



Second Session — Thirty-Second Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

31-32 Elizabeth II

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The Honourable D. James Walding
Speaker*



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MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Thirty-Second Legislature

Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation

Name	Constituency	Party
ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete)	Ste. Rose	NDP
ANSTETT, Hon. Andy	Springfield	NDP
ASHTON, Steve	Thompson	NDP
BANMAN, Robert (Bob)	La Verendrye	PC
BLAKE, David R. (Dave)	Minnedosa	PC
BROWN, Arnold	Rhineland	PC
BUCKLASCHUK, Hon. John M.	Gimli	NDP
CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N.	Brandon West	IND
CORRIN, Q.C., Brian	Ellice	NDP
COWAN, Hon. Jay	Churchill	NDP
DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent	St. Boniface	NDP
DODICK, Doreen	Riel	NDP
DOERN, Russell	Elmwood	NDP
DOLIN, Hon. Mary Beth	Kildonan	NDP
DOWNEY, James E.	Arthur	PC
DRIEDGER, Albert	Emerson	PC
ENNS, Harry	Lakeside	PC
EVANS, Hon. Leonard S.	Brandon East	NDP
EYLER, Phil	River East	NDP
FILMON, Gary	Tuxedo	PC
FOX, Peter	Concordia	NDP
GOURLAY, D.M. (Doug)	Swan River	PC
GRAHAM, Harry	Virten	PC
HAMMOND, Gerrie	Kirkfield Park	PC
HARAPIAK, Harry M.	The Pas	NDP
HARPER, Elijah	Rupertsland	NDP
HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen	Logan	NDP
HYDE, Lloyd	Portage la Prairie	PC
JOHNSTON, J. Frank	Sturgeon Creek	PC
KOSTYRA, Hon. Eugene	Seven Oaks	NDP
KOVNATS, Abe	Niakwa	PC
LECUYER, Hon. Gérard	Radisson	NDP
LYON, Q.C., Hon. Sterling	Charleswood	PC
MACKLING, Q.C., Hon. Al	St. James	NDP
MALINOWSKI, Donald M.	St. Johns	NDP
MANNES, Clayton	Morris	PC
McKENZIE, J. Wally	Roblin-Russell	PC
MERCIER, Q.C., G.W.J. (Gerry)	St. Norbert	PC
NORDMAN, Rurik (Ric)	Assiniboia	PC
OLESON, Charlotte	Gladstone	PC
ORCHARD, Donald	Pembina	PC
PAWLEY, Q.C., Hon. Howard R.	Selkirk	NDP
PARASIUK, Hon. Wilson	Transcona	NDP
PENNER, Q.C., Hon. Roland	Fort Rouge	NDP
PHILLIPS, Myrna A.	Wolseley	NDP
PLOHMAN, Hon. John	Dauphin	NDP
RANSOM, A. Brian	Turtle Mountain	PC
SANTOS, Conrad	Burrows	NDP
SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic	Rossmere	NDP
SCOTT, Don	Inkster	NDP
SHERMAN, L.R. (Bud)	Fort Garry	PC
SMITH, Hon. Muriel	Osborne	NDP
STEEN, Warren	River Heights	PC
STORIE, Hon. Jerry T.	Flin Flon	NDP
URUSKI, Hon. Bill	Interlake	NDP
USKIW, Hon. Samuel	Lac du Bonnet	NDP
WALDING, Hon. D. James	St. Vital	NDP

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Friday, 27 January, 1984.

Time — 10:00 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding: Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . . Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before Oral Questions, I would direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery. We have 30 students of Grade 9 standing from the Charleswood Junior High School under the direction of Mr. Crew. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Charleswood.

On behalf of all of the members, I welcome you here this morning.

ORAL QUESTIONS

Demonstration - Grassroots Manitoba

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is for the Premier. In view of the fact that a very large delegation, I think something close to 1,000 people . . .

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

A MEMBER: You guys wouldn't know, you were all hiding.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, Order please. Order please.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Premier could answer, in view of the fact that a very large delegation of people visited the building last evening, many of them from his constituency, my question to the Premier is why, when these people travelled great distances in adverse weather conditions, did he not show them the courtesy of at least coming out and addressing the gathering last evening?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Would they have listened?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.
The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition apparently isn't aware of the requests

that were made on my behalf by the leaders of the group when they arranged the appointment with myself. It was that Mr. Russell, Mr. Hutton, Mr. Heeney and Mr. Bend would have the opportunity to meet with me to present their particular concerns.

Mr. Speaker, we did that; we continued. In fact, the last of that foursome left my office at 10 minutes after 10:00 p.m. after a very thorough, a very full discussion, pertaining to the concerns that the four leaders of the particular group that visited the Legislature had. We had that meeting as per their request.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, it has been customary in the past - I know that even this First Minister met with large gatherings over the Autopac debate. The Member for Lac du Bonnet met with a very large crowd who were opposing helmet legislation last year. It's always been customary to show these people, who travel long distances, the courtesy. In view of the fact that they were still here at 10 minutes after 10:00 p.m., when he completed his meetings, why did he not show them the courtesy of at least coming and addressing them for a short while?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I've already responded to that question.

A MEMBER: In your office.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to first advise the Leader of the Opposition that it has been this side of the Chamber, not that side of the Chamber, that has listened to Manitobans.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

HON. H. PAWLEY: It is this side, not that side of the Chamber that's attempted to develop and has developed a consensus of Manitobans relating to 1984, rather than 1970, at a reduced cost to Manitoba than the 1970 approach would be. It was this side that gave that side an opportunity to join in a bipartisan discussion in order to arrive at a consensus. It was that side, the Conservative side, in this Chamber, Mr. Speaker, that refused to participate in that effort to ensure a bipartisan solution to the resolution, the amendment that is before us. Mr. Speaker, it's been that side, not this side, that has participated in unprecedented bell ringing, unheard of in this province since the initial commencement of this province, because it's that side and not this side that wants to obstruct orderly and proper debate on this very important issue facing Manitobans.

MR. S. ASHTON: Go ring your bell, Orchard.

MR. D. ORCHARD: I'll ring your bell.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the actions of this First Minister and this government speak so loudly the people can't hear those pious and preposterous words he just uttered.

My question, Mr. Speaker, to the First Minister is in view of the fact that he did not meet with that group of people last evening, did not give them the courtesy of listening to them, will he . . . ?

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.
The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: The Leader of the Opposition apparently does not hear or prefers not to hear, Mr. Speaker. I met with the leaders of that group as per their request, according to the guidelines that they established themselves which was that there will be . . .

A MEMBER: Did you sign an agreement with them?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether there's much point participating in a question period when honourable members don't want to hear . . .

A MEMBER: Put closure on it.

HON. H. PAWLEY: . . . the answers, when indeed as has been the practice during the last week, the members opposite appear to wish this House to deteriorate to a very very low level. If the honourable members want to participate and debate in a proper functioning way, then I'd be delighted to answer questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.
The Honourable First Minister had an explanation, not a point of order.
The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: In view of the explanation of the First Minister, is he telling me that the leaders of the group, the four people that he met with, asked him not to meet with the crowd that was gathered, not to meet with the hundreds of people who were in the outer part of this Assembly waiting to hear him? Is that what he's telling us?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, what I'm indicating to the Leader of the Opposition, that when the appointment was made in my office, with my office, by the four leaders in question . . .

MR. G. FILMON: You didn't want to see the rest of them?

A MEMBER: What a stupid question!

MR. D. ORCHARD: Talking to the people is stupid?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has really struck out each and every question period since the commencement of the resumption of this Session; he again has.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the First Minister, the clean-up hitter on the other side, has struck out with the people of Manitoba.

In view of the fact, Mr. Speaker, that this First Minister refused to meet with that group of people who were in the Legislative Building yesterday waiting for him last evening, will he see that he is made a member of the Committee of Privileges and Elections so at least he will be available in committee to listen to the presentations on Bill 115 that will be made today, tomorrow and next week?

HON. R. PENNER: We're literate, we can read Hansard, not like some of your people.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the kind of forum that is most conducive to a rational discussion of this issue was not the demonstration that took place last night in which there was fanned misrepresentation and distortion by the Member for Elmwood . . .

A MEMBER: Wrong.

HON. H. PAWLEY: . . . by the former Leader of the Opposition in this Chamber, by one Herb Schulz, and by the Leader of the Opposition, distortion and misrepresentation, and also by Mr. Russell. That is not the kind of forum for rational discussion and explanation.

I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, when we did have an opportunity to have some rational discussion, two of the four individuals that met with me acknowledged that they'd not fully understood the latest proposals that the government had made and were prepared to examine those proposals and left my office committing themselves to more fully investigate and attempt to understand the latest proposals. Why did they not know, Mr. Speaker? Because honourable members over the way, those responsible guardians of democracy and Parliament in this Legislature had not seen fit, not seen fit to attempt to explain the true facts to those that they meet in this province.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please.
The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, nothing that I said to the people here last evening was untruthful or misleading and the Premier was not there to hear it. He is basing his decision and his comments on misinformation, Mr. Speaker.

My question is that if he believes there is a proper forum and that proper forum is this Legislature and its committees, to hear and to be heard, will he become a member of the Committee on Privileges and Elections so that he can be there to hear the people and their presentations on Bill 115?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, this would be the appropriate forum if it had not been for the fact that

for four days, for a total of 15 hours, members across the way had refused to debate the issues in this Chamber, if members had not continued, as indeed they do continue, to obstruct proper debate within this Chamber. Mr. Speaker, it is the members across the way unfortunately that are wishing and desirous for their own expedient way, and let me warn honourable members that they will find that expediency is very sweet gain in the short term and a very damaging loss in the long term.

Mr. Speaker, opportunism does not sit on the thrones of power; principle sits on the thrones of power and, Mr. Speaker, if opportunism begins to dominate and expediency begins to dominate, then those who practice expediency and crass opportunism do pay the price.

Bilingualism in Manitoba

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the First Minister and ask him whether he would confirm that last summer and fall, when the hearings were held on the French language proposals, there were some 300 briefs in a dozen cities and towns in this province, can he confirm that he did not attend a single meeting?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, this particular side of the Chamber and the government caucus works as a team.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

HON. H. PAWLEY: We will continue to function as a team, and the membership of that committee will consist of membership as determined by the government caucus, the same way as honourable members will determine the make-up of their particular representation on the committees.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would also ask the First Minister, in view of these repeated pronouncements by himself and the House Leader about a "developing consensus" coalescing around the government and its new French language proposals, is the Premier willing to demonstrate this by either holding a referendum or calling a general election?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I don't expect for a moment the Member for Elmwood to acknowledge that there is any developing consensus, because it is not in the interests of the Honourable Member for Elmwood to support or to encourage or to co-operate or to ensure there is a consensus on this issue in the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, I have been pleased by the response of groups and individuals most closely affected by the resolution amendment. The Manitoba Government Employees Association has welcomed these changes as being major changes that the government has

proposed, the Manitoba Government Employees Association making up that membership that is most directly affected by the legislation before this Chamber.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity to speak to the executive of the Manitoba Teachers' Society yesterday that indicated that they support the government in respect to this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we can go on and on and on in respect to this kind of debate. We are satisfied. If honourable members are not across the way, they will continue to protest. Mr. Speaker, we are convinced that the vast majority of Manitobans now want this matter resolved; they want it resolved in Manitoba. They want it resolved quickly so we can get on with other jobs such as dealing with the economy of the Province of Manitoba. Most of all, Mr. Speaker, they are now realizing that it would be a mistake for this matter to be resolved by the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa by appointees of Prime Minister Trudeau; that it would be better resolved in this Chamber by the elected representatives of the people of Manitoba.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would agree with the Premier that the public wants the matter resolved, but can the Premier not see that the way in which the people want the matter resolved is by withdrawing and scrapping the government's proposals?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, would the honourable member repeat his question because I couldn't hear it?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please. That was not a question, that was an argument. The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, maybe I could rephrase my question. I said to the First Minister that he is probably right when he says people want the matter resolved. I ask him whether he would not concur that the manner in which the people want the matter as soon as possible is by having the government withdraw their proposals?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have much more confidence in the wisdom of the people of the Province of Manitoba. The people in the Province of Manitoba would not want to see this matter dealt with by way of a decision of the Supreme Court of Canada imposing a decision upon the Province of Manitoba, a Supreme Court of Canada appointed by the Federal Government of Canada. Mr. Speaker, I know that there are some lawyers who would prefer this matter to be dealt with in the Supreme Court of Canada, in fact a lawyer for the Société franco-manitobaine would prefer to see this matter dealt with in the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Speaker, what Manitobans want to see done - if the Honourable Member for Elmwood is not yet aware of it, he will be aware of it - the people of the Province of Manitoba want to see this matter resolved in Manitoba by Manitobans, not resolved in Ottawa by the Supreme Court of Canada imposing its decision upon this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the First Minister. In view of the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor this morning is being presented with names of thousands of Manitobans, who are taking to the last Court of Appeal in the Province of Manitoba in our parliamentary system asking her to have an election in the Province of Manitoba, will the First Minister, who has forced closure on Manitoba's first constitutional amendment, an issue which has divided the province, an issue which has pitted neighbour against neighbour, following on the results of 80 percent of a vote against what this government is doing, will he go to the people and ask for the mandate to do what he is doing through a general election, Mr. Speaker?

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, what would be more irresponsible but to go to the people on what would be about No. 58 in 61 issues of importance to the people of the Province of Manitoba, No. 58 by way of range of priority and importance? What are the important issues in the Province of Manitoba and the issues indeed that we will proceed to obtain a mandate from the people of the Province of Manitoba upon is: (a) how this government manages the economy, and how better this government has managed the economy of this province than did the previous administration; and (b) Mr. Speaker, how well this government has created jobs in the Province of Manitoba, how well this government has created jobs in comparison to how they, the present opposition, Conservatives in this House managed job creation; how during the term of this government Manitoba enjoyed a population boom, rather than a population depression as existed under that group, the Conservative group, when they formed government in the Province of Manitoba.

We will be proceeding to the people of Manitoba at the appropriate time to discuss the quality of life issues in this province: health, education. Those are the issues that are important to Manitobans, Mr. Speaker. Manitobans are saying to us in increasing numbers, get on with the job; get this matter dealt with; get on with the real tasks that face and confront Manitobans.

A MEMBER: And they're tearing up their membership cards.

Bill No. 115 - hearings

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is for the Government House Leader. Can the Government House Leader indicate whether hearings on Bill 115 will continue on Saturday, tomorrow?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I don't know how many people will present themselves at the hearings scheduled for today, or if those hearings will take place. It may well be that the House will be sitting later today. That being the case, it's hard to estimate how long it

will take to hear those who have indicated a desire to be heard.

The latest list that I have seen from the Clerk's Office indicated there were in the neighbourhood of 50 people on the list. I think that would mean we would probably need more than the two sitting times that are available today. That might well mean that the committee would decide to sit tomorrow, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, is the Government House Leader indicating to me that the notice that he gave to the general public and to this Chamber that the committee will commence its hearings this afternoon at 2 o'clock is in question?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, there have been situations in the past where committee hearings had to be delayed because the House was sitting, or leave could not be granted for a committee and the House to sit simultaneously. Because of the importance of this matter, I would not ask for leave for the committee and the House to sit simultaneously, because they would not be sitting on separate issues. It's really one issue, one package, even though debate would be on a bill or on the amendment to The Manitoba Act.

If, Mr. Speaker, the House is sitting beyond the normal hour of adjournment today for purposes of considering the resolution, which the House may be, and the Opposition House Leader has some impact on that decision, then obviously the House may have to decide that the committee will be delayed until tomorrow. Mr. Speaker, I would just as soon not. I would hope that we could dispose of the resolution by 1:30 today, but if that's not possible I certainly have no intention of asking for leave for the committee and the House to sit simultaneously.

A one-day delay in beginning the committee hearings, Sir, I would think members opposite would welcome. That would allow more people to get their names on the list. Members often express concern about the amount of notice time that's provided to the public, Sir. We have given two days notice. If it becomes three days notice, Sir, I think that's beneficial to the public. I don't think there is anything wrong with that at all.

MR. H. ENNS: I just want to confirm that this House Leader that is running and managing affairs that well for the government, is he really saying to this Chamber that the people of Manitoba on this delicate and sensitive issue, Bill 115, are not going to get more than 30 minutes notice; that we will know at 1:30 whether or not hearings will start on this bill?

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. H. ENNS: Has he no common sense of courtesy to those people who wish to address themselves to that committee and who will be travelling again? This

government shows precious little concern about people that drive 40 or 50 miles to come to committee meetings. How are people going to be notified that expect to make representation to this committee at 2 o'clock this afternoon?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.
The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I regret that sometimes a long question or a long preamble requires a long answer in response. I hope the Honourable Opposition House Leader will allow me the same courtesy I allowed to him.

Mr. Speaker, the committee meeting was first announced on Wednesday afternoon. The committee meeting was announced 48 hours before it was going to be held approximately. Mr. Speaker, there was absolutely no reason why the House had to sit today other than for routine proceedings had members opposite not shirked their responsibility yesterday when the government indicated its desire to see this matter proceed without being further adjourned. Mr. Speaker, had we voted on the resolution at 2:00 a.m. this morning, the House would have sat for routine proceedings at 10:00 and adjourned immediately thereafter. Mr. Speaker, I won't explain it again for the Member for Elmwood, but I think the Opposition House Leader understands.

The responsibility of the House Leader is to plan the House business. Mr. Speaker, I have attempted to do that. When the opposition walks out of the Chamber and refuses to do their service to the Legislative Assembly that they were elected to do and the business of this House is therefore disrupted, I find it rather preposterous, yes . . .

A MEMBER: You're preposterous.

HON. A. ANSTETT: . . . Mr. Speaker, that it is now suggested that the government is somehow imposing on the people of Manitoba a difficulty with regard to a committee when the business of this House has been consistently disrupted by obstruction tactics, by bell-ringing and by all kinds of other maneuvers by members opposite, when we have tried consistently to order the business of this House over the last eight months in an orderly fashion, in a fashion which leads to debate but also to decision. Mr. Speaker, that is the essence of the parliamentary system, debate and decision.

If members opposite are prepared to participate in debate and decision, we welcome their participation. Mr. Speaker, if they continue to shirk their duty, Sir, this House has responsibilities to the people of Manitoba.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this opposition did not once refuse to debate the resolution, did not once ring the bells or walk out of this Chamber, refusing to debate the resolution, and repeatedly asked this Government House Leader that we should deal with the resolution first. Does this learned House manager now concede that there was some value in dealing with the resolution first, that we would not be now in this position where we don't know

whether we're going to have a committee sitting or not? Would he not now concede that there would have been some value in dealing with the resolution?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please. May I remind members that questions and answers should not be argumentative.

Pension benefits legislation

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday last, the Labour critic opposite asked for some information regarding the pension bill and whether we had had actuarial consultants available and working on it.

The question did ring a bell with me — (Interjection) — but I wanted to check out for sure whether the opposition had in fact asked this question previously. In fact, upon checking my records, I found that the previous Labour critic had asked the same question and I had provided him with complete information in this regard.

HON. V. SCHROEDER: They don't talk to each other there.

HON. M.B. DOLIN: I have a copy of that memo which was sent to Member for St. Norbert; it contains the Turnbull & Turnbull actuarial considerations with regard to the Superannuation Fund showing that when the Superannuation Fund is adjusted to match the benefits that we feel are important for the people of Manitoba and have therefore passed in Bill 95, in the previous part of this long Session, I'm sure that the Member for St. Norbert will pass along to his colleagues the report that I will table now.

I think it's also important to note that the actuarial considerations were based on an 8 percent increase in salary, consistently over the years, and we know in fact that that is not the case and that is not going to be the case probably for some time. However, we do know that actuaries have to pick some number out of the air, so I would point out to honourable members across that they should take all of these points into consideration.

I will table, for a second time, this information and hope that they begin to talk to each other about The Pension Benefits Act.

Labour, Dept. of - Deputy Minister

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: My question is to the Minister of Urban Affairs. Would the Minister advise the House of the status of Mr. David Saunders, former Deputy Minister, and if a new Deputy Minister has been appointed?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

David Saunders is on contract to the government, involved with the background research and support staff requirements for the review of The City of Winnipeg Act. We expect to appoint that review committee very shortly. I believe all of this was announced through a press release. There is an Acting Deputy Minister, Mr. Peter Diamond, who has been with the Department of Urban Affairs and is handling the job very capably. Thank you.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Would the Minister undertake to table a copy of the contract of Mr. Saunders with the Government of Manitoba?

HON. M.B. DOLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Health care system - hospitals

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, last week the Honourable Member for Elmwood made a statement in the House re a constituent of his who was slated apparently to receive a cobalt treatment and at the last minute it was refused. He made a pretty strong remark and I suggested at the time he should wait until he got the answer. I think this will serve to illustrate that.

In the case of this couple, whose name I won't give at the member's request, the further complicating factor was that they believed the gentleman was scheduled to have cobalt treatment on January 12, 1984. In fact, the gentleman was scheduled to have a follow-up examination on that date. Some changes in the way in which cancer patients receive follow-up examinations were necessitated by the resignation within a short period of time of three radiotherapists late last year. It was decided that patients who had completed their course of treatments could be seen for their follow-up examinations by their family physician instead of by radiotherapists. Some confusion resulted with the letter outlining these changes were sent to patients in this category and this confusion resulted in another letter clarifying the situation being sent to the patient.

Now with the lady's permission, we've had staff at the hospital contact her and explain the situation to her. In addition, because appointments with radiotherapists are now becoming available to follow-up patients again, an appointment for the gentleman to see a physician at the hospital is being made for next week.

I might say that late in '83, three radiotherapists resigned from the staff at the Manitoba Cancer Treatment & Research Foundation. These three resignations were occasioned by one of the physicians retiring, one accepting a position in Eastern Canada, the other one suffering from a heart attack. These three resignations occurred within a two-month period and because of the universal shortage of these specialists and a degree of uncertainty about when replacements could be recruited, certain changes were effected in the way cancer patients received their follow-up care.

The difference between follow-up care and treatment must be stressed. Follow-up is when a patient comes on a regular basis, for example, at six month intervals

for a physical examination, x-ray, blood work, etc. The objective is to ascertain the status of the patient's condition and treatment is when radiotherapeutic substances, that is, x-rays, cobalt, are being used to cure, treat, or limit the patient's cancer.

I might say that things are improving, the radiotherapist who retired has been persuaded by Dr. Israel to come back into practice for a limited time. General practitioners have been recruited to provide follow-up care under supervision of radiotherapists in the clinics of the Cancer Foundation and St. Boniface Hospital. Patients are gradually being advised that they can, if they wish, return to these clinics and Dr. Israel is going to Europe next month to interview prospective candidates for the vacant radiotherapists positions so things are certainly not out of control.

Canada Health Act

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Health. On January 12th, two weeks ago yesterday, I asked him how much money does Manitoba stand to lose under the dollar-for-dollar penalties proposed under The Canada Health Act as a penalty for extra billing. I subsequently asked the question again a few days later. The Minister has said that he would get that information. In view of the fact that Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan and other provinces of like size have already indicated the sums that they anticipate they will lose under the penalties, I would ask the Minister again, this morning, how much money does Manitoba stand to lose under The Canada Health Act?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Everything that the member said is absolutely right, but let me add a few points that he didn't cover. I don't know exactly the date, but I stood up in my place here in this House to give exactly these answers - there were five questions that I had been asked. They were short answers and I was taken to task by the House Leader who told me that I was out of order and I took that as an indication that they did not want the information. I'm not one to break the rules and I wouldn't want to be out of order as the member certainly knows.

If there is a change of heart and if the House Leader can tell me now that he wants me to get the information, I'll certainly have that next Monday.

Accreditation of Ophthalmologists

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would also direct another question to the Minister of Health, which relates to a question that I asked him two weeks ago today, Friday the 13th of January, having to do with the threat to the accreditation of the ophthalmology section and teaching unit of the Manitoba Medical College and the fact that the moment of truth, with respect to the accreditation visit, comes early in February. I asked him if he could report to the House as to what was

being done to ensure that the Manitoba medical school would not lose that accreditation. He indicated to the House on the 16th of January, he'd look into that matter and report. I wonder if he can report to the House now?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: If it's all right with the Opposition House Leader, I'd like to answer these questions at this time.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: The information that is being requested can be answered very easily - \$40 million, \$50 million, \$10 million. It is clearly out of order the kind of answers that the Minister of Health regularly makes from his seat, clearly out of order.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a further question to the Minister of Health. He had provided some answers the other day . . .

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

Health care deficits

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: The Minister provided some answers the other day, Mr. Speaker, in general terms with respect to the kinds of deficits that the hospital system is facing at the present time. I asked him for confirmation at that time, whether he could confirm that the Health Sciences Centre was looking at a \$2.5 million or \$2.6 million deficit in the current fiscal year? He did confirm that, but I would ask him now whether he can advise the House what the anticipated deficit will be for St. Boniface Hospital in 1983-84? I'm asking about specific individual hospitals, not an overall reference to deficits in general. Can he advise the House where the St. Boniface Hospital stands? I ask that question because, obviously, it stands in relation to the two teaching hospitals in the province.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: That is a new question that I'll take as notice but I would ask the member, does he intend to ask me every day for one of the hospitals in Winnipeg? I might as well get them all if that's the case. I would have to take them as notice, I don't carry all this information with me. If my honourable friend wants to get the information and this is what I gave him. That's the one of the answers that apparently it took too long for my honourable friend. I gave him all the deficits for 1982-83 of the hospitals, the rural hospitals and the personal care homes. I gave him the net deficit or reported deficit and then the deficit after the advances and the commitments were met. I gave that answer and not as individuals.

I am not that anxious to start talking about individuals when some of them are being appealed. The other answer I gave was about the Health Sciences Centre and I was on the third answer, I guess it was the pension

cost also that was given the hospital, when I was told that I was out of order. What I was reading was a three-line answer; the other one was a six-line answer, and I have a longer one. I hesitate to talk because it's a long answer about this ophthalmology service and I think I better give it to my friend outside the House after to make sure that he will hear me.

Autopac classifications

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is for the Minister responsible for Autopac. Could the Minister responsible for Autopac indicate whether it will be corporation policy to deny insurance claims to drivers who inadvertently have found themselves to be carrying the wrong classification of Autopac insurance? Will their insurance be cancelled and claims be denied?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Housing.

HON. J. BUCKLASCHUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Persons who have an incorrect type of coverage under vehicles will be dealt with in the same manner that they have been dealt with for at least the past 10 years.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker, can the driving public of Manitoba be assured then that if they find themselves inadvertently underinsured or insured by the wrong category of coverage, that Autopac will not deny their claim, as has been recently alluded to in correspondence to owners of insured vehicles in the province?

HON. J. BUCKLASCHUK: I am not aware of the circumstances that the Member for Pembina refers to, but where the insured inadvertently does not have the proper insurance, there's no question that Autopac would take that into consideration. But where the insured purposely underinsures or insures with the incorrect information, Autopac will take a very serious look at that and claims may be denied or benefits may be denied.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for Oral Questions has expired.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Address for Papers.
The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to, on behalf of my colleague from Turtle Mountain, move, seconded by the Member for Pembina:

THAT a humble address be voted to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for copies of all the following:

No. 1. Correspondence received by the First Minister from Mr. William A. Moore pertaining to Mr. Moore's alleged conflict of interest with A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we are not prepared to grant this Address for Papers because the letter referred to in the Address has been referred to the RCMP as part of the continuing investigation and we do have some concerns . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. A. ANSTETT: . . . regarding possible court action.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Our system is for the Minister to indicate whether or not it is acceptable, not to debate the matter. Does the honourable member wish this referred to Private Members' Hour for discussion?

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that there is not a Private Members' Hours, I would like the Minister to indicate directly as to whether or not they will accept the request or not, or whether they're going to continue to cover up the injustice that's being done.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Isn't this an open government?

MR. SPEAKER: It's been made clear that it is by the Minister that it is not acceptable to him. The question before the House is moved by the Honourable Member for Arthur, and seconded by the Honourable Member for Pembina, that an humble address be voted to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for copies of all the following:

1. Correspondence received by the First Minister from Mr. William A. Moore pertaining to Mr. Moore's alleged conflict of interest with A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd.

Those in favour. Those opposed.
In my opinion the Nays have it. I declare the motion lost.

ADJOURNED DEBATE ON RESOLUTION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RE: OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health, that the debate on motion of the Attorney-General respecting the proposed amendment to The Manitoba Act concerning Section 23 thereof, and on any amendments proposed thereto, shall not be further adjourned.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Shame, shame!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

MR. R. DOERN: No free debate.

A MEMBER: There's been hours of debate.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Not on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

It is moved by the Honourable Government House Leader, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health, that the debate on the motion of the Honourable Attorney-General respecting the proposed amendment to The Manitoba Act concerning Section 23 thereof, and on any amendment proposed thereto, shall not be further adjourned.

Those in favour of the motion, please say Aye. Those opposed, please Nay. In my opinion the Ayes have it, and I declare the motion carried.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Yeas and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

I have been advised by the Official Opposition Whip that the opposition will not return before 2:00 p.m. on Monday. In view of this advice I have informed Chamber staff that they will not be required to remain on duty outside normal working hours. I have made arrangements to secure the Chamber, and the sounding of the bells will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

I am accordingly leaving the Chair to return at 1:30 today to adjourn the House.

(And the Division Bells having stopped ringing at 1:30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER: The time being 1:30, this House is adjourned and will stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Monday.