

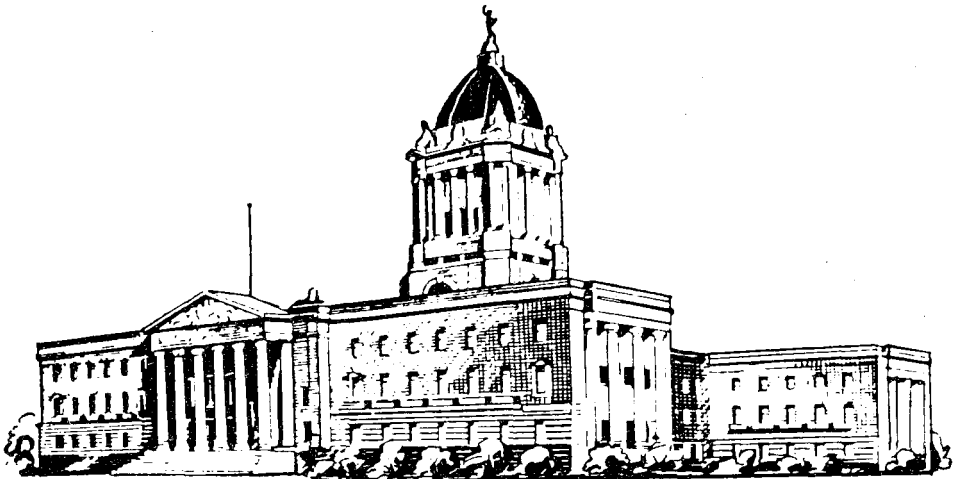


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XX No. 14 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 6th, 1973.

Fifth Session, 29th Legislature.

## THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

8:00 p. m. Tuesday, March 6, 1973

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 15 young people from the 156th Company of Girl Guides out of Westwood. They are under the direction of Mrs. Pollock. This group is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. We also have some 8 young people out of St. Andrews Church. These people are under the direction of Mr. Cornell. These are located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Point Douglas. On behalf of all the honourable members I welcome you here tonight.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I believe when I ended I was -- it's going to be very awkward, Mr. Speaker, to speak with the Leader of the Liberal Party out of the House. I'm almost finished with him anyway; I want to turn my attention to the Member for Crescentwood. That I think, Mr. Speaker, if further proof was needed to show that the program advocated by the Leader of the Liberal Party was no good, was the support that he received from the Member for Crescentwood. I think that that surely must be the kiss of death for such a program and I wonder how the Leader of the Liberal Party is going to reconcile it among the constituents when he is going to be found in the same room with the Member for Crescentwood. I think that's a pretty good indication of the type of a program if it draws the support of the Member for Crescentwood.

The Leader of the Liberal Party I believe also made other irresponsible and terribly expensive propositions; one of them was monorail. It is possible he was misquoted, I certainly hope so because I just can't conceive of a brilliant lawyer like him making such a foolish and irresponsible suggestion. And no doubt he was misquoted when he suggested that the capital of Ottawa should be moved to Winnipeg. These are the type of things that concern me, Mr. Speaker, for the reasons I have already indicated because if they go on unchallenged, the word will spread throughout the province and he is going to find himself in great difficulties and I feel some responsibility because I did support him, you know, and there is no way, there is no way I can get around, I know when I was in Thompson over the weekend they were starting to question my credibility - not because --(Interjection)-- not because I was giving the government heck or because I had left them, but because I had supported this man that's making these outrageous statements; and they were asking me "Is he just playing games or is he being misquoted or is he determined to punish the Ottawa Liberals by wiping them out provincially?" I don't know and I simply want to put it on record that the people up north which I represent and the Liberals up north which he represents want no part of the proposals that he has brought in here.

He talked about the beautiful beaches --(Interjection)-- well I don't want to be as presumptuous as he was to speak for all of Western Canada, I'm just an MLA now and I feel that I have to be careful --(Interjection)-- former Cabinet Minister. I could speak for Manitoba before but now I think I have to confine myself to the constituency.

He talked about the beautiful beaches up north and Mr. Speaker, I want to tell you that I have been there perhaps more times than any member in this House - up north. I did not see any beautiful beaches, I have seen beautiful black flies and mosquitoes and dirty black spruce that aren't fit for making axe handles, and for anyone to come into the House and to suggest that there is a beautiful recreational area going to be ruined forever and ever is just ludicrous. The temperature of the water I believe is something like 41. You know, I understand that even the fish there get the common cold once in awhile, and I just can't conceive of anybody going out there swimming.

We have a beautiful resort area at Thompson called Paint Lake and most of the people that have cabins there have it for one reason, just to get away from town to do a little fishing and maybe a little weekend drinking but not swimming. I go swimming there quite often and any time we were in the water there was very few people, very few kids on the beach, unless it happened to be 90 that day, which doesn't happen too often. And this is at Thompson, this is at Thompson in a very shallow lake, Paint Lake is very shallow. The lake we are talking

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(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd.) . . . . about is deep and the water is also cold in it. As a matter of fact the Churchill River I think has Sturgeon in it. Now we know how deep the water must be to have sturgeon in that. So I think this gives some indication of the foolishness being promoted in here. I also know that there's nobody applying for cabins; I know that the people that have complained about the destruction of this beautiful potential resort area not a single one has built a cabin there nor have they made any attempt to set up cabins there or reserve lots for the future. So, Mr. Speaker, if there are valid reasons for opposing what the government is doing certainly the resort argument is not one of them.

The Leader of the Liberal Party and his one arm professor has been telling us about the pollution. Well, Mr. Speaker, I find that very strange for him to talk about the destructive nature of water pollution; that's probably the cleanest pollution there is in the country. But you know right in Thompson where we have a plant, and there's a lot of people, there's about 20,000 people living there, the last time we took a count, the union took a count, I think there was something like 293 tons of solids going out the smokestack which was distributed whichever way the wind blew - one day it would be in one direction, the next day some place else. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that this pollutant is not hurting black spruce, swampy spruce and jack rabbits and foxes and what have you - there are people living there, a lot of people, and this stuff is being dumped there seven days a week, year round. There is liquid pollutants, chemical pollutants which come from the extractive processes of nickel - a tremendous tonnage of water goes out dumped into the river and into the countryside and it flows - if you ever fly in the summertime you will find that as it spreads out it's like a cancer, it kills everything in its path. And we live there, and the people live there and fish there and they grow gardens and the pollutants fall on the gardens and they eat that.

