

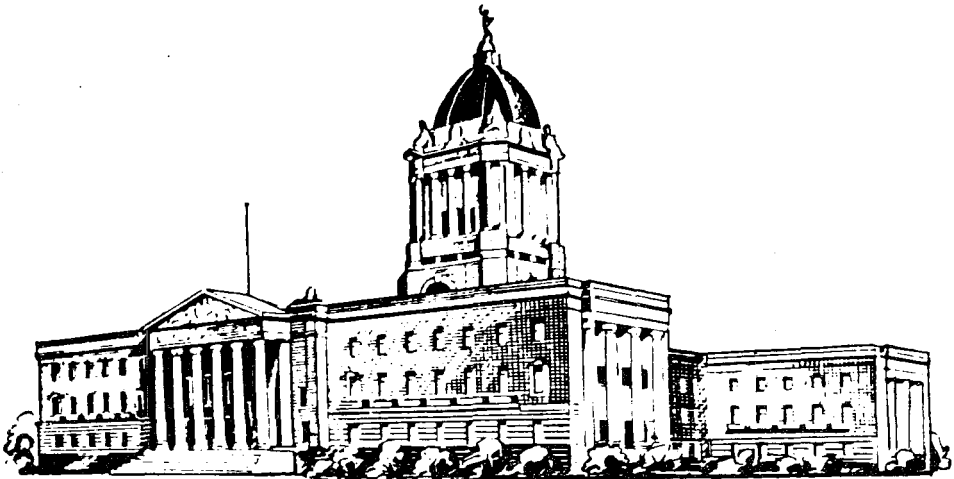


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable James H. Bilton



Vol. XV No. 19 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 17th, 1969. Third Session, 28th Legislature.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Monday, March 17, 1969

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions

Reading and Receiving Petitions

I'll take a moment, if I may here, to introduce our distinguished guests. We have with us today on my right, in the loge, the Honourable Ron Basford, Federal Minister of Consumer and Co-operative Affairs. We also have with us the Honourable Russ Patrick, the Minister of Industry and Tourism for the Province of Alberta, and also today with us is the Honourable D. V. Heald, the Attorney-General and House Leader of the Province of Saskatchewan. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Assembly, I welcome you all three here today.

I may take a further moment and introduce our young guests. We have 50 students of Grade 8 standing of the Assiniboine School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Sommerville and Miss Wohl. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. James.

We also have with us today 101 students of Grade 8 standing of the Ste. Anne's School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Courcelles, Mr. Tetrault, Mr. Balcaen and Mrs. Yestreau. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye. On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you here today.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

Notices of Motion

Introduction of Bills

HON. STEWART E. McLEAN, Q. C. (Minister of Transportation) (Dauphin) introduced Bill No. 20, an Act to amend The Highways Protection Act.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Speaker, in presenting the next bill, I wish to advise that the proposed bill has been recommended by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

MR. McLEAN introduced Bill No. 18, the Proceeds of Contracts Disbursement Act, 1969.

HON. CHARLES H. WITNEY (Minister of Labour) (Flin Flon) introduced Bill No. 4, an Act to amend The Fires Prevention Act.

MR. WITNEY introduced Bill No. 5, an Act to amend The Vacations With Pay Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. MICHAEL KAWCHUK (Ethelbert Plains): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Brokenhead, that leave be given to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance on the following subject matter: The announced intention of the Government of Canada to instruct the Canadian Wheat Board to sell wheat at prices below that established by the International Grains Agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to thank the Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains in complying with the rules of the House, affording me the opportunity of examining the contents of this motion. I must say that I have no knowledge of the official statement referred to in this motion. Consequently, it is difficult for me to give an opinion. The honourable member is aware, I'm sure, the practice of the House has been not to entertain motions of adjournment unless the specific matter concerns the administrative responsibility of this House, and this motion is, of course, of another administration. I appreciate the concern of the honourable member and, in fact, all agricultural people throughout the province. It is believed, however, that the honourable member and the House as a whole will be able to discuss this matter shortly when the agricultural estimates are before the House. As a consequence of all this, I must therefore rule the motion out of order.

Orders of the Day. The Honourable the Minister of Agriculture.

HON. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Minister of Agriculture) (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, if any of the members of the House are interested in rape, I'd like to announce a new variety. (It took a while, Mr. Speaker.)

This new variety of rape, Mr. Speaker, will be known as Polar. Polar was developed in the University of Manitoba's plant science department under the direction of Dr. Baldur Stefansson, one of our outstanding plant breeders. Selection of individual plants was made from seed stocks that have been called Polish in Canada. The outstanding agronomic

(MR. WATT cont'd) . . . characteristic of Polar is its high oil content, about 1 1/2 percent higher than that of the turnip rape varieties currently recommended in Manitoba, Echo and Arlo. The yield of oil per acre from Polar seed is also higher than that from Echo or Arlo. The fatty acid composition of this oil is similar to the composition of Echo and Arlo oil. Polar produces meal with a protein content equal to Echo and slightly lower than Arlo. In three years of trials throughout Canada, Polar outyielded Arlo and equalled the yield of Echo. The newly licensed variety matures at about the same time or slightly earlier than Echo. Its height at maturity is the same as Echo and slightly taller than Arlo. Seed of Polar will be released to specific select seed growers in Western Canada for the initial seed stock increase. No seed is available for general distribution this spring. Registered seed is expected to be generally available by the spring of 1970.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, that part of this seed is being released to Saskatchewan and some to Alberta. I thought probably our Saskatchewan visitors today would be interested in this, and I'd like to say that it's another outstanding achievement in the Science of Plants Department at the University of Manitoba.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to lay on the table of the House copies of the Manitoba Vegetable Marketing Commission Financial Report as of June 30, 1968. There are not enough copies here for individual members but I think there are enough for the opposition parties.

And also I would like to lay on the table of the House the most recent -- January 28th -- report on the damp grain situation for Manitoba and Western Canada. Again, I haven't enough copies to supply all members but I think there are enough here to supply the opposition parties.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, in answer to the question from the Member for Burrows when he asked if the Department of Agriculture had taken any survey on population trends in Manitoba, the Department has not taken any such survey. We go mostly by the census and, of course, the most recent 1966 census. There are copies, I believe however, that would be available from Westman. It's a report known as the Economic Base of Westman that I believe would be available by writing direct to Westman at Brandon.

In answer to the Honourable Member from Lakeside's question in regard to possible inquiries in Canada for high germinating spring wheat seed, and I believe durum; the only information that I can find on that is that one company did advertise through a bulletin at the Grain Exchange, but I really have not received a copy of that advertisement at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs who is in charge of the centennial celebration. Has the government designated any special location on the Legislative Building grounds for the proposed Louis Riel statue? And if so, when can the House expect an answer?

HON. OBIE BAIZLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Osborne): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet I would like to answer a question that was put to me the other day by the Honourable Member from Hamiota regarding a statue of the Queen, and offer an explanation to the honourable member and honourable members of the House. Friday morning last, I was asked the question by the honourable member if I would inform the House if it's true that a contract for several thousand dollars had been awarded to a sculptor, Leo Mol, to erect a bust of Queen Elizabeth at the Centennial Building for 1970. Well, Mr. Speaker, I acted with dispatch; I contacted the Centennial Corporation asking for information to this question because I wished to make an announcement in the House. Well, as honourable members know, it's a little awkward after the Orders of the Day and there did not seem to be an opportunity. However, some eager beavers in the Corporation released the information that I would in fact make an announcement Friday last to the House, and I offer this explanation for that error to members of the House and I would like to advise members, Mr. Speaker, that in 1966 a contribution of \$25,000 was received by the Manitoba Centennial Corporation for a statue of Her Royal Highness the Queen to be created by Mr. Leo Mol, internationally famous Manitoba sculptor, this statue to be placed in the Centennial Centre. The statue, I'm advised, nearing completion and will be ready for unveiling in 1970. I might say, Mr. Speaker, that the donors have asked to remain anonymous. The statue is, in fact, larger than life size and it will be cast in Manitoba. The location and the date of the unveiling have not been determined and will not be determined until early fall.

MR. DESJARDINS: ... Mr. Speaker, I have a subsequent question and I think the Minister, after his answer, will know why I asked this question. Is it the intention, then, of the government to do anything about determining a site for a statue of Louis Riel before 1970?

MR. BAIZLEY: Mr. Speaker, in referring to the honourable member I'm trying to answer his question referring back to the answer of our Premier, I believe, some several days ago - the matter is under serious consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brokenhead.

MR. SAMUEL USKIW (Brokenhead): I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Agriculture. Is the Minister prepared to take some action with respect to making representations to Ottawa on the whole question of the wheat situation?

MR. WATT: I'll be in contact with Mr. Pepin.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe the Honourable Member for Brokenhead has a supplementary, does he not?

MR. USKIW: I have another question. To the same minister, Mr. Speaker. (a) The Minister received a request from the Vegetable Growers Association some time ago - - that is, a request for some form of assistance to growers that suffered crop losses last year due to the wet conditions. When will the government make up its mind as to whether or not it's going to proceed with some form of assistance?

MR. WATT: The matter is under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains.

MR. KAWCHUK: Mr. Speaker, a subsequent question to the first question posed by the Honourable Member for Brokenhead. Did I hear the Minister of Agriculture say correctly that he has not taken any action as yet to this ... ?

MR. WATT: I said I'll be in contact with Mr. Pepin.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. ELMAN GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Health. Is it correct that all doctors within certain specialty sections of the medical profession have announced their intentions to withdraw from the Medicare plan, and if so, which ones are they?

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health and Social Services) (Gimli): I wouldn't know, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Member for St. George have a supplementary?

MR. GUTTORMSON: I have a subsequent question, Mr. Speaker. Has the government any intention to accede to the requests of the doctors who opt out of the plan to allow them to be paid directly by the plan?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, if anything is considered - negotiations are always going on - if anything is to be said at all, I can assure the House I will come here with it first.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with I would like to direct a question to my dear friend the Attorney-General. In consideration of the fact that a government member of the House intends to introduce a bill to provide for the licensing of denturists and dental mechanics, will he assure the House and the people of the province that no further prosecutions will take place against the denturists until the bill has been dealt with in the House?

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q. C. (Attorney-General) (Fort Garry): No.

MR. SHOEMAKER: A subsequent question. And in light of the answer that I got to that one, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask him, then, if he would attempt to intervene and see that a pending prosecution against one of the denturists that paid a \$400.00 fine last Friday will be at least delayed or postponed until the bill is dealt with in the House.

MR. LYON: No, it would be improper.

MR. SHOEMAKER: A subsequent question. Can my honourable friend tell me, and I'm referring to my friend the Attorney-General, whether or not it is a fact that the \$1,425.00 that was paid by the six denturists last Friday, did the entire money or any part of it go to the Dental Association or to the province?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, that's a legal question the answer to which is not suitable for the Orders of the Day. My honourable friend can consult the statute.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the

(MR. GREEN cont'd) . . . Honourable the Minister of Labour with respect to certain employees who have been locked out of their jobs at Gillam. Is the Department doing anything to see that these people could get their jobs back?

MR. WITNEY: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Is there any reason why the report of the Workmen's Compensation Board is not available to the Unemployment Insurance Commission so that these people could collect unemployment insurance?

MR. WITNEY: I'm not sure what report the honourable member is referring to, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GREEN: The report of the Workmen's Compensation Board which was prepared as a result of the men not going to work due to unsafe conditions. A report has been prepared by the Board. It has not been made available to the Unemployment Insurance Commission so these people who have been locked out of their employment by their employer can't collect Workmen's Compensation.

MR. WITNEY: Well, Mr. Speaker, any such reports of this type are not available to the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Could the Minister find out why this particular report is not being made available to the Unemployment Insurance Commission?

MR. WITNEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, because if there are any such reports they're not made available to the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. EDWARD I. DOW (Turtle Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a question of the Attorney-General. On Friday last there was a 15-year-old boy sentenced to an eight-year term in Stony Mountain Penitentiary. My question is: can the Minister advise the House as to the facilities that exist at the penitentiary to do a segregation of a boy of this age?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, that's a matter that is not within our jurisdiction or competence because the penitentiary is under the authority and jurisdiction of the Government of Canada. However, we all are aware, I would take it, that the federal government does have the authority within its jail system to transfer persons who are committed to those institutions to some specialized institutions that they have in other parts of Canada. Whether or not this would be done in this case is a matter that could only be answered by the minister responsible at Ottawa.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Burrows.

