

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Friday, 29 March, 1985.

Time — 10:00 a.m

**OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.**

**MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding:** Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

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

**HON. L. EVANS:** Mr. Speaker, as Minister responsible for the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics I'd like to table the report entitled Manitoba Population Statistics, January, 1985.

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

**HON. R. PENNER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg leave to file the Annual Report under The Fatality Inquiries Act pursuant to Section 29.1 of that act in respect to persons who died in correctional or other institutions during 1984.

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

### ORAL QUESTIONS

#### NDP campaign workers - Provincial elections across Canada

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

**HON. H. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, a question for the Premier or the Deputy Premier.

I wonder if the Deputy Premier can confirm that as many as ten aides or assistants to this government will be leaving, all at one time, to help their colleagues in the election battles now starting in Newfoundland and in Ontario.

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

**HON. M. SMITH:** Mr. Speaker, I'll take the question as notice, but it's my personal opinion that that was a question that was asked yesterday and answered.

**MR. H. ENNS:** I direct the obvious question to the Chairman of the Treasury Board.

In the interests of the Manitoba taxpayers, if this government can do without the services of ten highly paid aides and executive assistants at a time when we are sitting in Session, is there any hope that perhaps we don't need to have them come back and the taxpayers can be spared that expense?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question is argumentative. — (Interjection) — Order please. The question is argumentative.

The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. H. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I ask the same Minister, who I believe in his role as Chairman of the Treasury Board perhaps had a great deal with the negotiating of the MGEA contract - we note for instance that one of the features of that was an extra week's holiday, was that in any way influenced by the activities of these kind of employees?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Co-operative Development.

**HON. J. COWAN:** Well, Mr. Speaker, as the member is aware, employees do take holidays from time to time. They take leaves of absence to fulfill personal responsibilities; they take leaves of absence to do things that provide for fulfillment of their own persons. It's a standard and accepted practice for people to be absent from their jobs from time to time, and by the mere fact of their absence, it does not indicate that they are not fulfilling a useful function at the time they are working, but it means they are doing things that are of specific interest to them and fulfilling their own personal development.

I believe that, in this particular instance, you have that happening. It should be well known that those individuals who are performing such a function are doing so on a leave of absence, without cost to the taxpayers — (Interjection) — Well, what the member is saying is that we shouldn't have people taking their holidays in the summer when lots of people leave at the same time, yet the system functions.

And in respect to his particular question about whether or not they are necessary at this time when we are in Session, I think that, in large part, is questionable given the performance of the opposition to date and their inability to challenge those staff to perform their functions in a more fulfilling way.

So, given the fact that there is not much challenge in this Chamber right now from the opposition, I don't think that those individuals will be sorely missed. However, we do look forward to their return.

#### Pesticide regulations - final draft

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

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

My question is for the Minister of the Environment. Over the past approximately 18 months, the Minister of Environment has been wrestling with new pesticide regulations which will apply for the various weed control supervisors throughout the Province of Manitoba. My question to the Minister of the Environment is, has the final draft of those regulations been approved by him and his government?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for the Environment.

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not yet.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that there was a great deal of concern amongst the weed control districts, their supervisors and employees as to the affect of those regulations, can the Minister of the Environment assure the House that those people will be consulted and have the ability to make input into the final draft before it is passed, so that their concerns about how bad these regulations are will be reflected in the final product?

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Mr. Speaker, I don't know where the member has been for these last 18 months. The very fact that they haven't been passed yet is because we've continued to consult with the very people that he is referring to. Because we've done that, the regulation itself has been modified, keeping their comments and advice in mind in drafting it and arriving at what I consider a final draft now.

As far as I know there is no concern in this regard and I am preparing to take this to Cabinet soon.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, will the Minister of Environment answer the simple question: Has this final draft, of which he indicates there is no concern amongst the weed control supervisors and their employees, been circulated to those very same people for their comments?

**HON. G. LECUYER:** Mr. Speaker, I said I did.

### **Schwartz, Betty - Settlement re wrongful dismissal**

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

**HON. M. SMITH:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make an apology to the House. Yesterday when I commented on the settlement that I had information that was settled with Betty Schwartz. I discovered, when I returned to my office, that that information was incorrect and I do apologize to the House.

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

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, one question to the Minister, and I would have asked the Premier if he were here, but in his absence I ask the question of the Minister who is also Deputy Premier and in charge of the Premier's absence. Would she, in her capacity as Deputy Premier, accept her resignation as Minister of Community Services in view of the incompetence that has once again been evident in the administration of the affairs of this department?

### **Casino - Winnipeg Convention Centre**

**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 Lotteries and would ask him if he could inform the House as to whether the government, through the Manitoba Lotteries Commission, has rented space from the Winnipeg Convention Centre for the establishment of a permanent casino facility and would ask him whether or not all revenues from casinos are now being deposited into government accounts?

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

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Thank you.

The Manitoba Lotteries Commission is using a space at the Convention Centre which is owned by the Convention Centre and has been renovated by them for specific use for casinos that are held there on a fairly regular basis. In addition, it is being rented for other organizations as approved and as needed by the Convention Centre.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Mr. Speaker, further to that, I wonder if the Minister could inform us whether or not the Manitoba Lotteries Commission has entered into an agreement with the Winnipeg Convention Centre with regard to a long-term lease for that facility.

Secondly, I wonder if the Minister could confirm to the House that the Manitoba Government, now through the Manitoba Lotteries Commission, has hired casino managers, casino personnel, such as the people that are dealing at the blackjack tables or running the roulette wheels and that, really, the casino operation is now totally controlled by the Government of Manitoba, through the Manitoba Lotteries Commission.

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** In regard to the questions, I think they would be best dealt with when we have the opportunity of dealing with the detailed Estimates. However, I will take them as notice and provide the information to the member as soon as I can.

**MR. R. BANMAN:** Since there seems to be a move to institutionalize the gambling in casinos in Manitoba, I wonder if the Minister could inform the House as to why the Lotteries Commission has expanded the hours of operation, and that these casinos are now starting before noon, at 11 o'clock in the morning, and running right through till late at night.

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** I don't believe that there has been any expansion in terms of the number of days. In fact, I know there has not been any expansion in terms of the number of days for the running of casinos in the City of Winnipeg.

In terms of the adjustment of hours, I will look into that and provide information back to him. There may have been some adjustment in hours, but I know that there has not been any expansion in the number of casinos that are being authorized on a yearly basis, nor has there been any increase in the number of days for casinos.

I do know, Mr. Speaker, and the member might be interested, that the most recent casino that was run, under the new system by the Manitoba Lotteries Foundation, by the Festival du Voyageur, brought the greatest profit to the Festival du Voyageur in any of its years of experience with the casinos in Manitoba.

### Livestock Inspection - Drought areas

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

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question for the Acting Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Speaker, could the Acting Minister of Agriculture ask the Minister of Agriculture whether or not they are hiring livestock inspectors to count the livestock herds in the drought area of Manitoba where drought funds were provided last winter?

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

**HON. J. BUCKLASCHUK:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister, I'll take that question as notice.

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

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, could the Minister provide the numbers of people who are not keeping sufficient numbers of cows as of the 1st of April? It is fairly urgent because the stipulation was that they had to maintain 75 percent of their herds until 1st of April of this year. How many people have not met that requirement and if they have not met that requirement, will they be forced to pay that drought money back this spring?

### CN Yard and Transcona Shops - Impending layoffs

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

**MR. P. FOX:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is to the Minister of Labour. I've had a number of concerns expressed in my constituency in respect to the impending layoffs at the CN Yards and also the Transcona Shops. The members are asking whether we, the government, will be doing anything to make representation to the federal Ministers in respect to the unemployment insurance benefits that they are to receive and also the impending layoffs can be ameliorated?

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

**HON. A. MACKLING:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. In answer to the latter part of the question, I know that my colleague, the Honourable John Plohma, has made representations to the Minister of Transportation in respect to the disruption of work at the railroad yards. Our expectations were that the Federal Government would honour the undertakings in respect to the developments of lightweight railway cars there. I know my colleague has been pressing for restoration of that program which seems to have been taken off the rails - if you'll pardon the pun.

Mr. Speaker, in respect to the concerns about severance pay, this government and this Minister are appalled that the Federal Government is going to continue what we thought was a trial balloon in

suggesting that severance pay would have to be used up before unemployment insurance benefits were attained. We had hoped that the Federal Government wouldn't be pursuing this, but to all reports the Federal Minister is still set on pursuing this policy. It perplexes this government and this Minister that the Federal Government would attack the unemployed when they have millions of dollars for banks and trust companies, Mr. Speaker.

### Dutch Elm Disease - Grants for removal of trees

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

**MRS. G. HAMMOND:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Natural Resources. In light of a report that the elm trees are dying in the City of Winnipeg more quickly than had been expected, and that the city has asked the Minister for matching grants to accelerate the removal of trees from inner city boulevards, would the Minister tell the House if he is giving the grants to the city?

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

**HON. A. MACKLING:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I know that my colleague, the Minister of Natural Resources has ongoing consultation in respect to the concerns about Dutch Elm Disease, not only with the City of Winnipeg, but the participating communities under the program that is in existence between the government and all those who share in that program. Through the efforts of that program, we have been able to curtail the spread of Dutch Elm Disease within the communities. The extent of the loss has been kept at a reasonable margin.

I admit, however, that there is reasonably based apprehension of continued vigilance in respect to the eradication or at least the prevention of the rapid spread of the disease. It's very difficult to eliminate this disease, because once it takes hold there is virtually no way to eradicate it. However, the question of supplementary funding in respect to enhanced Dutch elm disease programming is one that is better dealt with during the course of the Minister of Natural Resources' Estimates.

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

**MRS. G. HAMMOND:** Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that the Dutch Elm Disease seems to be rampant and is accelerating rapidly, what the City of Winnipeg is trying to do is slow down the spread. The question I have to ask the Minister is, what commitment do they have to the city to prevent the spreading of the disease and to save the elms in Winnipeg? That is the most important question, not to be watching, but what are they planning to do about it?

**HON. A. MACKLING:** Mr. Speaker, despite the times of difficult fiscal returns to the province, both reductions from taxation and the squeeze that Ottawa has put on us in respect to monies that are due this province, we have continued to maintain essential programs including

the program that I alluded to earlier - \$350,000 has been contributed to the City of Winnipeg in respect to Dutch Elm Disease prevention and eradication of the diseased elms.

We admit we'd like to do more, but we would like the city itself to do as much as it can. Last year, for example, we launched a volunteers' program and volunteers assisted the city and the province in a co-operative effort to identify diseased trees to assist in eradication of those diseased trees. In respect to restoration or planting of new trees, certainly the Department of Natural Resources has been looking at that and is prepared to offer assistance, I believe, to those communities affected.

We have reciprocal arrangements with Indian Head for the bringing in of trees and I'm sure that my colleague, the Minister of Natural Resources, would welcome any joint initiatives by towns or cities who would be concerned about acquiring trees from Indian Head through our auspices.

### **Headingley Jail - Death of inmate**

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

**MR. G. MERCIER:** A question to the Attorney-General, Mr. Speaker. In a report which he tabled this morning with respect to setting out information with respect to persons who died during the past year in correctional institutions, there appears on the second sheet, File No. 2006, date of death November 19, 1984 at Headingley Correctional Institute, a person died of a gunshot wound to the head. I wonder if the the Minister - and I appreciate that he might like to take it as notice - could indicate and advise the House whether or not the person who died suffered the gunshot wound before or after incarceration, and whether or not there have been criminal proceedings instituted and, if not, whether an inquest will be held.

**HON. R. PENNER:** I will take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

### **Equalized assessment - Adjustment of**

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. City Council is meeting today to deal with finalizing the taxes for 1984. Yesterday, the Minister indicated the province might be prepared to provide some financial compensation to the city with respect to the \$635,000 the city says they will have to raise because of the provincial decision to require the city to levy taxes according to the old assessment, not taking into consideration the reduction in assessment in January.

My question to the Minister is, will he, on behalf of the government, be indicating to the City of Winnipeg that the province will be providing some financial assistance in this regard, or what action will the Provincial Government be taking in order to help the city resolve this problem?

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

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

First of all, I think I should clarify from the preamble of the honourable member's question, that there was no suggestion yesterday, nor has there been in the past by this government, that the province would assume responsibility for the funds in the current year.

What I said yesterday and what I told the Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of Executive Policy Committee at our meeting yesterday at noon was that if the equalization assessment levels established by the provincial/municipal assessor were found in any way to be a liability for the city in the future with regard to the levy of \$635,000 on the commercial/industrial classification, since that levy is set by the province, that equalization of assessment, that we would have to accept the responsibility for any challenge of that levy by those ratepayers in that classification. I communicated that to the mayor yesterday and I indicated that I hope to be able to give him that commitment in writing before the council meeting at 1 o'clock this afternoon. I hope to have that letter done later on this morning.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to understand here that the fundamental problem which the Member for St. Norbert asks the province to throw money at, to bail the city out, is that the city has not reassessed for a very long time. Their assessment is out of date. Properties do not bear a fair relationship one to another throughout the city, and until that reassessment is done, the base of the city will be challenged and the province does not have the resources. Nor do I think it would be proper for the province to go out and find through taxation the resources to solve all of those problems. The city has to assume first responsibility for addressing those difficulties.

A consequence of the freeze of equalization in Bill 105 in 1983, which honourable members opposite supported at the time, is directed to this Municipal Board decision which is creating this problem. On a \$9 million refund, there's a \$635,000 problem. That's the bottom line. We do not intend to throw money at it, Mr. Speaker, we intend to ask the city to live up to its responsibilities.

### **Schwartz, Betty - Settlement re wrongful dismissal**

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

**MR. G. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Community Services. I would ask the Minister if she would undertake to review the proposed terms of settlement with Betty Schwartz, to advise the House in due course whether or not she approves of same, and to notify the House of the full details of the settlement when such a settlement is arrived at. Would she also advise the House whether the Interim Board of Children's Aid Society will have authority to conclude a settlement after April 1st when, as I understand it, the Regional Children's Aid Boards will assume responsibility in that area and if the Interim Board of Children's Aid Society doesn't have authority, who will be approving a settlement with Betty Schwartz?

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

**HON. M. SMITH:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, the interim board will have legal authority to wind up a few elements in its business until the end of June. They are the people who will be carrying on the negotiation. Again, any comment on the settlement, I think, is most appropriately sought from them.

### **Grain prices - Reduction of by Wheat Board**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

**MR. A. ADAM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My question is directed to the Acting Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that there is further bad news emanating from the Federal Government on impact on farmers, I would ask the Minister, in view of the announcement by Mr. Charlie Mayer, Minister responsible for the Wheat Board, whether or not the Acting Minister can advise the House what in fact the announcement of reductions in the initial price of grain, from \$10 to \$20 per tonne, what impact this will have on Manitoba farmers and if he could advise as well if the Department of Agriculture and the Minister has been in touch with the Minister responsible for the Wheat Board to apprise him of the impact of this decision on Manitoba farmers.