I didn't hear a whisper, Mr. Speaker, from the Leader of the Liberal Party or from the other ones that opposed the program for Hydro development on a basis of pollution. We have got all kinds of pollution in Thompson and it makes me very angry to hear them talk about flooding some jack rabbits and coyotes and minks and timber wolf, but where there's 20,000 people there isn't a word said about us. You know that's a funny set of priorities. So, Mr. Speaker, there's been so much debate and so much said about the whole question of Hydro development that I don't suppose that there's anything I can say or anybody in this House can say that could shed any more light on it. They either believe one set of professors or another set of professors or you believe those people that have been in the Hydro-making business for decades and decades. —(Interjection)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. BOROWSKI: The Member for Lakeside has, you know he has a point of view and I respect it, Mr. Speaker, because at least he had the good sense to admit that he had made a mistake. And even the original program that they had, no one can fault them for being careful with the money, unquestionably that was the most economical program. And we knew it when we were in Cabinet, we knew that when we were in Cabinet. Mr. Speaker, what we were faced with was - is that the most important thing, the maximum power for the minimum dollar. And the Conservative government and their experts chose to go in that direction and I can't really fault them too much because that had been going on across the country by other governments, so they weren't doing anything that anybody else wasn't. And when we came in we were faced with several proposals.

Mr. Speaker, I'd just like to read briefly from a pamphlet that was put out by my committee for the by-election that I ran in, so there will be no question where I stood. Not that it matters a heck of a lot, the thing has been decided a year and a half ago, but I simply want to go on record to where I stood and I know where the party at that time stood. South Indian Lake again, and I'm quoting; "Manitoba needs more hydro power; the question is how it is to be developed. Joe Borowski went to Winnipeg for the South Indian Lake hearings to try and get the facts straight on the effects of the flooding. So far no one knows all the facts but Joe did discover that there are several possible plans for generating northern power, only two of which have been investigated. He feels that before any decision is made the other possible plans must be investigated with the idea that self-supporting Indian people at South Indian Lake should not be forced away from their fishing grounds."

Mr. Speaker, without wanting to defend the government, that has been the position that

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(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd.) . . . . we took in a by-election in the '69 election. At no time did we say there would be no flooding. We said there were several proposals, we wanted to see the studies, a couple of reports that the government, the previous government wouldn't release. We've seen those reports, the government had commissioned other studies and on the basis of that information which the Premier tabled here yesterday we made a decision. Now it's possible, it's possible history may prove we did wrong, we made a mistake. We don't know that. And if we take the proposals that the Member of the Liberal Party is proposing we will still be faced with that same problem; it would be possible that we had made a mistake. So the government has a responsibility; they have made a decision based on the best advice and figures available to them and the studies that are commissioned by two governments with the Federal Government involved, they made a decision and I think it was announced two years ago, 18 months ago, and at that time, Mr. Speaker, let it be recorded, at that time we didn't hear any opposition. And I would venture to say if there was no election coming up I don't think there would be any opposition today. That's too bad, that's too bad that such an important, one of the largest projects in western Canada is being placed in jeopardy. I don't know, the election will tell, but it's being bandied about in such a way that could do it some harm and that's most unfortunate because that surely is the most important thing that's going on in Manitoba today, because not only will it supply power but it's going to earn money for us. We've invested a lot of money, not the government all of us, and we expect a decent return from that power that we are going to sell to Ontario, Saskatchewan and to North Dakota. --(Interjection)-- Well I'm not an expert on Lake Winnipeg and I'm not going to debate Lake Winnipeg. I know much less about it than I know about this program which we dealt with when I was a Minister.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say a few words now on the report that Eric Kierans brought out. I had occasion to comment on it over the weekend when I visited Thompson and I think it's important to talk about it because it's quite an important document, I read it through and I must say that the implications are horrendous, if that's the word, I'm not sure that I can find the right word to describe it. He brings up a lot of important points and facts that we weren't aware of - certainly I as a miner and a northerner was not aware of - and he is basing his recommendations on the ideal. And the ideal, Mr. Speaker, is that we would own all the mines that are in Manitoba today because we do own the minerals and I think he indicated there was something like 80 million or 85 million in profit.

Now that would be ideal, Mr. Speaker, if we owned that and we'd have all that money rolling in. We could eliminate the sales tax and possibly a few other taxes someplace else. That is ideal. But the reality is, Mr. Speaker, that it is not ours. Previous governments had signed away certain rights. And they invited them. Mr. Speaker, these companies didn't come in here armed with machine guns and say you got to give it to us. Governments went begging and said please come in and develop our resources. That is a fact and those are the realities Mr. Kierans and all of us must face, that it belongs to someone else just as if you sell some farm land that you may have got 100 years ago or 50 years ago and one day you sell it and some development comes along and suddenly the land is worth ten times the original price. Well that's too bad, you know, that's the way it goes. You've sold it and the guy who owns it he will benefit from it. These companies have poured in several hundred million dollars. International Nickel, whom I have no love for, poured in \$285 million into Thompson to get that town going and to develop the ore body. With encouragement and perhaps maybe a little hand kissing by previous governments they developed this ore body in this town, and I suggest to the Member for Crescentwood and to the government that they have and they are entitled to the profits that come out of there, and if we want to get involved in development we already have a vehicle which the Minister of Mines has set up - an exploration company. There was no reason why he can't increase the funds for it from half a million to one million or whatever is necessary. And the companies don't object to it. I have spoken to some people from the company and they said if the government wants to go and explore the moose pastures, and there's lots of them in this province, we have no objection. And I hope the Minister takes them up on the offer and does that. And if they find some minerals then let the government develop like they developed Gillam; and if we make ourselves \$10 million bucks then it belongs to the people and we don't have to raise taxes the next year. And if the ore body lasts for 20 years or 50 years, whatever, the people of Manitoba will be the beneficiary. But it must be done on that basis, Mr. Speaker, it cannot be done on the basis that we are going to go ahead and grab

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(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd.) . . . . up existing profitable corporation. That is economic vandalism and that is being advocated by the Member for Crescentwood. Mr. Speaker, I don't think that anybody in this province would tolerate that. The government has stated its position not too clear I suggest; I think that they're going to have to make their position a lot clearer before voting day as to exactly in which way and what direction they're going to approach the development of mineral resources. --(Interjection)-- You have? Well that's fine.

I hope you will take my suggestion that I gave the government, free of charge, Mr. Speaker, a couple of years ago. Most of the advice I give is free, maybe that's why it's not taken. --(Interjection)-- Thank you.

I think a couple of years ago the steelworkers had negotiated an agreement with the company and the total value of the package I believe was \$21 million - that's including fringe benefits and all the rest of it. I didn't hear a word from the company saying we can't afford to pay it; I didn't hear the Wall Street fat cats or the Bay Street fat cats saying they're going to ruin the company or drive out the industry; nobody said a word. They paid that \$21 million, everybody is happy.

