

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

8:00 o'clock, Tuesday, December 13, 1966

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Turtle Mountain.

MR. DOW: Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure tonight to congratulate you in your election to the high office of Speaker of this Assembly, and along with other members that have talked on the Speech from the Throne, I wish to add my congratulations to you and to your conduct and the way you are conducting yourself in the office of Speaker, and may good health continue with you in this position.

I would like to congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address to the Speech from the Throne and wish them well in their administration and sojourn in this House. A poet, George Moore, said, "A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it." Then another little quotation that I would like to apply here tonight, Abe Lincoln said that "most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be", and so on this vein, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words on this traditional Speech from the Throne.

My first words that I would like to say tonight is to congratulate this government. About a year and a half ago a group from the constituency of Turtle Mountain decided that some initiative had to be shown by them to do certain things to improve the conditions of their particular area, and possibly through that, the position of Manitoba as a whole. They moved into the Legislative Building and met with several Ministers of the Crown and requested - and mind you I would like to stress this - that they requested that they would like a land use survey made of a particular area in Manitoba. This I understand is one of the first that was made in the province by a community - and when I say community I'm using the word in its a large area - to make a study of various resources, to co-ordinate the various departments of government so that the resource information could be established and brought to some use for the people to develop the particular area.

After a very lengthy discussion the various departments agreed that this would be very beneficial. I don't say this is the first land use study in the province but I'm going to suggest it will be the first successful study that has been made and it co-ordinates several departments of government. This government provided a co-ordinator from one of their staff - I believe he came from the Mines and Natural Resources Branch - to co-ordinate this survey. He moved out into the area and he is in the process of making the survey. If I may be privileged, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the specific objectives of this particular study. No. 1 - to promote and assist with the inventories of land, water, wildlife, fish habitat, forest, recreational and human resources of the area, their capabilities and the degree of utilization of these resources; No. 2 - to define the problems associated with the present levels of resource management; No. 3 - attempt to work out solutions to the problems defined and promote action on individual projects of high priority; No. 5 - to estimate the potential of the various natural resources under intensive management; No. 6 - to develop an overall plan for resource management; and No. 7 - to promote the implementation of this plan.

Mr. Speaker, I think you will agree with me this is a very objective and a very optimistic program and I am sure with the development that has been promoted in this particular area, they are in the process now of co-ordinating these resources and developing them to a point that in my opinion, once the study has been completed and brought to fruition, that you are going to find this is going to be an object lesson in promoting area development in Manitoba, and I'm very happy to congratulate the government on the objective view they took to put this into force and to establish it. The people of this particular area are very happy and I'm sure it is going to be beneficial to them and to the province.

One of the objectives that I read in the Speech from the Throne is, "The new Department of Tourism and Recreation will appear in my Ministers' Estimates for the first time. My Ministers expect that the benefits of tourism in Manitoba can be substantially increased and attention will be given to the opportunities rising from our Centennial Year and from the holding of Pan-American games in our province. The development of the provincial parks system will be pursued in order to meet the demands not only of the tourist industry but our own citizens as well."

Mr. Speaker, this hits a very vital point in the constituency of Turtle Mountain. I think as an entrance point to the Province of Manitoba, this comes into the focus of the International Peace Garden. The International Peace Garden was an organization that was developed in 1932

(MR. DOW cont'd.) as an ideal, an ideal of individuals setting up the efforts that had been made by two countries in refraining from war for the past century or more, and dedicated in 1932.

We have had certain assistance from the Province of Manitoba over the years in developing this garden but it is now getting to a stage that this is big business. I don't know whether it is the biggest single tourist attraction in Manitoba, but it is one of the single attractions. Last year something over a quarter of a million people drove to see the beauty of the garden, and when you consider this is sitting on the international border between Manitoba and North Dakota, 16 miles from any town, these people have to drive a long way.

The gardens last year showed the beauty that had been expected by horticulturists, as such, but not realized by people like myself or any layman. The beauty was there and the people remarked on it. A year ago the Centennial Commission Corporation decided that this was one of the centennial projects that the province and Federal Government would participate in, as one of three I believe is the number that they are participating in, and they are building quite a pretentious building in the garden somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$100,000.

But to project this building certain monies had to be put into the building in addition to the Centennial Corporation monies to make sure that it was built in the line that was projected by the architect. This is a beautiful building. It's an unusual building. It's a building that people will admire and wonder at the architects, as to the dreams they had in designing this type of building. This building will be officially opened in proper form by the various dignitaries in July or thereabouts of 1967. This is going to be a big tourist attraction, and here, Mr. Speaker, I am pleading with this government to assist the Peace Garden a little more in dollars than they have in previous years, because when you understand that the International Peace Garden is a non profit organization and every move made for expansion, of developing the garden, there's a maintenance cost comes into being of which we the people that are connected with the garden have to find monies to keep it up. This is one of the big attractions, a single attraction of tourism in Manitoba, and I hope the new Minister of Tourism will take this into consideration, and if he thinks like I do, I'm sure he will participate in the dollars that are required to set it up.

One of the most interesting cultural, educational features of the Peace Gardens came into being a few years ago. A Dr. Utgaard from Virginia University saw a potential in this garden of what he called an International Music Camp, and in 1956 he organized this camp with 112 or 113 high school students to take part in instruction in band and choral work and orchestra work. In 1966 he had 2,108 pupils from all over North America come and pay tuition and take instruction from the top-notch instructors of the cultural effects in band, art, drama, twirling, choral and what have you.

I would like to read the purpose of the International Peace Garden Music Camp. The purpose was established in order to provide a centre of cultural study in the fine arts for the young people, adults, and educators of the upper mid-western states and central provinces. A staff of 120 artists, teachers and nationally known guest conductors and outstanding clinicians from both the United States and Canada have been engaged to provide the instruction and supervision of the camp program. Students may attend any one or as many of the seven one week camp sessions as they desire.

The development and expansion of this camp, as I mentioned, started with 113; it is now 2,108 students last year. The camp program has expanded to seven one week sessions with courses offering in band, orchestra, chorus, musical, drama, ballet, modern dance, dramatic arts, chamber music, piano, organ, art, dance band and twirling, and in the short period of just ten years the International Music Camp has become recognized as one of the leading summer schools of fine arts for both the United States and Canada.

There is one very interesting development, and this I would like to refer to our Minister of Education. In the United States through their musical efforts, through schools, high schools, any student that takes part in this particular camp activity, the certificate that is issued from this particular band camp is recognized as certain merit marks in future university training. Unfortunately, the Faculty of the University of Manitoba will not recognize this, and I believe, Sir, this would be a real objective for our Minister to proceed - as a development with his sincerity in education - that this is another field that he takes into being as a practical demonstration that we're trying to educate our children in the best that we can develop within our province.

This becomes a very touchy thing in regards to the students there because they do like to

(MR. DOW cont'd.) have comparable certificates, and while they are issued to our Canadian students at the camps, they are of no value except to hang up. They don't class as any merit rating and I am suggesting to our Minister of Education that this would be one field - small field I admit - that he can follow through and be beneficial to those students. I also suggest to him that in doing this he might have to participate in an enlarged curriculum in his high schools to have certain types of band music particularly taught in the high schools. Some areas do have that. I think, Sir, in your particular area you have a school band that has made quite a record in the western provinces. Rivers is another one.

