



Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XX No. 66 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 17th, 1973.

Fifth Session, 29th Legislature.

Electoral Division	Name	Political Affiliation	Address	Postal Code
ARTHUR	J. Douglas Watt	P.C.	Reston, Man.	ROM 1X0
ASSINIBOIA	Steve Patrick	Lib.	10 Red Robin Pl., Winnipeg	R3J 3L8
BIRTLE-RUSSELL	Harry E. Graham	P.C.	Binscarth, Man.	ROJ 0G0
BRANDON EAST	Hon. Leonard S. Evans	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
BRANDON WEST	Edward McGILL	P.C.	2228 Princess Ave., Brandon	R7B 0H9
BURROWS	Hon. Ben Hanuschak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
CHARLESWOOD	Arthur Moug	P.C.	29 Willow Ridge Rd., Winnipeg	R3R 1L5
CHURCHILL	VACANT			
CRESCENTWOOD	Cy Gonick	NDP	1140 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg	R3M 0N8
DAUPHIN	Hon. Peter Burtniak	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ELMWOOD	Hon. Russell J. Doern	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
EMERSON	Gabriel Girard	P.C.	25 Lomond Blvd., Winnipeg	R2J 1Y1
FLIN FLON	Thomas Barrow	NDP	Cranberry Portage, Man.	ROB 0H0
FORT GARRY	L.R. (Bud) Sherman	P.C.	86 Niagara St., Winnipeg	R3N 0T9
FORT ROUGE	Mrs. Inez Trueman	P.C.	179 Oxford St., Winnipeg	R3M 3H8
GIMLI	John C. Gottfried	NDP	44 - 3rd Ave., Gimli, Man.	ROC 1B0
GLADSTONE	James R. Ferguson	P.C.	Gladstone, Man.	ROJ 0T0
INKSTER	Hon. Sidney Green, Q.C.	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
KILDONAN	Hon. Peter Fox	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAC DU BONNET	Hon. Sam Uskiw	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
LAKESIDE	Harry J. Enns	P.C.	Woodlands, Man.	ROC 3H0
LA VERENDRYE	Leonard A. Barkman	Lib.	Box 130, Steinbach, Man.	ROA 2A0
LOGAN	William Jenkins	NDP	1294 Erin St., Winnipeg	R3E 2S6
MINNEDOSA	David Blake	P.C.	Minnedosa, Man.	ROJ 1E0
MORRIS	Warner H. Jorgenson	P.C.	Morris, Man.	ROG 1K0
OSBORNE	Ian Turnbull	NDP	284 Wildwood Pk., Winnipeg	R3T 0E5
PEMBINA	George Henderson	P.C.	Manitou, Man.	ROG 1G0
POINT DOUGLAS	Donald Malinowski	NDP	361 Burrows Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 1Z9
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Lib.	506 St. George Ave., Portage la Prairie, Man.	R1N 0T5
RADISSON	Harry Shafransky	NDP	4 Maplehurst Rd., Winnipeg	R2J 1W8
RHINELAND	Jacob M. Froese	S.C.	Box 40, Winkler, Man.	ROG 2X0
RIEL	Donald W. Craik	P.C.	2 River Lane, Winnipeg	R2M 3Y8
RIVER HEIGHTS	Sidney Spivak, Q.C.	P.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ROBLIN	J. Wally McKenzie	P.C.	Inglis, Man.	ROJ 0X0
ROCK LAKE	Henry J. Einarson	P.C.	Glenboro, Man.	ROK 0X0
ROSSMERE	Hon. Ed. Schreyer	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
RUPERTSLAND	Jean Ailard	Ind.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. BONIFACE	Hon. Laurent L. Desjardins	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. GEORGE	Bill Uruski	NDP	Box 580, Arborg, Man.	ROC 0A0
ST. JAMES	Hon. A.H. Mackling, Q.C.	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
ST. JOHNS	Saul Cherniack, Q.C.	NDP	333 St. John's Ave., Winnipeg	R2W 1H2
ST. MATTHEWS	Wally Johannson	NDP	418 Home St., Winnipeg	R3G 1X4
ST. VITAL	D.J. Walding	NDP	31 Lochinvar Ave., Winnipeg	R2J 1R3
STE. ROSE	A.R. (Pete) Adam	NDP	Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.	ROL 1S0
SELKIRK	Hon. Howard Pawley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SEVEN OAKS	Hon. Saul A. Miller	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
SOURIS KILLARNEY	Earl McKellar	P.C.	Nesbitt, Man.	ROK 1P0
SPRINGFIELD	Hon. René E. Toupin	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
STURGEON CREEK	J. Frank Johnston	P.C.	310 Overdale St., Winnipeg	R3J 2G3
SWAN RIVER	James H. Bilton	P.C.	Swan River, Man.	ROL 1Z0
THE PAS	Hon. Ron McBryde	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
THOMPSON	Joseph P. Borowski	Ind. NDP	La Salle, Man.	ROG 1B0
TRANSCONA	Hon. Russell Paulley	NDP	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8
VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	P.C.	Kenton, Man.	ROM 0Z0
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	NDP	681 Banning St., Winnipeg	R3G 2G3
WINNIPEG CENTRE	J.R. (Bud) Boyce	NDP	777 Winnipeg Ave., Winnipeg	R3E 0R5
WOLSELEY	I.H. Asper	Lib.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Tuesday, April 17, 1973

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 112 students of Grade 7 standing of the Viscount Alexander School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Bramadat, Mr. Strand and Mr. Morican. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Fort Garry. 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 Labour.

TABLING OF REPORT

HON. RUSSELL PAYLLEY (Minister of Labour)(Transcona): Mr. Speaker, may I first of all, on behalf of Manitoba's Ombudsman, table his report for the calender year 1972.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MINISTERIAL REPORT

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a statement to make to the House dealing with the matter of unemployment and the figures just recently received -- a copy for Mr. Speaker, a copy for the Leaders of the Opposition Parties.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce to the House that Manitoba's unemployment rate is the lowest in the Dominion of Canada. For the month of March of this year, Manitoba's unemployment rate was 4.5 percent, substantially lower than the 5.6 percentage recorded for the month of February. You may recall, Mr. Speaker, at that time we were tied for the second lowest in Canada and it is more substantially lower than the 5.8 percent recorded in March a year ago. I am pleased to note, Mr. Speaker, that in terms of the number unemployed this month over last month, Manitoba's numbers of unemployed decreased from 22,000 to 18,000, at the same time that the labour force increased by 3,000 March over February of this year, and that Manitoba's labour force for March 1973 was 16,000 more than it was in March 1972.

I am also pleased to report to the Assembly, Mr. Speaker, that total employment in Manitoba increased March over February of this year by 6,000 persons, and that by comparison with a year ago March 1972 to March 1973 our total employed is an increase of a whopping 19,000, which I am sure, Mr. Speaker, will indicate to all and sundry of the forward thrust of this government in the areas of employment.

It's also interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that of the increase -- and I'm sure the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge will be interested to know -- that of the increase of 16,000 between March of '73 and '72, women accounted for 13,000 of the increase in the labour force, and in the area of employment an increase of 19,000 March '73 over March '72, women accounted for 14,000 increase, whereas the male increase was 5,000. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge asked me on one or two occasions what the female participation rate is in the labour force in Manitoba. I'm pleased, Mr. Speaker, to inform her that the female participation rate in March of this year was 40.2 percent, 2 points higher than has been recorded in any previous March.

I am sure that all members of the House will greet these figures with satisfaction, and while we appreciate that there's much still to be done, I think we can have some consolation in having the lowest unemployment rate in the Dominion of Canada as a result of the efforts of this government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Leader of the Opposition)(River Heights): Mr. Speaker, I think that we in Manitoba can have some satisfaction from the remarks made by the Minister of Labour, and I think to the extent that the figures represent an improvement over past situations we can be very happy. But every set of statistics must be examined in some detail because other implications can be considered and can be found and I think in this particular situation there are some areas of serious concern for all of us in Manitoba.

MINISTERIAL REPORT

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd)

To begin with, the goal of 3 percent unemployment, which would be full employment, is still not achieved and it's still a goal and a desirable one for us to direct our attention to. Secondly, although the Honourable Minister of Labour dealt with the unemployment situation and gave some assurance that the women's participation is more -- has in fact been more beneficial than in the past, or greater, reference was not made to the young people or the ages between 14 and 24. Now this group represents probably the most significant group to which any government, provincially and federally, must direct themselves; first, because if they are first time people entering into the employment force they are not listed in the statistics and not reflected in the information; and secondly, if they are reflected because they have attempted to get jobs and have been successful partially and now must be looking for new jobs, they must be of concern, and the concern throughout Canada and Manitoba must be directed towards those who are from 14 to 24 because the problems with respect to them are serious. They have not as yet been satisfied or their problem has not been met by the variety of government programs being undertaken throughout Canada and in this province by Federal and Provincial Governments in an attempt to provide essentially make-work programs to see to it that our people are gainfully employed during the cyclical period when unemployment has been so high.

Mr. Speaker, our concern has always been as to how permanent the jobs were being created in this province, and how permanent one could believe that the unemployment figures being represented to us will really be, or whether they simply reflect the fact that some of the government make-work programs have achieved a success which provide only a temporary means of relieving a problem that is serious in Manitoba and in this country. And, Mr. Speaker, there is no way in which one can be sure except there are certain indicators which also were produced at the same time that the unemployment figures were produced, which I think must be brought into perspective with respect to the statements of the Honourable Minister of Labour. And I refer to the information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics today with respect to investment incomes, with respect particularly to capital and repair expenditures both on a private and public sector involvement - and there are some very interesting figures with respect to Manitoba - and express, Mr. Speaker, our real concern that while temporary make-work programs have achieved a degree of success which provides unemployment figures at a lower level than the rest of Canada, the permanency of jobs in this province are not being created and developed and the concern must be very real on the part of all of us that more and more effort be put forward so that permanent jobs will be created.

Mr. Speaker, by comparison to last year based on the capital repair expenditure intentions shown today by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the manufacturing sector in Manitoba will increase by \$7.2 million over what was projected for last year and occurred last year, whereas the public sector will increase by \$21.1 million, so that in effect for the projections of manufacturing as opposed to public sector, there is a 3-1 ratio, three to one in terms of public sector involvement over private sector involvement. But if one was to examine, as an example, the other prairie provinces, and I think you must in order to understand the full impact of this in terms of the permanency of jobs, if one was to examine, as an example, Alberta, we find that in effect it is exactly the reverse. In Alberta there is an increase of \$106 million in the manufacturing sector as against an increase in the public sector of \$15 million or a 7-1 ratio with respect to private sector investment over public sector investment. If one was to examine Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, and B.C., and B.C. statistics would include as well the Yukon and the Northwest Territories but it is a very small percentage of that, you find some other very startling results. With respect, Mr. Speaker, to Saskatchewan, you find that the manufacturing sector has only grown by 3.1 million, whereas the public sector has grown by 23.5 million. And in B.C. you find that the manufacturing sector is down 20 million where the public sector has grown by 42 million.

So, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the formation of permanent jobs in western Canada and in this province, there is a serious matter that must still be addressed, a problem which any government must address itself to, and that is the problem of creating the permanency of jobs rather than putting people in the position of being provided with make-work situations which will take care of a temporary situation but which in essence, if the continuation occurs of the kind of statistical information that are produced, will mean a greater and greater dependency on the state and a greater and greater involvement in the state in making the temporary positions

MINISTERIAL REPORT

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd). . . . permanent as the only means of providing permanent jobs for our people.

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

MR. I. H. (Lizzy) ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party)(Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Liberal Party I welcome any statement made by the Minister of Labour which indicates an improvement in a very trying and a very critically important area of government and economic endeavour generally. However, Mr. Speaker, it would be a great mistake, it would be a mistake of monumental proportion if the government did not recognize the depth and the permanence and the degree of the problem we face in Manitoba. If the Minister of Labour takes comfort in being able to list his statistics, I hope, Mr. Speaker, that that comfort is a facade. I hope that that's something that is purely a political posture. I hope that in his inner counsel, in his inner mind, he is deeply cognizant of and appreciative of the very serious nature of what we face in this province.

For example, Mr. Speaker, he would have done well to have told us, or reminded himself, that although there are 394,000 people working in Manitoba today, that the average for last year was 396,000 and so that we are still operating today below the average employment of last year, and Mr. Speaker, my statistics are from Statistics Canada and I'd be happy to show them to the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, if every unemployed person in Manitoba did the government the good service of leaving the province, we would have 100 percent employment. Now, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour errs when he presents this figure to us, and I suppose takes some pride in the figure, without concurrently telling us that during the preceding 12 months, 9,000 Manitobans have left this province net, net, net. Thus, Sir, is the brain drain of the past 12 months ending December 31, 1972. And, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour would have done well had he not only given us the data that he did, but did this report coming at a time when his government is in the final months of its administration, that he ought to have also said that we face a very critical and crucial problem having been created over a 4-year period. For example, Mr. Speaker, in the four years that the Minister of Labour has had stewardship over our employment force, unemployment has increased by 80 percent based on his figure of 18,000 unemployed average at the moment.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian average has only increased by 47 percent, but the unemployment factor between 1969 and 1973 is almost double the increase in unemployment. Mr. Speaker, we've said it many times in this House, we have a Manitoba Bureau of Statistics but we don't get the data that is relevant to Manitoba, and the Minister is quoting DBS Statistics. We want to know, as we've raised in this House, whether it's true that 10,000 Indian and Metis in addition to the 18,000 he speaks of are also unemployed. When he refers to the increased number of women in the labour force, we applaud many things that his government has done, but in our debate recently on the Attorney-General's estimates, we again made the point that there still is no program, still is no target system for ensuring goals for upward mobility of women within the labour force within the government labour force, Mr. Speaker. So we congratulate the government on whatever efforts it has made to produce a higher employment figure this month. We urge again that better data be made available to the Minister and to this House. We want to know how many of those jobs are make-work jobs and how many are real, permanent, ongoing jobs. We want to know what answer he has for the fact that in his stewardship new investment in manufacturing, which is the essence of our job - creating capacity, is down 28 percent while the Canadian average is up 12 percent. We are 40 percent off the mark in future job-creating potential. So, Mr. Speaker, I conclude by saying the Minister of Labour, the Honourable Minister, has the compliments of the Liberal Party for whatever efforts have been made, but we conclude by urging him to much much greater effort.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General. Ministerial Statements or Tabling of Reports.