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

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

In the absence of my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, who's out in rural Manitoba listening to Manitoba farmers, I would indeed be pleased to respond.

It is unfortunate that within a matter of two or three days we hear news of events that will impact rather negatively on the incomes of Manitoba farmers; and it's regrettable, also surprising, when we have a Federal Government that is supposedly the friends of Western Canadian farmers.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that the announcement . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Opposition House Leader.

**MR. H. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, how long do we have to tolerate this Punch and Judy Show that goes from the back row to the front row?

The Minister of Agriculture is not in the House. We're not going to make a federal case out of it. His Acting Minister doesn't have to stand here regretting that he's not in the House, that he's listening to farmers. I assume that he's listening to farmers, Mr. Speaker, but I appeal to you that the question period not be abused in the manner and way that it's being abused this morning.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would hope that no member would wish to abuse question period.

The Honourable Minister of Housing.

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

I'm sorry, I don't regard the impact that this is having on Manitoba farmers as having anything to do with a

Punch and Judy Show. It's a very serious matter and it's about time the opposition realized that and started trying to play little games with very serious concerns.

There's no question that the announcement of the reduced grain prices will have a negative impact on Manitoba farmers, and this is as a result of a surplus of wheat and feed grains on the world market. It's also an outcome of the misguided economic policy in the United States where the American farmers have had their support levels cut and will be increasing their production to simply keep up with their existing incomes, if they can do that.

Our government has urged the Federal Government to raise the price of domestic wheat. Letters have been sent to the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board; letters have been sent to the Minister of Agriculture and we have endorsed the position taken by United Grain Growers that the domestic wheat price be increased to \$10 a bushel.

It's regrettable that no action's been taken, but it's, I suppose, not surprising in view of the comments by the Federal Minister who feels that reduced input prices, higher market prices and lower interest rates are something beyond his ability to control, and that's reported in the Brandon Sun on the 14th of this month.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, we have called for a resumption of the International Wheat Agreement, discussions on the International Wheat Agreement, to obtain some sort of co-operation, rather than the competition that's been taking place so that the best interests of both consumers and producers can be served.

Furthermore, we will be contacting the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board to again express our concern about what is happening in respect to grain prices and other issues.

### **Vicon - government assistance to**

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

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Here's a classic example of a government that's running scared, running scared. Can you believe what you're seeing?

Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs, and this is a good question for the farmers, that they're very interested in at this time and the taxpayers. How much is the government prepared to grant to Vicon in their purchase of Co-op Implements so they can hopefully overcome the Manitoba provincial payroll tax?

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

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Discussions with respect to Vicon are still continuing and I think continuing quite favourably with the union; and the government is looking at various options with respect to that operation to see that it does locate here in the Province of Manitoba.

### Lotteries Foundation - Advertising campaign

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, there were some questions taken as notice - one by me, just over a week ago, one by my Acting Minister in my absence, regarding the lotteries. There was a question asked if the Manitoba Lotteries and Games Commission is budgeting to conduct a public awareness campaign. I can confirm that the commission has budgeted some \$95,000 for this thrust and creative proposals from suppliers are being reviewed at the present time.

### Gravure Graphics - Fees re guarantees

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** In addition, I took a question as notice as from the Member for La Verendrye regarding a development agreement between the Government of Manitoba and Gravure Graphics Ltd. There were questions asked as to whether or not there would be fees payable by the company for the guarantees. I can confirm that there are fees of 2 percent per annum charged quarterly with respect to the guarantees that have been paid for by the company.

In addition, there were questions regarding the arrangements for the loan and the amortization period. One loan is a conditional interest-free loan; the interest aspect is payable, if there is a default, at the rate of 14.875 percent. The second loan, which is a straight loan, has a term of 10 years with interest at 13.875 percent.

### Vicon - finalization of sale

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

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** I have a supplementary question for the same Minister, Mr. Speaker.

With seeding operations almost with us at this present time, can the Minister advise the House - and especially those people that have Co-op implements on their farms - as to when they could possibly visualize the final arrangements between Vicon and Co-op Implements will be announced in this House?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** First of all, the Co-op sales network is still in place and will continue. With respect to Vicon, we are working with them and it is really in the company's hands. I know recently they were turned down for Federal Government assistance and they're looking at appealing that and I guess that has added to the time; but it is certainly within the realm of possibility that will be resolved in the very near future.

**MR. W. MCKENZIE:** Mr. Speaker, I'm still waiting for the Minister to advise the House how much money is the province prepared to offer to Vicon?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** If there is to be any assistance to the government by the Government of Manitoba to Vicon, that will be announced, if and when those arrangements are concluded.

### PLO terrorist publication - Funding of

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

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

This week we received a document produced by the Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation . . .

**A MEMBER:** Oh, they're at it again, are they?

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** . . . the title being, "Sharing our Heritage, Ethno-Cultural and Religious Celebrations."

My question for the Minister of Cultural Affairs is, in view of the fact that the third celebration listed in this group is, Armed Struggle Day - Palestinian. This day has been set aside by the Palestinian Liberation Organization as the day marking the first attempts of the armed arm of the organization to regain that part of former Palestine, which is today the State of Israel. Can the Minister of Cultural Affairs indicate whether this gives government tacit approval of the terrorist organization, the PLO, and their slaughter of innocent people throughout the world?

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Minister of Culture.

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The answer to the question is no, the government does not endorse that particular festival or celebration. I should explain that that document was prepared upon request of a number of organizations that felt it would be useful to have a list of the organizations. It was prepared, not by the Government of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, but it was done in co-operation with Mrs. Olga Fuga and was done by the Association of Christians and Jews that did it on behalf of the government and prepared the information for us.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, surely the people of Manitoba would find offensive government money being spent in the promotion of a PLO terrorist day of celebration.

My question to the Minister is, will he remove the Celebration of Arms Struggle Day supporting a PLO terrorist day of celebration published at public expense, will he remove that day of celebration by the PLO terrorist organization in response to the decency that most Manitobans have and the offence they take at having that PLO terrorist day celebration as part of the ethno-cultural community of Manitoba?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** I will raise the member's concern with the organization that prepared that material for that list.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, I'm not asking the Minister to raise the issue with the organization. I'm asking him if his government will stop funding a publication in which Arms Struggle Day, in celebration of the PLO terrorists, will be promoted using taxpayer money in the Province of Manitoba? As the Minister responsible for the publication of this document, will he remove Arms Struggle Day, the PLO terrorist organization's day of celebration?

**HON. E. KOSTYRA:** Let me make it very clear that that list was put together by an organization at the request of the community to have a long list. We are not endorsing any of the dates that are listed in there; it is merely an information piece that can be used by the committees or interested parties.

I will bring the member's concern about that specific date to the organization that prepared the material, so that it can be looked at in terms of reviewing that publication as it is being republished in the future, but it is not any endorsement of any dates, it's merely a listing that was provided to us by the organization.

### **ARM Industries, Brandon - Number of employees**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Community Services. Can the Minister of Community Services advise the House how many full-time staff are employed at ARM Industries in Brandon?

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

**HON. M. SMITH:** I'll take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. B. RANSOM:** Will the Minister also take as notice then a question relating to how many trainees are involved in the program at ARM Industries?

**HON. M. SMITH:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

### **Oil and Gas Industry, Canada - Negotiations with provinces**

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

**MR. D. SCOTT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question for the Minister of Energy and Mines. This past week we have seen the unravelling of a very secret negotiations between the Government of Canada and the oil and gas producing provinces, the primary producing provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Was there any consultation with our Minister between the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba either prior to or during these negotiations?

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

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** Mr. Speaker, the Province of Manitoba does not have an agreement with the Federal Government. The Federal Government didn't consult with the Conservative Government when they reached an agreement between themselves and Alberta and Saskatchewan and B.C. with respect to a prior agreement on oil and natural gas.

We haven't been consulted specifically on this matter, although we made our concerns known to the Federal

Minister of Energy and to others that we expected that there should be a balanced approach and that the impact of changed oil prices on the consumers and on the economic performance of this province and on the economic performance of the country and on farmers should be taken into account when people are changing any type of regime.

**MR. D. SCOTT:** A supplementary question, from my understanding of the report, there are massive tax reductions for the oil industry and I'm wondering if the Minister has received any information from the Government of Canada in regard to how much of that tax concession to the oil industry were passed on to consumers so consumers in Manitoba and other provinces can actually see some benefits from this new oil pact between the Government of Canada and the primary producing provinces?

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** Mr. Speaker, the estimates of the amount of tax relief to the private sector aren't clear. Some sources are indicating that it's in the order of \$800 million, some sources are indicating that it could be in the order of \$1.3 billion, Mr. Speaker. But there are no assurances that any of these savings will indeed be passed on to the consumer. The only assurance that the Minister of Energy federally has indicated is that she did not believe, or she said that there would not be an increase to consumers.

However, this is only one side of the equation. Last night the Federal Prime Minister indicated that he would not rule out, he couldn't rule out, substantial increases on gasoline taxes in the Federal Budget, so we'll have to wait and see until after the Federal Budget, Mr. Speaker, to determine whether in fact there has been a significant impact, increase-wise, in terms of added oil prices or prices for chemical feed stocks or fertilizer inputs on Manitoba-paying consumers.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Member for Inkster.

**MR. D. SCOTT:** Mr. Speaker, a final supplementary. I had a little bit of difficulty hearing the Minister in the last few moments of his comment. Is he saying that although there has been a very massive tax reduction for the oil and gas sector, that the Government of Canada is now considering replacing that tax deduction with taxes on consumers, so that there will be no reduction necessarily to consumers' oil prices, but there may well, in fact, be price increases to consumers when we have a massive tax saving for the industry and nothing whatsoever for consumers?

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** We have not received . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, Order please. Would the honourable member care to rephrase his question to indicate that it is a matter within the administrative competence of the Minister?

**MR. D. SCOTT:** Mr. Speaker, if I attempt to rephrase it - my understanding is that there is a consultation

generally between the provinces and the Government of Canada when there is major tax reform.

I'm wondering if, in these consultations, and I had some difficulty listening to it because of the noise of the members opposite at the end of his remarks, whether or not there will be actual tax savings passed on to the consumers or is the Government of Canada also now hinting that they will be replacing the tax losses that they are having with the oil and gas sector on to the consumers?

**HON. W. PARASIUK:** I have received no guarantee from the Federal Government or the industry that this accord will lead to lower fuel prices for Manitobans, especially hard-pressed farmers, Mr. Speaker, who just the other day were making representation to me and the Minister of Municipal Affairs asking us to try and lobby the Federal Government to ensure that their fuel prices didn't go up and to ensure that the prices of their inputs into production for agriculture; namely, chemicals and fertilizers didn't go up as well, Mr. Speaker.

We don't have that assurance and we'll have to wait and see until after their Federal Budget to determine whether in fact ultimately there will be an increase to consumers and to Manitoba farmers in particular, Mr. Speaker.

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

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Prior to Orders of the Day, may I direct the attention of members to the gallery where there are 20 exchange students from New Brunswick; and there 40 students of Grade 12 standing from the Notre Dame Collegiate under the direction of Mr. Cenerini. The school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

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

### NON-POLITICAL STATEMENT

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

**MR. A. BROWN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I beg leave of the House to make a non-political statement.

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

**MR. A. BROWN:** I take great pleasure this morning to introduce the Altona Bisons Bantam Baseball Team. They're right over there.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Hear, here!

**MR. A. BROWN:** This league won the league title going undefeated in the South Central Minor Baseball League.

From there they advanced to the 8-team Preliminary Provincial Tournament in Morden and won this with an unblemished won-loss record.

From there they advanced to the provincials in Transcona winning the "A" side and edging out Winnipeg South in the A-B final in two extra innings.

From there they went to British Columbia and they won the Western Canadian Championship, finishing runner-up to British Columbia in round robin play, and defeating Delta, British Columbia twice on the final day of competition. They took home Manitoba's only gold medal honours bringing the Bantam title back to Manitoba after an absence of 20 years.

For their accomplishments they were awarded "Team of the Year" in Manitoba and coach Rick Penner was named "Coach of the Year."

Their overall win was 22 wins; 3 losses; 1 tie.

I would like you to join me in congratulating them.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### BUDGET DEBATE

**MR. SPEAKER:** On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance and the amendment thereto proposed by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie has nine minutes remaining.

**MR. L. HYDE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

When I left off last evening I was referring to an interview that Dr. Glen Lowther had with the press. Dr. Lowther, a former director for the centre for many years, was expressing his views regarding the closure of the Nurses School at Portage la Prairie. Dr. Lowther, in his interview said that he hoped he would be able to present his case to the committee before that final decision was made.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Glen Lowther said in an interview that he is worried that if the Manitoba Development Centre is closed there could be a lack of trained personnel to care for the mentally handicapped. "I am very concerned, particularly when a large number of residents are going into the community setting," Dr. Lowther said.

He said, "Trained personal are needed to staff group homes and provide support services. As well," he noted, "overall services for the handicapped in the province are being expanded."

Lowther, a former director of the centre said, "The school offers valuable specialized training. As well," he added, "any institution worth its salt also offers training and does research."

Mr. Speaker, much has been said about the Welcome-Home Program that has been instituted by the Government of the Day. From the information I am receiving from sources who are directly equated with the different institutions, they are saying that it will be very difficult to select 220 patients who will be able to cope with the outside world.

In my own community, Mr. Speaker, I know of a few patients who today are out working under some guidance from businessmen in Portage la Prairie and for the most part, it is working well, but I also know, Sir, of some cases where the practise of placement of patients in the community is creating problems.

The most recent complaint was when a private group known as the Quest Group Home Services Incorporated



approached the city council for approval to purchase a large home on Royal Road South in Portage la Prairie for the purpose of establishing a group home for eight girls between the ages of 10 to 15 years of age.

I wish to bring to the attention of this House what came from that meeting. "Council backs Neighbourhood against Group Homes." It is a lengthy report but, Mr. Speaker, I do want to say that the problem is going to be there for some time to come in regard to the placement of patients from these mental institutions in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, it must be obvious to the Premier and to the Minister of Community Services and to the Minister of Health that the move to close out the School of Psychiatric Nursing in Portage la Prairie, where they're training anywhere from 20 to 25 students annually in two-year course, is an unjust move on the part of this government in a community the size of Portage la Prairie or any small community in the province.

The argument that the move is based on the economics available is a different mode of training psychiatric nurses. It will need to be explained more thoroughly during the Minister's Estimates.

The Minister of Community Services, when questioned on March 12th stated and I quote, "As government, we have a responsibility to manage the affairs of the province efficiently and effectively and we intend to do so." Mr. Speaker, it is her duty and her responsibility, as a Minister, to do equal justice to all Manitobans, regardless of what constituency they may come from.