MR. BEN HANUSCHAK (Burrows): Mr. Speaker, with reference to the same matter, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable The Minister of Health and Social Services. Is it his intention that the Stony Mountain Penitentiary continue to remain as the alternative to the Portage Home for Boys?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, that question is improper. The Honourable the Minister of Health and Social Services has nothing to do whatsoever with determining the jurisdiction of the federal government in matters of penal reform.

MR. SPEAKER: I was about to ask the Honourable Member for Burrows if he would not accept the answer given earlier by the Honourable the Attorney-General in particular regard to that matter of . . .

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, could I direct my question to the Honourable the Attorney-General, because I was of the impression that the matter of corrections is under his jurisdiction and the provisional facilities for same, but if the Honourable the Attorney-General feels that it's his jurisdiction would he please answer my question?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend knows full well that federal penitentiaries are of the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, not of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, a subsequent question. I was not speaking of federal jurisdiction. I was speaking of provision for correctional institutions for boys, and I believe that there are such in the Province of Manitoba provided by the province, and my question was -- well, I'll direct it to you then, Mr. Minister. Is it your intention to provide alternatives other than Stony Mountain Penitentiary, alternatives to the Portage Home for Boys, other than the Stony Mountain Penitentiary?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, any juvenile who is -- and this is really not within the competence or jurisdiction of this House -- but any juvenile who is transferred to adult court and

(MR. LYON cont'd) is then sentenced by the adult court to a term in excess of two years, goes to a federal institution willy-nilly. It then becomes the responsibility of the federal government, who have authority over all persons sentenced in excess of two years, to determine what kind and what place of institution that person will be confined to.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. Is the Department of Education giving some consideration to establishing a fixed Easter holiday regardless of when Good Friday falls?

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Minister of Youth and Education) (St. Vital): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GUTTORMSON: A subsequent question. Is the Minister of Education in a position to tell us when the report from the Boundaries Commission will be tabled with respect to the Interlake?

MR. CRAIK: I have no further information to offer on that question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I see no connection between the Easter holidays and the Boundaries Commission. There are other honourable gentlemen awaiting the floor. I would hope that -- does the honourable member have a supplementary question?

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, I was talking to the same Minister so I thought it was . . . Just like the Minister occasionally will answer a question and then carry on with something else, I thought it was quite proper for me to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: . . . members to consider also.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Has the Minister received the report from the Boundaries Commission?

MR. CRAIK: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. On Friday he made a statement he is considering legislation to permit lower transit fares for our pensioners. Is he in a position today to tell us when he is going to bring such legislation?

MR. BAIZLEY: I believe, Mr. Speaker, that I said that that matter was under serious consideration. It is a policy consideration and a statement will be made in due course.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, will this be this session?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: I don't think the Minister answered the last question.

MR. SPEAKER: He didn't appear to . . .

MR. DESJARDINS: Oh, he isn't going to. So, I'd like to ask a question, then, of the Minister of Health. Has the Minister anything further to report on the proposed take-over by the province of Deer Lodge Hospital or are negotiations still going on between the federal government and the province?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, they are going on. I'll try and get the full story on that for a later date, if my honourable friend would permit.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to my honourable friend the Minister of Health and Public Welfare. In consideration of the fact that many of our senior citizens - and I'm referring to those over 65 - will qualify for premium exemption under the new medical care plan, can he assure this group that there will be some grace period allowed in order to provide them time to make out application for premium exemption? Where do they stand in this regard?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, this is a continuing process that's been going on for some eleven years. Certainly, all the social allowance cases are clear with respect to those over 65 who have qualified under the waiver of premium clause on application to the Old Age Assistance and Blind Persons Pension Board, who now qualify for hospital premium exemption, will automatically get the medical exemption. My figures are that this in total registers around 50,000 units involving 60,000 people.

MR. SHOEMAKER: A further question, Mr. Speaker. But there will be a whole new group of people now who conceivably could qualify for premium exemption, and in consideration of that -- well, my honourable friend knows full well that there are many people in receipt of Old Age Pension who never did qualify for Old Age Assistance but now could qualify for premium exemption under the plan, and it is this group that I was concerned about. But a further

(MR. SHOEMAKER cont'd) question. In consideration of the fact that many people will want to make application for premium exemption, is it the intention then of the Minister to supply the application forms for premium exemption to the municipal offices?

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, they can get them if they want them. The address is 270 Osborne Street. There is no change in the method by which they can apply for these.

MR. SPEAKER: The Member for St. Boniface.

MR. DESJARDINS: A subsequent question. Isn't it a fact that the same old age pensioner that qualifies now for non-payment of hospitalization fund will receive the same dispensation? Isn't it that simple?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, it's that simple.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, It isn't that simple and I want to ask another question. In the advertisement that appeared in Friday's and Saturday's papers, it outlines the people who can qualify so that it . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I am waiting to hear the question of the honourable member.

MR. SHOEMAKER: The question is that, in consideration of the fact that many senior citizens who are presently in receipt of nothing but their Old Age Pension, will qualify. Now, what assurance do these people have that they are covered without premium payment until such time as they can complete an application for premium exemption?

MR. JOHNSON: . . . still exempt, the premium is paid.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. What protection measures has he undertaken against flooding just south of the floodway gates; that's, to be specific, Turnbull Drive; because the Floodway does not cover, or give any protection to the people in that area below the dikes. Has he undertaken any measures in that area?

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources)(Rockwood-Iberville): No, Mr. Speaker, we have not undertaken any specific measures. If any are to be undertaken other than those afforded by the primary dikes and the floodway proper it would be a matter of municipal concern.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I'm hoping that the honourable members of the House have exhausted their questions because I wanted purposely to wait until all had done so. If that's the case, I now address a question to you, Mr. Speaker, and to all the members of the House. The question is: have the fortunes of our province fallen so low that we have to leave it to somebody whose ancestors came from just north of the Tweed to tell the people of Manitoba that this is St. Patrick's Day? Have we come to the pass, Mr. Speaker, where there is no Irishman or Irishwoman in the House? And if not, then surely someone is remiss in her or his duty for not standing up in her or his place in the House and proclaiming the fact that this is the 17th of Old Ireland - St. Patrick's Day, Mr. Speaker - and it's an amazing thing that it's left to any of the McKenzies or the McGregors or the Grahams or the Hillhouses or the Campbells, or a people of that ilk, to have to remind you, Mr. Speaker and others, that this is St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. Speaker, I have to confess that I have a personal interest in raising this. If that under Rule 12, or whatever it is, disqualifies me from speaking, then I crave the indulgence of the honourable members of the House, because I remember that for years and years it was the custom, first of the Honourable the Member for Portage la Prairie, Colonel F. G. Taylor, and later the custom of the Honourable the Member for Turtle Mountain, the Honourable Errick Willis, to place upon our desks on St. Patrick's Day a wee bit shamrock, and I must confess that I miss them because, as I have confessed to the House before, my wife's birthday (and she's Irish) comes the day before St. Patrick's Day and I used to be able to -having of course got her nothing for her birthday - I used to be able to take the shamrock home to her and pretend that I was just a day late in thinking of it, and the last few years I've been deprived of the shamrock even, so that I've been unable to make that peace offering, and the shillelagh has at times been called into play as a result. So, Mr. Speaker, I trust -- one of the beautiful ladies of the Chamber, I see, is attired in a colour today that might indicate that she had more than a passing interest and I noticed that the Minister who left the front row a short time ago, no doubt ashamed of himself having not raised this matter, was wearing a green tie, but outside of that I see no

(MR. CAMPBELL cont'd) . . . evidence about -- ha ha, there's an Irishman here, I see. We have a stranger in the House, Mr. Speaker. I call attention to the fact that there's a stranger in the House sitting in the seat of the Honourable the Member for Inkster. It's been invaded by an Irishman here. Well I thought, as Scott makes his bard to say, that: "Though all the world betray thee, one sword at least the right shall guard, one faithful heart shall praise thee," and I thought if all the rest of you are going to let this great day pass unnoticed, then at least we neighbours and near-o'-kin of the Irishmen will call to your attention, Mr. Speaker and the others, the fact that today we honour St. Patrick.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I thank the honourable gentleman for bringing this important matter to the attention of the House and I took note of the fact that there was something akin to the 17th between he and his wife and I will be very glad to accommodate him with a little shamrock to take home so that he'll still be a day late. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I wasn't . . . with the questions. I have a question that I would like to direct to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Could he indicate any progress or give any further information in connection with the development of the Pembina River basin since its last meeting with the federal authorities last week?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I have nothing further to indicate at this time. I would be in a position to report more fully at the time of my estimates.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources is now prepared to answer the question which I have asked twice, regarding the effects of the Greater Winnipeg Floodway on the flow of water at Selkirk?

MR. ENNS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'm happy to confirm the earlier answer, that is, the earlier answer by some two or three years that the former Minister of Agriculture, Mr. George Hutton gave him. We don't anticipate any change for the flow patterns around Selkirk as a result of the Floodway being in operation. In other words, I confirm the answer that you received at that time.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Honourable Mr. George Hutton, the answer he gave was that the flow would be reduced.

MR. ENNS: That answer still holds true today, Mr. Speaker.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. Address for Papers. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, I move, seconded by the Member for Lakeside, that an humble address be voted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Manitoba or any of its boards, agencies, commissions or corporations, and James Bertram and Son Limited of Edinburgh, Scotland, or James Bertram and Son (Canada) Limited or any of their affiliates with respect to the establishment of a paper production machinery plant at The Pas.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to accept this Order for Return, subject to the legislative restrictions that are placed on such orders, and subject to the exception of any correspondence or papers of a confidential nature, or correspondence or papers dealing with matters currently under negotiation.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, I move seconded by the Member for Lakeside, that, an humble address be voted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Manitoba or any of its boards, agencies, commissions or corporations, and River Sawmill Limited or any of its affiliates (including Churchill Forest Industries) with respect to the establishment of a sawmill at The Pas by the aforesaid company.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, we're prepared to accept this Address for Papers subject to the same conditions and exceptions that apply to the previous one moved by my honourable friend

(MR. LYON cont'd) in all respects.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate of the Honourable the Minister of Finance. The Leader of the Opposition.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, we were not intending to call that item today. In the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, we would ask that we call instead the motion to move the House into Committee of Supply.

MR. SPEAKER: . . . that the House resolve itself into Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Finance) (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, at this time and before the Committee convenes, I would like to raise a grievance. This grievance, Mr. Speaker, I raise primarily on behalf of the people of this province, who are presently uncertain as to what this government is doing with regard to the provision of health services starting on April 1st, 1969, and I submit, Mr. Speaker, that their uncertainty is not so much with regard to which doctors will or which doctors will not practise within the medical care plan that this Legislature has enacted, their uncertainty is: what is the government doing with regard to the situation which has developed? And we have sat here in this House, Mr. Speaker, earlier in the day, and heard the Minister in charge of this program indicate to a member who asked a question that he is unable to say whether certain specialists are in, he is unable to say whether certain specialists are out, and, Mr. Speaker, he makes these answers with all the indication that he appears to be singularly uninterested in that particular aspect of the matter. Not only does he not answer but he gives every indication that he not only has no intention of finding out, but has no intention of doing anything about the question which was raised. So the first people, Mr. Speaker, who have a grievance before this House at this time are the people of the province who do not see their government acting. They see them acting in accordance with the First Minister's pronouncement of last year, that "we are sitting and watching the situation," and they sat and watched for two years and apparently they are prepared to sit and watch for two years more if they have the opportunity of doing so.