TABLING OF REPORTS

HON. A. H. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General)(St. James): Mr. Speaker, I want to table two reports, one by the Land Value Appraisal Commission, the other one by the Law Reform Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other tabling of reports? Notices of Motion. Introduction of Bills. Notice of Motion? The Honourable House Leader.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (House Leader)(Inkster): Well, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to arrange for a meeting of the Municipal Affairs Committee. Apparently there is one bill that there is some urgency with and I was suggesting that a meeting be held on Monday at 10:00 o'clock. But if that is a problem for some honourable members in terms of being here a morning when they would not have to be here, then the meeting could be held on Monday at 7:30 in the evening if it's agreeable, because in that way it would not involve additional time and I don't think it would be a very long meeting. I just wonder whether there is a reaction to my honourable friends for that. Well then shall we leave it Monday at 7:30 for Municipal Affairs Committee Meeting? 7:30 in the evening, to discuss several bills. There may be a maximum of two.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the honourable members take note?

MR. GREEN: It just saves people a morning that otherwise they would have to come to the House.

A MEMBER: You can sleep in that morning.

MR. SPEAKER: Introduction of Bills; Oral Questions.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he can indicate whether the government have any forecast of price trends in Manitoba, future price trends?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce)(Brandon East): Well, Mr. Speaker, the business of forecasting is a very difficult one at any time. It is possible to make forecasts based upon statistical projections of the past, but as such we have not as yet attempted to engage in this very, actually very uncertain area of forecasting price trends. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that price trends basically in Manitoba for manufactured items are a reflection of national prices and indeed of North American price trends.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Well I wonder if the Minister of Industry and Commerce can indicate whether his department or the government, possibly through Planning and Priorities, have done or have any information, have done any study on the potential rates of increase, price increase, with respect to food and clothing in the period of the next six months in Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, maybe we could discuss this in more detail in the Estimates. Again I would repeat, Mr. Speaker, that the matter of price trends in the Province of Manitoba is a matter that is influenced by national trends and indeed by international price trends.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary. I accept the fact that it can be discussed. I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether any specific studies have been completed and if they're in the possession of himself or the First Minister or members of their staff?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, while we have many detailed figures on price trends, consumer price trends, wholesale price trends over the years, over the months, comparing Winnipeg with other major centres etc., we have no study forecasting price trends as such.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Industry and Commerce, I wonder if he can indicate to the House what repercussions the cancellation of the United States-Canadian Autopac would have on Manitoba.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I really --(Interjection)-- Yes, I'm reminded that it is a hypothetical question because we do not know exactly what will transpire with regard to the automobile treaties or arrangements between Canada and the United States. Even if we knew what the outcome of those arrangements, or rather of those negotiations, were to be, it would still be a very difficult task to calculate with any precision the effect on the Province of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: There can be no supplementary to a hypothetical. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party. There is no point of order unless the honourable member raises one. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

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MR. SPIVAK: If it's considered to be hypothetical then the Minister did not have to answer. The Minister having answered, Mr. Speaker, I think he gives me the opportunity for a supplementary question to be asked.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. That is not a point of order.

MR. SPIVAK: Well with all due respect, Sir, I wonder if you would reconsider your position. He has answered suggesting that it wasn't hypothetical. . .

A MEMBER: Ask another question.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member may have another question.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, Mr. Speaker -- well to the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he can indicate whether there has been any recent discussions, and by that I mean within the last couple of weeks, with the Federal Government to determine what in fact is taking place with respect to the rumours now that the Canadian-United States Autopac will in fact be abolished or changed.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce wish to answer rumour?

MR. EVANS: Well I can't talk in terms of rumours, but I can tell the honourable member, tell the honourable members of the House, that we have communicated with the federal Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce expressing our concerns about the outcome of negotiations on the Autopac agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Yes. I wonder if the Minister of Industry and Commerce then can indicate whether the Provincial Government has prepared a paper, a detailed white paper, on the impact for Manitoba.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, we have not prepared any detailed white paper in any depth on this subject but we do have some memoranda etc. on the subject, of course, but there's no detailed white paper on the subject, a subject which is still, as has been indicated, a hypothetical subject.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to- in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture - the First Minister. This relates to the report, the manpower report we questioned the First Minister on yesterday. Does the government have a detailed study on manpower policy and unemployment prospects in Manitoba entitled "Toward an Intelligent Manpower Policy in Manitoba" dated February 5th, 1971? Is the First Minister aware of the existence of that report?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Well that may well be, Mr. Speaker, I can't recall a document by that precise title but it may well exist. There have been some internal working documents bearing on the topic of manpower development, and of course one of those, a series of those working documents are the basis upon which we established the Northern Manitoba Manpower Corps and a number of the Manpower Corps projects that are under way, and a number of the Crown corporations that are in operation in northern Manitoba today.

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

MR. ASPER: I wonder if the First Minister would take in effect the question as notice and advise the House as to the existence of the report, and take also as notice the supplementary question, would the First Minister be prepared to table that report for scrutiny by members on this side?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, if it is a report we will table it. If it's an inter-departmental document or memorandum we will not table it.

MR. ASPER: To the Industry Minister, Mr. Speaker, Minister of Industry and Commerce. Has the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics prepared any reports on unemployment, employment prospects or related subjects, for the Minister or for government?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, there are certain examinations going on within my economic research, policy research branch of the Department of Industry. No such studies as such are being prepared by the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics.

MR. ASPER: To the same Minister, Mr. Speaker. Has the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics, after a year of study, produced any reports?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I will endeavour during the Estimates debate on Industry

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(MR. EVANS cont'd). . . . and Commerce to outline in considerable detail the activities of the Bureau of Statistics. I just might say very quickly though, among other things we now have for the first time access to the 1971 Statistics Canada census tapes, which will give the Province of Manitoba infinite detail on various activities on the various aspects of our economy and social life in the province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. MORRIS MCGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Speaker, having talked to the mayor, reeves, and many very large livestock dealers, has prompted this question and it was directed originally to the Minister of Agriculture. He being absent, I give notice to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the water shortage in the Elkhorn area re article in the Brandon Sun April 13th; followed up by, what action is the Minister or his department going to take to rectify the serious water shortage in Elkhorn and the general area, which has reached crisis proportion, and I might add that the pumping has to be more than ten miles which needs a large power unit plus a couple of relays, and this seems to be the problem, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the member's question appears to fall into the category of the jurisdiction of the Minister in charge of the Water Supply Board, and I will take it as notice but see to it that it gets to his attention. I might add to the member that there appears to be a general problem with regard to water in Manitoba this year which the honourable member will be well aware of. The matter may be of such proportions that it can't be handled by anything that man can do. We haven't had any real precipitation this spring at all and the honourable member is aware of this.

MR. MCGREGOR: . . . livestock being the . . . and the high prices it would be . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question, please.

MR. MCGREGOR: . . . a tremendous loss if Manitoba had to cut down because of water alone, so I say it's a real urgent one.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, the losses might not only be involved with respect to livestock but with regard to the growing stocks as well, as the honourable member well knows.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. A moment ago he gave us some figures. I wonder if he could indicate of those, I believe it was 19,000 extra jobs that were created in the last 12 months, if he could indicate how many of these jobs were as a direct result of government assistance through PEP, STEP, ARDA, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: No, Mr. Speaker, I haven't the precise breakdown of the increase but I could answer my honourable friend by indicating that it's the result of the policies of this government that there was the increase in employment in Manitoba.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. I wonder if the Minister would agree that the increase, the massive increase of government expenditures in these programs, is responsible for about two percent difference in the figures that he has just given us here a moment ago.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

MR. A.R. (Pete) ADAM (Ste. Rose): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Northern Affairs arising out of comments made by the Member for Wolseley. Could the Minister of Northern Affairs advise the House whether or not a considerable number of people from the remote northern communities do not appear in the unemployment figures?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. RON MCBRYDE (Minister of Northern Affairs)(The Pas): Mr. Speaker, the question as put by the honourable member was correct in the past. In the last year the Department of Northern Affairs, in conjunction with Health and Social Development and Canada Manpower, have undertaken an intensive effort to register all people in remote northern communities, and my staff tells me that they are sure that almost all persons unemployed in the north are now registered with Canada Manpower centres, so, Mr. Speaker, any statement that people from remote areas who didn't used to show up on the unemployment figures don't

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(MR. McBRYDE cont'd). . . do so now would be incorrect, except perhaps, Mr. Speaker, maybe the case is still correct in terms of the city or southern areas.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Northern Affairs and perhaps to the Minister of Labour concurrently. Is the Minister of Northern Affairs indicating to this House that the unemployment statistics for Manitoba that were presented to this House include the native population?

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I'm not familiar in every detail how the Federal Government collects their statistics. It would assume that their statistics would include people registered with Canada Manpower for employment because these people would be unemployed, and people who were not previously registered have within the -- many many people who were not previously registered have now been registered with Canada Manpower centres.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Public Works. In view of the fact the City of Winnipeg has given approval to the project for a washroom on Memorial Park, is the Minister now . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. GRAHAM: . . . prepared to go ahead with the construction of that park despite the objections of many people?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development. In view of the fact that funds have not been forthcoming to build a new municipal hospital in Winnipeg, would the government consider building a ramp at the King George Hospital so that the patients who are there 24 hours a day could get out of doors this spring?

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

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Development)(Springfield): Mr. Speaker, this does fall within the jurisdiction, in a sense, of the Minister of Labour and it is being considered by that Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Resources. Can he advise what pricing procedures are used by CFI on their produced products? By that I mean, are their prices based on cost or on demand or are they based on something established in concert with the rest of the industry?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I can't detail to my honourable friend but I hope they're charging as much as they can get.

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

MR. CRAIK: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Could I ask the Minister whether the price structure is determined in concert with government or is it done completely by the management of CFI?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, there is an advisory board set up to act as what would be a pro tem board of directors for the receivership while the organization is in receivership. They make the operational decisions of the company in the same way as the board of directors of any other of the Crown corporations. There has been no government policy indicated to them with respect to pricing. What I said was I hope that they're getting as much as they can.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: A final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of the nationally wide increased prices in pulp and paper products that has been announced, is there an indication that CFI will be increasing their prices?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe that my previous answer would be one which I think would guide any striving business enterprise.

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

MATTER OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

MR. JAMES WALDING (St. Vital): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of personal privilege, and it concerns a news item in yesterday's Tribune and the headline is: "Girard Charges NDP Copout Over Strike Bill" and it refers to some remarks that I made on a Private Member's bill on Friday, and the headline is precisely opposite to what the facts are, Mr. Speaker, in that the whole point of my speech was that I suggested that the Member for Emerson's remarks were a copout in that he had failed to show which services were essential. But I could have overlooked that had it not been for another paragraph in this same article which quoted me as saying, "For instance, lengthy strikes by Hydro workers or transportation workers can cripple the economy, he said. Neither service is deemed essential now." Mr. Speaker, I did not say that Hydro workers or transportation workers were not essential and I made no suggestion that that was in fact the case. The whole point that I was making is that the opposition in presenting this resolution had failed to say which services were essential and which were not essential.

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 40 young students of Grade 2 standing of the Gladstone Elementary School. These students are under the direction of Miss Linda O'Connell. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Gladstone. On behalf of all the honourable members I welcome you here today.

The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

ORAL QUESTIONS cont'd

MR. JEAN ALLARD (Rupertsland): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Northern Affairs. In view of the fact that the Hudson Bay has stated that it's going to absorb \$100,000 of the excessive charges for transportation in the north because of the non-completion of winter roads, could the Minister tell this House and the people of the north what the government is going to do about alleviating the crisis situation in some of those communities that have not had winter roads into them this winter, who are facing catastrophe effectively in costs, and could he also at the same time tell the House whether the principle of compensation for assets as applied to Hydro rentals if some of these funds could be applied towards alleviating this situation?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, it was such a long question, I'm not sure I remember all the details of it. The winter road system ran into problems because of unseasonably warm weather. It is my understanding there is, in some visits to those communities, that there is no crisis although it appears now that there will not be the type of saving we had hoped would take place.

MR. ALLARD: Well, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. The second question I asked had to do with compensation for assets as applied to Hydro and whether the principle of equalizing the conditions of life in the north would qualify, this situation would qualify under the circumstances.