So I suggest that this is one field that I would like our Minister to take some consideration to and develop, and I would read to you the conclusions of the band camp when they say that the possible growth, the development and the influence of the International Music Camp is limited only by the vision of its leadership and the interest of the citizens of North Dakota and Manitoba in providing an international centre of cultural activities for the young people, the educators, the adults, and it is hoped that every effort will be made by all interested individuals, organizations, governmental agencies to achieve these important goals. Personally, in our particular area we are very interested in this and we are hoping that some development, some assistance, some notice of recognition in the educational field will be taken into consideration by the Department of Education.

In the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, mention has been made that the Manitoba Water Supply Board has informed the government that it now operates twenty-five plants supplying towns and villages in the province. Five additional plants will be in operation soon and twelve more under consideration. In the past five or six years I have had the opportunity of appearing at most of the ratepayers meetings in Manitoba to outline, to answer questions in regards to the vote that would be taken in stimulating and passing this water supply, sewage and water systems in these particular communities, and I have one word of regret that I would like to mention to this government. I admire them for the stimulation and organization of putting these systems in, but I object to the system that they have held control of the supply of water and, in my opinion, at rates that are too high for these communities to develop and expand from an industrial point of view. It's true, it's true that under The Municipal Act these communities could not go any further than the percentage that the laws set. It's true, but, Mr. Speaker, as mentioned today on many occasions, laws can be amended to allow this quantity of money to be borrowed in municipalities, and I think without going into detail that it can be shown there are communities within our province who established sewer and water systems on their own - no guarantees - and took and had it approved by certain process of law. They control and operate their own systems and I think it can be proved that they are in a beneficial position to supply water to these communities at a lesser rate, and I'm suggesting that I would like the department involved to take into consideration that somewhere along the line they can either return the capital cost and charge it to the particular community and then let them run their own show, because I'm quite sure that there is too much head office expense charged up to these communities to establish water.

I won't burden you, Sir, with the various lengthy adverse different rates, but when you've got to pay from two or two and a half dollars per thousand gallons for water and try to say you can encourage industry, particularly a wet industry, you haven't a chance in the world. So I suggest that this would be quite a well supplied and well supported move by the government, by the department, to take into consideration that they change this. Let these communities stand on their own feet. It doesn't make any difference, Mr. Speaker.

The argument was, and I might say this, that in all the places I spoke, and I travelled with the Chairman of the Water Area Board and other officials, and a peculiar thing - a very peculiar thing - I mentioned this, that if a question was asked from any ratepayer as to the difference between the supply of water from the Water Area Board and locally owned control, I would tell them what it was and I would defeat that vote. Fortunately, not one community, not one ever asked the question - not one of them - and so now this is the first opportunity I've had to appeal to the department to please take a look at this, and I know if you want to amend the laws you can put these communities so they can supply water and sewage at a competitive rate with their neighbours. The Minister, I am sure, knows these various rates throughout the province and they're certainly up and down just like a graph system. If -- well, MacGregor is a point in question where they went on their own. I can name these places, Mr. Speaker, but I don't think it will serve any purpose to do this because there are a few of the towns that have established these under their own and they're operating very successfully and can compete,

(MR. DOW cont'd.) and I say this, they can compete with any other centre in Manitoba but their next door neighbour under the water supply board cannot compete if it's a wet industry. I suggest that this is not right; let's take a look at it; let's amend the legislation and put them on their own. With that, I will leave that portion to the government to take a look at.

I was quite interested this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture I think justifiably mentioning the fact that the soil testing in the Province of Manitoba was of very high calibre. Up until a few months ago this was a wonderful system. A farmer could have his soil tested sent into the laboratory and his results were sent back within a very few days. Quite a change last fall - quite a change - the process of a farmer asking for soil tests. I think you are aware of it, Mr. Speaker. He wishes to find out from a field what is the proper fertilizer to use, and the only way he can tell this is by the testing and by the results. From an economic point of view, the various suppliers of fertilizer established quite a large discount if you take your supplies in the early fall. I had several phone calls this fall and I checked with the lab as to why the results were so long in coming. The answer I got - the computer machine was not working and they had nobody to service it, therefore, the results had to be withheld until they got it in operation again. This was several weeks, and so I say to the Minister, take a good look at that, get that machine working a little faster in the fall because it's most beneficial to the farmer that he get these results when he needs them, because he can save himself quite a large chunk of money by getting his fertilizer as he requires it from the tests that the department put out. I might say, and I agree with the Minister they have a good system when it works, but this -- again into the mechanical age.

You know I listened this afternoon to the tax rebate, and I'm not going to say too much about it, but you know they have a stuttering computer in the office to turn out cheques on rebates. This is the machine that was not to make a mistake. But, Mr. Speaker, a farmer walked into me one day with quite a number of cheques in different envelopes for the same amount of money, and what had happened? Somewhere along the line the machine had kept repeating the same cheque and so he had a bunch of them. He asked me - he asked me what should I do. They were all made out to him, they were quite -- I said to him, you have the opportunity to cash them but I suppose sometime the auditor will find out and ask you for a rebate, but down in our corner where our people are so honest, he returned them and kept one. But we have this stuttering machine you know that -- sometimes I think these machines are not altogether perfect.

Mr. Speaker, I only want to speak on one more subject that affects me quite seriously and I know it is creating a terrific worry to administrators of municipal corporations, and I hope by this time that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has it right on her broad shoulders - I'm sure she will have - is this 1967 equalized assessment. When it came out first, Mr. Speaker, there was a meeting called by -- well I'm not going to say whether it was 18 or 15, but there was this number of rural municipal corporations in the western part of the province asking the Assessment Branch to appear and give reason and causes to why. Fortunately, the equalized assessment in my opinion is quite realistic to the urban centres, to the towns and to other corporations where they have an increase in buildings, homes, businesses and what have you. I suggest to you, Sir, that these are quite normal, but when you come to the field of rural municipalities where it's just the same section of land, and say it's got to go up 34 percent on the average in the province where in some cases it's up 60 percent and in other cases maybe 25, and when the answer was given by the Assessment Branch they said that the reason they came to this conclusion was because -- let me back up a little bit. In 1951 the provincial Assessment Branch was established to assess land - farm lands in particular - on productivity, on location to schools, to roads, to what have you, and come up with a value.

In 1966 they decided this is not the way to get the equalized assessment. They went into various municipal organizations and said, "What are your change of ownerships?" Here's a section of land sold for \$64,000 according to this piece of paper. They gathered three or four or five of these particular sales and they said O.K., it's gone up, up goes the assessment, so they say, "We'll just work it out at 40 percent."

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a very unfair way of assessing land and I'll point it out in this way. With all due respect to the Manitoba Farm Credit Corporation and to the Canadian Farm Loan Board, they loan money for people to buy land, this is true. But, Mr. Speaker, they don't lend the money on a 100 percent of its sale value. They lend it on 60 percent, 65 percent - I'm not sure of the figure - but it's a lower figure. So I have a farm to sell and I am a father. I want to retire. My son wants to buy the farm and he makes an offer. All right,

(MR. DOW cont'd.) let's say \$100.00 an acre. One of the agencies will agree to lend the 60 or 65 percent and pop, I take the second mortgage. I couldn't care less whether it's paid or not. The boy's going to get it anyway. However, that price is added to the sale price and so then the Assessment Branch instead of saying the actual market value as far as I'm concerned is only 65 percent, they're taking the 40 percent on an inflated value of 35 percent.

So, Mr. Speaker, I suggest this is a question that is causing concern, particularly to rural municipalities, because this particular equalized assessment is only used in limited occasions but it does put a terrific penalty on the people that are working the land in our basic industry in Manitoba.

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MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): I will join with the others in congratulating the Honourable Member for Swan River on his appointment, but not only on his appointment but possibly on his courage to take such a position, particularly when he hears the history of the predecessors who lost their heads, etc. We know you won't, but I am sure that you will suffer the trials and tribulations that they had in their day.