I bring this grievance, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of another group and, though there's no reason for it, I think that some people would find it surprising that I'm addressing myself to this group. I bring this grievance on behalf of a certain number of people in the medical profession, Mr. Speaker, who have indicated that they are going to serve this province in accordance with the provisions of the medical care program. And it's those people, Mr. Speaker, those learned men of the medical profession who have decided to go along with this problem, to go along with the elected representatives of the people in this attempt to provide proper medical service, who are going to be hard done by if the attitude of the government continues.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when this plan was enacted we on this side of the House, and the people in my party particularly, were prepared to suggest that if the natural laws took their course that the great proportion of doctors would practice within the plan. If there was no pressure one way or the other, Mr. Speaker, I think it would be obvious that this would occur. And there is good reason for it to occur. The plan is prepared to handle all the collection costs for those doctors who are in, which, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that any businessman, and particularly a doctor, would agree is worth 15 percent of his fees or 15 percent of what he says his fees should be. So, quite naturally, the incentive merely of not having any collection problem would have been, we submit, a good attraction for doctors to practise within the plan. And furthermore, Mr. Speaker, it would also have been a good incentive if normal economic laws took their course. It would have been a good enough economic incentive for a physician to practise within the plan, that he would have an advantage over those who practised without the plan because he would be charging a lesser fee. He would not be, first of all, calling upon the patient to pay an extra fee; secondly, he would not be putting the patient to the trouble of receiving his account, sending his account on to the medical insurance program, receiving it back, and then perhaps sending it on to the government. And we considered and I still consider, Mr. Speaker, that in the absence of other economic pressure, that the doctors of Manitoba in substantial number,

(MR. GREEN cont'd) . . . and, Mr. Speaker, I go further, - by great majority - would have practised within the medical plan just as they chose to practise within their own Manitoba Medical insurance scheme.

But that's not what has happened, Mr. Speaker. I suggest to you that, during the last several months and because of the delay which has taken place in the enactment of this program and in the implementation of it, that certain things have happened, and the first of which, Mr. Speaker, is that I submit that there is now taking place discrimination amongst the doctors themselves, that the whole group of doctors who are choosing to opt out of the plan are exercising pressure on doctors who are in the plan by saying that their patients would not be referred to them if they practise within the plan. And, Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that I may choose to frown on this practice, or that people may choose to frown on this practice, it's done, and can be done. And this is one of the economic pressures that will be used and I understand is being used by doctors to pressure people to opt out of this program.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, and this has happened in the Province of Saskatchewan and I submit to the Minister of Health that it's the kind of thing that could happen in Thompson, Manitoba, that people who are in charge of hospital services and hospital facilities are going to discriminate, as they did in Saskatchewan, against doctors who are opting to practise within the program.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is the type of pressure that can be used by people who choose to use that type of pressure and really there is not a great deal that can be done to avoid it. What we are suggesting here, Mr. Speaker, is that the government has not done anything, and as a matter of fact, and I'll come to it in a moment, I think that the government is even going to do worse than do nothing. There is a great suspicion in my mind that the government is going to give another prize to those doctors who choose to opt out of the plan. And if they do so, Mr. Speaker, they're going to encourage every doctor in Manitoba to opt out of the plan - and I'll come to that in a moment. But what they have already done, Mr. Speaker, is that they have permitted, in the past two years, the doctors to maintain the position that it is wrong and harmful for a person to be provided with medical service unless they personally participate to some extent in the payment for that service.

Mr. Speaker, that's interesting because today I phoned a private insurer - a private insurer. Somehow this makes them a favourable person and my honourable friend the Member for Souris-Lansdowne should perk up when I say "private insurer." I phoned a private insurer of medical care costs; I was told by that insurer that they have been selling medical care insurance, that it has been for sale for the past year. This is not a secret. It's been advertised in the paper that they will pay the full cost of medical fees and the doctors, Mr. Speaker, surprisingly won't refuse. Apparently, receiving money from a private insurer, even receiving the whole fee with no patient participation, is not immoral and doesn't interfere with the practice of good medicine, and they've been doing it all along. And you can buy it today if you want to. And people have bought it, have had their medical fees paid for, and the doctors have not refused to treat those patients. So, we now have the medical profession confronting the public with this program: that we are prepared to accept full payment of our fees, with no patient participation, and with no deterioration of services, provided that it is supplied and paid by a private insurer.

Now once the profession, Mr. Speaker, starts to take that position, then obviously they are asking for the government to exercise whatever economic pressure it has in order to see to it that they opt within this plan, and I have been always one who has respected the right of a doctor to opt out. I say that if he doesn't want to practise within the plan, that's his right and he should be permitted to do so. But let him accept the consequences of that right, and let we, as the people of this province, indicate that we are in favour of those doctors who are opting into the plan.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I indicated a few moments ago that I am suspicious and I apprehend that this government which has permitted the doctors to do what they have done in the past two years, and that is to raise the medical bill for the people of Manitoba from \$30 million a year to \$50 million a year in two years -- they permitted that. They've permitted them to open up their system so that they extra-bill their patients, something that they never did under their own medical insurance plan. Mr. Speaker, they always accepted full payment under MMS, and they merely, they merely added on the -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, my understanding of the plan was . . .

MR. LYON: . . . always have had the right to extra bill.

MR. GREEN: . . . that if they accepted payment from -- up until two years ago, yes.

MR. LYON: Yes. Well.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, up until two years ago, if they accepted payment from MMS, they accepted it as full payment of their fee. Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll let the Attorney-General bring facts to show that to be wrong. That is my understanding of the situation and I have no fear of asserting it.

MR. LYON: . . . always had the right to extra bill over \$10,000.00.

MR. GREEN: That up until two years ago, if they accepted payment from the MMS, they accepted it as full payment of their fees, and I know nobody who got a statement before two years ago. But nevertheless that's not the question. What I do know -- well the Honourable the Attorney-General can afford to laugh about this question. I just came back from Thompson, Manitoba, where indeed I was given something to laugh about but it wasn't the medical situation in Thompson, Manitoba because in Thompson, Manitoba a group of doctors who control the hospital privileges of anybody who wants to come there, and I understand people would go there if they could be assured that they would practise in the hospital and they can't get that, and the Honourable the Minister of Health has said that that's up to the hospital board -- he won't even look at that. He won't even encourage a doctor to go from Winnipeg to Thompson, one who will opt in the plan, on the basis that he could assure him medical privileges -- or hospital privileges. And I submit, Mr. Speaker, that this is within the Minister's purview, that that particular hospital used to be owned by the International Nickel Company, that it's now a hospital which receives substantial provincial and federal aid, just like any other hospital, and the people there don't even know how the board is appointed. So, when he talks about the community appointing that board, well, it's just a fiction which he chooses to go along with in order to assert his own position. But I've indicated, Mr. Speaker, that . . .

MR. DESJARDINS: . . . member would permit a question? Has the board of the hospital refused the right to any doctor to practise in the hospital?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether they have. I merely asked the Minister in this House -- (Interjection) --- I asked the Minister in this Chamber whether a doctor who wished to go to practise in Thompson, Manitoba, could be assured medical privileges in the hospital. And the Minister answered that he could not assure him of that.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, could I just correct the honourable member. For the obvious reason. He has to be competent.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I now have the floor and the Honourable Minister is not asking me a question, he wants to debate with me. I welcome his participation in the debate.

MR. LYON: He wants . . . to be honest.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, is the Attorney-General suggesting that I'm not honest?

MR. LYON: No, just "accurate." That's a more polite word.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, my remarks and the Minister's answer are on record in Hansard.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I didn't hear the Attorney-General question the honesty of the honourable member, so therefore I couldn't give an opinion. I feel confident that he didn't. Am I right in this?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I heard him. He said he just wants to be honest -- he wants you to be honest. That's what he said.

MR. SAUL M. CHERNIACK, Q.C. (St. John's): . . . Mr. Speaker, on a matter of privilege, that when the Honourable the Attorney-General has something to say, that he stand up when he says it, so you, Mr. Speaker, can hear what he says.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I'd be glad to do that. The ancient art of heckling doesn't seem to have any approval with the NDP. They just like to do it but not to receive it.
-- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: I wonder if the Honourable Member for Inkster could go along without any further interruption.

MR. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I've indicated that I believe that the medical profession, because of things that I have read and because of the arguments that they are now making, particularly in Thompson, Manitoba, they are asking for, literally they are asking to have their cake and eat it too -- to use an old cliché. The question was asked by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, I believe, as to whether the government is considering giving these people who have opted out of

(MR. GREEN cont'd) . . . the plan and say that we don't want your filthy lucre from the public, that they are considering giving them the right to receive an assignment from the patient - and they will choose the patient - and when this assignment is given, they can stay out of the plan, stay out from under its medical review board, and charge in addition 15 percent or any other percent that they wish, to charge, according to the Attorney-General, and still opt out of the plan, and that they are considering doing this.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think I can safely say that if the Minister proceeds to give them this assignment he will chase every doctor in Manitoba out of this plan because, on that basis, there will be no reason at all to be within the plan; that any doctors who have chosen to go along with the people of the Province of Manitoba who have legislated this plan will be looked upon as suckers by their brethren and will be driven to get out of the plan, get the assignment, get the money and then charge whatever they want. Now, Mr. Speaker, if the government wishes to continue to behave as though it wished to wreck this plan -- and that's the way it enacted it by the way. It enacted this plan with all the enthusiasm of a jockey who is pulling on the reins of his horse because he's supposed to lose and not win the race, and that's the way they've been proceeding for the past two years -- if they continue to proceed in this way, and we are warning them against it so they won't say that they weren't told, they will drive every doctor who has indicated he will practise under the plan out of doing so.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we say that they shouldn't provide them with this assignment, that if a doctor chooses to collect his fees on his own that he go ahead and do so. But we say something more. We say that the government should use whatever economic pressure it has to see to it that doctors do act in the plan. And they've done nothing in this regard. We think that they should indicate to the people of Manitoba that included in the medical plan will be a periodic list of doctors who will work for them on the basis of what the plan pays. The people should at least know which doctors have chosen to work within the plan. We think that if the doctors are so concerned against social participation in medicine, if they insist on being rugged individualists, and that's their right to do so, that those doctors who don't wish to practise in the plan indicate so when they're going to medical school, and I think we should start right now. And then I say, don't keep them out of the school, no. But let them pay the costs of the school. Let them not accept any public monies on the basis of receiving their medical education. I think -- Mr. Speaker, I think that this is exactly what these people want. They want to be --

MR. LYON: . . . intimidation.

MR. GREEN: This is not intimidation.

MR. LYON: Marxist intimidation.

MR. GREEN: This is -- Mr. Speaker, this is the use of the pressure which is available to the government to see to it that these doctors come within the plan.

MR. SPEAKER: I was listening rather intently to the honourable gentleman. Would he mind resuming his seat for a moment? He informed the House at the beginning, as I understood it, that he had a complaint and he is making his point insofar as complaint is concerned, but I sort of sense that he is discussing policy right now. I wonder if the two are married.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, they are.

MR. LYON: Well, Mr. Speaker, now that you, Sir, have raised the point of order, I was hesitating to do so thinking that my honourable friend -- I am speaking on a point of order -- thinking that my honourable friend perhaps would wind up what he had to say in this regard very quickly as is the custom with a grievance procedure on the motion to go into Supply. Because, Sir, as you are no doubt aware, the principle as enunciated in Beausnesne Article 234 Page 198 about the ancient doctrine of the redress of grievances, does place certain restrictions upon the utilization of this period, which is a hallowed period, for members to arise and speak on behalf of individual constituents or group of constituents with respect to grievance, and without in any way attempting to say that what my honourable friend is debating is not within the interests of the House - of course it's within the interests of the House - but then again of course the rules are devised to ensure that the debate is carried on in the most propitious circumstance in which it can be carried on. And one of the rules that applies - we find it in Article 234 - is that when such a motion is proposed - and I'm quoting now from Beausnesne, "it shall be permissible to discuss any public matter within the powers of the Federal Parliament" read that "provincial Legislature" "or to ask for the redress of any grievance, provided that the discussion shall not relate" - shall not relate - "to any decision of the House during the current Session" - that doesn't apply - "nor to any item of the estimates" - that does apply - "nor to any resolution to

(MR. LYON cont'd) be proposed to the Committee of Ways and Means" - that probably applies - "nor to any matter placed on or whereof notice has been given on the Order Paper."

And so I suggest to my honourable friend and to you, Mr. Speaker, that while we've been listening with a great deal of interest to what he has had to say allegedly as a grievance on this motion to go into Supply, that what he is saying should be properly said during the discussion of the estimates or on one of the points, as indicated in Beauschêne, if it is appointed for discussion in estimates or in Committee of Ways and Means, and I suggest that the topic that he has selected unfortunately today does fall into that category, that then, Sir, you have to consider whether or not the debate on this particular topic at this particular time is in order.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I'm sure the honourable member would appreciate that it isn't my purpose to confine his remarks out of all his intent to plead his case, but at the same time I'm sure he will co-operate with me in that regard and keep to the matter of his complaint rather than discussing of policy which he appears to be doing on occasion during his remarks.