It should be of some concern to the Minister that the proposed move that she and the government are contemplating in respect to the closing out of this Psychiatric School of Nursing at the Manitoba Development Centre, that the move will impose great financial hardship to my community which I represent and to the well-being to the mentally retarded in Manitoba.

Thank you.

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

**MR. P. FOX:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In discussing the Budget and its implication for Manitobans, it is important to put it in perspective, Mr. Speaker. We all know the seriousness of the recession we've just been having and it has had an effect which has been very difficult on all of the provinces; not only Manitoba, but in particular we have to look at what it has done to Manitobans.

Our government, in this Fourth Budget, has followed a set of principles clearly committed in the last election. Our commitment to social and economic justice has not wavered, despite the policies of aimless restraint and slashing elsewhere on this continent.

Acute protected restraint was tried here in the late 1970s and it failed miserably. Cut bureaucracy, cut spending to reduce the deficit, reduce taxes and somehow we'll all be rich, we were told. Of course, what happened was the Conservatives created a people and business deficit unparalleled in our recent history. Narrow ideological doctrine may have satisfied the

tastes of the members opposite, but it didn't create jobs except for a few political aides and fellow travellers. All it created as business insecurity and mistrust.

First, they tried to kill Autopac, Mr. Speaker. They hired what they thought would be safe chairman from the far right, the Fraser Institute, to produce a report showing that Autopac was incompetent and a drain on the taxpayers.

Unfortunately for them, though the report said what they wanted, get rid of Autopac, there was nothing in the report to justify that conclusion. Why should \$100 million public asset be thrown away? There was no answer. The main problem according to the report was that rather than paying dividends to selected shareholders, Autopac policyholders throughout the province pay less money in premiums. Why change it? At the same time, an Ontario Legislature study said the three public plans in Canada were far more efficient in percent premiums paid out in claims than private companies in that province. Autopac was the most efficient of all returning 82.8 percent on the premium dollar in claims.

And yet just this week, the Member for Emerson complained where's the profit in Autopac. Mr. Speaker, it seems the Conservatives have learned nothing and it is clear that they will be in opposition for some years to come. — (Interjection) — The member beside me says they're "out to lunch". I'm afraid that's true.

The member says he doesn't mind us investing in hospitals, but what about profits? Well, I see Alberta is going to go for private hospitals, profit-making hospitals. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, this province going in to make a profit on the misery of people where they have no choice? Who wants to be sick? Who has a choice about being sick? Yet in the Province of Alberta, they are going to have an experiment where they are going to try and make a profit on that.

What does the Member for Emerson mean Autopac doesn't make enough profits? Does he want Autopac to increase premiums to the level the people in Ontario and the people in the Martimes are paying?

The last time these people were in office, they wanted to kill Autopac, but they didn't dare.

Next, they tried to discredit Hydro. Again, they had a commission set up, the Tritschler Commission. I'm following my notes very closely because I want to be on time, Mr. Speaker. Once again, these ideologues contracted a political report and tried to make their conclusions fit the study. They were no more successful than the time before, but in the process, they did manage to damage the morale and the structure of the people at Manitoba Hydro.

Similar ideological madness can be seen in their gutting of the Northern Affairs Department when they were in office. Centralization of the few remaining staff located in Winnipeg proved one thing only, the Ministry was a Ministry in name only. All they had was an office. There were no field workers at all. I recall a study of the situation at the time which said that "restraint is becoming a program of austerity with an effect of creating more dependence on government, as many of the cuts in programs which helped people to become self-reliant, have made these people more vulnerable."

It is one of the old shibboleths of these people who have no understanding of the lives of those who earn under \$50,000, Mr. Speaker, and live in rural or Northern

Manitoba, that traditional social services not essential services which, if cut, will not prolong or increase dependence. These are the same people who called Churchill a luxury we cannot afford. These people cut Native education by 20 percent in one year alone.

At the same time, they wasted \$1.3 million on a political witch hunt of Hydro, and over \$300,000 on their futile study of Autopac, and hundreds of thousands of dollars on auditors, consultants trying to prove their outdated ideology. Of course, they always had money to fly their experts up North and practice the art of saying, sorry, we don't have any actual money to leave up here.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Speaker, that government was the first and likely the last of this century to be defeated after only one term. This government recognizes the importance of a balanced and stable economy. It is no accident that Manitoba has such a stable labour environment compared to the Conservative and ultra-Conservative provinces such as British Columbia or Alberta. Our reforms of the Workers Compensation Board and system is another example of our putting people first.

Every year, nearly 1,500 Canadians are killed on the job. Typically, the Leader of the Opposition, rather than showing concern for the dangerous working conditions that cause such suffering, complains about the high costs of compensation. Again, their friends, the employers are the ones that they are protecting. We too are, of course, concerned about increasing costs. But our answer is not to gut the board and fudge statistics to suggest there are no dangerous jobs. Rather, we fund health and safety educational programs and work with employers and employees to see that the hazards are decreased. Even in Conservative Ontario and Alberta, they have such programs, but the Conservatives in Manitoba are unaware of such basic twentieth century reforms.

To the Conservatives here, the right to refuse dangerous work is communistic. The Workers Compensation Act has existed since 1917. It is time the Conservative Party realized that it is not a perk of workers, but something which protects the employers from lawsuits, and if we did away with it, there would be nothing but lawsuits because people are much more aware of their rights these days than they were in the days gone by. Society pays greatly for occupational injuries and illnesses, Mr. Speaker. The costs of medical services, lost taxes, increased welfare payments, unemployment insurance benefits, lost productivity, and tragic waste of lives caused by injuries far exceed the costs paid in premiums by the employers.

The members opposite see it as perfectly reasonable to bail out banks who gamble in real estate, but don't seem to think farmers should get reasonable interest rates. One of their allies, the new Member of Parliament for Selkirk, boasted recently that the 1,500 percent increase for user fees for farmers are necessary for cost recovery reasons. Mr. Speaker, what an appalling concern that member has.

Mr. Speaker, the attitude of the members opposite on the subject of social services are another example of the nineteenth century thinking that occurs in the Conservative caucus. All Manitobans remember with great disgust the infamous characterization of the Member for Charleswood about women being good

breeders. Similar sentiments on day care resulted in them stalling and waffling on day care centres when they were in office.

By comparison, this government has increased the grants and subsidies to day care by \$1.9 million this year alone, Mr. Speaker. The work force has changed greatly since World War I. Women now form almost half the work force compared to less than 5 percent of married women in those days. Day care is not a luxury of the middle class, but essential for the development of our society. Manitoba now provides the highest per capita support to day care of any province and our recent proposed national Day Care Act announced by the Member for Osborne, is widely recognized as an excellent model for the country.

Grants to universities have increased by over one-third since 1981. Tuition fees in Manitoba are the third lowest in the country. Last year, 1,000 students in British Columbia, who were accepted into B.C.'s universities, did not register. Why? Because they couldn't afford it. In the past month alone, the president of the University of British Columbia and a dean at Simon Fraser University quit in disgust at the cutbacks in funding there. Assuming a student had the lowest income and was therefore eligible for the highest student loans - since British Columbia is the only province with all loan student aid - he or she would owe \$22,000 by the time they graduated with a B.A. Is this what the Conservatives would like to have here in Manitoba?

While our government have increased student aid by 30 percent in 1983 and 1984 alone, the Conservatives talk of the need to cut spending. Mr. Speaker, you can't cut spending and at the same time give more. There has to be some logic, some rationale. Unfortunately, the members over there want it both ways and they can't have it both ways. All that would be accomplished would be to cut the accessibility of higher education to average Manitoban young people and to reduce opportunities of Natives for an education.

While in Conservative Alberta, nearly half of the doctors extra-bill and over 800 recently were found to be extra-billing welfare patients. One doctor demanded \$300 in advance before he would see a welfare patient. Is this what we want in Manitoba?

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** We just don't want the NDP, that's what Manitobans just don't want.

**MR. P. FOX:** The Member says he doesn't want the NDP. Unfortunately, the NDP are the only ones that are going to do any good to this province; the Conservatives just haven't got a chance of doing anything right.

In Alberta, the individual pays \$168 per year in health premiums and a family pays \$336 per year. In British Columbia, they pay even more; while in Conservative Ontario, they pay \$340 per year per individual and \$680 per year for a family for the premiums. All of those three areas have Conservative Governments. On top of that, they allow extra billing in their medicare system and half of the doctors are extra billing now. I wonder where the Conservatives are on extra billing in those provinces, where are they on user fees; and of course, Alberta, we know, has been going for a \$20 hospital fee as well, a deterrent fee and the people who are sick don't need deterrents, they want assistance, they

want help. The real answer is that the Conservatives do not care.

Other governments have mentioned measures to aid agriculture and foster a climate that encourages the development of new businesses and the construction of housing. The success of these measures is well known. While the Federal Government, last November, thoughtlessly destroyed some 6,000 jobs in Manitoba and over \$400 million in investment by the elimination of the Manufacturing Technology Institute here in Winnipeg, the research centre at Churchill and Gimli, and the Via Rail maintenance centre and others, we have continued to make significant progress in creating jobs.

The CareerStart, Manitoba Jobs Fund, RentalStart and the Community Assets Program, Main Street Manitoba - my seatmate started - such programs show a government that understands and cares, Mr. Speaker. While the Federal Government can put together over \$200 million for a bank that gambled on American real estate and energy prices, but nothing for Canadian farmers except a 1500 percent increase in inspection prices and a task force on agriculture which said, "Farmers are Fat Cats." Can you imagine farmers being Fat Cats?

Mr. Speaker, we believe that there is no way that farmers are Fat Cats. We must help them out to whatever extent we can and we certainly can't do it if we call them Fat Cats.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. P. FOX:** They're eating into my time, Mr. Speaker. The recent announcements on General Electric generators for Limestone, the Infotech Centre here . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**MR. P. FOX:** . . . and many others point out the success of the Jobs Fund and the economic initiatives of this government. Business and Manitobans have confidence in the programs of this government. They know that this province has the lowest unemployment rate in the country consistently and they know why.

They also know that the twisting of statistics done by the members opposite shows desperately that their caucus is trying to find an issue, any issue to exploit and twist to their advantage. We never hear them talk of other provinces, not any more, only of how, with the creative use of statistics, they can prove that no one is working in Manitoba except for members of their caucus and members in the Federal Cabinet who have managed to get so many projects.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, the 1985 Budget is an honest, fair Budget, that reflects the aspirations of ordinary Manitobans instead of the ideology of the previous government, where platitudes and slashing created social and economic chaos.

I support this Budget that our Minister of Finance has proposed and I think it is a very good Budget.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to make a few comments relating directly to the Budget and the direction that the New Democratic Party are taking the people of Manitoba, the direction the majority of Manitobans don't want to go. We've seen since their administration has been in office, the kind of careless spending, the kind of lack of proper priorities and the money that has been used for interest that we as a Conservative Party would not be spending it on.

We are now in a position in this province, Mr. Speaker, where it is the given where we have something like \$400 million to \$500 million of a structured debt each year and each Budget. What does that really mean, Mr. Speaker? Well, it means that the people of Manitoba, rather than being taxed for the incompetent spending of the New Democratic Party, which I would not agree with, but it is, in fact, putting our children and our grandchildren to be deeper and deeper in debt.

Let's just look at it, Mr. Speaker. What has happened to Canada? Canada has been a country of promise and a country of opportunity until we saw some 16 years of Liberal left-wing government in Ottawa. What have we seen after four years in the Province of Manitoba under a left-wing, extremely left wing - some of them are, in fact, noted communists and supporters of the PLO movement - that is the kind of government we've seen?

What is happening to our finances in the province, Mr. Speaker? We have now come to a point where they put us in debt almost \$2 billion. A carrying charge on our debt this year, Mr. Speaker, will be some projected \$280 million. Mr. Speaker, that is a tax on the people of Manitoba. It's the hidden agenda of the New Democratic Party. If a \$280 million interest charge on our debt is not a tax, what is it, Mr. Speaker? What is it, Mr. Speaker? We have to pay it and then we have to pay the principal, Mr. Speaker. So, they can't go to the people of the Province of Manitoba and say that they aren't increasing the taxes, because they, in fact, are. It should be pointed out as the Vic Schroeder hidden tax of \$280 million on debt carrying charges. That, Mr. Speaker, has to be paid by the people of Manitoba. Let them stand up and deny that it isn't a tax and that doesn't have to be paid, because it does.

After four years of this government, we have almost a \$2 billion collective debt with a \$280 million carrying charge. Mr. Speaker, they don't care, but we do care. We are, Mr. Speaker, going to be presenting that case to the people of Manitoba whenever this government screw up their courage and call an election.

Where are the priorities of this government, where are the priorities of the government? My colleague from Portage la Prairie pointed out the problems it was creating for his community with the closing down of the school at the Manitoba Development Centre. — (Interjection) — And the yip from Flin Flon, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Flin Flon says, do we want them to save money. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I want them to save money, but I'll tell them how to spend money. They can cancel their \$4 million apple-polishing campaign publicity program, Mr. Speaker, that's how they can save money and they can put it into the school at Portage la Prairie, so that it could help those disadvantaged people in society.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Manitoba are fed up with the kind of doublespeak and the double talk and the

smokescreens that this incompetent group of people are putting before the public.

Mr. Speaker, let us look at one other particular area. This morning again it was disclosed by my colleague and my deskmate from Pembina, the supporting of the PLO, Mr. Speaker, in advertising a great arms day of the PLO. Look what the Minister of Education has been spreading throughout this province, Mr. Speaker. Look at the kind of pornographic pushing that we see coming from this government. At the same time, they say they're going to, Mr. Speaker, introduce legislation to restrict it. My goodness, when are they going to start to set some moral examples that the people of Manitoba can get along with, Mr. Speaker?

You know, in fact, Mr. Speaker, these people could accept and go along with anything and support anything that happens between two covers. That's right. They would support and agree with anything that would happen between two covers — (Interjection) — and they call it culture. That's right, my colleague from Morris says they call it culture. Mr. Speaker, what kind of immoral people do we have?

Yes, Mr. Speaker, this government are not what the people of Manitoba want. These people are not what the people of Manitoba want. I again make . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** I again make reference to their priorities. Their priorities, Mr. Speaker, are totally totally mixed up.

Do you know their main objective right now? It's not the people of Manitoba; it's not jobs for the people of Manitoba. Their priority right now, Mr. Speaker, is to spend money to improve their tarnished image to stay in office. Their only one sole objective is the same that Pierre Elliot Trudeau and his Liberal Government had in Ottawa for years, was to stay in office. To heck with the people of Manitoba, to heck with the deficit, to heck with the debt that we have to pay for on a carrying charge of \$280 million a year - a taxation that everybody has to pay - they say to heck with that because we're going to get elected. That's all that matters.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, and until we saw the kind of carrying on that the Member for Ste. Rose and the Acting Minister of Agriculture carried on with this morning, I wasn't going to make reference to the absence of a Minister in the House. Mr. Speaker, I would like to see the Minister of Agriculture in the Assembly once in awhile so we could ask him about some of the agricultural activities, but when it was convenient for the Member for Ste. Rose and the Minister of Housing to play a little political game in front of the T.V. about a lowering of the initial grain prices, what happened? The question wasn't taken as notice, they had to make a great song about it. I'll tell the Minister of Housing that he made a big mistake in his reply because he said we are going to let the Minister of Wheat Board know that we didn't like the reduction in wheat prices. No, we didn't let the cat out of the bag. I'm glad he did ask it, because if he hasn't already let the Minister know, then he's too late. Mr. Speaker, why did he not let the Federal Minister know weeks ago that we didn't

want a lowering of initial grain prices? He hasn't even contacted the Federal Minister of Wheat Board yet. It was an admission by the Minister of Housing this morning, an incompetent group of people trying to play politics, Mr. Speaker, with the farm community of this province. That's what they're trying to do, Mr. Speaker.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour laughs at the plight of the farm community. The Minister of Labour is laughing at the difficult times the farm community are having. That's how he cares about the farmers. He's laughing at the plight of farmers. The Minister of Labour is laughing at the plight of the farmers.

Mr. Speaker, a lot has been said by the . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

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

The Honourable Minister of Labour on a point of order.

**HON. A. MACKLING:** The honourable member is alluding that I'm laughing at the plight of farmers. I'm laughing at the ludicrous conduct of the member waving his arms and making misstatements of fact.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. I accept that point of information.

The Honourable Member for Arthur.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A lot has been said, Mr. Speaker, about the development of Manitoba Hydro by many of my colleagues and, of course, the selective reading by the government as it relates to the development of Limestone and, of course, my colleague from Pembina, I think, named the government very correctly last night when he referred to them as the "Limestone Cowboys". That, I think, fits very well. They're trying to ride that on to their next election victory and I think that the people of Manitoba are going to see through what their proposals are. They're going to take a pretty careful look at their record as has been again pointed out.

I want to say that last week, the Leader of our party made an excellent speech in pointing out some of the advantages that are being transferred over to the people who are buying Manitoba Hydro in this recent agreement that has been signed, and as people start to get that, they know that there is something about what is happening that they just can't put their finger on, but I'll tell you, as it becomes disclosed - as was again disclosed by my colleague from Pembina yesterday - on the kind of negotiation that was carried out, the fact that all the advantages are going to go to the people that are purchasing the power and we as Manitoba rate payers and taxpayers are going to be the people who are totally exposed on any of the costs and downsides to that agreement. That, Mr. Speaker, will be pointed out and people will, of course, think back to the history of Manitoba Hydro.

I have a brief way of putting it and I think it's important to put on the record. Growing up in Manitoba as a young person, I remember the D.L. Campbell years when they introduced rural electrification to Manitoba users, an excellent contribution.

**MR. W. McKENZIE:** Service at cost.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** The lights came on, that's right. The Member for Roblin-Russell said, "Service at cost." We had signs all over Manitoba saying, "Manitoba Hydro, It's Yours, Use It." Yes, and we could afford to use it and it really changed the total lifestyle of the people of Manitoba, particularly the rural people who hadn't had water systems or hadn't had the electric light systems and all the conveniences that go with it.

So I take my hat off to D.L. Campbell and his government. I take my hat off to Duff Roblin who had the foresight and the vision to develop the Nelson River projects, to put in place the kind of reasonable-priced energy, that we could be one of the most industrialized provinces in all of Canada, not only Western Canada. But we truly had, and he had the vision of providing us with the kind of electrical power that would make us a very very strong industrial province, taking some of the responsibility, Mr. Speaker, off the backs of the farm taxpayers, the rural users, and those other people in society, a tremendous potential and benefit at a cost that we could afford. Reasonable development, Mr. Speaker, and it was being developed under very competent administration and very competent people working for Manitoba Hydro.

Then we had, Mr. Speaker, the black days come in Manitoba. Yes, the lights went out, Mr. Speaker, when we saw the Schreyer Government, the NDP Government turn it into a political tool of their party. Mr. Speaker, we saw the New Democratic Party take hold of the Manitoba Hydro and use it for their election purposes. Well the people of Manitoba have been bitten once by a New Democratic Party on the Hydro Development and they're not going to be bitten again by them, Mr. Speaker, or sold short as this government is trying to do.

If, Mr. Speaker, some of the development plans had carried forward with the use of hydro in Manitoba, we'd have seen thousands of jobs - not temporary construction jobs for one, two, three or five years, or ten years - we'd see long-term permanent jobs.

We are now seeing the New Democratic Party proposing to the people of Manitoba that we spend \$3 billion. Do you now how much \$3 billion is? That is the amount of money that it takes to run this entire province for one year, Mr. Speaker, and we're putting that into one project to provide 40 long-term jobs? - \$3 billion? Mr. Speaker, not only will our grandchildren be put in debt because of the actions and activities of this — (Interjection) — I'm not against the development of our hydro projects. In fact I'm one of the stronger supporters of it, Mr. Speaker, but it has to be done under a proper management plan, proper decisions made, so that we aren't hung with the debt of it - we're hung with the benefits, the people of Manitoba, and under the New Democratic Party that's not happening, Mr. Speaker. We are being hung with the losses that are going to be incurred. The fact that it's being

advanced by two years for their political purposes is again being understood very clearly by the people of Manitoba.

**A MEMBER:** Very clearly, Jim.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Very clearly. If they think their slick and polished advertising is going to fool the people that get monthly bills - that under the former New Democratic Party went up 150 percent in their term - froze under the Lyon administration where it didn't go up at all - and now it's back going up again under this current administration, if you don't think that they're concerned, I'll tell you, they've got another thought coming because they know that it's simply and purely for the re-election of a New Democratic Party and they don't like it one little bit - the users of hydro and the taxpayers of Manitoba. So let them fool themselves, Mr. Speaker, let them fool themselves.

I'm prepared to go on any stage. I'm prepared to go in any place during the next few months, during an election campaign, to refute, Mr. Speaker, and to expose the mismanagement that this government has prepared and put forward, and what they're going to continue to do.

**A MEMBER:** The sooner, the better.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, that's right - the sooner, the better.

I want to spend a little time on the Budget and what has been purported as being so great and helpful for the agricultural community. Mr. Speaker, I want to make reference to the \$20 million that has been highly touted by the Minister of Finance and the Agriculture Minister. In fact that must what he's doing these days - he's out trying to find somebody that qualifies for that \$20 million loan program that — (Interjection) — that's right, it's like looking for a needle in a haystack to find someone that might get some support through the MACC program.

Let us look at a couple of figures, Mr. Speaker, and I think it's important that this House and the farm community particularly understand it - and I'm going to make a reference to some stats published by the Farm Credit Corporation - indicate that in 1983 and 1984 that farm borrowers - and this is FCC numbers - farm borrowers - and it may or may not hold true for the MACC program, farm borrowers had an average value in total assets of \$460,000 and an average debt of \$240,000.00. Well, Mr. Speaker, that of course leaves us with a difference of some \$220,000 in assets on those farms.

Now I'm not sure, Mr. Speaker, whether that holds true for Manitoba but that was the FCC clients. MACC - I wish the Minister would have laid some of this out in the report - but if the same holds true for Manitoba farmers, let me read, Mr. Speaker, one of the qualifications that a farmer has to have before he qualifies for the program. He has to be a full-time farmer with a net worth under \$185,000.00. Well if the average farmers that FCC have, Mr. Speaker, as clients have a net worth of \$220,000, the program introduced by this Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture has to be under \$185,000, then the average person

who needs support is not going to qualify. They're automatically struck from the support program that they made so much to do about. I think, Mr. Speaker, the farmers are going — (Interjection) — well, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance says, "Try to sell it." I'm not trying to sell it. All I'm saying is that I've got the figures from FCC — (Interjection) — Mr. Speaker, he says, "Help those that need it most," and he calls me a fool. I just pointed out to him where it isn't going to help those average people in society who need support, not going to help. So all this \$20 million that he talks about isn't going to be helping anybody, Mr. Speaker, because the first criteria eliminates the average person who needs support.

Let's go through some of the things and I want to spend a bit of time — (Interjection) — Mr. Speaker, I made reference, if the Minister of Finance would not take out of context what I said - I made reference to the fact that stats published by Farm Credit Corporation indicate 1983-84, that their farm borrowers had an average value in total assets of \$460,000 and a debt of \$240,000.00. That's not a good situation, Mr. Speaker, that's not healthy - leaving assets of \$220,000.00. — (Interjection) — No, I'm not saying that. I'm saying the borrowers at FCC. You're distorting what I'm saying. I said - the FCC report is what I said, okay? — (Interjection) — No, it does not. If you'd listen and pay attention to what I'm saying, Mr. Speaker, I will again say it. Statistics published by the Farm Credit Corporation indicate in 1983-84 their farm borrowers had an average value in total assets of \$460,000 and a debt of \$240,000.00. That's not a good situation. Farmers don't like to be in that kind of a debt situation with high interest rates, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, the assets that they have, they disallow them from the provincial program and I want the Minister of Finance not to doublespeak as he normally does. Mr. Speaker, so we have a restriction rate off of that. Let's go through some of the other disqualifiers. Well there's nothing wrong with them being a resident of Manitoba, if he can afford to live here with the taxes that are being imposed by the Province of Manitoba. And yes, Mr. Speaker, he comes forward with a gas tax on unleaded fuel and of course a lot of our colleagues have talked about the fact that who is he hitting? Those people that have to drive older cars and haven't got the converters on them to burn unleaded fuel. So he's hitting those people who have to use leaded gas. He's hitting those people who have to drive from rural Manitoba to centres where they get medical services in the Health Sciences Centre or the St. Boniface Hospital. He's hitting those people, of course, that can least afford it. That's his kind of compassion that he shows - he's demonstrating it in his taxation policies.

Let us go through a few more disqualifiers because you'll never be qualified for a loan. He has to be a full-time farmer with a net worth under \$185,000 and yes, there are some that qualify. I'm not saying that everybody is, but I'd like to know precisely how many there are. If you have demonstrated management ability, criteria used to make this assessment would include crop yields, livestock production comparable to area standards, reasonable capital purchase and sensible use of credit. Now I don't know who's going to make that determination. He's going to have to demonstrate management ability.

**A MEMBER:** Is there something in there about his voting pattern?

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Well, that's the one line that was left out, but that's another hoop that he or she has to go through. He must be in financial difficulty. Well, Mr. Speaker, if that were the only one there, then all farmers in Manitoba would qualify under this administration, because most farmers are having financial difficulty because of the policies of this Minister of Agriculture and this government.

I'll allude to them and the dairy policies and the other policies that he's now responsible for too. He's putting them in financial difficulty. A potential client has to be in arrears on term debt or be unable to obtain operating credit. A client's farming operation may not show viability at the time of application, but the operation should be viable after debt restructuring - well, it takes a while to decipher these hoops but there's another one that you'll have to go through - and he must develop a plan for recovery which the farm operation to service the refinanced loan, the loan disbursement, conditional on the applicant being able to obtain an adequate line of operating credit.

I'm kind of confused when I hit that line, Mr. Speaker. I'm confused because what the Minister of Agriculture is saying that the farmer who's in difficulty has to go through to get support - support of a 9.75 percent loan, that's really the bottom line. He says, ". . . the loan disbursement conditional on applicant being able to obtain an adequate line of operating credit." Well, if, Mr. Speaker, he meets the first criterion, then he won't meet the bottom one. He won't be able to get an adequate line of operating credit, so he doesn't qualify . . .

**A MEMBER:** Nobody qualifies. That's the bottom line.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** That's the bottom line, is right, that he has set up a province . . .

**HON. J. BUCKLASCHUK:** Garbage.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** The Minister of Housing says, garbage. I challenge this government to make sure that this loan program is in place in time for those people who are in dire straits and need to put their crops in this spring and there won't be one that qualifies.

Mr. Speaker, have you ever gone through a government loan program? I know lots of people who have. When I started farming, I used a government loan program. Do you know how long it takes? By the time you go and see the Manitoba Agriculture Credit Corporation loans officer, by the time he makes all the assessments and by the time he sends the application to head office and by the time it comes back, Mr. Speaker, I would bet that there may be - if anybody ever does qualify under this program - that it may be in fact ready for fall. They may have one loan approved for fall, and what are they doing? They're just fooling the farm community and out trying to get some political support.

You're not fooling the farmers. The farmer today that needs financial support is going to go to MACC and what are they going to say? Well, we have to have

certain information, back-up material. Mr. Speaker, I said this two weeks ago and I'll say it again today, the farmers, particularly in the western region of the province where we've had a considerable amount of drought, where this Minister of Agriculture met some 300 that he was talking about, they will not get one nickel of support under this program.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, and if they get \$100,000 from them at 9.75 percent and need more, what does the rate go to? It goes to this Minister of Agriculture's favourite rate - 13.5 or 13.625 percent. Yes, Mr. Speaker, that's the kind of help that this Premier and this government want to give the farm community. So the effective rate, if you were to borrow \$200,000 from MACC, if you ever got through the hoops and got it, you'd have an effective rate of about 12 percent, when you take the 9.75 and 13.5, you'd be in that 12 to 12-something percent. That's the kind of support you would be provided with.

**HON. V. SCHROEDER:** That very same study - 61 percent, at a net worth of \$166,000 or less.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** That's fine. Why hasn't he brought that information forward, Mr. Speaker. I'd like information. I have put information on the record; he could have put it on but he didn't. He wanted to play politics. I still challenge the Minister of Finance to make sure that those people who are in dire need get through the hoops . . .

**HON. V. SCHROEDER:** You quoted selectively from that study.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** . . . of their MACC program to get support for this spring. They won't do it, Mr. Speaker, and it's unfortunate, because the worst thing you can do with people who are grasping at straws and trying to stay alive in any business is to give them false hope; and this government has again given false hope to the farm community. They've given the community false hope that there would be support coming after this Budget that we've just seen introduced.

Let's look at another figure. They make a big to-do about their support programs. They take a lot of pride in their support programs. They brag on one page of the Budget that there's \$35 million gone into a Beef Stabilization Program. Mr. Speaker, there was money needed for the beef industry and, yes, there should have been a little different way of providing it, but I will say that they made money available and they did it in a wrong manner. But look at Page B 19. The program was to support the beef industry and to maintain numbers and to keep numbers for kill in the province. They didn't support the feedlot industry. Page B 19 says we've got a small decline in our beef production. We've had more than a small reduction in our beef industry, Mr. Speaker. We've had a substantial reduction in our beef herds in this province and we are still losing beef numbers. It points out that all the rhetoric and all the talk we hear about them pumping money in has really not met the objectives of the farm community and the kind of support that was needed to maintain a packing house industry. It is not there, Mr. Speaker.

I want to continue with some of the agricultural concerns, and I'll make reference to the fact that we

attempted to get an emergency debate yesterday on the imposition of tariffs by the U.S. Commerce Department in the restriction of our hog flow to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we wanted to debate it in emergency session, and I'll lay on the record today what I think could have been done and should have been done. The Minister of Agriculture, if he'd been doing anything, the least he could have done was inform his Premier of what may happen. But what happens? The First Minister of the Province met with the Federal Minister - and I'll give him the benefit, he indicated that he talked to him about it - but he didn't make any recommendations, as I understand it, to the Minister of Agriculture. If he talked to him about it, you'd think his Minister of Agriculture would have laid out what may happen. In fact, on the 18th of March, I warned them that this would come about; I told them this would take place. But did we see any communication go from this Assembly? Did we see any communication go to the people in the United States who were thinking of imposing an embargo or a tariff? No, Mr. Speaker. They didn't take any action to support Manitoba's hog export people, the 3,300 hog producers. So what happened because of that?

We're seeing a tremendous amount of money lost by the producers of pork in this province in a matter of days because we didn't have the kind of support from the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier when it came to asking the Americans and asking the Federal Government not to have this kind of tariff imposed. So it's cost the province millions of dollars.

The bigger question again, Mr. Speaker, comes into the budgetary matters and that is, what is it going to cost the provincial taxpayers on hog stabilization, because when the hog prices go down, it will in fact force a payout in the hog stabilization. I know that as of last December, the hog stabilization had very little money left in it. It was very close to being in financial difficulty. At some period there was a shortfall of funds.

We now will see the province have to put more money in and I'd like to know how much it's going to be. I see there's \$7 million for stabilization and I'm not sure how much will go to the hog stabilization. There's \$5 million into the beef stabilization, but I'd like the Minister of Agriculture to be here sometime to tell us where he's going to get this money, how much it's going to cost. Is there enough in the Budget? We're going to have to vote on this. Is there going to be enough in the Budget to support the Hog Stabilization Program? We are losing millions of dollars. This Minister of Agriculture has been very very quiet and very irresponsible in protecting the hog producers of this province and speaking out in their behalf, as has the Premier been.

Let's talk about an even more contentious issue right now, not maybe involving as many producers, but let's talk about the dairy industry for a few minutes. Let's talk about what's happened recently in the dairy industry. You know, we had a dairy industry when we were in office that were anxious to see some changes made. They were anxious, Mr. Speaker, not to have to go to a consumer-orientated milk marketing board to get a price increase every year, that they had to go cap in hand to the consumer publicly regulated body that was supported by the New Democratic Party, that

they had to make a big public issue out of a milk price increase. They didn't like that, Mr. Speaker, and I as their Minister didn't like it, and we made some policy changes. In fact, with the support of my colleagues, pressure from the Member for Emerson who had a lot of the dairy industry in his constituency, we made some changes and replaced the old Milk Control Board with the Milk Prices Review Commission, which, in fact, sets the milk price by formula. It doesn't have that annual public outcry that milk prices may be going up. It worked fairly well, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it worked fairly well in the interests of the producers. It worked very well for the consumers and we had an industry that was relatively healthy.

We, as well, had the ability to transfer quota. The Milk Marketing Board took 20 percent of the quota on a sale of cows and quota between farmers, giving some flexibility to the system. This Minister of Agriculture in the last three weeks has allowed the Manitoba Natural Products Marketing Council to restrict all sales of cows in quota between dairy farmers. That's what you call listening to the people. That's what you call working with the people, and that's supporting the farm community.

Mr. Speaker, — (Interjection) — that's right, that's maybe what they call it, but it isn't what we call it and it isn't what the dairy farmers call it. It's dictation, Mr. Speaker, of the worst kind by a socialist Premier and a socialist government. They don't know how the farm community want to operate and they won't even, Mr. Speaker, call the agricultural committee to allow the farm community, the dairy industry to come forward and put their policy positions on the record to tell the members of the Legislature how they want the industry to go. They won't even do that, Mr. Speaker. Why won't they do it? Because does he have all the answers for the dairy industry? If he has, they're the wrong ones because I'll bet you there isn't a dairy farmer in Manitoba today that wouldn't like to take their Minister of Agriculture or their Premier out to the dairy barn, Mr. Speaker, and give him an old fashioned lesson. That's right, Mr. Speaker, and it wouldn't be how to milk a cow.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is imperative - and I want this to be very clear on the record - that this Premier screw up his courage and instruct his Minister of Agriculture to call the agricultural committee so the dairy industry, the dairy farmers can come forward and tell them what they would like to see for dairy policy. What have they got in place of that, Mr. Speaker? They've got a Minister of Agriculture standing up and saying there'll be no value to quota. We'll say there's no value to quota. Well, Mr. Speaker, in reality, there always has been a value to quota. What good is a dairy cow if you haven't got the right to produce dairy milk from her and sell to somebody. It isn't worth anything. So, that's been working relatively well.

Other provinces seem to be able to get by this impasse. Ontario, a lot of dairy producers have written me and have been saying goodness they work it out in other regions, why can't we have the same kind of concept, or at least consider it in Manitoba? This Minister of Agriculture is not listening to the dairy farmers of Manitoba. I think it's imperative that they call a committee so we can deal with it and can go forward with the proper kind of recommendations that

are acceptable to the governing bodies but is also to those people who are involved, the dairy producers.

I've had many dairy people talk to me and say, this government have just knocked my value in half or two-thirds because of what they've done to my dairy herd. If you want to change dairy quotas today, you have to sell your total herd. Everybody doesn't want to sell out their dairy farm. Some people don't mind continuing dairying, Mr. Speaker, and thank goodness. They're the most hard-working people going. We should take our hats off and we should work with them. Not this Premier, not this Minister of Agriculture; he's got every one of them angry at him. I challenge him to change the kind of regulations that have just been passed by the Natural Products Marketing Council. I challenge him to do it, Mr. Speaker, if he's really sincere in his help for the farm community as he goes around the farm community with his hands wringing and his head cocked as if he's really listening. I say, Mr. Speaker, he'd better get at it.

I want to make a little bit more of a comment about some of the agricultural concerns. Of course, we have seen and I will table for the information of the House, recent regulations that have been passed and forms passed by the Manitoba Egg Producers Marketing Board. Of course, we have a Premier that stood up in the House and said no, there weren't regulations passed. I asked the members of the government, I asked the Member for Ste. Rose, I asked the Members for the City of Winnipeg if this is the kind of regulations they want seen passed throughout rural Manitoba to the farmers, the kind of restrictions that are placed on them. I asked them, I challenged them. Again, it would be a good opportunity, rather than have the Minister of Agriculture back running around his own constituency when he should be in the House trying to save his political butt, Mr. Speaker, he'd better back in here dealing with the bigger agricultural question.

I want to table these regulations that have been passed out by the Manitoba Egg Producers Marketing Board. I think they should be given the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to come before the agriculture committee and point out their case as to why these kinds of regulations have to be passed.

That's what we're asking for, Mr. Speaker. We're asking for the government to be open as they pledged they would be open in their campaign. They're not very open, Mr. Speaker, when the agriculture community can't come before the committee to explain their case. The egg producers, Mr. Speaker, can't come before the committee unless it's called to explain their case. The dairy farmers are being stopped from coming before the committee to explain their case. The hog producers could come before the committee to explain their case. The people needing financial support, Mr. Speaker, under MACC who are never going to be able to go through the hoops that have been set up by this Minister of Agriculture and his government will never be able to speak to the agricultural committee unless it's called. That's the kind of thing, Mr. Speaker, we could do with a committee of this House at this point. We could listen to the farmers. We could develop some policies.

Mr. Speaker, this Minister of Agriculture and this Premier are bankrupt of ideas. We, the agriculture community in Manitoba are shrinking and going broke



under their administration, under their policies, and under their direction, Mr. Speaker, and I challenge them to call the committee so that we can hear from the farm community. — (Interjection) — Yes, I do. It would be very simple for him to direct his Minister of Agriculture to call a committee so the dairy farmers and those people can come forward.

What are you scared of? That you're wrong? Are you scared that you're wrong? Mr. Speaker, they couldn't bash the Federal Government. They couldn't stand up and do some selective questioning in the House bashing the Federal Government. They may be able to, Mr. Speaker, try to fool some people but they can't fool enough to get elected next time.

The people of Manitoba are fed up. They're fed up with the kind of political posturing, the waste of money, the kind of priority they place on the money where they'd spend \$4 million in advertising and cut the Manitoba School at Portage by half-a-million dollars. That's the kind of priorities we see, the kind of smut peddling we see go by the Minister of Culture, Mr. Speaker. The kind of support they're giving to the PLO, the advertising in the magazine that was pointed out today.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, that's the kind of thing that will kill them. They will remember all those things, Mr. Speaker, that they have stood for and the fact that they haven't stood up to protect the people of Manitoba, spend their money in a wise way and don't forget - I'll conclude with this - that there is another \$280 million tax on the people of Manitoba. That's the debt carrying charge that this government, in their term of office, have placed on the people of Manitoba. If it's not paid this year, it will have to be paid the year after or the year after. If they don't start dealing with the capital and the deficit, within five years, Mr. Speaker, we will have a \$4 billion deficit and almost three-quarters-of-a-billion dollars debt carrying charge. That's the kind of future the people of Manitoba have to look forward to under a New Democratic Party.

We, Mr. Speaker, will pledge to the people of Manitoba that we will straighten out the economic affairs of Manitoba. We'll repriorize how their money is spent and Manitoba will prosper again under a Progressive Conservative Party.

Thank you.

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, first I would like to express appreciation at having been given the opportunity to speak at this particular time today. Unfortunately on Monday I will not be present during the vote because of the commencement of the Conference of Ministers dealing with Aboriginal Rights and will not be able to be present for the debate or have an opportunity to speak on Monday, as I would normally have intended to do in respect to the Budget Debate.

Mr. Speaker, I think we can all join together, all members of common sense in this Chamber, and I assume that's all members in this House, in commending the Minister of Finance for what indeed has been a well-crafted document, a well-crafted budgetary document that we can indeed be justly proud of.

Mr. Speaker, before I proceed, I would like to just put on the record for the Honourable Member for Arthur - and I don't intend to deal with this at great length today - but I think at some point the Member for Arthur should explain his position in regard to milk quotas - to remove any inconsistencies on his part in regard to previous positions taken by the Member for Arthur when he was the Minister of Agriculture in the Province of Manitoba and represented the dairy farmers in this province.

Mr. Speaker, I would refer indeed to the Council Minutes of April 20, 1978, when the secretary to the committee wrote and I quote: "The Minister" - and the Minister, again I remind honourable members was the Member for Arthur, the present member that we listened to with all the bombast that the Member for Arthur can generate and he's pretty good at generating bombast verbosity in this Chamber. But the Minutes state and I would like to put these Minutes on the record, Mr. Speaker, because I think it's important the record be clear and the Member for Arthur have an opportunity some time to respond and to explain his own position. When he wants to talk about honourable members on this side not doing their job, I think it important that we test the commitment on the part of the Member for Arthur, insofar as those dairy farmers that he speaks about with great righteousness this morning in this Chamber. The Minute reads: "The Minister" - again the Member for Arthur - "advised his secretary that the policy had not changed with respect to preventing the capitalization of quotas in Manitoba. However the Minister felt that modification could be made to existing quota regulations policy that would eliminate the cost of appraisals and still prevent quota capitalization from occurring.

"The Minister indicated that if evidence was obtained, that a person had purchase quota, then the quota so obtained should be cancelled." I repeat the Minutes, Mr. Speaker, April 20, 1978, "The Minister indicated . . . that a person had purchase quota, then the quota so obtained should be cancelled."

So, Mr. Speaker, I indeed leave that on record for the Member for Arthur to take the opportunity to explain to this Chamber at some point the inconsistencies with the position expressed today and the position that he expressed when he was Minister of Agriculture.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Member for Arthur on a point of order.

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the First Minister if he would table that document that he read from.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I will table a copy of the Minutes that were recorded in the Natural Products Minutes from the date of April 20, 1978. I will make that commitment to this Chamber.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Arthur on a point of order?

**MR. J. DOWNEY:** Mr. Speaker, the rules of this Assembly are that a document read from should be tabled. I make specific reference - I asked the First

Minister to table the document that he read from. I can go back in many precedents, Mr. Speaker, when I was Minister, if I read from a document, they insisted that I table it. That has been, Mr. Speaker, a standard rule, and I request that the First Minister table the document that he read from.

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

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, to the same point of order. The Minutes of the Natural Products Marketing Council are public information. They are not concealed. The quotation used by the First Minister was a quotation from those Minutes. He was quoting from another document. That quotation was contained in another document that the First Minister has indicated he will table, the Natural Products Marketing Council Minutes from which that document quotes, no intention of tabling the document which he read from because it was only a quotation of those Minutes. That is a public document, Sir, and in providing that information, he meets the requirements under the rules.

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

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Member for Arthur, has legitimately requested, in compliance with a longstanding tradition of this House, that when a member quotes directly from a document, that document can be requested for tabling. A longstanding tradition of this House is that it is tabled today, as quoted from, not some other fudged up sort of a tabling of documents. The First Minister quoted directly from a document this morning that my member, the Member for Arthur, has requested tabling of and it should be tabled. Unless the First Minister has something that he wishes to hide from the people of Manitoba, he will table the document he quoted from.

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

**MR. A. ADAM:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I recall very vividly when I was sitting next to where the Acting Agriculture Minister - when the Member for Arthur was sitting in the second chair in the second row and I was on the opposite side of the House. The Minister had approximately 4,000 copies that he read from on his desk and I asked him to table those documents and he refused and today he gets up and says that he recalls very well that he tabled when he had to, Mr. Speaker, and you remember that very well. You remember very well what I'm talking about.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please.  
The Honourable Member for Morris to the same point.

**MR. C. MANNES:** To the same point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Government House Leader has erred again as usual. Mr. Speaker, I was a former chairman of the National Products Marketing Council and I can

tell you that it is not a public record by convention in fact, the Minutes of that particular body was not public. Specific requests to peruse those particular Minutes always had to be decided by the board in question, so they were not part of the public records.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Government House Leader to the same point.

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Yes. Mr. Speaker, the Minutes . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** . . . of the Natural Products Marketing Council, contrary to the information provided to this House by the Member for Morris, have always been made public on request, and have, at many times in the last 12 years, been tabled in complete sets, a year at a time in this Chamber. Mr. Speaker, however, I would refer you to Page . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

**HON. A. ANSTETT:** Sir, I would refer you to Page 115 of Beauchesne's Fifth Edition, Citation 327(3) and (4). Clause (3) reads, Sir: A public document referred to but not cited or quoted by a Minister need not be tabled, but more importantly, Sir: (4) Only the document cited need be tabled by a Minister. A complete file need not be tabled because one document in it has been cited.

The Premier has made a commitment to table the document, which has already been made public, Mr. Speaker, and that is the Minutes of the meeting to which the member referred and no statement by other members on his side will conceal the fact that those Minutes have been made public, prior to this date, in fact were made public some years ago, Sir. The Premier has referred to that document. It may even well have been tabled in this House before.

The fact, Mr. Speaker, that the Member for Arthur has been hoisted on his own petard should not lead to flimflammy with our rules.

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

**MR. H. GRAHAM:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the flimflammy that is being thrown around this Chamber, I suggest comes from the Honourable Government House Leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is, I think, indeed important and it has been a long-standing tradition that when a request is made from a person who is reading a document that that person table what it is he is reading from. We have had numerous discussions in this Chamber before and there have been numerous debates, but it has always been accepted by this Chamber, Mr. Speaker, that it should be tabled.

Now, if we're going to have special rules in this Chamber to apply to the Premier of the province, I think they should be written into the rules. So far, they are not written into the rules and I suggest that they abide by the rules of the Chamber the same as anyone else.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, to the same point of order. The Government Services . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** . . . Minister mentioned a very important word in which he said, "conceal." Unless the First Minister tables the document from which he read just five minutes ago in this House, then it leaves nothing for us to decide but the Premier is trying to conceal something from the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a long-standing rule of this House that when a speaker in debate quotes directly from a document that that document, when requested to be tabled, has to be tabled. That is a long-standing tradition of this House. Are we now, Sir, about to make new rules for the Premier when he is wanting to conceal something in a document from which he has just quoted directly and refuses to table that document today when he has just quoted from it?

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

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

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

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

No member has quoted from our rule book which rule it is we are alleging to be in breach of.

I would remind members that we have a Rule 29.1 which says, "Where in debate a member quotes from a private letter, any other member may require the member who quoted from the letter to table the letter from which he quoted but this rule does not alter any rule or practice of the House relating to the tabling of documents other than private letters."

It would appear from the remarks that have been made that it was not a letter which was being quoted from. It is also a practice of the House that it is not necessary to table any public document. I'm not sure whether the particular Minutes involved are a public document, but it's been made clear that it will be made public on request.

If that is what the members want, I suppose that can be done.

The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I understand the honourable members' concern. I will make sure that Minute is tabled in this House so that all members can

read very clearly, and I'll ensure it's certified as a true Minute, so all members can see the position of the former Minister of Agriculture in this province. The copy of the Minute will be certified as a true copy of the Minutes of 1978.

Honourable members will not deflect from the essence of that Minute.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, our Budget reflects the convictions of this government. It indeed reflects convictions of this Budget that embrace compassion and humanity and those are the major tenets of this Budget.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that economic development ought to be a stimulation, but not an end in itself; a belief that indeed that a document such as a Budget and a budgetary process ought to be measures in order to assist in the needs and the development of social programs in order to help people. That is the basic thrust of the Budget by the Minister of Finance, and I stand proudly in this place, and I know Manitobans are proud of this document that reflects the needs of the people of the Province of Manitoba.

Manitobans are optimistic people. They are not daunted and they will not be daunted by the bellyachers and the soreheads that indeed reflect the thinking so often in this Chamber, Mr. Speaker.

No, Mr. Speaker, Manitobans are proud people. They are people that have courage and that courage, Mr. Speaker, gives them the strength to have dreams; dreams about the future of the Province of Manitoba and the courage to pursue those dreams to fruition.

It is those dreams, it is those aspirations that are reflected in this government's Budget. My government is working to make those dreams a reality. We are building upon those dreams because we believe that Manitobans believe in their abilities, in their potential, and in their talents. We share with Manitobans their aspirations, their confidence in the future of the Province of Manitoba, and that indeed is what this Budget mirrors.

I'm sorry to say, Mr. Speaker, and I regret that the members opposite do not appear to share the enthusiasm of Manitobans, the aspirations of the ordinary men and women in Manitoba for the future of this province. No, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite are prepared to pillage these dreams. They would do nothing, but indeed their only concern is to generate cynicism, to create doubts and fears, fears in their own ideas, fears in the abilities of Manitobans. They would rather tear down what has been built by Manitobans in order to fulfill their particular obsession to an outdated theory of economics and government that would better suit the thinking of 19th Century Manitoba rather than 20th Century Manitoba.

That kind of thinking - and let me put that directly on the table for the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek that is so worked up this afternoon that he can't cease his muttering from his desk - it was that kind of thinking that believes that those born into wealth should survive, while those that are less fortunate in

our society that were born into economic . . . should have to fight for themselves. That is the ideology of honourable members across the way. It's an outdated and outmoded economic theory that doesn't reflect the Manitoba of 1985.

Mr. Speaker, my government is not prepared to slash health, not prepared to slash education programs and to slash project funding. We will not butcher programs. We will protect the health and the well-being of Manitobans, because we care about Manitoba senior citizens, about their fears, about the decline in health that might affect their ability to remain as independent members of the Manitoba community; because we care about single parents whose children need decent, affordable, high-quality child care so that those parents may work and may contribute to society as protected members of society; because we care about those families, Mr. Speaker, who are living in nightmares because of abusive home setting; because we care about the economic inequities that exist that particularly confront the women in Manitoba; because we care about the Northerner who daily demonstrates that pioneer spirit of being prepared to achieve success in a vital and creative Northern Manitoba; because we care about the Manitoba Native communities who want to maintain their cultural identities and have the same need for services in order to ensure that their lives be a little easier.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that cares; it is a government that will continue to defend the social measures from pressures exerted by tight economic times. Defence of those programs also maintains the preserving of jobs, vital, meaningful work within the Manitoba community. However, my government is faced by an economic climate that has forced on us the need to move slower than we would like in expanding social programs, but unlike other governments to the east and to the west of us, we have not loaded the cost or the burden of those programs on the individual members of society through inequitable user fees as has occurred elsewhere, implemented by Tory Governments elsewhere in this country.

My government believes that it is society's co-operative responsibility to assure that all members of our province deserve to have access to quality health care, education and to other social programs, because Manitobans are worth that confidence. Despite what honourable members opposite might like to say, social programs contribute a great deal to the economic well-being of Manitoba. They are not just an economic drain, as members to the west of us would say or as the former Tory regime in this province believed and demonstrated, by way of their slashing actions from the period 1977 to 1981, when ordinary people are consumed by worry, by fear, by sorrow and grief, that the sick cannot afford affordable care as they must in some parts of Canada or that their children cannot receive affordable education, then they are stymied in their abilities to contribute to their communities and to the future.

Manitobans understand that our province is faced with tight economic times. They understand that spending must be prudent. Manitobans know - and their views, their ideas are fashioned with that knowledge. Mr. Speaker, my Minister of Finance spoke with hundreds of Manitobans. He spoke about the

difficult choices confronting Manitobans. My government listened to those Manitobans and what we heard is the collective wisdom, the wisdom of hundreds of Manitobans that participated in the process that resulted in the presentation of this Budget to this Chamber.

Manitobans shared with us their aspirations, their hopes, their fears and they told us as well of their worries and shared them with us. Manitobans told us that education and health care and other services must be preserved and maintained. They told us that funding for the community projects that enhance their lives must be maintained and, Mr. Speaker, we did just that. We did just that because we understand, when Manitobans tell us, that to do otherwise would be unfair and unreasonable.

We understand Manitobans when they tell us that to do otherwise would have placed the burden of such slashing on the backs of ordinary Manitobans. Mr. Speaker, I've yet to hear the members opposite really address the questions of fairness, of equity and of decency in relationship, Manitoban to Manitoban. I have yet to hear them address the question of taxation in this House, unfair taxation that exists which permits the affluent of our society to use loopholes, loopholes so they can duck their payment of a fair share of the costs of programs. Instead of simply looking at ways to cut and cut some more expenditures on needed programs, perhaps the members opposite should be looking at ways to generate more revenues.

Just recently it was noted in a report that in 1982 one in every hundred Canadians earning more than \$30,000 paid no income tax; and for 1984 the Federal Government reduced its projected yield from taxes by 5 percent across the country. What this means for Manitoba is a revenue shortfall of some \$35 million. Ordinary men and women of this province are paying more than their fair share of the bills, while those with greater ability to contribute to the overall financial health of our country are not paying a cent.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite are able to remove their blinkers for a moment and recognize the need for a thorough review of the income tax system in Canada. Surely they can see what ordinary men and women of Manitoba have known for some time, that the income tax is unfair and unjust and needs to be fixed now. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues would welcome, an expression of concern about the tax equity from the members opposite. And I ask them to join with us in pressing their friends in Ottawa to review the tax system in our country so that it be fair and just to all. And I believe, Mr. Speaker, that Manitobans would welcome such action on the part of members opposite.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, Manitobans like to know where the Leader of the Opposition stands and where his colleagues stand on this issue. We're waiting for a response as to where honourable members opposite stand on this issue.

The silence is deafening on that side and I have to assume, as do Manitobans, that their silence can only demonstrate one aspect - that members opposite do not care that ordinary men and women are paying more than their fair share in income tax. Mr. Speaker, I can only conclude that honourable members across the way have adopted the old adage that silence is golden, as their guiding light.

In the past, Mr. Speaker, I have noted that the Leader of the Opposition appears to be the Invisible Man. I have thought about that, Mr. Speaker, trying to puzzle out why the Leader of the Opposition would want to be the Invisible Man rather than to be recognized by Manitobans. Mr. Speaker, I think I know why the Leader of the Opposition would prefer to remain invisible to Manitobans. He prefers that invisibility, Mr. Speaker, because he has a hidden agenda, and so, the Leader of the Opposition toured this province to raise his profile. To speak with ordinary Manitobans, he would find himself in a bind, Mr. Speaker, because Manitobans would want to know where he and his party colleagues stand on the issues facing Manitoba today.

His hidden agenda would certainly be dragged out of him and his colleagues, and the Leader of the Opposition knows, Mr. Speaker, that if he told Manitobans what his hidden agenda entails, the ordinary men and women of our province would not give him or his party a second look. But, Mr. Speaker . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I believe the hidden agenda of the members opposite reads like a page out of the economic textbook of British Columbia and of the Fraser Institute, a script, Mr. Speaker, that was originally authored by the Conservative Government in this province in their last term in office, a cure for economic woes that created more sickness, more injury, more harm to ordinary Manitobans. And that is what the Leader of the Opposition is afraid of. That is why he is desperately clinging to his invisibility.

It is a hidden agenda, the consequences which would see Manitobans line up for assistance from welfare, rather than being able to work productively to put food on their tables.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek on a point of order.

**MR. F. JOHNSTON:** Mr. Speaker, I clearly heard the First Minister make an accusation that the previous government - which I was part of on Treasury Board and a Minister - created sickness in this province. Mr. Speaker, I would have the Minister withdraw the fact that we created sickness. — (Interjection) — Well let's find out. Either withdraw it or explain it.

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I'm glad to answer. Unnecessary unemployment created during a time indeed when Canada was doing well overall in the economic front; unemployment that gave rise to unnecessary disease; gave rise to unnecessary alcoholism, because of the neglect by the former government to undertake its proper responsibilities to the people of the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it has a hidden agenda. They would rather see the Canadian Commercial Bank being bailed out to the tune of \$225 million, instead of that money being used to help small businesses and farmers in trouble.

It has a hidden agenda, Mr. Speaker, that would rather see Manitobans paying health care premiums, user fees, extra billing, than improving and maintaining the just and fair system of health care that we've enjoyed in this province for many years.

It has a hidden agenda that slashes funding to day care rather than providing proper and decent care for children, so that their parents and ordinary Manitobans are able to work and to contribute to the provincial economy.

It has a hidden agenda, Mr. Speaker, that would see revenue generated through increased user fees to financially strapped farmers, rather than lending a helping hand to those people who form the backbone of the Manitoba economy.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is a devious agenda, so devious that the Leader of the Opposition is afraid to tell Manitobans where he stands on these crucial issues. And so, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of declaring their intentions, the opposition has nothing left but to spread doom and gloom and more doom than gloom, in order to attempt to destroy the hopes and expectations and confidence of Manitobans in their future.

I think, Mr. Speaker, we saw a glimpse of those plans for Manitoba by the Leader of the Opposition in this Chamber the other day. Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Jobs Fund is key to my government's economic initiatives. The Jobs Fund is designed to stimulate the economy, to provide job opportunities, to help the private sector, to build permanent assets in our communities.

Honourable members keep yelling out "fraud." Again, Mr. Speaker, I place on the record, honourable members voted for the Jobs Fund in this Chamber, one-by-one. If it was a jobs fraud, why did they stand one-by-one, to support what they now denounce as a fraud in this Chamber?

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, honourable members across the way . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** The Member for Minnedosa described the jobs provided by the Jobs Fund as a bunch of grass-cutting and scrub-cutting jobs in the Chamber the other day. Honourable members today have referred to the Jobs Fund as a "fraud" fund. Mr. Speaker, I would certainly like honourable members across the way to tell the thousands of Manitobans who have worked on the Jobs Fund projects that those projects were frauds or that they were grass-cutting projects or scrub-clearing projects.

Mr. Speaker, I would like the Honourable Member for Minnedosa to tell his constituents that the hard work to renovate the fire hall in the Town of Rapid City was meaningless or was a fraud; or that money spent to renovate the Centennial Arena in Minnedosa is wasted funds; and that the jobs created by those renovations were worthless.

I would like honourable members opposite to face the townsfolk in Swan River and to tell the people of Swan River that their efforts to raise money, to work with the Provincial Government in order to rebuild the town curling rink were meaningless. And I attended those ceremonies with the Honourable Member for Swan River and, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Swan River left no indication - I credit him for that - that he divorced himself from the extremism of honourable members across the way, that he didn't denounce the work on the Swan River Curling Rink as having been fraud or being meaningless or wasteful.

Mr. Speaker, they say one thing in this Chamber, and quite a different thing in their own constituencies. I would like honourable members opposite to tell the community in Oakbank, to tell the Kinsmen there, to tell the senior citizens there, that funds and the jobs created through their concerted efforts to build an elderly persons' home and to extend such services as Meals on Wheels is indeed worthless. I believe it is downright foolishness on the part of honourable members opposite to suggest that hundreds of community projects, undertaken in co-operation with fellow Manitobans, are meaningless, that the jobs associated with those projects are no more than grass- or scrub-cutting projects. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite have once again inadvertently revealed their distaste for the efforts of Manitobans - co-operative efforts. They have renewed pride, a spirit of self-reliance in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Jobs Fund has provided work for Manitobans, while restoring community facilities, accelerating sewer and water projects, encouraging local cultural development, in upgrading dikes in their communities. In the first two years of the Jobs Fund - I want honourable members to make note of this when they yell "fraud" from their seats - 436,000 work weeks for 35,000 Manitobans were created. That means jobs for Manitobans, about 8,400 person years worth of work, valuable work for Manitobans, worthwhile projects for our communities. Honourable members, with all the yelling and screaming and howling from their seats, will not dissuade this government from ensuring that it fulfills its responsibility of working tirelessly to create jobs for Manitobans.

I'm sure that it disheartens Manitobans. It must dishearten Manitobans to be constantly put down by the members opposite about the kind of work they have performed on those job sites. Ordinary men and women of Manitoba take pride in their work, their pride, along with their incomes.

The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek says, yeah, sarcastically, as though Manitobans don't take pride in their work. Manitoba efforts have been bolstered through these Jobs Fund projects and let there be no misinformation about that. For what is more satisfying than a community pulling together, overcoming disagreements in order to work together to improve their town or their village, the place where they live, their homes.

In my travels around the province, Manitobans have told me proudly of their efforts, insisting that I go and take a look at the results of their labours. My government has been proud to be part of this effort, proud to work with ordinary Manitobans on these projects, projects that they deemed important,

important within the communities in which those projects serve. In some instances, I've been told by Manitobans that indeed the confidence, the optimism that was generated in a community, designing and working together on a Jobs Fund project and, of course, the generation of economic activity within the community.

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite do not realize that every time they put down the Jobs Fund projects, every time they call those projects frauds, every time they call those projects meaningless, they are in fact putting down all Manitobans, all Manitobans that worked on those projects. The Manitoba Jobs Fund is successful. Just ask the young science student who has had an opportunity to apply his or her knowledge in a job setting. Just ask the young entrepreneur who's learning from a seasoned business person about how to start his or her own small business. Just ask young men and women of this province who've been given an opportunity to test their skills and their talents and training in a job setting because of Careerstart or the Northern Youth Core Program. Just ask Manitobans who've been given the opportunity to earn an income while learning a trade at the same time. Ordinary Manitobans know the benefits derived from the Manitoba Jobs Fund experience because they recognize and feel those benefits daily; and businesses, small and medium-sized, co-operatives and non-profit community organizations know the benefits derived from the Manitoba Jobs Fund because they experience them every day.

Mr. Speaker, honourable members across the way should be congratulating Manitobans, rather than putting down the efforts of Manitobans. It's a shameful display on the part of honourable members across the way; it is a demonstration of disrespect for fellow Manitobans, disrespect for the dreams and the visions and the aspirations and the hopes, for the hard work and the dedication of Manitobans to make life just a little better for each and every one of us. The co-operative spirit, demonstrated by Manitobans throughout our province directly contributes to our overall economic strategy.

Manitobans deserve credit for their efforts in helping to turn the economy around, not to be discredited for their efforts. I believe that the characteristic which sets Manitobans apart from the rest of the country is the co-operative spirit that exists within this province. Mr. Speaker, given the opportunity to grow and to be nurtured, it is that co-operative spirit, that willingness to work together that has proven its worthiness. It hearkens to our pioneer spirit where Manitobans would get together to raise a barn for a friend in need. Well, in this instance, Manitobans, in conjunction with my government, raised our province's economic performance so that Manitobans experiencing economic recovery, before provinces to the west of us.

But once again, all that we hear - and we've heard it again today - is the customary bellyaching and put-downs by the doom and gloomers across the way. I've yet to hear a single note of encouragement or appreciation from honourable members across the way for the combined co-operative efforts of Manitobans. Mr. Speaker, there is a great deal to applaud, but all that honourable members across the way shout and holler and mutter is doom and gloom and cynicism,

fear of the future, uncertainty, indecisiveness, expediency opportunism.

What they receive from them in their mail is a publication that was deceitful at best. Let's look at the so-called Report from the Legislature. I know honourable members will recognize the face on the front and on the back.

**A MEMBER:** That's Jerry Storie.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Yes, it looks like Jerry Storie, doesn't it? I don't know whether Jerry would appreciate that - an attractive young man, lots of color, plenty of pictures, graphs, lots of writing, Mr. Speaker, sent to every homeowner in the Province of Manitoba, I suppose, lots of graphs, plenty of charts. Mr. Speaker, it records the Tory version of history through their blue-tinted glasses. Nowhere in this publication does the Leader of the Opposition tell Manitobans what his plans are for Manitoba. — (Interjection) — Well, honourable members may dispute that. I have read through this document . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** . . . and I couldn't find anywhere where the Leader of the Opposition or honourable members gave us any idea what their plans were for Manitoba, just couldn't find it anywhere, Mr. Speaker. I guess if you had the plans that the Leader of the Opposition had for this province, you wouldn't want Manitobans to know what those plans were for the province.

Mr. Speaker, instead, the Leader of the Opposition states that he truly believes that Manitobans share his vision for a better Manitoba. Well, we all want a better Manitoba. That's an easy position to assert, no great problem in asserting that position, but the real question is how do you get there, what path do you follow, Mr. Speaker?

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** It is a path that is strewn with broken promises, broken dreams, and broken spirits. It is a path, Mr. Speaker, is littered with butchered social programs. Or is to be a path, Mr. Speaker, where the dreams and the aspirations of ordinary Manitobans are listened to - they are nurtured - where quality health care, where education, other social services are cherished because they contribute to the health and to the well being of Manitobans? Or is it a path, Mr. Speaker, where the dignity gained from meaningful and productive employment has been understood, where there is commitment to providing job opportunities for all those Manitobans who want to work? . . .

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** . . . that guides us down that path to a better tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker, since we have yet to hear from the members opposite about what path they would choose, I can only hazard a guess based on past experiences, current knowledge of the approach taken in other provinces where Tories are in power. Mr. Speaker, the Tory path is not one that is paved with compassion, with humanity, and with caring.

No, Mr. Speaker, it is a path ground on the backs of ordinary men and women, where confrontation rather than co-operation is the guiding light. The Leader of the Opposition in his publication deliberately distorted the truth about Manitobans, and about their achievements. Mr. Speaker, it's time that we set that record straight. The Leader of the Opposition claims in his so-called Report from the Legislature that Manitoba is lagging behind the rest of the country in creating jobs. That's what he said in this pamphlet.

Well, Mr. Speaker, Manitoba's employment growth is more than three times the national average while employment growth in five provinces remain below pre-recession levels. Manitoba recorded a decline in unemployment rate last year. Six provinces, including the other Western provinces, experienced increased in their jobless rate in 1984. So where does the Leader of the Opposition collect that balderdash that he repeats in this document and distributes to fellow Manitobans? What balderdash, what misrepresentation, what distortion of fact, what fairyland, what fiction rather than truth, Mr. Speaker, is being distributed in documents such as that throughout the Province of Manitoba?

Mr. Speaker, Manitoba recorded - I'd ask honourable members to take their pencils and make note of this, so hopefully they can remember this next time they prepare a pamphlet, so that pamphlet is based upon fact and not fairyland - either the lowest or the second lowest unemployment rate in the country throughout 1984.

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition's report claims, and I quote, "Industrial building permits fell in the first nine months of 1984." That's what he tells Manitobans. Well, Mr. Speaker, the truth of the matter, and I would ask honourable members to further take note, is that Manitoba ranks No. 1 in Canada in value of building permits. Those are numbers produced, not by honourable members across the way, not by honourable members on this side of the House, but by Statistics Canada. If I understand correctly, we now have a Federal Conservative Government responsible for Statistics Canada, not a Federal Liberal Government, so if honourable members want to say their colleagues in Ottawa are wrong, let them go ahead and say they're wrong. For the first 11 months of 1984, the value of commercial building permits in Manitoba increased by 108 percent.

What about housing starts? Why didn't the member opposite tell Manitoba about our record in housing starts. I don't know whether I missed that in this document. I went through this several times trying to find some reference to housing starts. You would have thought that an industry as important as housing, that colleagues across the way would have wanted to raise the issue of housing starts in Manitoba. It is because the truth is hard for honourable members across the

way to swallow, and maybe even harder to recognize. Manitoba continues to lead the west in housing starts, while some provinces to the west of us have suffered declines in housing starts by about 25 percent.

Manitoba continues to lead the west in retail sales. Mr. Speaker, for 1984, — (Interjection) — maybe if the Honourable Member for Pembina would just listen for a moment and collect his thoughts, he might make a little bit of sense and make note of the fact that there's been an increase of 11.3 percent in capital investment rate that far exceeds the national rate of 2.5 percent. Let the Honourable Member for Pembina swallow that.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** How much did it drop in 1982, Howard?

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** In manufacturing capital investment, Mr. Speaker, Manitoba recorded an increase of 30 percent; a rate far exceeding the national average of 2.6 percent. Let honourable members put that in their document next time they distribute it throughout the province.

And private capital investment; let's deal with private capital investment. In Manitoba, for 1984, it was up 9.8 percent, exceeding the national rate and leading the other western provinces. These are the facts from Statistics Canada.

What do these numbers mean to Manitobans? These numbers mean jobs, Mr. Speaker. They mean a growing and a stronger economy. They mean that New Democratic Party policies and programs work, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition and honourable members across the way want to spin more fairy tales in the months ahead, then I would suggest that they do so with all the facts at their hand.

Perhaps the most telling part of the Leader of the Opposition's incomplete tale of Manitoba in this glossy publication is his reference to equalization payments. Mr. Speaker, the people in Manitoba must have misunderstood the intentions of honourable members across the way; the Leader of the Opposition; his colleague, the Member for Turtle Mountain; on the question of Manitoba's \$72 million. My Minister of Finance was joined by the Member for Turtle Mountain to pressure the Federal Government for a fair financial deal for Manitoba. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the Member for Turtle Mountain, accompanied by the Minister of Finance, went to Ottawa with the sincerest of intentions - but maybe I'm wrong. Or perhaps, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite are trying to play all sides of the ice at once, not knowing where their political interests lie.

Just look at that evasion on the part of members across the way, in this commentary that exists in this publication on the equalization payments, in this Tory publication. Well, Mr. Speaker, I know that my government knows where the best interests of Manitobans lie and that is not with a \$72 million cut in transfer of payments to the people of this province. No. The interests of Manitobans are best served by a government that will defend their right to a level of transfer payments that will help to maintain and to preserve health and education, social programs in Manitoba.

I would like you to know, Mr. Speaker, as I'm sure that Manitobans would like you to know, once and for

all - and I know I would like to know - which side the opposition is on. Where does the opposition leader stand on transfer payments? Does he say one thing in the public forum and a different thing in the Tory publications distributed to Manitobans? Does he say one thing openly from news conferences and then by way of circulation to Manitobans say another thing designed to undercut the efforts of the Minister of Finance in his efforts to ensure a fair deal for Manitoba? That is a question that must be faced up to and must be answered by the Leader of the Opposition.

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

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Mr. Speaker, since the First Minister has unlimited time to speak, I wonder if he might answer the simple question of who wrote the letter for the Minister of Finance on the equalization payments?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please, order please. If the honourable member has a question, he should ask whether a question is permitted, not go ahead and ask the question. That is a mere interruption.

The Honourable Member for Pembina.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** Would the First Minister pause for a question since he has unlimited time?

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, if I finish my remarks by 1:30 p.m., which I'm hoping to do, I'd be delighted to answer a question from the Member for Pembina, but I will not be prevented from completing my remarks because I want to ensure that honourable members have the full and complete message that I wanted to impart to them this afternoon. They may not like to hear it, but they're going to hear it, Mr. Speaker.

Where does the Leader of the Opposition stand on National Research Council cuts? Where does he stand in respect to the cut at Gimli? Where does he stand in respect to the cut at Churchill? And where does he stand in respect to cut in the VIA Rail Maintenance Centre?

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition paints a bleak picture of Manitoba of his performance, of his prospects. But, Mr. Speaker, Manitobans have not heard a word from the Leader of the Opposition on these Federal Government cutbacks. At least if there's been a word, I haven't heard it. It's been such a whisper that nobody has been able to pick it up.

Cutbacks, Mr. Speaker, that could result in the loss of some 6,000 jobs and \$400 million in investment in Manitoba. Where does the Leader of the Opposition stand on these cutbacks, Mr. Speaker? Does he stand with Manitobans or does he stand against Manitobans?

Just recently my Minister of Community Services received a letter from the - and I regret that he's not in the Chamber at this point - the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, recording yet another cutback, a federal cutback. In his letter the Member for Fort Garry noted that the Fort Garry Women's Centre is currently experiencing difficulty in obtaining funding. He also notes in his letter to us, Mr. Speaker, that "The operation



has received high marks and nothing but eloquent praise" and that, he carries on, "It would be a tragedy should this centre have to close its doors because of a lack of funding."

Well, Mr. Speaker, my government could not agree with the honourable member more, that it is a tragedy that the Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre has had to recently close its doors. But, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Fort Garry failed to point out that it is the Federal Government that has cut off the funding for the Women's Resource Centre.

I would like to know why the Honourable Member for Fort Garry has not sent a similar letter to the Federal Minister responsible for the cutback in Ottawa, and why isn't he pressuring his friends in Ottawa to continue its funding of the Women's Resource Centre? Mr. Speaker, there appears to be more politics involved in the honourable member's letter to my Minister than genuine concern for the Women's Resource Centre. Maybe it's got something to do with the present Winnipeg, Fort Garry Member of Parliament - I don't know - but it would be interesting to hear some explanation from honourable members.

The Federal Government cuts out a worthy program; honourable members call it a tragedy; and asks this government to pick up the pieces for a federal Tory cutback. You can't have it both ways, Mr. Speaker. I hear nothing about the expression of those concerns to their federal friends in Ottawa.

I invite the Leader of the Opposition to join with us, with my government, with Manitobans, to continue to press the Federal Government for a fair deal for Manitobans. Because, Mr. Speaker, all that Manitobans want is a fair deal. Manitobans do not want anything more than what is fair and what is reasonable and it is on that basis that my government has approached the Federal Government to ask for fair treatment - nothing more - nothing less than that, Mr. Speaker.

In his publication the Leader of the Opposition tells Manitoba that our . . . — (Interjection) —

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Yes, we've heard a lot about the Boissevain Land Titles Office but not a word about the NRC in this Chamber. Isn't that strange? Isn't that very interesting, Mr. Speaker? That's their priorities; that's not our priorities.

The Leader of the Opposition tells us that our agricultural community needs the kind of policies that will strengthen the family farm. My government couldn't agree with the Leader of the Opposition more in that comment. That is why my government has taken action to help farmers in our province. That is why my Minister of Agriculture has been touring our province to speak directly to Manitoba farmers, to listen to their ideas, to work together with Manitoba farmers to solve the critical problems confronting the farm economy in Manitoba.

That is why I asked for a meeting with the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker; that is why I pressed the Federal Minister just this Wednesday on his government's increase in user fees for farmers. I'm happy that the Federal Minister was prepared to state that such increases were merely a proposal. Let's hope,

Mr. Speaker, that they remain that way. I hope that my intervention and the intervention of others with the Federal Minister, on behalf of Manitoba farmers, will yet produce positive results.

But I'm curious, Mr. Speaker, that if the Leader of the Opposition feels so strongly about the family farm, as he indicated in his brochure, ". . . that new policies are needed for the agricultural community," why has he remained so silent on the question of user fees proposed by the Federal Government for Manitoba farmers? I wonder why?

Where does the Leader of the Opposition stand on the question of new and increased costs for such items as grading and inspection, cattle, hogs, sheep, seeds; or perhaps his view of new policies includes such increases, Mr. Speaker, that would result in increased cost to the Manitoba farmers of in excess of \$3.4 million? But farmers in this province did not hear one word - not one word from the Leader of the Opposition - on the issue of these fee increases.

Where does he stand on other issues, Mr. Speaker? Does he stand with Manitoba farmers or does he stand against Manitoba farmers? And what about the Federal Government's task force on agriculture, Mr. Speaker, what is commonly known as the Nielsen Task Force on Agriculture? That task force neither includes a farmer nor an individual from Western Canada. What does the Leader of the Opposition have to say about that task force? Is he satisfied that task force is representative of the farmers of Western Canada? Is he satisfied that task force is going to deal with the farmers of this province in a fair and an adjustable manner? I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, and other Manitobans would like to know. I'm sure the farm families in this province would like to know that the Leader of the Opposition agrees with the Federal Minister of Finance' White Paper on farm income, a White Paper from the Federal Government that claimed that farmers are better off financially than most other Canadians. Does he agree with that position, Mr. Speaker, because I haven't heard the Leader of the Opposition express his opinion on the Wilson White Paper.

Does he think that Manitoba farmers are part of the economic elite in this country, because again the Leader of the Opposition has been very silent. Where does he stand on these issues - crucial issues of survival for many Manitoba farmers? While the Leader of the Opposition has remained silent on these issues, my government has been working hard to pressure the Federal Government to treat Manitoba farmers fairly. My government has taken action to help the family farmers survive the current crisis in agriculture.

My government believes that the family farm is the backbone of the provincial economy. These are not to be hollow words. These words, spoken many times by my government, have been buttressed by action, action to help Manitoba farmers survive. Times are tough for farmers and they need all the friends that they can get, and in that spirit of friendship, my government has taken the following steps: Emergency Interest Rate Relief that has provided more than \$11 million to 1,250 farmers facing difficulty due to high interest rates; the Manitoba Beef and Hog Stabilization Fund, providing about \$44 million of assistance to more than 6,000 producers in Manitoba to protect them against price fluctuations; and the Manitoba Agricultural Credit

Corporation, more than 1,300 loans to farmers totalling \$77 million for the purchase of livestock, for machinery and for debt consolidation.

In addition, the Guaranteed Operating Loan Program has assisted more than 700 farmers with loans worth \$65 million. The Interest Rate Reduction Program has benefited about 640 clients, and just two weeks ago my Minister of Agriculture announced a reduction in the interest rate on all outstanding loans from Agricultural Credit Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, this action will provide \$6 million in benefits, in addition to the Young Farmer Rebate program. In addition, my government announced in the Budget a further \$20 million for this year to provide loans to farmers at 9.75 percent interest, a rate that is below the current market rate. Contrary to what the Honourable Member for Arthur had to say a few moments ago, in excess of 61 percent of the farmers would be eligible under the asset criteria announced by the Minister of Agriculture. Shame on the former Member for Arthur for again trying to mislead farmers in this province as to the applicability of that program. This initiative is part of a comprehensive refinancing program for farmers, including younger producers and those in financial distress.

My government's Budget provides for \$58.1 million to help out Manitoba farmers. In addition, \$25 million has been provided for the Manitoba Beef Stabilization Fund and the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation. The actions of my government speak much louder than the idle words of honourable members across the way. Certainly, our actions are eloquent when compared to silence from honourable members opposite.

This earth has made a common treasury for all of us to share and the farmer cultivates our earth, works the land, feeds each and every one of us. Surely the members opposite could lend a helping hand to Manitoba farmers by adding their voices to my government's efforts to try and stop any increases in farm user-fees provided by the Federal Government, to correct the misconception on the part of the Federal Government that farmers, including Manitoba farmers, are financially better off than most Canadians.

My government's economy strategy is designed to build upon the traditional economic strengths of this province. Throughout our term of office, they've been borne out by the human side of the economic equation. Our economic plans work and the proof of that lies in the number of Manitobans who are earning pay cheques to put food on their tables.

Mr. Speaker, when my government was elected, we told Manitobans our first priority was to create jobs. We have honoured that commitment. My government knows that unemployment in Manitoba is still unacceptably high and there's tremendous hardship being faced by far too many Manitobans out there, despite the vast improvement in the Manitoba jobless rate during the past three years.

Mr. Speaker, I have outlined the elements of my government's economy strategy many times. Manitobans know the direction that my government has taken and my government will continue to take; and Manitobans recognize the value of that economic direction because they benefit from it in their daily lives.

Despite the dark clouds emanating from honourable members opposite in this Chamber, on a daily basis,

on an hourly basis, in fact, minute-by-minute basis, Manitobans know the benefits that will result from the development of Limestone and the sale of power to the Northern States Power Corporation.

Northern Manitobans; Native people; construction workers; construction firms, small and medium; medium-size business people, they all know the worth of that project, what it means to them and to this province. Mr. Speaker, the members opposite do not seem to be able to see the forest for the trees, their own political trees.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Oh, oh!

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

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition believes that the jobs for Manitobans, thousands of jobs, and the spinoff benefits derived from the construction of the Limestone dam are merely an attempt to buy votes from electricians, the construction industry, from carpenters, from Northerners and the Native communities, then I'm flabbergasted by his attitude as expressed in this Chamber.

Even though the face of the Leader of the Opposition may have changed a year ago in this Chamber, it may be a fresher, a younger looking face and, maybe to some a more attractive face, but the ideas behind that face are still the same old stale, crusty, reactionary notions that Manitobans witnessed when the Conservatives were last in power in this province. Behind that face exists the same attitude and the same approach.

Northern Manitobans remember the wilful neglect displayed by an uncaring and unfeeling government. They remember that Tory administration. They remember that Tory administration that did nothing. They did nothing to alleviate the harsh conditions, the harsh economic conditions from which the people of Northern Manitoba suffered. Now, Mr. Speaker, once again, they hear from the Leader of the Opposition that funds spent in the North are wasted because Northern Manitobans, the Manitobans in the North don't matter, because the Northern Native communities don't matter. Well, Mr. Speaker, I take exception to those notions put forward by the Leader of the Opposition.

Perhaps the Leader of the Opposition doesn't realize that our province includes the North. My government is proud of the North, proud to work with its people, proud to welcome them to this province. Mr. Speaker, does the Leader of the Opposition mean that my government is gambling money away, that my government will blow it because we have designed the Limestone tendering policies, employment and training programs to ensure that Northern communities receive their fair share of the benefits stemming from the construction of the Limestone dam. If that is the case — (Interjection) — obviously honourable members are indicating from their seats that they didn't like the announcement we made the other day about the Canadian General Electric plans for the Province of Manitoba. Obviously, honourable members have indicated that they do not favour the \$10 million of

investment committed by Canadian General Electric in the Province of Manitoba. Obviously honourable members across the way do not support the hundreds of manufacturing jobs that will be created as a result of the Canadian General Electric commitment to the people of Manitoba. Let that be on the record.

I believe that the Leader of the Opposition by his remarks in this Chamber about Northern Manitobans owes an apology to the people of Northern Manitoba. In fact, I understand that just yesterday the Leader of the Opposition received some expression, a view of the people of Northern Manitoba on a CBC phone-in program which I gather was so overwhelmingly - from the reports that I had - anti-Conservative that it must have been a rather an unsettling experience for the Leader of the Opposition. That was on the Thompson radio station which the honourable members like to say was right at the top of the 52-vote margin, Mr. Speaker.

Maybe honourable members would like to ask the Leader of the Opposition about the reception he received. The construction of the Limestone dam, along with the monies earned from the sale of power to Northern States Power Company, I think, Mr. Speaker, is a great opportunity. It's a great opportunity for all Manitobans.

The members opposite may continue to wring their hands. They may conjure up rain clouds, but Manitobans know what those jobs will mean. They know what they will mean to them, to their neighbours, to their sons, to their daughters. They know what it means to the young people of this province.

I think it's well past the time for the Leader of the Opposition to wake up. I was simply, Mr. Speaker, offering some advice to the Leader of the Opposition. My colleagues tell me not to offer any advice, he might accept that advice, but based upon the experience of the last year, year and a half, I'm quite confident the Leader of the Opposition is not going to accept any advice from this side of the Chamber. He's going to continue to be tangled up in the web, unfortunately, from his point of view of misinformation and misrepresentation to the people of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I would advise the Leader of the Opposition to congratulate Manitobans for their successes. When your view of the world is so tainted by cynicism that it poisoned your very being, as is being demonstrated, unfortunately, daily by honourable members opposite, then it is very difficult to find any room for compassion, for humanitarian ideas, for caring for ordinary men and women.

Mr. Speaker, Manitobans are optimistic people. They are proud people who give credit where credit is due, who work with their neighbours instead of against them. It is these strengths of Manitobans that make our province what it is.

Mr. Speaker, my government listens to Manitobans whether the live in the North, in the rural areas of this province, in the cities of this province. I believe that Manitobans have accomplished a great deal. My government is pleased to have been able to co-operate and to work with Manitobans, to co-ordinate and harness the energies, the talents, and the skills of Manitobans to make this a better province.

My government, unlike honourable members across the way, is a vision for the future of this province; a

vision that builds upon the dreams of Manitobans, the hopes, the aspirations of ordinary Manitobans; a vision that dares to be great; a vision that sees great things for the future of this province and this province's people.

My government will not tear down those dreams. My government will not rip apart the aspirations and hopes of Manitobans. We will work with Manitobans to ensure that their dreams and their hopes are realized.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that together with business, with labour, with Northern groups, with municipal groups, community organizations, all Manitobans in our province will be strong, continue to grow and develop. We have a tremendous obligation ahead of us as members in this Chamber. We are a province - we are now 11,000 more, is that what I understood from the Minister of Employment and Income Security? Isn't that interesting, Mr. Speaker? We can welcome record growth in population in this province, record growth which, in fact, exceeds any population growth in the past 20 years, I believe.

Mr. Speaker, contrast that with two years during the Lyon Tory administration in Manitoba when there was a net loss of population in Manitoba, when Manitoba was not growing, when this province was not developing, when people were voting by way of their feet eastward and westward, because of the bungling ineptitude and negligence on the part of the former Conservative administration in this province. We welcome the growth in population and we welcome the challenge of ensuring that we develop an economic strategy with the diversified wealth of this province, whether it be the oil of southwestern Manitoba, the forests of Northern Manitoba, the mining areas of Northern Manitoba, the solid manufacturing base that exists in the province, the agricultural economy of Manitoba, the fisheries, and probably most important, the spirit and the resource of Manitobans to create and to develop a province that is moving to the front seat of economic and social development.

The honourable members across the way were quite prepared with their political inertia and their lack of imagination and thrust and their disbelief in any planning or any strategy for development, to continue to occupy the back seat of economic development. No ideas, no imagination, no confidence, but, Mr. Speaker, this is a government that is not satisfied. This is a government that is not satisfied with the present high levels of unemployment in our province. This is a government that is not satisfied with 1.5 million unemployed in Canada either.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that shares the pain and the disappointment of young people when they cannot obtain employment. This is a government that shares the suffering of Northern people and Native communities that are unable to develop a sound economic base. This is a government that is angered by inequalities that exist in our society, whether it be to the handicapped, whether it be to women.

This is a government, Mr. Speaker, that cares for people. This is a government that believes that with the development of the natural resources of this province and with our renewable natural resource, water, the development of electricity, the opportunity to export that electricity, whether it be to the east or to the west or to the south, that surplus to Manitobans, and not as honourable members would have had us

do, give it away, give it away, Mr. Speaker. And I think the Minister of Energy and Mines will confirm this, give it away, not at the price that we pay for Alberta oil, but at the best at a break-even if that.

We're not prepared to do that because we believe that the resources of this province can be accumulated, can be brought together, not for the sake of simply ringing up the cash register; not for the sake of more growth or more production; but because we believe, Mr. Speaker, and we're firmly of the conviction on this side of the Chamber that the resources of this province and the economic wealth of this province should be used to improve the human condition of Manitobans; to preserve and to enhance the health, the social services, the educational opportunities - and as financial ability permits it - to be able to improve those facilities, so we can bring about the better economic development.

**MR. D. ORCHARD:** You mean you're admitting you haven't. You're admitting you've broken your election promise.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the Honourable Member for Pembina, if this government has done so well after taking over the mess that we inherited in 1981, after travelling through the worst recession that this country has ever faced since the 1930's, it has moved from a No. 10 or No. 9 position by way of all indicators, into a position of first or second. Mr. Speaker, how much better are we going to do as a provincial economy with the economic renewal that I expect will take place in the next few years?

In case there is any hesitation on the part of honourable members across the way, don't think for a moment that Manitobans will be fooled to return to the memory lane of 1977-1981, when there was economic wealth in Canada, but there was economic disaster in this province compared to what was happening in other parts of this country.

Mr. Speaker, honourable members across the way may think that Manitobans are not astute. Mr. Speaker, I enjoy the confidence and the astuteness and the wisdom of Manitobans. Manitobans will turn their backs on the whimpering, on the doom saying, on the bellyaching that we will hear on a constant basis being howled by honourable members across the way.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I committed myself a few moments ago at the beginning of my remarks to table Minutes pertaining to a meeting of the Manitoba Marketing Board, held at the Board Room at 511 Ellice Avenue, on Thursday, April 20, 1978, at 10 o'clock, in which I had read minutes earlier in my speech, dealing with the position of the former Minister of Agriculture in the Province of Manitoba, in respect to milk quotas. I believe I have time to read that minute again just to refresh the minds of the honourable members across the way.

"The Minister advised the secretary that the policy has not changed with respect to preventing the capitalization of quotas in Manitoba. However, the Minister felt that modifications could be made to the existing quota reallocation policy that would eliminate the cost of appraisals and still prevent quota capitalization from occurring. The Minister indicated that if evidence was obtained that a person had purchased quota, then the quota so obtained should be cancelled. The Minister indicated that he expected the Manitoba Marketing Board to make recommendations to him on appropriate market-share quota transfer policy . . . "Mr. Speaker, what are we talking about in this Chamber? Was the Member for Arthur speaking with a forked tongue in this Chamber about two hours ago? I'm sure he wasn't. But, Mr. Speaker, sometimes it's good to go back in memory lane and refresh our minds, so we can separate chaff from wheat; fairy tales from fact.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The time of adjournment having arrived, this House is adjourned and will stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. (Monday).