

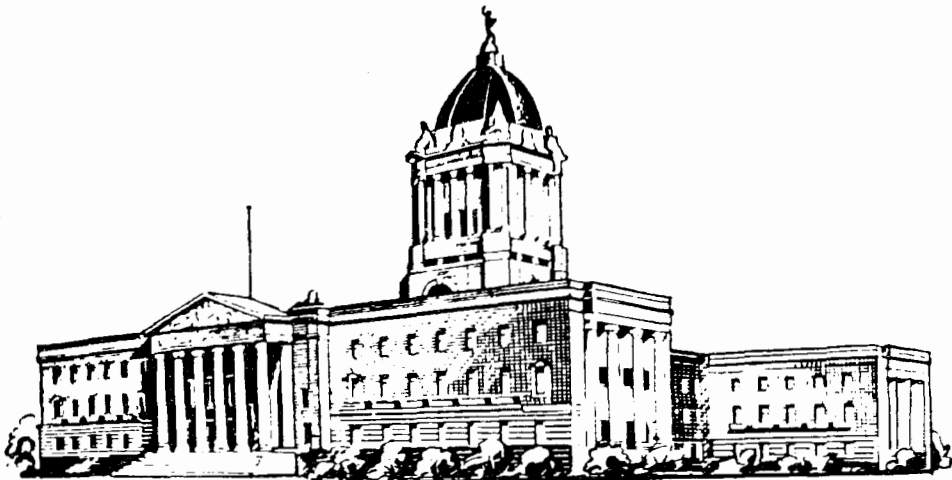


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XX No. 20 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 12th, 1973.

Fifth Session, 29th Legislature.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 p. m. , Monday, March 12, 1973

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of honourable members to the gallery where we have 23 students of Grade 11 standing of the Rosenort Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. H. Bjarnason. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Morris.

We also have ten students of the West Kildonan Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. K. Butler. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks, The Minister of Colleges and Universities.

We have eight students, ten year olds, of the Bergthaler Church. These students are under the direction of Mr. Alex Epp. This is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

We have 80 students Grade 11 standing of Lincoln school. These students are under the direction of Mr. C. Zacharias and Mrs. E. Fowler. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

On behalf of all the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly I welcome you here today.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions, Reading and Receiving Petitions, Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees, Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. RUSSELL DOERN (Minister of Public Works)(Elmwood): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit the annual report of the Department of Public Works for the fiscal year 1971-1972.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. RON McBRIDE (Minister of Northern Affairs)(The Pas): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a Ministerial Statement in regard to an amendment to The Pas Special Area Agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member have a copy for the House?

MR. McBRIDE: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first I would apologize to yourself and to members opposite, the announcement that I am going to make is included partly in a press release made by the Federal Government at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon in regard to the signing of an amendment to The Pas Special Area Agreement. The normal procedure, Mr. Speaker, is that the Federal and Provincial Ministers responsible reach an agreement on the press release and make a simultaneous release in regard to amendments to the agreement. I don't know because of his newness or what happened, Mr. Speaker, the Federal Minister made a release at 2:00 o'clock today and therefore I'd like to inform this House that the Federal Government has signed the agreement and I'll be signing on behalf of the provincial agreement after the question period today.

Mr. Speaker, the agreement that is being amended was signed August 1971 under the Special Areas Program of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and by a provincial minister responsible for The Pas Special Area Agreement.

In order to further the role of the town of The Pas as the area's major growth center, this amendment includes several new projects that will expand the town's service facilities, diversify the economic base of the community, and reinforce it as a transitional center.

Under the second agreement provision was made for the external servicing of a light industrial park in the Town of The Pas. This amendment will extend the assistance to include the cost for internal servicing of the industrial park; assistance will also be provided for the construction of a district library; the extension of sanitary and storm sewer facilities; and a program of street reconstruction for the town of The Pas.

The community of Cranberry Portage will also benefit in that assistance will be provided for the installation of sewer and water facilities.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

(MR. McBRYDE cont'd.)

The amendment will provide assistance for the work on provincial route No. 283, including the reconstruction and paving of 12 miles of the highway and upgrading of 15 more miles.

The amendment further provides that The Pas Special Area will remain eligible for industrial incentives from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion until March 31st, 1975.

The agreement is also part of the agreement that Indian Affairs, the Federal Department and Regional Economic Expansion have approved an additional expenditure of \$500,000 for The Pas Indian Reserve, which is located in the special area. This expenditure, which will be shared by the two departments is to provide for additional infrastructure projects such as road construction, paving and street lighting. These projects requested by the Band Council complete the program for street improvement in the town of The Pas.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that's the substance of the announcement that was made by the Federal Minister this morning and by myself at this time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): As outlined by the Minister, it is regrettable that one hasn't been able to more or less digest the detail but we on this side of the House are very happy with the agreement that has been arranged, and certainly the people of The Pas and the environment of The Pas are going to be that much better off.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. I. H. (Izzy) ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party)(Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, we too join in expressing our appreciation to the Federal Government for having agreed to the amendments and the new grants of aid and development for infrastructure to The Pas. I understand also that - I don't know that it's a fact yet. I had hoped the Minister would have made a statement on this. I had heard at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon also that the same Minister has offered the Province of Manitoba an additional, approximately, \$12 million being the DREE grant to the CFI complex, which is to be held in trust to pay off the creditors of the complex, the small suppliers, and if that's the case, as I'll be asking Mr. Speaker, \$12 million more has been offered to the province and I would . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable House Leader on a Point of Order.

POINTS OF ORDER

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management)(Inkster): Yes. The honourable member is entitled to comment on the statement made by the Minister. If there's a new matter that will arise, it will arise either during question periods or on other statements made under Ministerial Statements.

MR. SPEAKER: The point is well taken. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: I simply raised the point because I had thought that the Ministerial Statement was meant to include the changes and the grants, the new grants by the . . .

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

MR. GREEN: Is the member going to persist to surreptitiously deal with a question which he knows is completely unrelated to The Pas Special Area Agreement or if he doesn't know it, then it's a demonstration of his ignorance.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party explain his point of order?

MR. ASPER: The Minister has made a statement relative to a grant by the Federal Government to The Pas for the signing of an amending agreement with The Pas.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I would like to indicate -- order, please - to the House that a reply - that everybody is entitled to a reply to the Ministerial Statement. The point that the honourable House Leader raised is well taken that it should stay within that realm and no farther.

The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party wish to complete his statement?

MR. ASPER: On the point of order, I would have thought that any federal grant in the DREE, ARDA, whether DREE special arrangements with The Pas, would be relevant inasmuch as the Minister has opened the subject. If that's your ruling, Sir, then I will conclude my statement by simply saying that while we are delighted to hear that the new amendments have gone through granting this special program amendment, we are looking forward to much, much more.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other Ministerial Statement or Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to lay on the table the annual report of the Communities Economic Development Fund. There are also copies, Mr. Speaker, for all of the members which I would ask the pages to pass around.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development)(Springfield): Mr. Speaker, I would like to lay before the members of the House the annual report of the Department of Health and Social Development for the year 1972. There are copies available for all members of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other Ministerial Statements or Tabling of Reports? Notices of Motion, Introduction of Bills, The Honourable Minister of Labour.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour)(Transcona) introduced Bill No. 18, an Act to amend the Employment Safety Act.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Os borne -- not present.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q. C. (Leader of the Opposition)(River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister, and it's to him in his capacity as Minister in charge of Hydro. I wonder if he could confirm that he attended a Board Meeting of Hydro where a budget item of \$177 million was approved to cover the combined cost of Jenpeg generating station and the Lake Winnipeg Regulation project?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier)(Rossmore): Mr. Speaker, the matter that the honourable member refers to was dealt with at a Board Meeting in the latter part of 1972. I did attend, as Minister reporting for portions or for a period of time, at two of the meetings in the latter part of 1972. This matter had been dealt with in far greater length prior to my being at the meeting.

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister who is in charge of Hydro. In view of the fact that the \$177 million budgeted is \$77 million higher than the original hundred forecast before the Standing Committee on Public Utilities, I wonder how the Premier can suggest that the increased cost is only 10 percent?

Mr. Speaker: Order. Order, please. Order, please. The question is argumentative. The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the numbers that my honourable friends use are quite inaccurate.

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Point of Order. If the question is argumentative and not allowed under our rules, then the reply is not allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: Possibly the question shouldn't be asked to begin with. Order, please.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD Cont'd

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. Is it correct that the Federal Government announced today at 2:00 o'clock that it was making available to the Province of Manitoba \$12 million in trust to pay the creditors for The Pas Complex who have not been paid?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there are two parts to the question. The first part is correct; yes the government of Canada has through the Honourable Don Jamieson, indicated to

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

(MR. SCHREYER Cont'd.) us - announced that they are prepared to accept the proposal put forward many months ago for the establishment of a special trust fund into which up to \$12 million equivalent to the old AIDA grants would be paid, interest bearing and accruing, and that subject to certain conditions being met these moneys would then be available for conveyance to the entity that will be operating the CFI or The Pas Forest complex. Among the several conditions involved has to do with clearing of title, the meeting of valid claims, and of course that was the basis upon which the Province of Manitoba put the proposal forward in the first place.

I cannot indicate now in a definitive way that the agreement will be signed, but certainly on a quick perusal of the letter it would seem that the matter is being brought to a successful conclusion, and if that be so I would want to take this opportunity to thank the officials, the Government of Canada, for what appears to be a reasonable acceptance of a reasonable proposal.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Has the Province of Manitoba indicated to the Federal Government and is it part of this arrangement that the Government of Manitoba acquire title to the Forestry Complex and establish a Crown Corporation to operate it?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the entity that will operate will obviously in order to gain eligibility for the funds have to be, have to meet valid claims and operate with clear title. That is apparently one of the conditions involved in the concept of this special trust fund.

MR. ASPER: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, can we now then expect that the valid or invalid, regardless of the specifically legalistic approach, that the unpaid workmen who worked for sub-contractors who went bankrupt, and who were not paid, will they be paid out of this \$12 million fund?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, for you know quite a period of time now we have been proceeding to try to deal with all valid claims, and we are proceeding on the basis of the best legal advice from the law firm of Grey Richardson and Company, and we hope that the course of action we have been following is one that is legally correct and appropriate, and that is, also, bearing in mind the common sense of the situation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Honourable the First Minister. I wonder if he could tell us what were the main responsibilities of Arthur D. Lytle in the development of the Churchill Forest Products?

A MEMBER: He wasn't born then - ask your leader.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that may be a very important question, I would ask my honourable friend to repeat it.

MR. GIRARD: Yes I would like to know what were the main responsibilities of Arthur D. Lytle in the development of the Churchill Forest Products plant?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, that would - the question covers a period of time of approximately 10 years more or less. The responsibility of Arthur D. Lytle in all this has been very great and therefore I don't feel that I can answer it as a verbal answer to a verbal question. If the honourable member would like to file a written question, Order for Return, indicating the amount that has been paid out to Arthur D. Lytle over the past decade, etc., that information can be made available.

MR. GIRARD: Yes I would like to ask a supplementary. Is it a fact that Arthur D. Lytle was primarily responsible for the payout procedures?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I don't mind giving my honourable friend my very definite impression of that. However, it is a matter which is under investigation by the Commission of Enquiry and therefore in a sense, is an impingement of the rule relative to sub judice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Education.

Does the Minister anticipate any reduction in the number of school teachers in the Province of Manitoba this coming school term?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Education)(Burrows): Mr. Speaker, I do not know at this point in time.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary, would the Minister agree with the Teachers Society that lowering pupil-teacher ratio would improve the quality of education?

MR. SPEAKER: The question is argumentative.

MR. PATRICK: I'll rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well.

MR. PATRICK: Will the grants be increased to rural school divisions so that the quality of education does not deteriorate?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Whether or not grants will be increased is a matter of policy. Insofar as maintaining the quality of education, or in fact improving it, that has always been the policy of this government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party. Supplementary, last one.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary. Will that policy be announced this session, Mr. Speaker?

MR. HANUSCHAK: In due course, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney-General. Did the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on January 25th, 1972, fourteen months ago lay charges arising out of the CFI complex against Dr. Reiser, Dr. Kasser, Stanley Mulette, a Mr. Kulling, a Mr. Zingre, Canequip Corporation of which Mr. Mulette is the President, Bertram Verkauts, of which Mr. Zingre is the president, and East Coast Machinery?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I do believe a question of that nature should have been given as notice. It would have been much better if it had been in written form so that all the data could have been compiled. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. I wonder if he could indicate if he's taking any steps to see to it that there is sufficient doctors for the Gillam Hospital and the Gillam residents?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. TOUPIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I've had no recent inquiry or demand for additional doctors needed for the Gillam area but if there are, either directly through the department or through the Medical Association, we can go back to the practice that we had in sending doctors to the Gillam area.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, in view of the heavy turnover of doctors at Gillam, will the Minister consider sending someone who is perhaps on salary to assure the residents of adequate medical protection around the clock.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. TOUPIN: That is sometimes difficult but we'll take that under consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson. Last supplementary.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, this question is for the Attorney-General. Will the Attorney-General take steps to prevent the almost weekly escape of prisoners while under escort to downtown sporting events?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q. C. (Attorney-General)(St. James): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the honourable member's concern. There are times when even with the best of systems mistakes can happen, and I certainly am concerned with the fact that this is the second occasion in recent years that has happened and we'll certainly look into it.