Last week they negotiated an agreement, Mr. Speaker, that was worth \$15 million. Now the reason it's lower than the last one is because the total employees have dropped; I think at one time there was 3,700 employees, now there's only 3,000. So while the package is the best in history of Thompson, it is lower because there are less employees to receive those benefits. That company is going to pay out - one company, one company, International Nickel, is going to pay out \$15 million over three years. They're not saying that you're going to drive us out of business, and I notice the Opposition to their credit aren't condemning the union for getting that increase. They say, it's their work, they're working, they're risking their lives, they're entitled to be compensated for it. And they are.

Mr. Speaker, the minerals are owned by the people in Manitoba and I think we're entitled to be compensated for our minerals being used. I faulted the government before, and I fault them again. If they want to get a little more money then they should use the mechanism that's available to them as it was available to the previous government, raise the mineral taxes, let's not have all this talk about nationalization, it's become a four-letter word. Do you want more money? Raise the mineral taxes. Do what the steelworkers did. Do what the steelworkers did. Sit down with them and say, look we need money, you are using very valuable resources that the whole world is taking. I'm selfish, I don't think that Manitoba should give cheap nickel to the world. I think that we should get good money, and if Inco wants to increase the price of nickel to \$2.00 bully to them, let them increase it and let's share in it.

MR. WALLY JOHANNSON (St. Matthews): What percent?

MR. BOROWSKI: What percent of what? No, I think you might . . . Mr. Speaker, I think they may start, they should be . . .

A MEMBER: They don't ask the school teachers.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. BOROWSKI: Well they're as bad as professors. I think they should start from the . . . That coming from a school teacher, it's expected.

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

MR. BOROWSKI: They should perhaps use the same formula as the steelworkers did. That's 15 million over three years, we would get an extra five million a year. I'm not a shareholder so I'm not talking with any vested interest but I think the International Nickel could stand the pressure or the bite or the arm that you put on them for \$5 million and they will continue to run it efficiently. I don't think there's any corporation in the world that's run more efficiently than International Nickel. They've got the expertise, they've got three generations of metallurgists, which is important because the extraction of nickel is a very difficult and complicated process. As a matter of fact at one time nickel was considered a waste, that they had no way of extracting or using it. So they've got the process patent and they've got it down pat so there's very little waste. Let them run the operation and let's take some of the pie without a takeover, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order. Order. The honourable member please continue.

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MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have almost completed my speech, I want to indicate that I have given free advice to the government and the Leader of the Liberal Party, both of which probably won't take it but nevertheless I've given it to them. I want to tell the government that I am going to support the Throne Speech because it's good for old people and it's good for the poor and underprivileged like the Budget that was brought down in Ottawa by the Trudeau government who has finally smartened up after four years. It's --(Interjection)-- well, indications are on the surface they have and I am not going to look into their heart or psychoanalyze them. On the basis of the budget it looks good. The Throne Speech has all the indicators of being a good Throne Speech; it's good for the north, it's good for the constituency and because it is I am going to support the government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Point Douglas.

MR. DONALD MALINOWSKI (Point Douglas): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will try my best. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to follow tradition on this occasion by congratulating my colleagues the Honourable Member for Flin Flon the mover and the Honourable Member for Radisson the seconder to the speech from the Throne. It was a good Throne Speech like my good friend from Thompson said and I knew in advance that the mover and seconder would likewise make good speeches.

At the outset I also want to say I have paid considerable attention to the speeches and statements of the honourable members from both sides but especially of the Honourable Member of the Leader Party, rather of the Leader of the Official Opposition. Sounds better. I don't want to be that critical about him as was not so long ago my honourable friend from Thompson. I congratulate him on the volume and output of statements. He is a very conscientious and hardworking opposition leader, and in my view I think he is the best opposition leader we have had in this House. We on this side wish him well and we'll do our best so he will remain the Leader of the Opposition for a very long long time. Let me quickly list some of the measures contained in the Throne Speech and then compare them with some of the statements made both by the Liberal and Conservative Leaders.

The opening paragraph of the Throne Speech says, further, legislation will be enacted which will ensure continuing advancement toward greater and more equitable economic opportunities for all Manitobans. Further, there is mention in the Throne Speech of the government budget the aim of which is "promoting greater equality for the human condition through fiscal and economic measures which recognize important differences amongst many of our citizens' requirements for services and their varying abilities to share the cost of these services."

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): What does that mean?

MR. MALINOWSKI: You will find out just listen careful. I hope honourable members will note that these are not just empty words.

A MEMBER: Tell us.

MR. MALINOWSKI: Okay, I will come to it. Give me a chance. Sit quiet and listen. As soon as the government came to the power four years ago many practical measures have been implemented to give effect to this policy of greater equality. The major costs of health care, for example, have been placed on the basis of ability to pay. The tax rebate policies have a similar aim. The taxation of building of low cost housing for senior citizens and low income families also take into consideration two inequalities of ability to pay. I am happy to note, Mr. Speaker, that there are to be further extensions of this principle.

The following paragraph in the Throne Speech in my view sums up the government's philosophy on taxation. It reads: "You will be asked to consider the government fiscal priorities that place the needs of senior citizens, lower income families and local school and municipal budgets ahead of provincial income and corporate tax cuts of a general nature which do not recognize these needs and which also do not recognize the ability to pay principle." I wish honourable members of the opposition would underline this paragraph, study it and in time find in their hearts to support this principle. I am tired of listening to both leaders of the Opposition continually hollering about this being the province with the highest tax, a far from accurate statement. But even if it were, it is not a question of which province has the highest tax but which province has the fairest taxation policy.

The Honourable Leader of the Conservative Party is continually calling for tax cuts; not tax cuts for the poor naturally, but tax cuts for the rich. He is concerned about those in the middle and up income brackets; he says these people have worked to earn their money and it

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(MR. MALINOWSKI cont'd) . . . belongs to them. He wants tax cuts for the people with two car garages, swimming pool and five figure incomes.

The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party wants tax cuts on 100 or 200,000 a year income. But my honourable friend from Thompson he said if he will be his brother he will be opposing him. Now I would like to say if I will be his father, I still will oppose him. Naturally he wants tax cuts for those who can afford to pay \$75 a plate dinner. They are all crying for tax cuts for those who in the past have been able to shirk paying their fair share.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we in this House are representative of the middle and upper incomes. Most of us in addition to our indemnities have other income. I am not suggesting an increasing in taxes on honourable members in this House, but I do ask honourable members to ask themselves in all honesty, would they have to miss a meal or suffer even in the slightest degree if they had to pay an extra \$200 or even an extra \$2,000 in taxes? I believe this whole attitude on the part of the opposition is a very selfish one. In pleading the case for those in the upper income brackets, the Honourable Leader of the Conservative Party says they earn their money it belong to them. Well, some in the upper brackets may have earned it or they may have inherited it, or it may be earned income. The largest incomes usually are earned income, that means other people had to work hard for it and are more honestly entitled to it. We should remember not all people have the same abilities or talents. Not all have equal opportunities of becoming corporation lawyers or heads of business. Surely in any country claiming to be civilized all these factors should be taken into consideration in determining a countries taxation policy. Surely this should be taken into consideration in adopting measures to establish a greater degree of equality in our society.