MR. McBRYDE: Well, Mr. Speaker, whether or not the Provincial Government of Manitoba will offer further assistance and subsidy to people in northern Manitoba is a matter for policy decision. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the overall cost, because of the reduced winter road rates and now the requirement for a higher air rate, that the overall cost for this year won't be that different from the overall cost for last year.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

MR. THOMAS BARROW (Flin Flon): Could the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs advise whether or not a former researcher for the Northern Manpower Corps, who is now researcher for the Liberal Party, has returned to the department those documents which he had access to as an employee?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I believe that that is correct, that there is a former employee of Northern Manpower Corps, before I assumed the responsibilities as Minister, who is now researcher with the Liberal Party, but I am not aware of any documents that he might have had. I'm not even sure we got the documents that we were asking for originally.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. I wonder if he can indicate whether his department, or the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation, have reviewed Winnipeg Environment Commissioner's recommendation that the responsibility of existing civic public housing be assumed by the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs)(Selkirk): No, Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that the request, suggestion by the Commissioner of Environment of the City of Winnipeg, was made yesterday. The request I'm sure will find its way to the Board of Directors to the Housing Corporation and they will then be making their comments in respect to myself.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether the government accepts the recommendation in principle.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think it would be very unwise at this point to indicate acceptance or rejection of the proposal in principle.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder then if the Minister can indicate whether any estimates have been made of what the purchase price would be if this was to in fact be assumed.

MR. SPEAKER: That's hypothetical. Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Colleges and Universities. Some time ago the Minister took as notice, I believe, or offered to make a more full response to a question that I put to him regarding student temporary employment program. The question was, does the Province of Manitoba have a policy whereby students who are regularly resident of Manitoba are given preference in the job applications, or do non-resident students who happen to be going to school in Manitoba qualify equally with Manitoba students?

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Colleges and Universities)(Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, to the best of my knowledge the students residing in Manitoba are the students that are given preference. Students who might be attending in Manitoba but live elsewhere, let's say across the line in Saskatchewan, usually go home for the summer holidays just as Manitoba students who are attending in Ontario usually come home for the summer holidays, and they may get jobs in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Could the Minister indicate to me whether all the details of plans for construction of a senior citizens home in Cartwright have been completed?

MR. PAWLEY: It's my understanding that they have been, Mr. Speaker. I would like to, however, take the question as notice and provide the honourable member with further information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Attorney-General. I'd like to ask the Attorney-General if any instructions have gone out from his office through the Manitoba Liquor Commission to tighten the instructions or the regulations governing the operation of legions throughout the province.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, I don't know who is responsible for creating the most rumoury in society, whether it's some of the other -- the members from the official opposition or otherwise, but I certainly don't know anything of the rumours that the honourable member is circulating.

MR. GRAHAM: A supplementary. I would ask the Attorney-General if regulations have been established regarding the paving of parking lots on Legion premises in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, that question was answered earlier and answered in a very definitive way.

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

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for Tourism and Cultural Affairs. I wonder if he can indicate whether it's the intention of the government to allow the

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd). . . . Winnipeg Art Gallery to be sold for arrears of taxes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. Order please.

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, we have discussed this situation with the Art Gallery and now it's up to them. It might be -- I don't know if you want to bid for it; Peter Warren's already got a bid in. You better hurry up.

MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder if the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs would indicate the offer that the Art Gallery will be deemed to have not taken.

MR. DESJARDINS: The government is prepared to sponsor a bill incorporating them, the Art Gallery in the Centennial Centre, with no intention of controlling their affairs. It would be in the same situation as the MTC is at this time. They have countered what they want - I don't know, I call it playing games, but for legal purposes only they would come under the Centennial Corporation; that has been refused. Now, if they want to take advantage of what they suggest, fine; if not, there is nothing that prevents the City of Winnipeg from cancelling the tax, or if they want to bring a private bill, this is fine. The Government of Manitoba, the Provincial Government has been more than generous with the Art Gallery and this is something which we feel, in any participation of this kind, that the three levels of government should make a contribution. They were told apparently, they had a verbal promise by Mayor Juba - this is before Unicity - that they would not have to pay tax. Now they made a certain approach to the province. We gave them the proper grants to bail them out once before. They have made application to the city for a grant; now the city says, "Clean up this tax first." So this is something that they should deal with the city. We are ready to incorporate them as the MTC is at this time under the Centennial Corporation.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. In view of the fact that it may be some time before we get to the estimates of his department, I wonder if he could indicate to the House whether or not Manitoba Bureau of Statistics has published any original work, any reports of any kind whatsoever, and if so what are they.

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

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Statistics has prepared their various reports, but there have been no public documents or public documents as such. As we have attempted to indicate on many occasions, we do not attempt or do not wish to attempt to duplicate the statistical services of Statistics Canada, but there is work being done on various in-House projects that require the services of the Statistics Bureau. For one, I might mention the guaranteed annual income project which the Premier made reference to a week or so ago, I believe, and in this respect there is a great deal of statistical expertise that is required. This is but one example of where the Bureau is engaged in a statistical service for the government.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Speaker, in view of the contents of the act creating the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics and the fact that a quarter of a million dollars. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question please.

MR. ASPER: . . . in view of the fact . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question please. The honourable member is . . . an opinion which is contrary to our procedure.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, it's not an opinion, it's a fact that the Manitoba Bureau. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Question please.

MR. ASPER: . . . spent a quarter of a million dollars this year.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I would like to indicate to the honourable member that it is also against our procedure to argue with the Chair. If the honourable member wishes to place a question he may do so.

MR. ASPER: Will the Minister undertake to table and make public the reports and research that Manitoba Bureau of Statistics has at least completed to date.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, all documents or reports that are prepared by the Bureau of Statistics that are meant for general circulation will be made public to everyone, not just to members of this House, but to date they have been doing various statistical activities and projects relating to in-House or administrative matters of the Government of Manitoba, but

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(MR. EVANS cont'd). . . . again I repeat, Mr. Speaker, these matters can be discussed in some detail during the estimates.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister reporting for the MDC. I wonder if he's got any information since the last time I raised the question about Ben Thompson's loan for a cartage business in Thompson.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member did ask a question. The particulars with regard to that loan, as with all others, will be published in due course, but I can tell the honourable member that there was a loan made to a company to be incorporated of which, not Mr. Thompson, but I believe a brother-in-law of his is a major shareholder for the purchase of a cartage company in Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Yes, I'd like to address a question to the First Minister. I wonder if he could give figures to this House to indicate how many hundreds or thousands of man years were created as a result of STEP, PEP and other programs that the government is involved in, either by itself or in conjunction with the Federal Government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, I can take that as notice, but just to give my honourable friend a very approximate preliminary indication, excluding LIP and the purely federal programs, I would estimate very approximately something in the order of 25,000 to 30,000 man months - man months. However, I'll check that and get a more specific figure for my honourable friend.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. I wonder if he can indicate whether the Milk Control Board is now considering an increase in the price of milk.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, that's a question better asked of my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture. The question has been asked whether the Milk Control Board is considering an increase or an adjustment in milk prices.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, periodically the Milk Control Board does have to review, on request of either the trade, the distributive people, the retail people or the producers, they do have to review the pricing system, the amounts that they will provide for the coming period ahead. At this point in time they have responded to a request by the producers for hearings to determine whether or not an increase is warranted. Presumably when they file the report a decision will be made.

MR. SPIVAK: I wonder if the Minister can indicate what likely increase would take place based on the request that's been made.

MR. USKIW: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't know that any increase would be made. That is what the hearings are for, that is to determine whether there is an increase warranted.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he could indicate how many employees are employed by Saunders Aircraft at Gimli, and is Saunders Aircraft repaying its loan according to schedule?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the number of employees - I'm speaking from memory - is in the neighborhood of 300. The schedule of financial arrangements as between the fund and Saunders Aircraft, involves further advances from the fund to Saunders Aircraft rather than a repayment schedule at the present time.

MR. BOROWSKI: Now, can I ask the same question on Powell Industries from the same Minister?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, with regard to Powell Industries, I reported to the House approximately ten days ago that there was a request for additional funds by the principals of that company to the fund; there was default in their payment. The fund exercised its right to retrieve its security for the purpose of protecting as much as possible the existing advances that had been made from the government to the firm. How many employees? I can't remember that, Mr. Speaker I'll take it as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

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MR. SPIVAK: Well, I wonder if the House Leader could indicate when the Standing Committee on Economic Development will be meeting.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I've been projecting that for the first Monday in May - I believe it's May 1st, and I'll be more definite about that tomorrow.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Attorney-General, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented and carried, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair.

SUPPLY - ATTORNEY - GENERAL

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 17(a). The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, when debate was adjourned in respect to the estimates of the Attorney-General's Department, we had heard contributions from a number of members and I would like to respond to them. Dealing with the contributions in reverse order of their having been given, I would like to say for the benefit of the Honourable Member for La Verendrye, who is not with us at the moment that there has always been a concern in Manitoba as it is a concern in every society that utilizes a modern form of exchange, that is a demand for money called a cheque, about the proclivity of individuals to utilized documentation which is false. However, a lot of people don't understand that it is not readily available to the Crown to bring prosecution on the basis of a public wrong. Where a cheque has been issued in the understanding that it is payment that is given in response to a debt, then there is no way that the Crown through a public proceeding can take action against that individual because if it is a breach of contract it is a civil wrong. It is only where there is an actual passage of goods in exchange for a worthless document that there is a public wrong and on that basis the Crown can move in respect to proceedings. The fact that people issue worthless cheques, that they involve others in schemes where they take money from innocent people, has been -- this sort of abuse has been with us for many many years. There may be, and I'm not sure, we don't have statistics on it as to indicate whether or not there is any greater incidence of this sort of thing in society, but again I indicate to the honourable member as he referred in his remarks, that it is an area of the law that is governed entirely by the Federal Parliament, the banking exchange, all of this area is controlled by that area of the law, and there is no easy answer to the problems that we find in this field.

He indicated that he felt that the fines that were handed out were tokens, they weren't sufficient. Well, I think that we look at fines pretty regularly and where we consider that there has been inadequate treatment of a particular offense, we have not hesitated to exercise our right to appeal to a superior court, and that is done fairly frequently.

I want to go back to the contribution of the Honourable Member for Souris-Killarney. He had some concern about the incidence of young men and women wanting to come north and have fellowship and so on in sunny Manitoba because of the difference in the age of majority and thus giving them an opportunity to socialize with alcoholic beverages - and I suppose that could be a serious problem. He didn't indicate that it was a grave problem, that there was any problem of policing or any breakdown in the law or a real formidable situation. I can appreciate the concerns of the community. So long as these things don't get out of hand, however, I think we have to expect that there are differences between laws of provinces and neighbouring states, and there will be differences in attitudes from time to time. I think so long as these things do not arouse any serious problem that we have to live with them because we can't influence the laws of our neighbouring state to the south, except indirectly by showing that the laws that we have here seem eminently reasonable and practical and have not created any real problem in society.

The honourable member was concerned and I had answered these concerns earlier, about the policy of the Liquor Control Commission in requiring certain standards of operation including maintenance of reasonable conditions for parking of vehicles off the highway and within the environs of the licensed premise, and this frequently involves paving of parking lots

SUPPLY.- ATTORNEY - GENERAL

(MR. MACKLING cont'd). . . . and so on and it's nothing new; it's been an ongoing program of the Commission to maintain high standards of operations of all licensed premises whether they be individual commercial licensees or private clubs or organizations or veterans' clubs or organizations.

During the past recent months, upon a concern having been evidenced to me and this government and the Commission, both by members of my caucus and others, there were meetings held with the veterans' representatives and the Commission, and the Commission after further consideration did make changes in the allowances for certain types of membership. The particular types of membership affected were the affiliate membership, and this category of membership was allowed to be increased from ten percent to thirty percent. Now these are not regular members.. As I understand it they have no right to vote or make any administrative decisions in respect to the operations of the facility. The members of a regular member's family can always be admitted to the licensed premises of a veterans' club as a guest. Affiliate members do not have the privileges of inviting guests into clubs themselves.

Now the Honourable Member from Souris-Killarney was also concerned about the number of suspensions for impaired driving, and the statistics that I have may not be fully complete because one of the things that we don't have in Manitoba as a matter of course are very elaborate or very carefully recorded statistics, and it is therefore with some gratification that I think all people in Manitoba will recognize the effort that has been taken through the Minister of Industry and Commerce to develop a better Statistics Branch within Manitoba to provide us with much more meaningful tools with which to approach problems in society, and statistics are a very valuable tool in making administrative decisions or policy decisions in respect to the problems that we have in society. But the statistics that I have - and I can't be certain as to the complete accuracy or the totality of these statistics - but from what I'm given to understand, impaired or drunk drivers in 1971 numbered 823; in 1972, 868. Now that's not to say that that is the number of people who drove while their ability to do so was impaired, but those who were charged with that offense presumably and it was established that their ability was impaired. That was a fairly substantial increase over 1971.