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order and I apologize that I didn't rise at the moment at what in my opinion the point of order should have been raised, and that is the fact that my Leader asked a question of the Attorney-General and you made -- and I understood you to say that you made the ruling that because the question was rather complex that the question should not be asked. Now my point of order, Mr. . . .

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I made no suggestion that the question shouldn't be asked. I suggested that it would have been better served if it had been written, or if notice had been given of it. And the honourable gentleman can either write the question or it can be taken as notice the way it is now. The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: If I can continue on the point of order. My suggestion to the Chair is that this is for the Minister to respond. If he would like to reply . . . reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. Let me suggest to the honourable gentleman that our rules do have opportunities for any member to discuss the rules with the Speaker in private. If he so wishes he may have that wish fulfilled. I do think the rules are being serviced by myself, that's what I was elected for. The Chamber has the opportunity to take any suggestion that I take or make and express its opinion on it. But in the meantime the Chair is indicating that this is what should take place at the moment. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD Cont'd

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, if I may rephrase the question that created the discussion. It was really a simple question. Did the R. C. M. P. lay charges . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable First Minister on a point of order

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SCHREYER: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My point of order is to the very contrary of the point made by the Member for Portage la Prairie. The suggestion that it is somehow unusual for a Speaker to indicate that a particular question is one that ought better to be put in written form or by way of Order for Return is not only not unusual, Sir, it is commonplace and frankly, Sir, it is very frequent that, for example, Sir, your counterpart, Mr. Speaker Lamoureux, advises honourable members that their question is not a proper question for verbal questions before Orders of the Day. The fact that that practice is not frequently engaged, used in this House, does not make it invalid by any means and the mere getting up and rephrasing a question does not make it appropriate if it is already suggested by the Chair that it is better put in written form or by way of formal notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The point is well taken. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD Cont'd

MR. GIRARD: Yes, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. I wonder if he could suggest to the House whether or not the overpayments of grants in the Rolling River School Division was as a result of having the records claiming grants show students who were not in fact attending.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, as I had indicated previously there was a misinterpretation of the regulations governing school -- the attendance keeping of students as it relates to the payment of grants falling into two or three general areas. The fact that they are on the semester system had presented a problem; the fact that Rolling River School Division had quite an aggressive program for the reinstatement or the return of students if they had dropped out for some time; and also a misinterpretation of the provisions governing the payment of grants for special education students, and those were the reasons for the discrepancy between the claim that the Rolling River School Division originally made and the final figure that has been arrived at a few weeks ago.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Municipal Affairs in his capacity as Minister reporting for Autopac. Can the Minister confirm that the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation got stuck with several hundred thousand dollars in NSF cheques from Manitoba motorists on their Autopac premiums for the year ended February 28th, 1973.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs)(Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, first there was a number of of course NSF cheques; you would expect that where there is a time payment system - not to the extent suggested by the Honourable Member for Fort Garry,

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

(MR. PAWLEY Cont'd.) considerably less. The exact amount I do not have at the present time but at a later point would be pleased to give the honourable member the exact amount, but it's considerably less than that which you had indicated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Is there still a substantial amount outstanding with respect to those accounts?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Well it's difficult to define the word "substantial", Mr. Speaker. There is certainly a sum of money outstanding. Effort is being made to collect and it's my understanding that there is progressive and successful recovery of moneys that are owing as a result of NSF cheques. Certainly like any other business, whether it's private or Medicare, or any other, there will be some that will not be collectable.

MR. SHERMAN: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Are those drivers in arrears still driving, and are they still insured, and what happens to other Manitoba motorists who are in accidents involving drivers whose insurance has not been paid.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The question is asking for a legal opinion. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: . . . if I could, because I would not want to leave that question, the latter part of it unanswered, because it could give way to false steers by the very nature of the question itself, that insofar as any motorist is concerned that is involved in an accident with a person that has been issued a registration form which contains the insurance, then that motorist can be satisfied that the motorist is fully insured under the public insurance system unlike the private insurance system. So that motorists need not fear despite the content of the question posed by the Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, last Thursday I took as notice some questions from the Honourable Member from Rhineland concerning the questions as to whether there were speakers connected to the P. A. system in the House, whether they were installed in the press room and TV and radio room, and the answer is yes.

The honourable member also wanted to know what the cost was and whether or not the press had been billed for this. The answer is that the cost was approximately \$170.00, and that we have billed the press.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. Will areas of Manitoba that are suffering very much more serious problems in the School of Ninette, or that school division, be afforded the same privileges as that particular demonstration project?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Whatever is done, Mr. Speaker, in the area of the development or the experimentation with small schools will be done for the benefit of all the schools that would benefit therefrom.

MR. GIRARD: A supplementary then, Mr. Speaker. Does that mean that the same kind of demonstration project is available to all schools that are in that particular position?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, I never said that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a further question to the Minister of Education. How many divisions are presently employing the semester system?

MR. SPEAKER: The question is statistical. It should have been given notice of. The Honourable Minister of Education has the answer?

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Speaker, I was merely going to indicate that I am prepared to take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education. Has the Department purchased 109 buses from Flyer Coach Industries?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: No, Mr. Speaker.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. BARKMAN: If not, Mr. Speaker, to the same Minister; were tenders let or are they in the process of purchasing these units from Flyer Coach Industries Limited.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I will also take that question as notice. I cannot reply with certainty at what stage the matter is at as related to the purchase of buses.

MR. BARKMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, one last question then. I hope -- if the figure is . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question.

MR. BARKMAN: The question is then if -- were there over 100 buses bought directly from Motor Coach Industries?

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, when I answered the first question indicating that at this point in time no buses had been purchased, I mean no buses.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, I'd like to direct another question to the Honourable Minister of Education. I wonder if he could tell us approximately how many full-time teachers are involved in the IMPACTE Program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Mr. Speaker, the IMPACTE Program is not my program, number one. Number two, involved in what capacity, as students or as teachers within the IMPACTE Program?

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to redirect that question then to the Honourable Minister of Universities and Colleges. I wonder if he can tell us how many full-time teachers are involved in teaching the students who are in the IMPACTE Program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Universities and Colleges.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Colleges and Universities)(Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I'll take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Highways.

HON. PETER BURTNIAK (Minister of Highways)(Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, some time ago the Honourable Member for Thompson directed a question to the First Minister which he took as notice and later directed to me as it applies to my department, and the question was: will the government arrive at a policy regarding grants on a per mile basis to the City of Winnipeg because work has been given to private contractors which will probably raise costs? The only thing I can answer to that, Mr. Speaker, is the question is rather hypothetical and it's not really a fact, it's just a probability.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney-General. In view of Justice Minister Otto Lang's investigation -- ordering of an investigation into abuses of the present Abortion Act across Canada, will the Attorney-General order a similar investigation in Manitoba, particularly at the General Hospital where the abuses are the most prevalent?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the fact that the honourable member gave me notice of this question late this morning. In answer to him I want to indicate that I have not received formal notice of the investigation that he refers to as being conducted to by the Minister of Justice. As and when that is received that certainly will be considered and I want to go on record as indicating that we would certainly want to co-operate with any inquiry that the Minister of Justice sees fit to bring. As for our taking independent action, I think we should await seeing what proposals he makes in a formal way.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Does the government intend to allow the area of Gillam to be incorporated as a self-governing town with an elected council?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the issue of Gillam was fully discussed by the committee dealing with municipal affairs and it's part of the report by that committee to the Legislature and if the honourable member would refer to that report, I believe there is specific reference to Gillam in it.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, my question is: if an application is received from the people of Gillam . . .

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, the question then is: will the government and the Minister undertake to advise the people of Gillam as to their legal rights to incorporate as a town?

MR. PAWLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there is no difficulty insofar as -- in fact it is the intention of the department pursuant to the hearings that we have recently completed to fully inform all the communities in northern Manitoba as to the advantages and/or disadvantages of them incorporating and we would look forward to doing the same insofar as Gillam is concerned.

MR. ASPER: A final supplementary. Then may I understand you correctly to mean that the government favours the incorporation of Gillam as an independent town?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the words that I'd used that we would meet with the people in the community informing them as to the advantage and/or disadvantages so that there could be a full discussion without any effort on the part of the government to coerce the residents in either - in retaining the status quo or progressing to a different form of government.

MR. ASPER: To the same Minister, Mr. Speaker. Approximately when might those meetings take place in Gillam?

MR. PAWLEY: I would hope that very shortly, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs in his capacity as Minister reporting for Autopac. Are those drivers in arrears to Autopac as a result of bad NSF cheques in 1972 being given their 1973 insurance coverage?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, every legal effort is being undertaken in order to collect any arrears that are owing to the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation. Insofar as those that -- methods are being worked out in order that we can refuse to issue registration renewals to those that are in arrears. I cannot answer specifically at the present time whether or not there have been any such actual denials of issuance of renewals at the present time, but let me assure the honourable member that it would be the intent to assure that one must pay their bill in order to obtain renewals insofar as the corporation is concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. Is he informed as to the projected decrease in the enrolment of students in the public school system of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker, and I would then supply the honourable member with as accurate a figure as we may have.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think maybe I was misunderstood. I was asking whether or not he was informed . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. It is not necessary, the procedures of this House whether the Minister is informed or not. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to place a question to the Minister of Education on the very subject matter that was raised by the Member for Emerson. When he makes up a projection for what period of time is this projection going to be, and will copies be made available to all members?

MR. HANUSCHAK: For whatever period we have such data for, Mr. Speaker. Yes, to the second part of the honourable member's question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Could he indicate for what length of time those councillors, nominated councillors at Gillam will hold office -- the nomination that took place, that took place last week?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take the question as notice to answer the member precisely. It's either two or three years, however.

MR. BOROWSKI: Well, Mr. Speaker, a further question. Has the Minister at any time received a petition signed by over 50 percent of the people of Gillam asking for self-government as we enjoy in Thompson?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, there have been petitions forwarded. I'm not sure whether they're in excess of 50 percent of those resident in the LGD. I would just like to clarify the

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

(MR. PAWLEY cont'd.) record. It is not councillors or candidates for council being nominated but candidates for advisory committee.

MR. BOROWSKI: The final question, Mr. Speaker. Would a petition bearing 51 percent of the residents guarantee self-government for Gillam?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, if my mind recalls correctly there was an agreement I believe entered into insofar as the Province of Manitoba is concerned and Manitoba Hydro, I believe -- yes during the -- in the LGD, during the period of the former government, the Conservative government, which I believe may have unfortunately some very firm things to say about the question which the honourable member has asked. So I think from a legal point of view I would have to say to him that agreement may in fact prevent this. I would go beyond that and say I would take the balance of the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Would that agreement that he just referred to not be with an instrumentality of the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the agreement is such that it was, I will provide the House -- members of the House already have copies of the agreement, some members of the House, result of the committee hearings. So far as I can recall it did involve tri-party, three parties to the agreement, the province, the LGD, and Manitoba Hydro, but I will table a copy of the agreement in the House.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, in view of the report the Minister has just made that . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question please.

MR. ASPER: . . . that all parties to the agreement being instrumentalities of Manitoba, in effect, is there anything that stands in the way of Gillam being incorporated as a self-governing town?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure the contract will speak for itself. It's a legal question but I will insure the House that we'll table a copy of that agreement, it was distributed to members of the House earlier as I'd indicated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable the First Minister. When the recent Canada-China Air Agreement was completed were there any new developments with respect to the bilaterals between Canada and the United States?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Now, Mr. Speaker, I'm trying to see if I understand the question. The honourable member asked whether at the time when the Canada-China -- did he say? -- Air Agreement was entered into whether at that time any changes were made with respect to Canada-U.S. bilaterals.

