



Third Session — Thirty-Second Legislature
of the
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

33 Elizabeth II

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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	IND
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	Virden	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

Wednesday, 23 May, 1984.

Time — 2:00 p.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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I beg leave to file the 13th Annual Report of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission; the Annual Report of the Manitoba Police Commission; and the 1983 Annual Report of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

HON. G. LECUYER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a statement to make.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce today the results of an in-depth investigation of 22 active and inactive landfill sites in Manitoba. The investigation was part of the second phase of a federal-provincial study into Manitoba landfills.

The study determined that eight of the sites, those at Baldur, Douglas, Little Black River Indian Reserve Number Nine, Mariapolis, Neepawa, Ninette, Rapid City and Shellmouth do not require additional monitoring or remedial work. It was indicated that activities at these sites have not adversely affected public health or the environment.

However, additional monitoring and other work will be performed at the remaining 14 sites. My department and Environment Canada will be working with the municipalities involved to carry out many of the recommendations proposed.

In accordance with this, Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce today that the Manitoba and Federal Governments have each committed \$40,000 for additional monitoring work at these and other landfills in the province. This work will be undertaken immediately and is expected to be completed in one year.

I will now briefly detail some of the findings of the studies as well as some of the work which will be performed.

In Brandon, methane gas was detected in two occupied commercial buildings on the abandoned landfill located at Victoria Avenue East and Twelfth Street. Gas migration is also occurring both on and off the site.

As a result, additional gas probes will be installed around the site; floor probes and air in the commercial buildings will be monitored daily and gas probes outside

the buildings will be monitored initially on a weekly basis. As a precaution, some residences and buildings adjacent to the landfill site will be checked for the presence of methane gas.

It has been recommended in the studies that the sites at both Portage la Prairie and Virden should be relocated as soon as possible. Activities at these sites have contaminated groundwater used for drinking purposes and as a result additional monitoring of wells in the vicinity of these two sites will be conducted. Five sites, those of Napinka, Rivers, Winnipegosis, Swan River and Miniota require immediate upgrading of operational procedures. The report indicates that some of the contamination of groundwater has resulted and it is recommended that consideration be given to relocating these sites.

Additional test drilling and well sampling will be conducted at the Winnipegosis and Swan River sites. In Miniota the operation of the town's sewer system will be investigated and upgraded if necessary since this has been identified as partly responsible for well contamination. The report states that five closed sites at Stony Mountain, Winkler, Minnedosa, Stonewall and CFB Shilo should be properly covered to prevent additional dumping. Well monitoring will also be conducted in the vicinity of some of these sites.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would just like to add that the Reeves and mayors of the municipalities involved are being notified of the results of the study. I should also mention that the detailed reports on these sites are available for examination upon request. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I also would like to thank the Honourable Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health. The report seems to be quite consistent with what was expected, otherwise we never would have had to look for this report in the first place.

There has been contamination and things of this nature going on for many years and I'm glad to see that the government has decided that they were going to proceed in all haste at this point. I think that the government should take into consideration, and they have mentioned it, but consultation with the different municipalities concerning the regulations should be an ongoing factor. I think that the government should make some attempt, or at least advise now, what assistance will be coming to the municipalities if and when there has to be relocation of some of these places where there has been contamination. We'll be looking forward to seeing that the recommendations are carried out and at no greater cost than what has been indicated.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before Oral Questions may I direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery.

We have 120 students of Grade 5 standing from the Buchanan Elementary School under the direction of Mrs. Brown. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

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

ORAL QUESTIONS

Legislation - appearance of

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

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

My question is for the Premier. The Attorney-General has circulated amendments which he is proposing to The Liquor Control Act, but is unwilling to bring forward if the opposition is opposed. As well, in his capacity as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, he has circulated proposed amendments to The Securities Act, which the Chairman of The Securities Commission says are urgently required to be made, but the Minister has indicated that he is reluctant to bring it forward if the opposition has serious reservations, or would want to debate it at any particular length.

My question to the Premier is, will he now turn over the reins of office to the defacto government, the Progressive Conservative Party in opposition, or better still, will he call an election so that the people can clear the air and have a government in place that will be willing to carry on as a government should and bring forward necessary and urgent legislation when it's required?

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, it appears that the Leader of the Opposition must have had a very fitful night last night, and must be living indeed some sort of - I don't know what to say - carry-over from that fitful night that he had last night. I trust that as the day proceeds he will become just a little bit more restful than obviously he was last night.

The Attorney-General, I'm sure, will respond to the specific questions pertaining to the draft legislation.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: One minute they want co-operation . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. R. PENNER: Mr. Speaker, so much for co-operation. You know, I recall, Mr. Speaker, in the last Session when the Leader of the Opposition as a member, not Leader of the Opposition, came over and sat down to talk to me about co-operation on certain bills. Apparently that isn't a two-way street. Both of the proposed sets of amendments are technical, non-political, and we wanted to make sure that the opposition was aware, and if they had any concerns that indeed they were not technical that we would be aware of that.

Well, I want to say to the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for St. Norbert that if that's their view of co-operation, to turn it around and make of it the kind of thing that they've made of it, then let them go back to their nightmares.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, co-operation is one thing, and certainly we on this side want to be co-operative. We want to ensure that the business of the House proceeds but, Mr. Speaker, when the manner of co-operating is to place before the opposition a threat that says, and I quote . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question.

MR. G. FILMON: . . . "This is an urgent request by the Chairman of the Securities Commission, but I would be reluctant to place it on the Order Paper for this Session if the opposition had serious reservations and would want to debate the matter at some length." Mr. Speaker, is the government prepared to take responsibility to bring forward urgent legislation, or is it now wanting to turn it over to the opposition to run the affairs of the province?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I don't recall whether or not . . .

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. H. PAWLEY: . . . the Member for Tuxedo, the Leader of the Opposition, was in the Legislature. I believe it was in the Session of 1980 when I thought in fact the former Attorney-General had done a very reasonable thing in the dying days of the Session. Towards the end of the Session there was a very complex, a very detailed Mechanics Lien Act, as I recall, and the Member for St. Norbert, the former Attorney-General, said if in fact the opposition is able to accept it, fine, we can proceed with it. If the opposition is not able to, then it will be held over till the following Session.

That seems to me to be a co-operative and reasonable approach, and I believe it parallels with the approach of the present Attorney-General. Certainly when we are dealing with matters of extreme technical, legal, complex matters, it is a matter that involves input, satisfactory opportunity for members, as indeed the Member for St. Norbert gave members on our side, when we sat in the opposition, sufficient opportunity in order to peruse that complex, that very detailed Mechanics Lien Act. I think it was back in 1980 that indeed that took place.

So, Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition is indicating he doesn't want co-operation and wants us to table legislation of a very complex, detailed nature that would involve all the finest lawyers in Philadelphia to deal with in a great period of time, we can do that. But I would think, Mr. Speaker, that the Leader of the

Opposition would appreciate an opportunity to ensure that in matters such as complex, legal areas that he would indeed wish adequate time for consultation. If not, the Leader of the Opposition can indicate so to us and we can proceed with the legislation.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, I concur with the statement of the Premier about The Builders Lien Act, which was a very complex act of over 100 pages, but since he doesn't appear to be aware of this so-called very complex technical act that the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has given us, I'll table it. It consists of three pages which he is reluctant to bring forward unless we promise not to debate it. So I'll table it, Mr. Speaker.

HON. H. PAWLEY: Again, I'm somewhat at a loss as to what the Leader of the Opposition is - I remember his former leaders from time to time used to suggest that members were acting like a wet hen. I wouldn't like really to go that far, Mr. Speaker, but again I'm rather surprised at the over reaction on that part of the Leader of the Opposition. Obviously if the Leader of the Opposition is indicating to us that there are no serious legal problems or no complex issues, that they're satisfied with the draft legislation, then surely in a very straightforward, a very simple way, advice can be submitted. Let us proceed with a technical, legal bill and proceed and complete it.

Lotteries

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
I have a question to the Minister in charge of Lotteries and would ask him in light of the court decision handed down yesterday, which will not allow retailers of lottery tickets to sell both the Federal Government's lottery as well as the Western Lottery products, could the Minister inform the House whether or not the Western Lotteries Foundation will be allowing retailers who opted to sell both, and who were then subsequently cut off by the 6/49, to rethink their position if they want to and to keep on selling the Manitoba product rather than the federal product?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, if some of these people come to their senses, there's no doubt that we'll look favourably on their request.

Burns plant closure

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. A. KOVNATS: I would like to pose my question to the Minister of Environment, Workplace Safety and Health. Because of the environmental impact, has the Minister of Environment been part of the discussions with Burns in trying to keep the plant open at Brandon?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

HON. G. LECUYER: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the member would like to put a little more detail in his question. I'm not aware of what environmental impact he's referring to. The plant closing in Brandon, as far as I know, has primarily an economic impact, and if he's referring to an environmental impact I would like him to specifically state in his question what he's referring to.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Yes, I was making reference to the environmental impact. Because of the possible health hazards of decaying dead animals, what preparation has the Minister taken to replace the rendering facilities that will be lost at Brandon?

HON. G. LECUYER: I am not aware of what measures have been taken at this point. We'll have to take that question under advisement.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Well, I don't want to go into too great a detail, because the Honourable Minister's Estimates will be coming up pretty soon, and even though he asked for more details, I don't think that would be wise for me at this time to go into greater detail. But there is a big concern concerning the closing of the rendering plant at Brandon and it doesn't appear to be economical for a rendering firm in Winnipeg to go all the distance to Brandon to pick up the dead animals.

Will the Province of Manitoba, the New Democratic Party Government of Manitoba, assist rendering plants from Winnipeg, which will be the closest ones to serve that facility, will they assist in a financial way in picking up the debts, if and when the plant closes at Brandon?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The question is hypothetical.

The Honourable Member for Niakwa.

MR. A. KOVNATS: Mr. Speaker, it's not that I'm challenging your ruling on it being hypothetical, but would the Minister investigate that when the plant closes, what facilities will be available for rendering dead animals in Brandon?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, clearly the rephrasing is still a hypothetical question. The question of whether or not the plant will close is still very much up in the air and that question has not been addressed, although there are discussions ongoing.

MR. A. KOVNATS: To the Minister of Environment, Workplace Safety and Health, can the Honourable Minister advise whether there has been any discussions with the Provincial Government and Burns in upgrading the facilities for rendering at the Brandon Burns Plant?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

HON. G. LECUYER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
I can neither confirm nor deny that, Mr. Speaker, but on the other hand, I can assure the member across,

all members across that if and when Burns should be closing in Brandon and before that, we will look into the matter, in terms of determining what alternatives are available in terms of a rendering plant for farmers located in the vicinity of Brandon or southwestern Manitoba.

Camperville - education

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education.

I would ask the Minister if she can confirm whether she or any senior staff members from her department have met with the so-called Minister of Education from Camperville, to discuss the education services with respect to that Metis community?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Could have had my job last night, Mr. Speaker.

However, the Deputy Minister had a meeting with the - I can't remember his name - no with the gentleman concerned and it was to provide information to him about the laws that allowed or did not allow us to pay out funds to school divisions.

In that information - and I have followed up in a written letter from me providing all this information - we told him that we were not able, under the existing laws, to pay out money to any other than a legally constituted school division or District No. 1 and if a community is concerned about quality of education or any other matter, they have a procedure that they can follow and that is the Board of Reference and it only requires 10 resident electors to sign the petition to request that a hearing for a boundary change take place.

So we basically informed him that there were two routes for them to follow. One is to work with the existing board to improve the quality of education; or secondly, to apply to the Board of Reference to have a boundary change and have a separate school division set up for their children.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Mr. Speaker, I direct a further question to the Minister. Was any commitment given to Mr. Richards with respect to that community becoming part of the Frontier School Division?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, Mr. Speaker. It was a long night last night. I've almost forgotten the question, but not quite, Mr. Speaker.

There was no commitment made that they could join Frontier because that's not what they have decided to do. They realized there are a number of options.

One is that they may join Frontier School Division, or they may choose to. The other is that they may ask for a Board of Reference hearing to separate and have a smaller separate school division, or to try and work out some negotiations and work under the umbrella of the school division. Since they clearly have not made up their mind what it is they want to do, it's premature

to give any indication of approval. However, they know what the procedure is and that we will follow it very quickly should they decide to use it.

MR. D. GOURLAY: A further supplementary, has the Minister or any members of her department had any discussions with the Duck Mountain School Division with respect to the Camperville situation?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: I think that we're in frequent communication with school divisions and are continually talking about their needs and their problems as we are with that school division and many others. So there has been some discussions.

My understanding is that the position that the board is taking is that they're quite prepared to sit down and talk about the issue of quality of education, because they have some of the same concerns that are being presented by the parents. There clearly are some problems that have to be dealt with and they're willing to explore them.

The other position they're taking is that until something happens to determine otherwise, they are legally responsible for the education of those children and will continue to carry out those duties until there is a change in the legal responsibility.

MR. D. GOURLAY: One final question, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister indicate whether there are any further meetings contemplated or scheduled with the Camperville people regarding their education services?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Speaker, I believe that what we have done to date has provided adequate information and sufficient information to them to outline the procedures that they follow should they choose to follow them. We have also indicated to them that once they make their choice and have decided what they do, if they get in touch with my department we'll give all the information and help that we can in order to speed up the process or make sure that it goes through in a reasonable period of time. The ball, so to speak, is in their court.

Video cassette regulations

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Cultural Affairs.

Does the Film Classification Board now classify, censor, or regulate video cassettes for the home market in Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Culture.

HON. E. KOSTYRA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, no.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister monitoring the new legislation regarding video cassettes being introduced in the Province of Ontario?

HON. E. KOSTRYA: Mr. Speaker, we are aware of the introduction of legislation, I believe it was yesterday,

in the Province of Ontario. We'll be reviewing that once we receive a copy of that legislation.

MR. R. DOERN: Can the Minister indicate whether there is a classification, or censor provision, regarding video cassettes in any of the Canadian provinces at present?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

Perhaps the Honourable Member for Elmwood would wish to ask his question on an area within the administrative competence of this government, not of other provinces.

Alcohol Foundation - library

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is to the Honourable Minister of Health. I would ask him whether he has had time to pursue an answer to a question that was asked by my colleague, the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek last week, relative to a letter that went out from an information area manager for the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba indicating that the William Potoroka Memorial Library was going to close its doors to the public?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Yes, I could give my honourable friend the same answer as I gave last week that that letter as far as the government, as far as myself is concerned, was premature. There are discussions that had gone on before that between myself and the Executive Director. I'm pretty confident that we'll be able to service the people in the library. What we're trying to do is to prevent, or to stop, any duplication the same as the libraries that come under my honourable friend the Minister of Culture.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, would it be fair and reasonable then to conclude that the Minister is giving this House and the public, who draw on that resource, the assurance that the William Potoroka Memorial Library is not going to be closed to the public?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: It would be pretty close.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the reasons given for the proposed closure had to do with budgets and financing of the position involved would the Minister agree or concur that it would seem an unreasonable step to take in view of the fact that the AFM is advertising in the Winnipeg Free Press at the present time for an external program consultant, in a salary range from \$32,000 to \$39,000 per annum, and for a community programs person in a salary range of \$35,000 to \$43,000 per annum.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Asking for the Minister's agreement is asking for an opinion.

Perhaps the honourable member would wish to rephrase his question to seek information.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, can the Minister assure the House that if the AFM is in a position to advertise in the Winnipeg Free Press at the present time for two senior persons who would be paid in the range of \$32,000 to \$43,000 a year in the programs field that it will then not be agreeable to him that the William Potoroka Library should be reduced in staff?

MR. SPEAKER: I'm not sure whether there was a question in there.

The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Can I answer the first question? It was much clearer.

MR. L. SHERMAN: Perhaps I could go back to my original question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, can the Minister confirm that the AFM is advertising for two community programs people, in salary ranges from \$32,000 to \$43,000 a year, and if that's the case does it seem reasonable that there should be any thought being given to the closure of the William Potoroka Library?

MR. SPEAKER: The second part of the question is hypothetical. The Minister may answer the first part if he wishes.

The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I think that in times like we're going through, of course, you have to prioritize and some of the programs might have to be terminated or cut a bit. The situation is though that if any of the programs are going to replace old programs, that will have to be discussed before and that wasn't done at this time.

Alcohol - education

MR. L. SHERMAN: One final supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

I thank the Minister for the efficient way he dealt with that series of questions.

Mr. Speaker, can the Minister advise the House of when the new Education Program developed by the Alcoholism Foundation Educational Advisory Council will be in place in the schools? I remind him that there was a program developed to replace the old program of Building the Pieces Together. It's sitting on a shelf somewhere and I would ask him, when is that program going into the schools?

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I think that this question would be better directed to the Minister of Education.

Our department through the Alcohol Foundation will develop programs but it is up to the Minister of Education as to what will be taught in the schools of Manitoba.

STEP Program

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I direct my question to the Minister in charge of the Treasury Board and would ask him whether he could inform the House whether he instructed the Minister of Employment Services to cut back the Student Temporary Employment Program this year by some \$128,000.00?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Co-op Development.

HON. J. COWAN: Well, I think that the member who asked that question, and who was a member of Cabinet perviously, understands the process very well, therefore I shouldn't need to elaborate upon it for him. The decisions that were made as a part of the Estimates process are decisions that are made by Cabinet as a whole, and they have the support of Cabinet as a whole, and I don't think any more need be said about that.

MR. R. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, to the same Minister then. I wonder if he could then inform the House in light of this \$128,000 cutback in one of the student employment programs, will the Minister inform the House whether that money was used in the Jobs Fund to advertise their job creation programs?

HON. J. COWAN: Well, I think there are a large number of Jobs Funds projects which are available to individual businesses, to individuals within the province, to non-profit organizations such as community organizations, groups, and co-operatives, credit unions, Caisses Populaires, and that those people should be made aware of the availability of those funds to assist them during these difficult economic times.

The Jobs Fund has been developed to provide that sort of long-term and shorter-term support to our economy. It is a project of which we are very proud, and it is a project to which we believe every organization, regardless of the sophistication of their information gathering system, should have equal access. That is why we tell the people about it. It is a program that has provided innumerable benefits to this province, will continue to do so, and should be accessed freely by individuals who might make use of it. They need to know about it. We will make them aware of it.

MR. R. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, in light of the government's drive to spend millions of dollars on informing people of what's happening in this province will he use a few of those dollars to inform the people of Manitoba that this government cut back \$128,000 out of a Student Aid Program which, Mr. Speaker, has once again put some students at a disadvantage in this province?

HON. J. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, I won't believe that students of this province were in anymore of a disadvantage than they were under the time that that member was a member of government. The types of impositions that were imposed upon the student body of this province were well known when, in fact, there were mass protests in front of this building that were directed at that government's activities and rightly so because they did not have the wherewithal, the courage,

or the consideration to make certain that students were not unduly imposed upon by their actions.

What the member has done now is taken one specific project, and one specific numbers of dollars, and suggested that because of decisions that were made around that project we are imposing upon the student body in this province. That is not the case; the record is very clear that that's not the case.

Other members of Cabinet have indicated exactly what they are doing in order to support those students in their efforts to gain an education in this province, and we will continue to support students in their efforts to attain that education because we believe that it is for the long-term benefit of the province as a whole. Certainly the members can pick and choose on whatever programs they want, but if they want to be accurate in their analysis, in their assessment, in their proclamations, then they should take a look at what we are doing overall for the university sector, what we have done for the past couple of years, and what we will continue to do to ensure they have access to those educational opportunities.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Employment Services.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member raised this matter last night in our Estimate's review. I made it clear at that time, with regard to STEP, there are more people under the STEP Program this year than last year. Furthermore, there's more money being spent under Careerstart. Mr. Speaker, there is some misapprehension, the STEP Program is only for jobs in government.

I explained to the members there are many job opportunities in the private sector, and under our Careerstart Program there was an additional amount that will be spent this year over last year. Furthermore there are two or three other major programs for young people that have yet to be announced. We had indicated that last night very clearly in Estimates, so the member is really misleading the House and misleading the public by asserting that there is less money being available for job creation.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Minister should not accuse another honourable member of misleading the House.

The Honourable Minister of Employment Services.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I didn't imply that the member deliberately was trying to mislead the House, but that type of statement gives the wrong impression as to what's actually happening. There's more money being spent for job creation for young people this year than there was last year. There will be more jobs created than last year.

MR. SPEAKER: With that explanation, the Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Mr. Speaker, a simple question to the Minister of Employment Services. Could he confirm

that in his Estimates this year the information that he tabled yesterday, that in the STEP, Student Employment Program, he has allocated \$128,000 less than last year?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, this is really a repeat of our Estimate's discussion which went on last night and which will go on soon, but the amount of money that the honourable member - okay, the honourable member is talking about a very small amount. We're talking about \$128,000 that he referred to, out of a total of \$2,249,100, so that is a fractional amount. We are talking about 868 students who will be employed this year compared to 862 last year. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, and I repeat, that this is a program for . . .

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

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

The Honourable Member for Lakeside on a point of order.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I ask you, Sir, to recognize that a straightforward question was asked about a very specific program, a program that we are all familiar with, a program that has its individual line in the Estimates books, and certainly the Minister can answer: is there less money in that appropriation than there was last year? That was the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

The Honourable Government House Leader to the same point.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Yes, Mr. Speaker, to the same point of order.

Mr. Speaker, although question period has traditionally been used as opposition time, but is certainly time that belongs to all members who are not members of the Executive Council, I would submit that it's an abuse of question period to ask Ministers during question period for confirmation, since confirmation questions, Sir, are normally out of order to begin with, to ask questions for confirmation of material that was presented and is on the record of this House the very night before in Estimates.

What we have here, Mr. Speaker, is Estimates review through question period. Sir, that's patently out of order and then to bring into question period, by repetition, questions of confirmation is certainly out of order. Mr. Speaker, for members opposite to then complain that the facts that are being presented are in some way far too long in the way of answers, when they already know the answers, when they had the same questions last night in Estimates, when really the only purpose for doing it is because last night in Estimates there wasn't any media there, I think it's an abuse of this whole question period in the way games are being played in question period in this House.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I can hear only one member at a time.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, the Government House Leader knows full well . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside to the same point.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, the Government House Leader knows full well that it is against our House rules to suggest that we are imputing motives in any way. I ask, in fact my colleague, the Member for La Verendrye, has a point of privilege. It was the Minister who rose on his own accord to charge him with misleading this House. Mr. Speaker, that is the matter of privilege and the matter of order that we have in this Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader to the same point.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, the Member for Lakeside's point of order is well taken. I think it is improper and I withdraw any suggestion of imputation of motives, but I must suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the rules of our question period and our House are being abused by the kind of tactics that are employed today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye to the same point.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We were trying to establish in this House whether or not this government had cut back eight to one Student Employment Program. It was clearly demonstrated last night, Mr. Speaker, and for the Minister of Employment Services to get up and try to indicate that I was misleading the House was totally wrong and for the House Leader now to impute motives to me is another example of this government trying to weasel out of a situation that is developing in the last little while.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. For the information of honourable members, Beauchesne does say in Citation 359(8), "A question that has been previously answered ought not to be asked again."

If the honourable members do have the information from Estimates or any other proceeding of the House, it is not a proper subject for question period.

The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

Asessippi Provincial Park

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources. Mr. Speaker, at the time Asessippi Provincial Park and the Shellmouth Dam were developed 10 years ago, the Rural Municipality of Shellmouth lost some \$83,000 in assessment and were promised compensation.

Can the Minister advise me why now, when they're hiring an operator to manage the concession booth at Asessippi Provincial Park, they brought somebody in from Dugald, Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

HON. A. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I'm not familiar with the alleged compensation due to the R.M. of Shellmouth

and certainly not familiar with any recent appointment. I certainly can take that as notice.

A MEMBER: Pork barrel.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: I thank the Honourable Minister.