There were in 1971, 576 people who refused to take the breathalyzer test, and in 1972 the statistics that I have indicate that there were 625. Again a very substantial increase which, you know, isn't anything to be proud of but it reflects the higher incidence of police activity in securing a greater number of persons being put to the test. People who were convicted of having consumed alcoholic beverages and having a breathalyzer reading beyond .08 in their blood alcohol content, showed a 20 percent increase between 1971 and 1972, again, I think, reflecting a higher sophistication, a higher activity on the part of the police in utilizing the better equipment that is available both through the breathalyzer and other devices such as radar. The number in 1971 was 3,063 and in 1972 3,696, and that's a little better than 20 percent increase.

The honourable member was indicating some concern about -- maybe it was in a half bantering way -- about the appointment of Queen's Counsels, and of course that decision was made last December and I haven't received very substantial advice from either the Honourable Member from Souris-Killarney or others yet in society and I'm awaiting the best advice that will come forward in respect to policy change there.

Now I'd like to go back to the contribution of the Member from Brandon West who was concerned about a number of matters. He was concerned about the incidence of crime, a very substantial increase, he indicates, in the Brandon area. I think that that reflects a general trend. I don't know whether there is any specific rationale that can be proffered by anyone as to why there is a greater incidence of crime. I could talk for some time about some of the opinions that have been made by sociologists, criminologist and others, about some of the factors in the higher indices of crime in society, and certainly the influence of some of the media, the propensity to demonstrate violence in society and to demonstrate its social acceptability, has to be considered part of the problem area. Certainly the -- and perhaps I indicate some prejudice here but I think that the fact that the Vietnam War continued so long and there was such ill ease both in the United States and elsewhere about the propriety of this conflict, the scenes of violence that were demonstrated both graphically in newspapers, periodicals and flashed into the homes of citizens in North America demonstrating the violence in that society, which seemed both unreasonable and illogical from any point of view, all of these things have an

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) effect on a society which is questioning the materialistic concepts that have dominated our society and I assume that some of the concerns that the Honourable Member for Thompson and I and others have indicated, the higher incidence of family break-up in society, many many things contribute to the increasing incidence of crime, and there is no simple answer or no simple solution to this.

The Honourable Member from Brandon West indicated that included in the statistics were a much higher degree of fraud and forgery offences. I'm not in a position to evaluate that. As a matter of fact my department hasn't regularly received a copy of the Brandon Police Report. However, with the introduction of the Manitoba Police Commission we hope to be able to be getting much more direct lines of communication, much more effective dialogue about developments in police activity and so on. But if there is - and I have no reason to doubt the report of the honourable member as to the findings in that area, a higher incidence of fraud and forgery - it I think is consistent with patterns throughout North America and Canada, and Manitoba is no exception, that there has been a greater incidence of fraud. The staff of the RCMP have been utilized very effectively in this area and we have been hard pressed to keep sufficient staff dealing with sufficient dispatch in respect to this area of criminal activity, because there is a larger percentage of crime in this area, and it's not without satisfaction that I made that statement. Again it reflects on the standards we have in our society. It's not a healthy commentary. The honourable member wanted me to comment on the Toal Commission -- (Interjection) -- Surely.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): In that connection of the increase in the number of reported incidents of fraud and forgery, is there one particular kind of crime that is outstanding in this respect? Is there one type of crime, a forgery type or something like that, that is accounting for this large increase?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Well, Mr. Chairman, that's really hard for me to indicate with any precision. You see, sometimes when you finally have the revelation of a fraud, of a particular fraud, when that is being successfully investigated, that is when there has been sufficient investigation to prove that there has been a criminality, then with the unfolding other people come forward and indicate that they too have been victims of a similar deceit and fraud. And then you have a greater number of individual fraud charges and this, you know, has an amplifying factor statistically. We had but recently the conviction of one person in Manitoba who had been in the business of fraudulently obtaining money for many many years, and the guess was, or the guesstimate was that there may have been not only hundreds of thousands but perhaps over a million dollars embezzled or fraudulently obtained. But it is difficult oft times to get people to come forward and readily admit that they have been the victims of fraud because they suffer some embarrassment in their coming forward and acknowledging that they have been the victim of this sort of practice. And it's not an easy area of criminal detection.

The honourable member wanted me to comment, and presumably briefly, about the Toal Commission Report, and I think that he indicated from the Brandon Police point of view that the Toal Commission Report confirmed that in the opinion of the investigator that there was no discriminatory practice established. Certainly there was an atmosphere of ill will and bad relationships, and those things can exist in society without there being overt or explicit discriminatory practice. There can be subtle forms of discrimination and I for one appreciate the fact that native people in society feel and sense discrimination that may not be overt or blatant, but nevertheless is pervasive, because the Indian and the Metis person too often has been characterized in the way that the Honourable Member for Thompson, again, has indicated in some of the more colourful descriptive language that he has used from time to time, and completely without any foundation have people been characterized as irresponsible and lazy and so on. There are people from every walk of life, a very small minority of people who are bent on not doing all they can to develop their own personal character but too often people are prone to generalize on specific instances and we still have, we still have the influence of, you know, movies and histories that characterize the native person in society as something else than the proper, proud individuals that they were, and the high standard of culture which they had in their own society in their time. And it's with regret that you know we haven't moved more quickly to eradicate more of that continuing kind of discriminatory attitude I think in society.

SUPPLY - ATTORNEY-GENERAL

(MR. MACKLING cont'd)

The Honourable Member from Brandon was concerned about the increase in land titles fees, and of course that was discussed at some length. Now I think he was a member of this House in 1970 and when I introduced my Estimates then I described the fact that it had been 11 years before there had been any change in the land titles fees, and 11 years in the lifetime of any fee structure is a very long period of time. Prior to 1959 there was a change in fees in 1950, that's a nine-year period. Well I don't think that we were being over hasty in reconsidering land titles fees 11 years after they had been last considered; and he was concerned about the fact that this seemed to be a profitable operation. Well the raw figures are there, the revenues as against expenditures. But the expenditures have never included the cost of building, the cost either of the building maintenance, the light, heat, and so on, of the buildings that are maintained by the Crown not only in the building across the street but all throughout Manitoba, and if one were to take those things into consideration we think that we're operating at cost. Now if we're operating at a small margin of profit, when you consider that these fees are changed you know statistically once a decade, I think that it probably averages out pretty closely to a fair assessment at cost.

The one thing that I do recall, and I have no reservation about readily recalling it to mind, is that I found that in the fee structuring that existed contrary to there being a higher fee charged for higher valued property, there was a smaller fee for higher valued property because the charge per thousand dollars escalated more sharply downward when you got into the larger land transactions, whether it be land transactions by transfer or mortgage, and so on. And since the Crown guarantees title, there's no reason why the Crown should be overly generous in respect to the corporation or the wealthy land owner, or wealthy dealer, and there was a very sharp readjustment - I don't recall the specifics now; I could if the honourable members are interested - which brought a closer measure of equality in that rating and provided I thought a fairer assessment of the fee structure.

Now the Honourable Member from Flin Flon was concerned about a number of matters. I'm sorry, I don't want to miss anyone here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister has five minutes.

MR. MACKLING: Five minutes. Well the Honourable Member for Flin Flon among other things was concerned about the problems that we have in society where a person who operates a vehicle for his livelihood has his license suspended as a result of some offence under The Highway Traffic Act where there's automatic suspension, and I appreciate his concerns. I think the government, previous governments as well as this one, have wrestled with this problem and there has been the establishment of the License Suspension Appeal mechanism, and that's worked reasonably well; that's not to say it's a perfect answer, and I know that individual members of this House, certainly the Member for Flin Flon, has expressed to me his concern about the problems that some of his constituents have had in this area, and we certainly are re-examining our systems here to see whether or not any changes can be made to improve it, or whether or not some proposals such as have been advanced for dual licensing have sufficient merit notwithstanding the ancillary problems that they might raise that they ought to be considered more seriously. And I for one have no hesitation in saying that we will look carefully at this and see whether or not there is something further that should be done.

Now I think it was the Honourable Member from Thompson whose notes I have here who was concerned again about the certain matters. He was distressed about the area of divorce, and I think I covered those points in my earlier submission, I don't want to repeat.

There were certain points of view that were made by the Member from Assiniboia that I didn't cover. He was concerned about certain aspects of legal aid as to whether or not they were covered, and the legal aid regulations do provide that subject to the discretion of the area director a certificate for legal aid may be issued to a person otherwise entitled thereto in respect of summary convictions, and then it goes on, if upon - or even infraction of a by-law - if upon conviction, or upon the order being made, there's a likelihood of imprisonment or loss of means of earning a livelihood, or the infliction of appreciable financial loss or deprivation upon the applicant, or any dependant of that applicant. So the facility is there; it's a question of exercising reasonable restraint that the legal aid that is available isn't abused. There were other matters that were raised.

The Honourable Member from Lakeside did raise some specific concerns about an

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) individual case, and he made reference in the House to it. I don't want to have any - give any specific remarks in respect to that. I think now that I'm aware of the fact that the case apparently is before the courts, I will not say anything other than the fact that there is pending a case that will be heard apparently in the following month.

I think that I'll break off there. Mind you I should answer the Honourable Member from Thompson. Perhaps this is in answer to a question he raised earlier, but I could take this opportunity during my Estimates to indicate that he was concerned about some charges, and what was happening with them, that were laid as a result of disturbance at the Headingley Correctional Institute last year and the advice that I have from my department is that there was one plea of guilty, that there are two others whose cases are coming before the courts next month, and there was one other where the evidence was not sufficiently certain to establish a basis for conviction, and that one was stayed. So that there is one guilty plea and two others still to come before court on those.

Now I think there may be some points of view that I have not responded to. If not, maybe the honourable members will bring it to my attention and I'll do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Mr. Chairman, thank you. I don't want to make any further comments rather to have a little further clarification from the Minister on the question that I posed in regards to upgrading facilities insofar as licensed outlets were concerned, which was also raised by my colleague, the Member for Souris-Killarney. Now we can quite understand the need to upgrade and to maintain a respectable licensed facility, whether it be a hotel or whether it be private clubs, or I think I was referring particularly to Legion licensed premises. I didn't mention any names but I think I should point out now that I have had representation from two licensed Legion premises. One is in Deloraine and one in Melita, where both these places have been given notice by the Liquor Commission that they must provide parking facilities. In the case of Melita I believe it is an area that would accommodate 40 cars, and Deloraine 50; both are required to put in hard-surfaced parking area.

Now in the case of Melita it's a new facility there where a license was issued well, off the top of my head I think it was about five years ago, where they have put up a new building and they have a modern and highly respectable licensed premises, and they now have instructions from the Liquor Commission that they must provide parking, hard-surfaced area for 40 cars, which is physically impossible because the facility was built well down towards the -- within the business area of the town or near the business area. It's partly residential on one side and it would require the purchase and demolition, or removal, of a residential area or the purchasing and removal of the Government Liquor Commission building, which is immediately adjacent to the Legion premises. Now I'd like to know from the Minister if the - as he pointed out himself - an ongoing program, if there's any deviation or any consideration insofar as the places that I have mentioned, and particularly in Melita, if this regulation and rule is going to be enforced and put them in a position which is almost impossible for them to provide the type of parking facilities that has been required of them by the Liquor Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Wolseley, the Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, it's somewhat difficult, I'm sure members will appreciate, to make a general comment on the operation of the Department of the Attorney-General and do it piecemeal, as I find myself doing. Perhaps if I may, Mr. Chairman, just review what I had said in my initial contribution and comment on the Minister's response. I had begun on the premise that I looked to the Department of Attorney-General as "the" department of government which is in charge of all our political institutions, all of our legal institutions, and for that reason I took the liberty of expanding my comments to what might ordinarily be thought of as coming under the Attorney-General. And I had recognized the progress that has been made in the past few years in areas such as the Rentalsman, the Ombudsman, and so on.

And, Mr. Chairman, I had reiterated the position that the Liberal Party has taken in this House for at least two years now, three years, relative to the need for a Bill of Rights. I had appealed to the Attorney-General to change the Human Rights legislation to (a) make it the protector of human rights under a Bill of Rights, and also to make it independent of government, and to make it responsible as the Ombudsman is to this Chamber. I had raised the point, Mr. Chairman, that if the Attorney-General is the guardian of human rights within this province,

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) as I see him, then the whole area of equal pay for women must be reviewed because not only are we looking for equal pay and equal employment opportunities, but if we really mean it we must set the target whereby upward mobility of women within the labour force is not tied to where their boss is, is not tied to the status of simply being employed, but actually is programmed and targeted. And I hope the Minister will have time to comment on the suggestion that I have made, that the government set goals, targets, within the government service in this area.

I have also called for an extension of legal aid to include some things which are not presently covered. Now I won't reiterate the list but to make legal aid genuinely meaningful we are going to have to extend it to those areas which are not thought of as necessarily criminal or quasi criminal, but those areas which will make it easier for the citizen to communicate with government through the advocacy of counsel.

We talked about in my initial comments the requirement for law coming from the government, and not necessarily from this side of the House, Mr. Chairman, for full disclosure of the financial dealings of Cabinet Ministers and members of their staff who have access to inside information, and the point I was making was that the role of government has expanded so greatly over the past 20-25 years that the opportunity for personal profiteering from inside information -- and I gave the example of land being acquired for highways, or what highway is going to be paved, or what housing project is going to be launched, and so on -- where there is a considerable amount of opportunity, whether or not it's exercised is something else. Only through a system of full disclosure of the holdings, financial dealings and investments of members of government, and people who are intimate with government service, and as I said, vis-a-vis the Honourable Member from Osborne, if that required the undressing of Opposition, which I don't really think it does, but if it does that would be a very small price to pay for the whole subject of full disclosure of personal holdings.