MR. SHERMAN: Well, indication that such changes are coming.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member knows the matter of bilateral arrangements, air service arrangements between Canada and the United States, and more particularly Manitoba and the U.S. northern midwest is concerned, that the Minister of Industry and Commerce has been keeping a study brief on the matter. Insofar as the Canada-China Air Agreement is concerned, it is something far beyond my limited knowledge of the matter, and I might say as an aside, Sir, that generally speaking we tend to favor the Government of Canada's policy with respect to foreign developments.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, could I perhaps redirect the question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce and ask him if there are any developments forthcoming, immediate developments forthcoming with respect to the Canada-U.S. bilaterals on air routes?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Shortly before this House opened its session, its 1973 session, I had the privilege of a two hour meeting with the Minister responsible for such matters, and I was given assurance by the Minister and one of his senior officials that a new bilateral agreement affecting Winnipeg was one of the top priorities on Canada-U.S. negotiations, that is with regard to another route between Winnipeg and another American city.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for his information. Is there a time period associated with that when that bilateral agreement will be considered

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

(MR. SHERMAN cont'd.) around a table?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member thinks as I do because I asked the very same question, and the understanding I had, or I was given, was that it would be within a matter of six weeks which would bring it some time in the month of March or early April.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: I have one last question for the Minister of Education. I wonder if he could tell us on what date the municipalities are to submit -- the school divisions rather, are to submit their financial requirements to municipalities?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: April the 1st.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Resources 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 and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair.

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 82 (a) (1). The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I'll try and not hold up the debate in the Estimates that are before us, the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, and I know he's a very busy Minister holding many important positions in the government, and I hope that he'll find time to look after some of the problems that I would like to relate to him in the Estimates.

Mr. Chairman, I would first draw your attention, through you to the Minister, of the flooding problems that again prevail in my constituency regarding the Upper Dam. I've already wrote a letter to the Minister, I'm sure maybe he's had a chance to peruse it, but somebody turned the water loose on what's known as the upper Dam and the ice, the water it's flooded over top of the ice, and there are three farmers that are liable to be flooded-- now the river has overflowed its banks in some places and that's a solid block of ice, so once the water starts coming down from the spring run-off I'm sure that there's going to be some flooding, and I've already wrote to your office and gave you the details of these three farms that are a real problem at this time.

Many concerns have also been expressed to me, Mr. Chairman, regarding the Shellmouth Dam, if and when there is going to be an official opening of the Shellmouth Dam, and if in fact when any development can be expected along the reservoir of the Shellmouth Dam. It has been constructed now for some three years and basically outside of some planning groups that are working with the municipalities, nothing has happened in the area and possibly if we have the official opening maybe we can get something off the ground and some form of development take place along the reservoir. I took the liberty of attending a meeting of the development people in Roblin not too long ago and finally got them to at least let one church camp go in along the -- on the area that's been allocated for church camps, but basically that's all that has happened regarding the Shellmouth Dam.

The Pleasant Valley project is completed, and I thank the Minister for his direction of his office in that, and at the moment may I draw to his attention that the possibility of a game sanctuary around this dam raises many interesting questions. It's an excellent location and with some of the experimentation that's taking place in his department regarding this type of a program with lure crops and such as are happening in the area, I am sure he'd find it a wonderful place to experiment, especially with birds, as a game sanctuary. The hunter-farmer relations in that area are much better than in any other area of my constituency around the Pleasant Valley Dam and I'm sure it would be an excellent place for a sanctuary to be experimented with.

Mr. Chairman, may I also draw to the Minister's attention some of the annual problems of drainage that I face as a MLA in the Pine River area regarding the Pine River itself and the

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. McKENZIE cont'd.) Duck River and the Slater River, these are annual problems and while the Minister has found a few dollars, some \$20,000, for the drainage, improved drainage of the Pine River, the other projects - I think there was some \$2,3000 allocated, which is hardly enough to basically show any improvements at all. I wonder in this particular type of drainage, Mr. Chairman, if government would listen to the local people, or listen to me as a MLA, as an example last year we could have dug all those drainage ditches; it was a dry year and a bulldozer could have went in and cleared miles and miles of those drains last year at very very little expense, but unfortunately it wasn't done so likely what you'll find out this year they'll be up there with a dredge. The water will be mud and they will be trying to dredge it with a dredge so there are times when it's very inexpensive -- the drains are not that wide or they're not that deep, that we could save the taxpayers some money if the civil servants would listen to the local people or find out when the timing is good for that type of a drainage.

The other problem that has been drawn to my attention is the fact that a lot of these drains have started at the wrong end. Instead of starting at the lake end and draining back towards the source of water, they start to drain where the source of water is and so the drain would be cleaned up to the farmers' limits, the limits of his property, and all of a sudden it stops. So I'm sure this spring there's going to be two or three farmers that will bound to be flooded because the drain has just come up to their property and stopped and now the water has no place to go. I'm sure if it could be started at the other end and from the lake source and brought back, it would be much better for public relations and I'm sure we would have a much better drain.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw again to the Minister's attention that the forestry industry in my constituency is one that's very encouraging. It's a source of revenue for many people who are involved in the cutting of pulp, and of course the industry in Roblin, Roblin Forest Products, continues to do an excellent job with its modern equipment and its excellent management. But there were some problems at Pine River with the pulp cutters which I drew to the attention of the Minister of Highways regarding the regulations of trucks and I'm sure we can deal with that in his estimates whereby they used to haul on a cord basis - six cords, seven cords on a truck - now they're scaling, they're trying to weigh the loads and it's become a real problem for many of those truckers in the area to find that all of a sudden a program that was successful over the years has been changed; and the truckers themselves find it's very difficult to estimate what the weight of the pulp will be on their trucks.

I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, if in fact the Minister has taken a look at the need again for a community pasture some place along the periphery of the Duck Mountains. It appears from the increased population of livestock in the general area and the utilization factor at St. Lazare community pasture and the one at San Clara, and also the one at Ethelbert, are basically filling up and some time in the near future I'm sure that we in Manitoba are going to have to maybe look for some grazing areas for our cattle, and if in fact the department could go back and look at the study that was done a few years back, it might be of interest to dust it off now and see if in fact that a program of this nature couldn't be taken a look at again and implemented. I'm sure the need is there, which the Minister understands the problems that we do have with the grazing of cattle in the Duck Mountain; possibly a community pastures, a development in the next four or five years or something like that might solve that problem.

A MEMBER: . . . You're not going to be around that long.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Chairman, the Lake Winnipegosis, of course, borders my constituency and I'm wondering when the fishermen in the area can expect help from the Department as to what their fishing plans will be. I found it very interesting to learn that the - I think the pickerel crop dropped from -- I think it was around 340,000 pounds in 1970, and it dropped to 115,000 in 1971, and I'm wondering if the Minister in his remarks would give us some idea of what plans he has for the restoration of the lake. Some suggestions no doubt that the Minister already understands have been suggested re the gill net and the mesh net sizes, but that seems to restrict the fishermen and they've really become unhappy.

The other thing Mr. Chairman, that the fishermen seem to be rather unhappy about that I don't think the word "fisherman" was even mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. I don't know why. It possibly was an oversight on the part of the government. But nevertheless there is quite a concern of those that look to that occupation for their livelihood.

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. McKENZIE cont'd)

I am also wondering if there is a possibility of an extension for the whitefish season on the lake. Maybe the Minister can elaborate in his remarks for those fishermen in Roblin constituency whose future livelihood is based on the lake.

I did overlook -- and I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me in his remarks, has any of the land along the Shellmouth Reservoir been acquired for a wildlife sanctuary. There are many-- it has, I'm told, the best -- some of the best deer habitats in western Canada is found on the east bank of the Assiniboine River along the Shellmouth Reservoir, and I'm wondering if the Minister can advise of any controls or regulations that can be expected in that area to control and further develop that excellent habitat?

With those few remarks Mr. Chairman I look forward to the benefit of the Minister's wisdom in reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, I only have a few small remarks to make, and I wish to deal specifically with game and fish and water fowl and management in this area, because as far as I'm concerned, I find no great quarrel with the manner in which this is looked after with the exception, perhaps some few exceptions. I think, Mr. Chairman, that we should remember one thing, that in order to maintain our proper number of game there are a few matters that we should keep in mind. I'm just looking at the report which was tabled the other day and did not have sufficient time to get into it as much as I would have liked to, but I'm looking on one area and that's to do with the upland game birds and I find that the permits have increased substantially, and non-resident permits increased as much as by 50 percent. Well, Mr. Chairman, to me this is a substantial increase and I do find that in many areas of this province that our upland game has really decreased, particularly the sharp tailed grouse and the ruffed grouse, and I would like to ask the Minister if there's been any indication to reduce the number of quota in this area, or perhaps increase the non-resident fees, because at one time the Hungarian partridge were very very plentiful and it was a very popular bird, and today it's almost impossible to find one; and this has been taking place when you find that your non-resident hunters have increased by 50 percent. There may be some in the honourable member's area down southwest but from my experience, I find that the upland game has not been as plentiful in the last while.

I think that we should be concerned about systematic harvesting, the use of the game habitat, that is feed. When I say feed, I have in mind perhaps even for our wild animals, that's deer, sowing some crops away from domestic areas where it's not too near to any cattle, because I understand that much of your wild animals will not come too close, or feed in the area where your domestic cattle feed.

Now the other point I know in the last few months there has been a very concerted effort on the program to -- about wolf, and at one time he was considered as a real predator and today there's a campaign to save the wolf, and I could call myself a friend of the wolf; but on the other hand I'm told in some areas that the timber wolf and the coyotes are so plentiful that-- and there are no deer, almost non-existent in some areas that they were plentiful, so this is -- perhaps the Minister can check with the department and see what is happening as far as predator control and what's happened.-- (Interjection)-- That may be so. It's probably not the proper management as far as hunting is concerned, this may be, because Mr. Speaker after all is said and done it's a heritage that nature has given us and I believe that we are fortunate in having wonderful forests, lots of water, plenty of game, but we must be careful to see that we use it properly and that it's managed properly. We must protect it and leave it for those who come behind us, for our children and their children.

The other point I wish to bring to the attention of the Minister -- I see in his report on Page 41 where the mallards this year in the province have been decreased; the game taken of mallards was decreased from 300,000 in 1970 to 189 -- that's almost close to 50 percent reduction. I think this is a serious concern. I wonder what the Minister is doing. I know that almost every two or three years there is a study being undertaken by the department to see what is the problem and why it the mallard bird decreased, or decreasing in the Province of Manitoba and I believe the study reveals what has to be done, but I don't believe any action is taken as far as those studies are concerned. I'm sure that the Minister will find many studies in his department, almost every few years, how to save the mallard, and I think it's one of

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. PATRICK cont'd). . . . the most beautiful waterfowl birds that we have, and to see that it's the mallard was decreased or the mallards taken in 1970, or from '71 to '70, was decreased by almost 50 percent, then I believe that this is another area that the Minister has to concern himself.

I know that the farmers do certainly have problems as far as damage to their crops. I've had an opportunity to talk to not only several but many farmers, and they have a legitimate complaint. On the other hand, I believe that they should be informed and there should be better publicity given to the farmers that if they have damage done to their crops by ducks there's no reason why they can't get noise bangers, and I know they are available. I believe they're very effective. I have watched for almost two or three days in succession, watching the ducks coming in and every time the banger would come on they wouldn't even land on the fields, so certainly they must be effective. So has the Minister made this information available to all the farmers that once they request the department that noise bangers will be supplied. So I am sure that the Minister has to give some consideration as far as our waterfowl is concerned.

I mentioned about not only systematic management as far as your habitat is concerned, as far as hunting is concerned, I think that there's more and more now we know from what's happening as far as ecological disaster is concerned -- I have an article here from a newspaper which states that in last year in the State of Alaska, on the northern shores of Alaska Peninsula and Bristol Bay there was some 87,000 seabirds died, and whales, starfish, and some other small marine animals, as a result of some oil spill from a couple of ships, so I think it's important how we manage in this area, Mr. Chairman.

I was not able to ascertain as far as, not commercial, but sport fishing was concerned, I believe that has -- the non-resident permits has increased considerably as well, and I would like to hear from the Minister has it had any effect as far as our sport fishing is concerned: are our lakes restocked to the extent that this will not deplete the sport fish to such a low measure that I think in the long run that the Minister will lose this revenue, because I'm told that it's necessary to increase the stocking of our lakes because of the increased sport licences that have been sold in the last year. I believe this has increased considerably. I believe the non-resident has increased by almost, or over 3,000, and even resident has increased by 18,000 permits in the last year. It's on Page 130. So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to know to what extent our lakes are restocked as far as sport fishing is concerned.

In his introduction of the estimates the Minister made no mention as far as the commercial fishing is concerned, and I would like to know what has happened in this area. Has the revenue increased in the Province of Manitoba as far as commercial fishing is concerned, or it has not increased? I was not able to find it anywhere in his report. I am sure it must be there but I did not have sufficient time because the report was just tabled as you know on Friday. So, Mr. Chairman, I feel that there are many areas that the Minister would perhaps give us a better report of what he has when he introduced the estimates.