I am glad, Mr. Speaker, that effective April 1st this government will exempt all persons over 65 years from paying health insurance premiums. To the senior citizen this will mean a saving of \$49.80 a year for a single person and \$99.50 for a married couple. The government also intends to provide further assistance to our elderly citizens by proposals that will result in a considerable saving on drugs. Sir, I feel sure the members of the Opposition will not dare vote against this measure, but I will feel much happier if they voted for them willingly because they believe in the principle of establishing greater equality in our society. Honourable members of the Opposition are too astute politicians to vote against freeing senior citizens from the cost of Medicare premiums. But if they are going to vote for these measures, they should be consistent and also support the principle of taxation according to ability to pay.

Relieving the pensioners from the Medicare premiums doesn't free the government from raising the money to pay for Medicare. It means the burden must be placed on those that can more easily carry it. I am confident if a comparison is made of a taxation policy of this government with that of the last Conservative Government, it wouldn't make a good talking point for a Conservatives in an election, not if they are looking for votes from the majority of people who have benefited from this more equitable taxation policy. But this doesn't mean the government is too exclusively concerned with those in the low income groups. A fair reading of the Throne Speech shows that it benefits 90 percent of the population of this province directly and indirectly.

So far, Mr. Speaker, I have made no reference to my constituency, but while I am on my feet I want to thank the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs for the good job he is doing in his important department. I want to particularly thank him for the work now in progress on another senior citizen home in the Point Douglas constituency. (Hear, Hear)

A MEMBER: Another one?

MR. MALINOWSKI: Yes, Sir. I can also assure the government that the Point Douglas constituents are also thankful for the many other benefits they have received from this administration and the further benefits outlined in the Throne Speech. As you know, Mr. Speaker, I was a priest before I became a politician. In my first calling I was and remain non-political. I was used to working together with people of all political views. Since I have been in this House I sometimes get a bit worried and depressed about the bitter partisanship often displayed — and I confess we on this side are not without guilt. But in looking at the state of our country and the sad state of our world I believe it would be better if we all try to be more constructive and not let our partisanship stand in the way of our honest judgments. In our democratic parliamentary system the opposition has a role to play but opposition for the sake of opposition is not a proper role. There should be honest and responsible criticism. I am often

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(MR. MALINOWSKI cont'd.) . . . . . appalled by the wild and exaggerated statements made by both opposition leaders; sometimes the statement they have no foundation on fact beyond their wildest charges. And sometimes the facts upon which their charges are based are so completely different that nothing is left of the charge by the time one has tried to examine them closely.

I am reminded about a story which happened in Moscow. The news was published in the Soviet press Pravda which means Truth and I hope that our papers, Tribune and Free Press, will give us better coverage. A presentation of a brand new car was made right in Moscow on the Red Square to a Soviet official as a bonus. Later after checking this closely it was reported that the presentation had really taken place, not in the Red Square in Moscow but in another square in Budapest. Furthermore, the person to whom the presentation was made was not a Soviet official but an ordinary Hungarian farmer. Furthermore, he was presented not with a car but with a bicycle. And finally, he had not been presented with a bicycle but it had been stolen from him. You see there are so many twists and turns in this story it's like a Liberal or Conservative charge against this government.

A MEMBER: Hear, hear.

MR. MALINOWSKI: An idle rumour that the government may extend public ownership into further fields gets the opposition shouting "socialism". Let anyone even remotely associated with this government suggest that a study of further public ownership projects be made and the opposition raises loud howls about the destruction of private enterprise.

The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party has published a record of sorts recently. After condemning all the policies of this government as being all bad he then accused us of stealing these policies from the Liberal Party. Mr. Speaker, the Leader of our Party, the First Minister, has from time to time reminded us that dogmatism has no place in our Party. I wish members opposite would likewise take note. They might be more constructive as an opposition if they weren't so high bound to their dogma that private enterprise is the best and most wonderful economic system, in spite of all the evidence to the contrary. All the problems of this province cannot be solved by an immediate resort to complete socialism, but it is even more clear that . . . their share for private enterprise every hour on the hour is even less helpful.

Sir, at this stage we must recognize that private enterprise has failed in solving the most urgent problems facing the people. It has failed to solve unemployment; failed to provide adequate housing; failed to end poverty even in the most wealthy countries. Neither the present Liberal Government nor any Conservative Government before in the 100 years they have been in power in Ottawa and in all provinces have been able to cope with these problems. They must surely realize by now that relying on private enterprise to end unemployment is futile. Surely it stands to reason that if private enterprise fails in all these respects and if we expect governments to solve the economic problems of the country then government must have greater control of the economy. This government is committed to the pragmatic moves based on what is practical, necessary and possible within the powers of a provincial government. Despite the loud complaints on the part of the opposition I doubt whether they would dare answer an election with the idea of telling the voters they are opposed to the many good things this government has done. I doubt whether they would dare say they are opposed to the increase in the minimum wage. I doubt whether they would dare tell the voters they are opposed to the lowering of Medicare premiums from the Conservative high to the NDP low. I doubt very much whether either of the opposition parties would dare enter an election saying they are opposed to low-cost housing for senior citizens and low income families. I doubt whether the opposition would dare fight an election opposing the abolition of Medicare premiums for senior citizens. I doubt whether the Honourable Leader of the Conservative Party would care to fight an election on the sorry mess the Conservatives have made in the Churchill Forest project.

Now I want to be fair, Mr. Speaker. This is a very complex project and any government that undertakes such a development is bound to make mistakes sometime. What I am annoyed about is the reluctance on the part of the Conservatives to admit and accept responsibility for their mistakes which the NDP government now has to cope with. The same with hydro development. This is not an easy cut and dried matter. There are many complex ramifications, so complex that I have no dare yet to speak on this issue. Under the circumstances it would be more helpful if members of the opposition took a more responsible attitude. This is too



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(MR. MALINOWSKI cont'd.) . . . . . important and so complex an issue to play politics with. For my part I have to rely on the opinion of the experts adept in this field and even they are not always in agreement. All we know is that we need further power development and that with the best of advice and even after the most thorough study, it is still possible for any government to make a mistake. I have every confidence this government will make every effort to avoid making the wrong decision. All I am asking members of the opposition to be fair and constructive on this very vital and important undertaking.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say in concluding my remarks that I am proud of the record of this government. I can commend this record to my constituents in Point Douglas and I have every confidence that my constituents will endorse what this government is doing for them and the people of this province. Thank you. --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Is the Honourable Member for Point Douglas not finished yet?