I made reference to the Liberal view that this House - that the system of voting should be free; that there should be law covering automatic public hearings on those matters which don't normally go through this Chamber but which vitally affect people. The publication of every bill at least two weeks in advance before it is permitted for debate in this Chamber, and the publication and explanation to the public of what that bill means and the positions the various political parties take vis-a-vis that bill, so that their representations to our committees and to the public hearings that I've referred to, would be more encouraged and more enlightened.

I made reference to the need for anti-patronage legislation, the need for legislation calling for an independent Speaker of this Chamber.

Mr. Chairman, I then began to touch on the subject of election finance which comes, I believe, under the Attorney-General, and certainly ought to.

Mr. Chairman, the Attorney-General then responded - now prior to that I should say the Honourable Member from Winnipeg Centre responded and his was a most remarkable contribution, Mr. Chairman. He displayed a total lack of understanding of what we mean when we speak of a Bill of Rights. He makes valid for me, Mr. Chairman, that famous statement by the French author Voltaire, that while I totally disapprove of what you say I will defend with my life your right to say it. Mr. Chairman, for him to suggest as he did, that a Bill of Rights takes away rights, belies a total ignorance of what a Bill of Rights is. Every major, every major Bill of Rights, and I might point out that the Government of Canada has seen fit to enact a Bill of Rights, and the Government of Alberta only a matter of months ago saw fit to enact a Bill of Rights, and I might say that the New Democratic Party through its predecessor the CCF in Saskatchewan saw fit to enact a Bill of Rights, and only in this Chamber, the members of the New Democratic Party fear the enshrinement and the protection of civil rights through a Bill of Rights. For a Bill of Rights begins not on the premise that government will give you rights but rather that the right exists and can only be taken away through new process rather than the suggestion that the Member from Winnipeg Centre makes that a Bill of Rights limits rights.

The Attorney-General then deals with the same subject in his response, and he does two things, Mr. Chairman: he begins with the parade of legislation this government has introduced, which has been supported by the Liberal Party and which has been an improvement over what we had. Then he says the request by us for an extension of these rights and the broadening of the freedom of the people of this province, is only a paper position.

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) Mr. Chairman, I ask him to consider that again. Who is paper; is the Human Rights Commission as conceived by the Liberals a more real Human Rights Commission or is the emasculated Human Rights Commission that is intimidated, inhibited by government control a paper Human Rights Commission? And is it paper rights when this government consistently introduces legislation, and has over these past four years, calling for a retroactive application, the most odious of all legislation, law that says consistently -- I believe we catalogued nine cases a year ago -- that what is the law is changed as of yesterday; retroactive legislation has become the hallmark of this administration, and we require a Bill of Rights which would make retroactivity, or would rather restrict those areas in which government can retroactively legislate. There's certainly some areas in which it is necessary often. But, Mr. Chairman, the law must always be that government can only legislate retroactively when it is conferring a benefit as opposed to taking away a right.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the Attorney-General then warmed to his work and found his two convenient answers to every criticism or -- it's not even criticism, Mr. Chairman, but appeal for change for improvement. He said two things: Where we are today is a far cry from where this government started four years ago. That's the same battle cry we've heard for four years from the government, that if you think we're bad, look how bad the previous administration was. Now, Mr. Chairman, that's just not good enough. If that's all the New Democratic Party can take comfort in, the fact that they have improved things over what the Conservative administration have done . . .

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: My point of privilege is the honourable member has said that I said that if you think we're bad, then look at what the others were. I never used that expression; that is not my line of argument. The honourable member can say that that is what, that is what I said amounted to. If he wants to distort in any way, let him distort in accordance with the accepted parliamentary practice. I will protect his right to distort what I said, but don't try and quote me that way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the point is well taken.

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MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, not only did I take that in interpretation of what the Attorney-General said, but it is an interpretation that has been heard on dozens of occasions in this Chamber, every day in the question period. When a question is put to a Minister not only does he give the answer but he says in effect, but look how bad the Conservatives were, or look how bad Ottawa is, and these become the crutches upon which this government rests its inactivity in so many important fields.

Mr. Chairman, I spoke briefly, or I touched briefly on reform of the election machinery. We find today, Mr. Chairman, that the cost of standing for public office, the cost of leaving one's work in order to stand for public office, first of all in many cases is denied because of employment conditions. Second, and most important, many people are denied the right or the ability to stand for public office because of the costs of a campaign. Regardless of the improvement that was made in the Election Act in 1970, which limits the spending to 40 to 48 cents, I believe, per vote if it's available, Mr. Chairman, we come to the point where too many people, too many qualified Manitobans, do not stand for public office, and I speak as a leader of a Party, and I speak having discussed informally with other leaders of other political parties, all of whom universally have the same problem and that is, that men of quality, women of ability, do not have the financial resources in many cases to stand for public office. The time has come, Mr. Chairman, to consider various reforms. I don't propose in the limited time I have today to lay out which of the preferences we hold, but one of the things **that's** been tried recently in the United States, and I believe is being considered in Australia at the present, is permitting each voter to designate one dollar -- correction, Mr. Speaker -- each taxpayer each year to designate one dollar of his provincial income tax, or his state income tax, to be applied to the political party of his choice, in which case that particular example which, Mr. Chairman, I don't particularly endorse, but the cost to the treasury of Manitoba of that kind of a plan would come to about \$400,000 a year. Mr. Chairman, there

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(MR. ASPER cont'd)are other ways, perhaps even a better way, and that is to make the total election machinery run by an independent electoral commission and totally financed by in effect government. In that way, Mr. Chairman, we may change the style of our elections but we would be ensuring that a much broader group would have access to the electoral process of standing for public office. And this may necessitate, Mr. Chairman, the passage of laws requiring employers to give their employees the time required to stand for public office, and that certainly is a modest reform that we appeal to the Attorney-General to consider very seriously and his colleagues.

Mr. Chairman, and while he is fixing the election machinery and reforming, may we call on him to stop the charade of the democratic process being applied to those ridings who through no fault of their own are deprived of a member of the Legislature and who then wait for up to a year before they again have a voice before the public. Mr. Chairman, we have no better example, no more dramatic example, than today we stand in this House, and the seat held by the Member from Churchill is vacant, and there's no reason that that seat should be vacant. We are putting through in that riding of Churchill, which is the largest in this province, the most massive project that this province has ever undertaken -- I'm talking about the Churchill River Diversion, the flooding of South Indian Lake. And yesterday morning we had a phone call from a resident of that riding with a very serious complaint, his trapline in the previous few hours, few days, had been totally destroyed by the Hydro contractors who are working on the Churchill River Diversion. He had no MLA to turn to. Mr. Chairman, there's no need for legislation as it stands today requiring or permitting the Premier of the province to defer and permit a vacancy to exist for one year, and we would call on the Attorney-General to very seriously consider abridging by a very significant portion at least that time we might suggest -- and in later debate, Mr. Chairman, I'd be quite happy to lay out specific proposals in this area. But certainly there's no cause for a seat being vacant during the sitting of this Assembly through the death or resignation of a Member.

Mr. Chairman, we do not yet have legislation to cure two and a half years after the event what I refer to as the Jack Hardy syndrome. Mr. Chairman, we had a situation in this province that indicated that one might very well hold a seat representing -- and I have no quarrel with Mr. Hardy, the MLA in question, I quarrel with the law -- where a seat could be represented by somebody who was no longer ordinarily resident in Manitoba. We call, Mr. Chairman, on a non-partisan basis on the Attorney-General to bring in legislation that says that a seat shall ipso facto, automatically be declared vacant when the person who holds that seat is no longer ordinarily resident in Manitoba because we have a gap in the law. These are the kinds of institutional reforms that I don't think we should fear; I don't think we require the tirades from the government benches when these things are suggested.

Mr. Chairman, this brings us to the subject of yoyo politics, Mr. Chairman. Yoyo politics being understood to be the discretion of a First Minister of a province whereby he can call an election at his whim at any time by calling, by simply dissolving the House and going to the people. Mr. Chairman, surely we've arrived at the stage where we can be a little more precise about when our elections are going to be held. Bringing people to a boil, the game -- the game of hinting about an election and then withdrawing from that position. The public is misled; political candidates can't govern their lives; political parties are unable to function, while the Premier plays his yoyo game of bringing people up then letting them down. And Mr. Chairman, I think we've come close to the point where we can have certainly some discretion left to the First Minister but laws calling for fixed election dates.

Mr. Chairman, we call, too, for amendments to the legal machinery of government operations requiring full and total disclosure to the members of this House and to the public of all government operations. It is a mockery, Mr. Chairman, of that concept of full disclosure to the members of the Legislature, and to the public, for governments to bring in reports a year, a year and a quarter in some cases, after the year end of the particular body has elapsed. We then are in the almost preposterous position in this Chamber of debating reports which are obsolete and irrelevant by the time we get them, and there's no more, there is no more flagrant example of this kind of mockery of full disclosure than we've seen in the past several days in this Chamber by the Honourable the Minister of Mines responsible for the Manitoba Development Corporation, who without any sense of embarrassment whatever denies repeatedly the members of this Chamber and the public the access to information of Crown corporations, or corporations in which we have major investments

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I have not denied information, and the honourable member should not make it appear that I have denied information. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I've answered many questions, but I indicated that I would not answer detailed commercial activities of a commercial operation as a regular feature of Orders of the Day -- of the question period -- and the honourable member knows that there are ten -- (Interjection)-- Mr. Speaker, the point of order is that the honourable member has stood up and charged that I have denied without embarrassment access to information. I have not denied access to information; I have indicated to honourable members that they will receive the information before the Committee on Economic Development which . . . --(Interjection)-- I am rising on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, and if the honourable member requires, since he continually requires to be advised, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has asked what is the point or order? I will read to him from Bourinot so that he will know what a point of order constitutes. --(Interjection)-- Well, I can read Beauchesne, too, but if the honourable -- I don't have the reference exactly at hand, Mr. Speaker, but the honourable member has indicated that I have taken a certain position and that I have said certain things. Doing so, Mr. Speaker, I am entitled to rise and indicate that I have not taken those positions or said those things; that is my point of privilege, and if the honourable member will give me a few moments I will refer to the exact reference in Bourinot which permits me to rise on such an occasion. I know that the honourable member would like to be able to do what he wants to do, make outrageous charges of things that have not occurred and expect that nobody can rise on a point of privilege. That's the position that he would like to be in; but he is not in that position. --(Interjection)-- Now, I am on the point of privilege, Mr. Speaker . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

MR. GREEN: I believe that the honourable member cannot interrupt on a point of privilege until the point is finished being made. The honourable member said that I have denied this information. I would suggest to the honourable member that on each occasion I've indicated that the information will be forthcoming, that on certain occasions I have answered the questions, but I have indicated that I cannot give a running account of the detailed activities -- of a series of ten Crown corporations as to each of their commercial activities on questions of Orders of the Day. Now the honourable member may have a tremendous capacity, although he has not yet shown it -- all I have told the honourable members is that I do not have the capacity on Orders of the Day to answer questions concerning the details, concerning the detailed activities.

A MEMBER: Sit down.

MR. GREEN: . . . concerning the detailed activities of some ten Crown corporations involving, Mr. Speaker, roughly \$150 million. Now that is what I have said. The honourable member said that I have denied unashamedly access of this information to the House, and that is incorrect.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member from Wolseley.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, both on the point of order and the point of privilege, and what I said to this House, the member has stood on an alleged point of privilege to debate -- I stand and say that when the members of this House are not given the financial statements, not given the operating reports of the Minister's department and the corporation that report through him, and we stand a year later debating, that is a denial of access to information, and I am entitled to make that charge.

Mr. Chairman, we will not sit here on this side of the Chamber and have the Honourable Mines Minister interrupt on every pretext possible and manufacture a debating point by calling it a point of privilege. Mr. Chairman, the point I made, and make, is that full disclosure of government operations with the Attorney-General should in Law Reforms be considering and bringing before this House would require not that only the corporations that belong to the Manitoba Development Corporation but the corporations which operate, as the Manitoba Hospital Corporation, that operate as the Lotteries Commission, that operate as the Milk Board --(Interjection)-- Now, Mr. Chairman, I'm calling on you then to rule on the point of privilege.

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

MR. GREEN: . . . honourable member has said that I have denied to this House access to the financial statements of Crown corporations. An Order for Return was submitted asking for those, it was accepted by the government.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, --(Interjection)-- Well, on the point, on the point of privilege, the Order for Return has not been answered . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I undertook to give the information. That is not a denial of the information. I indicated that the information would be available by the time members are sitting in Economic Development Committee. That is not a denial of the information. The honourable member has charged that I have denied that information. That is an incorrect charge. I would ask the honourable member to withdraw that charge, having himself requested a ruling on the point of privilege.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. --(Interjection)-- Order, please. Order. I think that it is a recognized procedure of this House that Orders for Return when accepted, there is no time limit given when they should --(Interjection)-- but the honourable the Minister I understand has undertaken to do so. ORDER PLEASE. And since an honourable member has stood in his place, the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs, Mines and Natural Resources, on two occasions and assured the honourable member that he will have it in time for the committee meeting on public --Economic Development and given at that committee meeting, I think that the honourable member should withdraw that remark.