I must compliment the Minister in setting aside the one million dollars each year to buy recreational land. I don't know to what extent the program will go or how much money he has allocated, but I believe this is in the right direction. I still would like to ask the Minister -- that this does not solve the problem of sales to non-resident people, and I mean to -- I don't mean Canadian, I mean to any foreign investors buying land and I know there's a great demand. I'm talking from experience that -- and I know it's been brought to my attention that many people in selling farmland get as many as three or four letters a month from investors in the United States to buy lower-priced land. You know, 10, 15 dollars an acre, they wish to buy in large acreages. So I wish that the Minister would have undertaken to move in an area to have some restrictions in that area, as far as selling your lakeshore properties and beach properties as far as as our recreation and public hunting land is concerned. I know the Minister has expressed his opinion in this area but I feel that the start of \$1 million yearly is perhaps a good beginning.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister how successful has the elk season been at Riding Mountain Park, or surrounding Riding Mountain National Park? I have been told there's been very little snow or hardly any snow, and I haven't heard of too many successful hunters. I know that there's indications that there is anywhere between five and six thousand, or more elk in the Park. On the other hand I'm told by many people that live surrounding the

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. PATRICK cont'd). . . . Park -- they seem to differ, they don't believe that there are that many. I would suggest to the Minister that in areas where the game is getting depleted, perhaps as far as elk or deer are concerned, that he would maybe give consideration to opening the season to male or buck deer only instead of female, and I know this is the practice in many jurisdictions where they're really concerned about systematic management of our game and wildlife. Perhaps as far as deer and elk are concerned and moose, this is something that the Minister can give consideration to. --(Interjection)-- That's right.

Mr. Chairman, there's just one other area that comes to my mind and that is, is there any legislation, or has the Minister been giving any consideration to legislation, concerning one of the animals, and that's the jack rabbit. (Hear, hear) I believe that -- I'm sure that the Member for Lakeside would perhaps agree with me, but I'm told that a jack rabbit --(Interjection) -- it is a very fine animal; but it's been depleted to such an extent that there are very few around, and they're still run down by the snowmobiles and in my opinion I know it's a-- when people go to hunt jack rabbits they use it as a sport, and some of them may shoot as many as a dozen or half a dozen any time they go out, and I believe there should be a certain limit how many they should be allowed to take on a certain given day. I don't believe that there's any legislation respecting trapping; even if you have a trapping licence I feel that there has been some abuse in this area where the snowmobiles to a great extent have been responsible.

A MEMBER: We'll agree with you if you support us on the blackbirds.

MR. PATRICK: I feel that the Minister should give some consideration as far as -- (Interjections)-- No, no remarks on that.

A MEMBER: You support us on socialist blackbirds and we'll support you on prairie rabbits.

MR. PATRICK: Never had any trouble with blackbirds. So, Mr. Chairman, my concern is that I don't believe that there is any regulation as far as the jack rabbit is concerned, the quota, so I feel it's time that the Minister has given some consideration as far as regulations are concerned.

These are a few of the points that I wanted to bring to the attention of the Minister and I will be raising more points as he gets down, item by item in the estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact of the limitation of speeches I'd like to try to answer some of the questions before other members take the floor. I'll try to deal with the ones that were most recently asked first.

My honourable friend spent quite a bit of time dealing with detailed subjects with regard to wildlife and I would have to congratulate him both for his interest and knowledge in the area, which I will have to admit, Mr. Chairman, exceeds my own by a great deal. The honourable member has for a long time been interested in the area and as such can be a very helpful member in the House to any Minister who is involved in the Department. I will try to deal with some of the answers: I don't know whether I'll get to every one.

With regard to the upland game birds, I believe that the problem that the honourable member raises is referred to directly in the report itself. The indication was, Mr. Speaker, that the -- excuse me a moment. Mr. Chairman, I had the -- yes, I have page 40. I think that there were probably two problems that I was referring to, yes. The second problem he raised was the mallards and he said what was the problem, what was the reason for the decline and I think it's indicated right in the report itself that a poor spring run-off of melt waters and late arrival of spring resulted in poor mallard reproduction. Young to adult ratios in the harvest decreased from 5.08 in 1970 to 2.60 in 1971, the main factor in the decrease of mallards harvested in 1971. So I can only answer, Mr. Chairman, what the report itself says, that this is the result of a poor spring run-off of melt waters and the late arrival of spring which had that result.

With regard to non-resident licences for upland game bird, the honourable member has indicated what to him is an increase of some concern by indicating that non-resident licences went from 2,500 to 3,900 in 1971. But I would like to indicate, Mr. Speaker, that the resident -- the total number went from 45,800 to 48,000 which means that out of the 48,000 we are still talking about 45,000 residents and only a very small amount -- it would be less than 10 percent -- of non-residents. I think, Mr. Chairman, that we must have it that we are interested in a tourist

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) trade and as long as the population can take the number of hunters that are involved, that we would not want to do anything to discourage this tourist dollar. The attempt by the Department, as the honourable member well knows, is to try to see to it whether the increase in hunting activity is still maintaining the harvest or whether there start to approach periods of scarcity. The estimated total harvest of upland game birds was 347,000 in 1971, an increase of 30,000 from 1970.

Now, Mr. Speaker, once there is any indication that the harvest is becoming more difficult - and I think that the Department proceeds mostly by statistics and other observation of course - then of course restrictions can be put, and when it becomes necessary to restrict as in other areas, then of course Manitobans are considered to have first choice over the game that they themselves own. I note the honourable member's concern but I don't think that from the statistics as shown that we should be alarmed at this stage. I think that the honourable member is right to raise a flag but I don't think that there is something to be alarmed at and I think that the desirability of having the tourist trade is also a factor that has to be considered.

The honourable member raises the question of predators and wolves, and I can tell the honourable member that this is an area where, as in many other areas, we will have strong pressure on the Department from both sides. There is strong pressure from sheep herders, and I can appreciate their concern, who are saying that their livelihood is being destroyed by the existence of predators. And the honourable member would find, if he sat in my office, that when a farmer comes in and tells me he lost 20 sheep or something of that nature because of the existence of these predators, and has been asking for compensation, and has been complaining that we have done away with the bounty system that used to be in existence, I'm sure that the honourable member would be very sympathetic to the farmer. And when he walks out of the office, Mr. Speaker, and you get a letter saying that you're an inhuman person because you've just issued a licence at the request of the municipality for someone to fly with an airplane and pick off wolves, and are told that this is an animal that you should be humane to, that we have to preserve the specie etc. , then you would be very much sympathetic with the second person. And I think, Mr. Speaker, that all I can ask is for a little bit of understanding on both sides because there is no meeting of minds as between the two situations.

I know that the latest complaints that I've got in this connection had to do with The Pas Festival where frozen wolves were used as statues in display, and I suppose, Mr. Speaker, that that would offend the taste of some people. I was not there to see it myself and I really can't say what my feeling about it would be. I suppose one could be just as offended by seeing an animal that is stuffed by a taxidermist or any killing of an animal is an inhumane thing.

Well, Mr. Speaker, on the other hand I have seen films of a group of wolves stalking and chasing an elk and I've seen what happens when they finally catch the elk, and it is not a very pleasing sight. They chew its back legs until it drops to the ground then they start to eat its rump while it is still alive, and the picture that I saw showed the camera focusing up on the eyes of the elk, and when one sees that does he then get the impression that shooting a wolf from an airplane is the most terrible thing that can happen in the world? I really can't come to the defence of both groups except to say that the Department tries to strike a balance between the legitimate considerations of the farmer-- and by the way, sheep are animals too and they are killed by wolves -- and the preservation of the species. How that balance will be struck will be adjudged to be good or bad depending really on the inarticulate major premise of the person who is judging it. If he happens to be a wild-nature lover then he'll favour the wolf , if he happens to sympathize with the farmer he'll favour the sheep herd. We have the problem; the honourable member is aware of it and I can't claim to have any Solomon-like answer to this problem. We are trying to do justice to both groups.

The honourable member referred to the mallards and talked about studies with regard to the preservation of the mallards. I am not aware of the studies but the honourable member, who's been around, must know they exist and certainly we'll have a look at them.

The honourable member asked a question about noise bangers. The only thing that I know is I had some noise in the background from a man who is a rural Minister, the Minister of Highways, who indicates they don't work. I don't know whether they work or they don't work all I can say is that certainly the honourable member's suggestions are well worth taking into account that we acquaint farmers with various things that they could do with regard to

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd). . . . protecting their own position in the circumstances described by the honourable member.

The honourable member asks for statistics, I believe, on the elk season. Yes, I'm able to tell him that as in 1971 to 1972 combined elk-moose hunting licence was made available to hunters on a first come first serve basis in the game hunting areas around Riding Mountain National Park. Hunters can take one moose or one elk of either sex. No other moose hunting was permitted in this area. A very easy winter in 1972-73 is keeping these animals inside the national park thereby minimizing hunting opportunities. The season was extended two weeks to February 10th, 1973, but very few additional animals were killed. The reason for the extension of the season was a rather bad harvest. Even the extension did not do much by it. I am now speaking from memory. My memory is that we issue approximately 1,100 licences. As to how many elks were taken I don't have the answer, but perhaps my Department, seeing my problem, will be sending it down very shortly.

The honourable member asks for the figures on commercial fishing. The commercial fishing poundage was 14 million in 1970-71; it went down to 12,770,000 in 1972, but the value as marketed went from 2.9 million in 1971 -- and I'm rounding off the figure -- to 3.3 million in 1972. It could be a combination of different fish and better prices, which would of course be attributable to the marketing board arrangement, but I can tell the honourable member -- he said that there was nothing mentioned about commercial fishing. It's not through any lack of activity that commercial fishing was not mentioned; there are no significant announcements to make with regard to fishing. We are doing some important things, particularly in the area of trying to regulate the fishing in Lake Winnipeg, and again, this is a very very difficult proposition because once regulations are made it means two things: one, that a person is not permitted to take unlimited harvest, which was the criteria some years ago, although there was a limited period there was unlimited harvest; and secondly, it means that some people will not be given a licence, which again is distinct to what it was several years ago when the issuance of licences was on the basis of anybody who wished to have a licence, and the fishermen and everybody else realized that this was an unsatisfactory situation and for years the harvest went down, and this unrestricted licence procedure and the unrestricted limit did result in nobody being able to make a proper living in the fishery.

So last year, Mr. Speaker, for the first time we instituted a licensing program. We said that anybody who fished in the last two years when the fishery was open, which was 1968 and 1969, would have the right to a fishing licence. We then extended that because we had complaints of people who said they had been on the lake for many years but had not happened to fish in '68 or '69. We gave an additional option that one had to have been a fisherman in '68 or '69 or have fished in six out of the seven years from 1961 to 1967 inclusive. And if one could establish either of those two criteria, then he was entitled to a fishing licence and limits were set as to the amount of poundage. Now the first year we did this there was virtually no complaint. The people who had previously fished were given licences; they went on the lake, caught their quotas very quickly, and were in all respects satisfied with the fishery. Then, Mr. Speaker, when this continued and people started to harvest fish out of the lake, which previously had been a very difficult proposition, and that may have occurred because of the two-year rest that the lake, or the forced rest that the lake was given because of the mercury, and people saw other people doing well by the fishery, they who had traditionally, some of them, been involved in the fishery became very very much activated and desired to get licences, and there was, Mr. Chairman, a hue and cry and a tremendous pressure being brought on the Department to issue -- well to do two things: one, to issue more licences; and secondly, to raise the quota; both of which, Mr. Speaker, are against the long term interests of the fishermen and they will be the first to agree. For years they asked for limits which would conserve the fish, and secondly, for criteria as to who was a fisherman. Once these things are done, of course, the person who does them is subject to attack, Mr. Chairman, and I'm not complaining. I think that it is expected and I think that the fishermen of Manitoba want somebody who will say that that is the number of licences and that is the number of poundage, and there will be people who will shout about it and there will be people who will call the Minister who is doing this nasty names, and it's good to have somebody who will be called the nasty names but still set the limit and still set the licences. Because this is what has been done.

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd)

Now people have said that our licensing procedure is not satisfactory because it does not provide for an entry into the fishery, and of course in the last two years that was not a problem. But it will become a problem and when a certain number of fishermen come off the lake eventually they will have to be replaced by people who wish to get into the fishery, and the Department has had, Mr. Speaker, extensive meetings with the people around the lake, with the fisheries advisory committees composed of the Fisheries Federation and other fishermen's organizations which have grown up, either in conjunction with or sometimes in competition with, and sometimes in direct conflict with the Fishermen's Federation, that all of these organizations have been seen, the communities have been visited, and we know that for the spring fishery, for when the fishery opens in the spring, there will be criteria based somewhat on two things: one, the dependence on fishing for a livelihood as evidenced by the past, and secondly for entry into the fishery, and I will predict to you, Mr. Chairman, as I am standing here, that I don't care what those criteria say, however one may say that they are reasonable, the fishermen who did not get a licence will say that it is a bad criteria and complain about the arbitrariness and the unfeelingness of the Minister perhaps; and secondly, that if the quota is set at 4,000 pounds there will be fishermen who will say that we would like to get 4,400 pounds or 5,000 pounds. I don't think that in that respect, Mr. Chairman, that the quota system is any different than what would accrue in any orderly system of marketing, any regulated industry, and I know that there are some who would say that you shouldn't regulate, but it seems to have been a disaster for Lake Winnipeg in the past. We are starting off with what looks like a fairly good situation; we hope to continue with it, and I believe that as long as we can be firm without being nearly stubborn, I think that we have to come to reasonable criteria. I think that once the reasonable criteria are reached we have to be firm and I think that if we are firm and willing to withstand the type of criticism that is inevitable with any regulation system that in the long run we will be showing a lot more feeling for the fishermen than if we did the, what some people would say is the easy thing and give anybody who wants a licence and let them fish for as much as they want that we would be showing no feeling for the fishermen, with the greatest of respect to those who say that this is showing a genuine feeling that it is really showing no feeling. It is really cowardly because if one really felt for the future of the fishing industry, then he would be willing to take a little criticism in order to have a sensible scheme of regulation and this is what we have done, Mr. Chairman, and I hope that that is what we will continue to do.