CONDOLENCES

MR. MALINOWSKI: Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet I would like to express my words of sympathy to the family of the late the Honourable Member for Churchill, Mr. Gordon Beard. His contribution to any debate in this House was great. We miss him very much. Thank you.

. . . continued on next page

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to start these few words by congratulating you on the job that you're doing as Speaker, even though I don't always agree with your decisions at the moment that you make them. I'm sure that you're managing very well to keep order in this House and I wish you well in the rest of this session.

I want to congratulate the mover and seconder of the Speech from the Throne .

CONDOLENCES

Before I start the rest of my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say that Gordon Beard was a good man. Gordon Beard is a good man for those of us who believe in immortality, he lives for us. And I suppose there is little else you can say about a man once you've said that he is a good man, and even more important than a public statement of this nature are the private comments that men sometimes make about each other when they are speaking privately one to another. And I would like to say that last year in this House I was sitting next to the First Minister when Gordon Beard was speaking and even though Gordon did not always praise the government, he did try to be fair and the First Minister's comment at one point was, "Gordon is a good egg". I think that is probably one of the highest forms of praise that a member of this House could make of another when he's sitting on the other side of the House.

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, yesterday there are those who had some trouble in translating my statement after we voted. I'd like to correct any misunderstandings by saying that while I was paired with the Minister of Colleges and Universities that had I voted I would have voted against the motion. The reason is that I disagree with the terms of the motion. I don't believe that the reasons given in the motion are sufficient in themselves to vote non-confidence in the government, and I voted against the motion of the Leader of the Liberal Party for exactly the same reason. I think they are predicated on the premise that man lives by bread alone. I don't believe that this is true.

They also predicate on another point which I think is doubly not true, and here I agree with the Member for Thompson when he said if there was one fault that the government has had, it's not that they hired too many of their own people but that they hesitated a little too long before cleaning house at times.

Mr. Speaker, certain words have a certain meaning psychologically attached to them and I remember once making a comment and using the word "racist" and the word "racist" has peculiarly a negative connotation and I did not say that any member was such, I said a comment was such, and it should be understood that I said it in the context of my opinion that most of us are, or hold quite a number of racist positions and tendencies, and I'm afraid that this applies to me as well as to a considerable number of other members.

And I'm using this statement as sort of a way of introducing another subject. Certain words have a very negative connotation; racist is a very negative word. And whilst I share the opinion of many here that the Member for Wolseley has a peculiar way of dealing with the facts and the truth, that I think that he is rather silly in many of his remarks, that he hasn't helped himself a great deal. I find that the word "treason" is probably the most negative term that could ever be applied to any man, to any man's action. I don't know if it's proper or not to suggest but I'm suggesting that its somehow removal from the record would hurt no one and would be to everyone's benefit. As I said I think that it has a particularly absolutely negative connotation. I speak as a man to whom the word "treason" has a particular meaning.

Mr. Speaker, the subject of hydro is one that has been brought up in this session quite often and I think I'll be hearing a great deal of it again. I think I should make it quite clear that from the beginning my position has been to flood as little as possible, and not at all if possible. I opposed the flooding originally until hearings could be held to determine whether less flooding could be done or none at all, or as much information could be presented. To the best of my knowledge I believe that the government when they came into power had a vested interest in not flooding at all. They would have dearly loved not to put a drop of water more into South Indian Lake. On the other hand they -- and I want to thank the First Minister for his comment yesterday about my being a scrupulously fair man --(Interjection)-- Thank you.

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

(MR. ALLARD cont'd). . . . --(Interjection)-- Well I don't mind accepting the statement that being scrupulously fair may be a little exaggerated without being offensive, without the comment being offensive. I believe that the government made every effort not to flood. They came to the conclusion that there had to be some use of South Indian as a reservoir. I am now presented with a statement of the Leader of the Liberal Party that it is possible not to flood at all and I want to tell you that this would be a very attractive alternative, most attractive. On the other hand in view of what I believe I have heard until, until I have solid reasons for believing that it is possible to not flood at all I must accept that the decision that has been taken makes sense. I would, though, say that the sooner these committee meetings are held the happier I will be, and that I hope we can get as much information from any side in any way that we can possibly get because while the decision has been made I think that the people of Manitoba had the right to have all the facts that can possibly be brought to bear on the matter, all the information that can probably be shown.

Mr. Speaker, I listened to the Throne Speech; it had some qualities, it had some faults. In terms of northern Manitoba one of the proposals that the Member for Churchill, Mr. Gordon Beard, made many times was one of establishing a special taxation policy for the north on the premise that expenses in the north are higher than they are in other places. And I think they made sense, the proposal made sense. We find in Russia that to keep men, to keep men employed in Siberia and in areas where conditions of life are not as attractive and where costs are higher, first of all that pensions are offered at the age of 50 for miners, and secondly wages are twice as high as they would be in other areas. Now. . .

MR. BOROWSKI: You get two rubles in there instead of one.

MR. ALLARD: Four in the place of two. But the policy that is carried out in Canada is really unfair I think as far as the north is concerned because when a man earns more money he's deemed to be a richer man but if he lives in the north he is not a richer man he is only getting the same amount of money that would allow him to live at a certain level down south. But that's not what happens to him. He is then deemed to be a richer man. He isn't, but he is taxed as a richer man and he ends up being a poorer man, then he'd have to live down south. I speak from experience as a miner in Thompson. I also --(Interjection)-- and I had difficulties. I couldn't save as much money in Thompson as I would have liked to to . . .

MR. BOROWSKI: . . . spent too much time in the beer parlor.

MR. ALLARD: There was no poker, there wasn't any other things either that cost money.

A MEMBER: No women? . . .

MR. ALLARD: I didn't say anything of that nature, I just said things that cost money.

MR. BOROWSKI: They weren't swimming in Paint Lake.

MR. ALLARD: So that I really couldn't save as much money as I had hoped for the trip that I took this winter.

There is another question that I'd like to touch upon, Mr. Speaker, that's the question of Northern Manpower and Northern Affairs. It has been my conviction for quite some time that the problem of co-ordination in the north is one that has been sorely poorly dealt with. I think it's a difficult one to deal with, but I don't see much improvement in the situation and the manpower program that's been started in the north which was really supposed to move to help people get to the jobs that exist has now become a sort of a training program in some sort of a hot house atmosphere where companies are started to put men into. And I have serious reservations about this approach. I can see it as an adjunct to a broad manpower program but I really don't see it as the main thrust.

I said that I travelled abroad, Mr. Speaker, this winter and I almost met the Member for Arthur in Delhi. I don't believe we were really travelling in the same circles-- I leave it to you to decide, or to conclude, as to what circles I was travelling in but I can tell you that in Calcutta I spent the night in a hotel that cost me 13 rupees and in eight hours convinced me that I should move on to . . . Thirteen rupees are \$1.25 or so.

MR. BOROWSKI: He goes first class.

MR. ALLARD: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I missed -- before moving off the north the Member for Thompson has made some comments about Inco and royalties. I remember that some years ago-- I don't know whether this is breaking caucus secrets to say that I believe

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

(MR. ALLARD cont'd). . . . that I was the one who pushed, who was the first one to suggest that the royalties of mining companies in the north was a place where we could find some more money to pay for Medicare. I don't know whether this is breaking caucus secrets, I think I did it outside the caucus before I did it inside, and it seems that after the Kierans Report you could suggest quadrupling royalties without really incurring the wrath of anyone. One thing that really struck me at the time was that we doubled the royalties at Inco and there wasn't a peep out of them. It should have been a clear giveaway that there was much more fat in the operation than we were taking. --(Interjection)-- No, as a matter of fact the Free Press agreed, or was it the Tribune, agreed that the idea was an excellent one at the time, both of them did.

I travelled abroad this winter; I travelled throughout ten countries of southeast Asia and the sub-continent. . . .

MR. BOROWSKI: . . . Mr. Speaker, these travelogues, is that allowed?

MR. ALLARD: . . . and whilst I travelled three months this winter, I am told that I may have 12 months I could spend travelling next year. I did not share with Mr. Brewin from Ottawa the pleasure of visiting Hanoi and I really haven't understood why since I put in an application to their embassy; it was forwarded through the Canadian part of the International Control Commission; they brought it to the attention of Hanoi without much success. Perhaps it's because Mr. Brewin never did contact the International Control Commission, at least our Canadian section of it to find out what they thought when he went to Hanoi.

MR. BOROWSKI: You look like a North Vietnamese yourself.

MR. ALLARD: Could possibly be.

If there is one thing that my visit to Vietnam convinced me of, Mr. Speaker, it's that both sides intend to continue fighting and that the farce that Canada has been involved in for the last number of years has now become an international disgrace I think, if we continue in it. I would suggest to the Provincial Government that they perhaps make some representation to Ottawa that we get out of there in terms of that so-called peace-keeping group -- if we want to do something in Vietnam. I had the opportunity of visiting a rehabilitation centre for people who had had an arm blown off, or a leg blown off, or something like that-- for amputees. A rehabilitation centre for amputees, I was most impressed by it. It was a Canadian effort. We had brought some physiotherapists there, a technician who was experienced in the making of limbs. They built a centre quite cheaply; they trained over a period of a couple of years, trained some people to take on the job of physiotherapy to make the limbs themselves, and they are at the moment in the process of pulling out leaving a fully operational unit under the control and the care and attention and the operation-- we're out of it -- of Vietnamese themselves. There are no expensive tools and they put through something like 70 or 80 people a month. That I think is the kind of an operation that is much-- where we are accomplishing something, where our reputation is much enhanced, and we are not seen as being the lackeys of our neighbours to the south, because quite frankly it would seem that we have been blackmailed into being part of this peace-keeping conference. I don't know how the Minister in Ottawa came to the conclusion that there was some hope for that conference, I did not in all the contacts I had in Saigon see any reason to believe that.

MR. BOROWSKI: Did you talk to Ho Chi Min?

MR. ALLARD: So I visited Vietnam; I visited Bangladesh; I visited India. I ran in Bangladesh into a number of beavers.

A MEMBER: What?

MR. ALLARD: Beavers.

MR. BOROWSKI: Have you got pictures to prove it?

MR. ALLARD: Beavers, Mr. Speaker. Bangladesh is smaller than the constituency of Rupertsland; it has 75 million people; they have just gone through a war; they're probably one of the poorest nations on earth; they have a great need of food. And their airforce, if you might call it that, is made up principally of Beavers, Canadian-made Beavers. Now I understand from speaking to a member of our provincial civil service that we may be moth balling, or God knows what you'd want to call it, selling two piston Beavers -- the Minister has told me this.

MR. BOROWSKI: How about Saunders aircraft?

MR. ALLARD: Beavers in Vietnam are used to dust crops, to dust crops to kill

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

(MR. ALLARD cont'd). . . . diseases on the rice. They are very short of both planes and parts, and if we are going to sell two piston Beavers with the amount of money that we have had this year, extra income, I would suggest that, you know, why do we allow the Federal Government to be the only government that has any dealings with any other country. You know on an informal basis wouldn't it be possible for us to supply them with two piston Beavers with a supply of parts -- they're very short of parts. I suggest this to the Minister, to the First Minister as well, as being the kind of thing we could do. You know we suffer from an over abundance of material goods. We have a tendency to become attached to them. Why should we not make this kind of a -- which really is not costly to us. --(Interjection)-- Why don't I sell my car? I want to tell -- no really I am selling my car and buying a cheaper one because I find that I don't have the money to continue operating on the basis that I have been because I went on this trip. I'm very happy I went on the trip and the car I have is not worth \$1,000.00. I hope to get something like 2,500 for the one I am disposing of . . .

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, is advertising allowed in the House?

MR. ALLARD: So if there's a buyer anywhere . . .

MR. SPEAKER: . . . have a question?

MR. SCHREYER: Would the honourable member permit a question? Just to be clear that we understand his point, is he advocating, or at least perhaps suggesting for consideration, that in terms of international co-operation and aid for peace-keeping that Canada, Manitoba help Canada supply two or three Saunders aircraft, and if he had to choose as between doing that or providing two or three Saunders aircraft to Transair free of charge, which would he recommend.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. ALLARD: Well, my immediate temptation of course is to answer in the evidently reasonable way and what I believe to be true. On the other hand I hope that this question isn't a hoochy-koochy dancer with so many curves that . . . My immediate reaction would be to send them to Bangladesh. Quite frankly men must eat, planes are being used for, you know to provide sustenance. Surely to God with the kind of a budget that we have, the funds that we have, the fact that we are able -- we're fortunate enough to be able to distribute, you know, to many of our taxpayers some refunds in one way or another, that we should be able to share with some of the poorest people on earth.

Mr. Speaker, when I said that I did not support the motions of non-confidence of the two opposition parties, I said that I did not do so because I don't believe that man lives by bread alone and that really their motives for non-confidence were pretty well limited to that. It does not mean, Mr. Speaker, that I am entirely happy with the government, or even that happy with the government -- I would not be sitting here if I was.