MR. ASPER: Sir, I reserve the right to examine Hansard. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Order, please.

MR. ASPER: Well, Mr. Chairman . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'm asking the honourable member to withdraw that remark.

MR. ASPER: But, Mr. Chairman, I didn't make those remarks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order.

MR. ASPER: I didn't make the remark. Mr. Chairman, what I said must be looked at before I'm asked to withdraw it.

MR. GREEN: All right if that is the case if the honourable member will say that if he says that I have denied the information, the statements of the corporations, the financial corporation and they wouldn't be given until a year later, that he will deny that remark if it appears in Hansard I'm satisfied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I will take the matter under consideration and I ask the recorder to make available to me at the earliest opportunity an extract from Hansard. The Honourable Member . . .

SUPPLY - ATTORNEY - GENERAL Cont'd

MR. ASPER: The point I'm making that seems to have wrangled the Mines Minister, and perhaps the Attorney-General, judging from the comments that he has made from his seat is that the government is disclosing what it chooses to disclose, when it chooses to disclose it, and there is no statutory requirement, which is what I'm calling for, that we pass law that requires full disclosure, quarterly disclosure, and current disclosure. It is of little use to this Chamber to be debating, commenting, or scrutinizing reports that deal with periods which have long since ended. That's the point, Mr. Chairman, and if any other point was taken in advance of a disclosure from Hansard I withdraw any other inference. My point, Mr. Chairman, is that we need law to protect the public and to protect the members of this Assembly, so that they can do their function and look after their responsibilities to the people of Manitoba by having early and current access to all information of corporations, activities, instrumentalities and agencies of government. Mr. Chairman, . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member has five minutes.

MR. ASPER: We call too for greater legislation protecting privacy of the individual. Mr. Chairman, the Attorney-General will be quick on his feet when he responds today, but we have done so much in this area and we say he has taken the baby stuff. We say that we need legislation; legislation is still required because in almost every case where the individual's privacy has been protected, it's been protected from almost everyone except big brother, government. For example, in the Personal Investigations Act that the Attorney-General so proudly referred to, he did not exclude, or rather he did exclude, the protection that the individual will not have his affairs inquired into by government or government agencies and

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(MR. ASPER cont'd) the -- any civil libertarian, anyone concerned with the advancement of the human right will tell you, Mr. Chairman, that as Watergate has told the American people, that it is government, or government instrumentalities, or people working through information derived from government that have been the offenders in many instances against individual privacy.

I made reference to a call for changes in the Assembly Act, Legislative Assembly Act, which would guarantee that no member of the Legislature is required in effect to debate a bill which is complex and which he has not had an opportunity to read or get outside advice on. There must be a delay period in the introduction of bills, the printing of bills, and the debating and discussion of bills. The cardinal example I was referred to was the City Bill last year, which, among other things, contained frightening invasions of human rights, allowing people to enter public -- private property rather, search for goods, seize, take property, without so much as a warrant, Mr. Chairman. We have a law on our books that this Assembly passed late in the night, or debated late into the nights, where a . . . officer of the City of Winnipeg can enter one's property, one need not even be at home, and cut down trees and shrubs and do anything along the line that he in his discretion feels is necessary. And that kind of law is unbecoming. And, Mr. Chairman, what's required in this area is greater study before bills are permitted to be debated. And the whipping of the Assembly requiring it during the speed-up to sit until late in the evening and to sit early again in the morning, and expect the Members of the Legislature to be competent and to be able to work and function well under those circumstances. It requires legislation to change the rules so that the people in this Assembly can do a much better job for the people they represent.

That brings us to the facilities granted in the political process to those members of the Assembly who don't happen to be members of the government bench. Surely an enlightened, a modern, a progressive view, calls for not \$500.00 being given to the members of the Assembly for research for five months, or for a year for that matter, but real facilities which includes secretarial, research, and the ability to run a constituency office so that they can serve their people better.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I'm having quite a bit of difficulty in following the logic of the honourable members debate and just where it falls under the Attorney-General's Department. I think that the honourable member --(Interjection)-- I think that the honourable member is speaking with legislation, which deals with the conduct of this House, and I think that the department that he should be speaking on is under legislation.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I rise on the point of order that you make. I think the honourable member is within his right to talk about -- he was cataloguing laws which he thought the Attorney-General should be responsible for introducing changes in laws in this House, and in that framework I think he brought it in. It was kind of a circuitous way, but I think it's legitimate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member has one minute. I've allowed you the minute for my interjection.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, I think then I had been moving towards a comment on the Law Reform Commission, and it was the Law Reform Commission that my honourable friend the Attorney-General was holding in his first report I believe when he accepted my ability to speak on this subject. I'll conclude this portion of the debate, Mr. Chairman, by saying what I referred to in the facilities given under a more reformed law structure and law passage structure, includes the establishment in every constituency in Manitoba of a government office in which the sitting MLA, be he government or opposition, holds an office and is available to the people of his constituency. This kind of reform would cost so little, if really nothing. The municipal offices might be used; the committee offices of the City of Winnipeg might be used, but the important thing, and I conclude on this note, Mr. Chairman, is that the MLA must be given an opportunity to be far more effective if we want a truly reformed progressive society. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

POINT OF PRIVILEGE Cont'd

MR. GREEN: I just rise on a point of order that I raised before and told my honourable friend that I would quote Bourinot, I now quote it, Sir, for yourself, and for the honourable member, in case the occasion arises in the future. It's Page 303, "If a member be insulted or attacked or some disorder suddenly arises a debate may be interrupted; for as it has clearly been expressed by ancient authority whether any question is or is not before the House; and even in the midst of another discussion if a member should rise to complain of a breach of privilege of the House they have always instantly heard him." I suggest that the honourable member's suggesting that I did not, that I did something which I did not do, constitutes an attack of that kind and I am able to rise on a point of privilege.

MR. ASPER: Then, Mr. Chairman, commenting on the point of order that my honourable friend raises, any honourable member of this Chamber is entitled to draw conclusions and state those conclusions as the conclusions he has drawn. And, Mr. Chairman, it is and was my conclusion that the course of action by the government, and I gave the example of the Mines Minister, constituted a certain course of conduct and, Mr. Chairman, I know of no rule that was cited that prevents us from stating the conclusions. Otherwise we have no freedom of speech, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I have already indicated to the House that I am going to examine the extracts from Hansard, and I'll make my ruling accordingly when I find out exactly what was said. The Honourable Attorney-General. Order, please. ORDER.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I would like the Honourable Member from Wolseley. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'd like the records to show that. --(Interjection)--
. . . contesting to a reply to the things that he has just raised.

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MR. ASPER: Mr. Chairman, I have at the time available to me, subject to other appointments, been in this Chamber able and willing to debate on this subject. I indicated two days ago to the Attorney-General that that was the case, and I was unable to get the floor, Mr. Chairman, even though I had asked for it, and the fact that I have an appointment at this moment requires me to be out of the Chamber, I mean no disrespect to the Attorney-General . . . -- (Interjection) --

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order.

MR. ASPER: . . . and the usual comments of the Mines Minister to the effect that we're better off without me, is a matter that my constituents will decide and not he.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I don't think there's any points of order before the House. I don't think the member's attendance or non-attendance in this Chamber constitutes a point of order . . . The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I regret the fact that the honourable member chooses to say things in this House and then run away. Now for whatever reasons he has, his priorities are elsewhere but that in this House, and I think that if someone wants to make a contribution and to suggest that there are errors, and wants to constructively deal with problems that this institution is faced with, this Legislature, then he should have the concern about those problems and stay here and deal with them. First of all -- but I trust that the honourable member from Assiniboia is going to convey in detail to the honourable member the pith and substance of what I have to say, and hopefully the Member from Wolseley might be influenced somewhat in the process.

The Honourable Member from Wolseley is fascinated, fascinated by the thought that a Bill of Rights somehow is going to enshrine and protect the people of Manitoba from problems that face society. I don't hear him talking, I don't hear him talking about housing, I don't hear him talking about --(Interjection)-- yes, no, the Member from Wolseley, when he talks about rights, fundamental rights. He talks about these ethereal things, of bills of right. You know and I am not completely negative about Bills of Rights. There are some good things about Bills of Right and the Bill of Rights that was enacted during the term of the Prime Minister of Canada as he then was, the Honourable John Diefenbaker, has had some practical application, so I'm not negative about Bills of Rights, and this government was concerned about the application of entrenchment of right in laws in the constitution, and that's why the

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) entrenchment of rights was the subject of vigorous discussion, research from the point of view of the federal advisors in respect to the constitutional conferences. We participated, we discussed, and we accepted the consideration of the entrenchment of rights in those meetings but really you have to consider the entrenchment of rights and the application of rights in context. Just, you know dropping a Bill of Rights on the Statute Books isn't going to provide for immediate change in society. So it was that the Law Reform Commission had referred to it, this question, and I would like to read into the record what the Law Reform Commission Annual Report indicates on this subject. "By no means the least of our projects is this one" -- it's entitled a Bill of Rights for Manitoba -- "which was referred to us by the Attorney-General on February the 20th last. The Commissions work on this subject as cut out for us must be both wide ranging and profound. The terms of reference are:

1. Whether a Bill of Rights for Manitoba is desirable or needed and practical.
2. Whether or not a constitutionally entrenched Bill of Rights in Manitoba would be more or less desirable and needed, and more or less practical than a locally enacted Bill of Rights for Manitoba.
3. What kind of Bill of Rights, encompassing which categories of civil liberties, e. g. political, economic, legal, religious, or egalitarian, would be appropriate in Manitoba.
4. Which restrictions, if any, ought to limit the most extensive expression and articulation of economic religious, egalitarian and property rights in Manitoba.
5. The consideration of the impact of a Bill of Rights on the continuing effectiveness of the parliamentary process in the administration of justice in the Province.
6. A consideration of various models, proposals and drafts of Bill of Rights throughout Canada and the world.
7. If a Manitoba Bill of Rights be concluded to be desirable, needed and practical, a proposed draft of same."

Now that's a positive, reasonable, responsible way to approach, you know, the concern as to whether or not a Bill of Rights is needed. If it's needed at all what form it should take. You know, the contributions of the Honourable Member for Wolseley are just, you know, make a lot of noise, proselytise a viewpoint for the political value that he can get out of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member rise on a point of order?

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Yes. Could the honourable member table that report so that it would be available to all members?

MR. MACKLING: The honourable member will appreciate the fact that the report has already been tabled. --(interjection)-- You know, the honourable member has a copy the report that is being tabled with the clerk. Now, you know, I appreciate the honourable member may not have realized that but however I don't mind his interjection, I'll get back onto what I was going to say. That's all right.

But let me say this that in answer to the Honourable Member of Wolseley, and through the Honourable Member from Assiniboia, the Honourable Member from Wolseley has the propensity to advocate what's convenient to him politically. And I suggest that he does that with the greatest measure of irresponsibility of anyone that's ever stood in this Chamber. He talks about independence, independence for a Human Rights Commission. Well the Human Rights Commission makes reports, recommendations, those recommendations are made public. I am angry at the non-existent Member from Wolseley. I'm sorry about that. The Honourable Member from Morris is concerned at my ire. It is not directed at the honourable member. The Law Reform Commission, it is a body that is established pursuant to an Act of this House. It is a body composed of directors that are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. This government and this Attorney-General looks at their budget, looks at their staffing, which is pursuant to the Civil Service Superannuation Act and, you know, you can say there is control of the Law Reform Commission. That's what the Honourable Member for Wolseley would say if he's drawing a parallel between the Law Reform Commission and the Human Rights Commission. That's nonsense. Those recommendations are published, and if the recommendations of the Human Rights Commission condemn certain programs of government, they will be published.

Now what more independence does the honourable member want? The honourable member

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) just wants to make noise because he thinks that someone will think that he's saying something very positive and very informative. He says the convenient thing. If he would read The Human Rights Act, if he would recognize what is being done in respect to recommendations, he wouldn't spout this nonsense and then run away somewhere to consider some other scheme for him to be elected to office. He suggests that we have goals and targets in respect to female participation in government. I would like the honourable member or the Honourable Member from Assiniboia to reflect upon the appointments that this government has made to high office in respect to administrative and quasi-judicial boards and commissions, and you'll find that in respect to Law Reform Commission, Human Rights Commission itself, we have a higher percentage of female appointments than many other boards or commissions, a greater degree of autonomy and a greater degree of flexibility in appointments.

I have referred to the fact that people who are prominent, previously prominent in political circles, not in New Democratic Party circles, have been appointed either as chairmen or as vital members of boards or commissions. I challenge the Honourable Member from Wolseley to reflect on the appointments that are made by a previous Liberal Government in this province or a Federal Liberal Government in Ottawa, and compare our record with that.

He says he wants an extension of legal aid to areas that are not now covered. I don't know what he's talking about. You know, if he would care to look at the legal aid regulations and the services that are conducted, he'll find it has a broad range of application, appeals to quasi-judicial or administrative boards or commissions, but within reason, with discretion. If the honourable member would only spend a little time doing a little research instead of spouting off as he does because he thinks it's attractive to do so, we would have a much more positive contribution in this House. But I'm sure that he won't bother either reading my remarks or listening to the Honourable Member from Assiniboia because I'm sure that he will try to convey some common sense to his Honourable Leader.

You know, the Honourable Member from Wolseley is concerned about disclosure, and I didn't get incensed about his remarks the other day when he said that the man on the street, the general public looks upon us as crooks. You know, I thought that kind of commentary was ably responded to by my colleague, the Member for Winnipeg Centre. That sort of thinking is alien to me. I think anyone who stands for office and is frankly ready to accept the responsibility and the challenges, does not consider that the man on the street accepts that he is for sale and that he can be bargained on the auction block by anyone who comes along, that anyone can be bought for a price. That is not the attitude of this member of this House and I trust of any other member in this House, and this kind of thinking is completely negative. It kind of indicates that if you put up sufficient money you can buy any voice in this House. You know, that kind of characterizes his approach to things in this House and I find it very disillusioning.

He makes reference to more hearings and the work of the House. How long has he been in this House and already he's an expert. He never attends committee meetings. I can assure the honourable member that legislation, for example, dealing with consumer protection law, we didn't just have people here from Winnipeg and Manitoba, we had people from all across Canada here making representation. You know, the parliamentary process as it is practised in Manitoba is yet to be understood or recognized by the honourable member. He shows his recognition for the process this afternoon. He makes his contribution, then he has priority elsewhere. He doesn't know the workings of this Legislature, and the fact that legislation is articulated here, it's debated on second reading, and the Official Opposition and even other members of other political parties make contributions that the Fourth Estate does comment and advertise the contributions that are made in connection with those policy decisions, and there's wide dispersal of that information in Manitoba. And then we have a Law Amendments Committee of this House to which people come and make argument. The honourable member is a self-styled expert already about this whole process and wants to discard it after he's been here, what? A year and a half? Barely that.

He talks about retroactive legislation. What retroactive legislation? We have provided retroactive legislation in some instances that I'm aware of to give benefits, benefits to people that were not available to them. And, you know, we're always being pressed, well

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) take it back a little bit further, a little bit further yet. And you know, you have to draw the line somewhere. But I don't know of any instance since this Legislature was convened, in the four years we've been in office, where we have taken away any rights retroactively. I defy the honourable member to indicate that to this House, because it's his obligation to do that if he has any basis for that sort of statement.

And then, you know, he says, Mr. Speaker, that our style of argument is -- well, you know, things are bad, things are bad, but if you think they're bad now just think of what they were like, you know, when the Tories were in office. I don't recall that kind of argument. That's the kind of thing that he says, but it's certainly not consistent with what we have been saying. We've been talking about positive developments. When he talks about rights I reviewed a complete -- well not a complete list, a partial list of specific legislation which we had enacted, and they're not ethereal, intangible things, they're very real and necessary changes in the law. He talked about privacy. Privacy. Well, you know, he obviously hasn't either taken a look at the Legislation we have on the books and that we've enacted since we came to power, he certainly hasn't reflected on the dilatory technique of his confreres in Ottawa who are still considering privacy legislation to provide for a remedy, or at least a public remedy, in respect to the improper interception of communications. Organized crime presently can use electronic devices to intercede legitimate information, and he hasn't indicated any concern about the slowness of his colleagues in Ottawa to do anything in that field. I'm quite surprised at his lack of concern there.

And then, characteristically, he talks about the need for electoral reform, concern about getting better qualified people to stand for office and so on. And reflect on that, Mr. Chairman. Reflect on the fact that he is the one making that statement, and also reflect on the fact that he is putting up into public scrutiny all of those who have already been nominated for office for his party. Is he saying that they are not the best qualified people to have stood for office? That seems to be the import of his message, that if only the allurements were greater and the rewards greater, you'd even get greater people to come forward. That's what he's talking about, and I would ask the Honourable Member from Assiniboia to discuss that with some of his colleagues or would-be colleagues who have already been nominated for office. I think that's a pretty shocking thing on the part of the member . . . to say.

MR. BOROWSKI: . . . yield to a question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Would the Attorney-General not agree that you could get better qualified people if there was some electoral reform where the government would pick up the tab of, say, \$3,000 or \$3,500 to defray the expenses for that individual?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, maybe I'm naive but I like to think that people stand for office, not for the material reward, but to serve the people of their society. And I -- (Interjection)-- Well, I don't know what the honourable member is saying from his seat but I would like the privilege of trying to answer him without his interjections. If another member wants to interject, fine. But he has asked me a question and I'll try to answer it. I say that I think that there are people that serve, and the monetary consideration they receive bears no significance at all to the kind of dedicated effort that they make. That's not to say that the honorariums that are paid do not have to be reasonably adequate. But surely to goodness, people don't stand to office for the gains they're going to get, because if that is the criteria, if that is the criteria, well that -- (Interjection)-- Now the honourable member is arguing from his seat.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order.

MR. MACKLING: And you know, and once he has a point of order or a point of privilege, I am not going to be sidetracked.

MR. BOROWSKI: Well, I'm rising on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of order. The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, it's really not, I suppose, my business to defend another member but he's not in the House, and the Leader of the Liberal Party was not talking about the rewards, he was talking about the reform for those who will run. In other words, some consideration for a candidate before he becomes, not after, and this is not being selfish and

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(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd) this is not thinking about the money you're going to make, this is thinking about making it possible for the poorer people in society, which the government seems to be so concerned about, so they could run for office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. That's a matter of opinion, it's not a point of order.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I heard the Honourable Member for Wolseley say that there were some that were denied because of their employment, there were others because of the cost to them in campaigns. Now, the cost -- (Interjection)-- Well now, the cost of campaigns to individuals. Now if the Honourable Member from Wolseley is talking about some sort of election costs that I'm not aware of, it's been my experience that politicians who stand for office find supporters, who in part relieve the individual candidate of the personal expense of that campaign. I don't know of a system where the candidate puts up all the costs of his campaign. If that's the basis of the operation of the campaigning for the Honourable Member from Wolseley, I can understand his concern. But with the New Democratic Party, and I'm sure in other political parties, that other members are familiar with, there is an appeal for funds and people who wish to, support that political party assist in providing election campaign funds, and I don't think that that restricts people of quality from coming forth and standing for office. -- (Interjection)-- You know, the honourable member says I'm speaking against my Premier. I don't know what the honourable member is talking about. He'll have an opportunity to speak when he wants and we'll hear what he has to say. He's had a lot to say earlier and I've listened, and I expect the courtesy of his listening to what I have to say.

And then the Honourable Member from Wolseley had, you know, his long history of association with government and the parliamentary institution; he had to lecture us about the charade in the due process of filling vacant seats. I think perhaps I should just ignore that, just ignore that. But, you know, the honourable member, the honourable member went on a familiar theme about saying he wants instant disclosure, instant disclosure of corporation policies and conditions and positions on a day-to-day basis. He wants to be able to rise in his place and say, "Well, who quit today? Did you fire anyone today? You know, how are the sales today as against tomorrow? Is it true that the rumour that I have heard about your loss of a contract in this area is true? Is that a fact?" Well, you know, if industry, regardless of what kind of industry, is to be faced with that kind of public . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of Order?

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): I rise on a point of order.

MR. MACKLING: Now what's the point of order now?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of order. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, the Attorney-General is twisting and is giving us a real cock and bull story. What the Honourable Member for Wolseley has said, that we should have quarterly reporting as far as MDC is concerned, not instant reporting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: On the point of order, Mr. Chairman, I don't know if the honourable member was here, but the Leader of the Liberal Party said that he could . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. ORDER PLEASE. I cannot entertain two points of order with two members shouting back at each other. Would the Honourable Member for Assiniboia complete his point of order, then I shall listen to the . . . the Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Chairman, I said the member has said that we should have quarterly reporting and not instant reporting, and I can tell you myself I did ask a question on an MDC question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources and he did not give me the answer, in fact he was very arrogant when he give me the answer.

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

MR. GREEN: . . . deal with that very matter. The answer was given the day before while the honourable member was in the House, and that's what I said.

MR. PATRICK: That's not true. That's not true.

MR. GREEN: Well if it was not the day before, Mr. Speaker, it was within three or four days, and that is what I told the honourable member; and what the honourable member the Leader of the Liberal Party asked for is not quarterly reports, he said that the Minister has refused to give answers on the daily operations of the Crown corporations.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Chairman, I have sat in this House and I have heard the Honourable Member from Wolseley. It's not a question of opinion. Rise and ask questions similar. Well have you got a licence yet? Has Saunders got a licence to fly yet? All this sort of thing. Well, you know, how many are employed? And they'll keep asking how many are employed another week or next month. What about this contract? Now what industry, what board of directors does its business publicly in that manner? I ask the honourable member to reflect on it. Crown corporations annually present their annual report, they make available -- Hydro has, Telephone System has, the president or the chairman of the board of directors, to review the affairs of the corporation. In addition to that the Minister has said he's prepared to provide further detailed information in answer to questions, provide balance sheets of the corporations. What more does the honourable member expect? No. What he expects is to be able to stand in his place and ask questions about the internal workings of a corporation on a daily basis as and when he sees fit. And I question whether any corporation has ever responded in that manner. That's just imbecilic and it reflects on the intelligence of the honourable member.

He refers to other matters, you know, and frankly it's hard to contain one's indignation about his manner of speaking. He talked about the City of Winnipeg bill and the flagrant invasions of human rights and privacy and so on --(Interjection)-- Oh yes, he talked about it today again. And this was just -- in a concern to bring the City of Winnipeg legislation together in one package, the draftsmen merely brought forward all of the previous provisions of the City of Winnipeg Charter that had been there for decades. It was a momentous job and a fantastic task and there was no serious consideration to much of the provisions of this former Charter, there could not be in detail. And the honourable member assails us for having these provisions in the City of Winnipeg Act. We said we referred to the Law Reform Commission; we did that. We had a report and we've acted on the salient criticisms, or the vast majority of them. But let the honourable member reflect on the fact that we have to have in society certain rights for health inspectors, for fire inspectors, and others. You know, does he want, does he want that in every instance we're going to have to go to a Superior Court and get a right for a health inspector to be able to enter and inspect for sanitary conditions. You know, you can overplay or agonize too far in respect to rights.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister has five minutes.

MR. MACKLING: Thank you. You know, and he wants, he wants every MLA to, you know, to have a constituency office. Well, I don't know, you know, whether he doesn't answer his phone at home; I don't know whether he doesn't have constituency days when he meets his constituents, for that is certainly open to him. It's --(Interjection)-- Well, it's certainly open to him to make arrangements, to utilize public offices. I know that some members are doing that. I don't think that that is any particular problem. And I think that if the government had launched a program to provide public offices, he'd be one of the first ones to stand up and berate this government for extravagant waste of funds, you know, that we're going too far or too wide. That's you know, you're damned if you do, and you're damned if you don't, by some politicians and the Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party would be in the forefront of those who are damning regardless of what it was he was damning, providing it was convenient for him to damn.

The Honourable Member from -- I don't want to completely overlook -- the Honourable Member from Arthur was concerned about this concern of the Liquor Control Commission to maintain standards and I can only repeat what I've indicated again, that regardless of what licensee maintains a license that has been issued by the Liquor Control Commission, there are certain basic requirements that they require; and if parking is a necessary corollary of the operations of a licensed premise, then there's certain standards for parking. Now I trust that they're reasonable. I don't think that paving of parking lots in this day and age is unreasonable. I find that most people who have parking facilities adjacent to their commercial premises do pave parking lots because it's much cleaner to maintain the facilities, and so on. I think that they do have a measure of flexibility in the timing of these things, but I don't think that it's arbitrary or unnecessary, and it's --(Interjection)-- Well maybe it's -- the honourable member says it's \$5,000. Well you know, maybe the business warrants that kind of

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(MR. MACKLING cont'd) expenditure too. Well, the honourable member's an expert about that, I'm not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WATT: I don't think that I was expressing so much concern about the particular surface of the area that is being required, the concern is the area itself. If it must be somewhere adjacent or near to the facility that is there now and it has recently been constructed. Surely there should be some -- I think that I used the term "deviation" from the rule or the regulation -- I used the word "consideration" now then. Should there not be some consideration given to those areas that find themselves in an impossible position insofar as area is concerned.

MR. MACKLING: Well let me just briefly answer that.

MR. WATT: Go out into the country into somebody's pasture and say, this is our parking lot.

MR. MACKLING: I think, Mr. Chairman, that the Liquor Control Commission deals with every case individually, and if the honourable member wants to give me the details of it I'll make every effort to make sure that the Commission does consider that specific case. But he asked about a general requirement, and there is a general requirement to maintain good facilities, and parking facility is part of that. Now if there's a particular problem in respect to an individual facility because a limitation of nearby space or something else, that of course the Commission should consider, and I would expect they do consider those things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. WATT: I want to thank the Honourable Minister, the Attorney-General, for the reply that he has given me now; that's what I've been looking for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, I had some hesitation in rising at this time to deal with some of the remarks that the Member for Wolseley made, because I wasn't sure that they were quite in order, but the Attorney-General indicated that it was quite proper for him to discuss that particular subject on his Estimates, and I feel that now that the matter has been raised it may be just as well that I take advantage at this opportunity to deal with it as well. It's a pity that the Attorney-General had to use all his fire power when he trained his guns on the empty seat of the Member for Wolseley and find that all his fire power was being wasted because there was nobody there to get hit. I can't think of a better way however to reinforce one's argument than to make that argument, and then make sure that you don't hear a rebuttal to that argument; and that is one way I suppose many of us could insure that our particular positions and points of view could be continuously reinforced without having the opportunity of the advantage of other people's opinions.

I wanted to deal with the question he raised about election of members to this House and regular elections, and things like that. I don't want to repeat what was said by the Member for Winnipeg Centre in a very good speech he made the other day on this particular subject, but I think that I would like to perhaps make some different comments, perhaps comments along a different line relating to this particular subject.

So-politics, the Member for Wolseley called it, the ability of the Premier to call an election at any time he chooses. Sir, in my view, and I'm one that -- I should be the first one to complain about that sort of thing, having been involved in perhaps more elections in a shorter space of time than anybody in British parliamentary history -- eight elections in 12 years. I'm sure that must be somewhat of a record. But I still believe that those elections, the times that they were called, were necessary to get an expression of opinion from the people of this country. And it's this kind of referral to the people when the Prime Minister or the Premier himself is not sure of his mandate that makes the British parliamentary system so superior in every respect as far as I'm concerned, and I don't want to say anything against the American system, they developed their system of democracy according to the situations that existed in that country at the time they developed them, and I think that we've profited a great deal from some of the -- if I might call them the mistakes that they made in drafting their constitution.

What the Member for Wolseley has not said, and I think what must be said, is that so much of the British constitution is unwritten, it's the traditions that have been handed down from generation to generation for 700 years. The traditions that are embedded in the

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) Constitution of Great Britain are perhaps the ones that are adhered to more strictly than the written parts of the Constitution, because it always seems to me as though if you have something written down somebody's going to find a way of getting around it. But when you depend on a person's honour to follow a tradition that has been established, the chances are -- and that's one of the reasons I suppose that they call us honourable men in this Chamber because we will adhere to that tradition. It may be a surprise to the honourable member to learn, for example, that there is nothing in the Constitution that says if a government defeated on the floor of the House that they have to call an election. Nothing. That has been one of the traditions that have been embedded in the British Constitution because that is the course of action followed by honourable men. --(Interjection)-- Except the -- well except the --(Interjection)-- Now the Minister of Mines and Resources said until February of 1968. But I found that a rather interesting experience, too, because there were people who argued on both sides of that issue that were able to forward some pretty convincing arguments with the same kind of evidence. It's something like the debate on capital punishment, both sides of the argument can take the same set of figures and prove entirely opposite arguments. But the fact remains that if we're to enshrine in words every single thing that we expect honourable men to do by virtue of the traditions that have been established, then I think what you do is take something away from the very honourable traditions that have been established in the British parliamentary system.

But more than that, Sir, it is absolutely essential that the government of the day have the confidence of the House at all times, and there is nothing that says that some of their own members may deny that confidence, and if we are to establish a system where you're going to have an election every four years in spite of the fact that half of the members of the government side defect, then of course that is a most ridiculous kind of a situation for a Premier to be placed in, or for the Prime Minister to be placed in. I know, Sir, notwithstanding all of the arguments that can be advanced for the calling of regular elections, in the final analysis under our system, and under the British system, the reference in case of any doubt, the reference in case of any dispute, the reference in case of any disagreement, is always to the people. And as long as we have the ability and the right, and the Premier is the first one because he has that responsibility, to make a reference to the people of this country, then I think that we have preserved what I believe is a very important part of the Constitution of this country.

And now, Sir, I should like to deal with another subject that he raised, and that's the question of the calibre and the kind of men that we get in to this Chamber and one way that we could get better men into this Chamber. Sir, the best men that you can get into this Chamber are the ones that are going to get elected, you know. I don't care how well qualified, what string of degrees that a person has, how impressive he may be as an individual, unless he can be elected into this place, all of those qualifications are for nothing. And the important thing, Sir, to remember in the election of a representative is that he represents in the eyes of the people who are doing the electing, the person who they believe is best qualified to represent their views, and that might be, and it has happened, that you have under modern technology, television, instant communications, and all that, you have the situation developing where a popular leader can drag a lot of nondescript members into the House with him, and maybe that's what happened to me in the House of Commons, although I like to believe that I got in there one year before that. But that does happen, and we know that it has happened, and people who will not survive if they're left out on their own. That's one of the things, and perhaps it is a bad thing. I think that perhaps there have been many good men that have been defeated because of the personality cult and because of the popularity of the leader. If it's an evil, and if there's something wrong with it, then that's one of the things I believe, one of the disadvantages that we have to put up with. It's not as great a disadvantage as the one that -- as the suggestion that is proposed by the Member for Wolseley.

But if there is anything that I see that is dangerous in the present trend, and that is a tendency to create what I believe to be a class of professional politicians. I dealt with this subject, Sir, during the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference here, and I'd like to repeat perhaps some of the things that I said at that time.

In the House of Commons, and perhaps to a lesser extent here, if there is any way that we are denying good people from running it is because we are creating in our system a demand

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(MR. JORGENSEN cont'd) for a politician that is far in excess of his capacity of producing under the circumstances in which he is expected to deliver. In other words, Sir, he becomes a professional because it is occupying practically all of his time. I don't think that the British parliamentary system or our system it was ever intended that it should do that. Politicians in my view should always be amateurs. They should be people that are involved in their day-to-day occupations and come in here representing the thinking of the people that they represent. It follows along the lines of the remarks that I've made so often in this House, that government have the responsibility, and if there is any extra consideration to be given to any group of people then it should be the Cabinet because they are full-time, and they must be full-time by virtue of their appointment. And I, for that reason, was somewhat disturbed a few years ago when Premier Roblin tried to give extra consideration to members of the Cabinet and that proposal was rejected and turned out. They are the ones that are devoting full-time. They are the ones that are losing contact with their businesses, with their occupations, or whatever they were doing before they got elected to the Chamber. And it's pretty difficult for those people to pick up the pieces after they have been defeated, especially if they've been in here ten or twelve years. Now, Sir, it would be much easier, for example, in this Chamber rather than have 57 members and constantly enlarging the size of the constituency, making it extremely difficult for those 57 members to keep contact with those constituents, I would suggest that we double the size of the House, and halve their pay. In the British House of Commons for example, Sir, there are room for about 200 people in the Legislative Chamber, in the House of Commons, and yet there are 630 members. That means that two-thirds of them are home all the time, no place for them to sit down. And they carry on their businesses; they carry on their occupations. If they're lawyers they practise their profession; if they're doctors they practise; if they're working men they go to work, when they feel the urge to deliver themselves a speech, they come in to the Chamber and they do that, when they feel there is a subject that they want to talk about, and of course things are a lot better organized in the British House of Commons because of the -- because of the fact that there are 630 members. It's just impossible for 630 people to talk on every piece of legislation that comes before the House so they, you know, the debate is properly organized, and it has to be.

But it would seem to me that the argument today that is being proposed, and one that I reject, is that what is required on the part of opposition members is more research staff, more civil servants to work for the opposition so they could ferret out the information that the civil servants are providing the government benches, which seems to me to be doing away with the very role of the politician, that of being a buffer between the civil servants and between the bureaucrat and the people. And I would think that that is the very important role that the politician must always consider himself. Instead of getting his advice from the experts, as we have a tendency to do these days, we're far better to be getting advice from the people we represent; the government must, because the government has a different kind of responsibility. But to suggest that what you need in order to combat the bureaucrats on the government side is another bunch of bureaucrats, is a denial of the whole process of responsible government and democratic government. What you are doing then is making the politician useless. You might just as well have one set of bureaucrats and run the thing like a business. There is no more need for politicians if that takes place, and there have been people making that suggestion. Sir, if we're going to start running this country like a business is run then there's no need to elect one board of directors to do a job and then elect another board of directors to criticize it, but democracy will be lost.

Sir, in my view the suggestions made and I am not going to be too critical, he's new and perhaps he has not become that familiar with the workings of this place, but the effect of the recommendations and suggestions of the Member for Wolseley would be to destroy democratic government and to destroy democracy in this country, and therefore I wanted to place these few remarks on the record in order to indicate that I reject completely the comments he made.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 17(a) -- The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a few comments in regards to the Attorney-General's Department. I've heard quite a lot of discussion in regards to the Human Rights Commission, Mr. Chairman, This is new legislation that has been brought in by this government in some respects. One of the comments, and I hear a good deal of complaints

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(MR. EINARSON cont'd) about it, Mr. Chairman, and I think the Minister is open for these and probably assistance in making some changes. It applies to just about all businesses you can think of when they are advertising for help and, as I am given to understand, the impression this government leaves with us that when advertising for help, whether it be male or female, if you specify which you want you are then discriminating against that individual or individuals. And this is an area, Mr. Chairman, that I've had a good deal of complaints about, that, say if a farmer wants a hired man to help him handle hay bales, he can't state whether he wants a hired man; he merely states that he wants hired help, and so people who are making application for that job they don't know what the nature of the employment is, so as a result, Mr. Chairman, utter confusion is created. I just want to quote that one example, Mr. Chairman, because I could spend a half an hour here and give you many more examples that I think would be appropriate to this particular aspect of the legislation as it pertains to our Human Rights Commission.

There is one other problem, Mr. Chairman, that has been brought to my attention and that is those people who are engaged in the acting as agents for the Liquor Commission and selling the product. I am given to understand, and I'm sorry, Sir, that I don't have a copy of the form, and probably the Minister can enlighten us on this. It's a form that the people who are now agents for the Commission -- it's a new form that has been sent out from the Commission, and this form requests that they write down all the taxes that have to be collected for the items that they sell. Now there are people who have stores such as confectionery or other things that they sell that a tax is applied, but I am given to understand that insofar as the Liquor is concerned the tax was taken off at its source, in other words before it was sent out to the various agencies. Now with this new form the agents have to collect that 10 per cent sales tax. If this is the case, Mr. Chairman, I wonder why that change has taken place and if so, what compensation are the agents going to receive for this extra amount of work that they have to do. This is an area which - a problem that has been brought to my attention.

One other matter, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make mention of -- probably I think it's more or less I'm expressing my own personal views on this -- and that is the question of the Ombudsman. I'm wondering how many requests for assistance that have been placed before the Ombudsman, say in the past year, pertaining to problems that an individual or a group of people have had and couldn't seek the results in any other way. I, Mr. Chairman, for one when the idea of an Ombudsman was first talked about couldn't really agree with it because I felt, and I can recall, I believe it was the Member for St. Matthews who at one time in this House indicated that he had a problem in his own area; he couldn't solve it; he said he was beat on the matter and thought that an ombudsman would be very beneficial in his case. He shakes his head in the negative. I'm pretty sure I'm correct on that; I'm sorry I don't have the Hansard, but I believe he was talking about this subject when we were discussing the matter of ombudsman that he did mention this. The thing that I want to bring to the attention, Mr. Chairman, of this government is that, and it has been brought before these by-lines, these hot lines, that people will phone and they will - the people who are conducting these by-lines will say, well I'll get in touch with so-and-so and should have results for you. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that those of us who are elected to this Chamber, if anyone in our constituency has a problem and if we, as elected representatives are not able to solve it -- I'm not saying that they are going to be solved in the affirmative at all times, we may not -- they may have a problem that is just not reasonable and we can't give them a satisfactory answer, but I am wondering whether the effectiveness of a Member of the Legislature is not being lost because of the Ombudsman. Mind you the problems that people have must pertain to government when going to the Ombudsman but I'm wondering, and I asked before, how many complaints have come to the Ombudsman and of that total number how many were able to get satisfactory answers in solving their problem and how many were of the negative? Those are some of the comments I would like to make at this time, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. MCGREGOR: Mr. Chairman, I would like to refer in the same field as my honourable member and colleague, Rock Lake, and I might say over the years I've had a lot of co-operation from the Liquor Board now under Mr. Syms. I see he's indicating more new outlets; that's good for rural life, and one in my area. We did this when we were in power

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(MR. MCGREGOR cont'd). . . . and I said the same things, it made a little more for equality of rural life. The one problem, a bit of a hang-up, is the fact that while you have one outlet that really goes at this in a most progressive way, he has a large stock, he does a big business, and his commission is ten percent up to 40,000; he's thinking big and he's doing a lot higher than the 40,000 and immediately after 40,000 it drops to five percent, and with the tripling of wages in recent years -- now this ten percent was set up many years ago when wages were very low, today they're three and four times as high and he's still got only that margin which is much less than 10 percent in . . . because there are taxes taken off at the top before his ten percent comes in. It's not a real serious one but those few people -- another fellow could run the same outlet, have a very limited stock knowing that he's gearing only to accommodate near that 40,000, and I think the guy that's out, putting in a big stock, is not really getting the true break on this.

Another area, again I talked to Mr. Syms on several occasions, is a real nice little cafe that will be denied his beer and wine license and yet I can certainly walk down Main Street, or any other large city area, and see much crummier places that have this right, and I've approached Mr. Syms very honestly and very frankly about it, and if you'd only tell me why, I can think of the one cafe nearest me, Romeo's in Kenton, that I think anyone who attends it or eats there, knows the meals are topnotch and yet for reasons he has been denied. I've only asked the department to give me a reason for this; it hasn't come, and I've done everything I think fairly to represent this particular thing, and I just would like the Attorney-General to probably look into this one area, the commission, and, I just believe in representing things on an equality basis in all areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It's 5:30. I'm leaving the Chair to return at 8 p. m. this evening.