The honourable member refers to jack rabbits. I believe that he is right - I believe that there is no, that it is not protected, that it is a completely free animal; if I'm wrong I'm sure to be corrected very shortly. I think that what is depended upon here is what we have read when we went into Grade 4 I think, when we talked about the balance of nature; if there are lots of wolves, there will be few jack rabbits and then the wolves won't find what to eat and they'll go down and the jack rabbits will go up. I suppose that is the conservation practice that is being relied on, although if I'm wrong I'm sure that the Department will correct me. Now I see that the Honourable Member for Roblin is not in the House; I think he's probably hunting.

The sport fishing, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member did ask about sport fishing; there is considerable restocking going on, I'm not aware that sport fishing has been considered to be a difficult problem insofar as conservation is concerned. There is in Manitoba several hatcheries and these are used to stock both for sport fishing and for commercial fishing as I understand it. I don't think that the sport fishery has been a problem; if I'm given different information at a later date I'll advise my honourable friend. I do have a note that a considerable number of small lakes have been planted with pickerel which are allowed to grow throughout the summer months and then released into Lake Winnipegosis, that this program is being expanded. I am correct, there are no regulations prohibiting the hunting of rabbits and coyotes, but consideration is being given to this type of regulation.

Elk in Riding Mountain National Park did not move out into the farmland outside of the park's boundary this winter due to the fact that it was probably one of the mildest winters on record; there was very little snowfall. The shortage of rabbits left a good supply of food in the parks. As a result, few animals were taken during the hunting season, approximately 210,

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd). . . . I guess that's out of about 1100 licences so that's not a very profitable year for the elk hunters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, my remarks will be brief and I would preface them by saying that it is gratifying to see that the general estimates for the department for 1973-74 reflect a response to the message that I think members on our side of the House and members of the community at large tried to deliver to the government last year; and apparently it's been accepted with some good grace because spending is cut back particularly in the area of administration and this is the specific particular level on which I would commend the Minister and the government for budgetary responsibility. Administration costs, it appeared to us in last year's spending program and in the previous year during the life of this Legislature contained substantial room for budget trimming, substantial fat and our message last year was a clear call to the government to trim some of that fat, particularly in the area of administration, so as I say it's gratifying from the Progressive Conservative benches to see that there has been a response in that direction.

The main thing I want to say to the Minister and to the government at this point, Mr. Chairman, is that I still and I believe my constituents still require of the Minister and of this government a clear and unequivocal statement as to where he stands and where the government stands on the main philosophical thrust of the Kierans report. And the Minister will say that he has explained himself, that he has answered that question and perhaps to his own satisfaction he has done so; perhaps to the satisfaction of his colleagues on the government benches he has done so, but I can assure him that while making allowances perhaps for my own inability to comprehend his message he has not explained himself on the Kierans report to my satisfaction. He has not explained himself on the Kierans report to our satisfaction in the Progressive Conservative caucus and he has certainly not explained himself on the Kierans report to the majority of the constituents whom I represent and with whom I come in contact in discussion on a regular basis on subjects of this kind.

We still want to know what does the Kierans report mean for Manitobans as long as the present government has the responsibility for directing the course of Manitobans' lives. Will there be expropriation; will there be moves in the direction of expropriation; will there be a ten-year program or a five-year program or any other kind of a period program of repatriation of resource industries, the ownership of resource industries; and how does the government intend using the public's money to compete in the critically expensive area of resource exploration and development? I think the question uppermost in the minds of my constituents, Mr. Chairman, is that last one - how can the government begin to afford the enormous expensiveness out of the public purse, of developing resource industries and of developing farmer resources and of taking on the financial and fiscal responsibility of all the exploratory costs which are even in the knowledge of the less informed laymen extraordinarily high in the resource field.

Mr. Chairman, I know it's perhaps provocative and argumentative to use the term "takeover", but I suggest to the Minister that we have not had a satisfactory answer as to whether the kinds of things envisioned in the Kierans report and envisioned in the government's planning in the resource field do really imply, do really intend takeover kind of government philosophy in the resource field. That's a primary question that Manitobans would like to have answered. It may be inaccurate to use such a term even in discussion and argument as to the government's plans, but it's a fact that it's a consideration in many people's minds, are we moving in the direction of takeover by the government of industries and operations privately undertaken, privately launched in the resource field? So I say to the Minister that basically what I ask of him is a clear and unequivocal statement that I can understand and that Manitobans generally can understand and that voters in my constituency in particular can understand as to the government's intention in this respect, and I would hope that that clear and unequivocal statement would be a clear and unequivocal assurance that no such takeover philosophy is implied here. Until that assurance is forthcoming, I suggest to the Minister that the general state of resource development and economic development in Manitoba will be injured and impaired.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to be very brief, I simply want to touch on

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd) a couple of subjects; one of them is the Dialathon Hunting and the other one has to do with pollution. I am wondering if the Minister is going to set down some pretty sensible and rigid guidelines as they have elsewhere in Canada. I understand in Sudbury International Nickel is spending a great deal of money to clean up the atmosphere; they are building a very expensive smokestack. In Thompson we continue to have the pollution in the air and in the water that's being dumped - in fact I'm told by friends of mine who fish downstream from Thompson that the water is getting so bad that they don't want to go to fish there because they are not sure if the fish is fit for eating. Now that used to be when I was in Thompson, that used to be a very good area especially in the springtime there was a lot of fish --(Interjection)-- Well that was our fault but there is a lot of fish there, Mr. Chairman, and they are not fishing now because of that and I think that the Minister should first of all have someone take water samples, summer and winter and tell the people in Thompson whether he thinks the water is safe and also test the fish to see if the fish are fit to eat because there are some, there are a few people that fish there - I know that some of the Indian and Metis families that used to live along the river still fish; it would be unfortunate if we found out a year or two from now that they are going blind or something is happening to them because of eating contaminated fish and I think the situation is serious enough for the Minister to look into. Downstream from Thompson it's below the outlet where Inco dumps its liquid sewage from the plant which has various chemicals in it.

Also I would like to know if the Minister and the government has some policy regarding the dumping of sewage, period, all over Manitoba. I believe our university still dumps sewage, period, all over Manitoba. I believe our university still dumps sewage and I think there 's other places that dump sewage into our rivers and lakes. The ships that sail along there including the Lord Selkirk I believe dump their sewage right into the lake as they sail up north to Norway House on that four or five-day trip. It seems to me that the government should make a serious effort to clean up things that are under their own jurisdiction, which is that ship and the university, and also enforce it on those other ships that run for two or three hours a day down river. They dump their stuff, and there's quite a bit of it, into the river.

I would also like to hear the Minister make some statement regarding opening up areas for hunting close to Winnipeg .. He knows that we've had a lot of complaints about hunting around St. Norbert and LaSalle and it seems to me that is unnecessary to open hunting that close. Manitoba is largely unpopulated, there is hundreds and hundreds of miles of wide open spaces and bush and forest where people can go and hunt, we are very fortunate in that we have a lot of wild country. I don't believe, and I think many people agree, that it's necessary to open hunting just outside of the perimeter area. We have a situation along the LaSalle River and the Red River where the only place there is bush is along the River which means that's where the deer hang out and because of that that's where the hunters go and that's where they hunt and that's where they shoot. And people live largely along the river, they have built houses deliberately to be close to the river and I don't think it's fair that people have went out to these areas, spent a lot of money, built homes or are buying homes and then to have their lives endangered a couple of weeks a year because hunters come out there, whether they are Canadian hunters or American doesn't really matter - come out there and endanger our lives, shoot our dog as has happened in the last hunting season and expose us to that kind of danger. I would like the Minister to take a look at it and say there will be no hunting close to the city or even close to towns - good heavens you can go 50 miles from town you get wilderness, all kinds of it that they can hunt on.

The one area that he may consider hunting though close by is the beaver . There is very little trees along this area, along the river, as the Minister knows the beavers have probably destroyed 25 percent of the stands of timber and the only timber we have again as I say that it's unfortunate the farmers seem to have a particular - to have it in for the trees, they knock them all down and the only ones left are along the swamps and sloughs and rivers and the beavers are there and they have ruined I would say along the LaSalle River probably 25 percent of the trees. Now if they keep going at this rate we are not going to have any trees left. There is a law against shooting beavers. Now I don't know what would be the cheapest thing - maybe the Minister should allow the people to shoot the beavers or else have his game branch boys go in there and trap them and get them out of there. They are absolutely useless, they continue

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd) to attempt to build dams and of course they never succeed; but the beavers not being a very bright animal they nevertheless continue to build dams there and wasting the trees and of course, making it difficult for navigation and swimming and all the rest of it.

MR. GREEN: . . . member would just repeat the area that he's talking about, so that I'll be able to . . .

MR. BOROWSKI: The area where the destruction is taking place by the beavers is throughout the LaSalle River which I think has a length of approximately 80 miles and I have gone horseback riding in the winter time on the ice which means you can go a long way and as far as I rode with the horse I could see the trees and the bark stripped around and the trees chewed and of course next spring those trees start dying and it's getting so bad that if this continues, the present situation continues we are going to be out of trees along that river which will affect the wildlife in years ahead.

Now, Mr. Speaker, regarding the Dialathon the Minister made a defence, although I think he probably doesn't like the situation, he nevertheless made a defence on behalf of these people because he said there are private clubs that do this. Well I suggest to him that there is a difference between private clubs. You join a club, and that's not the only one, there are clubs in other areas of recreation and members certainly enjoy certain privileges. The public does not- but hunting, Mr. Chairman, has always historically been in Canada and probably in every nation in the world has been the preserve of government just as has booze.

It has been the preserve of government and I just can't accept and I know the people that I've talked with simply can't accept where anyone else, and it doesn't matter whether they are Americans or not, anyone can come in and turn around and start selling hunting licences. It just doesn't sound right, Mr. Speaker, and it's never been done - it's never been done before any place and the Minister has the machinery at hand to stop it and I hope he does stop it. Farmers can't sell their grain without having a permit; they can't sell their vegetables without going to the Vegetable Marketing Board; they can't sell their milk - in fact, they are regimented in everything but it seems in the game area, the one area that has been exclusively the government's jurisdiction since the inception of this country is being now as we were saying the government in effect is saying to the farmer, "This area you can move in and you can sell it or rent it out or do what you choose". Well, Mr. Chairman, I suggest that's wrong. I hope that the Minister takes action and stops that. We've got plenty of areas to hunt in Manitoba; the north and the east of here, north of the Trans-Canada, there's all kind of wild country and wild game and there's absolutely no necessity for the type of operation that's being set up here.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I'd like the Minister to get more snow patrols in the wintertime; I think the Member for Assiniboia has mentioned that a lot of the game is being run down by snowmobiles. I know from personal experience it's true. We have quite a bit of jack rabbits around LaSalle, St. Norbert, in that area, and we have found again while out riding - horseback riding - we've found rabbits run down, squashed by machines. I know there's laws against it, Mr. Chairman; those laws are absolutely useless. As long as there is no enforcement then the laws aren't worth the paper they're written on. Now I realize there's more important things in our society for the Minister to be concerned with; nevertheless many people find it reprehensible that snowmobiles should be used to run down game, whether its rabbits or coyotes, and this should be stopped and the only way it can be stopped is if the Minister gets out some snowmobile patrols with his Game Branch.

Snowmobiles are also being used to go out in northern areas, and when I say "northern" I'm not talking about Thompson, I'm talking about areas 100 miles from here, where they're used to go in during the hunting season. Now I believe that the regulations were changed in regard to this but the fact is, Mr. Speaker, unless you're going to have people to enforce the law nobody's going to obey it, and I hope that the Minister finds some money in his budget to put some of his people on machines and send them out, when the hunting season is over send them out on machines to make sure that these laws are obeyed. That's all I have now, Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make a few remarks on the Minister's Estimates and I don't intend to be too critical. He has presented his

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. WATT cont'd). . . . Estimates well but there are a few areas that I have brought before the House during my remarks on the Throne Speech and the question period, and I want to start first just for a few minutes, Mr. Chairman, with water control and particularly as it applies to southwest Manitoba. I asked the Minister the question in the House some days ago, in fact a couple of weeks ago, what their position or the position was of the construction of the Paterson Dam. Now I have had some people come and remark to me that the problem was with the Americans and with our agreement, water control between Canada and United States. The fact of the matter is that the Paterson Dam, proposed Paterson Dam, has nothing to do with the United States whatsoever, it's on the south Gainsborough tributary to the Souris River and that dam was proposed. . .

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, surely the honourable member is not suggesting that I made that answer that has something to do with the Americans.

MR. WATT: No, no. Mr. Chairman, I did not refer to the Minister. I said that I'd had direction of criticism on this that it was not the fault of the Minister but that the fact of our agreement with United States and Canada. But I did point out that water control and conservation in the southwest area has come to a standstill since 1969. I not only refer to the construction - and I still haven't the answer, I hope to get it from the Minister, on where we stand with the Paterson Dam - but I refer also to water control in the Plum Lake area, that is below Oak Lake and leading southeast into the Souris River, and I think the Minister is aware that Ducks Unlimited constructed a dam in that area below Plum Lake about four miles down from the dam that was constructed on Oak Lake. I think it's about sixteen years ago. What the cost was then I'm not sure, but I know that at today's values the dam is worth about \$200,000 and for the last 15 to 16 years has stood and has never been used. And for the lack of some diversion and some clearing, dredging of Plum Creek south into the Souris River, the water could be controlled by the use of such clearing and diversion and the operation of the Ducks Unlimited dam, which I have pointed out has sat there for the last 15 or 16 years and has not been operated. I believe it has been offered, in fact I know it has been offered to the government on the basis of about one dollar for the government to take it over and control it, and I suggest to the Minister that this should be looked carefully into as there is a tremendous area there where farmers depend on that land for, particularly hay land, there is some crop land but it's particularly for hay land, that if they had proper water control there that it would increase the value of the land and it would increase our livestock production.

However, our problem seems at the moment to be in water control in South Indian Lake and Lake Winnipeg, most of the discussions that have gone on in this House have had nothing to do with agriculture directly, but indirectly I say that it has, and in the discussions that have gone on there has been very little that has been said or proposed about water control and conservation out in the agricultural communities of the southern part of the province. And I want to point out to the Minister that when I say that while not directly but indirectly South Indian Lake, the diversion of the Churchill River and the development of our hydro electric power in the Province of Manitoba is, and will become more so as the years go on and nothing has been done in that area to rapidly advance the development of our hydro electric power.

I want to refer for a few minutes, Mr. Chairman, to what is happening in India where I visited this past winter, where I found that tremendous potential of the agricultural community in India is practically at a standstill because -- and I quote from a speech that Professor Gallop of the University of Manitoba who referred to it in his speech the other day at the Seed Growers Convention, when he said for the lack of administrative -- or because of administrative mismanagement that the agricultural community of India was at a standstill, because of water control and particularly because of hydro development. In India they largely depend, between the monsoon rains, on electric power to pump water which is anywhere from 12 to 18 feet below the surface over millions and millions of acres of Indian agricultural soil. They depend on electric power to pump water out on to the surface and to irrigate their land. And it's interesting to note that because of the lack of electrical power development farmers today in India have the right to use electric power to irrigate their property for four hours of each day. I visited one farm, spent the day there, a progressive farmer who was trying to irrigate with an old diesel motor in between the four hours that he was allowed to use

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. WATT cont'd). . . . electric power where he was growing three crops a year. Three crops a year, Mr. Chairman, and doing it fairly successfully, but could have produced much more had he had the power to pump water from the underground supply.

Mr. Speaker, referring again to water, I bring to the attention and I think that it has been brought to the attention of the Minister, and that is the disposal of salt water from the oil wells in southwest Manitoba. I think here is one place, Mr. Speaker, that the government could probably get some action out of the so-called corporate bums who develop the oil industry in the southwest part of the province, and I think I'm correct when I say that out of every ten holes that they've drilled that nine of them were dry. And these nine holes that are dry mostly are potential water disposal wells. Some of them are being used but they are not, in my opinion, being utilized to the extent that they could be used. They could be chopped up and sold for post holes probably but I think they would be of more advantage to that area if more of these dry wells, or holes as my friend terms them, could be used for salt water disposal. Some are being used but in the southern part of the province salt water is being spilled out and many acres in that area - and I think that this has been drawn to the attention of the Minister - have been destroyed because of the service disposal of salt water that has been separated through the batteries at different wells in the southwest area.

I just want to make a few remarks about wildlife, Mr. Speaker. Much has been said about the use and abuse of destroying our predators by the use of skidoos and snow cruisers and airplanes, and it's supposed to be or it's termed as an inhumane way of disposing of predators and of catching wildlife for the value of their pelts. But nothing much has been said about the inhumane way over the most of Manitoba our wild animals are caught, and that is by the steel jaw trap. For any who saw that program over the television last night, which bore out much of the inhumane way that is being used actually in the steel jaw trap in catching wildlife not only in the north but all over the province, in my opinion is much worse than to run down a fox or a coyote or a jack rabbit or what have you with a skidoo or an airplane. There are other means of catching wildlife by different types of traps ; I'm not prepared to name different types now, I don't know much about trapping, but anyone who saw that program last night and who has listened to the committee who work on, or the humane efforts of the trapping of our wild animals, know that there are several other means of trapping wild animals rather than catching them in the jaws of a trap that holds them until they either freeze or starve to death.

I just mention briefly the destruction of crops in agricultural areas and I'm aware that it is a problem with the present Minister of Mines and Natural Resources as it has been with past ministers. How to control this and how to pay damage, how to assess damages, is one that has not been resolved in this province and one that has been with us for a long time, but I think that the Minister and his department should look closely into areas where there has been severe damage. There has been in the southwest area this year and some crops that were left out, by deer and we have had -- in my own case I have lost as much as a quarter section of grain with ducks. I'm a little reluctant actually to come out and say that we should destroy our wildlife in favor of production of food for human beings, but I think the Minister should look closely into some means, some ways, some compensation to those that are losing their crops, who are not particularly interested in the wildlife or the use of wildlife particularly in areas which is largely used by people from the urban areas and from, I shouldn't say foreign countries but there are many that come in from the United States and from other countries, which does contribute to tourism, of course, and I think that in conjunction with the Minister of Tourism and Recreation and the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, that some form of compensation is due and should be coming to certain areas of the province where farmers have suffered from this area.

I think that's all that I have to say at the moment, Mr. Chairman, I'll be asking some questions of the Minister as we get on with his Estimates. Thank you.

MINES AND RESOURCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Chairman, I should like to just say a few brief remarks on these particular Estimates. I have very little to say about wildlife, having led a very sheltered life. I leave that to my more experienced colleagues. But I do want to raise one or two points that have been raised during the course of the consideration of the Estimates, and bring up one matter in particular that is concerning me a great deal right now. The Minister, in reply to my friend the Member for Rock Lake, had some fun with him on Friday about blackbirds and the extension of socialist philosophy. I should like to point out to him, I didn't have the opportunity on that occasion but I think it should be pointed out that farmers who are asking to have their lands drained are doing so because of government policy, because of the fact that governments, by the assessment of their land, have determined what the productivity of that land should be. Now once governments have made that determination, farmers expect that that is exactly what the productivity of that land will be, and if that is reduced in any way because of drainage, then they believe that the assessment that they are being charged, the taxes that are being charged on that land, should make up for the reduction in yield, the reduction in productivity, because of the assessment that was placed on that land in the first place. So you get a merry-go-round in the Water Control Branch that I find very difficult to control. Lots of the land in the marginal areas around Haywood and St. Claude, for example, with the proper application of fertilizers and with the kind of rainfall that we've been experiencing in the past few years, can raise crops that are equal to that which can be raised on many of the good lands further to the east in the Red River Valley.

Well, the moment that they started improving their productivity and increasing their yields, then the assessor would come along and begin to assess that land at a very high rate and once having paid that kind of assessment and that kind of a tax, those farmers had the right the right to expect that that land would be serviced with proper drainage, and so here's where the merry-go-round begins, and if there was some consultation between one department and the other I think they could eliminate a lot of that. If the Assessment Branch would get in touch with the Water Control Branch, perhaps they could have lunch together some time and talk these matters over, I think a great deal of that difficulty could be eliminated.

But I want to raise a matter that I have raised now on each occasion that the Estimates of the Department of Mines and Resources has been brought before this House, and on each occasion they've been promised an answer by the Minister and on each occasion I have not been given an answer, so I took the liberty of getting the information for myself and I'm going to put the information on the record.

During the early years of the ARDA agreement there was an arrangement made under the Wildlife Conservation Branch whereby certain areas of land would be set aside for waterfowl production. Farmers were given the opportunity of renting land suitable for wildlife populations and were able to rent that land to the government, the purpose being that the farmers felt that they were the ones that were bearing the burden of developing and paying for the waterfowl population that exists on the North American continent; as I think my honourable friend the Minister knows, about 75 percent of the total waterfowl population has been raised in the pothole country.

Now the arrangement was that certain areas would be set aside for that purpose and farmers would be compensated for the loss that they sustained in allowing those ducks to hatch and be raised in those areas. As a matter of fact, they were paid even to seed barley around the potholes so that there would be feed for the birds and they wouldn't wander out into the fields and destroy the crops. It worked very well and I couldn't understand why the program was not being continued until I made some inquiries. Now I discover that, as is habitual with this government and perhaps with the government in Ottawa, they turned the darned thing into a welfare program and instead of renting the lands that were best suited for waterfowl population, the potholes that had the greatest chance of maintaining waterfowl, they were renting it out to a farmer who was in greatest need of a little bit of extra cash. Now that's my information and if that's the case then it's a stupid waste of taxpayers' money, it defeats its own purpose, and I understand that the whole program now has been discontinued because it is just not working and it certainly couldn't be expected to work under those circumstances. I would hope that the Minister would make some effort to try and revive the program because I think

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) it has been of benefit to the waterfowl population and indeed to the hunters who wish to come to this country and hunt. There's no reason in the world why the farmer should bear the cost of raising waterfowl for other people to hunt; he doesn't get anything in return from it. And if such a program was properly carried out to ensure the maintenance of the waterfowl population rather than as a welfare program, I think that it could be successful, indeed it was successful in the first years of operation until it got into hands that didn't know how to handle it.

Now the other matter that I want to raise is hunting along the La Salle River. I'm sure that this matter has been brought to the Minister's attention on a number of occasions and it's getting to be quite a serious matter. We have a number of hunters who have no idea at all of the rules of hunting; they have no concept of the kind of dangers they create by flushing deer out of the bush in the La Salle River and then firing like mad fools all over the place. Farmers along the La Salle River tell me that when the hunting season comes on they've got to hide their children in the basements and their animals, in order to prevent them all from getting shot.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would think that the Minister could either ban hunting along that area altogether because I don't think there should be hunting allowed in an area where there are so many people living, first of all. Secondly, if the wildlife have to be thinned out in that particular area, then I think there should be some other ways found of doing it rather than allowing idiotic hunters who do not observe any of the rules of hunting and who seem to have no regard whatsoever for human life in those areas. It's only going to be a matter of time before somebody's going to get killed in that area and then I suppose we'll have to take some action. But I hope that action can be taken prior to that time rather than after somebody has been hurt.

Now the third matter that I want to raise is the question of rural development, and the Minister will say, well now, that doesn't come under my department. But in a sense it does. Recently there has been an exodus of people from the cities, or maybe not an exodus from the people from the cities but there has been a large number of people now who are not particularly anxious to live in the City of Winnipeg. They'd like to go out to some quiet spot in the rural areas and perhaps build a home there. Now there are a number of smaller towns surrounding the City of Winnipeg that are being used as, you might call it, satellite towns. Sanford is one of them. Just on Friday, Sir, I attended the opening of a collegiate in Sanford. Now it's a beautiful building. The Minister of Education was there to officially open the building and it is the kind of a facility that will provide for a considerable increase in the population of that area. Now everybody knows that's not going to come from the farm population because farm populations are diminishing; it has to come from somewhere. And it could be provided for because, as I say, there are a number of people that are moving out into that area and building homes. One farmer subdivided 29 lots and before he had them subdivided they were all taken up and there's buildings on them now. Another farmer in the area attempted to get some land subdivided and he was told by the Municipal Board, and I've never heard anything so ridiculous in all my life -- that the area could not be subdivided because the water level, or the elevation of the land in that area was only 775 feet and they would not authorize a subdivision of that land unless it was about 777 feet.

Mr. Chairman, the school was build on that land, exactly the same elevation. I'd like to know why it's possible to build a school on the elevation of land without-- as a matter of fact, I tried all morning to find somebody who could tell me what the elevation of that land was. The school board couldn't, the Water Control people couldn't, the Municipal Board couldn't; nobody. The architect didn't know, he said he was just told to go out there and build. Now I happen to know that that land is -- the elevation of that land is exactly the same as it is on the other side of the river in the area that they refused to grant the right for this farmer to subdivide his land, so that people could come in there and build. Now surely if this government is serious, and I'm beginning to question very much if this government is serious about their intentions to assist rural development . . .

A MEMBER: They're not.

MR. JORGENSEN: I'm beginning to question it very much, because if they're serious about assisting rural areas to develop and rural diversification, then they would have no qualms about helping people move out into a rural area such as Sanford. We know what they did in Morris, and that comes under another department and the Minister of Industry and Commerce

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) is going to hear about that. But here is an entirely different case where the Minister, or at least the Department of Mines and Resources under the Water Control Branch, have refused this gentleman the right to subdivide his property because they said the record -- and get this -- the record of flooding along the La Salle River is that it floods once every 100 years.

MR. BOROWSKI: Gee that's a pretty good record. It's better than Winnipeg.

A MEMBER: You're safe enough, Joe.

MR. JORGENSEN: Once every 100 years, and so because it floods once every 100 years they will not grant him the right to subdivide that property. He could sell every lot tomorrow, and if this government is serious, if this government is serious about doing anything about rural development, then this is one way that they can assist rural communities in developing. Now they said, well, the townsite itself, there's lots of room there to build houses -- and that's true. But nobody wants to build a town or nobody wants to build a home where there's a garage, that he has to look out his front window at a garage or something like that, because all the business establishments are located in the townsite itself. But there is an area, removed a little bit from the town, that is very suitable for housing development. This government refuses because of somebody on the Municipal Board of Water Control Board made a decision that they're not going to allow anybody to build there because, mind you, the record of flooding in that area is once every 100 years.

MR. BOROWSKI: Maybe it's because it's in the wrong constituency.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well, my honourable friend the Member for Thompson says maybe it's the wrong constituency, and I'm beginning to think that he has something there because what they did in Morris and what they're doing in this instance seems to give me the impression that rural development is something that they mean for somebody else, certainly not in my area. And, Sir, I'd like the Minister to be able to look into that. I'd like the Minister to be able to tell me why it is that with a record of flooding once every 100 years that it's impossible to build a home in that area when it is possible -- and I don't know what the figure is for the cost of that school -- but it's possible to build a school on the same elevation. The government have no qualms about doing that. How are they going to fill those schools unless they allow people to move into those areas and to live there?

Sir, this government should pull itself together, get one department talking to the other and get themselves in a position where they know what direction they're going. It is not possible to effect any degree of rural development and rural diversification unless you give people the opportunity of doing some developing themselves. They're not asking the government for anything but the right to develop that property and to subdivide it so people can move on there. No shortage of buyers, and I can tell you that the land prices in that area would even please the Member for Crescentwood, a far cry from what they have to pay for lots in the City of Winnipeg. If the government is serious about rural diversification, if the government is serious about helping people who are prepared to help themselves in the rural areas, here is one instance where they can do something, to use a vernacular term, to put their money where their mouths are.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I know that the Honourable Member for Morris is anxious to get a particular point across and the sooner the better. If it can possibly be related to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources then I think it's fair game that he would make that speech concerning that problem at that time. I would think that the Municipal Board and the reason for its rulings not being on record, I really can't deal with the reason for the Municipal Board's ruling. All I can do is assure the honourable member that it's not nearly as simple as he would like to have it and that it certainly doesn't apply to his constituency as a matter of some type of partisan position. I know that the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Health and Social Development, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, other members who are situated immediately north of Winnipeg, north and northwest of Winnipeg, have been discussing similar problems for years and find themselves in similar circumstances. So if my honourable friend is concerned with whether or not he is being treated discriminately, may I advise him that he is amongst good company, all New Democrats, and therefore there can be no suggestion that it applies to a particular constituency.

It is also not simply a problem -- and of course I'm talking now off the top of my head

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) and I hope I'm not making very bad mistakes -- of rural development and rural diversification, it is a problem of urban sprawl, and the honourable member knows it, that wherever you have a great urban city -- and this is true historically of the City of Winnipeg -- you will find many people who want to live in the proximity of the city because they want to live close to an urban setting but they don't want to be part of the urban setting, for two reasons both of them which I consider legitimate. One is that they like a bit of acreage, which I think is a good thing. I know the Member for Thompson lives in that type of surrounding, the Premier lives in that type of surrounding, and I think that it's a nice type of surrounding -- that's the one reason.

The second reason is that urban land being so high in price and being so highly assessed, that the only way of having both the benefit of the urban land and possibly a smaller assessment, is to live in land immediately beyond the urban area. And it's not something that this government is wrestling with as a unique government, it's something, Mr. Speaker, that governments all over North America have wrestled with and I don't think have found the answer, because it was the Roblin administration that set up Metro and said that Metro will have the planning authority, not only in Greater Winnipeg but five miles beyond Greater Winnipeg, in what is called the outer zone. I think Sanford is beyond, is still beyond the outer zone; in other words that it really -- that it is not subject to City of Winnipeg planning authority, that it is subject to the planning authority of the Provincial Government, and that the reasons for the Municipal Board ruling in this particular case, if it has to do only with the water level, is something that I would have to try to find out for my honourable friend.

But the problem of subdividing lots in the immediate neighbourhood of Greater Winnipeg is not a problem that grew up under this administration. Furthermore, as the honourable member knows, there are jurisdictions which place great restrictions on the use of agricultural land, that it is not something unique to this administration and it is not something which sort of goes to the roots of rural development and rural diversification it may be based on maintaining a type of rural atmosphere.

Now I'm not able to comment, Mr. Speaker, on this particular case. The honourable member says the Municipal Board's ruling was based on water level; I'll certainly look into the question of whether our department had something to say concerning the matter and report to my honourable friend. All I would hope that he would take from me, and perhaps he will and perhaps he won't, is that it is not as a result of some sinister conspiracy on the part of the New Democratic Party administration to inhibit rural development or rural diversification. The reasons will either be much more mundane than that, having to do with some bureaucratic rule which may not make sense and which we would have to look in, or some other part of the Municipal Board explanation which I would have to find out about. I can assure the honourable member that the position of the government with regards to rural development and rural diversification and the quality of rural life generally, is well documented by the efforts of the Minister of Agriculture and by efforts of other departments, and we do speak to one another, although I will concede to the honourable member that sometimes we don't speak nicely to one another. The fact is that we do speak to one another and that there is the communication which he thinks should be there. However, to get a more specific answer to my honourable friend I will have to see what the municipal order is referring to.

Regarding hunting on the La Salle River, I note that in this respect -- I don't know whether the honourable member was in the House when his constituent was speaking -- but I notice that he was now speaking for his constituent who was making a pitch about hunting on the La Salle River. Again there is, certainly in this case, a conflict of interest between the people who are seeking a hunting recreational lands and the people who are affected by that hunting recreation, I take the major point to be made that this is a more heavily populated area, that the amount of hunting in this area would constitute a sufficiently large nuisance to the people in the area as to require some restrictions by the department, and we will look into it.

Now the honourable member referred to the programs with regard to lure crops and other wildlife habitat as having been transferred from a program to get the most desirable places to try to do this on the basis of need, and I am not aware that that is the basis upon which these programs have operated in the last while. If that is a failing on my part, then

SUPPLY - MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) . . . I will certainly have to accept the responsibility for it. I'll have to find out from the department whether those charges are in fact so, but that has not been my impression.

I'm just going to deal before the honourable member asks a question, with some of the work that has been done with regard to wildlife lands. In the interlake there is the Oak Hammock project, which during 1972 acquisition was completed for the Oak Hammock marsh project; 8,100 acres are now developed by dykes and drains to provide, breeding, nesting and migration areas for waterfowl. Development of this project is a co-operative effort by the Province of Manitoba, Ducks Unlimited and interested conservation agencies. Expansion of the wildlife management areas and provision of key wildlife wintering areas in the Narcisse, Sheffield area -- there has been the acquisition of 5,600 acres of marginal land which was completed in the area. This land, key deer wintering areas, will be added to the existing wildlife areas, Crown land to provide annual wintering grounds for approximately 1,000 white tailed deer. In addition 45 miles of access trails and fireguards were constructed and 350 acres of alfalfa were seeded into abandoned fields to increase game capacities and supply forage to area livestock producers. Mantagao Lake 1,140 acres of isolated private lands were acquired for addition to the Mantagao Lake wildlife management area. These lands have historic hunter and wildlife use and purchase alleviated the hunter landowner problem as well as providing valuable big game habitat areas.

Then there is Sandridge, Clematis where 4,840 acres of marginal land was purchased and added to existing Crown land wildlife wintering areas. I am not aware -- I noticed the honourable member was going to ask a question -- I'm not aware of there having been a switch to a needs basis in dealing with this type of program.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Well perhaps the Minister would allow me to explain -- he has dealt with several programs that I presume were initiated by the Provincial Government, none of which have anything to do with the particular program that I mentioned. The one that I had in mind was a program that was developed under the initial ARDA agreement whereby farm lands, or potholes, in the pothole country of the prairies -- the most desirable places would be leased for the purpose of preserving the habitat in that area to enable waterfowl populations to develop, to be hatched and raised. A farmer was paid I think on the basis of \$30.00 an acre and for that he was also paid \$30.00 an acre to seed the few acres of barley around the pothole for feed for the ducks. In other words, he was getting paid to raise ducks rather than raising the ducks for the entire North American Continent and not getting paid for it. The purpose of the program was to provide and to insure that those areas that are most suitable for waterfowl populations would be rented. There was a danger that if areas were used that were liable to get dry during the summer months, the waterfowl population then would be destroyed, and so they had to be careful which areas were being used. My understanding is now that that program has been discontinued and only the contracts that are currently in existence, which will run to the end of the five year period that I think the contracts were let for, will be maintained and at that time there will be a discontinuation of the program.

My argument was simply that the reason the program failed, if indeed it can be termed that it failed, was because instead of looking at it from a waterfowl conservation point of view, it was approached from a welfare point of view and instead of the farmers who owned the potholes that were most capable of raising ducks being compensated, they were simply given to farmers who were in need of cash, and I think that defeated the purpose of the program.

MR. GREEN: Yes, well the honourable member has that feeling. I certainly will check into it. If the program is discontinued, my impression is that it's discontinued because of the emphasis that is being placed on things such as lure crop programs and the Oak Hammock Marsh area and the other areas of that kind, but I'll certainly look into those charges that the honourable member has made, honourable member makes, to see whether or not there is any substance to them. If there is, I certainly will have to acknowledge it.

The Honourable Member for Arthur asks about the Paterson Dam. I can tell the Honourable Member for Arthur that the Paterson Dam program is one which we have continued to make representations to from the Federal Government to obtain the same type of sharing that I think was available for Shellmouth and for the Pleasant Valley. I think that the matter is now in the process of again being considered. I can tell him that there is no reduction of

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) enthusiasm on the part of the government for the proceeding with the program, and it's just a matter of time until the budgetary considerations probably of the Federal Government dovetail with ours so that the program can proceed.

The honourable member mentioned Plum Lake and I think that the facts as outlined are essentially correct. I can tell him that in 1968 the Wildlife Branch prepared a report which concluded that it would be to the province's advantage financially to purchase the private lands that would be affected by the operation of the dam as the economic advantage to wildlife would be approximately ten times the corresponding disadvantage to agriculture. In other words, if the private lands which would be affected by use of the dam in this way were purchased there was a ten to one cost benefit calculated.

In 1970 an interdisciplinary committee was formed to undertake a total resource assessment of the Plum Lake area and to recommend a course of action which provides maximum benefit to the province. The committee was composed of representatives of the Department of Agriculture's Soils and Crop Branch . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . could we have just a little bit more quiet in the Chamber. I have a very difficult time hearing the Minister.

MR. GREEN: . . . the Resources Planning Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources and Environmental Management, and of the Water Resources Branch. The result of the committee study were presented to the people in the Plum Lake area at a public meeting in Souris in May 1971. Subsequent to the May 1971 public meetings the committee revised their study to include resource values along Plum Creeek below the proposed control works on Plum Lake. The committee recommended that all land around the periphery of Plum Lake to elevation 1,411 feet be purchased by the province, that the existing control dam owned by Ducks Unlimited be modified to accommodate a control level of 1,409 feet on Plum Lake, and that the control dam be purchased from Ducks Unlimited and that following regulation the Plum Creek channel be improved so as to have a capacity prevalent to that available following improvements made by the PFRA in 1956.

Now this proposal is presently being considered by the government, I am unable to tell my honourable friend that it will be adopted or otherwise. I can tell you that the matter is under active consideration and that if the honourable member has some impatience in this connection I don't blame him for it. All I can say in response is that the dam was completed in 1958 and that the majority activity concerning movement has been during the last two years; so the honourable member can look forward hopefully to something being done in that area.

With regard to electric power, I can only concur with my honourable friend that it is important to the people of Manitoba that we not under estimate the value, that the use of our water resources to achieve electric power is desirable and of course, the honourable member knows that we are now involved in a debate on that question. Now, I know that the honourable members in the Conservative Party differ with us as to what we have done; I know that the honourable members of the Liberal Party differ with what we are proposing to do now. The only thing that I can say in response to both of those positions which are contradictory to one another, and this is not a criticism, that the honourable members of the Conservative Party take the position that we should not have proceeded with Lake Winnipeg regulation; that we should have proceeded immediately with the Churchill River diversion at level 854 and that we should be into that program by now.

The honourable members of the Liberal Party take the position that we should not proceed with Lake Winnipeg -- with the Churchill diversion. They conveniently ignore the fact that the Churchill River diversion being not a component would make Lake Winnipeg regulation more than necessary, but due to the fact that I assume that the Liberals don't want to say that the government is doing anything right, they ignore the fact that Lake Winnipeg regulation makes the argument that they are proposing -- it gives it the only creditibility that it had, and I don't say that it has a great deal of creditibility. But without Lake Winnipeg regulation. they would not be able to be saying as they do say now, that Churchill River only gives you another four years, because it's with Lake Winnipeg regulation that they are able to make that statement about the Churchill. So we are hit from both directions, I have said -- and by the way, that doesn't trouble me a great deal. It's nice to be down the center for a change.

The fact is that Mr. Campbell and Mr. Kristjanson for the pas two years, and the

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) Conservative opposition have been saying you should be flooding higher and you should be flooding faster. Mr. Booy and Mr. Newbury who now have a champion in the Leader of the Liberal Party saying you should not be flooding at all, that you should not be flooding at all, that you should not be proceeding with flooding; and by implication and insofar as Messrs. Newbury and Booy are concerned by direct approval, September of 1970 they say that you should be proceeding with Lake Winnipeg regulations and I think that, Mr. Chairman, as I suggested previously, that the true debate if one wanted to know what the issues were, wanted to see how they contradict one another, should be between Mr. Campbell and Kristjanson on the one side, Mr. Booy and Mr. Newbury on the other side, and I would be happy if somebody would rent a hall -- as a matter of fact, I would contribute to the cost of it and let those two parties go on the stage and fight with one another, and I think that if one were to do that one would see that the government program which is taking the best of both of those positions is the one that makes sense in terms of all of the arguments that are being used.

So if one is concerned with the criticism of Manitoba's present Hydro program, let it at least be noted that that criticism comes from diametrically opposed directions. The Premier often puts it that they are 180 degrees apart from each other, and that in order to see the true validity of the government position, one has to hear both those sides: one group saying Churchill River diversion, no Lake Winnipeg regulation; the other group saying Lake Winnipeg regulation, no Churchill River diversion. And then one would see that one group is saying, one group is saying --(Interjection)-- Well I say, Mr. Speaker, that there may be a little bit of right on all sides, that there may be some right in each argument and what the government has tried to do is take the valid positions that are being made by both sides and treating them with the respect that they deserve, and coming up with a program which takes the best of those valid positions. Because if one is to ignore the ecological factors which Messrs. Booy and Newbury placed a great deal of height on then one could come to the position that you have all of the storage and all of the extra water at South Indian Lake and get to 869 feet which was the original proposal. If one said, well we don't need Lake Winnipeg and we could do it at 854 and then look at the figures which were presented on numerous occasions, that eventually you are going to need both; and if you are going to need both, it doesn't matter the sequence in which you build them, then one could reduce South Indian Lake by an additional four feet and move in with Lake Winnipeg.

But there is no suggestion, Mr. Speaker, until I heard it recently, there is no suggestion, and never was a suggestion that you are not going to need water from the Churchill River into the Nelson River. Messrs. Booy and Newbury in September of 1970 signed a letter -- well Mr. Booy signed the letter, but Mr. Newbury was a member of the Commission-- sent a letter approving of Lake Winnipeg regulation and saying that they agreed in principle that water had to be diverted from the Churchill River into the Nelson River, that there is no doubt about that. The most recent proposal, Mr. Chairman, is the proposal that is made by Professor Lansdown who is really talking about the efficiency of the system and who says that if you integrated Manitoba and Saskatchewan you could provide for Manitoba's power needs.

Now Mr. Chairman, as already indicated by the Premier, his information from Saskatchewan is that they are not interested in this program and that they couldn't possibly be involved in it -- I think for a period of five years is what he said. But, Mr. Speaker, even if we accepted Mr. Lansdown's thesis, I think this is the important thing, even if we accepted 100 percent what Mr. Lansdown is saying --and I don't by any means suggest that I am accepting it -- but even if I did, once the system is integrated you would still have so many megawatts of potential on the Nelson River which you are not making use of and which if you did make use of which if you did make use of would make your entire system more economical, I like to compare it, Mr. Chairman, with a person who is building a warehouse, and he says that ten years from now I'm going to need 10,000 square feet. I can use 5,000 square feet now. Should I build 5,000 square feet or should I build 10,000 and rent out 5,000 to help me pay for the part that I'm using until I need the total amount? And it's a very simple calculation to make, Mr. Speaker. One takes the cost of building 10,000 square feet, one takes the rental value of having an additional 5,000, one calculates that against your cost, and if you can do that and do it now until you need the 10,000 square feet and it makes money for you then it makes good sense. And we are in that position, or at least that's an analogous position with

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) what we are doing with the Churchill River.

So when my honourable friend says that the people of Manitoba have to be very careful about their future power needs I believe that we are being very careful. I believe that we have come up with what in September of 1970, Mr. Speaker, was to everybody an agreeable program. I did not hear a word of criticism neither from the ecologists nor from the hydrologists of that program until the spring of 1971. The Opposition who had all of the documents made no criticism until the spring of 1971 when the former Premier of the Province resigned from the Hydro Board and his criticism, Mr. Speaker, was that we should flood higher and faster. And it is interesting to note that during the period of making those criticisms those people who called themselves friends of the Churchill did not challenge what Mr. Kristjanson and Mr. Campbell were saying, and as a matter of fact, Messrs. Campbell and Kristjanson gave us to understand that Mr. Newbury and Mr. Booy agreed with them, and Booy and Newbury did not challenge that kind of position that was being put forward. So we had people who were diametrically opposed to each other who were appearing, or at least were being represented as being a part of a concerted attack on the government's program to regulate Lake Winnipeg.

Well as the tale unfolds we find that that is not the case, that really the contending sides are attacking each other. Mr. Kristjanson and Mr. Campbell are attacking Mr. Booy and Mr. Newbury; Mr. Booy and Mr. Newbury are attacking Mr. Kristjanson and Mr. Campbell. The government has taken the best aspects of both positions and have presented a reasonable, acceptable, and from the point of view of all of the hearing that we have had before Public Utilities Committee and it has not been challenged, the most economic program in all of the circumstances. And that is what we are proceeding with and there is no sensitivity on our part. We are proceeding. Lake Winnipeg regulation is proceeding and the Churchill River diversion is proceeding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member has five minutes.

MR. GREEN: The honourable member referred to trapping, the steel trapping and I can tell the honourable member that I probably get as many letters on humane trapping as I get on any other subject. Certainly I have gotten as many letters on trapping over the last four years as I would have got on water power, or at least I think I would have. I'm just thinking back because that is a frequent letter that I receive with regard to humane trapping.

I'm able to advise the member that very close relations exist between our department, the Manitoba Registered Trap Line Association and the Canadian Association for Humane Trapping. Humane trap tests continue both on experimental trap lines and with trappers through trapping instructions and other departmental personnel. Limited quantities of humane traps are given to trappers outright to further promote their use. Under the ARDA special assistance humane traps are part of the trapping equipment being supplied. Existing humane traps are not universally effective on all fur bearers and determined effort is necessary in developing a truly humane trapping device and techniques whereby it may be used. So I would advise the honourable member that the efforts are made in this connection. Again I'm sure that the efforts do not satisfy all of the contending interests but nevertheless the department is making a concerted attempt, particularly on a voluntary basis urging people to use particular type of traps.

The honourable member asked with regard to crop compensation. I had occasion earlier in the session to make an answer to the Honourable Member for Lakeside showing what happened with the crop compensation fund this year. It would appear that we're \$300,000 in the black on the wildlife certificate fund; this giving us considerable leeway in this area and I would think that we should be expected to have a much more extensive program than the program that we had this year. Apparently this year because of very very good harvest weather the crops were all taken in and there were very few compensation claims made. I'm speaking from memory, I think it's a total of \$7,000.00. Next year I expect that we will be able to do much more in that area.

The Honourable the Member for Thompson raised the question of Dialathon, I don't know whether the honourable member was in the House when I spoke on this subject in my Estimates. The difficulty that we have in terms of regulating my commercial hunting activity is the difficulty that is involved in trying to restrict the property rights to land to one particular use and the question that has remained unanswered is how can I tell the Honourable Member for Rhineland or the Member for LaVerendrye that he is unable to say to the Honourable

MINES AND RESOURCES

(MR. GREEN cont'd) Member for Thompson if you'd like to come on my farm next week you can come but I am going to charge you a \$10.00 fee. He's not charging him for hunting rights, he's charging him for access to his farm. If the Member for Rhineland can do that and we see no way at this point -- someone can try to convince me if I'm wrong -- we see no way of saying to the Member for Thompson or to any other member that you have no right to keep people off your land, number one; or you have no right to say to a person if you wish to come on my land it's going to cost you \$5.00. When you're on my land if you're hunting that's your concern.

If we can't do that then we see no way in which the Member for Rhineland, the Member for Thompson, the Member for LaVerendrye, the Member for Birtle-Russell can't get together and say to the Member for Riel, we would like you to manage our land during the months of September and October, we don't want to have anything to do with it, but we give you the right to see to it that only those who you want to go on our land and only those who you don't want to do not go on our land. And you have the right to use that right by telling people if they pay you to go on the land you can go on. Now that is my impression of what the organization known as Dailathon is doing and

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister's time has expired. Has the Minister leave to proceed?

MR. GREEN: I wonder if I can take the last three minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Agreed? (Agreed)

MR. GREEN: There is nothing to stop a group of farmers from saying that one of their number is going to control all of their acreage and say who goes on the property and who does not go on the property, and unless we were prepared to say to those farmers, you have no right to deprive people of the right to go on your property, which right I don't know how it exists in the first place, and you have right to charge anybody for going on your property, then we have a very difficult time making a special law for an organization that wants to do that. And we have seen the answer in the answer that has been suggested by the Honourable Member for Thompson himself.

We are saying that we will make so much land available for hunting. And right now don't forget the figure is 55 percent Crown land as against 45 private, that it will be unprofitable for people to charge for people to go on their property and it will just not be an activity. We also told the hunters that if they wanted to cut this activity off they had the right to cut it off immediately. If they were prepared to march 15,000 strong on the Legislature and tell us not to have these people selling rights they should be prepared to 15,000 strong not go on these lands, and just say to anybody who sells hunting rights we're not going to buy them. And I'll tell you if anything wipes out a business quick it's if nobody buys what they are selling. They would not advertise and nothing would happen.

The last letter I sent to one of the game and fish organizations is, what would you think if I passed a law -- they've been urging this type of law -- that nobody shall sell the right of access to their property for purpose of hunting. Which in Saskatchewan and Alberta has resulted in more posting of land, has not resulted in farmers not selling their rights, it's just farmers saying you can't go on my property, the government tells me that I can't sell you the right, you can't go on my property. Now supposing we passed a law that nobody shall buy the rights to go on a farmer's property for the purpose of hunting. Is that a legitimate law? Nobody shall buy the right to go on it, and anybody who does, you take them before a court and you say that you did on the 18th day of August, A. D. 1973, unlawfully buy the right to go on somebody's property. And if that sounds ridiculous, how does it not sound ridiculous if I charge the Honourable Member of Morris that you did on the 18th day of August, A. D. 1973, unlawfully charge the Member for Thompson \$5.00 for going on his property? Because if you pass the law you ultimately have to go ahead and enforce that law, and the enforcement of the law has to envisage a man appearing before a magistrate charged with the offense and paying a fine or going to jail, because that is the result of the enactment of a law. And I don't know, I do not find it easy to say, I'm going to charge the Member for Lakeside, call him before a magistrate and say that you did on the 18th day of September, A. D. 1973, unlawfully take \$5.00 from the Member for Thompson for the right to walk on your land, how do you plead, guilty or not guilty?

A MEMBER: The jury is on your side.

MINES AND RESOURCES

MR. GREEN: The jury is on my side. I think it's not a simple matter and that's why we have elected to try to increase the public domain. There's no problem with Crown lands. Increase the public domain, see to it that the hunting land is not taken up by private people who are going to charge and make it available to the public who owns it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The hour being 5:30, I am leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 this evening.