MR. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will certainly --

MR. LYON: Could I just add, on the point of order, that certainly from this side of the House we would not want this procedure that has now been embarked upon to be considered in any way or construed in any way as a precedent, because certainly the point will be raised again if this type of debate comes up again under the allegation of being a grievance to go into Supply.

MR. SPEAKER: I feel at this time that the House I'm sure understands my feelings that when a complaint is made I expect the complaint to be made in the shortest concise manner under this particular part of the debate, and if it goes a little beyond that it is always my considered judgment that the honourable member intends to complete his remarks at the earliest possible moment, and this I try to do and give the honourable members the benefit of the doubt.

MR. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I intend to proceed on the basis of the rules just as was quoted by the Attorney-General, and I don't want to waste any more time on the point of order which has more effect on limiting my remarks than the point of order. Mr. Speaker, my complaint has been made on behalf of my constituents. This is a subject which I know those people don't want to hear discussed and they're behaving in that way.

MR. LYON: But in the right place.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, my complaint is being made on behalf of my constituents and it's being made on behalf of doctors who have chosen to go along with the government plan. That's a direct complaint. The points which I am dealing with are directly leading to that complaint. I'm suggesting that in answer to this complaint that the government must do things which make it not uncomfortable for doctors who are in the plan but uncomfortable for doctors who are out of the plan. In other words, if my learned friend the Attorney-General chooses to call that Marxist intimidation, I suppose he'd call the other capitalist intimidation. I don't choose to use those terms.

Mr. Speaker, I note that the medical profession has also indicated, as another form of non-intimidation, that it's going to charge in Thompson, Manitoba, 10 percent C. O. D. medicine, and in the case of those who are opting out they are also sending a letter asking for 15 percent in addition to what they are going to receive, for the government, or indeed any percent. Now, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens again of Manitoba, I am suggesting that there is an answer to the medical profession and I am suggesting and I'm asking, as a complaint, for the government to give them this answer, that they need not pay that 15 percent and that they need not be intimidated into being forced into a position of accepting services only on the basis. And I'm suggesting, Mr. Speaker, a letter that the government could suggest to the citizens of the Province of Manitoba to answer doctors who send them a statement for the additional 15 percent: "Dear Doctor, I am in receipt of your statement claiming payment in excess of the amount payable to you by the Manitoba Medical Services Insurance Fund. I understand that your main purpose in submitting this account is based on principle, namely, that you believe that medicine cannot be properly practised unless the patient assumes personal responsibility for a portion of his medical fees. I respect your right to act in accordance with your principles and I am certain that you will respect my right to adhere to mine. I am firmly of the belief that society generally should be responsible for payment of each person's medical costs, and I also believe that it should be possible to negotiate a fee acceptable to the doctors. In order to pursue my principles, I accordingly refuse to make payment of the additional amount claimed. If you take legal action to recover these fees, I will defend against your action on the grounds that your activities constitute injurious price fixing.

(MR. GREEN cont'd)

"I note that your statement indicates that you are willing to waive this extra fee if my financial circumstances warrant this consideration. I am very reluctant to discuss my financial position, sound or unsound, with others. However, I too am touched to charity by difficult financial situations and would be very willing to discuss yours with you, and if I feel that your circumstances warrant it I will consider forwarding the additional payment or perhaps an additional handout as well."

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think that the complaint that I make is that the government is doing nothing to encourage doctors into the plan. I go further; I suggest that the government is on the steps of encouraging doctors to get out. I suggest that now is the time for the government to act to make the program, which they very reluctantly indeed legislated, a suitable one for the citizens of this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. DOW: Mr. Speaker, last week the question was raised to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources in regards to the feeding conditions of deer in the Province of Manitoba, and in my constituency, which is considered one of the more prolific populated areas of the deer and one of the big attractions in Manitoba for the hunters and game people, we have a large herd of deer. We have also had in the last several months, since early winter, over 60 inches of snow. Last week-end I made it a point to investigate this in my particular constituency, and I find that the farmers are trying to feed the deer by bulldozing out certain strips and on their own money buying protein supplement pellets and alfalfa. If you have no idea, Mr. Speaker, as to the conditions, I had some pictures taken of the deer in the snow and I think now, in the interests of Manitoba and the protection of our natural resources, that the Department would be well advised to make some public program announced so that farmers could be compensated for the feeding of the deer.

A MEMBER: What about the wolves?

MR. DOW: In the province, the deer now are very susceptible to the wolves. They can't move around, and I would plead with the Minister now to make some announcement publicly and the sooner the better, because if we don't do it quickly we're going to have a large deer loss in population. I have these pictures of interest to any that wish to see it and it's pitiful to see the deer having to move around in this kind of . . .

A MEMBER: When were they taken?

MR. DOW: They were taken last Friday. So it's here, and my constituents are quite worried, Mr. Speaker, the fact that they are trying to keep these deer alive but the Department, to my knowledge and to their knowledge, have not announced any public program of support.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains.

MR. KAWCHUK: Mr. Speaker, I also want to take this opportunity to air a grievance on behalf of my constituents which I have been in touch with during the week-end, and that is with respect to the matter I hoped I'd raise early this afternoon but unfortunately it was ruled out of order. And I hope to take this avenue of approach to air my grievance on behalf of my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, as you probably are well aware, this matter is of serious consequences to the people of Manitoba and I thought that perhaps by now the Government of Manitoba would have taken some steps to make representation to the Government of Canada with respect to the announced intention of cutting the price of wheat under the International Grains Agreement, and I was more than mildly shocked this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, to learn from the Minister, the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, that no such action has as yet been taken. Of course, Mr. Speaker, I'm referring to the story that was carried in the Friday newspapers which says, "Canada Fights Back - Wheat Price Cuts Okay - Wheat Board to match competitors' bids but . . ."

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I regret I must interrupt the honourable gentleman in that he is obviously using this means to deal with something that I have ruled out of order, and I believe having ruled it out of order it must stay there for the time being anyway.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. May I just address myself to your ruling. You ruled that it was out of order insofar as an emergency debate was concerned. Surely, Mr. Speaker, it doesn't . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I'm referring to the contents of this motion which I have ruled out of order and . . .

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and your ruling was based on the fact that an emergency

(MR. GREEN cont'd) debate . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The honourable gentleman cannot question that ruling or discuss that ruling.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, are we not permitted to give whatever assistance we may possess with regard to a ruling before it is made? On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I've heard the Attorney-General get up and talk on a point of order . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ethelbert Plains, I am sure he appreciates the avenue I am trying to travel and I know he'll co-operate.

MR. KAWCHUK: Thank you very kindly, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the Minister has not yet made representation to the Government of Canada, I would like to submit some facts and figures for his consideration so he can more appropriately make representation on behalf of the people of Manitoba, and the farmers of course, to the Government of Canada.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could rise on a point of order. I judge my honourable friend is now trying to debate the matter that was previously declared out of order because it is not within the competence of this House. And I would merely point out to you, Sir, that under Rule 234 of Beauchesne the same restriction applies to a debate on a grievance. In other words, it must be a matter that is within the jurisdictional competence of the Legislature of the province before it's in order.

MR. KAWCHUK: Mr. Speaker, I'm not an authority on the parliamentary procedure. However, my understanding is that your ruling out of order was on the matter that I could not get the leave of the House to move a motion of public urgency. However, this comes under different jurisdiction and . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The honourable member has the privilege of bringing a grievance at this particular time. That is thoroughly understood. There is no one questions that whatsoever. His point of grievance now, it would appear to me, would be in the direction of something that has already been ruled upon in the House today. I wonder if his terminology to handle his complaint could not be directed in that manner avoiding, so to speak, the contents of that which has been ruled upon today.

MR. KAWCHAK: Well, thank you very kindly, Mr. Speaker. I would certainly wish to impress upon the Minister, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, that he take all possible steps to make representation on behalf of the people of Manitoba, who are very concerned over the fact that their commodity, namely that of wheat, has now been, or it has been announced by the Canadian Wheat Board that their commodity will be selling on the world market at a somewhat reduced price, or a price under the International Grains Agreement, and that, Mr. Speaker, of course as you will appreciate, makes a very strong bearing on their economic situation, not only of the farmers but of the province of Manitoba as well, and I would like at this time to ask the Minister to take immediate action, through the accepted channels, to appeal to the federal government to implement a two-price system of wheat which apparently they are presently discussing and as yet have not been able to make up their minds whether to do so or not, and today's story in the Free Press -- I can't find it right here, but it made reference to the fact that the Minister of Trade and Commerce in the federal House is seriously contemplating the introduction of a two-price system for wheat in Canada and it is considered that it would be in the neighborhood of ten cents per bushel.

As you probably are well aware of the fact, the federal government came to the assistance of the western Canadian farmers a year ago last July - July 1, 1967, when the extension of the International Wheat Agreement was not permitted and we operated without an International Wheat Agreement for one year, and at that time the federal House had made support prices available to compensate the farmers of western Canada for the losses they incurred for that period. I think perhaps a similar move would be appropriate at this time, and I would ask the Minister of Agriculture to do everything within his power to bring to the attention of the federal House that this measure should be instituted at the earliest possible moment. Thank you very kindly, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Souris-Lansdowne in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members of the committee, Page 26, Transportation. We were on No. 2, Operations, Planning, Design and District Offices, .

(The balance of Resolution 99 and Resolution 100 were read and passed.)

No. 4, Motor Vehicle Branch (a)--passed, (b)--. The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. PETER FOX (Kildonan): Mr. Chairman, I'll just take a moment of the House on this question. I wonder if the Minister could give us assurance that policy is being considered in regard to people who are commercial drivers not having their license revoked if they have an infraction during their pleasure hours. This is still a perennial problem with people who are working people and whose sole livelihood is through driving a vehicle. Even though the appeal set-up has been expedited and speeded up a bit, it still means loss of work sometimes as much as three, four weeks at a time, and this is really an injustice to people who earn their livelihood this way.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm happy to inform the honourable member that we have under consideration legislation which we believe will deal effectively with the problem to which the member has made reference. I'm hoping that we may come to an arrangement that will be satisfactory.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, could the Minister indicate to us, not necessarily of course the exact legislation, but the way a proposal of that kind would work. I must say, Mr. Chairman, that it seems to me to be a difficult job to tackle, and if the Minister feels confident that he has something coming up, perhaps we should postpone lengthy discussion until that time. Let me just say in passing and in anticipation that, though I have the highest respect for the point of view of my honourable friend the Member for Kildonan, I still think this is an area where we have to tread very warily, because I'm convinced, myself, that what we need is more strict enforcement, not methods to make it easier. While I recognize the logic of my honourable friend's argument, yet I think that the people who depend so greatly upon their driving privileges should keep that in mind during their off-hours as well, so that they don't get into this kind of a situation. I mention that, Mr. Chairman, not to delay matters now but to once again place myself on record, as I think I have many times in this House, that I view with considerable alarm the tendency of making it too easy for people who have been convicted of serious infractions to get their driving privileges back. I don't perhaps argue this with the same force and effect as my honourable friend the Member for Gladstone, but I certainly do feel that we could have cheaper insurance and, what is of more consequence, we could have lives saved and pain and suffering avoided and economic loss considerably curtailed if we had more strict enforcement, not less strict, and while I have every sympathy for the position that some people find themselves in, yet I would think that my honourable friend the Minister, Mr. Chairman, will need to have all the qualities of a "Daniel come to judgment" if he is going to be able to find the satisfactory solution for the problem that my honourable friend for Kildonan raises. Now, if he can give us some idea of how he would propose to do that, I would like to have it now in advance. If he can't give us at this time the main bones of the policy that he has in mind, then I would at least like to put in a reservation, as far as I am concerned, that I would want to consider any such move very, very carefully.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, any change would require legislation and to that extent there would be the full opportunity of discussing the plan that would be put forward, and I would just say that and perhaps we wouldn't want to debate it twice, but I have no objection to indicating the general approach that we are considering, and that's correct that the members should know. What has been said by the Honourable Member for Kildonan and the Honourable Member for Lakeside of course does illustrate the difficult problem there is of following a line somewhere between which is fair and equitable to all concerned and, of course, ensures the highest degree of safety that it is possible. The problem arises because there are those who have chauffeur's licences and who earn their livelihood operating a truck or a bus or whatever the case might be, but who, well, off duty may have an infraction -- that is, while driving their personal car or vehicle, may have an infraction which results in the loss of their licence and thereby, of course, impedes their ability to earn their livelihood at which they may have had a perfectly proper driving record.

