strong recommendation to the Honourable Minister of Health that he gives up smoking because it is not going to put on extra weight unless he allows it to do so. Now, I do recall the little girl at the birthday party where her mother said, you know, if you have another piece of cake, you'll explode. Well, pass the cake and get rid of the two fellows in front of you because I don't want them covered with cake.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: This really should be under research because I've been researching for a long time to try to achieve that. Mr. Chairman, very seriously, I would hope that my honourable friend quit speaking to my staff. There is no doubt that he's been speaking to some of my people; somebody has put him up to that. I might say that the point that I was trying to make is that they think that smoking is so bad that definitely I was saying, well, I am going to put on more weight and the answer that I had was, no matter how heavy you were that if you can only take one choice that it would be more important to quit smoking. That's the point I wanted to make. There is no doubt that it would be nice if you can quit smoking and lose weight and quit eating at the same time, but it's easier said than done, but I'm working on it. Mr. Chairman, for our honourable friend, I haven't smoked today. You will notice I'm chewing gum quite a bit and I tell you that I've lost about 15 pounds since I took over the department, so I'm losing some anyway.

MR. KOVNATS: I was ready to let the item pass but the Minister says he's lost 15 pounds? I think he's refunded it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That being all the discussion under Resolution No. 75, therefore be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$4,392,400 for Health Administrative Services for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1983.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Continuing with Item No. 3, Community Health Services, Resolution No. 76, No. 3.(a)(1), Salaries — the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: It may be all right, Mr. Chairman, I just want to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 3.(a)(1)—pass; 3.(a)(2) Other Expenditures — the Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Could the Minister explain the doubling of this appropriation? It's not that it's a great

amount of money in comparison to the Health Budget as a whole, but if you take it item by item, it's a 100-percent increase.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: That covers office and travel expenses and I don't know why there is such an increase. Increase of \$16,000, yes; office equipment rental 1.3; posters and stationary, that's a big increase 4.6; and mileage 3 plus other operating costs but these are the one that they've identified, the postage, the mileage and the rental.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(a)(2)—pass; 3.(a)(3) Professional Training.

MR. DESJARDINS: Oh, excuse me, there is also the Expense of the Executive Director, that's new. I think that explains things.

MR. SHERMAN: So, what has now come in here because of the restructuring of the department are some of the office expenditures associated with the Executive Director of Regional Services, is that right? All right, thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(a)(3) Professional Training — the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Professional Training, I presume this item refers only, Mr. Chairman, to the training of administrative personnel for this division. Is that correct?

MR. DESJARDINS: It provides funds for post-graduate training for public health nurses and social workers and it also provides funds for a Public Health Nursing Institute, held annually in conjunction with the University of Manitoba School of Nursing. The Institute is attended by approximately 150 staff persons.

MR. SHERMAN: But these would be people, Mr. Chairman, who would then serve in executive of administrative capacities in the division, would they? This is professional training for public health nurses going into the field?

MR. DESJARDINS: Upgrading people in the field staff, the upgrading.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(a)(3)—pass; (a)—pass.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, could the committee rise?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise