

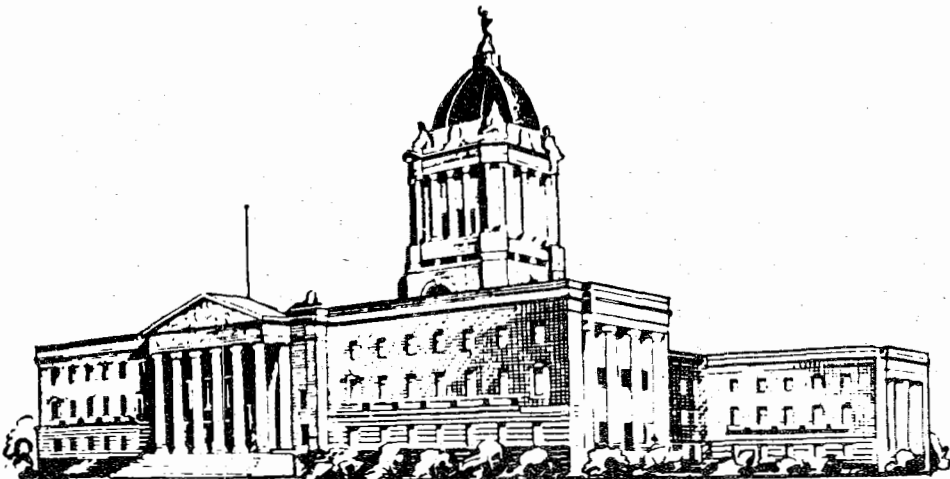


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XIX No. 89 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 24th, 1972. Fourth Session, 29th Legislature.

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WOLSELEY			

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Wednesday, May 24, 1972

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have 70 students of Grade 11 standing of the Garden Valley Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Schroeder and Miss Doell. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

We also have 19 students grade 5 and 6 standing of the Graysville School. These students are under the direction of Mrs. Watt. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Pembina.

We have 25 students of Grade 5 and 6 standing of the William Whyte School. These students are under the direction of Miss Kowalchuk. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Point Douglas.

We have 20 students of Grade 11 standing of Riverton Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Gustaw and Mrs. Luprypa. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. George.

And we also have 40 students of Grade 11 standing of the Ethelbert School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Mikolayenko. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Roblin.

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

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees; Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports. The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I have a statement. A Tri-Level Conference of Federal, Provincial and Municipal representatives will be held in Toronto in November to discuss problems facing all levels of government in the transition of Canada from a rural to an urban society. The final report of the Interim Planning Committee has been released; the committee has recommended that a two-day Tri-Level Conference be held in Toronto in the second or third week of November.

The Federal representative be the Minister of State for Urban Affairs and such other Ministers as may be required. Provinces be represented by their Ministers of Municipal Affairs or Ministers designated by Premiers and other Ministers as required. Municipal representatives from each province be chosen by provincial associations in consultation with the provincial Minister for Municipal Affairs or other Ministers designated by provincial Premiers. The Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory each have two representatives who are members of municipal councils chosen by the Northwest Territorial Association of Municipalities and by the joint municipal committee in consultation with the Government of Canada.

The agenda for the first session of the two-day conference will be a review of the problems and challenges facing all three levels of government in the transition of Canada from a rural to an urban society. The second session will deal with the role of each level of government in meeting the identified problems and challenges with a particular emphasis on the role of local governments.

The final session will consider the design of an effective machinery for intergovernmental co-operation and consultation in meeting these problems and challenges. All sessions will be held in camera but a joint statement will be issued and a news conference held at the end of the meeting. Cost of the conference will be shared 25 percent by the Federal Government, 50 percent by the Provincial Governments on a per capita basis and 25 percent by the member associations of the joint municipal committee in intergovernmental relations.

Cost of simultaneous interpretation and translation will be borne by the Federal Government. Members of the Tri-Level Interim Planning Committee are the Honourable W. D. McKeough, Treasurer of Ontario, Minister of Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chairman, Honourable Ron Basford, Federal Minister of State for Urban Affairs and Mayor Marcel D'Amour of Hull, Quebec, Chairman of the Joint Municipal Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, we thank the Minister for his announcement. One brief comment. We note that in the Province of Quebec, the Government of Quebec made the statement that in no way should the municipal governments consider themselves to be on an equal footing with either the Provincial Government, the Government of Quebec, and the Government of Canada. I note that any such mention is excluded from the announcement of the Minister. I wonder if he has any comment relating to the statement by the Government of Quebec and if the same applies to the Province of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: Any other Ministerial Statements. Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills; Oral Questions.

The Honourable Member for Riel.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the First Minister. Could he indicate to the House when we might expect a decision regarding Churchill River diversion?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Utilities and Resources is meeting tomorrow morning. It occurred to me that honourable members might wish to have the decision related to them at that time to the stage and to the extent that is has been finalized. So in other words, I'm telling my honourable friend that there will be information in this regard available tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I would gather from the First Minister's remarks that we can expect . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Would the honourable member ask the question?

MR. CRAIK: The first question is: Can we expect then to hear from Manitoba Hydro tomorrow on their decision pertaining to this. And secondly, I would like to direct a question relating to the minutes or the transcript of comments from the Water Commission meetings. Could the government indicate when we might receive these transcripts, if they will be available for the meeting for tomorrow?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, in a sense there are two parts to that question. The first part, I can advise the honourable member that I have no recollection that an undertaking was given to provide transcripts of the commission meetings other than to say that it will be available in the library.

The second part of the question is to indicate to the honourable member that there is no direct connection between the Commission meetings and the decision making relative to Churchill River diversion, in that the Water Commission was dealing with factors relating to ecological considerations relative to Lake Winnipeg regulation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the undertaking regarding transcript was from the Acting Minister of . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Question period . . .

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, can I direct my question then to the Acting Minister of Mines and Resources? I believe he gave us an undertaking on April 5 to supply the transcript from the Water Commission meetings. Can he indicate whether these are now available?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, although I have contacted the Manitoba Water Commission in this regard, I'm sorry to say that we have not yet received the official transcripts from the Water Commission. I do not have those in my possession.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris. The honourable member has had three supplementary questions already. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Acting Minister of Mines and Resources. Could he undertake to have these minutes, transcripts supplied so we can have them available for the Public Utilities meeting?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated there is a difficulty of timing. We have not yet

(MR. EVANS Cont'd.) received copies of these. I must say that the extent of the transcripts, the size or the volume of the transcripts is very great indeed and there's considerable cost involved. We will insure that the public of Manitoba including the members of the Legislature will have opportunity to see the transcripts when we receive them, and they will be deposited in libraries and so forth. There is a meeting of the Public Utilities Committee. We have not yet received these transcripts and so therefore we can't give any undertaking beyond that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I must ask the same Minister if it is not unusual for transcripts of a regular meeting to take more than two months to be printed?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table an order of the House, No. 6, with sufficient copies.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD (cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the House Leader and ask him if the report of Manitoba Hydro will be the first order of business to be considered at Public Utilities Committee meeting tomorrow morning?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Mr. Chairman, of course as I've indicated in the House on numerous occasions, I'm sure that the Honourable Member for Morris is aware of the fact that I have indicated the conduct of the business of any committee of the House is in the hands of the committee itself. However, it is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the Annual Report of Manitoba Hydro will be one of the items under consideration of the Committee on Public Utilities tomorrow and there is every likelihood that it will be the first item to be considered by the committee. Again I want to emphasize the conduct of the committee is in the hands of the committee and not the House Leader.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. In connection with the statement that he made earlier, will the City of Winnipeg have the same status at this meeting as the Province of Manitoba will?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, what will take place is that the Provincial Governments are responsible for deciding upon the method of selection of the municipal representatives at the conference, so that insofar as Manitoba is concerned it will be the responsibility of the province to indicate a method of selecting the municipal representatives two in number.

It would be my expectation that insofar as Manitoba is concerned there would likely be one representative from the Urban Association chosen by that Association and one by the Union of Manitoba Municipalities. Insofar as the representation on the part of the municipal people is concerned, there would be possibly representatives from the City of Winnipeg.

MR. FROESE: A supplementary question then. Could he indicate to the House why the meetings are going to be held in camera?

MR. PAWLEY: All that I can say to the honourable member in respect to that question, that was a decision that was arrived at by the Planning Committee. It's no secret that my own view expressed is that I would prefer to have seen open meetings.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I'd now like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. In view of the forecasted outbreak of grasshopper infestation, could he inform the House whether there is ample malathion or other insecticides available in the province to meet such an outbreak?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I can give the members an up-to-date report on it. My understanding of course is that precautions have been undertaken by the department. I believe there are ample supplies of chemical available.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable

(MRS. TRUEMAN Cont'd) . . . Attorney-General. Since the courts have ordered the government to return the books, documents and working papers to the Bio-Science Laboratory, will the charges laid against that Lab now be dropped?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: I'm not aware, Mr. Speaker, of the accuracy of the assumption contained in the question and therefore I'm not in a position to verify what the answer to the question would be.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. Can the Minister now say whether a civil servant in his department made an offer to buy the Bio-Science Lab?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

HON. RENE TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development) (Springfield): Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Attorney-General and ask him if he now has a reply to the question I asked him about the basis upon which the initial warrants were issued. What section of what act?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I answered the honourable member last week. The Honourable Member I think from Emerson asked me on what authority were the warrants issued. I rose in my place and properly answered that it was by virtue of the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada, and then when the Honourable Member for Morris asked what section the subsequent day, I gave him the exact section, subsection and clause.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if the Minister of Agriculture can indicate regarding the vaccination of horses for sleeping sickness, will the program be compulsory?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the problem that the honourable member raises is a matter for the Government of Canada, not the Province of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder can the Honourable Minister indicate the cost per animal of this vaccination?

MR. USKIW: Not having had any personal experience in the problem I'm unable to give that information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance and ask him if there have been any changes in the application of the Revenue Tax Act to include labour performed in the service industries? Is labour performed in the service industries subject to the five percent sales tax?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (Minister of Finance) (St. Johns): Mr. Speaker, I think the honourable member is asking me for a legal opinion and I'm not prepared to give one. If he's asking if there's been a change made I'm not aware of any change that has been made.

Now if he's talking about labour, we have in this Legislature passed certain changes which excludes for example shoe repair and therefore there's no charge on that labour or on the material to the customer although the material is paid for, the tax is paid for by the shoe repair outfit. Now if he's talking about things like supply of services for let's say dry cleaning of clothes, there is a total cut.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services. Has the Minister met with the Citizens' Action Group from Wolseley regarding the use of the old Grace Hospital?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Colleges and Universities and myself have met with a group from Wolseley.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Will the old hospital be used as a Youth Centre?

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, this is very definitely a matter for policy decision by this Government. I can indicate to the honourable member that a statement should be made very shortly on the question of the facility itself.

MR. PATRICK: Will the policy be announced during this session of the Legislature?

MR. TOUPIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I was thinking of the session not lasting you know too long, but hopefully it should be within a few days.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I have a reply to table in reply to the inquiry of the Honourable Member for Assiniboia who was asking for criteria relative to the pensioners home repair program. I have a number of copies here to table.

Une note en réponse à l'Honorable Député de Rupertsland concernant le travail d'hiver.

Translation: A note in answer to the Hon. Deputy of Rupertsland concerning Winter Works. I'll table this as well, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Labour or House Leader. Could he indicate whether the three Bills on the order paper, the three tax bills will remain there until after the Wolseley By-election?

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 Minister of Finance. I wonder if he can indicate whether, as a result of the changes in the Federal tax legislation that were announced in the Federal Budget, there has been a revision of the estimates of Corporation Tax to be received in Manitoba for this fiscal year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, the question is in the abstract. He wonders if there has been a revision in the Corporate Estimates. We have not received - I should say no, to my knowledge we have not received any revision of the Estimates from the Federal people but that I can look into that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question. I wonder whether he can indicate whether his Department have made a revision?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, the Department has not because we usually obtain that kind of estimate from the Federal Government. The only area in which there should be a revision would be on the basis of depreciation allowances, as far as the tax is concerned the impost is not changed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture. For those farmers who are interested in receiving payment for sowing land down to grass can the Minister indicate where farmers have to request for the application forms for this year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: I'm not sure, Mr. Speaker, whether there has been any change in policy with respect thereto but I will take that under advisement for the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. ARTHUR MOUG (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health and Social Development. I would like to know what if any participation does the Provincial Government take in blind persons pensions? Blind persons pensions. What participation the Provincial Government has in them.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. TOUPIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, that is definitely a question that could be answered I think quite accurately during the consideration of the Estimates that are forthcoming right after the question period I believe.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. MOUG: Mr. Speaker, I think it may be something with the short minutes left that I may not get to it and I was wondering if the Minister could answer just off the top of his head?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. There is no necessity for an answer to be made now. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the question of the Member from Rhineland I would like to ask the Minister of Agriculture if he would undertake to assure the farmers of Manitoba that sufficient insecticide will be available should the predicted infestation of grass hoppers be realized.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Well, I sort of suspected, Mr. Speaker, that the Member for Emerson was going to ask a question in this connection. Not that he gave me any advice. I want to indicate to members opposite though that last fall I had given instructions to the Department that we should be ready to fight any infestation that might occur.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. How many drafts of the white paper on health have been prepared and is a final draft now under consideration?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, the last draft is under consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Highways. How many phones in Headingley have been disconnected for not paying the long distance toll charges?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. PETER BURTNICK (Minister of Highways) (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I could elaborate a little bit on it but I know this is a question period so I will just answer the question. To the best of my knowledge, four.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: A supplementary. When will the Minister make a statement whether there will be any changes in the toll charges for telephones in Winnipeg and Headingley?

MR. BURTNIAK: I don't want to commit myself and say definitely exactly what date or whatever, but hopefully during this session.

MR. PATRICK: Has the Minister received a request from Headingley citizens to be heard before the Public Utilities Committee tomorrow morning?

MR. BURTNICK: I believe - I'm not sure whether I heard the honourable member correctly. Is the question, did I receive a representation from the people of Headingley? No.

MR. PATRICK: Perhaps I can clarify. Has the Minister received a request from the citizens from Headingley to be heard before the Public Utility Committee tomorrow morning?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour. Point of Order.

MR. PAULLEY: On this very question, I think that it's very very clear, and should be clear to my honourable friend the Member for Assiniboia the conduct of the Committee is in the hands of the Committee. I think that it is inappropriate for such questions to be asked on Orders of the Day.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question through the House Leader to the Chairman of the Public Utilities Committee. Can he indicate what applications have been received from individuals or groups to appear before the Public Utilities Committee on Hydro matters?

MR. PAULLEY: No, Mr. Speaker, there is no bill as I understand it before the Committee on Public Utilities and unless there is a Bill before that Committee then the matter under consideration of the Committee will be the reports of the various agencies that come under the purview of the Committee on Public Utilities.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Does the Committee not make this decision?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, not in this respect. Not in this respect because there is no Bill, there is no Bill before the Public Utilities Committee and therefore there not being a Bill the matter under consideration is the report of the respective utilities.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I must ask a final supplementary. Is it going to be the policy of this government that no one can appear before this Committee unless there is a Bill before it?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I can say to my honourable friend that there has been no change in the conduct of the business of the Committees of this House since the time my honourable friend the Member for Riel was a member of the front bench of the previous administration, or since I had the honour of becoming a Member of this House in 1953.

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't believe that it's within my power within the rules to reply . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Order. Would the honourable member place this question?

MR. CRAIK: Yes, I must ask the First Minister if the only way that the public is going to be heard - is the only way the public is going to be heard on matters they may be interested in is through a Bill being presented in the Legislature?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister. Order!

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, of course not and alternative means of making presentations and views known are available and have been exercised. In addition to that I can advise my honourable friend that there is just no basis for suggesting that there has been any change in procedure with respect to the operations of House Standing Committees over the past decade and more.

MR. SPEAKER: Order. The Honourable Member for Riel has pursued this question now on four separate occasions. I hope he's not going on the same line. If he is, I must rule him out of order.

MR. CRAIK: I must ask a question then. If it has not been past practice for the Chairman of Hydro to call at will those he preferred to call before the Committee, and does that not fall under the same ruling?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. We are getting down to a debate. This is a question period. The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. EARL McKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Has the Artificial Insemination Board reported to you yet?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: We've had a number of meetings but there has been no final recommendations, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. McKELLAR: Mr. Speaker, when do you expect to get the final recommendations?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: . . . will and readiness of the Board, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. McKELLAR: . . . 1972?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: . . . Mr. Speaker, that that report should be before me sometime in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Has the Minister or the Department of Agriculture set standards to meet Japanese demands for quality as well as grading systems as far as special crops for export are concerned?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I was unable to hear the remarks of the Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: If the Minister or the Department of Agriculture set standards to meet Japanese demands for quality as well as grading systems as far as special crops for export are concerned.

MR. USKIW: The grade requirements of all agricultural produce is a matter for the Government of Canada, is not a provincial responsibility, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In reply to his comments about the conference, it was in the form of a question as to whether or not the Manitoba Government was taking the same approach to municipal representation at the Conference. I understand that the Quebec Government . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, the question is whether the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. -- (Interjection) -- Order. I'm certain the honourable member is well aware of our -- Order. I am certain all honourable members are aware of our rules in regard to the question period, I have no objection to some prefacing but if it becomes a debate or argumentative question I must rule it out of order. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the question was whether the municipal representatives at this conference will have equal voting rights with the Province and the Federal Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney.

MR. McKELLAR: . . . question to the Minister of Public Works. What buildings, if any, owned by the Provincial Government are insured with SGIO.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Public Works.

HON. RUSSELL DOERN (Minister of Public Works) Elmwood): Mr. Speaker, none to my knowledge but I will take the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce, relating to the activities of the Manitoba Development Corporation. Could the Minister indicate to the House whether or not the equity position of the MDC in Omnitheatre Limited has been increased since the end of March of this year; and if so, by how much?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, as honourable members know, the Minister of Industry and Commerce has undertaken to provide members of the House and the public with quarterly information on financial assistance provided by the MDC to all companies and individuals in Manitoba. This policy is now being carried out and any change in equity participation or bond position, lending position of the MDC will be reflected in those quarterly reports. It is not a new policy, it's a policy that's been in effect for many quarters, for almost a year. All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that this information will be forthcoming in the normal course and available to everybody in Manitoba.

MR. MCGILL: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister then indicate when the quarterly report which he normally produces for each quarter for the operations of MDC will appear in the Manitoba Gazette - that's for the 31st of March 72 - when will that appear?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, in addition to our annual report policy we instituted our quarterly report policy in keeping with the undertaking that I gave the members of this Assembly during the debate on my estimates in 1971, and therefore the quarterly reports have appeared beginning with April 1, 1971 and I believe the latest is for the period ending December 31, 1971. I believe the first quarter for 1972 should be available within a matter of one or two weeks.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, if I could just respond to the question that was raised earlier by the Honourable Member for Riel. The conference will not be a decision making body as such, but will be an advisory group, therefore I do not anticipate any votes to be taken.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Labour. Due to the controversy and uncertainty of the sale and use of firecrackers that came about over the weekend, I wonder could that be regulated under the Fire Prevention Act?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: May I say in reply to my honourable friend that the matter is under consideration in the Fire Commissioner's section. It may require some tidying up of legislation, but I want to assure my honourable friend and also the citizens of Manitoba that we view with apprehension the looseness of legislation dealing with the use of firecrackers in this province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. MOUG: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Highways. I would like to know if he could tell us how many phones were disconnected for non payment of long distance charges off the Headingly exchange earlier this month?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The question was just answered half an hour ago. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. What were the results of the Provincial Special Crop Mission sent to Japan concerning the Japanese demand for quality as well as grading system?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, the newly established marketing branch has been involved in very extensive promotion campaigns throughout the world which has resulted in a number of groups coming into Manitoba to take a look at what we have to offer and I am hopeful that very good results will be forthcoming fairly soon.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. JEAN ALLARD (Rupertsland): I have a question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Agriculture. Could he tell the House whether the Ilford Fishermen's Co-op is going to be operating this summer?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: I would presume, Mr. Speaker, that if the Co-operative wishes to function that it will be given an opportunity. I don't have any knowledge why it shouldn't.

MR. ALLARD: Could he advise the House whether his department has brought pressure to bear on the membership of the Co-op to change the membership of the board, to influence membership of the board composition?

MR. USKIW: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker. The matter has not been before me.

MR. ALLARD: Could the Minister take the question as notice and could he explain to the House if such things have happened what the purpose of it was?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think the question is so vague that I'm not quite sure what I'm supposed to find out for the honourable member.

MR. ALLARD: Could he tell the House whether his department has brought pressure to bear on the Ilford Fishermen's Co-op membership to change the membership of the board, and if so, why? I'm wondering whether that's clear.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, that implies that the department is in effect going to administer the affairs of a co-operative. I would think that in the normal duties of the inspection service of the Co-operative Branch that where there are problems in existence with respect to any Co-operative that they recommend corrective measures.

MR. ALLARD: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if the Minister would inform the House as to whether or not any newspaper, weekly or otherwise, in Manitoba has received a grant from the Manitoba Development Corporation since January of this year?

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Development Corporation as such does not give grants to any company or individual.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, in case the Minister has misunderstood me I said, newspaper - has any grant been given to a newspaper, weekly or otherwise in the Province of Manitoba since January of this year?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, if I understood the honourable member correctly, he was referring to the Manitoba Development Corporation and if he did - I would like him to correct me, if this is not the case - he is referring to the Manitoba Development Corporation, he referred to newspapers and he referred to grants, and I can state categorically, Mr. Speaker, that the Manitoba Development Corporation does not give grants to any kind of enterprise or to any individual interested in business in the province.

A MEMBER: The previous government gave . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order! The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: A supplementary question. I appreciate the Honourable Minister's reply. Would he tell us as to whether or not any newspaper, weekly or otherwise, received a loan from the Corporation?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think an answer that I've given perhaps several times in this Chamber, perhaps too often - this information is available to the public including members of the Legislature and it will be itemized in the next quarterly - - if such has taken place, if there has been a loan made, or some kind of financial assistance given to a weekly or daily newspaper in Manitoba, this will become public knowledge - the name of the company, the amount of financial assistance, the terms, etc., will be made available.

A MEMBER: Is that a new policy?

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

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Has his department or the government received any request or orders from Europe or any other countries for some of our special crops produced in Manitoba?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the government of Czechoslovakia now has a trade mission in Manitoba and I have been advised that a very large and very substantial order involving many, many thousands of tons of sunflower seeds has been placed and which will benefit the farmers of Manitoba particularly in southern Manitoba who produce and who are able to produce sunflower seeds quite enormously during this next crop year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the First Minister. I wonder, due to the vociferous attitude of the Honourable Member for Radisson, if he would consider today making him the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. SPEAKER: Order! The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD (Churchill): I wonder if the Minister of Health could give us the date when the hospital addition will be started in Thompson - the addition to the hospital in Thompson?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, I didn't get the last word from the - I got your last word, but I didn't get the last word from the Manitoba Health Services Commission pertaining to where we're at with the addition to the hospital in Thompson, but it should be very soon if it hasn't started as yet.

MR. BEARD: Well I won't ask him how soon is soon? Will the community development concept be included in the Churchill hospital?

MR. TOUPIN: Well, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member is not too specific when he talks about any additional development to the hospital facility in Churchill. If he's meaning any health and/or social services addition to the hospital facility, we are looking to ambulatory care facilities added on to the hospital in Churchill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: I would like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Labour. I wonder if he could advise the House as to whether or not we should be expecting an announcement in regard to minimum wage between now and June 16th?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: I wouldn't be surprised, Mr. Speaker.

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

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if you would kindly call the Adjourned Debate on Bill No. 55.

MR. SPEAKER: The proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. BILTON: Could we have this matter stand, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, this is the second day in a row - I hope that the Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell is not ill - this is the second day in a row that this bill has been called and I'm wondering, I'm wondering whether or not any other honourable member of the Assembly is prepared to make a contribution in respect to Bill 55.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Might I advise the House Leader that the Member for Birtle-Russell will be here tomorrow but he cannot be here today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: I thank the Honourable Member for Emerson. I still suggest that if any other member of the Assembly is desirous of speaking on Bill 55, if may be an opportune time for that member to be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: On that same point, I want to assure the Honourable House Leader that

(MR. BILTON Cont'd) the Honourable Member for Russell is in good health, and we on this side of the House have no objection to anyone wishing to continue the debate.

MR. PAULLEY: Thank you most kindly. Then again I ask is any other honourable member prepared to speak. If not then the resolution will stand. Nobody desiring to speak on that important Bill No. 55, Mr. Speaker, would you kindly call the Committee to go into Supply.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development 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.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 63 (a) (1). The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. CY. GONICK (Crescentwood): Mr. Chairman, I want to address just a few words with regard to the Estimates of this Department. I want to say first, Mr. Chairman, that I have come to resent very much the kind of vicious attacks that have been placed against the Minister of Health and Social Development. Nobody likes the welfare system; I am sure there is not one member in the House including . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I wonder if we could have just a little bit less noise.

MR. GONICK: Mr. Chairman, I'm certain that there is not a member of this House including the Minister who can say that he likes welfare, the concept of welfare, and the welfare system. Certainly I do not. I wish it were possible that everyone in our society were fully integrated into our society, were fully self-supporting. But that is not the case. We have thousands of abandoned mothers. For example, we do not have the day care facilities so that they can leave their children in decent facilities and pursue work if such work were available. We have elderly people abandoned by their own children, who have to be, many of them taken care of by society at large.

I can quite understand the vehemence with which members in this Chamber view this department, because, Mr. Chairman, I think it's a kind of diversion for them because they know very well that the enormous size of the welfare department, the dollars that are spent on welfare is a reflection of nothing else than the failure of our economic system. It's the failure of our economic system to supply the jobs that are required to maintain full employment for the people of Manitoba. The failure of our educational system to provide the training and the skills and the attitudes. The failure of our recreation policy to provide decent holiday and recreational facilities for our young people. The failure of our politics to involve people so that they can participate fully in the decisions which affect their lives. I think that what members opposite and some members of this side are really saying in their vehemence and their rantings about welfare is kind of reflecting their own guilt - their own guilt in being unable to reform our society so that welfare and the welfare system can disappear, which is the work I think of all members in this Chamber.

Mr. Chairman, we have in this department must husband care for all the outcasts of our society, all the rejects of our society, all the people abandoned by our society, some of them are mentally unable, some of them are socially unable, some of them are physically unable, and what we have seen in the last few days is that the entire Chamber has come crashing down upon this one department which has to deal with the failures, not its own failures, but the failures of this Chamber in our politics and reforming our society so that the welfare system could disappear. I think what they are doing is simply trying to ease their own guilt in being unable to reform our society by the kind of vehement approach that has been taken during this session. I had asked the members who speak so much and with such anger about those people who they regard as employable members of society who are nevertheless on welfare, and who are perhaps lazy, and I'm certainly not going to defend them, what would they have us do with those people? In the Soviet Union you know they have a concept, they call them social parasites, and they put them in jail, and I wonder if that is what members opposite, and some members on this side, would have us to do with those people. I'd like them to come up with some alternatives in the present policy.

(MR. GONICK Cont'd)

Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to defend this department. I know it has problems; it has problems in its administration; it has problems in personnel; sometimes its policies aren't clear. The Minister can defend himself much better than I will, and I don't want to defend him because I know myself there are many problems in his department. But instead of coming and crashing down on this department and offering viable alternatives in dealing with a problem which we have always faced, have to face, and which we will always in the future have to face, what we have instead is a vicious attack, unwarranted in its vehemence and only explainable in terms of the guilt that members opposite, and members on this side, feel about their own inability to reform our society.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I only want to speak to one other aspect. It has to deal with the speech given yesterday by the Member for Thompson, and I have in previous times listened to the Member of Thompson, tried to shut my ears to his utterings and find on this occasion I am unable to. What I feel we have heard from the Member of Thompson in recent months in particular is a kind of exercise in moral . . . , and I'm getting tired of it. In fact, Mr. Chairman, the member's speeches are, I find, sickening and the tolerance with which he is received - good old Joe - is a tolerance which I can no longer afford. The worst thing that I think this government perhaps has done is to place him in the Cabinet, and I think perhaps the best thing is to remove him from the Cabinet. I'm tired of his lecturing on pornography, Mr. Chairman. When the day comes when an ignoramus will decide on what books I can read, and what films I can see, it's a day I'm going to quit. Mr. Chairman, I'm tired of his tirades against kids. He talks of youth hostels as whore houses. Mr. Chairman, where making love is a dirty word, I can only say that if it's dirty, that it comes from dirty minds. Mr. Chairman, I'm tired of his ranting on abortion, on the Mount Carmel Clinic. He talks as if the main issue was saving money. If it were a matter of saving money and of spending money on other things other than abortion, it must be clear to all logical members here that if it were a matter of saving money, you'd certainly - society would save a lot more money in having abortions and saving the money on educating the children, and on housing them, and so forth, which is a societal expense, but that of course is not the issue. It's a diversion on the part of the Member for Thompson. If it is a moral argument, Mr. Chairman, and there's nothing wrong with it being a moral argument, but I find that his morals are no better than the morals of the women who decide that they must seek an abortion for their own reasons, whether these reasons are that they have five or six or ten children and cannot deal with them psychologically, or economically, because of the problems that that will create for their other children or for themselves, whether there are other reasons with regard to their mental makeup, their capacity to handle the job which is required in raising large families, I'm sure that they do not make these decisions lightly; they do not take this matter any more lightly than the Member for Thompson, and I certainly don't think that his morals are any more - that his morals are any more on a higher level than others.

Mr. Chairman, I won't comment on his confusions with regard to Trotsky and waffle and welfare, and so forth, that I leave to others if they wish to deal with that.

He talked about that the abortion arguments do not deal, and are not related to class and income. This is, Mr. Chairman, nonsense. It is a fact that abortion is available to the rich and very often in the majority of cases it is not available to the poor, who are then left to the butchers who hack them to pieces, and we have had many cases, and I've known many cases where this has occurred, and I say to members in this House that abortion has occurred through centuries by women who feel they must have it. It will continue to occur regardless of what the Member for Thompson says and regardless of what the law is, is a desperate attempt by women to solve their problem which they feel there is no other solution to, and the question is, whether we are going to continue to make these women into criminals or whether we are going to - and be butchered by hacks in back rooms, or whether we are going to make it possible for them to have reasonably sound medical facilities.

Mr. Chairman, finally I'm tired of the Member for Thompson's method of innuendo - we used to call it McCarthyism - where he says he knows of welfare workers who advise their clients that they should quit work and go on to welfare. This is the same tactics which Joe McCarthy used some years ago where he knew of, and he had a list of - he never revealed those names, he never revealed that list - I think that the same tactics we find being used by the Member for Thompson - if he has names and he has lists he should place those names and

(MR. GONICK Cont'd) lists in the hands of the Minister and it will be dealt with in a proper and sound fashion. I think what he is doing is he's casting doubts and suspicion on all social workers in the Province of Manitoba by this kind of tactic, and I'm sorry that I have to be the one to point this out. I would hope that other members would feel the same way, that we've had enough of McCarthyism from this member, or any other member, that if he has evidence of wrongdoing, and that there are names to be had and evidence of hard facts in that form, they should be given to the Minister who would then be expected to investigate the matter rather than raising - I have information, I have lists, I have names, I know of cases, without ever giving that evidence, giving any hard evidence to that effect.

Mr. Chairman, I have no other words to say with regard to this department. I know that the Minister is anxious to answer many of the points that have been raised by members regarding specific policies.

. . . . continued on next page.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Charleswood.

MR. MOUG: Mr. Speaker, just one or two brief words. I am thoroughly ashamed to say that I'm part of a Legislature that houses members such as the one that just spoke. I have to admire what the Member for Thompson said in his few words yesterday. I admire him for that, and this is not the first instance I have admired the man, there's several times. I've had no use for things he's got up and said for his own department, for instance, when he was a Minister, but certainly what he said in good human terms the other day, I thought he did a real good job. I hope that the people from Crescentwood go to the trouble of purchasing themselves a copy of today's Hansard and let them know what he stands for. He says, and I picked out that the laws of today make criminals out of the women because they have to go for back room abortions, and certainly shouldn't have to, and I'll try and paraphrase what was said by the Member for Thompson, they should simply go over to the abattoirs and have this done there. And I don't know what the Member for Crescentwood has in the way of a family. I have a family at home; I know the Member for Thompson does, and certainly when I look at my children I'd hate to think that some doctor had the authority to butcher them up long before they got on to this earth. I think that the Member for Crescentwood should be absolutely ashamed of himself, and should hang his head. I think that there's enough time been wasted in this Legislature when he's on his feet, and certainly I don't intend to use up any more time repeating what he's said. It's absolutely a disgrace that any man that's elected by the people of this province has the opportunity to stand in this Legislature where laws and policies are to be set and come out with such ridiculous nonsense as he just said right now. If he's not ashamed of himself, I hope that his constituents are.

Mr. Chairman, I just have one or two remarks to make in regards to welfare. I know in the area that I represent in the Legislature here that we did, as mentioned before, offer jobs to people to try and keep down the high cost of welfare in the municipality. We were only paying in some instances 20 percent, some instances 40 percent, but certainly at not time did we let them have welfare simply because they asked for it. We offered them jobs, and in most cases they decided that they were better to, rather than take our jobs - they were embarrassing jobs shovelling snow and sand on the streets - to go and take something else that was more suited. Too many of the unemployed and the welfare recipients of today have simply been talking with their friends and are not willing to accept the jobs that are open. They have their minds set on a certain job and if that job's not available, they become part of our welfare program, or part of our unemployment insurance program which is federal.

The PEP program that was brought in certainly took a lot of people off unemployment insurance, took a lot of people off welfare, but it was a bunch of dollars that the government set out to spend, and they spent them regardless of whether the need was there or not. I made application previous to the end of the year while I was still in municipal council out there for one building and it brought that area of 250 people \$47,000 and I always thought since the first of the year there'd be no time that I'd ever bring this up in the Legislature, but when you see what it did to actually create employment or take people off welfare, or take them off unemployment insurance, it did nothing.

So I say that this government regardless of whether they have the people fooled in that area or not, are certainly not helping the welfare situation, and when you look at the figures of \$90 million under Community Operations, certainly you'd wonder why the government would be willing to spend these many dollars. We only have 250 people, are going to be taking advantage of the \$47,000 spent in one instance. It wasn't all provincial money we were saving, a good portion of that -- there were a few that were welfare recipients - but the majority were unemployment insurance situations. I know it helps the economy to keep everybody working but if we can afford to spend that many dollars to get them off the ground, I don't believe we're doing the right thing. I think that what the Minister should look at is giving some consideration to lending money to these people rather than giving it to them. In a good many instances we lent money and simply on their honour, and on their signature we would give them a cheque for four or five hundred dollars to get them out of the problems, to up-date their debts, and go out and take a job where they could see daylight ahead, and they did this and we got our money back, and they never had to say that they were welfare recipients, and they never had to put themselves in that position.

The costs are ballooning here so fast - there's one area that spent more money in - \$60 million where you're over and above that that the Highways spent, and certainly I think that it

(MR. MOUG cont'd) should be looked at and given some more consideration. I asked the Minister during the question period about what participation the Provincial Government has in the blind persons' pension, and I asked this for a reason, Mr. Chairman, because in the past six months, five months, I guess it will take a period of six months to complete the increase that is going to be given to the old age on supplement, they are going to have a health increase while the blind pension stays somewhere in around \$78 and the old age pensioner on supplement is going up to something like \$150, practically double, and I think the blind person should be taken into consideration if this government has anything to do with it. I wanted to have that information before going into Estimates as I felt that there was no sense my bringing it in to this Legislature on the floor here if the Provincial Government had nothing to do with it. But certainly the Provincial Government if they have any responsibilities as far as the blind are concerned, and the blind persons' pension, they should be given some consideration to an increase if the Federal Government doesn't go with it, if the province has a portion of it they should increase their portion, because a blind person is as much a burden to anybody as is a senior citizen or an old age pensioner.

For that reason, Sir, I wanted to make those few comments and I'm sorry as it was yesterday we got very few of the front bench back together again, and we feel that when we're spending 190-odd million dollars in this one Health and Social Development and I think if you group that together with Education Estimates you come up close to \$3 million which is all social work in a sense. We're training our children for future years to try and take them off the path of leading into welfare and public health. So I think that we're spending three out of four dollars down this vein and certainly the front bench on the government side has no interest whatsoever. They seem to be absent as was yesterday - there was eight or nine members I think in the afternoon, there was two of the Treasury Bench, and six or seven from the backbench on the government side, and I think it's kind of a disgrace when we're spending 65 percent of our, or at least - I shouldn't say 65 percent in Health and Social Development, but certain we're spending 40 percent of our total Estimates and to see so little interest in it, and I think if people came in off the street and sat in the gallery and saw what was going on yesterday, and even today where the government just says well, our Estimates are on paper, they're going to be accepted, we know it, and we don't have to be here. I certainly hope they're not out campaigning because that went sour in B. C.

There was a remark --(Interjection)-- No, we're touring Europe. There was a remark yesterday, during these Estimates so I hope that you won't rule me out, Mr. Chairman, in regards to the president of the union, his salary, etc. I wasn't in the House all through it but I was misquoted again in Hansard and I hope that the Member for Flin Flon will realize that when I was speaking that night, and up til the interference and interjections came along, I wasn't talking about any president or man that works in a shop and receives a few dollars per month for what he does for his local union. I was making reference directly to, and I mentioned later when I got an opportunity, the International President of the Teamsters Union. I'm sure that in the mines at Flin Flon you do have a Teamsters Union. But that gets away from welfare, I'm sure that neither the president of that union nor the president of the Hudsons Bay Mining and Smelting will ever be on welfare, nor will they need any other assistance from the Province of Manitoba, and the President of the Hudsons Bay Mining and Smelting will certainly be paying a lot into the coffers of Manitoba which I am more interested in than anything else.

The Member for Thompson, I think that when he made reference to the Waffle group there I think it was very important because that is the group I think that if it takes away anything from what the government is trying to do I think it's going to have a direct effect on us and take part in a program where welfare and social assistance is brought in. I notice three names grouped together on that, and I'm quoting from the TV - Gonick, Green and Nick Ternette. Certainly I hope that this is not what's running our province. I hope this doesn't have anything to sway the Minister's mind, and if the Premier were in his place - I hope that he has an opportunity, some of the front bench will pass it back on to him - that if he could give reconsideration to the Member for Thompson and make use of him on his treasury bench again and make him the Minister of Health and Social Development, I think that we can take this \$191 million - we can take this \$191 million and we can build roads in the north and I would agree with that, but certainly not just throw it out.

When I was on Municipal Affairs Committee there was a man come in there from the north country somewhere, I don't know what constituency he was from, but he said that we are spoiling the people of the Province of Manitoba, we are giving them too much. He said it's like

(MR. MOUG cont'd keeping a dog in a house for five years then taking him out and throwing him in the barn. He said you can't take them off welfare or unemployment insurance and put them back on the job, they won't appreciate it. He said even a dog's smarter than that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, I want to comment as briefly as I can on some of the remarks I heard today. I know the members are anxious to hear from the Minister of Health and Social Development. I listened with interest to the Member for Charleswood.

I don't know if he knows the procedures of Estimate Review but I'll just tell him that when estimates are submitted by a department, they are submitted to management committee where they are reviewed first by the Secretariat, very extensively, in great detail, and then are reported on in great detail, program by program, item by item to a Committee of Cabinet, Management Committee, which consists of a number of members of Cabinet. After they leave that they go to the whole Cabinet where they are reviewed again by the entire Cabinet before they are approved. The estimates now before the House and before this Committee bear the imprint of the entire Cabinet, the front bench, the entire Treasury Bench. We take full responsibility, we share it with the Minister, and we know what is in it and it is not for the Member for Charleswood to decide for us how it is that we acquaint ourselves with it. We are much more familiar with it than he will ever be, and that's understandable, and therefore I don't have to apologize to him for the absence of members in this committee stage, which would be the third time around, and I don't apologize on his behalf for the absence of his own front bench at this time and probably throughout most of the time spent on this department.

Mr. Chairman, I often have trouble understanding the Member for Charleswood. When I do understand him, his reactionary thinking comes across loud and clear and yet I don't have any shame of being a member of this House along with him. He was elected as I was. I recognize his right to be here. I don't question or challenge his right to be here. But in case he has any doubts about it, the thoughts expressed by the Member for Crescentwood in the main, and probably expressed in different ways, are shared by me and possibly, and probably shared by members of his own caucus. In different degrees, in different areas, I would think that there are members of his own caucus who feel that way about some of the matters discussed by the Member for Crescentwood. So that certainly in the end we all go back to our constituencies and are accountable for our thoughts and for the way we express them, but it is not something that I think deserved his reaction and I must say that a number of the things stated by the Member for Crescentwood I would support and do support openly. So that I want to get clear that the Member for Charleswood was not speaking for every member of the House and I really doubt very much that he was really speaking for all members of his caucus on the particular issue.

One point he raised which I do think merits consideration and I believe I can assure him that it is being considered, is the question of loans rather than outright payments of welfare. It is in the Statute now, the Minister may wish to elaborate on it if he wants to, the Municipal Act now provides that all monies advanced are debts and the question of recovering them is something that is in the legislation now. I'm sure he must know that, but if he talks about developing a policy more along those lines, I would certainly think that amongst all the things he said that was the only worthwhile suggestion he had to make.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Before I recognize the Honourable Minister. There have been some statements made this afternoon by certain honourable members that are bordering on being unparliamentary. The Speaker has already distributed twice I believe this three-page document, and I would suggest that it might be required reading for some of the members in their spare hours, because if I hear some of those remarks repeated again, somebody is going to be in trouble. The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to attempt in the very little time that I have at my disposal to answer some of the questions that were brought forward during the discussion of the Estimates of the Department of Health and Social Development. I was accused of many things in the last, about four hours, while we were discussing the Estimates of the Department, being too free with the administration of the department, not getting up to answer questions. I did want everyone to express themselves on the estimates because I feel they are important not only to the members of this House but to the people of the Province of Manitoba. And this stands for all members of the House, not only the opposition.

The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge opened up the discussion on the estimates by making reference to a lot of statistics pertaining to the percentage increases in the Department

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) of Health and Social Development. The only comment that I can make on these statistics is that a lot of new services were offered within the Department of Health and Social Development since 1969 and a lot of additional services are contemplated for the year 1972/73, and you can't offer new services at a lower cost. You can play with statistics but the ultimate outcome of a higher budget means more services to the people through the Department of Health and Social Development.

The honourable member was making reference to Child Guidance now being partly under Education -- she didn't say "partly" she said under Education, I say partly -- that now we can see special levies within school divisions to pay the cost of such services. There is no such policy contemplated by this government to my knowledge. The honourable member was equally making reference to the unnecessary \$300, 000 experiment project within the Department of Health and Social Development regarding work activity programs. My only answer to this comment is that how else can we find an alternative to welfare without seeking alternatives for the welfare recipients and the working poor?

The honourable member made reference equally to the escalating costs within the office of the Minister and the Deputy Minister. There is no additional costs - no additional staff that is contemplated within the office of the Minister or the Deputy Minister for the year 1972/73, but there are additional staff and staff man-years and funds needed within the office of the Associate Deputy Minister and these are found within the estimates. In fact, there has been a reduction of staff, a half man-year in the Deputy Minister's office. There has been, I want to emphasize, no increase in staff in my office and no increase in staff for the Welfare Advisory Committee. The bulk of the increase for the Executive function is in the operation of the Associate Deputy Minister. This increase represents a shift from a . . . money operation to a regular functioning, including expense for travel, professional and consultants' fees. The rest of the increase within the Executive function is largely made up of the normal salary increments.

The honourable member made reference equally to the escalating costs within Research and Planning within the Department of Health and Social Development. The only comment that I can make regarding Research and Planning is that there were very little research and planning within the department when we took office and we happened to feel that for a department that spends approximately one-third of the provincial budget, we must put a lot of priority on research and planning as we have to find viable alternatives to many fire fighting approaches that the previous administration had.

The member stated that Research and Planning and Program Development Divisions has overspent its appropriation by some \$300, 000.00. This, Mr. Chairman, is completely incorrect and I wish that the member would be more careful in her use of figures. What happened in fact, not fantasy, was that the division actually was underspent by \$22, 600. 00. Indeed, after taking into account unbudgeted revenue, the department as a whole was underspent by some 5. 7 million dollars.

The honourable member was making reference to stricter application of the rules pertaining to Social Allowances. We as a government enforce the Social Allowance Act and its regulations to the fullest extent and we try to curtail all abuses and yet meet the needs of all those who are deprived through no fault of their own.

The honourable member made reference to the Income Security section of our department. I must say that I rely very heavily on the income security staff contemplated within the estimates to help us alleviate all types of abuses and help existing and oncoming staff to do a better job within the department.

The honourable member made reference to Student Aid now being hidden within the estimates. Student Aid is now channelled through the Department of Education, and for those students who do not qualify for any type of loans, bursaries, or do not have recourse to financial resources of their parents, social allowance has been kept as a last resort to meet the needs of those individuals who would like to pursue their studies, keeping in mind their upgrading. This is no longer kept separate within the estimates; no more than it would be for those who are given emergency social allowance while being unemployed unemployables.

The honourable member made reference to a detoxification centre and to the \$840, 000 within the estimates to cover such cost and asked where the detoxification centre would be located. My answer to that is that some amount had to be provided for within the estimates, no government policy has been made as yet, and I did indicate awhile ago that one would be announced very shortly.

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd)

The honourable member made reference to Mount Carmel Clinic regarding laboratory tests, medical supervision and to a question of pharmaceutical dispensing. The Manitoba Health Services Commission makes payment to Mount Carmel Clinic for insured diagnostic laboratory and radiological procedures, together with the necessary interpretation. These payments are made in accordance with Section 2(c) of the regulations under the Health Services Insurance Act. In 1971 actual payments to Mount Carmel Clinic for insured diagnostic laboratory and X-Ray services totalled \$38,610.00. These payments related to 223,539 laboratory units provided either at Mount Carmel Clinic or referred out by the Clinic; and 4,413 X-Ray films.

The payment by the Manitoba Health Services Commission for insured diagnostic laboratory and X-Ray services are a shared cost with the Federal Government. The total 1971 payments of \$38,610 relates to both technical and professional services. In relation to the pharmaceutical services, while the pharmacy service at Mount Carmel Clinic is not an insured service by the Manitoba Health Services Commission, a review of the 1971 financial statements of Mount Carmel Clinic shows that the total payment by the Clinic for pharmacy service in 1971 was \$27,703.00. Of this amount, \$7,452 was paid out as salary to a pharmacist who is employed on a part-time basis at the Clinic. The balance of \$20,251 relates to drug and supply costs. Mount Carmel Clinic has a policy of providing drugs at no cost, or where feasible, at a nominal fee. In 1971 pharmacy recoveries were \$12,784.00.

Medical Services. During 1971 the Manitoba Health Services Commission made payments to 35 doctors for services provided to patients at Mount Carmel Clinic. The payments total approximately \$70,000.00

In reviewing the 1972 laboratory budget for Mount Carmel Clinic, the 1971 experience was referred to in order to establish a workload which had occurred last year. A meeting with the Executive Director and the technologist responsible for supervision of the facility was requested and held when it was observed that 223,539 DBS laboratory units were reported for 1971. The explanation given for the large volume was that one full-time technologist plus a part-time assistant and work done by supervising technologists accounted for the ability to carry out this amount of work.

During the organization of the inspection program by the Standards Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, hospital and private laboratories were requested to apply for registration and subsequent inspection. Due to a clerical oversight the Mount Carmel laboratory was not notified and as soon as this became apparent the Executive Director was requested to make such an application. As a consequence, the laboratory has not been inspected by the College despite the fact that very few tests beyond the short list are performed. Had only short list tests been carried out the facilities would have been treated as a physician's office and no inspection by the College Standards Committee required. I am informed that the College of Physicians and Surgeons are currently involved in these inspections of this facility at the request of the Manitoba Health Services Commission.

The honourable member pointed out that she could not see where my statement, where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure was borne out within my Estimates. I can point out to the honourable member that preventative measures are being taken within the Estimates in regard to work activity programs, in regards to income security staff, in regards to the guaranteed annual income experiment projects, and many others. The essence of any preventive program is to anticipate the needs of people, to provide those basic services that will stop human misery and social problems before they occur, instead of chasing these with expensive bandaids. Such preventive measures means that we must invest now in order to reap our dividends later. The good capitalist in the Opposition must surely understand that explanation.

In reply to the Honourable Member for Fort Garry. The honourable member seemed very concerned about the escalating costs in rendering health care. So are we. We are concerned about these escalating costs and the access to quality medical care that we are sharing our White Paper on Health Care Delivery with all Manitobans very shortly. Let there then be a constructive and rational discussion of the issues. Not the bleeding of doctrinaire and dogmatic slogan of any of the interested parties, government, opposition or the medical profession.

The member also made reference to the 11 percent increase in the Commission. With respect to the 11 percent increase in the Commission's gross cost the following breakdown

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) analysis is presented: Cost due to Program approved for a partial year 1971, 1.2 percent; new programs or facilities to be implemented in 1972 regarding major construction approved and commenced in past years, 1.6 percent; general costs increases for ongoing programs, salaries, supplies, etc., and provision for increased volume of medical services, 7.4 percent; increased costs attributed to provincial employment program largely expended on the hospital maintenance programs, .7 percent, for a total of 10.9 percent. And by the way these above cost increases compare to increases of 13 to 15 percent in past years.

The Honourable Member for Fort Garry - who is not in the House now - equally made reference to the lack of communication and mistrust between the government and the medical profession. My contribution to such a statement would be that there is always room for better communication, and/or more trust between individuals, between different professions, between different levels of government, and we as a government are confident that the medical profession will render good, sound, medical care to the citizens of this province, and that we would be unwise to want to plan health facilities in their absence because they will be part of the health team.

The member was making reference to doctors being dissatisfied with the environment in regard to the Medical Profession in the Province of Manitoba, and that many doctors were leaving the province to practice medicine elsewhere. It is unfortunate to hear such a statement when we see so many qualified family physicians and specialists from other countries wanting to serve in this province. If the environment must be improved, it can only be accomplished through very clear understanding of our needs and our limited financial resources. The facts are much simpler than the member's source of information would suggest. We have 68 doctors graduating this year, 18 will leave but 16 will come in from other provinces. Therefore a net loss of medical graduates amounts to two people.

Frankly I cannot take too seriously the complaint that there are some doctors who are happier in Hawaii than in Manitoba. What would the member have us do? Should we encourage the practice of medicine as free enterprise, heavily subsidized by the public for substantial profits for the enterprisers, sort of everlasting medical CFI. Should we change the climate of Manitoba, put a heated dome over the province so that some of our doctors do not flee to Hawaii. No, Mr. Chairman, we have every indication that the bulk of the medical profession in this province are seriously dedicated to the practice of medicine right here, in Manitoba. I respect that dedication. Together we will deliver health care that is the equal or better of any that we have in this continent.

The honourable member made reference to the Community Health and Social Development Centres. The uneasiness by the medical profession because the government is reviewing its position and policy. If there was any great deal of uneasiness on the part of the medical profession this was no reason for the government to pause and to determine effectively its planning of such facilities on an experimental basis. I think that it is only wise to plan or premeditate than to later be sorry.

The honourable member made reference to the White Paper on Health Services. As I have indicated this paper should be forthcoming in the very near future.

The member made reference to the . . . of hospital costs. My only comment to the additional expenditures and the operation of hospital across the province is that we have to have ambulatory care facilities and a good deal of extended care facilities, including home care to see a stabilization of cost in relation to hospital care.

The Honourable Member for Assiniboia made reference to the long awaited report from Professor Barber. This report is anticipated with great anxiety by the government to help us find more viable avenues in the delivery of social development. I am happy to see that the honourable member is taking a positive approach to the problems that we have in social services, and that he and others should be happy to live in this beautiful province of ours.

The honourable member made reference equally to the population status quo because of contraceptive methods and he included in the contraceptive methods, abortions as a last resort. I as a Minister of the Crown have no choice but to allow the therapeutic abortions authorized under the Criminal Code, but I do not necessarily see abortions as being contraceptive measure. In my mind contraceptive measures are a means of prevention, and abortions are a method used to put out an existing life. I agree with the honourable member that there should be more family planning but you will have to realize that this will cost more money. I am

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) happy to see that the honourable member is putting a lot of emphasis on the need to increase day nurseries within our province. This is certainly an alternative to those mothers who would care to work but must remain at home to care for their children.

The Honourable Member for Pembina, who is now in the House, congratulated me, and I must say this surprised me, and said it was easier to criticize than to be constructive but pointed out that the \$190 million Estimates of the department were full of abuse. My contribution to this type of comment is that we have done everything to date that we possibly could to curtail abuse, and with the help of everyone this task will be fulfilled. There's many more that we have to correct.

The honourable member made reference to a large increase within the department over the last two years being equal to the overall budget for the Department of Highways for 1972/73. My only comment is that at least part of this increase is attributable to the unemployed, but employables, to the unemployed but employables that could be hired to work in some of the highway construction. I think we have to co-ordinate the effort. Also of course and more seriously it becomes a matter of how you rank your priorities. As for me and my department we put the building of healthy human lives before the construction of highways. People are still more important than concrete.

The honourable member makes reference to the Welfare Advisory Committee and its 15 members and that three form a quorum, and that they are either socialists, too generous or biased, and that they should contact more of the municipal people without reviewing welfare cases. My comment is that if members of the Welfare Advisory Board are not following the Municipal and Social Allowance Acts and their regulations, they should be replaced. In my mind the members are doing what they can to fulfill their responsibility, spelled out under the regulations, and made compulsory under the Canada Assistance Plan. The Minister of Health and Social Development and his staff are subject to review, and the decisions pertaining to allocation of Social Allowance can be altered by the Welfare Appeal Board like any other level of government that has provisions for Social Allowances. The reason for having a quorum of three on the Welfare Appeal Board is to allow the Board itself to hold separate meetings in different areas of the province at different times, or at the same time, thus costing less.

The member made reference to Correctional Institutions and their residents. I agree that when at all possible the residents of Correctional Institutions should be performing meaningful work and be paid accordingly to allow them to care for themselves and for those who are their responsibility.

I am happy to see the honourable members in favour of the parole system, allowing the department flexibility in phasing back inmates into normal society.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister has five minutes left of his time.

MR. TOUPIN: The honourable member made reference of the more rigid approach by the Minister regarding welfare since the calling of the Wolseley by-election. If the honourable member goes back to December 1969, to be exact on the 18th of December, 1969, he will find, or I could produce, some speeches that I think may indicate the very same position that I have taken for the last five or six months. I am not as familiar with Tory election tricks as the honourable member.

The Honourable Member for Thompson did not congratulate the Minister or the department. I can appreciate that. One of my friends, and I believe I still have a few, indicated that I should take the honourable member aside and talk to him, or hit him over the head. I can't do that, he's too big, and I'm trying to work with him. I have considered this on more than one occasion but my only comment, my only comment is that I will continue to try and work with the honourable member and not against him.

I agree with the honourable member that a socialist is not necessarily a social welfare pusher but a socialist like any good citizen of this province sees that social allowance is given to those who are in need and makes provision to curtail all abuses.

The honourable member has made reference to a very quick decision taken in the Thompson area regarding the issuance of a welfare cheque. I would ask the honourable member to give me more details following the closure of my Estimates.

The member made reference to deadbeats within the staff of the Department of Health and Social Development. Mr. Chairman, there is no room for deadbeats within the department or any department of government. I would ask the honourable member to qualify or document this

(MR. TOUPIN cont'd) statement before passing sentence. If there are deadbeats within our department I think the MGA like myself would agree that we should get rid of them.

The honourable member asked why has Social Allowance costs increased to such an extent when Municipal Assistance Costs have risen only slightly. Municipal Assistance is primarily short-term assistance whereas Social Allowance tends to be long-term. Municipal Assistance then is affected by the local economic situation, therefore, the availability of jobs.

Because of our Government Work Activity Programs jobs have been made available to those who would normally require municipal assistance hence a reduced demand on the municipal assistance program itself.

The Honourable Member for Thompson made reference as to the number of welfare cases which have been identified as fraudulent. To date there have been 44 cases of fraud referred to the Attorney-General's Department. The vast majority of these cases have been identified during the last six months. There have been five prosecutions to date with sentences ranging from one year in the correctional institute to three years suspended sentence. In some cases two restitutions have been ordered. The balance of the cases, 39, are being investigated and will be heard in the immediate future.

The member made reference to the present situation relative to children and care. As of February 1972 the case load within our regional offices 2073, Children's Aid Society 7366, for a total of 9439, and I have a breakdown of the 2073 within our different regions.

The honourable member asks when was the last increase made in the Social Allowance Program in our province. The answer is in the fall of 1969 when this government took office.

He mentioned transient youth hostel and drugs and other human needs being freely dispensed in most of the different youth hostels. Mr. Chairman, we have a police force in our province that are free to keep law and order in all places within the province, including youth hostels.

The honourable member was making reference to doctors double or overbilling, and asked why we do not publish their names, amounts, etc., and how much money was involved. To date from April 1st, 1969 the Manitoba Health Service Commission has ordered financial sanction totalling \$118,523 against 17 medical practitioners. As provided for in the Health Services Insurance Act the Commission sanction ordered may be appealed and to date 12 medical practitioners have launched appeal procedures. If interviews with doctors show no reasonable explanation of deviation, and in fact show intent to defraud, the case is turned over to the Attorney-General's Department for investigation and if necessary court action, which of course would become public knowledge.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The time allotted for the Department of Health and Social Development has elapsed. The next department under consideration are - I would refer members to Page 36. Resolution 95 (a) (1). The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. BEARD: . . . would give leave to the Minister to finish his statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, we are operating on a time limit. Now which department are you going to take the time from? I mean you have a set of rules; I mean this is what you have adopted.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, . . . either the committee does agree or does not agree to let the Minister finish his statement. The proposal was made that he should and I assume that the rules being such that it would have to be unanimous and if it's unanimous then it would have to be charged to the balance of the time at the end.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are going to be charging time into some other department that we may not complete, so really I don't know. When we have our rules which states that . . .

MR. CHERNIACK: I'm Sorry. At the end of 90 hours all Estimates will be passed or dealt with. Whatever -- at the end of 90 hours will clearly determine if committee unanimously agrees to extend the time then I think you have no choice but to go along with it but if it's not unanimous then that's the end of it.

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

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Portage la Prairie): On the point of order, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister is replying to questions and perhaps charges, I think in fairness that if an agreement can be given we should let him complete his statement - on the assumption that he's not going to take an hour or so, but if it's a matter of a few minutes we give consent here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: On that same point of order, I was certainly waiting for answers to my questions and I would be quite happy to hear the balance of what's left for today.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, there are other departments that have to be considered as well. I think it would be unfair to the other Ministers who also would like their departments considered; it's also unfair to the members who would like to question members of the other departments. We can come back to the Minister, assuming that there are some hours left over and that was the purpose of setting up this arrangement in the first place.

MR. CHERNIACK: . . . unanimous consent, that's clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. Resolution 95 1 (a).

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, in respect to the Estimates of the Department of Municipal Affairs I would like to give a rather broad outline of some of the activities of that department within the past year. First of course there has been a number of legislative changes affecting both the Municipal Act and the Local Authorities Election Act. Some of these have affected the assessment policy in respect to farming. For example this time this year a farmer who leases land from the Indian band for purposes of extending his agricultural pursuits is no longer taxable with respect to his leasehold interest in land. In addition, the minimum acreage required for a farmer to qualify for an exemption of his building as to reduce from 40 acres to 4; and the position of the family farm has been strengthened by the withdrawal of farm building exemption in cases where those buildings are owned by corporations that are not held by farmers and their families.

During the past year the department has had withdrawn from its administration the National Building Code and that responsibility now rests with that of the Department of Labour. In discussing the changes in legislation it would only be fitting and proper that I acknowledge the consultation and the assistance that has been rendered to myself as Minister by the Municipal Advisory Committee, which is made up of representatives of the Manitoba Municipal Secretary-Treasurers' Association, the Union of Manitoba Municipalities and the Urban Association. We have found that these frequent occasions in which we have sat down together in order to discuss common problems pertaining to Municipal Affairs have been most fruitful.

The Department of Municipal Affairs continues to work effectively with the University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Municipal Secretary-Treasurers' Association in the advancement of the four-year University course for Municipal Secretary-Treasurers. One hundred and two have graduated in the last three years and the enrolment still stands at 57. This speaks well for the administrative skills in municipal government, present and future, in the Province of Manitoba. Some reference should be made to the personnel that we have worked with in the department in the past year and first and foremost of course tribute must be paid to the conscientious effort donated through the Department by my Deputy Minister, Mr. R. L. McDonald. During the course of the past year, the Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. J. McNairnay was promoted to the position of Deputy Minister of Public Works. This has been a loss to the department; the position of Assistant Deputy Minister is still vacant in the Department of Municipal Affairs, but I think we can only wish Mr. McNairnay success in his new role in the Public Works Department.

The department will be responsible for the administration of the School Tax Reduction Act. The School Tax Reduction Act is a program which is designated to lift the burden of school taxation from real property taxes in an amount of from 12 to 13 million dollars in the year 1972. This program is to be replaced by the Education Property Tax Credit Plan announced recently by my colleague the Minister of Finance. The Education Tax Credit Plan will lift a further approximately \$28 million from the backs of property payers for school purposes. In addition a further \$6 million will be transferred by the effective lifting of the Foundation Program percentage from 75 percent to 80 percent effective in 1973, for a total of some \$34 million involved in the shift next year compared to the 12 to 13 million dollars lifted this year from the implementation of the School Tax Reduction Act.

Amendments have been presented to the House and allocation is contained within the Estimates for the payment by the Province of Manitoba for full taxes in respect to provincially owned properties in the various municipalities in which are located provincially owned properties. Up until the present time in no case was any municipality paid an amount in excess of 5 percent of the total tax levy of the municipality. Under the same policy it is anticipated that this year would have cost the government in 1972 approximately \$3.6 million. It is, I think, well known that for some years municipalities that have been affected by the imposition of this 5 percent ceiling have been requesting governments to remove that ceiling; and the removal of

(MR. PAWLEY cont'd) the ceiling will affect some half-dozen towns, cities and local government districts in the Province of Manitoba and will additionally affect some 18 other municipalities insofar as by the removal of the 5 percent ceiling other municipalities will benefit to the extent that the special school division levies are affected by the payment. In addition to the cost of implementing this program the province will incur another additional expense of approximately \$2 million by reason of the fact that the amalgamation of the suburban municipalities into the City of Winnipeg rendered the 5 percent ceiling ineffective where as it applied previously to the R. M. of Fort Garry and the City of St. James-Assiniboia. So that this was a very key time for the total removal of the 5 percent ceiling. The situation as occurred in the City of Winnipeg, the amalgamation, removing the effectiveness of the ceiling altogether so that it made it possible that government should remove that ceiling insofar as the other towns are concerned outside of the City of Winnipeg - and the towns affected, the cities affected will benefit in the neighborhood of three-quarters of a million dollars in additional revenues to their coffers this year from the removal of that ceiling.

In addition there will be an increase in the amount of unconditional grants this year. There will be an increase of some \$2.4 million unconditional grants, an increase of \$7.6 million to \$10 million. This has come about as a result of the fact that the grants are based each year on the last population figures determined by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This year we have a new set of figures in this regard; and the Act requires that we assume that any increase has taken place uniformly over the intervening five years and that the grants be recalculated with respect to each municipality, with respect of each of those years and that the amount of the difference be paid to those municipalities before December 31 of this year - that municipalities mainly benefitting from the recalculation will be those municipalities that have shown a substantial increase in population from 1966 until 1971; an obvious example coming to mind would be the City of Thompson in this regard.

The Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs held a total of some 15 meetings throughout rural Manitoba discharging its responsibilities insofar as inquiring into the functions, powers and role of the local government districts and recommending any possible improvement with respect to the powers and role of the local government districts at the next session of the Legislature. Now there were very large turnouts at these meetings; in fact there were at some of the meetings turnouts of approximately 200, 150 - and I say this, Mr. Chairman, that all members of the Committee performed in a very effective and constructive manner in dealing with the problems of the LGDs.

There has been development of the facilities at Leaf Rapids; this development is progressing favorably, and I'm given to understand that such facilities of the town centre, the schools and civic buildings are now being designed and construction is expected to start on these in early summer. Meanwhile some 35 families are presently in residence and a Local Government Administrator has been appointed to take over the administration of the community. The redevelopment program at Churchill is also on schedule. Final design work on the major structures are still in progress. Installation of the balance of the sewer and water lines, sewage disposal system and water storage facilities will start as soon as weather conditions permit. In addition, Mr. Chairman, in terminating my remarks tomorrow, I would want to deal with the involvement of the department insofar as housing, the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation and Winter Works Programs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. We've reached the time allotted for Private Members' Hour. Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has directed me to report progress and asks leave to sit again.

IN SESSION

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, scinded by the Honourable Member for Osborne that the report of the Committee be received.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The first item on Wednesday on Private Members' Hour is Orders for Return, Address for Papers referred for debate, The first item is the Order for Return by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd)

The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, at the time that this resolution, this Order for Return was on the floor before, I had indicated my concern that there seemed to be an underlining premise in the Order for Return that really there was something inherently wrong with husbands and wives both working; and this would be particularly wrong apparently if husbands and wives - that is a husband and wife of a family unit both work for the government, for the Provincial Government or a government agency - and I think that this really is a completely wrong attitude. Certainly it has been demonstrated elsewhere - and I don't know, I would assume that if we looked at the Province of Ontario or even the Province of British Columbia or other areas we would find that in the past and probably in the present there are certainly some cases where the spouse of an employee has later herself or himself been employed by government because of the particular expertise that is available to a government or a government agency from those persons. And we're living in an age where increasingly women are asserting their rights to be completely independent from their husbands; to stand on their own two feet, on their own professional ability, and we have in Manitoba an increasing number of women who are taking law and are practising law and are a tribute to the legal profession. And I can refer honourable members in this House to so-called husband and wife teams in the practice of law that are doing an excellent job in service to their clients. Now to suggest that it is possible in private practice in the legal profession or in the medical profession or else where for a husband who may be a doctor and his wife a nurse working together as a professional team that that is quite acceptable; but to imply that that is wrong if that should happen in government, I think is ludicrous.

Now perhaps one of the best examples that I'd refer to the Honourable Member from Assiniboia is in association with the Federal Government and there may be other examples - but I refer to the Ostry family where as I understand it the husband has one of the highest ranking positions in respect to the Department of Finance; and she on her part has recently been appointed as Chief Statistician for the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Now here is a so-called husband and wife team whose salaries I'm sure are far in excess of \$7,500 which is the break-off point for reporting in Public Accounts who because of their individual abilities, not their abilities as a marital unit, but the male because of his abilities in his own field, and the female partner in that marital unit for her own ability, are employed under one, by one employer the Federal Government of Canada, and I think that the Honourable Member from Assiniboia should not be concerned about that; that should not be the basis of any real worry and the fact that this may be the case in the Province of Manitoba, and there may be, I don't know if there is one or more, or several situations in our civil service where we might have a husband and a wife both working for the Provincial Government or a Provincial Government agency, but if there is, is there anything terribly wrong about that? But you know it seems to be implicit here that there is something wrong if that is the case. I suggest that that is fallacious and that's doing a disservice to the individual integrity of each person because of the fact that they have a right to their own professional integrity.

I have referred to the so-called husband and wife team in medicine, in law, and I'm sure that there are many other examples I could give where these people provide services at much less cost, at much less cost to the particular receiver of those services because they work under those circumstances, and under those arrangements. Now I deplore the attitude that some people seem to exhibit that are completely against the independent status, particularly of women, in a professional capacity. I for one, being the Minister responsible to report to this House in respect to the Human Rights Commission, can assure you that every effort will be made, and continue to be made, to insure that women, the separate and individual and professional rights of women are maintained in Manitoba.

I think some of the arguments that have been advanced by others who have spoken on this, I don't want to repeat, but I think it is clear that simply by virtue of marriage the individual integrity and professional status and ability and the right to a separate and distinctive recognition for their efforts should not be changed merely because they have entered into a formal contract between male and female to exchange property, to exchange affection, to commit themselves to vows which I think are as important today as it was at the beginning of the concepts of modern marriage. I regret to say that we are seeing, Mr. Speaker, more and more of a diminution of the importance of marriage in our society, but I don't think that the

(MR. MACKLING cont'd) underlying concern that may be evidenced in this resolution does anything to protect the sanctity of the marital unit. Rather, if, in our day, you attempt to confine the female partner to a position of secondary importance in society, we will not only be doing a great disservice to females in general, we will be doing a terrible thing in the lives of some very able and very efficient, and very great people, whose services may benefit our society at the present time, or in years to come.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think I have made it quite clear that I think that the principle that is involved in this Order for Return is something that we just could not accept in total. Now the specifics therefore I think, together with the general principle, are such that I for one urge members of this House to repudiate the request for this information.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Perhaps I could end this debate by suggesting that we are willing on this side to accept a figure of \$7,500, as I understand was perhaps mentioned at one time, but if this is not satisfactory, then I guess we have to leave the resolution as is.

I think, Mr. Speaker, if that is not the case, that the information does not want to be forthcoming on that basis, I would like to say this, regardless of what beautiful words the Minister had that just spoke, I think he knows that it's not the intention of this Order for Return the way he termed it, and what he said could be very misleading if we wanted to believe it that way. We are in no way trying to discriminate between the two, leave alone that some of the legislation on that side when we talk of perhaps our succession duty laws, just about do that, but that is not our intention as far as we are concerned in this Order for Return. I am only going to say this, that our concern in asking this Order for Return is a matter of where we suspect, we don't even know, we'd like to have the information, that perhaps people with large salaries, receiving large amounts of money, are receiving an extra amount that is not necessary when we consider and take into consideration some of the conditions of our homes in Manitoba. That I believe, Mr. Speaker, is all I have to say at this time. I am sorry that the government wishes to interpret this Order for Return in that way.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, before the matter goes to a vote, I would like to make a comment or two. Hearing the Attorney-General speak on the Order, he certainly puts things into the Order for Return that are not there. He implies that certain things . . .

ANNOUNCEMENT

MR. SPEAKER: I wish to announce to the House, it has come to my attention that the guards have been informed that there was a bomb placed in the building. They have made a search and they have not been successful in finding anything. We have also informed the members of the various offices that they are free to leave the building, while a further search goes on. I wanted to inform the members, so that they would be aware of it, it's entirely up to them whether we carry on or whether we vacate. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. PAULLEY: Well, Mr. Speaker, if I may as House Leader suggest to honourable members that there have been threats made in many other areas as well, from ocean liners, etc. As far as I am concerned, I am quite prepared to stay, and if we are going to be bombed to Kingdom Come, let us be bombed. However it is within the rights, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, for any honourable member if he feels so inclined, and I'm not suggesting this facetiously, if there is any inclination that the House should adjourn until such time as a thorough investigation, that is within the authority and the power of the House so to do, and I think, Mr. Speaker, that it would be only proper that individual members, or representatives of the party, be requested to make their suggestions as to whether or not we should adjourn. Again I say my position personally as leader of the House is we continue with the business of Manitoba, notwithstanding threats, be they real or idle.

MR. JORGENSON: Sir, it is agreeable to us, we prefer to stay.

MR. SPEAKER: Carry on. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Well, Mr. Speaker, this really is an earth-shattering Order for Return that it provokes that much disorder at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly don't take the attitude that the Attorney-General takes, to this Order for Return. It is simply asking for information and the implication that was made certainly doesn't hold water, and in my case is not true. We are not seeking to discriminate, just by asking for information, not at all. I think the Member for Assiniboia is perfectly within his rights to ask for information of this type. Why shouldn't this be made public if members so desire? I don't think there is anything in the legislation prohibiting this either. Certainly it hasn't been brought to our attention if there is and therefore I certainly would go along if the member requests this information and it can be made available, why not do so. Because if you take the various items under the order, the names and persons in the above mentioned husband and wife teams, there is nothing wrong with that, position and salary received in each case. I am sure that this information is available to them. The date on which these people were hired is a matter of record. The method of hiring in each case, I'm sure that that information is available to them, and also the following question, namely the department or consulting firm

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) for which each of the above work. It's all a matter of public record and I don't see why the government should insist on not making this information available.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia. Order please. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek): Mr. Speaker, as the previous member just speaking stated, this is a request for information and the Attorney-General has given a lot of reasons why husbands and wives can work for the same organization, or for government, and I would say that in general, and in most cases, I could agree that if there is a family where it is required for both members to be employed to take care of their families, this is a desirable situation and I don't think that there should be any reason shown of taken why they can't. There is nothing wrong with husbands and wives working. But at the present time in the Provincial Government we have a situation, and the Order for Return is calling for some answers, about husbands and wives working where the husband is earning an exceptionally large salary. Now we have a government who says when they are employing young people from universities the consideration comes along that the status, or the income of the family, and the Minister of Education answers that by saying that all applications are considered and those who are the most needy should receive the job. I agree with that too. But we have got a situation in the Provincial Government at the present time, and I qualify that when I say we have, I would like to have this information so that we would know, and this is what we are asking for. Are there men in the Provincial Government earning very large salaries whose wives are also working for the Provincial Government, that is what we want to know. And on that basis Mr. Speaker, on that basis, Mr. Speaker, there are men in the Provincial Government earning very large salaries, and \$18,500, or anything like this in the executive positions, or the deputy situation, and their wives are also working for the Provincial Government, I don't think this is right and I can't agree with it. I have nothing against wives working, I don't agree with the Attorney-General who says if we want our wives to become completely independent of their husbands, or they are growing more independent every day is what you said of their husbands, I don't consider that my wife wants to grow independent of her husband, and I would hope that we are not encouraging that sort of a situation at all but --(Interjection)-- I didn't hear the remark, but . . .

MR. CHERNIACK: Are you independent of your wife?

MR. JOHNSTON: No. No, and I would hope that she is not independent of me. Yeah! So the situation arises again as I say, if there is a need for two people to be working for any organization - it happens in municipal government, it happens in all of them - these situations I agree with, but this government on this side of the House who professes to see fairness, etc., and social justice, and people having their rights, and those who need the help should receive it, if there are people in this government, and it has been indicated that there is, earning large salaries and the opposite, or the husband or wife is also hired, this is an unfair situation and should be looked into, and this is what we are asking, Mr. Speaker. So we say this: are you afraid to tell us? Go ahead. Let's have the answers. Put it on the table. As the Premier said one day, Mr. Speaker, be men, be a man, put it on the table and let's have the criticism if you've got it. So be men. Let's find out. Are there men making \$18,000 a year in this government and their wives are also hired? Are you going to tell us, or aren't you? Yeah! Nobody is against husbands and wives working but let's have the facts. Let's not hide behind the fact that, oh there's nothing wrong with spouses working, etc. We can't discriminate and women are becoming more independent of their husbands. Let's get rid of all that falderal. Are there men making over \$18,000, or \$15,000, a year, or women, and their partners working for the government? Let's have the answers, Mr. Speaker. We'd like to have them.

MR. PAULLEY: I wonder if my honourable friend, Mr. Speaker, would permit a question. Would the honourable member agree that if the principle that he has enunciated is now, insofar as high salaries are concerned, with those within the civil service, be they spouses, man or woman, would he agree that that should be applicable to men and women who both are working as a husband and wife, who are both working regardless of whether or not their income happens to come from within the civil service of the Province of Manitoba, should it be a requirement, should it be a requirement of every civil service servant to declare on accepting employment within the civil service to disclose the income of his or her spouse? That's my question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

MR. F. JOHNSTON: My answer to that, Mr. Speaker, is this. I'm not part of the

(MR. F. JOHNSTON cont'd.) government who says that if you're a young boy or girl coming out of school looking for work the most needy should get it. No. I am saying that practice what you preach.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J. R. (BUD) BOYCE (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Speaker, there are some days I'd like to get a long string and stick it under here and tie it to my Honourable House Leader's coat tail and give him a jerk. But, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Sturgeon Creek is beautiful. He can confuse issues . . . --(Interjection)-- Lay it on the table, lay it on the table.

I guess he really didn't listen to what the Member for Assiniboia said initially or what the Member for La Verendrye said or even what the Member for Rhineland said because the Member for La Verendrye just got through saying he really wasn't sure what he was looking for, it was but a fishing expedition. And really the issue before us is, you know, what we should do with the taxpayers' money in the Province of Manitoba. Because the information that is requested in this Order for Return, as admitted by the Member for La Verendrye, will be forthcoming. All you're asking is that we spend more money to produce it faster.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke briefly the other day about how I sympathize with any individual member in this House when it comes to gathering information so that you can put forth a meaningful opposition, opposition in the sense of perhaps coming up with more acceptable alternatives, but nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, I cannot support this type of an approach to an opposition. It's almost tantamount, if you look at this and the rest of the Order Paper, it is tantamount to a scatter gun approach: will the government please confess of all the areas that they're goofing in. --(Interjection)-- And here they go again, Mr. Speaker. What are you hiding? What are you hiding? Nobody's hiding anything. This looks like a little innocuous Order for Return, a little innocuous Order for Return they say. Lay it on the table. What they want to do is confuse the issue before the taxpayers of Manitoba and force this government into a position where they waste a couple of thousand dollars. A couple of thousand dollars here, a couple of thousand here, a couple of thousand dollars here. If what you people want is some change in the reporting system then damn it come out and say so and vote the money, vote the money to increase the potential capacity of Symbionics so that we can print these damn things out any time that you want to push the button. But, Mr. Speaker, this is dishonest. This is dishonest. Lay it on the table. What are they talking about? All of this information, as they admit will be forthcoming in Public Accounts, but bring it out, bring it out.

You know the Member for Morris, often asks what the backbench thinks over here. This is what I think about this type of approach to the problem. When it's been said before that there is no effective opposition in this province, they're confessing to it, they're confessing to it, Mr. Speaker. The Member for La Verendrye, if you read Hansard you will see, we do not know if - but they want it, they want us to provide them with all the information in all the areas that perhaps we're goofing, Mr. Speaker, this to me is just ludicrous, just ludicrous. --(Interjection) -- You're darn right it does. They will, they will, and there goes the Member for Sturgeon Creek on his feet again: "Government belongs to the people, they should know." I repeat, the member sometimes doesn't listen too well perhaps.

If you want us to print this information faster then have the integrity to stand up in this House and support the expenditures of money to process this information faster. If a year's delay in the accounting procedure is too long, is too long say so, and have the intestinal fortitude to support meaningful, meaningful corrections in the reporting system and not to come out and support little things like this, "lay it on the table, lay it on the table." Mr. Speaker, no way can I support this type of a fishing expedition.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Assiniboia - I assume would be closing debate if he spoke. I must admit that I missed some of the debate on this question because I did not think it that important to pay close attention to it but some things have been said which provoked me into thinking about what is really the purpose of this. And not having heard much of the debate I don't know whether the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre is right or not in saying this is a fishing expedition, if indeed it is a sincere desire to know about husband and wife working for government or husband and wife both working or whether really it's an attempt to embarrass government because of specific teams of husband and wife. I would like to assume and not having . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I wonder if we could have a little more quiet in the Chamber. It's very difficult to hear. The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Not having heard much of the debate, Mr. Speaker, I'm not in a position to know just what is the motivation behind this resolution, which makes it easier for me I think to debate it because I am not now too much influenced except by the ranting and yelling which I've heard on both sides of the House today --(Interjection)-- The Member for Souris-Lansdowne of whom I haven't seen much today, I now hear a good deal from and fortunately I don't quite hear what he's saying so I don't have to respond. But what interests me very much is just what could be the purpose of this kind of a question. Can it be that the principle of husband and wife working is at issue? I'm not aware that anybody has spoken opposing a husband and a wife both working. Can it be that it's the principle of a husband and a wife working for the same employer? Now if it is for the same employer is it because in some way as a team they can somehow influence - use the employer to their personal advantage so that they can get some kind of a benefit. If that were the case then why don't we have an Order for Return asking for brothers or siblings or uncles and nephews; just what is it that is really at stake here?

And I don't know, and as I say I didn't hear the introduction by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia so I don't know what he had in mind; and possibly when he closes the debate and is able to tell us what he had in mind, and if that gives me the feeling of a sincere reason for wanting it that it isn't what the Member for Winnipeg Centre referred to as a fishing expedition but really some real desire to know because a principle is at stake, he might be able to persuade me. But I haven't yet got clear in my mind what is the principle.

So firstly, is there any objection to a husband and wife both being employed. I don't know if there should be any. We have many working wives. We have women who have trained themselves to take their place in the economic society, in professional society, who are able to give of their skills in manners which are helpful to the economy of the country and the society itself. Yes, there happens to be one female working person up in the gallery who is about to be married and that gives us all an occasion to congratulate her and wish her well. I would hate to think, I would hate to think that the minute she marries that changes her right to earn a living. I would hate to think that if she happens to marry a person who has the same employer that that immediately means that she's thrown out - or he's thrown out, because certainly there shouldn't be discrimination for sex. I would hate to think that there's a thought that both members of a marital team cannot work.

And now I want to question the members, the statement or the suggestion by the Member from Sturgeon Creek who said that the Attorney-General said a wife should be independent of her husband. The Attorney-General said he didn't say it. Well, I don't care whether he said it or not; I would say a wife like a husband should be economically independent of the spouse. I believe --(Interjection)-- and now I'm told that I'm kidding, and I'm not kidding. The Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek said, "I am not independent of my wife". And he meant I would assume because of their close relationship as being married people, as being parents of children, of sharing a life together - I hope he meant that. But I would like to think that he doesn't have to build his future on the basis of economic dependence on his wife; nor would he hope to secure his marital future and security with his wife to secure it on the basis of his wife being economically dependent on her husband or on him in this case - because, Mr. Speaker, I have been involved in some 30 years of practice of law in seeing many marriage breakdowns and in seeing many marriages that are broken but not in fact separated because of the inability of the wife to have the security, the economic security of being able to say I can no longer live with this man for good reason; and I've had occasions where there have been excellent reasons to see a separation take place that did not take place simply because the wife was completely financially dependent so she couldn't take that important step that one takes when there is a break.

Now the Member for Pembina wanted to ask a question, I assume.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, my question is, how can the Minister speak this way after bringing in the Succession Duty Bill where he does have a difference between the spouse and her husband?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I don't know what stage you're going to stop me in my response, but I would first say that the Honourable Member for Pembina has not real understanding of what I've been saying in relation to succession duties. I have made it clear that we

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd.) . . . do recognize the right and - I wish I could legislate that every penny earned or owned by the Member for Pembina shall be forthwith split in half and half put in his wife's name. If I could force him to do it I would be glad to do it and at that stage I would be glad to do whatever I could to see to it that there is no tax payable as a result of it. But I fear, not fear - I know there are just too many cases in this society where the husband retains complete control of the finances of the couple, and I think that that is wrong, and I think there are ways in the Gift Tax Bill that makes it possible to pass gifts . . . Mr. Speaker, you're shaking your head at me which means that I am going beyond the - I'll come back to it. We'll debate succession duties again.

Now I believe that there should be financial independence of people from each other, and I believe that once they are able legally and mentally to handle their own affairs they should be in that position so there is not an artificial barrier that prevents that kind of independence. So I come back to husband and wife working - and I believe there should be no rejection of the thought that the wife should have a right to work and to work at the most fulfilling job and the best paying job.

Now I come to the question of working for the same employer; and now I come to remember that my secretary married a man - my former secretary - married a man who worked for our department and concurrently with my learning that she was going to get married to him I learned that he was leaving the department; and I was immediately upset because I gathered that there was some kind of a rule in government - that the former government had apparently accepted - that said you cannot have husband and wife working in the same department, and I was rather surprised so I looked into it a little more fully. I discovered that in this case it was his choice to leave the employment of government in any event; he had an opportunity to work elsewhere. But he's a man who worked in the Department of Finance, she was working for the Department of Finance, and there was some kind of a rule that two people cannot work in the same department. I don't know how as a team they could have affected their ability to work or the operations of the department. I know that I wasn't faced with the problem because of the situation that took place. --(Interjection)-- Now there's a suggestion they could have been fighting on the job. Well whether they're married or not, if they were fighting on the job I would get rid of the problem by getting rid of one or two or removing the problem, so I'm not worried about that aspect. I do see however that there's --(Interjection)-- Well then that could happen to anybody whether they're married or not.

So, Mr. Speaker, then the question of working for the same employer has to be in such a position where they could influence something to happen that would be unfair because of the fact that they have a special connection - and I've already referred to the lack of questions here. For example, there's nothing here about common-law situations, nor is there anything here about being engaged - two people being affianced - about to be married. At what stage - we may have that situation right now that there are two people that are about to be married who are both working for government - surely the adverse features would still apply. But getting down to the nub of this, I've heard about high paid help - I have a sister who is a professional, she's an authority in the field of medicine and public health; her husband is an authority in the field of medicine and public health; both of them are highly sought after; both of them have had occasion to move from city to city in lending their services; and both of them have always had to impose a condition of employment that they would not move unless the other was able to work in the same city. The result is that I find that on a number of occasions they both had the same employer - universities in each case - and both of them were drawing high incomes - and yet the university was able to take advantage of the fact that they were both available and thus have a team working in a common effort for a common goal and I think that's very commendable. So again, is it that the mover of the motion wants to compliment the government for having hired a couple, both husband and wife, who are able to make a contribution, or do they want to criticize the government for having done that. It's one or the other. Otherwise what is the use of the information that is being requested?

Then we get down to a statement made for the Honourable Member for La Verendrye, and the statement made by the Member for Sturgeon Creek, both suggesting that they are only concerned with high-priced help. And it seems to me that high-priced help therefore gets some sort of different kind of consideration because maybe they are professional, or highly skilled, highly qualified, rather than people who do secretarial or clerical work. But both of them seemed only to be concerned with high-priced help. That is the \$7,500 help, and yet the motion

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd.) is clear all persons are involved, so that they do want to pry into the lives of the individuals.

The Member for Sturgeon Creek, who is no longer in the Chamber, did not answer the question asked by the Minister of Labour. He deliberately, I believe, avoided answering the question as to whether or not we ought to know whether the wife of a civic employee is employed, and how much she is earning. He didn't answer that question so we may never know, certainly not in this debate. In this debate we will never know what he believes in that respect.

And then in the end we are being asked for information, the value of which I don't understand. I believe, I would hope, that there is no record kept in government that would say, husband and wife teams working for government are the following. I would hope that there is no classification that has that information available. I would guess that if a wife is using her maiden name in her employment, then we may not know at all. But if you happen to have two names and you have a Mr. John Smith and Mrs. Mary Smith, then somebody has to start looking up to see where they both live. Then of course they may not be living at the same address, so we are in trouble again. So that I believe that the information would not be complete information, nor would it be the kind of information which should be readily available. Well then does that mean that government should go to the trouble and expense of sending circulars out to all employees saying: "Please inform whether your husband or your wife is working for government. Maybe we ought to do that. Of course it will take as long to do that as it will for the next public accounts to come out, where a simple review of names would give that very information.

Now you know I'd be interested in knowing whether people are really zeroing in on something that they know that we don't know, and if so, why don't they have the guts to just give us the names and say we want to know about Mr. So and So. Is his wife really working for the government? --(Interjection)-- And I want to know about Mrs. So and So, who we believe is possibly separated from her husband, but the man she is associated with because they go out to dinner together on occasion, or to church together. We'd like to know does he work for government too? Give us what you really want to know and then I think it would be interesting. I would become very intrigued by that kind kind of a question, and I would really want to know the answers.

So may I ask that whether or not this motion passes that whoever has this kind of intriguing information, whoever has this kind of speculative innuendoes, that they at least tell me somewhere outside of this room and I can then say, oh well then maybe I will share it with some of my colleagues, maybe I won't. It's just a question of how titillating the information is. And when I get that, then I would certainly like to find out for them, and for myself, just what it is that would be really of value for us to know, and then I would try to find out, and if I could, just whom we are talking about. But until we do and as long as we have a blanket request of this kind, then I would like to think that members do not want to just make insinuations, not start questioning the federal team that was referred to by the Minister, the Attorney-General, the team that has two Deputy Ministers, I believe, or two Deputy Ministers role, a husband and wife. Nobody would question their qualifications.

Now the Member for La Verendrye has just said two wrongs do not make a right and I am going to draw an inference from that. I am going to assume that he means that it is wrong for the Federal Government to have a husband and wife referred to by the Attorney-General, both at the Deputy Minister's status working for the Federal Government, and I'm going to infer that that is exactly what he implied by saying two wrongs don't make a right. And if - unless he wants to challenge me and I would yield to a question to enable him to challenge my inference. And he's not asking for the opportunity to ask me a question, therefore I will assume, and I think I have a right to assume, that I've inferred the right comment that he has from his statement from his seat. And I give him another opportunity if he wants to ask me a question which will be able to clarify his position, I will give him every chance but if he doesn't --(Interjection)-- then, Mr. Speaker, he doesn't want to avail himself of the opportunity, therefore he means it's wrong.

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: The two senior civil servants in Ottawa to whom he is referring, is it not public information, and isn't that how he knows it?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I can tell you how I know it. I know it because I happen

(MR. CHERNIACK cont'd.) to know that couple. I've met them both a couple of times, and it was in the newspapers because there was an announcement made. And therefore it was clearly known and we know it and the Honourable Member for La Verendrye still is on record in my books, and I would think everybody else's in this room and saw his refusal to avail himself of the opportunity to clarify, that he is opposed to those two people working for the Federal Government, and I think that that's something he ought to clarify; he really ought to make a big issue about it in Ottawa through any member of the Liberal party that he may know who is in Ottawa, and - well it may be that he has no association with the Liberal Party. And therefore it may be that he has no way in which to get this across and I am --(Interjection)-- sorry. If he wants to I would be prepared to introduce him to a Liberal member and see to it that he can complain that this situation is taking place in Ottawa. I have no such complaint. I agree with their policy.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister's time is up. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia. Order, please. Order, please. The Honourable Member for Osborne wishes to speak?

MR. IAN TURNBULL: (Osborne): Yes, I did, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member from Assiniboia will have to wait.

MR. TURNBULL: The Member for Assiniboia would be closing debate. I regarded this Order for Return with a great deal of skepticism when I first saw it on the Order Paper, Mr. Speaker, and I did so because to me it was indicative of a type of approach to politics and an approach to the civil service of this province which is both demeaning to the political system and to the civil service. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that long ago, perhaps not during the past Liberal administration of this province, that a merit system was introduced to the Civil Service Commission and employees were hired by the Civil Service Commission on the basis of merit. And that, Sir, I think is a system of hiring that's admirable for this province and for all provinces of Canada. The merit system as we know is not a system of hiring civil servants, it was always practiced by past Liberal administrations, and there have been of course examples in history which I don't pretend to have at my fingertips to cite, but there have been examples of Liberal administrations having their bagman recommend who should be hired to work for the Civil Service. Who should be hired to drain the monies from the public purse. And if you were a Liberal you were hired, and if you weren't a Liberal you were not hired. That kind of system, that kind of patronage, Sir, I think has long ago been abolished from the Civil Service Commission of this Province, and the way people are hired now, and the way people I think were hired during the past Conservative Administration, was on the basis of their merit.

Now, Sir, if the merit system is going to be used, if the merit system is going to be used, civil servants are interviewed and are hired on the basis of their merit. And merit, Sir, although the Member for Assiniboia may not know this, merit knows no sex. A woman can be just as able as a man, and a man just as able as a woman. And I would like to state those, to state those truisms in that way so that the Member for Assiniboia can recognize what I am saying and accept them for the truths that they are. If he wishes to argue that merit somehow is not applicable to a woman, that somehow if she is married she is not as able, not as meritorious as the spouse, who also works for the civil service, then he can stand and debate that proposition when he closes debate, which of course, Sir, gives him a debating advantage.

But I think, Mr. Speaker, that the Order for Return proposed by the Member for Assiniboia is really one that all members should regard with the skepticism that I regard it with. For what is he asking, Sir? Is he asking that we provide, as a government, information relating to a specific case? No, Sir, he is not asking that. He is asking that we provide information about all husband and wife teams employed for the Civil Service of this province. Mr. Speaker, that is a fishing expedition. It's been called that before this afternoon. It is a shotgun approach to debate in the Legislature, and it's an approach, I think, that really is not becoming to the Member for Assiniboia. For we all know that the Member for Assiniboia is a man of integrity; he is a man that has built his reputation on a humane and truthful approach to politics and the problems of his constituents. This resolution - he's the only one, the only one perhaps on that side with that kind of recommendation - but this Order for Return, Sir, I really don't think could have come from him. It must have been proposed by somebody else. Someone, whose approach to politics does not have that ring of integrity, does not have that ring of truthfulness that the Member for Assiniboia has when he approaches politics. This Order for Return,

(MR. TURNBULL cont'd.) Sir, must have been proposed by the non-elected Leader of the Liberal Party. And I think, Sir, that he must have recognized it, that non-elected Leader of the Liberal Party, he must have recognized that there might have been some small political gain to be made in conducting what, Sir, can only be called a witch hunt, can only be called a witch hunt. And he thought perhaps that in his present attempt to win a seat in this House in the by-election in Wolseley that he could gain some little political advantage here by having one of his one of his - what shall I call them? - hatchetmen, speakeasys, no, one of his, one of his men in the Legislature propose this Order for Return. And I don't think, Sir, that it is becoming of the Member for Assiniboia to propose it, because he is asking for the kind of general information about all husband and wife teams employed by the Civil Service of Manitoba. And I don't think the Government is beholden to provide that kind of information at any time sooner than it would normally appear in the Public Accounts.

Now the Member for Portage la Prairie did ask if the Minister of Finance had learned of the O . . . employed by the Federal-Liberal government, through the newspapers, or through some kind of public source. And I think I could turn the question around to the Member for Assiniboia and point out to him that, as he well knows, the information that he seeks here with regard to those people employed by the Civil Service will be published in the Public Accounts. Now it is beyond me why he would want the information earlier than the normal procedures of preparing the Public Accounts - would enable him to get that information. He knows that over a certain salary, I believe it's \$7,500, that the names of every person in receipt of that amount of money or more from the public purse of the Province of Manitoba will be published in Public Accounts. That information that he seeks will be public knowledge. What is the matter with waiting on the regular procedures of the preparation of Public Accounts.

Well, Sir, I say that there is only one reason that he seeks this information before it would normally be available, and that is because he wants to engage in this witch hunt. He wants to lessen his good reputation in Assiniboia by being the mouthpiece for a shyster lawyer who is seeking to gain political advantage by seeking that kind of information that is prepared in this Order for Return.

And really, Sir, when I look at this Order for Return and I see the kinds of information that's sought here, I really think that perhaps the Member for Assiniboia had better direct his Order for Return in the form of a letter to all of the municipalities in the Province of Manitoba. Why doesn't he ask every mayor, why doesn't he ask the councillors of the Unicity Council what employees they have that are married, what employees they have that are related? Why doesn't he ask those questions, because I know what he knows, that there are many husbands and wives working for school divisions and municipal administrations throughout this Province of Manitoba, and I really think, Sir, and I really think, Sir, that he's latched here onto a red herring which his leader only hopes to use for cheap political . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The hour of 5:30 having arrived, the hour of adjournment is here, and the House is accordingly adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.