The proposal put forward by the Manitoba Labour Council is that such a person should have two licences, and that of course the only one that would be affected would be the one

(MR. McLEAN cont'd.) depending upon what was occurring. The concept of two licences has not been favourably looked on by any jurisdiction in Canada, and I believe perhaps not even on the North American continent, and is not favourably considered by ourselves. We see great difficulty in that connection. Our thought at the moment is that we might meet the legitimate problems that arise by legislation that would permit the chairman of the Licence Suspension Appeal Board to grant an interim licence, an interim right to operate a commercial vehicle, pending the application to the full board for the interim licence, and that that could be done on a day-by-day basis. We would, however, propose to spell out the very strict circumstances under which that interim approval, limited, as I say, to a certain number of days and designed only to accommodate the period during which a formal application could be launched and heard, to indicate that that would be done under circumstances which would in our opinion be proper. For example, and I'm only -- because we haven't settled this yet -- but if it was the first occasion, that would I think weigh heavily in granting such an interim limited right to continue with the person's work. On the other hand, if it was the third or fifth occasion, I think perhaps our inclination would be to say, "No, we'll wait for this matter to be heard by the Licence Suspension Appeal Board in the regular way," and all I'm meaning to indicate is that we are considering an arrangement, basically through the Licence Suspension Appeal Board, but to a single member for a limited period to enable the normal process of an application to the Licence Suspension Appeal Board to be heard and I believe that if we can arrange it in that fashion, and subject of course to the approval of the Legislature because it would require legislation, that might take care of the situation described. I want to indicate that I believe we understand the problem. We are anxious, where it appears proper to do so, to be of as much assistance as we can. We don't want to go to the two-licence system.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, my reason for raising it at this time is the same reason that we try to sometimes make our point with Mr. Speaker before he gives his ruling, because once he has given his ruling we are not allowed to debate the question with him or even to present the arguments that we think are forceful. Something the same situation applies once the government has introduced legislation, because those of us who have been sitting on this side of the House have found from experience that once the legislation is introduced it seems to be very difficult for my honourable friends on that side of the House to display that openness of mind that they always suggest to us that they possess. So, like raising your point of order with Mr. Speaker before he gives his decision, I want, before the legislation comes in, to make my point. That point, briefly stated only for emphasis, is that I think that in general the laws themselves the administration, including the Licence Appeal Board, whatever the proper name is, has been tending to be too lenient in view of the situation that we face, and that the question of automobile insurance, on which I very seldom speak in this House, Mr. Chairman, is very very closely linked up to that, and I do not urge that as being the prime consideration. The prime consideration is the fact that every year in Canada, every year we have a tremendous number of people and relative proportions in the province of Manitoba who are killed, a huge number that are maimed, tremendous suffering and great economic loss. Those are the important things, and I think that we have to be very careful of anything that is coming forward that could in any way cut down the restrictive nature of our legislation in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, the numbers of motor vehicles increasing every year, the capacity of those motor vehicles to go faster and faster, more of them on more highways, is a problem of the affluent society and it's one that we have to consider very carefully, and once again I simply enter my disclaimer that I'll likely be found among those who are urging that we are very careful about extending the so-called privileges to the drivers that commit infractions of a serious nature because I think the privileges of the public are of much greater concern than those driving privileges of the ones who get into this position.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, on the matter that's just been discussed, I think I mentioned on previous occasions that when licences are suspended because of infractions and so on, that we should, however, try and give the breadwinner an opportunity to go back and forth to his job. And I still feel that a way should be made open to them so that they could avail themselves of it, probably that we just restrict the driving to the time that he's employed, or the hours that he's employed, and after hours that the restriction then be placed on them. I think this would be one way of doing it. I for one could not go along with the second licence or the way I understand it of having two licences.

(MR. FROESE cont'd.)

Mr. Chairman, I was called out briefly just when you called out the previous resolution. I was wondering whether I could make a few remarks in regards to the previous motion. This has to do with the matter of highway maintenance. I asked the Minister a question the other day in connection with their policy as to servicing the public roads, and when he answered he pointed out that there were districts set up in the province - and we have a schedule of this on the first page of the brochure that was handed to us the other day - which outlines also the work that is to be done on the various roads in the coming year, and here we have 12 district offices mentioned. My question

MR. CHAIRMAN: up under Resolution No. 102. We've already completed Resolution No. 100, and I think we'd be wiser to bring it up under Resolution 102, under Construction of Provincial Trunk Highways, Provincial Roads and Related Projects. Will that be all right with you, Sir?

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, we are still on 101 aren't we?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 101 - yes, Motor Vehicle Branch.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, I was wondering, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister does have figures before him to show the number of persons in the Province of Manitoba who in last year, in the calendar year rather than the fiscal year or any other way that's convenient to you to provide the information to the House, the number of persons that had their driver's licence suspended or their motor vehicle impounded as a result of some infraction; and the number who made application to the Suspension and Appeal Board to have their driving privileges restored; and (3) the number that were successful in their application, because this would be interesting, I think, if we had those figures.

I'm rather inclined to agree with my honourable colleague the Member for Lakeside, and I know first hand, Mr. Chairman, the problems that an insurance agent has when a person gets his or her driving privileges suspended, because immediately that person runs to the insurance agent and says, "Look, all I've got to get is a Proof of Financial Responsibility Certificate and I can get my licence back." Well, it isn't that easy, as my honourable friend knows, but it strikes me that most of the persons who make application to the Suspension and Appeal Board get their driving privileges reinstated - most of them do that make application. Now, sometimes it is restricted, but I would like to have the figures.

And then too, Mr. Chairman, I made the statement the other day that the former registrar, Mr. Baillie, made the statement that he could "Tell well in advance the 5 or 10 percent of the drivers in the province that caused 50 percent of the accidents". Now that's what the Registrar of Motor Vehicles said. What does the new registrar say in respect to this? I think Peter Dygala has been promoted, and he's a good man and we have had lots of correspondence with him, but if it is a fact that these gentlemen, because of the statistics that are available to them, can tell or predict these repeaters - that's a term that they use, and a term that we use in the insurance industry - the repeaters, that is a person -- I think it's generally acknowledged that a person that has had three accidents in three years is far more likely to have another accident pretty quick than a person who's never had one, and my contention is that the law should get a little rougher with these repeaters because this is the point that Baillie was trying to make, that it was these repeaters and repeaters that were causing a lot of the problem.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the other subject that I would like to raise here, and I think it is proper to raise it on this item, is in respect to the power toboggans. I used to call them all skidoos, and that was advertising one particular manufacturing firm when you did that. But the power toboggans and -- is the government considering new legislation in respect to the use of same? I said at the last session that every Friday going home and every Sunday coming back into the city to attend the session, on both sides of the highway in the ditch you would see toboggans by the dozens. About two weeks ago yesterday there were no less than a hundred. There were 27 in about a one mile stretch. I think they were out for some races or something that was on that particular day and probably no harm was done, but I can't see any point at all of there being laws on the statute books to say that it is illegal for them to be on the road allowance, that is between the two fences or on the right-of-way, if it's all right for them to be there, and this is where they pretty well are obliged to travel, either that or get permission from the owner of the land that is adjacent to the highway. So what I'm saying is that, in consideration of the fact that they practically all travel on the ditch anyway, we might as well amend the law and let's make it legal for them to travel there, because as the way it stands

(MR. SHOEMAKER cont'd.) now, as I see it, actually they're all breaking the law. Am I right or am I wrong in this respect? -- (Interjection) -- No, I want to get some answers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member from St. George.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Would the Chairman be kind enough to let me refer to one item back? It skipped by before I caught hold of it. It's just one question, and it's with respect to 3 (d). I notice that this year we're spending \$55,000 and last year it was 65,000, and this year now that we have the Narrows Ferry disbanded and the bridge across the ferry, why is the amount only \$10,000? I would have thought it would -- because the operation of that ferry is substantially higher.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I can't really -- we have the Hecla Island Ferry, St. George ferry, St. Adolphe ferry. There's one less than there was, the Lake Manitoba Narrows ferry. That's our estimate of the amount required for the ferries this year.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, I guess we're on 102 now, are we?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I didn't finish 101, but I was wanting to get it done.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Well, I was waiting for some answers to the

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motor Vehicle Branch - \$1,866,965. Resolution 101--

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I assume the Honourable Member for Gladstone-Neepawa is wanting me to say something, and that's always a very dangerous thing to do in this situation. I'm sorry I cannot give him the statistics with regard to licences suspended, vehicles impounded; I do not appear to have it here with me. I'll be glad to see that it is supplied. I had the impression that I had tabled a report that has this information, but I'll just check and make sure.

The Honourable the Member for Gladstone-Neepawa has made reference many times to the former registrar being able to tell in advance who would have an accident. Mr. Chairman, if we had any such person in Manitoba that could tell that, he'd be worth more money than we could pay him in the Province of Manitoba. What I'm sure the registrar was saying at the time was that statistically you could tell that a certain number of persons would have accidents, and my guess is that the present registrar would not likely go any further beyond that. But let us also remember that when accidents occur, people become - that is for the first time or that is in their driving experience - come to the point where their position as drivers have to be considered, and that's what is done. We have a whole staff who spend their time counselling, dealing with, talking to, and in many cases, no doubt, suspending driving privileges or putting the driver on probation or giving some limited right to drive. So I'm not really able to engage in any discussion about any person's ability to tell in advance who is going to have an accident. As I say, if there was such a person around I'd be glad to hire him if I had enough money to do so.

I've already indicated, Mr. Chairman, that we have under consideration legislation with regard to the subject of power toboggans. I'm not able to say whether or not it will be introduced. We are watching some legislation that has been just more or less recently introduced in Ontario, and watching the effect of that. I'm well aware of the problems; I'm well aware of the deep personal interest of the Honourable Member for Gladstone-Neepawa. It's a subject which has confounded the authorities in every province of Canada and I'm not really certain that we're able to recommend to the House a solution to the problems that are related to the operation of power toboggans, but certainly we have it constantly on our minds and are considering what legislation we ought to recommend to the House in connection with it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 102. Construction of Provincial Trunk Highways. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I was starting off before in connection with the matter of maintenance of roads, and I was referring to the chart on the second page of the brochure that we're receiving giving an outline of the district offices of which, according to that sheet, shows 12 of them in the province. Mr. Chairman, are we not having a duplication of services because of the districting in Manitoba? I would like to see a map of the various districts in the province. After all, we still have our municipalities as well and they look after other roads, and I understand from previous years that the government has contracts with certain municipalities to maintain certain roads. I would like to know from the Minister how many contracts are in existence and to what extent do we have duplication here of services. How much do we spend in capital on equipment for the purpose of maintaining these provincial roads from the district, because we know that the municipalities too have the equipment of their own and are performing

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) a lot of work in maintaining the roads that do not come under the provincial jurisdiction. I would like to hear from the Minister whether there's not an overlapping here and also whether we are not having too much duplication of services here.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm happy to inform the Honourable Member for Rhineland and the members of the committee that there is no duplication. The situation is that the department is responsible for the inspection with regard to all provincial roads; namely, provincial trunk highways and what we know as provincial roads, and nobody else has that job. That job is the job of the department. Now there are two ways in which any particular road might be actually looked after in terms of dragging or maintaining it and snowplowing and such like. I don't mean two ways for each individual road, but two methods. In some instances, arrangements are made for municipal equipment to maintain a particular provincial road - they don't do it on highways but a particular provincial road. That is done under the direction of the staff of the department. In other instances, of course, equipment belonging to the Province of Manitoba does the work, again of course under the direction of the district concerned. There is no overlapping as between districts; there is no duplication as between municipalities, because the municipalities simply, where they do do work, provide a piece of equipment and the operator and the work is done, as I say, under the direction and supervision of the officers in the district.