I would also like to join in congratulating the new members - almost a third of us - particularly possibly because it takes a few of us out of the rookie class, at least theoretically. I am sure they will contribute to our legislation and help us with settling policies for the Province of Manitoba.

I too at this time congratulate the mover and seconder to the Speech from the Throne. Their contribution was very good; we enjoyed it; and I'm sure we'll hear from them many times in the future.

As I look across and welcome back the Leader of the Opposition, I know that we won't always agree with you but I think sometimes we'll possibly consider the policies which you have to offer and you aren't always wrong. And also to the NDP Leader, the Member for Radisson, his Party. He has shown that he is in good vocal condition and I hope that he'll be in physical condition to look after his end of legislation during this Session.

I would also like to welcome back our Sergeant-at-Arms. Certainly he and his staff add grace and dignity to this Assembly and we can use it at times.

I would like at this time though to mention that it is not very often the member for Churchill has a constituent in the balcony to speak to, and when I see him there I realize that I should point out to you that the success of our new Department of Northern Affairs lies squarely in his lap as far as I'm concerned -- (Interjection)-- No, this is John this time. We haven't resurrected John A. Macdonald but our director happens to be John MacDonald. He's done a very good job and certainly raised the image of northern affairs in northern parts of the province and he is to be commended on the job he is doing. I'm sure that they could not have found a better man to do the job.

And at this time I am pleased to enter into the debate. Just so that we don't get too embroiled in the problems or the debates on southern Manitoba and forget about the northern half of our province, I would like to re-acquaint members of course that the Churchill constituency in area covers approximately half of the Province of Manitoba, and while we do not demand half the time in this House, I do feel that you should be acquainted from time to time on those things that come about in the part of Manitoba which holds the future with this province, for I'm sure that from time to time you'll find that northern Manitoba's contribution will be depended on to fulfil those things which we will require in the province as a whole.

Northern Manitoba's growth depends on the development of our resources just as the rest of the province will depend on these resources more and more as time passes and new industry is developed. Our renewable resources are being carefully supervised and I am sure they will prove to be just as valuable and possibly stay with us a lot longer than the more spectacular non-renewable mineral industries that we hear about so much today.

Development of our resources are of concern to all northerners. During the past federal election all parties supported the use of federal funds to develop our northern Canada. You could see the sparkle in their eyes as they considered those parts that needed exploring and developing for the resource dollars that we required. But I ask you, Mr. Speaker, where is that federal financial assistance now when it is required? Up to now I get the distinct impression that members opposite are not showing too much concern over the lack of federal financial assistance. There is the old demands for ever increased services but also the old warning not to go out and raise funds to look after these increased costs. I think members opposite should be a little more candid and admit that pressures have to be put on federal government if we are to be expected to keep up with those provinces which have had a running start on us.

Some are saying don't blame Ottawa for our troubles. I personally can't see how the Federal Government are helping to develop northern Canada. Where are the Roads to Resources programming? Where did it disappear to? Four federal candidates, again in the last federal election, supported it along with their Party but it has disappeared. A resolution in this House supports this unanimously. If they don't want to call it Roads to Resources, I don't know why they can't call it development of communications, but if we could get it back where we could participate together, I'm sure we'd open up the north much faster than we are going to if we paddle our own canoe.

(MR. BEARD cont'd).....

Roads to Resources programming, Mr. Speaker, built the Thompson highway in record time, many of those miles at a cost of \$100,000 a mile, while they tell me equivalent highways in the south at times can be built for as low as 15 to \$20,000 a mile. Roads to Resources programming lifted Snow Lake out of the isolated area. Again Roads to Resources programming made the Grand Rapids-Gypsumville Road a possibility in record time. But those are the things that were done; the money was used and now we need the program to develop more and more of northern Manitoba. Lynn Lake has to be taken out of its isolation. We have to develop the heart of the Province of Manitoba. We're still living on our borders, whether it's the western side of our border or the southern side. Where is the road to Churchill coming from? How about the road to Gillam? It is difficult to justify a Federal Government's decision to enter into agreement to participate in the Nelson River Hydro project on one hand, while on the other hand they refuse to assist to help connect it up and to build a road to service the transmission line to connect the hydro project with the area that it's going to service.

Where is the federal policy for live TV in northern Manitoba? We know that a delegation went down from the north headed by our Minister of Health to ask for this type of service - live TV for northern Manitoba. When they approached the Minister she promised it for 1967, but I got the distinct impression now that maybe it's 2067. I will admit though that CBC have announced canned TV for many of the northern areas of Canada - I think it's 34 or 35 stations - of which I'm happy to announce that Lynn Lake is one. But still we have no assurance that Churchill will be taken into consideration. Churchill started out on its own and got its own TV, but they are running into financial problems and it will be disappointing indeed for all of us if we found that Churchill had to do without the TV now that they have it, and I would hope that the Minister reconsiders and helps to assist in some way to keep TV in Churchill.

Venturing a little farther out of our constituency I'd say where's the Federal Government policy to keep Air Canada service industry in Manitoba? While this does not affect us directly, a service industry such as this certainly will affect the commercial planes that are flying in northern Manitoba and the transportation that we look for more and more to get us back and forward.

Where is the federal policy relative to armed service training centres which have contributed so much to Manitoba's economy? Where will they be moved to - Ontario and Quebec? We all sympathize with the Honourable Member for Hamiota when he expresses concern over the closing of the Rivers Airport. This is a drastic loss for Western Manitoba, for both the City of Brandon and for the small communities. You might say it's almost irreplaceable. It's a terrible blow to have an industry there for 25-odd years and then to lose it. As I say, I sympathize with him, but surely, surely he must realize that again this is federal policy not provincial government policy; we have no control over it. I'm sure provincial government has put in their complaints over this. They've done what they can do. But again, this is federal policy, this is the withdrawal of federal assistance to Manitoba.

I would also remind him unfortunately that this is not the first base to close, this is not the first base by any means to close in Manitoba. We lost a base at Churchill some time ago and the loss of its millions of dollars was just as great to that community unfortunately as the loss of Rivers will be to western Manitoba. I admit that temporarily and to an extent it was replaced by the federal northern affairs department. But, lo and behold now they tell me that rumors have it that northern affairs are moving out. I don't know whether you really call it a red herring or not but it's being moved out, withdrawn at last report and Churchill will suffer again. But, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, this isn't all; now we find we're losing the navy base at Churchill. Federal policies are withdrawing the navy base from western prairie province's only seaport. I have never been a sailor but I imagine if you are going to train one, it would be better to train them as close to the sea as possible. We'd like to think of it anyway. But this is the loss again of millions of dollars in the Churchill area. How much more of this can they stand? Federal policies have allowed millions of dollars worth of public buildings to be closed down in Churchill, permanently. These changes not only take away millions of dollars of wages, revenue and industry out of Churchill but out of the whole of the Province of Manitoba. Many of us are concerned over the adverse effect that federal government policies will have on the Province of Manitoba's economy. Churchill has long suffered over the lack of adequate federal government assistance and leadership; federal government has used Churchill but never paid their own way. Federal responsibility should be considered on the same basis as industry is required to support our northern industrial townsite. We find an adequate arrangement in

(MR. BEARD cont'd). . . . northern Manitoba where private enterprise go into an area, produce a town, responsible for schools, proper policing the building of the town and turning it over to the people and participating in the taxes. And while this is the modern trend I would like to see federal government accept more of the responsibility because if there is a federal town, I think Churchill should be considered one.

The original purpose of Churchill of course was to develop their natural seaport, for the western prairie provinces. And it brings to mind the recent report this weekend of China's new agreement to purchase 70 million dollars worth of western wheat. August 1st, 1966 they signed a three year agreement to purchase up to a maximum of 500 millions of dollars of wheat over the three year period. If federal policy does not change Churchill will get little or nothing out of these increased sales and movements of wheat to all parts of the world markets.

We note over the weekend quite a struggle to look after or to end the dock strike in B. C. At that time they held up boxcars of wheat and there was no thought given, as far as I know, of directing these boxcars of wheat to the empty storage areas at Churchill. Churchill for the last two years during the winter months have had their granaries empty; these when we have bumper crops. But in any case, during the dock strike to settle it the Trade Minister, Robert Winters, announced that the pacific grain transportation committee set up last January at the height of the boxcar shortage would be reconvened under former assistant commissioner of the wheat board, William Riddell. The committee will coordinate grain movement to insure that shipments are put back on schedule as quickly as possible. Mr. Winters was confident that all concerned would cooperate to insure maximum movement. I have no doubt that this approach to a challenging task will once again be successful and that the wheat board's commitments from the West Coast will be fully met, he said. Thursday's rapid fire developments caught most of Parliament Hill by surprise.

But, Mr. Speaker, while I agree with this, I've never heard of them setting up such a committee to see to it that the grain got to Churchill on time, or that anything was done to see to it that the record shipments were improved from a year to year basis. I think this should be considered, because if Churchill is going to become a seaport of any size it's going to have to have consideration and a program set up to help it.

And again on the same report, we all recall the M. P. for Quebec held up Parliament in Ottawa last Thursday while asking that in return for unanimous consent that the St. Lawrence seaway be kept free of ice on a year round basis. And the federal government jumped at this; the government said yes we will look into it but we will also have to look into Halifax and St. Johns. But what about Churchill? No, Sir; they didn't get around to that part. I think that some of these considerations should be carried forward. I'm going to hope that some day they give the consideration to Fort Churchill that is necessary; certainly Fort Churchill is not getting the assistance that's required. Federal policies have not allowed the national harbours board to develop in anticipation of the expanded use of our port. If Churchill is to grow as a natural resource, and be put to good use we must call upon our federal authorities to see to it that Churchill is ready to handle first, the pulp and paper shipments from northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. To handle the potash shipments; to handle the world demands for more and more food products that are being produced by western farmers.

The history of Churchill has been a history of western peoples demands for their own seaport; over a hundred thousand people signed the original petition to have Churchill developed in the first place. The history of Churchill is also the history of the Hudson Bay Route Association, and when you mention the Hudson Bay Route Association of course you always pay homage to its secretary, Mr. Gray.

But to best outline the needs of Churchill I would like to read into Hansard the platform of the Hudson Bay Route Association which of course is non-political. They say that immediate action is needed on, first: reducing ship delays at Churchill; more grades of high quality wheat be made available at Churchill. Future weather forecasts must be carefully screened for correctness; careful study and action on the present physical aspects of Churchill; careful study and action on the potential future aspects of Churchill; a concentrated effort by all to get more trade in both export and imports; facilities needed for handling other products besides wheat; increased modern grain handling facilities; increased modern warehouse space; the shipping season must be lengthened by using modern techniques. Diversion of the Churchill River into another part of the Hudson Bay; ocean insurance and ocean freight rates reduced to competitive levels. Study and use of modern techniques in overcoming ice obstacles. Granting running rights to the C. P. R. over the Hudson Bay Line. Less wheat from eastern ports and more

(MR. BEARD cont'd). . . . from Churchill during shipping season; Churchill port be operated on a 24 hour basis during the shipping season; local labour be trained to handle trade at the port. Further extension of . . . to handle greater variety of products; further extension of grain handling facilities; an all weather highway into Churchill as quickly as possible. Promotion and support of the tourist trade to Churchill and area; promotion and support for all northern development. A large centennial excursion to Churchill in 1967, with the annual convention being held at Churchill at the same time. Unfortunately, I have to report at this time that the Hudsons Bay Route Association have had to change their mind on their convention because the cost of taking the convention up there was too great for them to handle. I think this is unfortunate because with the work that the Hudson Bay Route Association have done, certainly they should have had at least a centennial meeting at Churchill. Mr. Speaker, in closing I feel that federal policy does seriously affect the economy and the future of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to first extend my congratulations to you for accepting and fulfilling a very difficult office. I would like to express my pleasure at entering this esteemed body and serving as a Member of the 28th Legislative Assembly. It is indeed an honour. It was only five years ago that I sat in this same section as a student at the University's mock parliament. I thought then that some day I might be an MLA but I never dreamed that it would be this soon.

I stand here by virtue of the overwhelming and generous support of the people of Elmwood; a constituency I am proud to serve; a constituency that is somewhat typical of other areas in metro Winnipeg and yet somewhat different. Present day Elmwood straddles the original parishes of St. Boniface and St. John's. The north half of Elmwood lying in the Parish of St. John's was part of the Municipality of Kildonan when that municipality was first organized in 1876. The south half of Elmwood lying in the Parish of St. Boniface was part of the rural municipality of St. Boniface when it was organized in 1880 and was included within the limits of the town of St. Boniface when the latter separated out from the rural municipality in 1883. By the early 1890's a small community had emerged in the present Elmwood district. The north half in the Municipality of Kildonan became settled by a number of market gardeners and the south half in the town of St. Boniface, chiefly by working men employed in Winnipeg just over the Louise Bridge or in the local enterprises. There existed by this time a large packing plant on the east bank of the Red River just north of the Louise Bridge and a brickyard with associated clay pit which lay between present day Elmwood and St. Boniface. While technically they were residents of the town of St. Boniface the persons who lived in the south half of Elmwood felt little community of interest with the remainder of the town. Physically their district was separated from the rest of the town by two major barriers: the Nairn farm and the extensive pit from which clay was taken for the manufacture of bricks and which extended practically from the Red River to the two mile road, now known as the Birds Hill Road. Differences of language and religion constituted further barriers, for the district was almost entirely English speaking and Protestant in contrast to French Catholic St. Boniface. Dissatisfied with the services they were receiving from the town of St. Boniface residents of south Elmwood petitioned for annexation to the municipality of Kildonan immediately to the north and this was formally enacted in 1895. The new arrangement failed to provide a permanent solution. The population of Elmwood increased rapidly during the decade following the annexation of the south half to Kildonan as large numbers of urban workers built homes in the district. By 1905 the community numbered well in excess of 1,000 persons and its members began to clamor for urban services such as a water supply and a sewage disposal system. These Kildonan was unwilling to supply.

The community accordingly sought annexation to Winnipeg across the river as a means of achieving urban services. Winnipeg expressed its willingness to annex Elmwood. When a group of Elmwood residents voiced opposition to amalgamation with Winnipeg, the Provincial Government insisted that a plebiscite be held of the district's residents and that the annexation be carried out only if favoured by a majority vote. The plebiscite was held early in 1906 and a majority approved annexation to Winnipeg by the overwhelming vote of 405 to 22. Prior to the plebiscite Kildonan municipal officials made it clear that they were unwilling to retain Elmwood within their municipality. The Reeve of Kildonan stated that Elmwood must either become annexed to Winnipeg or incorporate as a separate town. Legislation formally annexing Elmwood to Winnipeg was enacted by the Provincial Legislature in 1906 and Elmwood became Ward 7 of the City, being accordingly entitled to its own representation in the city

(MR. DOERN cont'd). . . . council. The City built the Redwood Bridge in 1908 across the Red River to serve Elmwood, constructed a fire hall, installed a sewage system and water supply as it had promised to do and provided to that area the same level of public services as was available to the remainder of the City.

I might point out that the constituency of Elmwood is somewhat larger than the actual area, it includes a few streets from East Kildonan and it also contains a portion of what might be described as the Jarvis area.

Steve Peters preceded me as the MLA for Elmwood. He served from 1958 to 1966 and did a fine job for the people he represented, especially in the field of labour. People of my constituency have over the years shown a strong preference for CCF and NDP candidates and policies. For example, today they are represented by David Orlikow the MP for Winnipeg North, myself as the member of the Legislature, Donovan Swailes and Isador Wolch as Aldermen and Mrs. Isabel Sudol as a School Trustee.

Elmwood has had a magnificent record in sports. Elmwood is the home of one of the finest curling clubs anywhere in Canada. Such luminaries as Dick Bird, Bob Stannard, Norm Houck and Bill Lumsden trade shots there. Our community clubs have produced hundreds of thousands of baseball and hockey players. Youngsters from all over the Metro area have benefited from these clubs and their hard working coaches, women's organizations and supporters. Elmwood is the main supporter of Canada's original national pasttime, the very rugged sport of lacrosse. I can freely admit to the members of this House that though I have played almost every major sport, that this is one that I deliberately and consciously avoided, being rather fond of my life, my limb and particularly my teeth.

Our excellence in sports is well known but the problems of building and maintaining these facilities are many. The community clubs manage but barely and there is a need for more and better facilities, which leads me to wonder what the Provincial Government is doing in the way of physical fitness and recreation. Are they supporting these clubs? How are they supporting them? How much? Are they planning to build for example, swimming pools in the city or assist in them? Are they providing leadership? I see little evidence of this. We could use for example, a large swimming pool in the area, particularly for the young people. I don't think I have to explain why swimming is important as a life-saving skill or as recreation. Yet these pools are very expensive. Still if we want our people and especially our teenagers to enjoy good health through recreation, the Provincial Government will have to assist them financially. Community Clubs are wonderful for young people but they are particularly geared for boys, young boys. The girls are practically left out of the program but they would enjoy and participate in something like swimming.

When you talk to people who are active in the physical fitness field, I hear over and over again the same kind of comment that they want certain things and they have to continually prod the Provincial Government. I haven't run across anybody yet who has said that the Provincial Government is providing leadership here and we are following them - it always seems to be we are pushing the Provincial Government but not getting very far. Yes, we are going to get the Pan American Games and they will benefit our province but I think we need something more than a once-in-a-lifetime spectacle; we need a steady and a progressive program.

The Speech from the Throne referred to increased expenditures for education and placed heavy emphasis on it. With this I heartily agree. As a teacher by profession, my major interest is education and as a New Democrat I believe in equality of opportunity. The government is proud of its record in education and in comparison with the previous Liberal Government they have done well. Progress has been made. However, where are we now after 8 1/2 years of Conservative rule? Well, superficially things are fine. We have new buildings, new facilities and new courses, but a closer examination reveals a few cracks in the scheme. First, a teacher shortage and some confusion with new courses. These are things that we see on first observation and from the outside. Well, I've seen the inside and let me tell you that from that vantage point education in Manitoba is in a mess. In fact in some ways it is near chaos. Time and circumstances do not permit me to speak longer than 40 minutes but to outline some of these points might require 40 days.

Take the teacher shortage. There are hundreds of qualified teachers in classrooms throughout this province. A few classrooms I am sure are empty but if you look at the total it looks as if in general, all the classrooms are filled with teachers. Some of these people, however, have incomplete qualifications. They may not have complete qualifications in terms of academic training; they probably lack in many instances, professional training; but we have

(MR. DOERN cont'd)...bodies in every classroom. And we are losing teachers. We are losing teachers to other provinces. They are attracting them with better salaries and better working conditions. We're losing teachers to other professions, with the same conditions. It's very difficult to find a person who really makes a good teacher, because I think it takes some peculiar qualities that must be put together to give the ideal teacher. I see a teacher as a combination of a scholar, an entertainer, a policeman and a babysitter. If you have too much of any one of these ingredients, this is an unfortunate situation. If you have a man who's a scholar and he cannot control a classroom, then he cannot convey his information. If the man is too much of an entertainer then he can amuse his students but doesn't teach them anything. If he's too much of a policeman, he may be a bit of a tyrant; this may upset the students, doesn't set a very good example for what they should be working towards. A babysitter, well maybe it'll too maintain a bit of order but not too much else.

A teacher is a very important person in the entire educational setup. If you think back in your own life I think some of the early models that some of us looked to were our teachers and of course you also get the situation where girls fall in love with their teachers and the boys have crushes on their female teachers and so on. So I think that we want people who are standing up in front of the classrooms to be the best possible specimens. We don't want pasty faced individuals or people who have personality disorders. We have to have very good specimens. One of the problems is when you ask young people what they want to be when they grow up they never say "I want to be a teacher" unless they are perhaps a young girl. Ask a young boy who has talent what he wants to be when he grows up and he'll tell you either a doctor or a lawyer or a cabinet minister. So we have this problem. And what does the government offer as a solution? Well, they decide they will abolish tuition fees in the Faculty of Education and they proudly point to the statistics that there's been a big increase, twenty-something percent in this department and thirty-something in this department. It all looks terrific - there has been a thirty-something percent increase in the number of people enrolled in the Faculty of Education.

Well this looks pretty good until you look at some of the other statistics. The figures in Arts and Science also increased with a percentage of some 20 percent and I suppose the school population also went up perhaps by a similar figure so maybe we're not very far ahead. Maybe we're simply meeting our requirements. However, if this is really a step forward on the part of the government then I welcome it; if this is a step towards free university education or an extension of this principle then I think it's a very good thing. But I wonder what kind of people we are attracting, these additional numbers. Are these the kind of people that will stay in the profession and will be good at it?

I remember in the 1950's being in high school, in the early 50's there was a great demand for engineers and everybody was considering Engineering because there was a great demand for it and the salaries looked pretty promising. I spoke to a friend of mine. He said he was going to become an engineer. However he said, I don't like mathematics; I don't like physics and I don't do very well in chemistry. I don't know what the qualifications of an engineer are but I imagine if those are your dislikes you wouldn't fit very well into the profession. But he was interested because of good salaries, opportunities and the demand, and I just hope that not too many of these people who are taking advantage of this good situation in education are not going into it because there are no tuition fees.

Teaching isn't easy. Some people I know in the profession refer to it as a thankless task, and we need these top people with good education who are superb communicators, who have patience, who are hard workers and who like to deal with young people. Because the pressures on teachers are I think rather high, many people who are in the profession after a short time become rather nervous, some become rather depressed and many teachers go home exhausted after a few rounds in the classroom. I'm told that one psychiatrist in Winnipeg specializes in teachers and principals. This may sound rather insignificant because it sounds as if there's only one man out of a great number who specializes in teachers.

However, I'd like to point out that there are only a small number of psychiatrists in Winnipeg. I think there are only 13 in private practice so this isn't a case of one out of a hundred, it's a case of maybe one out of 12 or 13, and this is something that I intend to question the Minister of Health on at a later date, some of the facilities that we have in the province for Mental Health.

There was a brief presented to the Royal Commission on Health Services a few years ago by the Manitoba Psychiatric Association and they looked at what are considered to be I

(MR. DOERN cont'd). . . . think realistic statistics, and they said that on this basis of care and need that the number of psychiatric specialists in Manitoba should be 124 - 124 - that was a few years ago and so I think we have what, 13 private individuals in practice, and you could scrape up altogether in the entire province -- I think all the psychiatrists would be included in a figure of about 30. We certainly have a totally inadequate number of people.

I've spoken just briefly of the pressures on teachers in general, but I think people we should also be concerned with are the new teachers. They go into the profession and find it very difficult. They're thrown a whole score of new courses sometimes and they find it difficult to deal with the students; they're often saddled with courses that they don't want. If you're the new man on staff you get stuck with all the miscellaneous courses and all the courses that nobody else wants to handle. Of course this makes it more difficult. You are faced with long preparation. Teachers often in their first couple of years spend two or three or four hours a night preparing lessons and trying to mark.

Quite often there is poor support from the administration. I remember the first year I taught in one school I wanted to -- I was teaching in a classroom and after a few weeks the principal came in. He was going to observe how effective I was as a teacher and he sat through several periods. At the end of that time he came up to the front and he gave me an analysis of my ability as a teacher which went something as follows: The desks in your room are in straight lines; the blinds are all at approximately the same level and there is very little paper on the floor. That's the kind of assistance that I had from the administration. That was an analysis of how effective a person was as a teacher. It is also in these first years that these teachers need additional support from their administration and shouldn't be thrown additional courses because this is where many of them drop out. They take two years, they get fed up and they quit.

Well what is the solution to this? Part of it of course is better salaries because you have to be competitive. You have got to if you want to attract and retain people in the teaching profession. You have to pay them competitive salaries, especially competitive to the provinces in the west and Ontario. There should be improvements in working conditions and teachers should have a say, a heavy say in the curriculum. They're getting some of this. They should have time for in-service training. It's very difficult to keep up on changing developments. They should have lesser marking loads. I spoke to a teacher the other day who had over a hundred students in English and was expected to give each student an essay and a paragraph to mark each month. This, I was told by the teacher, took approximately 100 hours a month of marking, and that does not include lesson preparation. At 25 hours a week on marking - and believe me this teacher was barely making it in terms of being able to handle it at considerable expense to her health as well.

Now the government boasts of its record in curriculum, new courses are replacing old and outworn ones and there is a tremendous change. Well and good. It's a fine picture in general but let's look a little closer. What do we find? In a word, chaos; or in two words, chaos and confusion. I think my most serious criticism, if I were to pick it out, is the fact that the new courses we're getting are not properly researched - period. We spend \$80 million in a most unscientific and uncontrolled manner.

The Premier has talked a great deal about his system of priority and this is a good way of approaching things. He talks about priorities in general and education I suppose is near the top, but I asked the Minister, and I did ask him what were his priorities within the department. Of course it's easy to catch somebody off guard but I just threw it at him and he replied that he was going forward on all fronts. But surely anybody who is going to make up a list of priorities would say that research must be one of the most important things to be considered, and research in Manitoba is pathetic. We have a bit of research being done by the Winnipeg School Board; we have a bit of research being done by the Faculty of Education; and then we have a Research Council which sounds very good and it contains many very talented people in this profession, but it has concerned itself for the past two years with smoking. Well smoking is a very important problem and it's also relevant to students but it's not the kind of research that I'm thinking of. I'm thinking of courses and curriculum and so on.

What we need ideally is an independent - or as independent as possible - department of research to find out what courses and techniques will best meet our need - our need. It's no use picking up research that was done in Los Angeles for a certain kind of community with a certain background and a certain economic status if it doesn't apply to Manitoba. A lot of the research we can use but much of it is not useful. We've got to re-adapt it for our own province.

(MR. DOERN cont'd).... We must avoid this present rash of new and untested unscientific crash courses. So this is a point that I very strongly urge that the Minister of Education give serious consideration to, that research is inadequate and that he should give serious thought to establishing either increased monies in this area, increasing staff in this area, or setting up an independent or semi-independent department or bureau of research.

I'll give you an example of how scientific the research is now. A few years ago they were introducing a new course in Grade X British History. I had just graduated from the university, and although I taught once on permit this was for a few months, and this was really my first job. I went to the high school and the principal told me, I suppose the day I began or the day before I began, what I was teaching. I was given about seven different courses and so on and I was told that I was going to conduct a pilot study in the new general history course which was British History. I wasn't told how to conduct it; I wasn't told why I was selected - I suppose it was accidental, I don't think they examined my qualifications or anything, I guess I was regarded the history teacher and they decided I would teach a pilot course. Not only would I teach a pilot course, which I think was difficult for a new man, but I was going to teach it simultaneously while I taught the university entrance course, because I wasn't given a whole class to teach it to. I was given half a class that was supposed to be taught the general course and the other half in the room at the same time was to be given the university entrance course. Well I suppose what I did in effect was teach up the middle which was hardly scientific, but how on earth can a teacher teach two different courses in the same room, in effect at the same time. I wasn't given any guidance on this.

The new general course, I think, is an excellent course and I have supported it very strongly, but the government introduces this course - however they come by it they have committees working on it or some mild form of research - select the course and then throw it to the teachers. They failed in the introduction of the general course. They failed to sell the course to all the students; they failed to sell the course to the teachers; they failed to sell the course to the principals, the parents, the businessman and the public at large. They've done this in a patchwork fashion. They have sold it to some and I'm one of them who believes in the merits of this course and the value of this course, and I know in particular the history and English sections of it.

For example, I told my students - and I believed this on the basis of my own examination and what I was told by, I suppose sub-officials of the department - that the Grade XII new general English course is equivalent in terms of value to the Grade XII university entrance course in English. Well after telling this to my students for a couple of years, one of my students writes to the Department of Education. He wanted to go to university and he said, can you give me any credit for my Grade XII new general courses as going towards university. He got back a letter from the department and it said, well you know really these are pretty good courses we admit, but you know they are not really equivalent to the Grade XII university entrance course. But we'll do you a favour, we'll give you a right, we'll give you a privilege, we will allow you, a Grade XII new general course student, to write either all of your subjects or some of your subjects in the university entrance course. In other words, this boy spent an entire year studying general courses and the department says to him, we're going to give you a big break, you can write the university entrance exams without having even studied the courses. That is really an opportunity. I would like to take a student with a 95 percent average in the university entrance course and give him the same privileges, and say now that you've studied all these different books and had this different instruction, here's a different exam you've never seen. See if you can get 90 in it. He'll probably get 10 or five or zero. So they sell the teachers on the value of this course and then the teachers pass it on to the students and they themselves don't appear to believe in it.

Now I think one of the biggest problems that the Minister is going to face is this: there are too many students taking the wrong courses in this province. I have heard it estimated - and perhaps my figures are not as accurate or my estimations would not be as accurate as the Minister's - but I've heard it said in the staff rooms and at meetings and so on in talking it over with other people, that ideally we are going to gear our high school students in the following way - we're going to gear them to the following ideal - about 20 percent of them should be in the university entrance course; about 50 percent of them should be in the general course; and about 30 percent should be in commercial and vocational courses. What do we have now? In-

(MR. DOERN cont'd).....

stead of 20 percent in the university entrance course we have 60 percent; instead of 50 percent in the general course we have 13 or 14 percent; instead of 30 percent in the commercial and vocational we probably have about 17 or 20.

Now here is a dilemma and this government and this Minister and this department are going to have to say that this is a dilemma. Given this overwhelming number of students in the university entrance course - let's take that specifically - three times the number they want in there are in there. Either they accept the results of examinations and fail 60 or 75 percent of the students or they boost the marks and get a lower failure rate and thereby water down the course standards. That's the dilemma: accept a fantastic failure rate or else jack up the marks. The day of reckoning will soon be upon us and I know what decision the government will make, what path they will follow. They will follow the latter because there will be such a public hue and cry if -- imagine, fail 70 percent of the high school students in a course. Can you imagine what the parents would do? They'd be kicking in the doors of the Legislature. It would be political suicide for the government to bring in such a situation.

Now how can you avoid this? We can improve our guidance facilities, give the students some guidance as to which courses they should be taking. We should have a system of transferability. You should be able to transfer. You should be given some credit for some of your courses in one field like new general in the university entrance. Perhaps the general course should lead to the university as well. If we had entrance exams. A student who took three years of the general course and was a good student -- I had a student like that, a 75 average, and I'll put him up against a 50 in the university entrance course anytime. He has just as much ability and more than the average student in the other course. Perhaps we need some kind of minimum average requirement. That's repulsive to people, but maybe before we let them get into the university entrance course there should be a minimum average requirement, perhaps backed up with a teacher opinion or analysis whether this person has what it takes. In particular we need employment opportunities for these students. A lot of students won't take the general course because in many areas it's a dead end course. Can they get into nursing? I don't think so. Can they get into chartered accountancy? Why not? But they can't. Can they get into all the courses at MIT? No.

In addition to the going to another area, in addition to what we now have in Manitoba, of course we need additional facilities and we need additional courses. We need schools and courses for exceptional children. We need more adult education. We need community colleges or junior colleges for post secondary education. We need more kindergartens. We need more nursery schools or maybe some nursery schools. We could use more improved libraries and better recreational facilities. Winnipeg has pioneered in nearly all of these fields and they've done it at considerable expense to themselves. They shouldn't be providing all the leadership. The department should be leading, and if they can't lead let them give additional grants to the Winnipeg School Board to offset the cost of these expensive programs they are undertaking.

Fortunately, many of these improvements will follow the single district division because I think there's chaos right now in the rural schools. There's a confusion over the number of courses; there's difficulties in deciding what to do. Can a small high school with four or five rooms offer the general course, the university entrance course, the commercial course, etc.? No. But with larger divisions and consolidations, etc., they can offer these special services.

I think this move that is being made by the Minister in this area is commendable because it's absolutely necessary. It's probably less costly; it's more efficient; it will provide better services and so on. It will eventually lead to a difficult decision as to how much transportation versus how much better education, but I think that we in the New Democratic Party support this move wholeheartedly.

One of the problems that the Minister of Education has, and I think any Minister has this, is that he probably lacks sufficient feed-back to make the necessary adjustments and moves to improve education. Probably his advisors in some instances don't really know what's happening.

MR. SPEAKER: If I may interrupt the honourable member for a moment and remind him that he has three minutes left.

MR. DOERN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He's probably asked some of the teachers he comes into contact with and some of his officials to tell him exactly what is happening and probably some of them hide information from him or they mask information from him and so on. Well, I intend to provide him with a service - feed-back. I think I'm a little closer to the teaching profession having just spent five years in a classroom and my good colleague the Honourable Member of Burrows has the same qualifications - 10 years in the teaching profession, three in the classroom and seven as a guidance counsellor.

So this is one of the services we are going to provide free of charge to the Minister. We are going to attempt to tell him what's really happening on the inside. The Minister I think sees things quantitatively and from the outside - big buildings, magnificent expenditures of money - but he needs to see them qualitatively. He has to see it partly from the inside.

Many of the things, many of the proposals that I have made are either not that expensive or have no cost at all. It's simply a matter of administrative change or re-allocating funds. I have pretty well limited my comments to primary and secondary education. There's much to be said that will have to wait for the Budget and the departmental estimates.

There are two other areas I intend to cover more carefully. One is air pollution, because we have a nasty foundry in our area. The other one is railways, and I thank the Attorney-General for at least beginning what seems to be a step forward in the prosecution of violations that have been going on for 50 years.

So in conclusion, unfortunately the First Minister himself is not here because I had two suggestions that I would liked to have made to him. One is that I wish that he would appoint some of the rougher and meaner Conservatives to his Cabinet. How can I properly perform my function as a member of the opposition when I am faced with such a likable person as the Minister of Education. I feel quite certain that the Premier deliberately placed Dr. Johnson in that position because he knew it was a very tough and a very important job.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I regret I must call the member.

MR. DOERN: Thank you very much.

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MR. BAIZLEY: Mr. Speaker, of course my honourable friends won't mind waiting a few minutes to allow me to carry the debate over. I'd like to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate you first on your election to the highest office this Chamber has. I might say, knowing you as an old friend and knowing your independent thought and views, we have had and we can expect impartiality.

I would like also to congratulate the new members. There's one thing I have found, whether we are new members or old members in this Chamber, that all of us represent the finest constituencies in Manitoba; we have the wisest people who support us and we appreciate it very much; things within our own little area of the province are generally wonderful; and I would suggest that all of us as 57 people could do a lot to cut out the gloom and the cries of stagnation and decay that are happening to our province. If it is happening, let each of us assume the responsibility for what is happening within our own area; let's not all of us represent the best people and yet have a heck of a time as a province.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to dwell a little bit about statistics, because throughout the last session and in the election campaign and even during this session we have been almost inundated by members opposite with statistics, and they given them in such a way that they would have you believe that they prove conclusively that the economy of Manitoba is in a state of dire stagnation and more especially that the workers of our province are all poor.

Well, Mr. Speaker it would be difficult for any reasonable person not to conclude that they have diligently looked to find statistics that might buttress this contention of gloom and doom. They have carefully avoided supplementing statistical data with the first-hand knowledge of our province which is available to all of us so that we could arrive at an informed and reliable and fair judgment of our real economic situation. I think the public has a right to expect from we the honourable members of this House to look carefully at all the facts. We live and work here in Manitoba and we have the opportunity to observe at first hand the improvements in our way of live which have taken place in recent years. Statisticians would readily agree that many of these improvements cannot in fact be captured by cold and impersonal averages. It is not as if members opposite were living in New York or Vancouver or California or Toronto and had available to them only one or two Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications from which to get data on Manitoba.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to indulge really in a battle of statistics or to try and question or refute figures that have been -- well I'm sure, Mr. Speaker, if I said "hashed up" it is not Parliamentary, so I won't say it and I don't intend to get into that part of the argument -- but I merely want to make a point that they should know and we do know that statistics alone never tell the whole story. We all know for instance that Inland Cement has recently built and is operating a plant at Tuxedo and is paying good union wages. We know that Simplot is building a chemical complex in Brandon and will be paying high wages. In fact, I have been told by reliable people from Brandon that wages in that area this year have risen by 15 to 30%.

Now we also know that our mining industry in the north is a high wage industry and is blooming and has plans for huge expansion. We know also that a new forestry complex will be operating in The Pas district. We know that this is a high wage industry. We know that our agricultural industry has mechanized, is operating at increased production with improved financial returns. And I am advised, Mr. Speaker - and I think that the opposition knows this - that we have in Manitoba a very high percentage of our population gainfully employed and I might add at the present time only 2.3% of our labour force is unemployed. We have one of the best records - we have one of the best records anywhere in Canada. These are just some of the important and apparent and favourable developments in the private sector of our economy.

MR. PAULLEY: No question about the sector.

MR. BAIZLEY: In the public sector, we all know about the new roads and the new schools, the new hospitals, hydro's expansion program --(Interjection)-- Yes, and I'll get to the minimum wage, and if we were to use statistics, we could point out that our annual personal income per capita in Manitoba has risen by \$477 since 1958.

MR. PAULLEY: What a comparison.

MR. BAIZLEY: What a comparison. What is the Canadian average - \$499.00 And our important slaughtering and meat packing industry and our mining industry are paying high wages that are comparable to and in a good many cases higher than in other regions. Our construction industry are paying wages practically on a par with some other regions and honourable members know that wages in this industry in Manitoba are moving up rapidly.

(MR. BAIZLEY cont'd)....

It is also interesting to note - and some members know this first hand - that our railway and our airline employees are paid wages on a par with other parts of Canada. --(Interjection)-- Well in fairness we must agree that reliable averages are not to be ignored. They do however by themselves alone conceal the fact that in many industries, and even more so in many occupations, that workers in Manitoba are paid as well and sometimes better than those in wealthier regions. I want to make it perfectly clear, however, that our government is very much aware and concerned about the problems of the economic disparity of Canada and how we in Manitoba in fact are affected, and what is important to me and I'm sure to all of us, are finding the ways and means to improve this position.

I might say that in addition to our efforts to combat some of our material and traditional disadvantages and to attain an acceptable rate of growth within the Canadian economy, we have had to put up a tough fight and particularly in recent years against a Federal Government which has been less than enthusiastic about the development of our particular region. So it is clear, Mr. Speaker, that we do have a fight on our hands against some traditional disadvantages to our economic growth and against a Federal Government that has failed to take into account our legitimate needs through appropriate fiscal arrangements. Now we intend to continue the fight with courage and with optimism. We have made gains and we will continue to do our best, and I must say that the results we seek are the ones that will be felt in the daily lives of our people.

I have become quite accustomed to the rather tiresome statistical line of attack by the opposition in recent times in respect of general wage averages, so I can't say, Mr. Speaker, that I was surprised that the same line is being continued here this year. I was however surprised to hear the opposition attack our minimum wages as being deplorably low and completely inadequate. They have either said or implied that Manitoba's minimum wages are much lower than the minimum wages in other parts of Canada.

Now I have tried, Mr. Speaker, on different occasions to remedy this confused condition and I am going to try again. Manitoba's minimum wages are \$1.00 an hour for females and males throughout the province - minimum wages - this is neither a fair wage, a going wage, a contractual wage, but it is the least amount of money that an employer can pay an employee. I might say that our minimum wages are as high as the general minimum in any of the other provinces and higher than some, and, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to take this opportunity to read these comparisons into the records, as odious as they are, but as often as they are used in this House and I will distribute to honourable members when I'm through speaking, this particular sheet. I say that this has had the greatest care in being produced for the information of the members of this House. I would suggest that if in fact there are errors in it, please let me know, let us correct these errors because I would appreciate if for once and for all we all, on speaking about minimum wages, we're talking about the same thing.

Now in Alberta the general rate, minimum wage is \$1.00 for males and \$1.00 for a female. This is the entire province. British Columbia - they have no general rate - they have 85¢ for the first six months. They do have special industry rates that vary from \$1.00 to \$2.00 an hour. Manitoba - \$1.00 an hour for both men and women throughout the province.

MR. PAULLEY: As of?

MR. BAIZLEY: As of December 1st, 1966, and that the Minimum Wage Board was requested to meet to consider the needs in light of current conditions on November 6, 1966. The Minimum Wage Board is composed of representatives of labour and management equally balanced, with the Chairman, Mr. Campbell MacLean. The employer representatives of that board are Mr. Andrew Stevens, Mr. Z. Feldman, Miss Donalda McDougall. The employee representatives are Mr. Grant McLeod, Mr. Bernard Christoph and Mrs. Margaret Sykes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in New Brunswick they have a minimum of \$1.05 an hour for men and women in the construction and mining industries. They have \$1.00 for men - pardon me - 90¢ in the manufacturing and retail industries and 80¢ for men and women in the service industries. In Newfoundland the minimum for males is 70¢; females, 50¢; and this is for the entire province. Nova Scotia has \$1.10 for men, 85¢ for women in towns over 5,000. They have \$1.00 for men and 75¢ for women in towns under 5,000. All other areas are 90¢ for men and 65¢ for women. Ontario has \$1.00 for men and \$1.00 for women throughout the province. Prince Edward Island has \$1.10 --(Interjection)-- my honourable friend will get this sheet and I'm sure if there are errors here he will correct them.

MR. PAULLEY: I will correct them.

MR. BAIZLEY: Prince Edward Island has \$1.10 for men; they have no minimum for females and it just covers males for the entire province. In Quebec there's \$1.00 for men and \$1.00 for women in greater Montreal; 90 cents for men and women in the rest of the province. Saskatchewan - here's an interesting one - has \$1.00 for men and \$1.00 for women who are part-time employees in cities. They have 91 cents for men and for women who are full time employees in cities. They have 95 cents for part-time employees not in cities and 79 cents for full time employees not in cities. I trust my honourable friend will agree with me that the minimum wage in Manitoba is as high as the general minimum.

MR. CHERNIACK: Is it enough?

MR. BAIZLEY: I have never said it is enough, but I must tell honourable members that I don't think political action or saying 25 cents or 50 cents, who's got 75 cents, is the way you raise minimum wages, particularly when you have low wage industries that do in fact claim and do compete in markets not only in Canada but in the international field -- (Interjection) -- Are you suggesting you -- did I hear

MR. PAULLEY: No, I just say that's what we're getting here in Manitoba. What about the National minimum wage. You didn't mention that.

MR. BAIZLEY: I would like to talk about the national minimum wage. It's rather a remarkable coincidence that in industries under the Federal Government that they saw fit to say that there should be a national minimum in transportation, in communication and in banking, and I would suggest to you that the percentage of people who were improved by this national minimum was very very very small.

MR. PAULLEY: What's the National minimum?

MR. BAIZLEY: There isn't a national minimum. There is a federal minimum that is established for those industries under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government of \$1.25.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk now if I could about, I think, one of the outstanding achievements that we have had in Manitoba in this past year and this is the high degree of stability in labour management relations and -- now please, before I hear the boos and hisses, let's give credit where the credit is due for this particular set of circumstances, and I would like honourable members to know that that credit is due to the parties themselves because this has been the year of the strike. There have been, Mr. Speaker, considerable stress and strain and negotiating wages and conditions of work and hours of work. I might say that there has been some very vigorous bargaining and yet we in Manitoba have lost very little time due to strikes so far in 1966 so ...

MR. LYON: I wonder if this might be a convenient time to interrupt the Honourable Minister in mid-oratory and moved by the honourable -- or seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I'm informed that before we move to the adjournment that someone should adjourn the debate. Does the Minister wish to ...

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I believe this is the normal time, the time of adjournment, and that the debate can be left open in the hands of the Minister of Labour. As far as I'm concerned, I think this would only be fair to my honourable friend.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, adjourn the debate.

MR. PAULLEY: I think it should be left open in the name of the Minister of Labour.

MR. JOHNSTON: I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Emerson, that the debate be adjourned.

MR. PAULLEY: Oh, Come, come, come!

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, I think there is one now. We have one motion before the House which is not debatable and I would suggest that in interrupting the Honourable the Minister of Labour I was doing so on the understanding that he hadn't finished his speech and that the usual courtesy would apply, that the debate would be carried as an open item tomorrow and he would have the opportunity to carry on and finish his speech, as we did I believe with the Honourable Member for St. Boniface today.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister have leave to continue his speech at the next sitting?

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

MR. SPEAKER: Now could I have that motion for adjournment again.

MR. LYON: I don't know if I can improve on it this time or not, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer, that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House adjourned until 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.