Mr. Speaker, also can the Minister explain to the municipality and the various people out there as to the reason or reasons why the local people who tendered for the position were somehow turned aside? Is it the policy of this government to hire outsiders, when there are all kinds of local people there that are fully qualified to manage that concession booth?

HON. A. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I've indicated that I am totally unfamiliar with the competition or the appointment that the honourable member mentions; I've taken it as notice.

I want to assure him and all members of the House that matters like that are left to competitions. I presume that this competition was held within staff and it was recommended. I certainly didn't see anything of it, and certainly to suggest that there's some favoritism has nothing to do with this Minister or this government.

Tuberculosis outbreak on Indian reserves

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honourable Minister.

I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, Chief Longclaws and some of his band members called my office this morning and drew to my attention that the TB outbreak on the reserve last year - I believe there was some 23 cases, those cases have escalated to another 44 that are being monitored - I wonder, can the Minister advise the band and the community out there if he's prepared to send out some staff to take a look and see how serious the matter is at Waywayseecappo?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, it's an odd situation where the request should not go through the Minister of Health, but through somebody in opposition. If they want any request from us, it would be that they should get in touch with us directly, then we would know what they want.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

The Honourable Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, just for clarification, do I understand that it's not the right channels to go through the Minister of Health regarding this matter or should they maybe go through the Department of Indian Affairs? I'm still not sure what the Minister is referring to.

HON. L. DESJARDINS: I'm referring to the request that apparently was made, it should be made directly to the Department of Health.

Burns plant closure

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

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

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture in his role in Cabinet in negotiating with the Burns Company in Brandon on their plant shut-down.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to quote from the middle of the third or fourth paragraph in the Chairman's letter of the recently tabled Manitoba Hog Producers Marketing Board Report, tabled by the Minister. "The industry faces major competition from packing plants in the USA, who in many cases have fully modern and efficient operations, plus they have a labour rate and fringe benefit advantage of approximately 40 percent. This kind of competition will no doubt reflect the producers' returns being pressured downward in Canada."

Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Agriculture in his role in the Cabinet to prevent the closure of the Burns plant in Brandon, and in his negotiations between labour and management, has he made his Cabinet colleagues aware and knowledgeable of this statement by the Chairman of the Hog Producers Marketing Board?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. It is not in order to quote an outside source and to use it as a subject of a question to the Minister. The honourable member should know that.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for Oral Questions having expired, Orders of the Day.

MR. D. ORCHARD: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina on a point of order.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg your indulgence to indicate to me whether reports tabled by Ministers in this House may or may not be quoted from in paraphrasing questions to the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions are to seek information and should not be argumentative or to have matters quoted to the Minister.

Orders of the Day.

The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Agriculture was seeking information from him, using information he had at his disposal. Was my question out of order because I was seeking information, Sir?

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

HON. A. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I would like leave of the House to make a non-partisan statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Minister have leave? (Agreed).

The Honourable Minister.

NON-POLITICAL STATEMENT

HON. A. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to this House information about a unique activity taking place tomorrow in my constituency.

Assiniboine School is holding its first Annual Safety Day. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time a school in Manitoba has organized such an extensive, broad-based community event with a safety theme.

On May 24th, for the full afternoon, the students, parent-council, teachers and administration in conjunction with many government agencies and community groups are holding their first Annual Safety Day. The purpose of the event is to introduce the community to the many aspects of health, safety and accident prevention.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to note that this Safety Day embodies the principles of caring, compassion and co-operation. I am sure all members will join us in supporting Assiniboine School in its endeavor to unite parents, neighbours and students who are working together to make this school a safer and healthier place in which to grow.

Through the co-operation of government and private agencies, this event is able to reach many people on a broad range of topics. Both the Fire and Police Departments are participating, along with the Humane Society, Workplace Safety and Health, Red Cross, Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation and many others. This will be a fun event starting with a school parade at 12:30 p.m. complete with banners and posters made by the students. In the afternoon, the classrooms will have displays and experts on hand to explain their services. The parent council will be serving coffee and light refreshments.

On behalf of the organizers, I would like to invite all members of the House to attend. I would hope that the example set by the Assiniboine School in focusing the attention of young people, their parents and teachers on the broad aspects of safety will be a model which other schools may wish to emulate. We wish them every success.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside on a point of order.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, without for a moment detracting the very worthwhile undertaking that the Assiniboine School is embarking on, I just want to bring to the attention, through you, Sir, and to the House that leave for non-partisan statements will be less inclined to be given if that privilege becomes abused in any way.

Mr. Speaker, the tradition of the House is well-known. We take a moment to record in the public record, recognize, particular achievements of Manitobans in sporting or in other events that are noteworthy. We

don't, Sir, take that occasion to provide publicity occasions. We all have laudable affairs in our constituencies, we all have laudable undertakings by different public service groups in our constituencies, that we could all make a similar kind of statement that the Minister of Natural Resources just made.

I am only suggesting to the Government House Leader that a time-honoured tradition will go down the tube if it's abused and leave will not be granted for those kinds of statements in the future, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader on the same point.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the point of order raised by the honourable member opposite. It is not the intention of members on this side to abuse that time-honoured tradition and we certainly believe that the Minister of Natural Resources has announced an important day and event in his constituency tomorrow.

We will take under consideration the concern the member has expressed that notices of this type may not be appropriate for non-partisan statements.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to make a non-partisan statement regarding achievement . . .

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Leave has not been granted.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, it would be my intention to move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply but I would ask also, Mr. Speaker, if there is leave from the House today to dispense with Private Members' Hour so we could sit in Committee of Supply until 5:30. If there is such leave, I would then add that to the motion and move that we sit in Supply through until 5:30. (Agreed)

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I would then move, seconded by . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for St. Norbert.

MR. G. MERCIER: On a point of order, Sir. I think if the Government House Leader is going to move that sort of a motion, it should be appropriately made at 4:30, with all due respect to individual private members.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood to the same point.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, I think it would be appropriate for the House Leader to

indicate that he was going to ask for leave at 4:30 but not to ask for it in advance of 4:30.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I asked for leave. I thought I had received leave. I am doing this in the same fashion as has been done on each similar occasion this Session. The purpose of asking at this point and moving straight into Supply is so that the committee will not have to rise, the Speaker be called in again, leave asked and the House return into committee.

Furthermore, on a Wednesday, Sir, when the House is not going to be sitting in the evening, the committee would then not know whether it should interrupt its proceedings at 4:30 or rise. If having risen at 4:30, it could not then, even with leave, reconvene. So, Mr. Speaker, I think the procedure is appropriate and, if there is leave, I will move the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member have leave? (Agreed)

The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Mr. Speaker, I would move, seconded by the Minister of Health, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for The Pas in the Chair for the Department of Education; and the Honourable Member for Burrows in the Chair for the Department of Employment Services and Economic Security.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY - EMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

MR. CHAIRMAN, C. Santos: Committee, please come to order. We are presently considering Item No. 3.(b)(3) Employment Services, Employment Development and Youth Services: Employment Programs - the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: I wonder if I could ask the Minister if he has had the opportunity to get the information I requested yesterday at the beginning of the consideration of his Estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some information now that I would like to give to the Honourable Leader of the Opposition. I want to make it clear, however - there seems to be some misunderstanding - with regard to the date at which Mr. Doug Davison left the department and joined this particular firm.

I noticed in the Winnipeg Free Press of today, Wednesday, May 23rd, that the Honourable Leader of

the Opposition is quoted, and perhaps he's misquoted, whereby he says that, "Doug Davison joined WMC last November, a month after the contract came into effect." Of course, that is not true. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition is shaking his head, so obviously he didn't say that to the press.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, if I may for the record, I did not indicate that Mr. Davison had joined WMC a month after the contract was negotiated. My understanding is that he joined on or about the 13th of April. I am not certain as to the expiry date of the contract, but perhaps the Minister could indicate. My understanding is that it was in late March.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I'm glad that the honourable member clarified what he had said to the press. The fact is that the last day of employment of Mr. Davison with the government was April 13, 1984. I understand he began employment with this consulting firm around the first week of May.

With regard to the contract itself, in answering the other questions of the member, the Leader of the Opposition, the contract with WMC Associates was to review various policy areas as part of a departmental effort to focus and repriorize the initiatives of the Employment Services Division. Now specifically, there were three areas to be reviewed.

The first area was regarding the federal-provincial relations as they affect our employment and training programs. A great amount of money is cost-shared with the Federal Government, particularly under The National Training Act. At that point, the department felt and the government felt that it was worthwhile to analyze the context of these federal-provincial relationships with the primary emphasis between this department and the federal Department of Employment and Immigration.

In this context, the consulting firm was to document the history of the federal-provincial agreements with the emphasis on training and employment policy and programming. They were to examine the overall nature and operational aspect of federal-provincial relations in this area, and they were to construct estimates of a fiscal account of the relationship between the Manitoba Government and the Federal Department of Employment and Immigration which would be used for future negotiations and fiscal planning between the province and Federal Government. In addition, under this topic, the firm was to provide suggestions for possible departmental restructuring and other organizational procedures that we may want to change. That was one area.

The other area to be considered by the consultants regarded Provincial Apprenticeship System and Program to review the most effective means of organizing and conducting the Apprenticeship Program and they were to look at various aspects, looking at the current legislation and the legislative practices, the regulatory practices to look at the various programs that we had in place and to make suggestions for improvements and maybe suggest even further analysis that should be done. The Apprenticeship Program, I might add, is still with the Department of Labour.

In addition, there was to be a review of the aviation and air industry training in Western Canada. Using a

recent development we were going to use this as the model for future co-operative planning between the government and industry with respect to training and we were going to look at various aspects of that. There's a lot of detail on this, but we were looking at the Western Aviation Manpower Planning Board as an area to be studied and as a model for future industry training agreements.

We have received some parts of this report; it's not complete. In other words, it's still in the process of being received, but it's basically a report for internal operations and for negotiations with Ottawa.

The Treasury Board approved an expenditure of \$52,400 for professional services and up to \$15,000 for expenses which totals therefore \$67,400.00. We anticipate, however, that the final expense will be lower than this. We anticipate that the final expenditures will be approximately \$55,000 or about \$12,000 less than originally anticipated.

The contract work involves not one person, as the member referred to last night, but rather a team of three people are working on this and that Mr. Davison is not a part of this particular study group and is no way connected with this study, I'm advised.

I think those were the general areas of concern that the member had. I've tried to cover all that I could remember at least.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition.

MR. G. FILMON: I wonder if I could ask the Minister, who specifically has been delivering the services on this contract?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, the personnel involved, the project director is Mr. Doug McArthur and the other two researchers are Mr. Rob Henderson and Mr. Jeremy Hull, H-U-L-L.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, is the Minister indicating then that the work is still being done?

HON. L. EVANS: It's in the final stages, I understand. Yes, it's in the final draft stage that they've been working on, they've been doing some revisions, so we anticipate a final report soon.

MR. G. FILMON: The Treasury Board approval was for a period of time expiring March 31, 1984. Has that been extended? What agreements have been made with respect to that?

HON. L. EVANS: Well the amount that we're paying is as indicated. Normally when you pay out in a different fiscal year, it has to come out of that fiscal year, so not all of the money of course has been paid. We're holding back a large amount until the final report has been received, which is a prudent thing to do. I can double-check, but normally the moneys paid out in this fiscal year come out of this fiscal year's appropriation.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Labour was quoted then on the 2nd of May, following my questions. She was quoted publicly as saying that the report had been completed prior to Mr. Davison joining the firm. Was she in error?

HON. L. EVANS: I understand at that point they had a second draft of the report, but it's still being revised, so I guess there was a draft report but it wasn't in the final finished stages that was acceptable.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, in fact the Minister of Labour was in error and did indeed give information to the media that was incorrect about that, that the report had not been completed in its final form at the point on May 2 when she gave that interview.

HON. L. EVANS: Well I would have to check. I'm not quite sure what she said.

MR. G. FILMON: Well if the work is still being done and if a final report is still being worked on, she was obviously in error. We'll take that up with her. We'll pursue that with her. Obviously it's not a matter to be dealt with, with this Minister.

I am curious, Mr. Chairman, as to know why one of the principle parts of the investigation, that into The National Training Act and Federal-Provincial relations with respect to employment training programs, that is an area that is almost totally funded and/or delivered by the Department of Education in co-operation with the Federal Government - I recognize that there is federal funding there - but the delivery of those training services and programs is almost totally by the Department of Education. Why would this department be funding a study into that?

HON. L. EVANS: Well, Mr. Chairman, it's our department that has the responsibility for negotiations with Ottawa. We have a unit that specializes in The National Training Act negotiations and general administration of those funds. Those funds flow, based on the discussions we have with our counterparts in Ottawa and arrangements and agreements made. I discussed this matter for example, with Mr. John Roberts a few months ago at a Federal-Provincial Conference and it is a matter that is dealt with by this department, The National Training Act. Subsequently, of course, it's the Department of Education and to some degree the Department of Labour that delivers the training. That is correct.

MR. G. FILMON: Was the objective to gain additional funding from the Federal Government to try and gain additional transfer funds? Is that what this firm was hired to instruct the government on?

HON. L. EVANS: Specifically, to put us in a better position to negotiate better arrangements for Manitoba. Obviously, the general objective is to get as much federal assistance in various areas of employment training as possible. So we felt that by obtaining some historical background and by looking into the whole spectrum of federal-provincial relations in this area, not only between Manitoba and Canada but what was going on with the other provinces and so on, would be to our advantage and we believe it will be to our advantage.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could indicate if he expects to be able to make public the report that he receives from this organization?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, it wasn't our intention to make it public because it was meant to be a document that would provide guidance for us in negotiating with the Federal Government. I don't know whether it's in the public interest to make this available to the people ultimately that we will be negotiating with. It seems prudent and advisable to utilize it as an in-house document for these purposes.

MR. G. FILMON: Will any of the recommendations put forward by this organization be made public?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, it is not our intent. Hopefully, it will result in better programming and what will be made public, I suppose, if we're successful, is the fact that we are able to do more in the way of training and that we are able to get more federal dollars. This is a substantial amount of money we're talking about.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, \$55,000 or \$60,000 is a substantial amount of money to pay. I cannot find any indication that WMC Associates is registered either in Manitoba or Saskatchewan. Does the Minister have any idea why that company or that organization is not registered under either a business name or as a corporation?

HON. L. EVANS: I don't know why it's not registered, Mr. Chairman. But I want to point out with regard to The National Training Act that although the contract you suggest is a rather sizable sum of money, we're talking about a National Training Act which is up for renegotiation within the next few months. In 1983-84, our budget, under The National Training Act - this is federal money - is well in excess of \$51 million. We're talking about \$51,343,000.00. A great chunk of that is moneys that go and flow to our educational institutions. There are other kinds of moneys, training allowances, industrial training programs and so on. It is very substantial and very very important to our thrust in training workers for the Manitoba labour market. But I would also point out that was only one element. There were a couple of other elements as well in the report.

MR. G. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, is the Minister indicating that there is no one in the government service now who has any expertise or experience in negotiating these federal-provincial agreements?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I'm not suggesting that we don't have the negotiating skills. We have the responsibility for the negotiations. What we're asking is for data, information. We want to have documentation so we can back up some of our arguments, but we will do the negotiating. It's our responsibility, not a private consulting firm.

MR. G. FILMON: Is there no one within the government service who is capable of providing that data?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, it's a matter of allocation of resources. I was not the Minister at the time this decision was made, but I assume it was felt that it was the kind of work, because it was a one-

time type of research effort, that it was advisable to use outside consultants. This is the eternal problem whether you do in-house research or you ask an outside agency to do research. I personally am inclined to do as much of this in-house as possible. That has been my view over the years. But from time to time, I recognize that it just makes sense to use an outside consulting firm. I assume, given the workload of the research staff and others who could do this kind of research in-house, that they were perhaps tied up on other things and had other projects to be involved in, that this was the way to go to get this particular job done for the department.

MR. G. FILMON: No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(b)(3) - the Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I asked the Minister for a series of statistics which he said he would be providing today. Maybe we could start off - or if he'd like me to ask the questions again, I could.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I have a number of statistics here and I'll be glad to provide this information at this time. I hope I have all the information that was requested.

In the area of Careerstart - I'm not sure which member asked these, I believe the Member for Gladstone asked a number of questions as well. She asked a question on Careerstart advertising. I don't know whether she's listening or not, but the Member for Gladstone asked about the amount of money we spend on advertising the Careerstart Program in this year, and the number we have now, the estimate we've made is \$41,689.00. That's the total placement of the ads, primarily in newspapers, daily and weekly. We also had some in radio station announcements. But this is a very very minor portion of the total expenditure, which I imagine the member is interested in, it represents .005 percent of our total expenditure, so that is 1/200th of 1 percent. It's a very minor amount, so that's the advertising.

There was another question regarding applications received. In 1983, 4,406 applications were received; of these 4,272 were approved and approximately \$7.2 million was expended on 5,776 positions. That's \$7,188,000 on 5,776 positions. This year, 1984, we received 5,802 applications and, of these, 4,648 were approved, so that's roughly 400 more than last year, for a total of \$8,468,826, representing 6,086 positions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Out of the 4,272 approved last year, in other words, what was the take-up? What percentage are you looking at of people that have their applications approved and then don't take either the full length of time or just don't pick up on their approval?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, that is a phenomenon. There's always a percentage, there will always be a percentage of drop-off, but I think that's indicated when I told you that we spent \$7,188,000, that was the actual

expenditure I understand, and we actually had 5,776 jobs. This year we anticipate, because we believe we have a higher quality level of approval this year on the kinds of jobs, we don't anticipate the same fall-off. We think that our total spending will be well over \$8 million this year. There's going to be some fall-off, I'm not suggesting otherwise, but we think there will be less. Our staff advises that we anticipate less fall-off because of the kinds of applications we approved.

MR. R. BANMAN: Has the Minister got sort of a percentage - like in '83 - was there 5 percent fall-off or what happened?

HON. L. EVANS: Last year it was about 15 percent in dollar terms. It was about a 15 percent drop-off or slippage or whatever term you wish to use. As I said, we anticipate this to be considerably less this year.

MR. R. BANMAN: I wonder if he could give us what was approved in '83 and in '84 in the Estimates in his department for Careerstart?

HON. L. EVANS: It's a bit complicated. We can get that information. In last year's Estimates there were no dollars in this department for Careerstart, it all came from the Jobs Fund. This year we had \$3.1 million given to our department and the balance was topped from moneys from the Jobs Fund.

MR. R. BANMAN: Last year, all your funding came from the Jobs Fund and this year, some \$5 million will be coming from the Jobs Fund.

HON. L. EVANS: Approximately.

MR. R. BANMAN: Some of the criteria this year was a policy where applications that came in, that instead of providing two or three to one employer, what they tried to do was go ahead and approve more applications. I bring this to the Minister's attention because some of the people that did get two or three last year maybe applied for two this year and were cut down to one. That has caused a lot of problems out there because you can, under the program, stipulate the individual that you'd be hiring. I know one person in particular that hired three people last year under the program, had two people hired this year and then of course just before the second student was to start her work, her job, the employer was informed that he was only getting one student. So what has happened? Have the criteria changed somewhat this year?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I believe we discussed this last night. I guess the member wasn't here at that time. As we indicated, there was a greater number of applications this year, and we did have to spread it around more. I also indicated last night that in previous years the City of Winnipeg, which now has about 60 percent of the Manitoba population, received something in the order of 25 percent to 30 percent of the total expenditures. It was really lopsided.

This is a Careerstart program for all of Manitoba. It's not a rural program, it's a province-wide program and this year there is a greater expenditure in The City

of Winnipeg - not 60 percent, but much more percentage-wise than last year. We also noted last night, and I guess I'm repeating myself, that there is a higher level of unemployment in the City of Winnipeg than there is for Manitoba as a whole, the exception being remote communities in the North. But the unemployment situation is worse in the City of Winnipeg than it is in rural Manitoba and of course, as I indicated there is a greater population of young people requiring jobs in the City of Winnipeg.

This year, we were not able to accommodate employers for three jobs, perhaps as they've had last year, but because we have been more selective generally across the province, we believe that the quality of the job is better. In fact it usually is better. Interestingly enough, an analysis of applications show that the first job applied for is usually better than the subsequent jobs, in terms of the kind of work that they have to do and the amount of skill involvement, etc. The criteria, basically, are outlined in a pamphlet on the Careerstart. I went over them last night and indicated what the criteria were and they're basically the same as last year, but as I indicated the one main difference is that we had to accommodate more applications from the Winnipeg area.

In terms of prioritizing of the jobs, we asked the employers to do that. They tell us what their number one priority is, their number two and number three. We approve it on that basis and as I said it's approved in the field.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Emerson.

MR. A. DRIEDGER: Maybe the Minister answered this as well yesterday, and I apologize if it is a repetitious question, but when the applications were received were they dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis or not?

HON. L. EVANS: All the applications were in by March 26th and then the staff reviewed them. As I said, they were prioritized by the employers and we in turn prioritized them. I gave one example in terms of the criteria and this is referred to in the pamphlet, and that is we would give some priority to the disadvantaged.

For instance, if one employer had a physically handicapped person in a wheelchair, let us say, as opposed to another employer, everything else remaining equal, we'd like to give the handicapped person the chance, so there was that kind of prioritization by the staff. Generally speaking, the criteria were the same as last year.

MR. A. DRIEDGER: The reason I expressed some concern is because I've had a lot of calls from people who obviously made application and have been refused. Just an example, in the home community where I live, in the Village of Grunthal, four different organizations and people made applications and all were refused. They haven't got anybody working in the community and this is why I asked you exactly what were the criteria or how was this handled? The applications, basically the four different ones, one dealt with a sports association, a non-profit organization; the other one was the UBD; one was a private individual; another

one was a business, and all four applications for the jobs that were applied, everybody was refused in the community. I have a few cases like that and this is why I raised the question of how was the qualification established to some degree?

HON. L. EVANS: We allocate about a third of the spending to non-profit organizations and two-thirds to business and commercial organizations including farm operations. The reason for that preference of course is that on the commercial side the businesses are required to pay \$2.00 at least towards the cost. The non-profit, we pay the whole \$4.00, the whole minimum wage plus 10 percent for employee benefits. Other than that, the criteria are basically the same.

As I indicated, we had to spread the money out more and we zeroed in on where the heaviest unemployment was and that's what the statistical surveys show us. We think it makes sense to zero in where the heaviest concentration of unemployment is. Having said that, although Winnipeg has 60 percent of the population, it's still not getting anywhere near 60 percent of the money. It's far less than that.

MR. A. DRIEDGER: One of the concerns is that when they get their rejection it says basically, because of the lack of funding they do not qualify. The question I ask is, what do we have to do to qualify? In other years, for example as I say, within my community, with all four applications being rejected, they ask what do we have to do to get somebody? Just the fact that there isn't enough funds, then the question has to be asked, well where has the funding gone or where have the jobs gone. The impression in my constituency, for example, is that the money must have gone to other areas, certainly not within the rural area.

HON. L. EVANS: Well, as I indicated, Mr. Chairman, there has been an increase in the City of Winnipeg, because last year I believe, if my memory serves me correct, it received 27 percent of the funds even though it has 60 percent of the population. As I said, it is not anywhere near receiving 60 percent of the total funds.

I would say that in your own riding, for instance, in that area, you're still getting higher than average per capita amount of assistance. You are getting a disproportionate amount in the Emerson-southeastern area of the province. So if you ask, where did the money go or where has the money gone, essentially there is more money being spent in the City of Winnipeg. It's as simple as that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Roblin-Russell.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister a few questions. How much money did you spend on advertising on the Careerstart Program?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That question has been answered before.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Okay, thank you. Can I ask the Minister, what are the funds available at your disposal this year for Careerstart, and how much did you have last year?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, we just answered that question as well.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Okay. I'm concerned, because the Minister said it's the same as last year, Mr. Chairman, and it is not the same as last year. Roblin alone had 60 applications accepted last year; this year, there are only 32. The Town of Russell has been turned down. The Town of Roblin has been turned down. I have sent five or six to the Minister in the last two weeks or so. They've all been turned down.

All these people are exposed to that highly sophisticated advertising program and these brochures, and they all feel that they should qualify. I'm wondering, what kind of response is the Minister providing to these constituents who are keenly interested, who file their applications, and then now have all been turned down?

HON. L. EVANS: As I was indicating last night, we have had to use certain criteria for prioritization. For instance, if an employer this year was given some federal money, Canada Summer Works money, well we felt we should give it to the employer who has no money from the Federal Government.

If an employer had been getting, last winter, money from our department under the Manitoba Employment Program and another employer didn't get any assistance last winter, we felt that we should give it to the one who didn't get any assistance before. If an employer had a handicapped person, everything else being equal, and another employer didn't have a handicapped person, we would be inclined to favour the employer who is going to give somebody in a wheelchair a chance. So those kinds of considerations were taken into account. But generally speaking, the staff have done an excellent job in spreading the money as widely as possible.

As I have indicated earlier this afternoon, the applications far exceeded the amount of revenue we have. We are going to be spending considerably, and I've given those figures out, considerably more this year than we spent last year, we've indicated that; and we have also indicated that the total expenditure on advertising is .005 percent of the budget. I think that comes to something like 1/200 of 1 percent. It's a very minor amount of the total spending.

So generally, the answer to your question is the answer I gave the Member for Emerson and that is, we felt it was wise to concentrate on areas of highest unemployment. Let me make another - because I guess I'm now repeating myself - Winnipeg has the highest concentration of unemployment, and we happen to have a lot of young people, a high percentage of young people in the City of Winnipeg as well.

But I want to make this point. There are other efforts to create jobs for young people and not so young people. We will be announcing later this year new programs or revisions of previous programs. Last year, we had the Manitoba Employment Action Program. There will be a modification of that announced for later in the year. Also we talked about the STEP Program, that created over 800 jobs. We have some other announcements we'll be making once we finalize the details that will involve opportunities for young people. I hope people in the Roblin area will have an opportunity to get some assistance that way.

But the decisions were made in the field, and the managers had an allocation and they had to do their best within those allocations. If I could have double the amount of money - I'm laughing because it's a large amount of money - if I could have, say, 16 million instead of 8 million, we wouldn't have said no to anybody, I suppose. I'm not sure. If I had a lot more money we would have been able to accommodate everybody and more.

But we are spending more money this year. We'll have more people employed, but we have had to say no to some people, and we've had to say one or two instead of three, to some others.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: I hope the Minister will try and explain to me where he and the government went wrong on this program, because I think if he checks his records he'll find there were few if any concerns or letters expressing anxiety from the area last year, but this year there are all kinds of people who are really uptight. Did you over-advertise? Did you make promises that you can't fulfill, or where did it go wrong because I didn't have any concerns to speak of last year? And I'm sure the Minister can check the files. But I've sure got them this year, and he's got a bunch of the samples on his desk that I wrote to him and explained, that these are loyal, dedicated people and, all of a sudden, they're high and dry with a program that they thought was in place. Where did they go wrong? I would sure like to be able to tell them.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I don't think we went wrong. I reject that we went wrong. We are going in a direction so that we can more effectively address the unemployment of young people in Manitoba. As I have said before, the greatest concentration of unemployment is in the City of Winnipeg. The rate of unemployment is higher in the City of Winnipeg than it is for Manitoba as a whole and therefore, it seems to me that it's rational and wise to tackle the unemployment in the areas of greatest need.

Having said that, I would tell the Honourable Member for Roblin that if the moneys you receive are strictly on a per capita or proportionate basis, there would be even less money spent in that particular area of the province. It's still more than your population would justify. But we're looking at population. We are looking at unemployment levels. I think that's a matter of being fair and trying to be equitable.

MR. W. MCKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, one final question, I wonder if the Minister can tell me what he is writing back to these people that have been turned down. What kind of a letter, because one constituent phoned me today, and he laughed about the type of letter. He is going to send me a copy of it for tomorrow, I don't have it today. What kind of response are you giving to these applicants that have been turned down?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I am advised that it's a form letter - a rejection letter is a form letter that was used in previous years. It's not from me, it's from the Regional Manager.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(b)(3) - the Member for Minnedosa.

MR. D. BLAKE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. In the Minister's opening statement, he mentioned the Manitoba Employment Action Program. I wonder if he might describe that program to us.

HON. L. EVANS: The Manitoba Employment Action Program is a program of wage subsidy available to people of all ages. Generally we pay 50 percent of the employee's hourly wage up to a maximum of \$4.00 per hour; that's both for the business and the farm sector. The employers are responsible for recruiting their own employees and all employers are required to provide a minimum of 300 consecutive hours of employment. Employers in the non-profit community organization sector will only be allowed to apply for a maximum of two positions; employers in the business farm sector can apply for a maximum of three positions.

We're discouraging hiring of immediate relatives, we are discouraging them but they are eligible to be hired. The areas to be covered are essentially southern, rural Manitoba, Winnipeg, and eight larger communities in Northern Manitoba.

We will have this year a special measures component to encourage the hiring of the disadvantaged people who are unemployed. The definition of unemployed is being expanded to include 15 hours per week or less.

Generally speaking it is a wage subsidy program and we're hoping that it will be able to get launched this fall.

MR. D. BLAKE: To the Minister. I understand they're hoping to have it launched this fall, so it's not in place yet, there's been no take-ups under that program to date.

HON. L. EVANS: Oh, I'm sorry I didn't hear the question, I'm sorry.

MR. D. BLAKE: I take it from your remarks that you said you hoped that it will be launched this fall. It's not in place now?

HON. L. EVANS: That is correct. I have to make a correction. We've had two years of the Manitoba Employment Action Program, '82-83, '83-84, and that is now concluded, the '83-84 is now concluded. The '84-85 will be starting up sometime this fall.

The description I gave you was of last year's program '83-84. There may be some minor modifications for '84-85, but essentially it remains a wage subsidy program. We are considering another component involving training as well, but when that's determined we will make that information available.

MR. D. BLAKE: I wonder if the Minister could tell us what take-up there was on the program in the past year. How many people involved? How many jobs created?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, last year we received 2,417 applications. Of that number we approved 1,789. Then there was some subsequently cancelled, so finally we dealt with 1,589 applications which covered 1,863 positions or jobs. It involved an expenditure of \$5,155,000.00.

MR. D. BLAKE: For 1,589 jobs.

HON. L. EVANS: I'm sorry, for 1,863 jobs.

MR. D. BLAKE: Well, I'm confused now. You had 2,417 applications. There was 1,789 approved which boiled down to 1,589 final?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, after it was cancelled.

MR. D. BLAKE: Then you say that you've employed 1,600 or so.

HON. L. EVANS: I'm sorry, those were the applications, 1,589. Finally the bottom line is 1,589 in applications, but those applications were equivalent to 1,863 jobs.

MR. D. BLAKE: Some were for two positions.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. D. BLAKE: So 1,863 jobs cost us \$5,155,000.00.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. D. BLAKE: What duration? Was that for the full year?

HON. L. EVANS: No, it varied but the maximum was 20 weeks under that program. The total number of work weeks - I can give you that number if you like - is 35,923 work weeks.

MR. D. BLAKE: Yes, that confuses me when we get into work weeks and staff man hours and . . .

HON. L. EVANS: Well, if you divide it by 52 you get work years.

MR. D. BLAKE: I don't have my computer with me. That sounds like a pretty heavy program for 1,800 jobs, \$5 million. What does that work out to per job quickly Mr. Scott with your applicator there?

HON. L. EVANS: I think that averages \$2,767 per person.

MR. D. BLAKE: For four months, five months work?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, as I was indicating, in last years program, '83-84 we paid \$2.00 per hour in the business sector, and the employer could pay \$2.00 or indeed more than that if he so wished. So the private employer is putting in an amount at least equivalent to this, if not even more.

MR. D. BLAKE: I guess there would be quite a number of cases here, Mr. Chairman, where this would qualify them for the number of weeks required to put them on unemployment insurance and then the feds pick it up.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. D. BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to indicate to the Minister that a number of Careerstart applications in my area have been refused this year. Some of these people had been participating in the program under various names for various years. I just want to indicate to the Minister, and he's received some correspondence from these people, that as a result there will be students who don't receive work this summer because of the failure of that business and organization to qualify for Careerstart funding this year.

Now the Minister and the government from time to time have attempted to make quite grandiose claims about the success of the program, and indicate that it is working quite well. But unfortunately the proof is not in the pudding because it is not working for many people in my area and other areas that have been mentioned already. I would like to ask the Minister if he can provide us with information as to the areas in which employers who have received approval to hire under Careerstart are located? Where are the employers that are hiring students under Careerstart?

HON. L. EVANS: First of all, this is a subject we have been discussing with four or five of your colleagues last night and tonight, the same . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: These have been discussed to death already.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, I suggest the students are wanting it to be discussed to death.

HON. L. EVANS: That's fine. I'll just repeat. Mr. Chairman, last year, we spent on this program slightly over \$7 million. I haven't got the figure in front of me, \$7.2 million. This year, we anticipate spending well over \$8 million. So there is going to be a lot more spent this year.

I would like to remind the honourable member the last year, I believe, of their administration for this comparable program, their expenditure was something in the order of \$3.5 million. So this year we're spending nearly three times the amount that he made available for students in 1981 and I daresay inflation hasn't tripled in that time. So there is no question that we've got more money available for more jobs than ever before.

But the fact is that - and I've indicated this previously - we've had to prioritize even though we're spending more money this year, we observed in our records that in past years the City of Winnipeg, which has 60 percent of the population, received between 25 and 30 percent of the funding. Now this is a provincial-wide program, it is not just a rural program. There are some programs that are strictly rural. There are some programs that are strictly northern, but this is a province-wide program eligible to businesses and non-profit organizations in the City of Winnipeg as well as in Pembina riding or any other part of Manitoba.

Inasmuch as Winnipeg has 60 percent of the population and inasmuch as the rate of unemployment is higher in the City of Winnipeg than it is for Manitoba as a whole, we have an excessive concentration of

unemployed students and other young people in the City of Winnipeg and it makes sense to put the money a bit more where the concentration of unemployment is. So even though it has 60 percent of the population, it still will not receive 60 percent of the money. It will be receiving more than last year. I think last year it was about 27 percent. So this is the fact. Even though we're going to be spending roughly a million dollars more this year, the fact is that we felt that it was important to zero in on the concentration of unemployed youth and you can only do that by spreading the money around a little more broadly.

As I have indicated to the members previously, if an employer has had an indication from the Federal Government of getting Summer Works money, we feel that we should give it to that employer who doesn't have any such assistance. If one employer had three positions last year, he may have had to do with one or two this year so we could give money for his colleague down the street, an opportunity to hire somebody.

So generally speaking, that is the essence of what is happening this past year. I think I've said it about seven times in the last two days.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't like the proceedings of this committee to be like a broken record. The Member for Pembina.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, maybe you might let the conversation go on, it won't be a broken record.

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister since he indicates the statistic of some 27 percent last year for the City of Winnipeg, what does he expect that percentage to be this year?

HON. L. EVANS: Well this is preliminary, probably about 42 percent, approximately.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Does the Minister have a breakdown for the rest of the province to indicate what percentage would be going into Northern Manitoba, for instance, compared to last year?

HON. L. EVANS: We have some numbers. We'll have to do some percentage calculations, I guess. This year in Northern Manitoba, we've approved approximately \$625,000.00. Yes, roughly \$625,000 in Northern Manitoba.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister have a comparable figure for last year?

HON. L. EVANS: Just a moment. I have to revise that figure for the North, that was a week old. It's revised every week, I guess. The figure this year for the North is \$729,000 approved, which is down from last year. Last year it was a shade over \$1 million.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Since this has gone up 100,000 a week, would it be fair to assume that by the end of the month it will be approaching that million dollars, or are approval of applications finished?

HON. L. EVANS: I don't expect it to go up to any extent. There may be some minor revisions. The

applications are in and the approval process is essentially finished.

MR. D. ORCHARD: It would appear as if the City of Winnipeg, if I have followed the Minister's figures correctly, will receive approximately 15 percent more of the Budget this year than last year. Could the Minister indicate from what general area of the province - and it appears as if the North may have dropped by a couple of hundred thousand dollars - would rural Manitoba pick up the balance, or is the City of Brandon down as well?

HON. L. EVANS: In this Table I have figures by region and I'm advised by my Deputy that there is a bit of a problem because the regional boundaries are different between two years; there is some adjustment there, so it's not perfectly accurate. But all of the rural areas would have had less money if you're going to put more money into Winnipeg. Even though the total amount of money is up, the North and other parts of rural Manitoba have had less money.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Could the Minister make available to members of the committee, that regional breakdown this year versus last year?

HON. L. EVANS: I could give you the information, Mr. Chairman. Do you want me to give you the Estimates now?

MR. D. ORCHARD: That would be fine.

MR. L. EVANS: I could round this off to the nearest 100,000 or nearest thousand if you like. Do you want dollars or do you want jobs?

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, to understand the program, to make sure that we're talking about the same thing, the level of subsidy is the same this year as last year, so \$1,000 last year would create the same number of jobs as this year?

HON. L. EVANS: Excuse me, I'm sorry. I wonder if the Member for Pembina would repeat that.

MR. D. ORCHARD: You indicated what values we wanted you to give the answer in. Jobs, of course, would be the most explicit, but if dollars are only available and the subsidy rate of \$2.00 per hour has not changed this year from last year, a reasonably accurate calculation, I assume, could be made of dollar values only were available, but jobs would be the ideal if the Minister could provide those figures.

HON. L. EVANS: Well, my Deputy was just pointing out again that there are some changes in the regional boundaries for various administrative reasons which I won't go into. So in comparing Westman North, we don't have anything to compare it with. That was combined with Westman South. Westman is split between South and North - I'm not sure why - most other areas are combined as Westman Region. Then I think there's some change in connection with South Central.

Because these are still not final, I'm wondering if I could provide a table to the opposition, to the official critic and the Member for Pembina, giving the number of jobs, the number of weeks, the number of applications and the dollars, give you a complete table for the entire province by region on a consistent basis. This is not consistent and it's misleading.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, just let me clarify what the Minister has offered here. Is that going to be a table of where they estimate to have the money spent or is this going to be actual figures which would take several weeks, presumably, to make available?

HON. L. EVANS: Hopefully, next week sometime we could make this available. This will be approvals. There's always a certain amount of drop-off during the year, but it'll give you a fair idea of the distribution.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Mr. Chairman, that would be fine. Now the Minister has indicated that there is a shift from rural Manitoba to the City of Winnipeg involving some 15 percent of the program funding. I assume - or maybe I shouldn't assume - did the Minister make a policy decision to undertake that shift?

HON. L. EVANS: It was a decision taken by the government, involving myself as a Minister. As I said, it's a policy based on the unemployment problem that we have in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Then in developing that policy which would indicate a shift to the City of Winnipeg, can the Minister indicate whether there were any other areas, i.e. Brandon, for which it was a policy decision to shift additional funds this year compared to last year? If that was the case, what regions and what areas are involved in getting more money?

HON. L. EVANS: The policy decision was only with regard to the City of Winnipeg and therefore all the other areas were reallocated based on their population.

MR. D. ORCHARD: Just one final area if the Minister could - he indicates that traditionally 25 percent, 27 percent, 30 percent of the money was allocated to the City of Winnipeg.

MR. L. EVANS: Last year was 27 percent, so I imagine it was in that ball park.

MR. D. ORCHARD: That would seem to bring up the question as to why. Were there fewer applications from the City of Winnipeg than from the rest of Manitoba, so that they were allocated only 27 percent of the funds? Were they late in their application and the money was allocated on a first-come, first-served basis? Why was the City of Winnipeg receiving less money?

HON. L. EVANS: First of all, in every year you don't approve all the applications, but there tended to be less awareness on the part of the business community, I think, in the past years. There's certainly no shortage of non-profit organizations take-up. They can take up the whole budget if you approved every non-profit group

in the City of Winnipeg. But the point is that we would only allocate a certain amount. I've suggested a one-third amount for non-profit because we pay the entire wage bill, whereas on the business side we pay only half the wage bill. We don't have any field staff in the City of Winnipeg. Rural areas have field staff. We have various offices, as we indicated last night, around Manitoba and I guess the business community has been a bit more aware of it because of the field staff functions.

MR. D. ORCHARD: One last question. With less money going to rural Manitoba, are there fewer field staff in rural Manitoba?

HON. L. EVANS: There is a reduction of one. The field staff, however, are engaged in many programs. This is only one. In the winter time we will have several other programs under way. We have one or two other programs under way now, but there will be other programs this coming fall.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Mr. Chairman, leaving Careerstart for the time being anyway, does the NEED Program fall under this heading?

HON. L. EVANS: I believe it's under another line, Mr. Chairman. That's under Page 61(d), Federal-Provincial Programs Co-ordination.

MRS. C. OLESON: Okay, well I'll ask my questions on that in that area then. What about that program to do with the engineering and science graduates? Does it fall in this line?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MRS. C. OLESON: Could the Minister then indicate how many students received help under this program and what was the funding?

HON. L. EVANS: This program is still under way. There are 77 graduates in the program.

MRS. C. OLESON: When you say it's still under way, are you indicating it's the same students involved this year as last year, that this is an ongoing program with the same people?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, it's a one-year program. The employer must take that student for a whole year and many of these students didn't get started until late last year or early this year.

MRS. C. OLESON: What is the funding for that?

HON. L. EVANS: It's a \$1 million allocation, but it's available for expenditure in both fiscal years.

MRS. C. OLESON: The Senior Citizens' Job Bureau - is that something that's under this Minister? Is it in this line?

HON. L. EVANS: We used to provide a grant to the seniors' organization for that function, but they withdrew

their application because they have quite a bit of federal money, I understand.

MRS. C. OLESON: So that's no longer a provincially-funded organization.

HON. L. EVANS: There may be some money from the Department of Health because the Minister of Health is undertaking to be the focal point for all programs for senior citizens. There's funding of the various drop-in centres, such as the Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Incorporated. That is funded by the Department of Health; also the Age and Opportunity Bureau is funded by the Department of Health, but they're not job-oriented. They're considered to be part and parcel of good sociability, leading to better health I suppose.

MRS. C. OLESON: In the '83-84 Estimates, there is reference to a Community Unemployment Counselling Centre. Is this something that this Minister has in his department?

HON. L. EVANS: I'm advised that it stayed in the Department of Labour.

MRS. C. OLESON: It stayed in the Department of Labour. Then if we could move on to (4) . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(b)(3)—pass. There are no appropriations in these two other lines. I will not call them.

3.(c)(1), 3.(c)(2) Immigration and Settlement Services: Salaries and Other Expenditures - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Just a moment. In Northern Development Agreement . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no money involved.

MRS. C. OLESON: Well just bcause there is no money doesn't say you can't talk about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We don't pass it though. We can discuss it.

MRS. C. OLESON: Maybe the Minister would explain the program of why there is no money. Who is travelling and why? How come it isn't costing us anything?

HON. L. EVANS: That program was essentially one for, I believe, Northern Manitoba. It was funded under a cost-shared arrangement with the Federal Government under the Northern Development Agreement. However, we determined this year that we would cancel it, partly as a part of our fiscal restraint. I am not suggesting we wouldn't have it in future years, but this year it was decided to not proceed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(c)(1), 3.(c)(2) Immigration and Settlement Services: Salaries, Other Expenditures - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Could the Minister tell us what programs fall under this department. I have a listing

here that I got from the Labour and Manpower Annual Report of 1982 which, of course, may not be up-to-date, and the Labour Annual Report isn't available yet. I wonder, could the Minister indicate what programs fall under this department.

HON. L. EVANS: There are various programs. I could maybe refer to it in terms of the division of this branch. We have a program in Demographic Analysis Unit which analyzes the level and composition of immigration to Manitoba, including refugees, and examines Manitoba's ability to absorb newcomers into our labour market and the impact on health and social services.

There is another unit called the Newcomers Services Unit whereby we work with newcomers to help them obtain employment opportunities if they need that help. We also provide certain information to them about provincial health programs and other matters pertaining to their settlement in the province. Then, of course, there is a research and planning group.

Generally, it provides assistance to new people, newcomers. We have had some discussions with various cultural and ethnic groups in Manitoba and they are pressuring us, if you will, or requesting the Manitoba Government to become involved in providing more specialized services for immigrants such as mental health assistance and so on. This is something we are looking into. They are particularly concerned about English as a second language. We spend quite a bit of money helping groups, such as, the Westman Multicultural Council that sponsors English as a Second Language. Of course, this goes on in the City of Winnipeg as well.

MRS. C. OLESON: The English as a Second Language Program, was it taken out of the Education Department, or does this department monitor it and fund it and the Education Department delivers it? Is that a fair assessment?

HON. L. EVANS: The Department of Education does most of the training. We provide a bit of seed money to some organizations, and there is a joint committee between Education and our department.

MRS. C. OLESON: The Minister mentioned mental health problems with immigrants. There was reference in that report I mentioned on a Steering Committee for Refugee Mental Health. Is that committee still active, or has it reported and are the recommendations being adopted?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I haven't seen the report myself, but the department now has received a report and we'll be holding some discussions again with some of the organizations and groups of people affected by it.

MRS. C. OLESON: Will that report be tabled?

HON. L. EVANS: We hadn't considered that. I think that it could be made available eventually, but I don't know. I think we were going to discuss it with particular groups of individuals that are immediately affected. There are various newcomer organizations, recent

immigrant groups in Winnipeg who are particularly concerned about it and they would like to see some action. It all doesn't have to occur, of course, in the Department of Health; it could be the Department of Community Services through Child and Family Services.

In addition, there is another overall report on mental health, that's the Pascoe Report. But this is another one that you're asking about which deals specifically with Southeast Asian refugees. There's a matter of trying to reconcile their recommendations with that of the Pascoe Report.

I don't think there is any problem in making it public, except I would have to double-check to see to what extent there are references to individual problem cases and that.

MRS. C. OLESON: Also, in that publication, there was reference to an education committee of the Refugee Workers Training Program.

HON. L. EVANS: Just following up on that point, there is a training program now under the Core Area Initiatives Program. They have some money, and I understand there has been an allocation for that type of activity.

MRS. C. OLESON: That would just be beneficial though to people in the core area of Winnipeg?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, I believe that is where the concentration is. There are 18 people being trained presently.

MRS. C. OLESON: In the Order-in-Council of May 16th, No. 582, there was an allocation of \$25,000 to the Newcomer Services Support Program Project. Could the Minister elaborate on that allocation of funds?

HON. L. EVANS: Is that 25,000, did you say? That's an overall amount that will be made available and we expect to get applications in and that will be distributed to the organizations that apply.

Last year, I can indicate the organizations who received help: The Westman Multicultural Council; the Knox Day Nursery, they have a guide for facilitating integration in day care; International Geographical Union had a refugee migration symposium; Teaching English as a Second Language in Manitoba, there was some money for materials and development of the course; ILGWU, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, community group development. There were several others. Teaching English as a Second Language, another three in various areas involving different people, different workshops and training symposiums. There is one to the National Association of Canadians of Origin in India for some workshops that they had. There was some money for the International Centre for an immigrant services review. There were 10 projects in all and I don't think we have processed the applications this year yet.

MRS. C. OLESON: You mentioned the International Centre. Does this department help fund that organization?

HON. L. EVANS: We don't give bulk or block funding or whatever it's called. What we pay for is some money

for a particular program to assist immigrants, but we don't give it block funding. That's covered, I think, by some federal money. I'm sorry - federally it's under the Department of the Secretary of State, but I believe our Department of Cultural Affairs gives them some assistance as well.

MRS. C. OLESON: I think that's all I have on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Employment Services and Economic Security, are they now responsible for the allowing of immigrant workers into the agricultural community in Portage? Is this the area in which this should be debated? I tried to debate it last night under the general preamble but I guess this is where we would want to do it now.

HON. L. EVANS: I understand that the Department of Agriculture is primarily involved. That's where the action is. We play a role in terms of ensuring that offshore recruitment of temporary farmer workers is consistent with our provincial policy, that recruitment of offshore labour does not have a negative effect on job opportunity for Manitoba residents. All parties in this arrangement would agree that the process has had and continues to have a positive effect on our labour force.

So, generally, we are looking at the stability and working conditions for resident workers in the Portage la Prairie area. But in terms of immigration, obviously the Federal Government has to be involved and certainly, since 1975, it's also involved the Manitoba Farm Workers Association and the individual vegetable growers as well as our own provincial Department of Agriculture.

I believe the member asked about the number of workers coming from Mexico.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, the question is: What is the number of employees coming in now to Manitoba from offshore or out of country to work within the vegetable industry now compared to last year?

HON. L. EVANS: These are workers in the Portage area working in the vegetable industry. Last year there were four employers who requested 33 workers and they obtained 31 workers; 31 arrived. This year, 1984, the same number of employers, four employers; they requested 29 workers and we expect 29 workers will arrive later this year.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to hear the Minister say that there is support from all areas and all departments in this particular area because of the fact that in his prior administration, prior to us getting into office, they'd totally eliminated all workers from coming in and allowed the vegetables to rot in the fields and prohibited the Portage vegetable farmers from employing people. We reversed that policy and I am now glad to see that the local workers are integrating in with the offshore workers and that it is supplying a needed group of people. Apparently, from the sound of things, this year's requirements will be met.

There is another area of concern that I have. I would ask the Minister what involvement and what propositions, or what support has he put forward to the Federal Department of either Labour or Immigration, or whoever is responsible for it, to support the custom combiners out of Manitoba that are desirous of going down into the United States to play a role in what has been traditionally a pretty important part of keeping their payments up and making a livelihood. What has he personally done, or his department, to encourage the use of Manitoba combiners in the United States?

HON. L. EVANS: We are not involved in that area at all. It's strictly handled by the Department of Agriculture.

MR. J. DOWNEY: I would have thought, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister of Employment Services and Economic Security would have at least shown some interest in view of the fact they are responsible for the allowing of people into the Province of Manitoba to work and are involved in the harvesting and the working in the vegetable fields, that he would have at least shown an interest in support of the people from this province wanting to move into the United States to find employment for their machines.

I am disappointed that he is just really sloughing it off, saying that it's up to the Department of Agriculture, ho hum type thing. There are a lot of people with a lot of investment, it's been a traditional activity, and I am extremely disappointed the the Minister hasn't seen fit to at least enquire into it and to see what he could do to support Manitoba custom combiners.

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I think the more custom combiners we can have working south of the border, the better. It's like exporting our services, our talents, and it does bring money into Manitoba. So the more we have of that, the better and I, personally, am very supportive of that type of activity.

I am simply saying, however, thus far at least, the jurisdiction and the lead for this has not been in this department. It's been left with the Department of Agriculture and I am advised they are pushing pretty hard on that. That's what I am being told anyway, and I certainly give the Minister of Agriculture any support he would ask of me. Thus far, I believe the Department of Agriculture feels that that is their bailiwick and I am sure they are doing their best. I hope they are handling it well but, thus far, we have not had any jurisdiction in that area.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I stand to be corrected, but I don't believe anyone, either the federal or the US level have had any contact from either the Government of Manitoba or any of the Ministers, Agriculture or this current government. I am extremely surprised that somebody wouldn't have picked up the ball, and I again want the Minister of Economic Security and Employment Services to put every effort forward. I know he has indicated that the Department of Agriculture should be carrying it, I would say that jointly, particularly Employment Services, if he is concerned about the employment of people from Manitoba in carrying on this kind of activity should have become actively involved. I would hope that he would, from here on in,

play a little more active role in all departments of his responsibility, not shun off that responsibility to someone else who is not looking after it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(c)(1), 3.(c)(2)—pass.

3.(d)(1) Federal-Provincial Programs Co-ordination, Salaries; 3.(d)(2) Other Expenditures; 3.(d)(3)(a) Selkirk Training Plant, Salaries.

The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, just a moment. You seem to be looking at your book all the time. I would like to make a few comments.

Mr. Chairman, dealing with the Federal-Provincial Program and particularly the Selkirk Training Plant . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not finished calling the item yet. I'm just naming the item instead of just naming the letter.

MR. J. DOWNEY: I see, I apologize, Mr. Chairman, for interrupting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(d)(1) - I'll repeat - 3.(d)(1) Federal-Provincial Programs Co-ordination: Salaries; 3.(d)(2) Other Expenditures; 3.(d)(3)(a) Salaries, Selkirk Training Plant; 3.(d)(3)(b) Other Expenditures; 3.(d)(3)(c) Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations.

The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions on the Selkirk Training Plant. However, I'll yield to the Member for Gladstone at this particular point. I'll be back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was indicated before that the NEED Program falls under this line. I wonder could the Minister indicate the number of jobs through this program for this year and for last year and the level of funding.

HON. L. EVANS: To date, a total of 2,635 jobs entailing 54,483 work weeks of employment have been created on 156 approved projects. The provincial approvals have totalled in excess of \$11.8 million.

As the member realizes, it's a joint Federal-Provincial Program. I believe the total program Estimate was \$24 million, \$12 million from each level of government. As I said, we've approved just a shade under that \$12 million, so all approvals have occurred. The program will operate until June 30th of this year. That is the cut-off time.

There are a few projects around that will not be completed by then, at least in terms of the utilization of this money. We're hoping to get special dispensation from Ottawa for an extension for some of the projects in Manitoba beyond June 30th, hopefully, to September 30th.

MRS. C. OLESON: What type of jobs does this include?

HON. L. EVANS: This is aimed at creating employment opportunities for those who have exhausted their

Unemployment Insurance benefits. Our funds are designated for project wages and where applicable, for assistance to employers with the project wages of individuals recalled from a formal recall system of laid-off employees.

The federal funds are available for both wages and other costs such as employer contributions, material and equipment. I don't have a list of projects, but I could give you some examples: Town of Carman, Boyne River clean-up; the Town of Morden there was an upgrading of the sidewalk system; Morden District Hospital, renovations, additions; Kinsmen Club of Morden, construction of a new day care; Mennonite Village Museum; St. Pierre Curling Club - it can go around the province - the Gladstone Arena Committee, construction of storage building, install ice plant pipes and flooring, that was \$15,480, that's in addition to that Energy Demonstration Project, I believe that was a separate thing - Teulon United Church, renovations to the church; the Royal Manitoba Yacht Club - I'm just picking some at random to give you an idea - Gimli Harbour Park development; Klinik Incorporated; Pembina Woods Housing Corporation.

Oh yes, here's something that's dear to the member's heart, I know, the Manitoba Agricultural Museum for construction of two buildings to house articles for the museum, received a total under this program of \$20,782 for that work. In addition to that, the Gladstone Arena Committee - I guess I mentioned that - \$15,480.00. — (Interjection) — Well, we'll take a look, I think that maybe it depends on the organizations that have applied. There may be, who knows?

Okay, Southwestern Manitoba, Onanole, Brandon, Shilo, Neepawa, Boissevain, Minnedosa - those are the communities that have been involved.

MRS. C. OLESON: Then these jobs are all short-term, they're not intended to be a long-term job, they're a fill-in for people who can no longer get Unemployment Insurance?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, these are essentially construction jobs and they're for people, as I said, who are UIC exhaustees. That was at least the federal thrust.

MRS. C. OLESON: Interim help.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I notice the funding for the Selkirk Training Plant and the associated expenses are down from last year. Is that still providing the same level of training by reducing the funds, or what is the reason for the reduction there, Mr. Chairman?

HON. L. EVANS: There's no reduction in the level of activity, but there was a transfer of \$58,800 for maintenance, etc., to the Department of Government Services, and a \$14,600 provision for provincial sales tax allotted to '83-84 but wasn't budgeted in '84-85. So, it's really a bookkeeping change. The level of activity is essentially the same.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, the plant out there, as I understand it, the objective is to bring and has been so since its inception under the years of George Hutton and the ARDA Program, where it was established and the objective was to bring particularly people out of the North, probably Natives, to bring them in and give them a little more of a training and woodworking and that type of work and then move into the steady employment in furniture businesses and wherever there were related industries. What numbers of people are they putting through there at this particular time? Is it maintaining a level? Is it down, up, or is it still carrying out the objectives that it was originally established to do?

HON. L. EVANS: We attempt to get about 80 people per year on the program. The program provides for 26-week training courses divided into three phases. There's some classroom instruction, some practical training and then there's some production training toward the end, but generally the level of activity is about the same as it has been in the past few years.

MR. J. DOWNEY: The plant was putting out a lot of the Provincial Parks furniture, picnic benches and that type of thing and that was a kind of work activity that was being carried out. Is that still the kind of work that it's doing or is there another line of activity that it's carrying out?

HON. L. EVANS: The estimated value, I guess last year, value of production was \$525,000, half a million dollars. About a quarter of a million dollars we think is probably destined for the Parks Branch of Natural Resources.

I might add, as a matter of interest, we have a new - I don't know whether it's a new customer, a little bit of a twist this year. Because of the Pope's visit we are producing additional benches and other facilities that will make it a little more convenient for the people of Manitoba who desire to see His Holiness when he comes, I guess, it's September of this year. So there's quite a bit of activity going on right now in making . . .

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I think it's been a worthwhile program. I was a little concerned when I see a little less moneys being allocated to it. I know there was an interest a few years ago and I wonder if there is a record kept of the people that have gone through there, the success ratio on a continuing basis, is there that kind of monitoring done and available information on that particular program?

HON. L. EVANS: The department tries to follow up the career of the graduates, it can be difficult at times. We're attempting to place plant graduates in jobs subsequently and the plant has undertaken a program of contacting, identifying, potential employers and then arranging a two-week trial attachment with these employers; so we pay their wages for two weeks so the employer can get used to the graduates and hopefully then keep them on a regular basis.

The employment rate of graduates has risen to 41 percent, as compared with 30 percent for last year and, of course, if the employment situation gets better, hopefully more will be able to be placed in the future.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, a few years ago under the same program, at that time, were both within the Department of Agriculture and then transferred over to this particular department, there was a ladder factory in St. Laurent, I believe. Has there been any move to reactivate that or is there any program like that in place associated with this at this particular time?

HON. L. EVANS: No, that facility does not exist and we haven't any plans to recreate a ladder facility.

MR. J. DOWNEY: Mr. Chairman, I think maybe that is about all I have, but I know the Member for Minnedosa had a few questions in this area. Maybe we could proceed on if the Minister could agree to back up to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: I have one or two more questions in this particular area and then maybe we could leave it for a moment. You may have said it, I maybe missed it, but how many people are trained and how long is the training period?

HON. L. EVANS: The training period is 26 weeks and we accept 80 trainees per year.

MRS. C. OLESON: How much does it cost then per person to train them? Have you any figures on that?

HON. L. EVANS: The total expenditures on the - I've got two figures here, I'm trying to get a total figure for the expenditures of the plant in a year, and I guess what you could do is divide that figure by the number of graduates. Salaries account for a little over \$400,000 and Other Expenditures are just under \$600,000, so the total is just a shade over \$1 million. We recover \$250,000 of that from provincial departments, such as, Parks who buy the park furniture, and another \$205,000 is received from the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. We get some cost sharing with them for training allowances, so that the net expenditure to Manitoba is about \$550,000.00.

MRS. C. OLESON: Is that the only training facility of that type in the province?

HON. L. EVANS: We have the - and I guess there's another line on this - Human Resource Opportunity Centres, Westbran is an example in the Westman area, and I think we have about seven of those programs, or maybe it's eight with Eastman, seven Human Resource Opportunity Centres throughout Manitoba and they provide a training experience for clientele. It's funded under a different arrangement, it's funded under a Canada Assistance Program so it's not exactly the same; we don't have another Selkirk Training Plant that we are funding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Minnedosa.

MR. D. BLAKE: I'm sorry I'm late. I suppose it's in Hansard. I just wanted to ask some questions about the Selkirk Training Plant, but I imagine the Member for Arthur did that and it will be in Hansard.

HON. L. EVANS: Ask the question and I'll tell you. He did ask some questions about Selkirk.

MR. D. BLAKE: I was just wondering if you could give us an update, how many people were employed and what the . . .

HON. L. EVANS: That's all in Hansard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(d)(1)—pass; 3.(d)(2)—pass; 3.(d)(3)(a)—pass; 3.(d)(3)(b)—pass; 3.(d)(3)(c)—pass.
3.(e)(1) Training Agreement Administration: Salaries
3.(e)(2) Other Expenditures - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Could the Minister indicate what training programs fall into this line?

HON. L. EVANS: This is the group I was referring to in answering questions from Mr. Filmon, the Member for Tuxedo, the Leader of the Opposition.

We have three staff here in this branch and they do the research and the preparation for negotiations and the assessment of the moneys received under the National Training Agreement. We're talking about a total for '83-'84 of \$51,343,000.00.

The kinds of programs that these \$51 million-plus go toward include institutional training, that is the community colleges essentially; there were 7,060 trainees placed under that money. We have some direct industrial training, that is, training on the job; that involved almost \$7.4 million. That's administered directly by the Federal Government although we negotiate that amount with this branch, and 2,484 trainees were placed under that item. Critical trade skills training, \$2 million, and some administrative costs, \$80,000.00. That, again, is directly administered by the feds, 406 trainees were placed there. Then the balance of the money is various benefits, training allowances and fees and moneys for Unemployment Insurance recipients. Benefits in lieu of training allowances were 13.2 million. Other training allowances were roughly 4 million. Unemployment Insurance benefits to fee paying trainees, just under a million and then there is about half a million for trainee travel. So that is approximately the allocation of that \$51 million of money.

MRS. C. OLESON: In a recent press release, which I cannot put my hands on at the moment, it had to do with the possibility of opening Limestone and a committee being formed. The Member for Rupertsland and your legislative assistant, the Member for Thompson, talk about job opportunities to do with that proposed development. Would this department in this area be involved in that from the aspect of training or would that be under the Northern development training?

HON. L. EVANS: We link up with that thrust through the Economic and Resources Investment Committee of Cabinet, sometimes referred to as the Jobs Fund Committee, but this particular group specializes in the administration of the training agreement. We've only got three people here so they're not directly involved in that process. The department is involved, as I say, through the ERIC Jobs Fund Committee. My legislative assistant is involved and we may become involved later on in various ways, but not this particular group.

I've been given some information. When it comes to training for the project, and there may be some training, particularly if you're dealing with some people who have not had experience before or much education or whatever, we would negotiate the agreement with the Federal Government in this branch for moneys for training.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(e)(1)—pass; 3.(e)(2)—pass.
3.(f)(1)(a) Employment Training and Regional Services: New Careers, Salaries; 3.(f)(1)(b) Other Expenditures - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The New Careers Program, it referred in last year's Estimates, in the Department of Labour, the Minister stated when they were talking about the New Careers Program and I quote from her statement. She said, "They are the New Careers people and they are hired, of course, on contract." Is that how that program is staffed? Does that allude to the people who are delivering the program?

HON. L. EVANS: We identify job opportunities in the public and the private sector and we offer on-the-job training. We offer to make a contribution to their salaries. I guess we pay the total salary in the Manitoba Government sector. So what we have, in effect, is trainees as well as the instructors who are on contract and who are paid under this appropriation. So what we do is spot people in government and in the private sector. We have a staff of 66 people including some trainees' salaries. In other words, we are using the trainees to help administer the program, some trainees.

MRS. C. OLESON: Did the Minister indicate how many people are in the program this year? I don't believe he did.

HON. L. EVANS: In 1984-85, the number of trainees to be served is approximately 110.

MRS. C. OLESON: Is this an increase or a decrease?

HON. L. EVANS: It's about the same as last year.

MRS. C. OLESON: How long is that training period?

HON. L. EVANS: It's normally a two-year period. They are hired for two years.

MRS. C. OLESON: What careers are involved in this?

HON. L. EVANS: They can be a wide variety. In the government, I recall, in the Corrections Division we had some adult corrections officers, we had people in the Child and Family Services area. There was some attempt to hire some in the Dauphin Parklands area under this program. We've also provided opportunities as juvenile counsellors in the Department of either Community Services or A-G. We are prepared to assist in the private sector. I haven't gone into it that much yet, but in 1983-84 we have three people who are training as aircraft mechanics.

MRS. C. OLESON: This is aided through the Northern Development Agreement. Does that include only the

people in the North? Is there a southern component to that program?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We haven't called . . .

MRS. C. OLESON: Pardon me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are on (f)(1)(a) and (b).

MRS. C. OLESON: New Careers, that's what we're talking about.

MR. CHAIRMAN: New Careers.

MRS. C. OLESON: That's what I'm talking about.

HON. L. EVANS: For clarification, (f)(1) is the south and (f)(2) is the North. So there are moneys for all parts of the province. We've divided it into North and south.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of the 110 people who are in the program, will they all be finished at the end of 1984-85?

HON. L. EVANS: It's a continuous flow. People are coming in and leaving throughout the year. So we've been maintaining, last year, roughly 110, approximately, and it'll be about 110 this year. So it's a fairly steady level and, say, hypothetically, some may be finished their two years on June 30th and others may be coming in at the beginning of July. Some may be going in as corrections officers, others may be as juvenile counsellors. Some can be going into the private sector. We'd like to get more private-sector opportunities going.

MR. R. BANMAN: But of the 110 that would have graduated last year or finished the New Careers Program, how many would the government have hired?

HON. L. EVANS: You're asking what percentage would be retained by the government?

MR. R. BANMAN: It used to be that one of the . . .

HON. L. EVANS: It's about 1/3 Provincial Government, 1/3 non-profit sector, 1/3 private profit sector.

MR. R. BANMAN: The people, when they enter the New Careers course, are they promised some kind of employment when they are finished?

HON. L. EVANS: There is no guarantee, but we make our best efforts to help them. Normally, if they are with an employer for two years and have shown any talent and ability and productivity, presumably the employer would wish to keep that person on.

MR. R. BANMAN: In light of the fact that the government has announced some layoffs, how will that affect the employment opportunities for new career people this year?

HON. L. EVANS: There are no guarantees, I know it's a matter of speculation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: What's the success rate of this program?

HON. L. EVANS: In the Child and Family Service area with the Dakota-Ojibway Tribal Council, 100 percent were employed; aircraft mechanics, 100 percent were employed; chemical abuse counsellors, 100 percent were employed; juvenile counsellors, 92 percent; adult corrections, 100 percent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(1)(a) - the Member for La Verendrye.

MR. R. BANMAN: Thank you. I just want to confirm. The Minister is saying that there is not necessarily a job available for these people when they enter the training program.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, we enter into a contract, we provide the two years of assistance, and we say that the employer will attempt to give the employee, the New Careers, the job but there is no guarantee. I mean there is an indication that we'd like that to happen but there is no guarantee.

MR. R. BANMAN: This, I guess, was one of the problems that the program encountered at a time when government is cutting back on staffing within the Civil Service.

I would say to the Minister that one of the difficulties that he will have, and the government will have, in dealing with placement of these people is that right now you are displacing people within the Civil Service, and layoff notices have gone out to people within the Civil Service, and there is going to be a problem when the hiring starts with regard to these people because I think, and I guess maybe the contracts have been changed somewhat, but there is definitely that carrot that is held out to the people who start in this program that they will be employed by government.

I know there were, a number of years ago, some harsh realities with regard to the program and I would suggest to the Minister that reality is facing these people again because the government is laying off people, rather than hiring, and I hope the expectations of these people aren't too high and that they fully realize there might not be jobs available after two years.

HON. L. EVANS: I just repeat, two-thirds of these people are not in the Provincial Government service, only one-third are; two-thirds are outside of the Provincial Government.

The other point I would make is those people who have been indicated that their positions will be terminated are being put on a redeployment list. Given the attrition and given the number involved, we don't expect very many people will actually be unemployed.

As far as this program is concerned, many areas are critical areas, many involve Native people, such as, Native people for training on reserves and also in the

field of juvenile counsellors and so on. The take up has been very good so we hope that there won't be that much of a problem but, again, I repeat, only one-third of these people are in the government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (3.(f)(1)(a) to 3.(f)(2)(c) were each read and passed).

3.(f)(3)(a) Employment Support Services, Salaries, 3.(f)(3)(b) Other Expenditures - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this allocation there is a reduction of funds. Could the Minister explain that and also give us some indication of the programs that fall under this heading?

HON. L. EVANS: There was one specific program involving computers that we eliminated this year, it affected all categories of expenditure. It's the elimination of the so-called Choices Program; that was \$173,200.00. Essentially, what this branch does in the north and in the south is to - pardon me, this one is just the south. The first one, this item we are dealing with, (3), is just for the south, the north is on the other page, but this is our delivery service. We have offices around southern Manitoba and we deliver the various programs: Careerstart, NEAR, Hire a Student Program, the New Careers. We support job creating community projects, are involved in special training programs, provide information and testing facilities for our apprenticeship program, and they also provide certain statistics on labour supply and demand. So, generally, it's the field offices.

MRS. C. OLESON: In the Estimates of 83-84, there was reference to Career Resource Centres. Does this fall into this Minister's department now? There was some indication in those Estimates that there would be a change in that program and perhaps it's renamed.

HON. L. EVANS: It's been integrated with these offices. There is one set of field offices, so the resource centres are folded into the Employment Services activities so that we have a unified delivery system, if you will. As of April 1, 1983, there was a consolidation of the Field Services Unit and the Career Resource Centres, that's when it came into effect.

The consolidation established six employment resource centres serving six regions outside of the City of Winnipeg, and the regions are pretty well standard, the ones that we are familiar with.

MRS. C. OLESON: The function of this is, I would suspect, to advise people on the availability of programs and opportunities for employment. If that is the case, do they work in concert with community colleges and university career support people?

HON. L. EVANS: Those resource centres primarily had as their function that of counselling. We are moving more toward the delivery of job creation programs, but they would liaise with community colleges, the Federal Department of Employment and Immigration and any other organizations or employers, they would liaise with municipal governments and so on as the case arises.

MRS. C. OLESON: Their clientele would be from all walks of life and they'd be students and non-students and anyone that was in need of advice as to programs in employment?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, but the greatest emphasis now has changed to that of delivering the Manitoba Employment Action Program, the Careerstart, all the review of the applications of Careerstart are done in these offices, all the applications for the Manitoba Employment Action Program and all the other programs that we may have. It's essentially a job creation function, although it does and can provide some advice as requested.

MRS. C. OLESON: So, as indicated in the sheet you gave me on staffing, then will all this staff that's listed, for instance, the 16 for their employment resources south - am I on the right line here? - and 25 for North, will those people be in those at six offices?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, 16 in the south are in the six offices - in the south, yes.

MRS. C. OLESON: And the North is similar?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, there's another . . .

MRS. C. OLESON: There's another line to that, okay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(3)(a)—pass; 3.(f)(3)(b)—pass.
3.(f)(4)(a) Northern Development Agreement - Canada, Salaries; 3.(f)(4)(b) Other Expenditures; 3.(f)(4)(c) Northern Youth Corps; 3.(f)(4)(d) Less: Recoverable from Northern Affairs.

The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: This would be the 25 staff that I was referring to in the previous line which would look after the Northern component of the Support Services?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, this involves about 25 staff in Northern Manitoba and they do generally the same kind of work as is done in Southern Manitoba. There are some differences, there's a Northern Youth Corps in the North.

I didn't mention all the programs, but the NEED applications, some of that work would be done in the field, although - pardon me, I stand corrected that wasn't done - but pretty well all of our programs, we hope, will be delivered by the field staff and a lot of the betting and reviewing and all that goes on in the North and the south pretty well along the same lines.

There are some differences because of some slight differences of programs, such as the Northern Youth Corps.

MRS. C. OLESON: How many offices are there in the North and are they . . . well, answer that part first.

HON. L. EVANS: 7 offices.

MRS. C. OLESON: That probably answered my next question then about mobility of people and miles in that area then. It would make it fairly easy for people

to get access to those offices if there are seven of them.

Could you tell me where those seven offices are located?

HON. L. EVANS: I stand to be corrected, there are only five, plus a central office in Thompson. So there are two offices, in effect - one delivering the field service and then there's sort of a centralized function, a person who co-ordinates the whole North.

Those towns or cities are The Pas, Thompson, Leaf Rapids, Churchill, and there's one called Lake Winnipeg. It works out Winnipeg serving the east side of Lake Winnipeg, I guess it's more convenient.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(4)(a)—pass - the Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Yes, I wonder if the Minister could indicate what types of projects are approved under the Northern Youth Corps?

HON. L. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, I can give the member some examples from last year: Pukatawagan, recreation assistance, church clean-up, services for elderly and handicapped, garbage control; Lac Brochet, carpentry work, community clean-up, fund raising; Granville Lake, construction of outhouses, renovating playgrounds, community cemetery clean-up, painting; Churchill, operating the sports drop-in centre and providing recreational activities of various kinds.

It's quite a miscellaneous list of community-type projects essentially.

MR. D. GOURLAY: How much co-ordination or co-operation is there between your staff and the staff from the Department of Northern Affairs?

HON. L. EVANS: This essentially is a program that's delivered by our department. I guess we would get advice from Northern Affairs Department as required, but the delivery is essentially in our department.

I should advise too that this is cost-shared with the Federal Government. I guess it's indicated here, but it's a 60-40 cost-sharing arrangement. Of course, we welcome all the federal money we can get. I'm referring to the Northern Youth Corps, and I think that item is referred to under another line here, Recoverable under Northern Affairs, some of it is referred to in that larger number.

Anything else?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. J. STORIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Minister knows, the projects like the Northern Youth Corps and a number of others are funded through the Northern Development Agreement and cost-shared and the Federal Government is very sensitive about receiving recognition for their contributions. I recall, it seems to me recently, that there was a report in the Free Press which identified a sum of money, did not recognize in a formal way the contribution that Canada made to the program and I know that they will be anxious about that. They have reciprocated on occasion by making

announcements to which we were party and were not acknowledged, so I suppose it's tit for tat but I'm glad the Minister acknowledged that publicly it will be important to have on the record.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, I agree with the Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, does the federal department deliver any Youth Core Programs separate and apart from this program?

HON. L. EVANS: I believe they have a separate Summer Job Creation Program that they deliver themselves. They deliver some in the winter and in the summer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(4)(a) - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: The Northern Summer Education Program which is listed on the program list that you gave me, does that fall under this line?

HON. L. EVANS: No, that's not here, that was under the Youth Employment Services which was passed last night, it's not in here.

MRS. C. OLESON: Perhaps you could just indicate how much funding is allocated to that and that's all I want to know about it.

HON. L. EVANS: Just a moment please; \$160,900.00.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(4)(a) - the Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Mr. Chairman, perhaps this was covered before, but did the Minister indicate that the Northern Employment Services, there were some five offices in Northern Manitoba?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MR. D. GOURLAY: And they are in the same offices as the Career Offices?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there was only one Career Resource Centre and that was in Thompson, in the North, and that was closed. As I indicated, I guess before the member came, we've integrated those functions, Career Resource and the function of actually supervising and administration of the Job Creation Programs. Most of the emphasis now is on the Job Creation Program delivery, NEAP, Careerstart, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(f)(4)(a)—pass; 3.(f)(4)(b)—pass; 3.(f)(4)(c)—pass; 3.(f)(4)(d)—pass.

3.(g)(1) Human Resources Opportunity Program; Salaries; 3.(g)(2) Other Expenditures; 3.(g)(3) Financial Assistance - Clients; 3.(g)(4) Human Resource Opportunity Centres - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are these Human Resources Opportunity Centres separate and

apart from the other centres we've been discussing, to do with employment services?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, I think the easiest way of describing it to the member is to refer to the Westbran project, I think she's familiar with that. We're referring here to a sheltered workshop situation in part, but also a project or a program that enables other people who are disadvantaged to obtain training and work experience off-site. This program is delivered in seven locations, it's centred at seven locations. It's spread throughout the province, the Westbran Centre of course services southwestern Manitoba, Westman area, and they have their own staff of approximately 27. Then we have some contract staff, so it's a total of 53 people delivering the service.

MRS. C. OLESON: Did the Minister indicate how many people receive training assistance or work assistance through this program?

HON. L. EVANS: In 1983 we served approximately 2,600 clients and this year we anticipate serving about 2,800 clients.

MRS. C. OLESON: How long a period of training would this be?

HON. L. EVANS: It varies. (g)(1) refers to the salaries of the staff that delivers the program. When we talk about the number of people served, the clients, there's an item (g)(3) and (g)(4). But we're under the program generally, so I think the average is approximately six months, on average, in the centres.

MRS. C. OLESON: This also is a cost-shared program. What's the cost-share ratio?

HON. L. EVANS: 50-50.

MRS. CHAIRMAN: 3.(g)(1) - the Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: I wonder if the Minister could tell us where the Human Resources Opportunity Centres are located.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, Winnipeg, Portage, Brandon, Dauphin, The Pas, Beausejour and Gimli, that's it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 3.(g)(1)—pass; 3.(g)(2)—pass; 3.(g)(3)—pass; 3.(g)(4)—pass.

Resolution No. 61: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding \$15,484,700 for Employment Services and Economic Security, Employment Services for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

4.(a) Manitoba Bureau of Statistics, Salaries; 4.(b) Other Expenditures.

4.(a) - the Member for Swan River.

MR. D. GOURLAY: Is this all co-ordinated under this department now, including the Department of Agriculture, statistics on crops and livestock?

HON. L. EVANS: No, the Department of Agriculture maintains its own record keeping. The Manitoba Bureau

of Statistics is functioning under its own act. It attempts to co-ordinate statistical operations in the government and it serves as the major liaison with Statistics Canada. It has access to various pieces of confidential information that we couldn't get otherwise without having a statistics act, but it hasn't taken over the collection of agriculture statistics or health statistics or social services statistics. Those are still collected by the people who administer those programs.

MR. D. GOURLAY: I notice there's a slight reduction in expenditure. Can the Minister explain how that was possible?

HON. L. EVANS: The reduction is in operating costs. There are various reasons - it's a minor amount - scaling the frequency of data collection of the Prices Monitoring Survey to once a year in December - I guess that's instead of twice a year. So we scaled that down; we're recovering some of the costs of developing and maintaining computer information retrieval systems from users of the data; the reallocation of data development expenditures from now operational data systems to new project initiatives, e.g., retail sales data development; the initiation of new projects along with the conversion of existing projects to be operational on the bureau's microcomputers reduces the requirement for and cost of external computer services.

So this has been a significant saving realized and termination of the practice of the bureau as a provincial statistical focal point for paying for the travel and associated costs of non-bureau staff attending eight federal-provincial statistical committee meetings. So we've cut down on some transportation costs. Stats Canada reimburses the provinces for transportation costs which are allocated to general revenue, but there has been a termination of the practice of us putting through our system the payment for people to attend those Federal-Provincial Conferences. It's sort of a bookkeeping thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)—pass.
The Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within the last few months, the Minister has circulated a booklet, "Manitoba Statistics by Provincial Electoral Districts." What was the cost of preparing and printing that booklet?

HON. L. EVANS: The total cost of statistical profiles by constituency is estimated to be \$3,900.00. That includes printing and the preparation of the data.

MRS. C. OLESON: It doesn't seem to be an excessive cost for such a booklet but I would assume, of course, that the statistics, all the material necessary for it, was something that was contained in the department anyway and it was just a matter of organization to publish it.

HON. L. EVANS: Of that cost, \$3,400 went to Stats Canada for helping us produce the statistics. Just as a matter of interest, 217 copies were distributed. A lot of people wrote in for copies.

MRS. C. OLESON: Are copies available for the general public?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes.

MRS. C. OLESON: There was enough of a printing to provide that.

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, we can accommodate the public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4.(a)—pass; 4.(b)—pass.

Resolution 62: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$532,900 for Employment Services and Economic Security Manitoba Bureau of Statistics for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

1.(a) Minister's Salary - the Member for Gladstone.

MRS. C. OLESON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think, in summing up the information that we gathered through this Estimates process for this department, some remarks should be made on the fact that most of the thrust of this government programming and announcements has been job creation; and yet, when we go over the Employment Development and Youth Services section of this, we discover that some of the programs have been, in essence, reduced in funding to some extent and the jobs created have been held pretty much the same or very little increase.

The help that's given, for instance, through the STEP Program has actually been reduced by a reduction of the work week so that the students involved will not get the same wage assistance as they did last year, which is disappointing to students who have applied and thought they were going to be getting assistance for their return to university.

In question period today, the Minister remarked that the reduction, for instance, of \$100,000-plus was a small amount. Well, it is a small amount when you look at the overall budget of a government, but it isn't a small amount when you're looking at the problems that students and others have in society trying to gather funds for their education as well, of course, as gathering funds just for their daily lives.

With the Careerstart Program, in attempting to make a lot of people happy, I think the Minister has created a problem for himself out in the areas, particularly we hear it from rural Manitoba, I guess we won't be hearing it from the Winnipeg area because their funding was increased this year. But the expectation has been created when they see the advertising and they think, oh boy, this is a government that's really going to do something. Unemployment is rampant and here we're going to have so much help. Then it's discovered that there isn't as much help. I think it's a sad commentary when you build up people's expectations and hopes to such a point and then they are dashed. That is almost as bad as not doing anything in the first place, because people, being human, when they get their hopes built up, they have a pretty negative reaction when they are suddenly dashed to the ground.

Also, in talking about decreases in funding, there was a reduction of funding in the supplement for pensioners. The Minister attempted to rationalize that in using statistics. It's still a reduction, and in the Child Related Income Support Program, a similar case.

So, while the advertising all tells us that there is a great deal being done, when we go over it line-by-line,

we find that a different picture emerges and it is disappointing.

One thing I think is very confusing to a lot of people is the Jobs Fund and its advertising and it's almost a big shuffle. We can never quite identify who pays for what and why and when and where because the Jobs Fund enters, as I said in my opening remarks, into so many departments. It also builds up a lot of hope and we feel that with the advertising dollars being spent, people will expect a lot more from that major thrust of this government.

During the course of the answers by the Minister, we really didn't get the complete justification for the creation of this department. There is still something in my mind that tells me that most of it could have been left where it was in its department and worked through the Labour Department, through the Community Services. They were put there for some reason in the first place because they had some tie-in, some reason for being placed together, and some things that could be handled entirely by the Department of Education are now worked through this department until it's very difficult to find and to see exactly what is happening and how much it's costing because, where one department does the work and charges the other department, it remains to me, probably because I am a relative newcomer to this field, it remains to me as somewhat of a mystery and I think I am not alone in that feeling. Perhaps when the Jobs Fund department is debated maybe we'll get a clearer picture but, to me, this is not a clear picture of exactly what was happening with that aspect of the government's thrust.

It's difficult to figure out which staff came from where and why there is a large increase in the executive support staff, for instance, in the funding for that. The overall reduction maybe looks good, but it's difficult when there is such a tearing apart of departments, of course, to justify just where the staff comes from. Perhaps next year it will be easier when we have the whole year's operation to look at and it would be easier to get it into perspective when we see the department operating for a year. Hopefully, there will not be a great uprooting again since it is all set out in this department under this ministry, even though that may not be the best way to do it. It might be best to leave it there and see how it works for a longer period of time because it is hard and I think it must be very difficult, for people who are looking for programs, to figure out.

I know I have constituents phone me and they try a few phone calls, but they throw up their hands and give up and say: "Do you suppose you could help me with this?" I know the feeling because I go through several phone calls, too, before I find just exactly where there is funding, if any, for particular things that people want to do.

We know there isn't funding for everything that people want to do, but somehow governments have, over the years - the Federal Government does it as well - they build up the fact that every time that anything is done we should get a grant for it and people begin to feel that this is a way of life. Of course, as I say, it builds up their hopes and they find them dashed and they cannot understand why because they see other people getting funding for whatever they are trying to do.

So I think this is one of ways that governments fail their people that they are setting out to help. They build

up their hopes and then they can't follow through, of course, because of restraint. We have to have some way of restraining spending - our deficits are high - but we shouldn't build up the hope that we are going to do everything for everybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(a) - Mr. Minister.

HON. L. EVANS: Just briefly, if I can respond. First of all, I welcome the support of the Member for Gladstone who I think would like us, if we could, to spend a bit more on some of the programs that she thinks are worthwhile, so we welcome that support.

At the same time, I would like to have got more money for Careerstart, I really would, it would have saved a lot of headaches. We don't like to say no to people, that's not the pleasant thing, it's much easier to say yes, we are going to help you.

However, I want to assure the member that we intend to bring in at least six programs - well, five programs - which will have two sections to it and these will be announced during the course of the next couple of months; one of which will be a variation on MEAP, the Manitoba Employment Action Program. So there will be opportunities for people throughout Manitoba to apply and a lot of emphasis will be put on the young people.

I would just say, in pointing out again that, even so Careerstart, we probably will be spending close to \$1 million, \$750,000 to \$1 million more this year than last year. So there are going to be more students working this year under that program.

What we have done here, because the government wants to put greater priority on job creation and economic development, is set up a department that has, as its major focus, employment and training of people for employment - job creation and training. We have a department now that is parallel to the Federal Department of Employment and Immigration. What we have is a department that essentially provides income support, either through social assistance programs, moneys for pensioners, moneys for families with children, or moneys by form of wage subsidy. So, essentially, what we have is a department providing a flow of income support, and that is the focus of the department and it seemed to make sense to reorganize.

Governments forever reorganize. I have been around 15 years and I have seen many reorganizations of governments and there is no perfect way, no ideal way, no one way of organizing but, given the times that we are in, given the fact that we have more unemployment than we would like to have, the government, the Premier, felt that it was necessary and useful to have one department where we would focus these kinds of job programs.

Having said that, I agree with the member, it may be sort of confusing with the Jobs Fund allocation, as well, because I can tell you the moneys for job creation, some of them are in the Jobs Fund. I know that we will be allocated somewhere between \$20 million and \$24 million in addition to these moneys that we have. This can be discussed under Mr. Kostyra who is the Chairman of the Jobs Fund Committee, but we will be having a large allocation for some of these other programs that I referred to - a variation of the graduate

program, a variation of the Manitoba Employment Action Program and three other programs.

MRS. C. OLESON: The Minister said he was going to be announcing more funding later on for MEAP and others, is that the Jobs Fund money?

HON. L. EVANS: Yes, essentially, it is. The administrative money will be in this department but, essentially, we will be getting, as I said, over \$20 million from that.

MRS. C. OLESON: When we debate the Jobs Fund department, will this Minister and all the Ministers involved in that, will they be available for questioning at that time, or will it just be the chairman?

HON. L. EVANS: I personally would be prepared to come and answer questions, as well, and perhaps some of the others would as well. I haven't discussed this with the chairman of the committee, but I certainly would be prepared to do that. I would be glad to give the member more details on some of these programs, but we haven't finally worked out the details. As soon as they are worked out we will give you that information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1.(a)—pass.

Resolution No. 59 - Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$2,192,000 for Employment Services and Economic Security, Administration and Finance, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Committee rise.

SUPPLY — EDUCATION

MR. CHAIRMAN, H. Harapiak: We are considering the Estimates of the Department of Education. We are on Item 7, on Page 55, Bureau of French Education.

The Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I intend to speak on this section. I just wondered whether the Minister had an opening statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Proceed.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, this is, I think, a significant part of the Education Estimates and one that, first of all, now has a substantial budget. But I think the impact of the French Language Programs go far beyond just the dollar amounts. I wanted to raise a number of concerns with the Minister, some of a general nature and others with some specific questions attached to them.

I begin by saying to the Minister that my primary concern here is that there seems to be too heavy an emphasis in the department and in the school system on French language training. Now we have had for many decades French language instruction in the schools, this is nothing new. From my own experience going back to the 1950s, I began studying the French language in Grade 7 and continued on through junior high and high school and for one year of university, some seven

years. But now, it seems we're getting into a situation where there is immersion taking place at the kindergarten level and continuing on, all at considerable expense, all with ramifications going beyond the immediate program, impacts on the teaching profession and so on.

But to begin at the beginning, I think there is an overemphasis on second languages and on the French language in particular. My concern is that this is at the expense of other subjects. I don't think it can be argued that because other subjects are being taken in immersion programs that they therefore are equally treated. I believe that if you are in an immersion school where you are studying certain subjects throughout the day, you are doing so at the expense of certain other subjects.

I would say to the Minister, my first concern is the English language itself and one only has to talk to employers, parents and students to realize that in itself is a major concern.

I was speaking to a young woman a couple of days ago who is taking typing and shorthand, as a matter of fact, at Success/Angus Commercial College. She told me that she did not consider herself a very good speller, but she said, in her class at school, she is one of the pre-eminent spellers because some of the people in her course simply can't spell to save their souls. I, of course, have had that experience myself with people. I recall working in the government, at the time when I was a Minister of the government, several of my secretaries were completely hopeless in that regard. They had permanent impaired spelling abilities and if one were to dictate a letter to one of them, then you would receive five errors back on the draft. Then those would be corrected and you would get two or three new errors back; then you corrected those and you may or may not get one error back or a perfect copy. Now that certainly doesn't augur well for the kind of training that is received in the schools.

Now, I realize, Mr. Chairman, there are people who simply have problems that are of this nature, but to some extent, we have to look upon the school system as providing people with the basic skills. Spelling is not the least of the skills, but it is one of the skills, similarly with reading, etc. I observed, as one who has a particular appreciation of history, that there seems to be a lessening amount of history taught in the schools and that it's becoming more of any option. If one looks at the staff and the faculty of the various high schools, for example, there are areas where the departments are ever increasing and expanding, these tend to be in the French language area, where in areas where they tend to be declining and this includes history and to a certain extent, English.

So I would like the Minister to make some comment on that. Perhaps she could be kind enough to make an initial response and then I could get into some of the specifics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Education.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased to make an initial response to a number of fairly important and wide-ranging comments that were made by the Member for Elmwood. It's a little difficult to know where

to start. I guess the one thing I will say, that I won't either respond to nor take responsibility for is his hiring practices and the fact that he ended up with two secretaries in his office who couldn't spell, because I can make available or give him access to secretaries, both in my office and in the Department of Education who would impress even him, I'm sure, with his high standards. I think it's poor to take something like that, to take an individual and then make very general statements about a major system. I had a secretary who couldn't spell, people are coming out of schools and nobody can spell, things are deteriorating. It's just a general negative related to a few incidences that you know of particularly that don't necessarily tie in. — (Interjection) — I just did, I talked about the quality of my secretaries.

Anyway, I want to comment on his point about the heavy emphasis, it's true that there is an increase in programs. The Français Program, as I said last year, has been pretty stable and probably reached its plateau a few years ago; it's stabilizing around 6,000 students and isn't changing very much. The Conversational French is on the downgrade and there are fewer numbers taking what we call the Conversational French Program, and where there is an increase would be in French Immersion and in the basic French Program, or what we call the Core Programs, the 40-minute-a-day program.

I started to say that there is an increase in numbers. There's two points that I want to make, one is that it's important to remember that these are optional programs, they are not required or mandatory. Although with the Core French there is a policy about the Core Program, the school division has to make a decision whether or not to have it optional or whether or not to mandate it or to require it across their school division. One assumes that when they do that, such as, St. James-Assiniboia School Division, which took major initiative and a major lead in the province in developing and going into the Core French Program, that they are doing so knowing what the sense is and the wishes are of the people that they represent in their area in terms of going farther than they have to, based on supposedly the wishes and the priorities of that community.

When the Français and the Immersion Programs, they are generated through parental request. In other words, the part of the procedure for approval of those programs is that the parents have to petition in order to have them happen, so that where you have programs in those two areas you have a clear demonstration of community wishes because it is initiated through petition by the community and that's part of the procedure.

So, without dwelling on it, I just summarize, the point there is that there is an increase, but it's optional and it requires a lot of support and priority and attention by the school division and the parents to proceed in the individual schools in the school divisions.

The second point I want to make is that the relationship to, or the suggestion that the one is being done at the expense of the other. I reject that! I appreciate that I believe that it is a genuine concern and a genuine belief by the Member for Elmwood, that I believe. I don't agree and, I suppose, we can each put forward our arguments and what we use to defend our own position. He's done a few and I will name a few.

The first point I would make is that we have not detracted from basic requirements or the mandatory basic courses in order to accommodate the change. In fact, we are one of the few provinces in the country that require English as a mandatory subject right up until Grade 12. I mean there's no options for English, you go right through up until Grade 12 and they must take Grade 12 English. There is no reduction in the amount of History. I think we could argue or discuss whether or not we're giving enough of a sense of the History of Canada, and the pioneering feeling and the excitement, and I'm really not sure that we are. I know that we've improved our curriculum, and I know that we're improved our resource materials, but I know that we still have this problem that our children seem to be spouting an understanding the history of the United States more easily than they do our own. I think that if I was to indicate a feeling of a deficiency, it would be a sense of knowledge and excitement about the uniqueness of the pioneering people in developing, really with their bare hands, the beginnings of this very young and very beautiful country called Canada. I'm not sure our young children have that and I think we have to address that.

We can't take all of those things and make these conclusions, grandiose sort of extreme conclusions. I'm sure the Member for Elmwood is perhaps wanting to hear the answer to his question, I don't know if he does or not, but I'll wait just in case he does because I think he does.

I'm not sure that the conclusion - what you do is you take a concern that is legitimate and real, and that we would admit is there is some basis to it, and you make a grand jump over a conclusion and decide that there is one person or one group or one thing to blame for all of this. The fact is it couldn't possibly be that simple, that moving into the language development is the cause of total deterioration in English-language development, reluctance or lack of knowledge of kids about their history and their background. Clearly, those things are complex, larger issues that have a lot of factors to play, the curriculum, a lot of things like that.

I'm sorry that I wasn't allowed to make the statement, a non-partisan statement, for two reasons: One, it's the first one I've ever asked to make in two-and-a-half years and so, having stood to make my very first non-partisan statement, I was very disappointed to not have been allowed to do so because I was going to talk about the achievements of the students of Manitoba in what we consider to be a basic science program - science is one of our basic programs that he would be looking at maintaining - and provide information to the House that shows that Manitoba students in the recent Canada-wide Science Fair swept away with two-thirds of the awards.

I'll just give you a little bit of information because clearly the education system has to take some responsibility for this achievement. There were 400 students representing 68 regions and 300 projects. Manitoba sent 23 competitors and we won two-thirds of the awards, two-thirds of the awards we walked away with. One of Manitoba students - I know the Education Minister is disappointed to not have both heard this information and had a chance to respond to it - critic, Freudian slip, right - Azim Mustapha - I really want to comment on this - won the gold medal

for all of the science projects across the country and his project was Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. He dealt with a disease that kills 10,000 babies a year.

Do you know that we won the silver medal; we have won the Xerox of Canada Bell-Northern Research silver medal for Senior Life Sciences. I don't mean to list them all. I am saying that Manitoba students swept the science awards in a national competition that could only give credit to the individual students and their capability, and certainly some credit to the Manitoba education system.

We also have studies - you're dying to hear this I know - that are done at both the national level . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: . . . and we have confirmed them with our Manitoba statistics and they deal with the question of English language abilities or the effect of the students to handle English courses and other subjects when they are taking language programs. The information that we have tells us clearly, and it reports that after several years in intensive French Immersion programs, the English language skills of Immersion students are equal or superior to those of students in the regular English program. This finding persists when I.Q. and SES - which I'm not sure what that is, Socio-Economic Status - are employed in the statistical analysis to correct the possible differences and the dimensions between Immersion and English program students.

They are not detrimentally affected in their English language development. We've done studies in Manitoba to confirm, both on French language and heritage language, and our studies show us (1) students do as well in English when they are taking French language programs or Heritage language programs, they do as well as other students do; they do as well in their other courses as do students who are taking French or other Heritage language programs, and on top of it they learn the language. Now the one last point I'd like to make before I finish responding in a general way, before the member gets down to his specific questions, is that one of the great crimes, in terms of use of our best resources, is the fact that we only use about 15 percent to 20 percent of the brain and that clearly anything - and one of the things we know about language development learning is that it opens up new grooves in the brain. I don't know how else to put it, but it expands the mind, it uses the brain and it allows them to have a better understanding of broader concepts and ideas.

In other words, the learning of language improves their ability to learn and as the Minister of Education, I couldn't quarrel or possibly have any problems with some things that people are learning that also helps and expands their ability to learn other things at the same time as they're achieving the learning in this particular area.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, it's interesting to observe the Minister's debating style. I would simply observe that she sets up a straw man and then forcibly destroys it. That is an interesting technique, but doesn't bear very much relation to what I said at the beginning,

and what she said after her initial outbursts and we got some answers and an announcement as well.

I want to say to the Minister that she will recall that for a period in my life, I was a high school teacher. I still have some idea, not as fresh as people who are in the profession today, as to what is going on. I hear stories and I hear comments from people in the profession who provide me with information and with observations about what is happening in the school system, particularly at the high school level. It's very interesting what the Minister says about if you study more languages it opens up more grey cells or brain cells and so on and so on; but I'd also point out to the Minister that if one is trying to teach an appreciation for other people and other cultures and Canadians from coast to coast, it isn't necessarily through the teaching of the French language which opens up your mind.

One could, I think, equally argue that teaching of Canadian history would give a person a grasp and an appreciation for the French fact and for the multicultural fact and so on and so on. I believe that our whole culture is founded upon or should depend upon a deep familiarity with the English language and with Canadian history and that is obviously, as far as I'm concerned, the bedrock of the school system.

A person who cannot properly read is just prevented from learning. A person who can't spell may be precluded from gainful employment, will certainly make many mistakes and cause a lot of agony for other people and themselves, so that the teaching of English - no one's going to argue that point - is essential. It's the No. 1 subject and all others come below it. It has nothing to do with ethnicity or race or so on. It happens to be the means of communication and understanding.

Equally with that is the field of history and my impression, from talking to teachers, is that the history departments are dying or drying up or shrivelling or retrenching. Whereas there was once X number of history teachers, there are now a couple. I'm thinking of a high school in my end of town which includes Elmwood, East Kildonan, North Kildonan, Transcona - I'm most familiar with that particular area. Whereas the French Departments are expanding, the other ones are either going in negative terms or they're holding, so either in relative or absolute terms, they're losing ground to other trends and patterns in our society.

Now I want to ask the Minister a couple of questions. This is something that of course she is not responsible for, but I am told there's an unofficial policy about that has been discussed by trustees, to hire bilingual teachers, regardless of whether or not there are openings, that the tendency has become or is becoming or has been in effect that people who are bilingual are to be preferred over anyone else, whether or not there's an opening in a language program, because of the stress and the direction and the trend and what I would also call fad of our time, namely, to have ever increasing numbers of students in the French program.

I realize the Minister doesn't have to defend what the trustees do, but she has to defend the direction of education in Manitoba at this time. One teacher told me that his understanding is that it is the grant structure that is the problem. Now I mentioned this to the Minister before but I'll try to provide her with some rough figures; I don't have complete figures.

This was what I obtained, but let's just take as an example - this was given to me as an example of

structure for students that there was . . . First of all, let me make the general point, that if you come to the department or to the school division - and of course there's a difference - but if you go to a particular division and/or the department and have some new programs in French, then you have an open purse and an open budget. In some cases, you can apparently get the equipment that you need, the books that you need, the staff that you need - no problem, no sweat.

Again, I'm quoting somebody but I cannot say if these figures are accurate. They argued that there were additional grants given for French Language Programs of the order of \$250 per student for the construction of classrooms and that there were additional grants given for Immersion Programs. Now I'm using figures from the Transcona-Springfield School Division again and the emphasis is and the grant structure is on immersion, as opposed to basic French or conversational French. So I simply say to the Minister, in general, holding aside what I have said and holding aside what she has said about history and English, is it a fact that if one applies for moneys for capital operating per student, etc., etc., that there are additional grants that can be obtained for French language training?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I think there were a number of questions there. I'll try to deal with the last one. There isn't a special fund that people apply for. We have a criterion for paying school divisions for programs that they are offering and that criterion covers all programs that are in place, and in some cases they're transportation grants and in other places they're textbook grants and in other places they're program grants.

There has always been a grant formula for the French Language Program, and those grants were changed in this Estimates year to bring the Core out of the pilot stage - I can just indicate what they are. Conversational French has always received \$50 per equivalent student and that has been unchanged.

The basic French, or the Core Program, it was being paid I suppose at two different levels previously. Those that were in pilot were getting, I think, \$190, and some that were not covered under the pilot, they were only getting \$50 for - St. James was in that position although they went into it knowingly - and we have consolidated that or rationalized that grant so they all get the same, and it's gone from \$190 that it was, down to \$100.00. So there is a reduction there in the grant for the Core Program.

The Français and Immersion Program was \$357 for a seed - what we call development programs - and we have taken that away and the grant for Français and Immersion Programs are \$250.00.

So grants have always been there for those programs and we have altered them considerably and rationalized them so that they're getting the same level of funding for children in the same programs across the province.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I will have to study some of those comments later. I want to read the Minister some examples of advertisements that are coming out in the daily papers.

For example, the downtown Y is now advertising for a French Immersion Kindergarten in an English day

care setting. Well that certainly is interesting - an English country garden. So there's a Kindergarten.

The Winnipeg School Division is advertising Divisional Elementary Language Programs and they are accepting applications for Kindergarten and Grade 1 at about eight schools, plus an English-Hebrew bilingual, plus an English-Ukrainian bilingual.

In the East Kildonan-North Kildonan area, one of the schools has six Kindergartens - three French, one Ukrainian and two English - and — (Interjection) — No, no Polish yet.

Also there is an ad in the paper for French camps being put on by the Winnipeg School Division. I guess this would be from May 13th to 18th and so on and so on.

Then Winnipeg-Assiniboine - Winnipeg South School Division No. 3, Assiniboine South - French Immersion Kindergarten, Grade 1, etc., etc. Parents being invited to a meeting - this was March 13th - in Charleswood Junior High, and so on.

So I am simply saying to the Minister, is there any limit? I guess the Minister will say, well, there is a demand there so we will fund the demand; but it also works the other way, that if there is funding then the demand may also be created or encouraged. If there is no money available, if the Minister announced, for example, that there would be no funding for French Immersion Programs, say below Grade 6, then those programs, I think, would just disappear or they would certainly disintegrate, but there obviously are programs.

So what I am saying to the Minister, are there any limits on either Kindergarten up, or what would the Minister do if a day care came to her and said we want to start funding Immersion Programs in day cares? So, Mr. Chairman, we can't be too far away from that, no way. — (Interjection) — Well, one of my associates says that those programs are in fact there and I think that could be so. If it isn't there now, it will be very shortly. I mean, at some point, if you push this trend, you get to Immersion Programs in the hospital nurseries. As soon as the child is born, you will have a bilingual nurse talking to the child so that he doesn't have some sort of a handicap in starting out. So you want to get to him right away so that he can make it in day care and in Kindergarten and so on and so on.

I am simply saying to the Minister, does the department fund any request coming from Kindergarten on? And another question is, does the department fund requests for Immersion Programs in day care?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, no, we don't, to my knowledge, fund any programs in day care. We do fund, I suppose, in Kindergarten if the school division decides to offer if they have Kindergarten programs - which we encourage them to have but it is not a requirement - (1) if they have Kindergarten programs; and, (2) if they decided to offer them in an Immersion Program, they are entitled to the funding.

In terms of the point about, is there any limit, and first of all I remind the member what I said before is, that in order to have those programs they have to have a request initially from the parents; so the parents and the people in the community have to want it and have to petition the board for the Français and the Immersion Programs. So, first of all, that's a clear indication of

community and parental support which I think is important.

In terms of his "is there any limit?" I think it's important to have some perspective on this because it is possible to make it sound like it is extraordinary, and that the expense of regular programs and basic programs and many other things, that this is just galloping away with all of the money of the province, and that it's just really getting out of hand.

I mean we give something like - I think the Education Support Program is about \$600 million, in that range. The increase that went into the increased grants this year in our Estimates process was \$400,000.00. I mean let's not get carried away with statements that suggest that this is a major problem, or that it is larger, or that it is out of hand or out of proportion to other programs, because I do not believe it is; nor do I believe that that portion is sort of an extraordinary emphasis in this area.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, can the Minister provide us with some information right now about out-of-province hirings because I have a figure here that seemed to indicate - perhaps it came from her, perhaps it didn't - that there were, in the past year or so, some 489 positions in regard to French Immersion, and that 212 of those were filled from out-of-province teachers. At the same time you are having layoffs in Manitoba; you are having people graduating without a hope of finding employment, and you are finding other teachers who are fully qualified and experienced who can't find work and some are working part-time in the teaching profession, etc., so can she give us some numbers on out-of-province imports?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Once again, I think this is a case where the Member for Elmwood takes something that is a fact and that is a reality and there is a certain number of out-of-province hirings, and it is a matter of concern and we are looking at it, but he does what he did before. He takes that information and he takes a giant leap and a giant step and makes a conclusion that there isn't any basis to make. In other words, he is suggesting that the numbers that were given - and I will talk about them in a minute - that it adds up to and it means that this is happening because they are going out of province to hire teachers for the teaching of French language. So I will just go through a very quick summary.

It's true that there were 480 graduates last year and there were 212 hirings out of the province. When we look at the breakdown of that, though, the first thing that we find - and we have a breakdown for all courses and programs - in the teaching of French language in '80-81, there were 12 hired; in '81-82, 15; and in '82-83, there were 14. I think that is an indication that there is some small degree of hiring out of province for those specific programs, but that's not a large amount in terms of the total needs of the province.

The one figure that concerns me much more and what I think is much more significant and does indicate at least the beginning of a problem, is 59, nearly 60 elementary teachers in 1982-83. Now that's hard for me to understand. I can understand that a few of them might not be able to find a special education person

with particular skills in an area, or perhaps may not be able to find someone who would go into their community with the French language training. I can see a few of those. But knowing that we have a very strong elementary element in our training program, that we are supposedly putting out good, well-trained elementary teachers. It's hard to deal the nearly 60 out-of-province hirings for elementary teachers.

So, you know, we have the breakdown and I think the numbers clearly show that this out-of-province hiring cannot be laid at the feet of the French Language Program. There are many other reasons. One of the main reasons, and we've been talking about it for a while with teachers and trustees, is that we have a number of unemployed students who are not getting a job is not because they're not trained in French language instruction and those are the only jobs available. One of the big reasons seems to be that we cannot get our students who are trained in southern institutions, who perhaps grow up and live in the city, to go out into the country and up North where there are jobs.

So we actually have a unique situation where there are jobs and there are teachers unemployed who are staying unemployed because they will not go up North and into the remote communities. We are working with the trustees and the teachers now and the department or the faculty of education to look to see if we can do what was done before that helped and that was give some work experience out in the country, provide a little bit of additional support for living allowances so that it isn't out of pocket, because they find when they when they go out into the country and into the communities that they often do stay because their perception and their understanding of rural schools is not the reality of what they are. There are a lot of problems. Once again, they can't all be placed at the door or the foot of French Immersion Program. It is far more complex and that's far too simplistic an answer to a serious problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, P. EYLER: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister whether she has any concern for English-speaking Education graduates and I want to know whether she has any advice for them because there are people who are attempting to enter the profession. One has to read the signs, the symbols and the directions. When one picks up the newspaper and sees things like St. James-Assiniboia is laying off 12 unilingual English-speaking teachers and hiring bilingual teachers, then what does one conclude from that? Does one conclude that, oh well, it doesn't matter? Or does one conclude that in order to get a job or in order to have a future, because of what's happening in the Manitoba education system that it's compulsory to be fluent in French and English? So, I'm saying, what message does the Minister have? What conclusion does she draw from these everyday announcements?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: First of all, Mr. Chairman, I think I'd like to deal with what we are doing as a department and what we are attempting to do to give some support

and help in training opportunities. Without going into a lot of detail, I'll simply say that there are five or six programs that involve summer courses, bursary programs, ones that are in-country and out-of-country and by providing support for those programs, we have managed over the course of the previous years to train or upgrade the skills of about 3,000 of Manitoba's 12,000 teachers. Skills and abilities to teach in the French Language Program is exactly what I'm talking about, so that 3,000 teachers out of the 12,000 have been trained and the largest number, of course, are required to teach in the Core. I mean, it is the conversation in the Core which clearly do not have the same skill requirements as do the Immersion and the Français programs. Français is pretty well staying the same, as I indicated. The population is staying the same. There is some increase in Immersion Program.

So, No. 1, there are things to do to both improve skills they have that gives them enough skills to teach the major, the largest number of programs and students that are being taught in French language instruction, that those programs are available to a lot of teachers.

I have to deal with the specific question related to St. James-Assiniboia because there was specific reference made to it. I want to say two things. I think, first of all, when that press thing came out, it's my understanding that they're not talking about nearly the numbers, they're talking about perhaps only five or six layoffs at this point. So the numbers previously might have been made a little larger because they were in negotiation with their teachers, I don't know. But they don't seem to be, when they get down to the wire, talking about laying off nearly that number; nor is it clear to us that all of those layoffs are related to getting rid of English language teachers to bring in French language teachers and there is a declining enrolment element that comes to play in almost every school division including this one.

But when you ask me what I think about what is happening in St. James, I have to be very blunt on this one and I have to say that what I think about St. James is that there was a lack of planning. The only thing I can think of is that there must have been a lack of planning and preparation by them for handling the program. Now the reason I say that is this. St. James, by choice, was one of the 12 school divisions who went into the pilot project Core Program four years ago. When we came into office, there were 2,000 students in that pilot, and we made the decision to continue the pilot for an additional two years and we allowed access for an additional 2,000 students in each of those years. So they started with 2,000, we added 2,000 in the second year and 2,000 in the third year, St. James was therefore one of the 12 school divisions because they're one of the largest, who had the largest numbers of participating students in the pilot project. That's No. 1 and they did that by choice.

No. 2, apart from the fact that they had there the numbers they were entitled to in the pilot, and my guess is that because of the size of St. James, they must be one of the largest numbers or proportions of students in the whole program, they decided to go beyond that and offer it to other students - this was two years ago - who were not accepted by us in the pilot so that they had their legitimate pilot numbers and they added additional numbers. They asked us to give them the

Conversation French money, which was \$50 a student, and apply it to those that they had allowed to go into the Core. So we did that but we said, if you put students into the pilot or add them to the Core French Program and we have not accepted them in the pilot numbers, you will not get the funding so that you will go beyond the limitations of the pilot numbers on your own hook and we'll give you the \$50 but that's all you will get.

Now they did one more thing after that. Prior to our removing the Core Program from the pilot, which we did last year after four years of piloting, because there is a limit to how long a program should stay in pilot - this one, I think, had demonstrated itself - we removed it on the pilot and had a policy that has to be accepted by school divisions that they determined. St. James was one of the first.

A year before we pulled it out of the pilot stage, St. James decided to make it a mandatory program for all of their students in their school division - a year before they had to and even now they don't have to because it's optional for them to bring in that policy. Now, I'm taking a long time to get around to one point. A key part of that program, that decision to move into it would have and should have been the training and retraining and identification of teachers. If they are at the point four years down the road where they have mandated a program and they are then firing people, I say they should have been working on the retraining and the development and the identification of staff long before, and they are the authors of some of their own problems.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, S. Ashton: The Member for Elmwood.

MR. R. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I'll conclude on this general point and that is, I think, whether the Minister admits it or not, that we are seeing and observing a bilingualization of the school system. Maybe it's been a long time coming, but it certainly has accelerated in the last few years, and all one has to do is read the daily newspapers, read the advertisements about courses, read the advertisements for openings of teachers, so maybe in a way it's a chicken-and-egg situation.

The Minister keeps saying the public is demanding this, but it also works the other way, namely, that if the department is encouraging it, then the public will demand it, so it's like two sides of the coin. I'm simply saying to the Minister, when I see Immersion in Manitoba in Kindergarten and Grade 1, I have to very seriously question the need for that.

I don't question the need or the value for speaking other languages, French, German, Ukrainian, Polish, whatever, but to have a school system which seems to be moving in a direction of the entire student body taking French immersion from kindergarten on, seems to me to be madness - impractical, expensive, unnecessary.

It certainly is a trend, but I think to a large extent, it's a fad. Fads come and go and people get concerned about things and agitated about things and strike off in one direction, only to wonder why, a few years later, they did it in the first place. When you see things that have happened in the world predictions about this and

expectations about that and then they don't come about, people sometimes wonder why they invested all that time and energy in that particular enterprise. So I say to the Minister, whether she admits it or not, that that is the trend or that is the fact, that there is a bilingualization of the entire school system in this province.

The Minister is either unaware of that or she is sitting back and supporting it or she is actively encouraging it or she is leading the parade. I don't know, I cannot read her mind as to whether she approves of this or whether she doesn't approve of it or whether she's concerned about it or she doesn't care, or what. I'm simply saying to you that this is happening and it has consequences for the taxpayers; it has consequences for the students; it has consequences and ramifications for people entering the profession or attempting to work within the profession.

What will happen if, in a few years, the trend is arrested? Then somebody coming far after me will stand up in this House and whereas as I have said to the Minister before, what are you doing for unilingual English teachers who can't find employment, then somebody will be standing up on this side of the House - perhaps the Minister herself, talking to the new Minister - will be saying, what are you going to do for all these bilingual teachers who have all this training and all this ability and all this capacity and there are no openings because the pendulum has swung the other way, and now people are no longer interested in sending their kids in great and ever increasing numbers into these immersion programs. And people will say that, Mr. Chairman, if the clock is turned back or if the pendulum swings.

I was amused on one or two occasions in the past year talking to people who were students, who were taking extra language training, who were in immersion programs and who were following the whole language debate in Manitoba. And what was their concern? Their concern was, by God, they were making this huge investment and what if this legislation didn't go through and what if Manitoba didn't become officially bilingual and what if there weren't more opportunities about? One of them said to me, in effect, I think it's going to be the responsibility of the government to create bilingual jobs to fill the supply of the graduates coming out.

Obviously, it's the other way around. If there's a need for employment, then students should be preparing themselves for the future and should or should not take these courses, and so you get this tremendous emphasis and then you get this absurd conclusion, not absurd to the person who said it, namely, I'm taking all this French and now there appears to be a trend in the province to block this kind of legislation. Therefore, even if there aren't going to be these jobs coming about as a result of this legislation, you should somehow or other create jobs for the graduates to fill.

Mr. Chairman, I don't know the degree to which it is necessary for a young person in Manitoba today to be fluently bilingual. I suspect it's a lot less than some people estimate. I'm tempted to say to people sometimes when they talk about having their kids in immersion and in kindergarten and in Grade 1 and they're going to go all the way, that that may be a good idea if you think that your five-year-old son or your

five-year-old daughter wants to become a federal civil servant. It's hard to estimate that, but if the kid knows at age five that he wants to be a civil servant and it's a valuable asset at the federal level to speak French, then they should buy him a briefcase and enroll him in this program, because some day he will then enter the Civil Service and eventually wind up in Ottawa as a Deputy Minister. But barring that, it seems to me there is far too much emphasis in the system and I simply say to the Minister that she should look, I think, take a hard look at her department and the graduating students and the graduating teachers and try to match up what is happening in our society in terms of employment and pure learning and theoretical learning, etc.

No one's going to question the value of knowing another language. Nobody is going to say we shouldn't be familiar with the different linguistic groups in our province or our country. But I say, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, that I suspect that this is a fad and I know that it is a trend. I also feel that too much money and too much ability and too much effort and too much training and development is going into this area and I also suspect that it is at the expense of other options. It's not just a case of this option alone, but it's at the expense of other subjects and at the expense of other training.

I will conclude at this point, because I could then make a speech about how other countries appear to be putting their emphasis on computers, putting their emphasis on technology. Some seem to focus on certain subjects and certain areas. All the while, I say English and French must be taught comprehensively from the very beginning to the very end of the school system. But in Canada and in Manitoba today, we seem to be putting a lot of emphasis on language training and I don't think the world or the nation or the province is in any direct proportion to that emphasis.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I will just make a couple of short comments to the wind up comments of the Member for Elmwood.

I think I'd just like to maybe make two points. One is that I believe that he is receiving some negatives from this teacher in this school division or this person over here. I believe he's looking for it. I believe that he is getting exactly what he wants and I really wish that he had a little bit more of an open mind because if he did, he would be coming in with some positive stories. I mean, the fact is that if he hadn't predetermined what it was he wanted to hear, he would be getting at least mixed messages and some positive messages to offset the negative and the horror stories that he's hearing. So I wish he'd go out just exploring and gathering information, rather than looking for support for what he already believes.

In terms of the trend and the fad, I would just like to suggest once again that we keep that in perspective because he's suggesting that it's alarming because we have 10,000 students in Immersion Programs out of 200,000 students in the province, so let's not get carried away with what we're talking about in terms of trend of over-emphasis.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I just have a few questions to ask on the French programs. I must say that I'm rather surprised at the Minister almost accusing St. James of going into the Core program en masse before the pilot was over. They went into that program because the community had always been looking forward to having a good Core program, which I think is now called the Basic French and has entries at three levels, if I understand it correctly. What happened with St. James is they didn't expect, when they first decided on it, that the funding would be cut back to the conversational level of \$50.00. Now I understand it's up to \$100, which seems to satisfy the division.

As far as the division being lax about retraining their teachers, we have in St. James, because of declining enrolment - there's an aging population, they've always had enough teachers that could teach the French - the Immersion has caught up with them, and the only reason that there hasn't been teachers laid off in the division is because, at their own expense, which has been put on to the taxpayers in St. James. They have offered early retirement, at which point I had heard 16 had opted for it and they have the window open next year for them, so they're encouraging in every way their teachers to take early retirement.

As far as retraining, the division pays summer courses for St. Boniface College for the teachers and you can only have two or three on sabbatical. This gets to be a very expensive program and wasn't one that you could look 10 years in advance and do something about because of the decline in the division.

My question today is about the Late Entry Four and have there been any studies done with reference to the Grade 4 Late Entry Immersion as how it relates to students starting in Kindergarten or Grade 1?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, Mr. Chairman, presently there have not been studies. I imagine that's information we will be able to gather as the programs have been in place for awhile. We don't have it right now.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Is there any commitment from the Department of Education to the Late Entry Immersion, are there any programs being developed?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Could the Minister possibly explain what programs are being developed and what encouragement divisions are given for the Late Entry Four?

MR. CHAIRMAN, H. Harapiak: The Minister of Education.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I'm informed that there are not very many school divisions that have chosen to go into the Late Entry Grade 4, but where they are there is curriculum that is being developed, that has been developed and is available to the school divisions to use, a modified curriculum for Grade 4 Late Entry.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, the other question was the students that are finishing Grade 12, Immersion

students, are there any studies being done into what fields they're going into? Are they all teaching or are they leaving the province to find jobs to use their French?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, we don't have that information as of yet. There are very few graduates to date, only about 100 graduates, and they haven't been followed up specifically. We have general following of our high school graduate population but have not separated that out.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Yes, how many of the students that are in the early Immersion - say kindergarten, Grade 1 - are continuing on junior high and on to senior high? What is the drop-off?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I am informed that there is very little drop-off and that most of them are going on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Lakeside.