I cannot tell the honourable member how many contracts there are with municipalities, although I would think that we have such an arrangement with practically every municipality in the Province of Manitoba; some more than others, depending upon the equipment that they have or the equipment that the province has, and we try to make a proper arrangement depending upon the circumstances in each case. But I would think that if you assumed that practically every municipality in Manitoba does some work for the province on provincial roads, on some of the provincial roads in its municipality, that you would be correct.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could provide us with a map outlining the various districts throughout the province, because I note here that for my particular area the closest office is Carman, and I would take it that several surrounding municipalities would be included in that particular district. I have no way of knowing just what area is included in the particular district.

Then too we have heard from the Minister that they do have contracts with certain municipalities to supply certain services. What about vice versa, the other way around? Does the government make some of their equipment available to municipalities on occasion when it is needed by the municipalities, or how does this work. I have no objection actually; the system seems to be working fairly well. But then, as I pointed out, I would like to know just how much do we spend on equipment for the various districts, how much is involved, because we know that municipalities are buying heavy equipment and that this heavy equipment costs a lot of money. Then also, on the other hand, when I have seen crews repairing, as far as hard surface roads, I'm sure it's the district offices that do that type of maintenance and repairing. However, when it comes to just working it with a grader this is a different matter and I take it that the municipalities perform a lot of that work. So if I could get some information along these two requests I would be thankful for it.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, there are some instances when provincial equipment does work on provincial roads at the request of the municipality concerned and for which we charge a rental. My impression is that that occurs more often in relation to snowplowing in cases of emergency, such as for example recently there was a storm in the southwestern, or at least the western part of the province, and we were happy to do everything we could to assist municipalities to quickly plow out their roads. I think that would probably be the most often. Now a map of the districts - I would be glad to look and see if we can -- we have to draw them out by hand because we don't have any maps that are sort of published with the districts on them. I would think that -- we'll look at that.

Now the equipment - let me see - we had on the 1st of April, 1968 - and I wouldn't think that this would be correct - I see a figure here of undepreciated value of equipment \$3,705,000, but I would think that doesn't just quite look like the figure that ought to apply. I notice that in 1967-68, for example, that we received \$3,258,163 from rental; we had \$676,500 depreciation; and we bought new equipment in the amount of 381 thousand-odd; and replacement equipment of 394 thousand-odd. Obviously what I haven't got is the value of our machinery at the present time. I would probably have to undertake to advise members later of that figure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Gladstone. Pardon me, were you speaking?

MR. SHOEMAKER: I'm sure I would speak if I had the opportunity, but I was ready to give way to my honourable friend the Member for Carillon. However, is it right and proper to discuss under 102 the Orbits? It says related subjects here - Highways and Related Subjects - and certainly these orbits are related to the highways. But I wonder if the Minister could supply the House with the number of orbits that are presently situated on highways, both trunk and provincial, if there are any in the Province of Manitoba, and the number that had to be replaced last year because of destruction of one kind and another. Now a good friend of mine told me that in one day's travel he counted 12 that had burned - in one day's travel in a small section of Manitoba. So it would be interesting to know how many replacements did we have to make last year and for what reasons. Were they all burned or did some people smash into them with their cars and destroy them? How many disposable bags did we buy? I heard that there was a million - a newspaper report said there was a million. Well if that's so, surely they have a supply that will last us all this year and part of next. And then, too, I'd like to know what are the cost of them installed, that is the cost of the orbit itself and then the actual cost of putting it on the highway, that's the grade and the men, the time that's taken and everything else. So if we could have that information -- if my honourable friend doesn't have it readily available, well surely he could supply it to the House tomorrow.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (Carillon): Mr. Chairman, before the Minister answers, he mentioned that approximately \$400,000 worth of equipment was replaced and about \$400,000 of new equipment bought. Is the trend of your department that you wish to replace or have less rentals than you have now, either private or municipal, because I think a lot of the -- especially the rural municipalities are very conscious of them being able to rent some of this equipment to the provincial government. And I was just wondering, before you got up, if possibly you could indicate a trend in this direction. It seems to me from what I've been seeing that there is a trend that they're going into buying more and doing more of their own work. Now this may be more economical, I don't know, but I do believe a lot of the rural municipalities are very dependent on this kind of revenue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 5, Construction of Provincial Trunk Highways.
The Honourable Minister.

MR. McLEAN: Mr. Chairman, I'm really not certain - in answer to the Honourable the Member from Carillon - I'm not certain that there's any particular trend. I, and I believe the department, are very conscious of our obligations to the municipalities which arose at the time that many what had formerly been municipal roads were taken over as provincial roads, and we're trying to honour not only the arrangements made but the spirit of the way in which that was ended, and I don't think there's any particular trend one way or the other. Now in some instances we've withdrawn perhaps the use of municipal equipment. We don't encourage municipalities to buy new equipment simply to do work on provincial roads. If they don't have the equipment, we don't think it's a good idea to encourage them to get equipment so that they can do so, but for equipment which they have and which can be usefully used we try to be fair.

I'm strongly tempted, Mr. Chairman, to say something about the information that has been requested by the Honourable Member for Gladstone-Neepawa but that would only raise a debate. I'll do my best to get this information; I'm positive it won't be here by tomorrow.

MR. FROESE: When negotiating contracts with the municipalities, is there really negotiation taking place or is it just that the government gives an offer and that either you accept it or not. Is there negotiation taking place in these contracts?

MR. McLEAN: No, Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't say there's negotiation; in fact we don't have anything that I'm aware of in the way of formal agreements, it's an arrangement worked out with the council by a representative of the department. I think we try to be as helpful as we can to the municipalities do the job of looking after the roads at a reasonable cost.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 5 Construction of Provincial Trunk Highways - \$25,437,000.
Resolution No. 102 -- passed.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Page 25. Department No. XIII - Tourism and Recreation. No. 1 - Administration. The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Tourism and Recreation)(The Pas): Mr. Chairman, my first remarks should be to express appreciation for the opportunity to head up the Department of Tourism and Recreation, a most interesting and exciting department of this government, a department which is associated with an industry, the future predictions for which stagger the imagination. I'm happy to be associated with the department that will be making a very substantial contribution toward the economic well-being of our province in generating tourist dollars, a department too which contributes to the use and enjoyment of leisure time activities for our own citizens as well as those of our visitors.

Before getting into the work of the Department I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Deputy Minister, Mr. Guy Moore. Mr. Moore brought with him to Manitoba a wealth of experience and personal knowledge gained from many years of public service at the most senior level in the Province of Ontario. His enthusiasm for the work of this Department is unstinting and I would like to express to him my sincere appreciation for his leadership. His directors, Mr. Eagleton of Administration, Mr. Danyluk in Parks, Mr. Organ in the Tourist Department, Mr. Gordon Taylor in Research, Mr. Al Miller in Recreation, are all men of experience and devotion to their particular specialties and to the public service of our province, and I want to thank them and their staffs for the fine work which I have the honour to report on at this time.

The broad objectives of the Department of Tourism and Recreation are to promote the tourist industry as a major contributor to the provincial economy; to design and develop a provincial park system for the recreational enjoyment of resident and visitor alike, a program directed at conserving the scenic and recreational values of our parklands for the present and for future generations; to assist communities in the development of recreational programs that are designed to enable Manitobans to find fulfillment through recreational pursuits; to foster and encourage community leadership in the planning and operation of these programs; and finally, to develop a broad research program to ensure that the future development of our plans and programs are based on the changing recreational patterns and the needs of our people.

The department has developed, from the amalgamation of 1966 of several branches of government which were working in different but related fields; the Tourist Branch promoting tourism, Parks Branch in the development of parks and recreational areas, the Community Recreation Branch assisting communities in the organization and providing of a wide variety of recreation programs. To these branches was added the branch of Research and Planning which will assist us in future development.

The first department I would like to report on is that of the Tourist Branch. More than a hundred million in export dollars is now being injected annually into the provincial economy with the assistance of programs of the Tourist Department. For every one of our 987,000 people the tourist industry brings two and a half paying vacationers and visitors into the province. This influx, in turn, creates full-time employment for many Manitobans as well as hundreds of part-time jobs for students in the summer and for other part-time workers. With Canada's Centennial celebration, Expo '67 and the Pan Am Games, 1967 was an exceptional year. However, preliminary figures for 1968 indicate that we have been successful in maintaining the momentum created by the extraordinary publicity and interest generated in 1967. Estimated figures for 1968 indicate that 2,473,000 visitors came to Manitoba during the year and spent approximately \$107,860,000.

What is it that brings two and a half million visitors to our province and what is it that we have to offer? I'd like to recount some of these for the benefit of our committee. This province of 251,000 square miles equal to the combined areas of Minnesota, California and New Jersey, has nearly 40,000 square miles of lakes and streams. Among the more than 100,000 lakes that make up the water surface of the province, Lake Winnipeg with its 9,320 square miles is the ninth largest inland sea in the world and is 200 square miles larger than Lake Ontario and nearly as large as Lake Superior. This vast water area means that we have hundreds of wide open uncrowded areas for the use of Manitobans and visitors as they enjoy our various water sports. One of the most popular vacation activities is swimming, with boating, sailing and water skiing enjoying a growing following. Fast gaining in popularity is scuba diving and the hundreds of lakes give devotees ample room to practice this activity.

Our lakes teem with fish and many species - lake trout, northern pike, pickerel or

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.) . . . walleye, brown, brook and rainbow trout, splake, Arctic char, Arctic grayling, whitefish, perch, sauger, goldeye, sturgeon and kokane salmon. Fishing is thus one of our major attractions as anglers from all over the United States flock to the province each spring, summer and fall. Since 1958 a system of master angler awards issued by the Department of Fisheries has seen close to 9,000 medals and certificates won by fishermen from all over the North American continent. In 1968 alone more than a thousand were issued, well over five hundred of these going to anglers from twenty-eight states in the United States. Awards are issued on receipt of notarized certificates that the angler has caught a specific fish weighing the minimum or more required for the species. For example, a lake trout must weigh a minimum of twenty pounds, a northern pike eighteen pounds and a pickerel eight. The weight scales down according to the size and species of fish. This fact alone would indicate that in this province we have one of the finest sport fishing areas in the North American continent if not in the entire world. To this end, and to the end that we shall maintain this position, close to 150 million fish fry are produced in Manitoba hatcheries and are sown in lakes all over the Province of Manitoba.

We've developed a fine park system and the work is continuing. Eight provincial parks are now in public use in all regions of the province, and a ninth, Asessippi is in the early stages of development in the area of the Shellmouth Dam. We are thus endowed with one of the finest park systems in Canada with 4,396 accommodation units for trailer and tent travelers. In addition there are some 5,000 accommodation units in private campsites across the province. Other type tourist accommodation includes hotels, motels and lodges providing some 587 different establishments comprising a total of 12,551 individual accommodation units. In terms of dollar investment this represents a total of some \$89,111,000 over a ten year period in capital expenditures.

In addition to these vacation activities, visitors come to Manitoba to share in the many festivals and fairs which are part of our life. The Trappers Festival at The Pas, the Canadian Power Toboggan Championships at Beausejour, and the Manitoba Winter Fair at Brandon all draw their quota of visitors from near and far during February. Winnipeg's Manisphere, the former Red River Exhibition, and the provincial exhibition at Brandon attracts visitors in the hundreds of thousands each June, while the end of the month sees the centre of activity focused on Flin Flon for the annual Trout Festival. Excitement and thrill of the rodeo turns Morris into a major population centre for five outstanding days in July as the town hosts the second largest stampede in Canada. Swan River also increases its population during its outstanding annual Northwest Round-up and Stampede. The Canadian National Ukrainian Festival at Dauphin, a sunflower Festival at Altona, are major August attractions bringing in visitors from all over North America as well as bringing in people of Ukrainian and Mennonite backgrounds home for this occasion. Icelanders also wend their way to Gimli for the great *Íslendingadagurinn* or the Icelandic day festival. Farm buffs make Austin their headquarters for the annual threshermen's reunion when old time steam threshers and other machinery are seen in action.

Manitoba is almost synonymous with hunting as our province is recognized as providing some of the finest waterfowl and upland game bird shooting in the continent. Liberalization of big game laws has brought more hunters to the province for moose, deer and black bear. Manitoba is no longer a summer and fall vacation area as winter sports are being developed on a broad family participation basis. Skiing is building a great following with no less than four major resorts, one under the supervision of the Parks Branch at Falcon Lake catering to everyone from the youngest through family groups, to the more dedicated athletes. One of the fastest growing winter sports in which all members of the family may participate is power tobogganing.

Not all visitors come to Manitoba to enjoy outdoor vacation pursuits. Many thousands come to delve into our rich history, to share in our cultural life and to just generally relax. In Winnipeg we now possess one of the finest concert halls in North America. The Centennial Concert Hall in one short year has already seen performances by world renowned artists, and in particular by our own world famous Gold Medal winning Royal Winnipeg Ballet which makes the hall its headquarters.

The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra has won acclaim for its performances under the batons of world leaders in the field of music. In addition, Manitoba's annual Music Festival grows larger both in size and in recognition. This year alone extra time has been required to

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... allow some 2,700 entries, involving some 27,000 men, women and children, sufficient time to perform.

The Planetarium in our Centennial Centre has been judged as one of the finest and most modern in North America. Since its opening in July, 1968, the various programs presenting the mysteries of outer space and the wonders of the sky have played to capacity audiences. The Planetarium also provides excellent programs for children as part of the educational curriculum. Centennial Centre will be complete in 1970 during our own Centennial year, when the Museum of Man and Nature and a science research lab will be opened to the public.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery provides year-round exhibits of works by Canadian and world renowned artists and sculptors. The Manitoba Theatre Centre enjoys wide popularity with its presentations featuring actors of world fame and is also recognized as one of Canada's leading actor training schools. In this area Winnipeg boasts Canada's only active outdoor theatre, Rainbow Stage, where well-known Broadway musicals are presented on summer evenings during July and August.

Historically, Manitoba is a virtual gold mine with its upper Fort Garry Gate; its lower Fort Garry, oldest stone fort of the early fur trade days still intact in North America; St. Andrews on the Red, the oldest stone church still in use for public worship. Travellers to the north by car actually drive over part of the route followed by Henry Kelsey in his exploratory journey westward from York factory. At Churchill there are the renovated ruins of Fort Prince of Wales, while in many parts of the province plaques, reminders and museums spell out our early days. Too, there is the mystery of the Indian Rock Mosaics near Betula Lake in the Whiteshell, and the rock paintings for the more adventurous in the remote areas of eastern Manitoba reached only by boat.

Visitors also like to enjoy the pleasure of meals in relaxed, comfortable and friendly surroundings. This they find, along with excellent entertainment, in the fine restaurants of Winnipeg, whose excellent cuisine has become a byword in Canada. These are but a few of the many surprises and facilities that we have to offer our visitors to Manitoba, and I might add to Manitobans as well.

In 1968 the major programs in which the Tourist Branch participated include the following. Advertising programs in national publications and newspapers aimed at our prime market area, and the production of new Manitoba publications and films to attract prospective visitors. A successful writer tour program in which professional travel and outdoor writers and editors were invited to Manitoba and encouraged to produce major newspaper and magazine stories about our province. There are a very large number of magazines and publications that have used such stories, including Argosy, Outdoor Life, Field and Stream, Sports Afield, Sport Fishing, True Fishing Yearbook, Fun Afloat and Ashore, Mechanics Illustrated, and others. I have a number of articles here if any of the members would at some time care to look at them during my estimates; they have some very excellent stories of the wonderful potential of this province for those interested in our outdoor life.

We also participate in the Canadian Government Travel Bureau with other western provinces in in-store promotion at the Shopping Mall in the greater Chicago area. We initiated a convention reception program to encourage the 40,000 convention visitors to stay longer in our province, or to return for their vacations. We implemented a direct mail program as another means of attracting more tourists to our province.

One of the most important planning steps to be taken in 1968 in relation to the local tourist industry was the holding of hospitality seminars and management training programs. These seminars and programs provide training for Manitobans who work in the service industries in how to greet and how to treat our tourists so that they will want to come back. I suppose I could say that we call this back home northern hospitality; we might also refer to it as western hospitality because this is the thing on which our country was built. These seminars were held throughout the province and included seminars in Melita, Killarney, Brandon, Boissevain, St. Pierre, Clear Lake and Winnipeg.

In 1969 our proposed program includes a good many items, some of which I would like to comment on now. Because of the provincial centennial celebrations coming up in 1970, we have an outstanding opportunity during the next two years to bring Manitoba to the top of tourist lists of interesting and exciting places to visit. We plan a promotional program in selected media using four-colour advertisements designed to sell Manitoba as a friendly, accessible, convenient place to visit. It will also emphasize that although we have plenty of wide open

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... uncrowded beautiful space, we also have the comforts demanded by today's vacationers. I also have here some of the proposed ads that we will use this year, a scene from I believe Lake Winnipeg showing the wide open beach area. It's headed up, "Miles and Miles of Exotic, Sun-soaked, Fresh Water, Fabulous, Bikini, Groovy, Shimmering White Sand". I don't know whether the Member for St. Boniface would understand some of that modern terminology - groovy and bikini - in any case, we also have one in the French language here for use in French language areas. We have a scene depicting "The friendly Manitobans in a very convivial scene in one of our metropolitan eating establishments". These are some of the ads that will be appearing in our prime market areas.

We also propose to promote special events by radio in the nearby market areas in the northern United States. Outdoor advertising will be used for the first time this year on selected highway locations in the northern United States selling Manitoba as the vacation destination for people of Minnesota and North Dakota, and participation in the Canadian Government mall promotion in Minneapolis in late May where a major effort will be made to try to promote the various activities in our province.

We'll be expanding the promotional dollar by entering into co-operative promotions with major companies throughout our major market areas. We'll make an effort to co-ordinate the various festivals and special events, hopefully to achieve a continuous program throughout the year, and to assist organizers in developing a professional and organized approach to their various productions. We hope to expand the hospitality and management training courses throughout the province; improvement in reception services by holding training seminars for Chambers of Commerce and other tourist reception personnel; and continuation of existing programs for upgrading tourist accommodation through advisory services of the department.

Provincial parks and recreational areas in the province recorded a total of 1,775,805 visitors during 1968. While this total represents a slight decrease from the record number of visits in 1967, it is understandable in the light of our unusually wet weather that plagued the province during the summer of 1968. However, the trend in park use is upwards with 1968 showing a marked increase over 1966. Our figures indicate that there is a continuing and growing enthusiasm for outdoor recreation experience.

Planning for future developments in the parks system is being continued. A master development plan has been prepared to guide the development of Asessippi Park; detailed development plans have been prepared for the group use area and the central core of Birds Hill Provincial Park; for Phase I of Spruce Woods; and for the specific areas of Grand Beach, Turtle Mountain Provincial Park and Winnipeg Beach recreational areas. These plans are essential for the orderly development of parks and are a key in the phasing and programming of branch activities. With an eye to the future, land requirements for the parks system studies of potential sites along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg and in the Interlake area will be carried out.

An inventory of recreational facilities in the province was started in conjunction with the federally-sponsored Canada Land Inventory and the Canadian outdoor recreation demand study. A study of the visitor use patterns of the Whiteshell Provincial Park was started as part of the outdoor recreation demand study. The fishing in the Whiteshell was also examined as part of a co-operative study with the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Mines. Developments in 1968 included work in the Whiteshell Provincial Park, Birds Hill, Winnipeg Beach, Grand Beach, Norquay, Asessippi Provincial Park, Paint Lake, Bakers Narrows, Clearwater Lake, Oak Lake, and there was considerable work done in improving the recreation areas.

Our development of plans for 1969, which are included in these estimates, include work in the Whiteshell Provincial Park - there'll be a continuation of improvements to hiking and power toboggan trails, campgrounds, docking and beach facilities, picnic sites, access roads and the Falcon Ski Slope, continuation of erosion control work on the Winnipeg River. St. Malo - we'll be building 100 additional completely serviced campsites and we'll be renovating the parking lot. Grand Beach - construction of a new beach, change houses, construction of boat launching facilities. Birds Hill Park - paving of roads and parking areas to be completed, extension of sewer and water services, completion of campground areas with landscaping and irrigation system, construction of visitor reception centre with an extensive landscaping and tree planting program. Spruce Woods Provincial Park - development of the initial phase of overnight camping and day use areas, construction of pavilions, shelter and washroom

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... facilities, improvements in the lake areas. Asessippi Provincial Park - continued construction of park facilities. Turtle Mountain - completion and new campground and day use area at Lake Adam. Completion of beach facilities and day use areas at Oak Lake, Electrification of 25 campsites and construction of boat launching facilities and dock facilities at Clearwater. At Duck Mountain Provincial Park will be the installation of a new water supply, construction of washroom, boat docking and parking facilities, landscaping and minor road improvement and clean-up of the 1966 storm damage. Bakers Narrows - the electrification of an additional 30 trailer sites, installation of additional washroom facilities and water supply. Paint Lake - initial development of a group use area and extension of camping facilities, construction of an extension to a cottage subdivision road. Manipogo - electrification of 25 trailer sites, construction of docking facilities. Overflowing River - the completion of the campground area facilities. There'll be a program of continuing improvements to wayside parks throughout the year.

Special projects. The Parks Branch will complete the wildlife studies now under way at the Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain Provincial Park. The master plan for the Whiteshell Provincial Park will be completed and studies will be initiated for the preparation of master plans for both Grass River and Clearwater Provincial Parks. The continuing program of acquisition of recreational land will be carried out in accordance with the branch's long range plans.

Community Recreations Branch. This branch was established to assist communities in developing their recreation programs to meet the needs of their residents. This is done through recreation consultants who visit and advise community leaders and discuss the availability of services. These consultants assist in the organization of leadership training, workshops, clinics and regional conferences and other programs needed in the upgrading of recreation in their areas. In 1968 the Community Recreations Branch assisted in the establishment, and worked with, 92 municipal recreation commissions, resulting in an increased interest in activity at the local level and co-ordination and mobilization of local resources. Established an office in Brandon to provide increased service to the western regions of the province. The appointment of a Creative Arts Consultant has resulted in the institution of arts and crafts training services, increased co-operation with provincial cultural organizations, and program assistance to senior citizens. Holding local and regional recreation conferences, clinics, workshops for community leaders. Improvement of facilities at the Gimli Recreation Leadership Training Centre initiated and carried out through the use of the Manpower corps. Helped place 20 summer recreation directors in a Manitoba community to assist improvement of existing programs and development of new ones.

A particularly valuable contribution of the Community Recreations Branch is the operation of the leadership training centre at Gimli. This centre is in use throughout the year for such purposes as leadership training for community group leaders, orientation courses for summer recreational directors, arts and crafts courses and sports clinics. The centre is also used by other government departments and has played an important role in training programs under the auspices of FRED for people living in the Interlake area.

During 1969 it is proposed to continue the effective programs of 1968, and in addition to institute drama and music training courses for community recreation leaders and to provide assistance in training recreational leaders for the Indian-Metis communities of our province.

Research and Planning Branch. The Research and Planning Branch is involved in all aspects of research that affects the operation, policy, and long-range planning of the department. Two major studies are currently under way in co-operative ventures between the federal, provincial and territorial government. The first of these projects is one designed to determine the demand for outdoor recreation in Canada and to develop techniques which will allow sound forecasts of future demands. The second project is known as the Domestic Travel Survey. The purpose of this study is to develop sound data on the inter and intra-provincial travel by Canadians in Canada. These two studies will have important implications for the planning for outdoor recreation and tourist development in our province.

In 1965, in order to determine the east-west poll of tourists, the Tourist Branch carried out a study of the known resident vehicles entering Manitoba from Ontario and Saskatchewan. A similar study was carried out in the summer of 1968. The data that has been compiled, and the situation as far as numbers and origins of visitors to Manitoba, is much clearer. It is planned to develop sampling procedures to enable these accounts to be up-dated every year so

(MR. CARROLL Cont'd.)... that trends may be established.

A study of the vacation and pleasure trip habits of the residents of Minneapolis and St. Paul metropolitan areas in Minnesota has just been completed. In this study the prime interest was in how many take vacations, where they go and what interests and activities are important to them. In addition, we have examined the data collected by the Canadian Government Travel Bureau in their 1967 Auto Exit Survey. In this study drivers of known Canadian vehicles leaving Canada were interviewed during the summer of 1967 at selected border crossing points. The data has been presented in such a way that it has been possible to identify the visitors to Manitoba. A similar study was carried out in 1968 and the computer tables are now ready for analysis.

Another study is almost completed for the Community Recreations Branch. In this study we set out to determine the attitudes of young people to organize recreation. We invited some 60 young people to Gimli in February of 1969 and had frank discussions of recreation and the relevance of recreation programs to youth.

A number of feasibility studies on resort operations in the Province of Manitoba are planned for the coming year. The purpose of these studies is to determine where resort hotel operations are economically viable in the province.

The Manitoba Arts Council, which was provided for in legislation, is now being established. The aims and objectives of the council are to promote the study, enjoyment, production and performance of work in the arts, and for the purpose the council may make grants to assist in these purposes. They may provide, through an appropriate organization, for grants and scholarships or loans to citizens of Manitoba for study and research in the arts; to make awards to citizens of Manitoba for outstanding accomplishments in the arts. The council will make a significant contribution to the rich and very cultural life of our province.

The Historic Sites and Objects Advisory Board has now been appointed. The board will advise the department on many matters pertaining to the history of our province. It is planned to replace the old historic markers around the province with newly designed and attractive metal plaques; to carry out studies on underwater archaeology; to locate, identify and salvage fur trade goods; and to continue the study and preservation of petriforms in the Whiteshell area. There is an increasing awareness in this country, and elsewhere, of the importance of observing and commemorating our history. The history of Manitoba makes an exciting story and it will be our objective to help make this story interesting to residents of the province and to the many visitors who come here. Studies which have been done by this department and by other tourist agencies indicate that historic sites are an extremely popular tourist activity.

Manitoba has been fortunate in being selected for part of the World Hockey Tournament in 1970. The awarding of this internationally famous event brings prestige and recognition to Winnipeg and Manitoba. The Manitoba government took an active part in the outstanding efforts that were made by the community to bring this World Hockey Tournament to our province. The Department of Tourism and Recreation worked closely with the committee in charge of promoting and operating the tournament, and it is our intention to continue to assist in every way possible to assure a success of this outstanding sporting event in our province.

In conclusion, I would like to say that it's the aim of the Department of Tourism and Recreation to give Manitoba the leadership necessary to keep this province in the forefront of the expanding tourist and recreation industry in Canada, an industry that is one of the most rapidly growing in the world.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Minister in his new department and thank him for the remarks that he just introduced in introducing his department, Tourism and Recreation.

I am not as prepared as I should be because our spokesman for our group was supposed to be the member for Hamiota, but he is away today and you all know the reasons why, so I'm not as prepared as I should be. However, I would at the same time wish to express my appreciation to the members in this department, and I know, as the Minister said, it's a very exciting department and rightly so. I think it's very exciting and I think the whole House should be very enthusiastic about tourism and recreation in this province, particularly tourism.

We think that the Minister -- I realize he was taking some great credit for the lakes and the forests that we have in this province as well as some of the other things such as the Morris Fair and so on, and I feel that the government can not take too much credit for these things, except I would like to know what contribution or what promotion does the government undertake

(MR. PATRICK Cont'd.)... to give assistance to these areas. I also realize, Mr. Chairman, that to some extent I feel that this government is paying lip-service as far as recreation is concerned, because if we realize, the Department of Mines and Natural Resources is seeking a permit to flood some 800,000 acres of land which could be considered in some years later from now one of the greatest tourist centres that we have in this province, which would destroy many acres of land, forests, fisheries, all kinds of wild animals for hunting, and probably many of the lakes - which I understand are beautiful recreational lakes, they have many sand beaches - so I feel that the Minister should also give some consideration before this is done and the lake is flooded.

I was somewhat as well enthused when the Minister was introducing his estimates and the remarks that he made, and he did show some enthusiasm, but when I look at the report, Mr. Chairman, and on Page 22 you'll notice that in Park Use statistics, 90.63 percent of the park usage is by Manitoba residents themselves. United States is only three percent, so it doesn't take too long for you to get somewhat discouraged that we're not making the progress that the Minister wishes that we would or he thought that we were making. However, I do want to wish him well because I know he's new in this department.

However, I do feel that this government has certainly neglected tourism for the past many years. I think that we should be all encouraged because this industry in Manitoba is still in its infancy and I feel not only the responsibility is totally of the government but also responsibility for tourist promotion should be that of the municipal governments, travel associations, Chamber of Commerce, and every Manitoban and every one of us here. We will be celebrating our Manitoba Centenary within a few months and I think it follows to say that we should all talk Manitoba. By this I mean we must develop advertising, sales talks around points of interest that will appeal to people going on their holidays, so that they would come to Manitoba.

What are the things that interest tourists? Naturally, the first thing one asks is what is there to see? I feel that Manitoba has many things to see. It is not just a stretch of straight flat land, there are many attractions deserving attention of our visitors and tourists. I think it should be possible for our tourists to see our historic sites, our churches - for instance St. Boniface for example has many points of historic lore; it is a great religious centre, the stories of St. Boniface are many and their early days are full of human interest, and I think that this could be promoted as well as many other points of interest in the whole province. I feel that Manitoba is fortunate in this historical information because it is one of the provinces that was first settled in the settlement of western Canada. For example, the record of the buffalo hunts in the 1840's, and the hunters I understand in those days used the Red River carts for hunting buffalo. I think this in itself could be good advertising and good sales promotion for our tourists. I think that we should all of us help Manitoba to prosper. I feel that we should take the trouble to learn the story of Manitoba so that we can tell the story of Manitoba to our tourists and to our visitors.

Fortunately, Manitobans are by nature I feel the most kindly and hospitable people of anywhere in the world. I know that many people in our new housing areas for instance, the co-operation that they show amongst themselves for instance even in my constituency, many of the people that move in, they start building garages or sidewalks or car ports and the first thing you know there's three or four or five men in the neighborhood get together and construct a garage or a walk or a summer home at the back of the house. This co-operation prevails in quite a few places on the street, and this is the nature of the Manitoba people. I think we're a very kindly people and we should be fortunate for this, Mr. Chairman.

This is one reason, Mr. Chairman, why I feel that our tourist industry can flourish if only the government would undertake to give the tourist industry some attention and direction. Tourist information centres, I feel, should be established in large centres to the south of us, places like Minneapolis and Chicago, at least for our Centennial Year. Exhibits of Manitoba attractions should be publicized so that our neighboring states would be aware of our attractions, but not only our neighbors to the south but our provinces in the east as well.

Mr. Chairman, Birds Hill Park, I understand, can accommodate somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 camper trailers. These are the ones that are very popular today. There are probably more of those around than any other kind, and I think if the department would undertake to advertise that we have this type of parking available for as many trailers as we have, I'm sure that we would attract many of these people coming to this province and

(MR. PATRICK Cont'd.)... it could be the start of a great tourist promotion in Manitoba starting for our Centennial year. I think this ad alone in respect to camper-trailer parking would attract thousands of people just because people would have a place to park their campers.

I would like to agree too with the government that our Birds Hill Park is probably one of the largest parks of any of its type in Canada and I think it's a great thing. However, I was not completely satisfied with the way the government expropriated land from many of the people in the area, but as far as the park itself is concerned I think it was the right thing to do to develop it, and in years from now on it'll be a great asset to this city and to the province. I feel that millions of these people that use these camper trailers today, if they were told about our facilities in that park to park these trailers - I am not aware how many can be accommodated at the present time, perhaps the Minister can tell us - I think this would be a great asset and many of these people would be attracted to come to our city.

Mr. Chairman, I know that our Minister of Industry and Commerce is spending a considerable amount of money on publications, papers and magazines in different cities and throughout the United States, but I would like to refer something, the last year's Grey Cup, which I think was the most unfortunate thing where you have the Grey Cup parade exposed anywhere to some 20 million people in this country alone and as well to many millions in the States, and I am sure floats "Growing to Beat '70" certainly would not have cost that much money for Manitoba to put a float in the Grey Cup parade. That kind of exposure, Mr. Chairman, is certainly not costly and I think it would have been worthwhile promotion for the Minister to undertake, because in some of the parades across the line and in the States you have to bid for submitting a float in which is very expensive, but here there was an opportunity to put a float in where you would have such vast exposure to so many millions of people not only in our country but as well as across the line. So I would suggest to the Minister that he would take this as notice and probably recommend it to his colleagues that he would have a float in the parade this year.

I realize, Mr. Chairman, that we have many lakes and parks, but I think that we need to give the tourist industry help to advertise some of these lakes, to talk about them, because certainly at the present time I don't feel that we are doing enough as far as advertising is concerned. I would like to make a point that perhaps the Minister can give consideration to entertaining people like the tourist agents in different parts, not only in Manitoba but tourist agents in large centres like Toronto or Montreal and Minneapolis and Chicago, where many of these people probably are responsible for much of the tourist trade in this country. I think they should be made familiar, or should be made aware of what's available in this province, and I think it would be a worthwhile undertaking if perhaps the Minister would show the travel agents some slides, say let's have 500 best slides of Manitoba, of our lakes and of our parks and facilities we have, and show it to our travel agents in all of these cities, and perhaps in return he would be required to supply the type of material and type of pamphlets that these people would request, because these are the people that are in the business; they are quite familiar with what is a saleable product and what the tourist is asking for, and I am sure this would be a great help to the department and would help the tourist industry in our province.

I feel, Mr. Chairman, that this could be the start of our tourist boom for Manitoba. I know it's in its infancy but there is no better time to start than in this year, for our Centenary next year. I know the Minister has talked about the Trout Festival and the Trappers Festival at the Pas, as well as the Morris Fair, but I feel that these are more or less local undertakings and I'm sure that the people in those areas would definitely appreciate any assistance that they could get from the government in the province, and I know that they require assistance.

Mr. Chairman, I have not much more to say because, as I mentioned at the start, I am not prepared because the Member for Hamiota was supposed to speak for us on this department, but I do feel there's another point and that is our winter activities. Certainly there is a very increasing popularity of our motor toboggans and skidooning, and it is difficult for a lot of these people to find property to use their machines. Even if, I think, there were some advertising in the paper where there is space available in our Birds Hill Park, and the fee is so much, what they have to pay to use a certain field, I think it would be a worthwhile thing to do. As well as with our skiing resorts, there's many areas that many of the people, particularly from out of the province or from across the line, they're not totally familiar with some of our resorts and I think it would be worthwhile to also include these in the advertising, and show

(MR. PATRICK Cont'd.).... just exactly what is available.

Mr. Speaker, I have on many other occasions spoken in the House here on physical education and recreation so I will just have a very few things to say in a very limited way, but I feel that we have made progress in this area and I still feel that a well-planned program of physical education should include a variety of activities where just mere provision of playgrounds and equipment is not enough. I think that participation should be required of every child just as strictly as attention in academic classes, because in many areas, in our high schools as well, I know that attention has been paid to participation of team sports and usually in team sports one does not get an opportunity, or everybody does not get an opportunity to participate, but I think that our attention should be geared where most of our people in high schools have an opportunity to participate in some sporting engagement.

I also feel that we should teach children the skills of individual and group activities so they respond to these things in their later years, or later in life, and more now than ever before I think that adult recreation is coming into focus, because I would just like to relate, I understand that St. James-Assiniboia City at the Y.M.C.A., we have something of the neighbourhood of 300 participants in night classes in some form of recreation by adult people themselves and there is no more room for any more. So I feel this is an area where the Minister can probably give some attention to, and perhaps -- I can't see why our school gymnasiums in all our collegiates probably should be open to our adult participants because, surely, when you have the Y.M.C.A. overloaded and grown up people and the adults are taking advantage of adult recreation, then I feel that if there are facilities required then probably our high school gymnasiums and collegiates should probably make provisions that these people would be able to use these facilities.

Mr. Chairman, I feel that these are a few of the things that I wanted to say on this department. There'll probably be more as we go along but I do feel, as far as tourism is concerned, that the government has neglected this area something very badly. I wish that the Minister now will be much more enthusiastic about this department than the government was before, and I hope that he'll be as enthusiastic as he was when he introduced his estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon.

MR. R. O. LISSAMAN (Brandon): Mr. Chairman, there's only five minutes. I wanted to take a bit longer than that. I wonder if you might care to call it 5:30.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would the members care to call it 5:30? I'll call it 5:30 and leave the Chair until 8:00 o'clock.