In terms of education, Mr. Speaker, the question of taxes is not the only question that arises. I was truly saddened and deeply saddened last year by what happened to a resolution before this House. I have always believed that parental rights in education were primary rights and that they are, that they will continue to be, and whether they are being respected or not doesn't deny their existence. Our social policies, the application of some of the laws perhaps that have been made by Ottawa but which are under our control to a certain extent, leaves a great deal to be desired. The Minister of Welfare -- the Minister of Social Development I think has some responsibilities in this field. I'm told, Mr. Speaker, that there are a number of other members who want to speak and on that basis I'll yield the floor.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry has a point of order? Would he raise it.

MR. SHERMAN: The point of order, Mr. Speaker, I appeal to your sense of fairness, Sir, to recognize a member of the Conservative Party to speak next in the rotation, the particular member in question the Member for Birtle-Russell has been on his feet after the last three speakers have spoken has now been forced . . . Conservative speaker . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, Order please. That is not a point of order but I shall answer the honourable gentleman. There have been eighteen from the left hand side, fifteen from the right hand side of the benches. I think that's fair enough.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Well Mr. Speaker . . .

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order --(Interjection)-- Inasmuch as there seems to be great concern on the other side --(Interjection)-- Well I don't dispute the Speaker's figures. I'm sure he's been taking careful count and I did notice that a member on that side has just concluded his speech and I thought it would be appropriate for someone on this side to get up. However, and I had a few remarks to make, but in view of the fact that one or two members of that side are very desirous to speaking I shall yield the floor to my honourable members opposite. --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order please --(Interjection)-- Order please. Order please. I do believe the honourable members elected me to be in charge of your proceedings. Would they give me that courtesy. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at this time I must thank the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I'm sure that this is one of the greatest contributing things that he has done for the Province of Manitoba in the last four years.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, in all sincerity I do thank him and I appreciate the opportunity that he has given to this side of the House who have sat here for quite some time and listened to speech after speech. I don't want to be too long, Mr. Speaker. I want to congratulate you on your appointment again as Speaker for this year. I want to offer my congratulations to the mover and the seconder of the Speech and I want to thank all those that have contributed so far to the debate on the Speech so far in this House, and also for other contributions that have been made, which have been either during the question period or matters of privilege because I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that indications are that this session is going to be both fruitful and beneficial for the people of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard many strange statements and in fact we have seen some odd happenings in this House today, some things that I personally scratched my head and wondered about. --(Interjection)-- I also have a very good pair of pinchers that can remove any splinters and I'll assure the Member for Flin Flon that I won't get too close to him again.

MR. BARROW: If you need help let me know.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, the thing that impressed me most today however in the proceedings in this House was the question that has been raised on more than one occasion and this deals with the subject that some people may wonder why I as a rural member in this House should become concerned about. And this is the question of the utilization of a small park which is outside the Legislative Building on Memorial Avenue.

Mr. Speaker, several years ago I had the privilege of attending the University of Manitoba which at that time had a university campus on that same property. Those buildings since that time have been torn down and the people that were in charge of the affairs of state of this province after listening to due representation from the people of Manitoba considered it in the interest of the people of all Manitoba that a park should be created in memory of those that served their country and this province when the question of emergency arose. And people of that day were tremendously proud, and indeed they applauded the fact that the government of the day had the compassion and the understanding to recognize that those that served asked little other than the fact that they should be recognized for the service that they gave to their country in time of emergency, and some of those that did not come back would be remembered in a fitting way. And so a park was created, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure that you, Mr. Speaker, are fully aware of what I am talking about. I am assured also that the Deputy Speaker is equally aware of what I am talking about. I am sure that there are others in this Chamber who are also aware of the sacrifice of those that took up the cause when the call arose and served their country in a manner in which the country dictated, and they did not ask for any special favour other than to serve. And so we erected a park in their memory. And later, Mr. Speaker, if history serves me correct, there were those in this province who wanted to build a memorial to the City of Winnipeg, in fact they wanted to build an ivory tower, a city hall on those very premises. And did they build it, Mr. Speaker? The answer is no. And that little plot of ground was preserved as a memorial for those that served and City Hall was moved to preserve a little piece of green ground in memory of those that served, Mr. Speaker --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, I will gladly submit to a question after I am finished my speech.

THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (cont'd)

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, today there are those in this government who do not wish to recognize those that served. Mr. Speaker, there are those in government today who say, "A pox on them" Mr. Speaker, and there is one standing there now. --(Interjection)--

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Order please. --(Interjection)-- Order please! Would everyone sit down. Would the Honourable First Minister state his matter of privilege.

MR. SCHREYER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My point of privilege is that the Honourable the Member for Birtle-Russell has stated in a flat out way that there are members on this side, that the members on this side do not wish to honour and commemorate those who have served in wars of bygone years. He did not qualify that statement. For all I know he is reflecting on the Chair, on you, Sir, who I see are bemedalled as you sit there and he ignores the fact that members of my immediate family served in two theatres of war and almost gave their life in Korea, and I resent that remark. It stinks coming from my honourable friend.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. -- (Interjection)-- Order please. The point in respect to the matter of privilege is well taken. I do believe members when they are speaking should not impugn other members of this Assembly.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The First Minister invited me to clarify my statements and I am more than willing to clarify them.

Mr. Speaker, in the last little while the actions of this government have been such that they want to desecrate the ground that was committed to the memory of those that served. They want to-- they in fact have dug a hole on that ground. The Minister of Public Works has stated that this is done to provide a service to those that are in need. --(Interjection)--Mr. Speaker, at the same time --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, if the First Minister would only listen -- at the same time the Minister of Health, who is also a member of this Cabinet, has spent a great deal of public money, a great deal of public money, Mr. Speaker, providing for new facilities, new facilities for the correctional institutes of this province. In a very short time, Mr. Speaker, Vaughan Street Detention Home will no longer be used. Mr. Speaker, Vaughan Street Detention Home will no longer cease to exist as the detention home. It's only a matter of a few steps away from the piece of greenery that has been set aside.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Public Works has a little imagination and perhaps possibly if he feels it is in the interest of the public to create a comfort station in the centre of the City of Winnipeg, perhaps possibly he could move it to the site of the old Vaughan Street Detention home and preserve, preserve for posterity that sacred ground that was set aside for those that served with their lives and those that were fortunate enough to come back and speak for those that were not able to come back. And Mr. Speaker, the Member for St. John is one of those and I admire the Member for St. Johns. I admire much of the work he has done and the work that he did when he served his country in time of need. But, Mr. Speaker, I ask you this, did the Minister of Public Works consult with those societies that are looking after the affairs of the returned men? Did they consult with the legion? Did they consult with the Army and Navy? Did they consult with the War Amputees' Association, and all the other service organizations? And I assure you, Sir, that the information I have is in the negative.

So I have no other course, Mr. Speaker, but to assume that this government is not interested in preserving the record of those that served our country so valiantly in the first and the second World Wars, and in other times of conflict, because the actions of this government that have been indicated today, Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry to say leave a great vacuum in that particular field. --(Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, as a member of Her Majesty's Armed Forces that served in the second World War, I am proud to associate myself with those that are recognized by the little piece of green ground that is situated in front of this building known as Memorial Park and dedicated by the Province of Manitoba to the preservation of the memory of those that served.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hour of 9:30 having arrived, according to our rules now I must put the question to the House.

QUESTION put and carried.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I have a message from His Honour .

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba estimates of sums required for the services of the Province for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1974 and recommends these Estimates to the Legislative Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the House Leader, that the Address to the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor be engrossed -- no I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I have a procedural problem here -- that the Message from His Honour together with the Estimates accompanying the same be referred to the Committee of Supply.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, on just a procedural matter here I would like to in accordance with precedents of this House, while the copies of the Estimates are being distributed to honourable members, make a short statement relative to the Estimates, and just prior to that being done, Sir, I would like to move a motion that ought to have been moved immediately after the vote on the Throne Speech, and that is the Address to His Honour. So if it's all right I will now move that motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed? (Agreed) Proceed.

MR. SCHREYER: Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, that the Address to the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor be engrossed and presented to His Honour by such members of the House as are of the Executive Council and the mover and seconder of the Address.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, while the Estimates of Expenditure booklets are being distributed to honourable members I would like to make a statement in my capacity as Minister of Finance. In preparing these statements the government has sought to maintain the high quality of existing government programs and at the same time where need is indicated to initiate innovative and imaginative and needed new programs. Further we have undertaken to insure a more equitable distribution of public services to the citizens of the Province of Manitoba. These commitments have been carried out by the Manitoba Government with a sense of fiscal and financial responsibility as illustrated by the Estimates I am presenting to honourable members today.

The main Estimates of expenditure for the 1973-74 fiscal year upcoming call for the appropriation by honourable members of some \$615,483,000 to enable the continuous provision of provincial public services of high calibre. This amount represents -- and this is to help to put it in perspective, Mr. Speaker -- this amount represents an increase of 6.8 percent over the Estimates for fiscal 72-72. I am happy to note that in relation to estimates that have been brought forward in other legislative assemblies in sister provinces that our Estimates being brought forward here are well in line.

As a result of carefully conceived policies and long range planning we have been able to restrain the level of cost escalation usually associated with the provision of such services. For the first time in most of our memories the annual expenditure increase for the Department of Health and Welfare is 3.4 percent, which is relatively low. This slight increase signifies neither a sacrifice of quality nor restricted development of necessary services. Rather it is the product of a successful rationalization of some effective programs with a more efficient delivery mechanism.

I should also add, Mr. Speaker, that involved in the Estimates is the transfer of certain amounts of money from one part of the Estimates to another, relative to some new programs relative to old age pensioners and the waiver of health premium, etc. So honourable members will see that there is some page to page rearrangement in that particular respect then.

The Department of Youth and Education's estimated expenditures for fiscal 73-74 represent an increase of 4.1 percent from fiscal 72-73.



ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SCHREYER cont'd) . . . . As further measures to ensure an appropriate, equitable and orderly delivery system for provincial public services the Manitoba Government has since assuming office created certain new departments and broadened the responsibilities of certain existing departments.

Our establishment of the Departments of Urban Affairs and Northern Affairs and Colleges and Universities and Co-operative Development reflect our efforts to respond adequately to contemporary concerns. In fact the largest increase in departmental expenditures for fiscal 73-74 is that of the Department of Northern Affairs, and that of the Department of Agriculture. The expenditures needed to provide public services in northern Manitoba and development in northern Manitoba require an increase of some 53 percent in departmental spending for that part of the province.

And insofar as the Department of Agriculture services are concerned honourable members will note an increase in the order of 33 percent.

So, Mr. Speaker, that highlights the priorities of concern insofar as urban -- rural and northern regions of the province are concerned.

The Estimates I present to you and other members of the House today represent many months of hard work to devise an expenditure program consistent with the objectives of the Government of Manitoba. I now commend these main expenditure Estimates to the study of the Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, just by way of information, it's the intention of the government to proceed firstly with the Department of Mines and Natural Resources, and secondly with the Department of Agriculture. I believe that will carry members sufficiently enough in advance so that they can prepare. --(Interjection)-- Well I doubt whether we will reach any of the departmental estimates tomorrow. My suggestion is that we proceed with the motion on the House rules which the estimates are governed by and try to dispose of the House Rules Committee Report, hopefully getting to estimates on Thursday or if necessary on Friday.

If the Honourable Member for Rhineland insists on adjourning that debate, if we can't proceed with that debate, and I shouldn't think it should -- I regret and I apologize to the Honourable Member for Rhineland that I even singled him out. I am hoping that that debate will be proceeded with quickly. If it doesn't we have no alternative but to proceed with the estimates under the rules as they exist which means breakdowns into hours, which I don't think members of the Opposition are happy with. So either by some common understanding or by other arrangements, which will depend to some extent on us using our common sense, we will be into the estimates on Thursday or Friday, hopefully under the new rules. If that doesn't happen we will have to make such accommodations as we can amongst each other, or if not proceed under the old rules. I don't see that the House Committee Report, Mr. Speaker, contains anything that should result in a protracted debate.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you. Would the Minister permit a question on the manner of procedure, Mr. Speaker? Should we not get through the procedural debate, the rules debate, and reach a successful conclusion that the Minister suggests correctly that we're aiming for will that mean that the consideration of the estimates in totality will then fall under the old rules, or will it be possible to make an adjustment half way through.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I am hoping that we will be able to proceed by common sense and I would hope that we reserve these complications until they arise. I am hoping that they will not arise.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there are still two, I suppose I could say routine motions to deal with. I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, that this House will at its next sitting resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Labour, that this House will at its next sitting resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means for raising of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Lest there be any misunderstanding I also intend that when Bills appear on the Order Paper, for the first while at least, we will call them to see whether we can move those bills which are possibly not contentious so that they can get to committee early, so I don't intend that the House will deal exclusively with Estimates, we will also be calling bills as they appear.

Mr. Speaker, I would think that the House has exhausted the Order Paper for today and therefore I would move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, that the House do now adjourn.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The House is accordingly adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 Wednesday afternoon.