MR. H. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to just put on the public record a concern that I've had with respect to French Immersion courses being taught in our public school system. It's one that I was always very much aware of during the protracted debate on the other resolution that occupied so much of our time during the past year. Without resurrecting that debate at all, Mr. Chairman, but I want to put on the record a sincere concern that I expressed, particularly coming from an area, the Interlake, that has low density in numbers of students.

We have fought different battles in the educational system in trying to bring about comparable levels of education opportunities to rural students, comparable that is to the larger centres in rural Manitoba and, of course, with Winnipeg. I suspect that a lot of the uneasiness with respect to the other matter that I will just leave at that, was centred on that concern about how in fairness and how in practical measures can small centres, such as my own community of Woodlands, where we barely have enough students to maintain the elementary school which is desirable to do so. Country children are bused at a very young age great distances in parts of Manitoba. They spend 40-50 minutes, in some instances over an hour, on school buses travelling just to get to their school. Should that division wish to, or even should parents in that division want to, provide Immersion courses for those that requested it, it becomes very difficult from a very practical point of view.

I have put on the record that's a problem for Manitobans, a problem for future Ministers of Education, for the Department of Education, in the sense that there is at least the basis of inequity being developed, whereas the children attending my elementary school at Woodlands will likely not have the opportunity that the children in St. James-Assiniboia have who can, by virtue of having to travel a few blocks over - and that's causing enough disruption in that division - but, in the case of rural Manitoba, it may mean a matter of another 40 or 50 miles to provide the numbers.

That's why, Mr. Chairman, there was a concern expressed by members on this side of the House about the ill-conceived constitutional resolution that I refer to which could have had, for instance, the impact of enshrining, entrenching forever the number, which I believe now is 23 students.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I want to tell the Minister of Education that, based on that number, I will never be able to offer French Immersion courses to many small rural schools. I may well want to be the first one to encourage the Minister or the Department of Education, if they are concerned about this inequity, to provide some special attention to the situations to reduce the student count that are eligible for French Immersion courses or, indeed, to find some other way of supporting if we want to maintain equitable situations for all Manitoba students, no matter whether they live in small or large centres.

I make these comments, Mr. Chairman, as they relate specifically to the small centres. I am not even referring to the communities such as Steinbach or Swan River or other areas where a reasonable grouping of students is located and where a program can proceed. But I know that the school that my sons attended in Woodlands, and knowing that whether I express a position favourable to what is happening with respect to the requirement for French in terms of future job opportunities, private sector and the public sector, my sons at Woodlands would likely not be able to have the benefit of having that choice. I speak, I think, on behalf of many many such schools that will not be in a position to be exposed or to have at least the opportunity, with all the best wishes on the part of the parents, to avail themselves of this development with respect to our public school system.

I don't expect the Minister to respond in any lengthy way. I simply want to put it on the public record that that is a concern and perhaps with the feed off the other issue, I would ask her administration and her people to keep that in mind, because we've spent a great deal in the Province of Manitoba trying to bring about equity.

We have a difficulty. It's a difficult job for the Department of Education to provide a similar number of options, of courses, a similar number of opportunities for my youngsters in the Interlake as compared to the youngsters in St. James-Assiniboia School Division No. 1, or even in Thompson or in Swan River or in Steinbach, where a pretty good job has been done in terms of providing the range of opportunities that the public school system now provides.

But in this particular area, with respect to language instruction, unless the Minister can tell me how, I don't see how my students in Woodlands - I ask your forgiveness, Mr. Chairman, in singling out that particular school - it's a school, of course, that I am familiar with. It's a school that has, over the last number of years, managed just to stay above in the student count to maintain that elementary facility in that community. I hasten to say, we would be really torn if we had to, on the one hand, split off that population count because maybe parents, progressive parents, that I have in the Constituency of Lakeside that want to do their best by their children and provide a French option for them, but that, at the same time, means maybe closing down of the school because it doesn't fit the other criteria

with respect to teachers' grants and the viability of that school.

Mr. Chairman, those few comments I think are appropriate to be made at this time because they did colour the debate on the other matter to a greater extent, I believe, than government members acknowledged. It was not by accident, Mr. Chairman, for instance, that the people of the Interlake were particularly upset about the proposals with respect to the French language question in the last year. Although maybe it wasn't expressed explicitly, these kinds of fears on the part of many parents who were not taking a position or were not opposed to the French language question in Manitoba but were deeply and, I believe, rightly concerned about how, if ever, those opportunities could be provided to their children in these small rural centres.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, the Member for Lakeside said he wanted to put those points on record and also quietly suggested he didn't require a lengthy answer, and I don't intend to give him one, he'll be glad to hear. But I do think he has made an important point that he put on the record and it hasn't been done to date, I think, through the Education Estimates and I want to respond to it just for a minute.

He raised the question of equity in small schools and having to transport children, and the inability of them to provide options that might be considered to be basic courses and programs in larger schools in the city. I agree with what he is saying, both as a concern and as an issue, that the question of accessibility and equity is one of the critical questions that we are dealing with and that any government has had to deal with.

It isn't only related to French language programs. It's a broad issue, the question of the ability to have a reasonable number of high school options; the question of being able to have the special needs programs with very small numbers of children. So it's a basic question of all curriculum and programs.

I don't have the total answer; we've had a few and I just want to put them on record. We are looking at multigraded classrooms and we are looking at helping teachers in small school divisions develop curriculum, recognizing that there are more and more multigraded classrooms. That's going to give them more support.

I think one of the most flexible things that we did that allowed schools and school divisions to do what they wanted with the money that addressed both poor school divisions and poor schools was two programs, one was the Supplemental Program, and we put \$19 million out of the Education Support Program and put it into small communities, those with low assessment base, low per-pupil expenditures. Low per-pupil expenditures are usually based on enrolment. I mean, I have to say that the old Support Program was based on giving more money to the big and the rich and that's how it was designed. So the Supplemental Program took \$19 million and put it in; that's block money that they can spend as they wish.

The \$2 million Small Schools Program is being used very creatively. We have a situation where two high schools in two different school divisions are sharing programs in order to be able to provide enough options to provide a high school program that they could not

provide on their own. So I only say he has identified one of the major issues facing the education system and that we have, at least, brought in two or three programs that try and address the question of equity and leave it up to school divisions to decide where they can best and where they want to apply that money, and for which programs.

MR. H. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for the response. I should indicate to her that I am still a living example of that now extinct species, what was at one time known as a permit teacher in Manitoba.

I rise only to suggest to her that when she starts talking about multigraded classrooms, surely we are not going back to the one-room classroom with the kind of situations that youngsters fresh out of high school, with six weeks summer training, faced back in the early '50s, that that is what she is suggesting.

I assure her, when I left Education, it was Education's gain and perhaps politics' loss when I chose to pursue that course but I am satisfied. I simply want the Minister and the department to know that it is a serious problem and she is, of course, right. It's not at all related simply to this question, that it is the broad situation in terms of optional choices that now are available to students.

I would like, at least, the Minister to acknowledge that we are adding to that problem, not detracting from that problem by the course that we are on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to add a few remarks in the same vein as those just offered by my colleague.

Mr. Chairman, last year, through that debate, a couple of us put on the record our concerns in the area of education and I think I have to be strongly critical of the Minister now for not addressing them at that time. Certainly, the Minister talks about all areas of education, that there isn't yet total equity within the whole area. She may be right, but certainly in a perception sense, rural Manitoba feels that it has brought their level up to a point where it is beginning to approximate that of our urban cousins.

With the new development of the French streams, there is a genuine concern in rural Manitoba that the disparity that once existed and has gradually reduced, is going to widen out very severely. On not one occasion have I heard the Minister address that specific concern of ours as to where it fits into the larger debate. I think that's just specifically what my colleague was referring to.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister has given the numbers to the Member for Elmwood as to the population or the student count, within the various streams. I would ask a specific question, and it comes out of a press release dated April 6, 1984, where the Minister announced \$3.9 million in grants to 30 school divisions offering French Immersion, Basic French or Français programs. I'm wondering how 3.9 comes forward when this whole area, this whole branch really only had \$3.34 million to spend. Where did the additional sums come from?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, if I understand the question correctly, I think he's referring to the other grants that come under 16.(3)(a).

MR. C. MANNESS: Fine, Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister for that comment.

I'm wondering if I could ask some specific questions regarding the Ile des Chenêes School, which I understand is being constructed at this point in time. I'm wondering if the Minister could tell me, first of all, how the building is going with that particular school and, secondly, what at this stage is the estimate of students who will enroll in the fall of '84.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, the construction is progressing well. It's on schedule and it's going to be substantially completed by July 15th. They're going to be moving furniture and equipment in on August 1st and the school will be ready at the end of August for the opening of school in September.

The enrolments are, I suppose I would put it this way, are absolutely guaranteed or confirmed now, although it's possible that there may be some students coming from other school divisions that we haven't even counted in or added in, but it's 184 students. I think the school was designed to accommodate 220 students, eight regular classrooms and two science labs. We've confirmed 180, sort of confirmed students, with possibilities of some coming from other school divisions, so there doesn't appear to be any problem with filling the school.

MR. C. MANNESS: Mr. Chairman, this probably is not the time to go into that estimate of enrolment. I have before me the Seine River School Division breakdown of the number of students attending each and every school and certainly the numbers before me in no way could lead to that total, but I don't think this is the time to possibly debate that number . . .

HON. M. HEMPHILL: I could get the breakdown.

MR. C. MANNESS: . . . although we will be watching very carefully in the fall of '84 to see whether, in fact, the 180 number is realized.

Can the Minister indicate the latest cost estimate associated with the building of that school?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I think the exact figure we would probably have, it was questionable whether this would come up under the Bureau or under Capital. We don't mind talking about it now, more appropriately it comes up under Capital. It came in on budget anyway, that they were given a budget and they have come in, as far as I know, on budget. I think it's \$1.3 million, it's a little over a million and it's come in on budget, we will have the exact figure when we have our staff here under Capital.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Morris, if you have more questions toward Capital, possibly we could debate that under the next item because the staff will be there to support some of the questions that are asked.

MR. C. MANNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any more and, if I do, I will use that time to question.

Mr. Chairman, I understand that the Seine River School Board has petitioned the government requesting

additional funds under the program whereby the department will fund additional operating expenses for the first two years of French schools. I'm wondering if the Minister, at all, has had a change of heart - somewhere I read where there's an Order-in-Council passed where some \$41,000 or so was allocated to that particular school - could the Minister indicate whether there have been further meetings with her department and representatives of the Seine River School Division as to requests beyond that total?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there have been some further meetings with members of my department and the Seine River School Division when they had confirmation of the additional grant, I suppose we might call it, that they would be given, and what they were suggesting is that they didn't think it was as large as it was going to be, or it wasn't what they were expecting to get.

I can only say that they got what they were entitled to under the criteria that existed, and what happens is that we take the amount of money - once they convert and they go into an Immersion or a language school they are entitled to certain moneys - we take those grants and those moneys that they are entitled to in their new form. I think that's maybe a way of describing it, they've changed the kind of school they were in the programs they're offering, which changes their entitlement to certain grants; so we look at the grants they're entitled to and we take the grants that they've received - which are not exactly the same because they weren't offering exactly the same programs - we subtract the two of them and the additional grant is the difference between what they are now entitled to, offering their new programs, and what they were entitled to under the old programs before they changed.

That came out to \$41,000. It was a criteria that was established, I think, under your regime and it applied to four or five other schools and it was applied in the same way. So I think they were entitled to and received that which was under the criteria for additional funding.

MR. C. MANNESS: I thank the Minister for that response. She has on many occasions reviewed with me that particular process.

I'm more curious though as to what might have been meant in a letter sent out from the Deputy Minister to the Chairman of the Seine River School Division, dated March 30th, when this comment was made in the third paragraph.

It says, "Recognizing that this figure falls short of your expectations," and I believe the expectations are \$100,000 is what's required. I'm not saying expectations were that, but roughly some \$100,000 was required as shortfall and the government has come through with \$41,000 under the criteria just indicated by the Minister.

Again I quote, "Recognizing that this figure falls short of your expectations, the Minister asks I meet with you, and whomever else you would like to have present, to discuss further your request for additional funds. She is anxious to have me explore fully, once again, the basis of your request."

Is the Minister saying that the file is still open on this and that in fact the criteria may change and the fact that she is working toward providing additional funds?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I believe what was behind the statements in the letter related to the fact that when the school division got in touch with us and said it isn't as much as we were expecting, we're very concerned about what we were getting, we thought we were going to get \$100,000, I asked the Deputy Minister to speak with them and to explore, to make sure they were getting everything that they were entitled to under the criteria.

In fact, it's sometimes difficult to say and make sure you are dealing with the same numbers and that you're measuring the same way. So the meeting was set up; one, to explain what the criteria was and how it was applied so they would know that whatever the reason was that made them expect more, that the criteria had been applied this way and that they were being given what they were entitled to; and secondly, to explore and make absolutely sure it had been applied with correct numbers so that we were sure that we were not falling short of what they were entitled to. I think that was the purpose of the meeting.

MR. C. MANNESS: Mr. Chairman, I take from the Minister's comments then that under no circumstances will there be additional grants in 1984 for the operational shortfall in the Seine River School Division if that's to be applied directly toward that school. Is that the undertaking that the Minister's giving me today?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I don't think that the Deputy Minister and I have had an opportunity with the timetable that has been in place to sit down and discuss what happened at the meeting and the information that came through from the school division. I think what I would say here is that with what information I have now and the knowledge I have now, I wouldn't expect that there would be an additional grant unless there was something that I presently don't know about or information that hasn't been supplied to me to date that would require or suggest that there should be some reconsideration.

MR. C. MANNESS: Well, I want the Minister to be more definitive than that, Mr. Chairman. Is the Minister then saying that maybe the criteria that have been used, that there may be some circumstances in which they have not been applied properly? Or is there some other factor that has no reference whatsoever to the criteria that, in fact, may bring about a sound argument and an acceptance by this government that additional funds are warranted?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I think what I'm saying is that I haven't yet heard what the arguments are or the position is of the school division, if they suggest that they believe they are entitled or should be entitled for whatever reasons under the existing criteria to a larger grant. I'm willing to hold my judgment until I hear that.

MR. C. MANNESS: Mr. Chairman, I understand from a report in a MAST executive bulletin that the Department of Education is working on a redefinition of what constitutes a program under Section 41(5) of The Public Schools Act. Have there been other

organizations involved in defining the definition of "program" - I have before me that MAST report - such as MAST and the Manitoba Teachers Society - have these other organizations have been involved in the definition of "program?"

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there has been involvement of all the major organizations that usually deal with educational matters like this. The teachers, the trustees and the superintendents, I think, are the three organizations and groups that are involved in looking at this issue, MAZBO and MAZBO (2).

MR. C. MANNES: Well, for the record, Mr. Chairman, somebody that may be reading these Hansards and may be wondering what I'm talking about, I suppose I . . .

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Secretary-Treasurers.

MR. C. MANNES: . . . should lay on the record what I'm talking about, and I would quote Section 41(5) of The Public Schools Act which states, "Where a division does not offer a program within its boundaries that a student wishes to take, the board will pay for the student to take the program in another division. A committee was set up by the Department of Education to attempt to develop a definition of 'program'. The present definition is 'a series or group of courses leading to a statement of standing.'

"The representatives from the Superintendents Association and the Secretary-Treasurers Organizations agree with the following proposed definitions and they are two. They are (1) from kindergarten to Grade 9, 'program' means a series or group of courses which constitutes at least 25 percent of the time allotment, and (2) from Grades 10-12, 'program' means a series or group of courses which constitute at least 25 percent of the courses required for year-end statement of standing."

My question, are there limits as to what constitutes the proposed similarities in programs? For example, "If two divisions offer a program that meets the required criteria and in Division No. 1 that program is not continuous, can a program be offered in Division No. 1 for Grade 3 only, but in Division" - I'm reading as you can tell - "No. 2 from K to 12."

I suppose the question I ask, are the rules going to change as to when to determine whether an individual can take a program in a neighbouring division or go some further distance?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the question that the Member for Morris ended with is actually the issue and why the committee was set up in the first place.

I think it's important to say here that this issue and the definition of "program" is not related to French language. It is not the definition of a French Language Program, it a broad question that we're dealing with in all of our education programs with school divisions. The reason that we've set up the committee is that they are having more and more difficulty agreeing on what is a program between school divisions. There are more parents, particularly in areas like Special Needs

- we have one case that has gone to the Ombudsman, I think, that was one of the things that triggered the setting up of this committee and the feeling that we had to do a better job of defining, because they went to the Ombudsman and we don't have the results of that case yet.

But apart from that, I have had information from a number of parents, for instance, of Special Needs children who say they are prepared to go to court if necessary, because they do not believe that the program that is being offered in their school division is a program or an adequate program where the school division may be prepared to take the position that their program is adequate and, therefore, they don't have to pay or the parents aren't entitled to go and have access to a program in another division. It is clearly to deal with the issue of unclear definitions that exist now that gives school divisions accurate information on whether or not what their program is and what is an adequate program that we've set up this committee to deal with the issue.

MR. C. MANNES: I thank the Minister for assuming my next question. I was wondering whether it had an application at all within the French language area, and she's cleared that away.

Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister whether her department has an official stance as to the - I understand there's another type of French Language Program, it's the B Program, that's offered specifically at the École Provencher - I'm wondering whether or not this program, as it's offered at that school, whether there is some demand in other schools to see it be the logical replacement, in the minds of some, for the Immersion Program that is now in existence.

Some people would make the statement that it recognizes the realities of the working world and that most children will eventually be functioning in an English environment, no matter what their cultural background may be. I don't know an awful lot, I know very little about this program. I'm wondering if the department has an official policy or statement regarding it?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, first, a direct answer. We do not have an official stance on the 50-50 Bilingual Program. The role that the department plays is one of providing services to school divisions, developing curriculum, providing resource and support. We provide exactly the same resources and support to a school division if they choose to offer the 50-50 Bilingual Program, as if they offer the 75 percent Immersion Program. That's a local decision that they make. We don't encourage or discourage them. We leave it up to them and we provide the support that is necessary or that they need. Two schools have chosen — (Interjection) — Pardon?

MR. C. MANNES: What is the support?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: What is the support? It's the same.

MR. C. MANNES: As Immersion?

A final series of questions in this area, Mr. Chairman. Again, it falls into the area as to how parents are to

decide with their children as to what course or what stream should be followed. I have before me a questionnaire that went out again from the Superintendent, I believe, of the Seine River School Division, to all parents with children in Grades 7-9 throughout the area. There was a brief that went along with it to the parents - I believe it was some four or five pages in length - where the superintendent - and I'm certainly not trying to find fault - tried to lay out the various advantages and disadvantages of choosing one location, probably one course over the other. And these are some of the advantages, and I think they're talking specifically about Dawson Trail - I'll just read for a second: "We are presently reviewing the application and the division's policy concerning the development of the Immersion program into Grades 7 and 9. There will be two classes introduced into Grade 9 in September '84, Dawson Trail and Ste. Anne Immersion. The situation already exists in St. Norbert Immersion since September '83. The question that must be addressed at this time is location of the Grade 7 Immersion class; where will it be housed next September?"

These are the advantages and disadvantages offered to parents to help the school board, I suppose, in making that decision. You hear comments like, under the advantages, "(1) The Immersion program could develop into a K-9 program in Dawson Trail; (2) Shared French language resources with Lagimodiere," and then they give a listing of those resources that could be shared. "(3) Research conducted in Manitoba indicates an Immersion school or centre allows for superior results in second language. (4) The Grades 4-6 would form a middle years section Grade 4-8, with Grades 9-12 forming a separate section," and you refer to some map; and "Grades 4-6 section would have separate recesses and activities. No. 5, this option would ensure a greater continuity of programs and curriculum in both the English and Immersion programs. (6) This is seen as an advantage to the Grade 7 and the 8 English since the organization would be that of Grades 8 to . . . section."

Then there's a listing of the disadvantages and they are: "The 7-9 Immersion students would not mix with the Grade 7-12 students during the school days. The additional Grades 4-6 resources to be located in Lorette Collegiate. The staff would have to be displaced to another school; adjustments and timetabling." That was the first option. Then there was a second option and, of course, there's another list of series of advantages and disadvantages there. I think these are the ones that I wanted to quote, under the second option, and that would be that Grade 7-9 Immersion be housed in Lorette Collegiate. The advantages, and I list: "(1) Grade 7-9 Immersion would be socially closer to Grade 7-12 English. (2) That Grade 7-9 Immersion would physically be closer to Practical Arts Workshop. (3), the Grade 4-6 English would continue to exist with K-3 English at Dawson Trail." The disadvantages: "It would be difficult to develop and maintain an identity for the Immersion program due to the small number of students and the number of groups in Immersion. (2) The Grades 7-9 Immersion could not be integrated into," and there's that word that I object, Mr. Chairman, "Grade 7-9 Immersion could not be integrated into all the student activities since the language of instruction

is not the same." I'll skip the third one, it just makes reference to materials. "(4) The language of communication would be English, as would most of the activities, so the students in Grade 7-9 Immersion would not receive the full benefit of the Immersion program." I suppose, I would say, well that requires "separation."

There was an implementation plan that went with it and then I think there was a brief presented to the board by a Janice Lawrence who, again, began to draw certain conclusions from the scenario as developed by the superintendent.

My question to the Minister, through that long preamble, is whether she's not concerned at all, how are parents supposed to make their minds up and make a decision on the basis of that type of situation? What is happening out there and can the Minister not understand why, for whatever reason, there are numerous people becoming very upset and very concerned about the system and what we're trying to do, not only in the economical sense we're imposing on school divisions which are not economical in many cases, so many streams, but then forcing parents to make decisions on the basis of that type of rationale.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: It's a lot to respond to, not just in length but in content. I think the first thing I would have to say is that I think that the tool that was used, which was a survey tool where they sent information out and wanted to get a response from the community, is a legitimate tool, it's a way of getting information and presenting information and getting feedback; it's only one.

From the lengthy description that the Member for Morris went through, I personally would have serious concerns about the ability of the parents to make a reasonable judgment based on that wide range of options and, more importantly, I think my major concern, personally, would be the lack of their ability to confirm or not confirm whether those were advantages and disadvantages in their mind.

In other words, the advantages and disadvantages were those that were listed, I suppose, through the administration or the superintendent and the professionals. I don't say they aren't legitimate or weren't given without thought but, what's important there, when you're going to the community and raising the questions and suggesting that they should have some involvement and input, is that they actually can respond to the basic questions which is, is this organization or this program, and the effect of it, an advantage in your mind or a disadvantage in your mind; they should be confirming that. So my personal preference would have been, maybe initially, to send out some information by letter that would have outlined what the issue was so they would at least have an understanding of the depth of it, and then to call a public meeting, but I don't carry out the responsibility for determining that. What they were doing was communicating to their community things that are in their area of jurisdiction - the organization for program and the organization of school facilities, and the combination of the two, and the effect on their children, in terms of where they would go to school and where they would have programs and middle-year section and all of that.

So they were dealing with an issue that is their responsibility to deal with; they were using a reasonable tool. I don't think they went far enough. We have done as much as we can to work with school boards, to talk about how to have better participation, involvement of parents. The public involvement workshops were very successful, attended by people across the province, and helped outline the team approach and how to get information of this nature to the community and get reasonable responses back.

We can't mandate; we can support; we can give workshops; we can give advice; we can give help. In the end, if they do a poor job of communication of information out and getting information back, that's something they have to take responsibility for.

MR. C. MANNES: My only response, Mr. Chairman, I can't be critical of anybody that attempts to communicate and that was my purpose for raising that.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: It's an attempt.

MR. C. MANNES: Sometimes though one can be baffled with too much information, too, and that's my only comment. It doesn't make the decision any easier at all because, all of a sudden, it means an awful lot of work. The Minister can talk about open meetings, but then you can debate either side of the question, depending on what's your favour, and then you can really confuse a person who comes to listen.

Mr. Chairman, my final question though on this whole section is to do with the - I think the Member for Elmwood some period back raised a question on segregation. Although it isn't mentioned within that document I think there are some other documents I can quote from, because certainly the inference is left that the success of some of these streams is enhanced by, in fact, preventing children from mixing, children that are trying to learn different languages. I'm wondering, I've never heard the Minister make a definitive statement on that issue and I would like to hear one now.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I think that this issue did come up before. I'm not sure the Member for Elmwood raised it today but I do remember him raising it in question period, related to a specific organization and structure of a school division, and I think I responded then and it will basically be the same response now.

I think there was an attempt to exaggerate the effect or the degree to which segregation was taking place in the organization of the school - these were students in Lorette - and when we looked into it, the information that I was provided with suggests that, although they are separated for program, that the kids are in the same clubs, they are on the same hockey teams, they ride on the same buses, they play in the same schoolyard at noon and, in fact, in some cases, they may have kids in the same family who are in different programs.

I met two kids like that myself when I toured one of the schools where one was in one program and one was in another, but they did not either feel or demonstrate any feelings of segregation or separation.

I think there is a suggestion that the separation is greater than it is and it impacts on every waking sort of moment of play and other activities outside of the program, and I haven't been able to find any information that demonstrates that that's the case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (7.(a)(1) to 7.(d)(2) were each read and passed.)

7.(d)(3) - the Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNES: One question in this area, Mr. Chairman. I see there is a sizeable amount of money that is Recoverable from Canada, or from Ottawa, an amount greater than the appropriation.

Can the Minister tell us where the additional amounts will be spent and directed?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: The amount that's showing is the amount that is Recoverable from Canada, from the Federal Government; and we, in Manitoba, both in the regular agreement and the bilateral agreements that we have with the Federal Government usually negotiate very well and I think we are recovering something in the neighbourhood of 75, 76 percent of our cost. That figure is not just related to the one program but it is the recoverable for all of the programs that we are offering.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 7.(d)(3)—pass; 7.(e)(1)—pass; 7.(e)(2)—pass.

The Member for Kirkfield Park.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, I have one question here that I should have asked earlier, if it's all right.

The new French Immersion per pupil grant is \$250, I understand, and there won't be a start-up grant. Winnipeg No. 1 and St. Boniface, I understand, were in much earlier and they have gone from K-12 in most of their programs. In divisions such as St. James and others who were later starters, they have six more years and it's penalizing the divisions that came onstream later.

Could you indicate why? Was this one of the cases of encouraging everybody to get in and then changing the grant structure, because I understand that St. James will be getting something in the neighbourhood of \$25,000 less this year for that grant?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, the idea wasn't to bring in a large grant to suck them in and then to drop it off. I think the \$357 was a development grant that was seen to be reasonable to offer for an initial period, and the amount that we settled on this year, the \$250, was the amount that was recommended in the Nicholls Report, No. 1. So we accepted the Nicholls Report.

In terms of St. James' specific problem, we have a grandfather clause that says that no school division will get less. Although, we have gone to the \$250, we have said no school division will get less than they were previously getting and it is my understanding that this protection applies to St. James.

MRS. G. HAMMOND: Just one point. I was under the impression that the Nicholls report recommended \$300.00.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: True. I was thinking along the lines of the recommendation that we removed. It was time to remove the establishment grant. They recommended \$300; we decided we couldn't go that far and we sawed it off at \$250.00.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 57: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$3,362,000 for Education, for Bureau de L'Education Française, for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

We move on to Item No. 8, Expenditures Related to Capital Assets.

8.(a)(1) - the Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNES: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister if she could tell us specifically what capital projects are being considered under this area.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It's a fairly lengthy section. If the question is related to the first page, which is 16-8, what comes under there, I will give a quick summary.

The amounts that show for Red River Community College, Assiniboine Community College and Keewatin Community College, that is money for equipment for teaching, so that it could be anything from a steam cleaner for a program to agricultural, to lathes, to computers. So it is the amount of money that colleges get on an annual basis for improvement, upgrading and buying of equipment for the purposes of teaching, not equipment for administration or other areas.

The Canada-Manitoba Skills Growth Fund is what I referred to before, is that we negotiated the Skills Growth Fund with the Federal Government. We were, I think, the only province to allow access to the education system to the Skills Growth Fund. It gives us \$8.4 million, and the breakdown of that is that we have \$3.2 million going into colleges; \$2.4 million, as I suggested before, going into universities; and the South Winnipeg Vocational School gets \$1.7 million. So that is the breakdown of the Skills Growth.

The rest of it is the money for the universities. The \$5.6 million is \$4 million for miscellaneous capital, that is the grant for universities this year; plus the \$1.6 million for the Brandon University is in there; and the school divisions, \$17 million, is a compilation of the money for new programs, the building of new schools, the renovation of old schools, miscellaneous capital grants that go out to school divisions in the acquisition of buses, and I think the buying of vocational equipment for school divisions. That's the breakdown of the \$17 million.

MR. C. MANNES: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering if the Minister could tell me whether any money was taken out of this Capital area and diverted to the Jobs Fund.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, Mr. Chairman.

MR. C. MANNES: Before we end, was any money taken out of the Department of Education at all, any of the Estimates converted to the Jobs Fund?

HON. M. HEMPHILL: No, Mr. Chairman.

MR. C. MANNES: Mr. Chairman, the school division breakdown, I am wondering if the Minister could provide me with a list of the capital expenditures under that particular item.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, just to confirm the question, is the member asking for a breakdown of schools that were approved?

MR. C. MANNES: Correct.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Yes, okay. These are the projects that were approved last year: In Winnipeg No. 1, Grant Park High had renovations for \$200,000; Cecil Rhodes was a new building; Faraday Elementary, addition and renovations; and Robert H. Smith, renovations; Assiniboine South with the South Winnipeg Vocational Centre, our share of that is \$4 million; Fort Garry has a new school - that's the one in Fort Garry and St. Vital - a total of \$8 million, our share is \$4 million; Seven Oaks has a collegiate renovation; Lord Selkirk No. 11 had a regional addition; Red River No. 17 had an addition; Portage la Prairie had an addition for \$635,000; Pelly Trail No. 37 had an addition in renovations to Inglis School for \$300,000; Binscarth had additions and renovations for close to \$600,000; Birdtail River No. 38 had a new school, \$1.2 million; Frontier No. 48 School Division had South Indian Lake addition and renovations for \$1.6 million and Grand Rapids addition for \$970,000 - for a total of \$12,302,000 for schools that were approved in '83.

MR. C. MANNES: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'm a little confused. I believe the Minister just read out of the Annual Report of the Public Schools Finance Board, or at least that same information is there contained. I'm more curious though as to whether the appropriation we are being asked to pass applies to '83 or is there a new list for '84.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, what is in the budget for this year is the debentures for last year. I'm looking for how I describe it, it comes due a year after the date of completion or the date of approval. These were approvals that I read out, schools that were approved, and the money that is in the budget is the debenture money that comes due one year after the date of approval, so that actually each year the money that's in the budget is for the previous year, yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 8.(a)(1)—pass; 8.(a)(2)—pass; 8.(b)(1)—pass.

8.(b)(2) - the Member for Morris.

MR. C. MANNES: I must remembered a question, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister indicated I should ask at this time is the policy guidelines set for surplus schools. The Minister put out a press release on that particular policy May 6, 1983. I'm wondering whether or not she's had any feedback from school divisions. I know I have, one locally, where a school division was forced to heat a school at the cost of \$1,700 a month, even though a community group was prepared to purchase that for \$1, but because the school division had to follow strictly the new policy guidelines set for

surplus schools, they had to heat that building all the way through the winter at a great cost to them. I'm wondering if the Minister has had much feedback on this. Is there any view as to possibly amending these policy guidelines to make them more realistic, particularly as they relate to smaller communities?

I can understand the City of Winnipeg where there might be a greater demand, certainly a larger market available for possible users of facilities, but certainly that isn't the case in all areas of the province. I'm wondering if the Minister has had any feedback and whether she intends at all to deal with this matter.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I've just confirmed, but I believe we haven't had much negative feedback about the inability to dispose of schools or particularly dispose of small schools in the country. I've just been confirmed by the Chairman of the Public Schools Finance Board that they're able to dispose of small schools in the country really without any problem.

We did have a lot of discussions when we were bringing the guidelines into place and as a result of discussions, we modified some of the criteria. I think we had said that they had to project enrolments, had to demonstrate that they didn't need the school for 10 years and they thought that was too heavy a requirement and asked us to bring it down to five years, so that we said okay. There have been situations, and we know right here in the city, where a school division closed a school, decided they didn't need it any longer and two years later maybe a changed board or maybe not, but certainly a changed decision in terms of program, the school was opened up and needed again.

We've had other situations where a school board actually sold off a school and then either enrolments changed or their decision to organize change and they wanted a school again in the region or the geographical area where they had lost one and came back to us asking for another \$1 million for a new school.

The intention of the policy is clear. It's to say that if they're needed for education, that's the No. 1 priority. So it's up the school division to look at their enrolment projections and to be able to demonstrate that they don't need the school as an educational facility for at least the next five years. I think that's fair, they should be projecting that far down the road and know what their enrolments are.

If it's not needed for educational purposes, the second criterion is for the community, so that if they don't need it, there is in the procedure a requirement that they go to the community and advertise, let them know that the school is available, and wait for people to indicate an interest in taking over the school. If they don't need it for educational purposes and the community isn't interested in it and they have to wait six months, I think, and give a reasonable period of time for the community, because some of these small groups need time to organize and prepare themselves, then it comes to us to see if the department or the government might need it for - I don't know - medical or dental or any other facilities, we can still at that time make it available to the community if they show interest later on in the day.

The intention is simply this. It's to say that these schools have been built with great public expenditure at great, great cost to the taxpayer - expensive facilities

often. Some of them that they wanted to dispose of were only 3 or 4 or 5 years old and might have cost \$1.5 million. The purpose of the policy is to say they should be maintained for public use as long as there is a public use, and only when they've gone through the procedure of determining educational needs, community needs, government needs, can it be turned over to private enterprise or a commercial enterprise, at which time, if they've gone through the procedure they can sell it off to anybody they want to.

However, they can't sell it off to a private enterprise or anybody they want to until they have definitely determined that they don't need it for education and the community doesn't want it for community use.

MR. C. MANNES: Mr. Chairman, I'm not quarrelling with the intention of the program. I think though that the Minister uses some false numbers and examples to build her argument. She indicates that schools three or four years old may be sold off. Well, let's be very candid and realize that many of these schools are much older in the rural sense. The people that invested and paid for those schools are still the same families that are in existence.

What is happening, particularly in the situation of the Lowe Farm School - that's the one I make reference to - is that there is a school there that was probably built and paid for almost totally by the local people. That community wanted to use it for a larger community recreation area. I don't think that there was an agreement as to the value and the price, and while then the government or the department realized that there was no way they wanted to give it away early, they then went through the long procedure of seeing whether other departments within government want it.

I question the Minister whether she doesn't realize that the community has bought and paid for that facility. There are no other educational needs quite obviously and secondly, there wasn't a private group that was interested. What is the holdup? Why can't it be changed? I'm wondering if this is just an isolated situation or whether this has happened on many occasions, because if it has, I think that policy should be changed.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the information. We're struggling with it a bit because neither I nor my staff have heard of that particular problem.

I can make two points. If we get the information we will look into it immediately and see what the holdup is. If the school was built early on when the school division was at the time prior to the province carrying 100 percent of the costs of building, there is a recognition of that and if they do sell the school, they get their proportion, they get their money back to them out of the sale. In other words, we recognized local school division people putting a large amount of money into the building and if they sell it, it was built prior to - I can't remember, I think it's 1960 or something or is it 1969 - then they get their fair share of the surplus.

If they don't need it for education, there isn't anybody private and there's somebody there in the community that wants it, in general, to our knowledge, there isn't any reason why they can't give it to the community

group for \$1.00 or sell it to them for \$1.00 as long as they take it over and do not expect the Department of Education to maintain heating costs and to carry any of the costs of maintaining it; so the requirement would be that they carry the operational cost, but the school division has the authority to turn it over to a community group for \$1.00 if that's what they wish to do. We'll look into it to try and find out what the hold up is in this particular case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 8.(b)(2)—pass.

Resolution No. 58: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$32,889,700 for Education, Expenditures related to Capital Estimates for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

The only remaining article is the Minister's Salary, so we will release staff and get into discussion on the Minister's Salary.

The Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOWNEY: I rise to make comment on the Minister's Salary and I will try and do it very briefly.

I was not here when there was the part dealing with Student Loans and I do have a specific question - and the Minister can answer in her comments later or at some other time - but I have a constituent who is extremely concerned about the Student Loan Program whereas it appears as if those people who put down legitimate figures and what would appear to be accurate information and then rejected, then the appearance of other people who probably could be in less need were accepted. I would wonder if the Minister has some particular monitoring system or how an appeal system is set up, because it causes extreme concern within our community and I know of many many people who have that complaint.

I want to deal specifically, Mr. Chairman, with this Minister's inability to deal with the situation at Brandon University. I want to point out that I think the majority of people in the whole Westman region are somewhat disappointed in the fact that education, the whole system of education, the development of the university, the fact that it's been changed from a school of parochial-type nature for a college, to be named a university, happen under the Progressive Conservative years. The development of that whole establishment, I think, most people have been extremely proud of, but to see the kind of reputation that it's developing under this current NDP Government, this Minister of Education has lacked, has not taken on her responsibilities properly.

I believe that the community out there are pleading for her to get a hold of that issue and that situation. They pleaded with the Premier to do something about it and what do they do? They keep saying it's up to the board. Mr. Chairman, the board doesn't have to get re-elected next time, but she and her Premier do, and they won't because of the incompetent way in which they're dealing with that situation.

Why would they sacrifice the former President of the Brandon University and continue to hide behind the fact that they've got a board that they say have the responsibility? It doesn't wash, Mr. Chairman, it doesn't wash and it won't wash with the people of the Westman

area. And I would request, before this Minister accepts one nickel of her pay, that she acts and takes on her responsibility seriously and meet with the people of the Westman Region, meet with them in sincerity and say she will correct the problem. If it means replacing the board, putting an interim board in place, then it should be done.

It can not continue to deteriorate any longer, and I would hope that she, in taking her salary that's going to be voted in the next few minutes, that she would take a few minutes just to think about some of the children, the young people who are depending on that university for their education, or who had planned to. It has a reputation today that not many people want to attach themselves to because of the controversy that has been gathered around and the incompetent way in which it's been handles.

So, Mr. Chairman, I will conclude my remarks by saying that I would believe it would be in the best interests of this Minister and the Premier to take on their responsibility in the way in which should be expected of the Minister of Education, to deal with it properly, to come clean on what initiated the whole upset out there, to put in place the kind of a mechanism that would correct it so that it can turn back to a kind of a reputable organization, a reputable institute, that we would all be proud of again. But I would have to say at this particular point there is no sign of that and I would be extremely pleased to see some action taken.

If there isn't, it will probably be one of the two major election issues in the next coming election, in the upcoming election, whenever it is, and they will not be able to cover up until that time, Mr. Chairman, and I feel very upset that today this Minister is going to have money voted for her when she's doing such a demonstrated incompetent job in the handling of the Brandon University affair.

HON. M. HEMPHILL: Mr. Chairman, there were two points made. I will accept that the member wanted to put on record his feelings about an issue that was discussed at great length into the early hours last night when perhaps he wasn't here, and that he has done that.

In terms of the first question, I want to deal just quickly with that. We do have monitoring and we do have an Appeal Board. I know personally of cases where I know students that don't appear to be in need or where their families appear to have lots, and others who literally seem to be struggling, who don't seem to be getting approval.

One, we've increased our monitoring. We now require students up front to give us bank accounts, to give us information, income tax, that we can check and we have to do less auditing, so we have more documentation about their financial status and that of their parents. However, there's still opportunities, I suppose, to fudge some of the information that's given.

If anybody feels they're aggrieved or they know of cases, and they don't appeal, the Appeal Board - about 35 percent of them are successful. It shows that when you're dealing with 20,000 applications and a complex criteria you don't always apply it properly and there are deficiencies in the system. If he knows of a particular case, that student should certainly go the Appeal Board.

I've even had cases where they've gone to the Appeal Board and they've appealed and we have said that there were extraordinary circumstances and they should be taken into consideration, so they should follow all routes.

MR. C. MANNES: Mr. Chairman, I've enjoyed the Estimates process. I've treated it, in part, as a learning experience and I feel that a good review has been given of many of the spending appropriations of the government for the present fiscal year; and I must say that we will not be introducing a motion to reduce the Minister's salary. Although, as I'll indicate in the next few minutes, I think we've uncovered a number of areas where the Minister is not really fulfilling her responsibility and I will again review those momentarily.

I have to though be partially complimentary to begin and say I feel the Minister has some general overall understanding of her department and particularly in some of the smaller areas, has actually a strong understanding. My major concern though, Mr. Chairman, is in some of the broader areas and I think my colleague has just indicated one of the major areas and that is, how the Minister has handled the Brandon University situation.

This Minister has been - and she used the words, I am using the same ones she used just a few minutes ago - she was "sucked in" in this issue. She took the advice from her colleague, the MLA for Brandon East; she also listened carefully, no doubt, to the Premier, who were going to cater to the wishes of those people in Brandon who have access to the Premier's ears. It's no doubt that the Minister, innocent or not, was very definitely caught right in the middle of this situation.

As the Member for Arthur indicated, she will be paying, no doubt, the political price and, if she doesn't, certainly her party will. Because, as the Member for Turtle Mountain and myself last night, as we were able to push the Minister on some heavy questioning, it became very very evident that the Minister knows not at all what has happened there and, what is even worse, Mr. Chairman, refuses to find out, not interested in finding out. As people who have been in this House have been listening, whether they have been members or whether they have been in the audience or in the press gallery, we have asked question after question on this issue, and we haven't done it, Mr. Chairman, because there is great great political gains, we did it because of a genuine concern for the well-being of that institution.

I suppose the most upsetting aspect of the whole process has been the attitude of the Minister, particularly last night, when she makes it obvious that she is totally convinced that we are using it only for political gain. She doesn't believe for one second that some of the things that we indicated are going on, in effect, are genuine. I suppose the strongest appeal that I can make to the Minister in this whole area is that she put her deputy or one of her senior staff people, to work very quickly within this whole area and to find out specifically what's happening. We have made a number of allegations, they are on the record. We ask her to do her own internal inquiry if she will not accede to our wishes that a judicial one be granted. At least do that much so as to find out for herself what's happening

in that university because, as we indicated last night, the power has been stripped away from the community as a whole, and the Minister feels that the community is well represented on that board. Well, Mr. Chairman, it is not.

I think it behooves the Minister to become involved in that situation to a much greater degree if, for no other reason, to find out what is going on and not to accept completely the words of whoever is giving her advice on that situation. It's obviously not people close to her and her staff, she is taking the word of one of her politically appointed people.

Mr. Chairman, within the major area of spending, that being the Financial Support to Public Schools, we were able to uncover the fact that the government has increased taxation. There will be increased taxation on property owners of some \$11 million or \$12 million. We are keeping a tally of this, over three years of NDP Government, that total now is roughly \$75 million. We will remind the electorate, come the next election, that one of their promises was to ease the property tax burden and, in spite of the Minister's claim that they have done so much within the area of support within education over the first two years, the Minister is going to have to write volumes and documents to convince those people who pay taxes that, in fact, she has erased or eased the property tax burden.

Of course, what the Minister doesn't have on her side when she is trying to convince the electorate, those people who are concerned about taxes, she doesn't have hours to get up and speak and try and use all her fine understanding of the system because the people that vote, they don't give her that time, they won't give her that time, Mr. Chairman. I think it's readily obvious to all of us that within the Financial Support to Public Schools, this year totalling some \$372 million, that people and taxpayers will become generally aware and, if they don't become aware, we will make them aware that is their own money. That is not government money, in the large part, that has come because government, as my colleague says, has no money.

Every time we ask this Minister to specifically comment almost on any press release, any statement, any program, all she can recite to us is an additional \$2 million is gone in here, an additional \$3 million has gone in here. I haven't concentrated this year on what percentage of those millions, particularly in additional grants, have come out over the last two years, not this year but over the last two years previous to this, have come out by way of provincial levy. The Minister, she conveniently tries to separate those two issues and make people believe that she is the great giver without taking. We know, Mr. Speaker, of course, that type of system in no way exists in the real world.

Sir, we also were able, I think, to expose the fact that the quality of education - and, of course, that is the Minister's greatest concern, it has to be and, if it isn't, I daresay then we do have a problem - but the quality of education that is offered throughout our public school system, that's paramount. As was indicated, Mr. Chairman, by a survey done within her own department, people today within this province are terribly concerned as to the quality of education that is being offered within, particularly, the high school level. The Minister, on one hand, said well, we realize that and we are trying to do our best to find out what it is that grieves parents,

what it is that maybe we can change in the curriculum sense that is going to help that situation.

Mr. Chairman, I would hope that within the next month or two we could expect an announcement from this Minister indicating some positive action as to what she is going to do to address the concern, not only the concern of those of us here, but the concern of the vast majority of Manitobans, as to the quality of education offered within the high schools.

Well, the Minister, she likes to wave her hands and she is trying to distract me, Mr. Chairman, but the point I make will not lead me to any other conclusion that this Minister has some major problems in this area and she is going to have to address them.

Mr. Chairman, we talked to some of the specific curriculum issues and we covered the English course and we covered the new health curriculum and the options thereunder. I make a request to the Minister, I asked her if she would consider, particularly in the area of sex education and the family life planning, if she would ask every parent of every affected child to come to the school and to sign, in the presence of the teacher, a waiver or an acknowledgment that their child could take that course; and, secondly, also spend 15 or 20 minutes reviewing the curriculum. I asked the Minister for that undertaking; she scoffed at me. She left the inference that, in fact, that was almost undemocratic or certainly carrying regulation too far. She was, of course, aided by, as I remember correctly, the Government House Leader at the time.

I think the Minister should take that comment very seriously, otherwise, we have potentially here a very explosive situation. I think, again, she would be wise to institute that type of system.

Mr. Chairman, within the areas of support to post-secondary, adult and continuing education, many of my colleagues have indicated the concerns we have within the university area. There's no doubt there are going to be major enrolment restrictions brought forward in this year and, no doubt, next year. Now maybe the Minister and members of her government, will take to heart some of the comments that we made years previous when they were spending so lavishly great fortunes of money, and they were incurring such tremendous deficits. We said the time would come when the bankers would tell them they would have to bring forward severe restraint.

Well, Mr. Chairman, in their minds it's severe restraint. We still have half a billion dollar deficit, but the realities are that universities are having imposed upon them a 3 percent increase in support and, of course, the greatest concern is that enrolments are being curtailed in a major way in some of our major faculties.

I think that the Minister is the last person that can get away with hand-wringing when it comes to this

particular situation of trying to tell students to go see the Minister of Finance, and maybe try to convince him to loosen up the purse strings.

Mr. Chairman, in closing I think that, again, we have given the Estimates a fair review. It's a very important in my view, the most important area of spending within the government, because if we are to support those treasured social areas, and of course that includes Health, then obviously we have to have the means in the years to come to support that, and we can't do that without an educated society.

So, those are my comments, Mr. Chairman. The final one, of course, being the aid to independent schools and, again, the Minister has in no way been totally definitive. We know that within that party they are wrestling with some major issues. They don't really know where their philosophy stands in regard to that whole issue, but, Mr. Chairman, we will be pushing them because, after all, they are government and they are going to have to tell us.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 51: Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$4,919,100 for Education, Administration and Finance for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1985—pass.

Committee rise. Call in the Speaker.

The Chairman reported upon the Committee's deliberations to Mr. Speaker and requested leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, H. Harapiak: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. S. ASHTON: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Ellice that the report of the Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Government House Leader.

HON. A. ANSTETT: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I'd like to move, seconded by the Member for Morris, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday)