

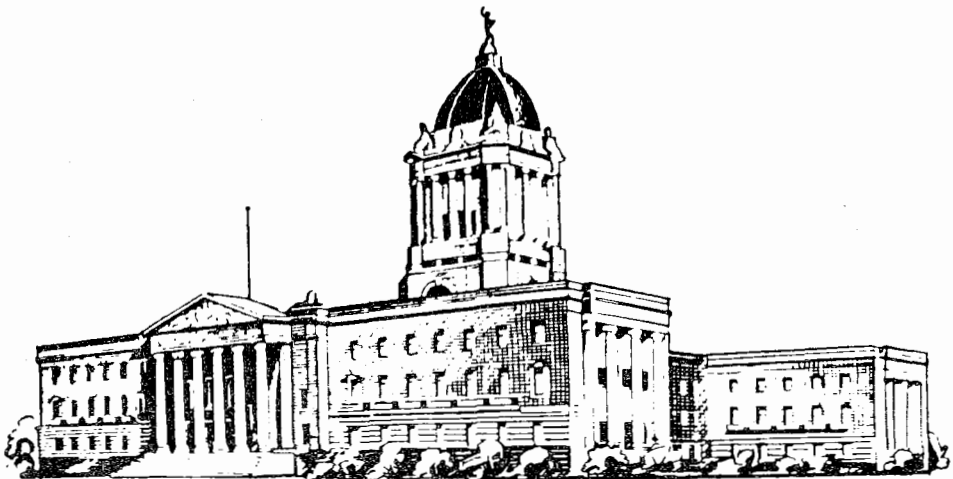


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XX No. 75 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 25th, 1973. Fifth Session, 29th Legislature.

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THOMPSON	Joseph P. Borowski	Ind.	La Salle, Man.	R0G 1B0
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WOLSELEY	I.H. Asper	Lib.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg	R3C 0V8

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Wednesday, April 25, 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 70 students of Grade 9 standing of the Isaac Newton School. These students are under the direction of Mr. Rosen and Mr. Armstrong. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Burrows, the Minister of Education.

We also have 58 students of Grade 4 standing of the Bannatyne School. These students are under the direction of Mrs. Frankard and Miss Mikkelson. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

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; Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills; Oral questions. The Honourable Member for Riel.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I directed a question to the Minister of Urban Affairs yesterday in relation to the tax statement forms. I wonder if he's able to advise the House today of the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

HON. BEN HANUSCHAK (Minister of Urban Affairs) (Burrows): Not today, Mr. Speaker.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister can advise whether the government has retained the services of a public relations firm in designing of the tax forms.

MR. HANUSCHAK: I've taken the previous question as notice and I would hope that my answer be complete and if that were so that that would be included in my answer when I'm prepared to reply.

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

MR. I. H. (Izzy) ASPER (Leader of the Liberal Party) (Wolseley): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs. It relates to the difficulty that the Manitoba Historical Society faces with respect to the Hugh John Macdonald home. Could the Minister indicate to the House whether the Manitoba Historical Society has applied to him or other members of the government for assistance in preserving this historical landmark.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

HON. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs) (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, they have, their request has been considered in Cabinet this morning; they approved a grant that will help along that line.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Agriculture and ask him if he intends to take any action with regards to the 3, 750 cases of Manitoba eggs that were seized in British Columbia as being illegally imported into that province.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): Mr. Speaker, I think that the proper actions will be taken by the people that have an interest in the matter, mainly the people who had possession of the product or the trade, in other words, if there is any violation of law. Now, the National Marketing Council may also have an interest and may have discussed these kinds of possibilities with the members of the National Marketing Council. They are also looking at it at the present time from the point of view of national marketing and the legislation under which they function. So until we have some clear definition as to what is the actual situation we are not in a position to comment.

MR. JORGENSEN: Are we to conclude then, Mr. Speaker, that when the National Egg Marketing Council has made its decision that it will be forbidden to move eggs interprovincially across Canada, and that Manitoba egg producers will be limited to the Manitoba market only.

MR. USKIW: No, Mr. Speaker, the kind of interference of trade that my honourable friend alleges is a violation of the provisions of the national agreement on egg marketing.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, the Minister mentions the national agreement on egg marketing. Does that national agreement prevent the movement of eggs interprovincially?

MR. USKIW: No, as I said a moment ago, Mr. Speaker, that anyone attempting to prevent such movement within quota, within quota allocations, would be violating the agreement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. Can he indicate or tell the House the present composition of the National Egg Marketing Board, the number of members, and the number of Manitoba representatives on that board?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I think I should take that as notice. I don't have an up to date knowledge of that.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. It relates to a question that he took as notice, or indicated that he would give a further answer to the House on April 19th. The question then that the First Minister undertook to consider was, whether he would cause the Ombudsman to appear before a committee of the Legislature, presumably the Law Amendments Committee, to answer on his report and to adhere to the guidance from the Legislature that he had indicated he wanted in his report.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. EDWARD SCHREYER (Premier and Minister of Finance) (Rossmere): Well, Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member will recall I undertook to check that out to ascertain what the practice was in other jurisdictions that do have an Ombudsman, the office of Ombudsman established in recent years, and I haven't had a full reply on that as of this point in time, Mr. Speaker. I hope to be able to report if not tomorrow by the end of the week.

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

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Speaker, on a point of personal privilege, I may have the floor?

Mr. Speaker, it was rather fortunate that you were absent last evening in the confrontation that took place. Mr. Speaker, I was referred to as a windbag and as a fat faced bastard by the Member for Flin Flon. Mr. Speaker, I challenge that remark. You know, Mr. Speaker, I . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. A point of order takes precedence over a matter of privilege. The Honourable Minister state his point of order?

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C. (Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management) (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the honourable member is referring to something that took place in the House last night which is beyond the -- which my information on the matter reveals that it was dealt with last night and therefore it cannot be raised on a point of privilege a day later. I would ask, at least, if the honourable member would wait until the Speaker has the Hansard account, which means that he could bring it up when the Speaker gets that Hansard account to see whether he now has a point of privilege, rather than us arguing about what occurred.

MR. BILTON: I appreciate the opinion of the Honourable Leader of the House. We were in committee last evening and I am taking advantage of the first opportunity, Sir, whilst you're in the Chair, that I feel that my character was abused. And, Sir, I'm not demanding the right that the honourable gentleman be brought before the bar of this House (which I have the privilege of doing under the circumstances). I merely wish to remind you, Mr. Speaker, that my services to this province, and the fact that I occupied the seat that you now hold, a privilege that I treasure, Sir, was challenged last night by the honourable gentleman from -- I've got another name for him -- the Honourable Member from Flin Flon. This, Sir, cuts me to the quick. This, Sir, causes me to rise on this particular occasion, as temperate a man as I am, this I will not take. Sir, my name, and my portrait if you like, will be enshrined in the fabric of this Legislative Assembly for all time, and that man had the privilege last night of calling me a bastard, Sir, and that I don't accept. I resent the remark, Sir, as I am sure you would in the same position. -- (Interjection) -- In the name, Mr. Speaker . . .

A MEMBER: . . . the honourable member retracted that.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

MR. BILTON: No, Sir, not for one moment. -- (Interjections) -- Not for one moment. Mr. Speaker, the good people of the Swan River Valley have sent me to this House for 11 years -- to have to listen to that! Not on your cotton-picken life! Sir, I pray your indulgence. I pray your indulgence, and I beseech you, Mr. Speaker, to arrest the situation that is developing, and I say this in all sincerity, the situation that is developing in this Chamber that cannot be tolerated. This is the highest court in the land, Sir, and we must not have that kind of language at any time, and I plead with you, Sir, to see to it that it is arrested at the earliest possible date in order that the affairs of this province whilst being discussed in this province do not go down into the gutter, because if they go down there we're lost forever. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

POINT OF ORDER

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, if the point of privilege was entertained you've listened to that, Sir, it would be by way I suppose a point of order that I would now respond. I believe, Sir, that if the Member for Swan River has a valid point, it is one which you, Sir, cannot ascertain in a definitive way until you do have the Hansard of proceedings for last evening. My recollection -- and by the way I make it plain, Sir, that I agree with the sentiment expressed by the Honourable Member for Swan River, there can be no question of that. Language in this Chamber must not be allowed to be of the kind that simply is inimical to democratic procedures and democratic government and conducted through our parliamentary system. So in that respect I concur with the general observations made by the Member for Swan River. But, Sir, with respect to the specific of the point of privilege, my recollection of last evening is that immediately after the language in question was used, there was a retraction, and I believe Hansard will demonstrate that to be so, I cannot say that with complete certainty but with almost complete certainty, Mr. Speaker, that there was an immediate retraction. Furthermore, Sir, at 9:00 p. m. you did take the Chair and if there had been any doubt in my honourable friend's mind he could have raised it at that point in time. Having said all that, Sir, that clears up I believe the point of order of privilege in question but the definitive assessment of it I suggest cannot really be made until the printed record is available to you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order. I appreciate the opinion of the Honourable the First Minister, and that there was a retraction made, and I made a reply to that retraction. But you know, Mr. Speaker, the thing that has disappointed me the most was that the First Minister sat in this House and heard that language and did nothing to deter it one way or the other.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Would the honourable member state his point of order?

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker I do have a point of privilege now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister on a matter of privilege.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, it is not a spurious one, Sir, I suggest that the Member for Swan River said that I sat here, concurred with the language and did nothing. Mr. Speaker, I don't know if I need account to my honourable friend on a minute to minute basis of the way in which I attempt to carry out my responsibilities as leader, but I did speak to the person to indicate that language of that kind was not acceptable. In any case, Sir, Mr. Chairman, Jenkins who was chairing the session was dealing with the matter, there was a retraction, I didn't see any point in exacerbating the situation at that point in time. The important thing is that in accordance with parliamentary procedure the retraction was made. Is there any greater service to our parliamentary system if it's made a second time? I mean, is that what my honourable friend wants?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. Let me first of all indicate that I've indulged honourable members, and especially the Honourable Member for Swan River, because I wanted to make sure whether there was a prima facie case of privilege. Let me indicate that our Rule 24 provides, when a matter of privilege arises it shall be taken into consideration immediately. Further, let me indicate in respect to matters of privilege which have come up from time to time, members raise so-called questions of privilege on matters which should sometimes be dealt with as personal explanations or corrections, either in debates or in the proceedings of the House. A question of privilege ought rarely

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd) to come up in the Legislature, it should be dealt with by a motion giving the House power to impose a reparation or apply a remedy. This is something that we are not doing.

There are privileges of the House as well as of members individually. Wilful disobedience to orders and rules of the parliament in the exercise of its constitutional functions; insults and obstructions during the debate are breaches of the privileges of the House. Liabilities upon members and aspersions upon them in the relation to parliament and interference of any kind with their official duties, are breaches of the privileges of the members; but a dispute arising between two members as to allegations of facts does not fulfill the conditions of parliamentary privilege.

I hope this refreshment on privilege to the members will aid and also make the work of the House go forward more smoothly.

We are under the oral question period. The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: Would you allow me the privilege of extending my appreciation to the Deputy Speaker for a job well done last evening. I personally conveyed my appreciation to him, and I wouldn't want this opportunity to pass and I thank you for that opportunity.

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

POINT OF ORDER

MR. JORGENSON: Mr. Speaker, I should like to rise on a point of order, and although it deals with the same subject matter, I think it's relevant to the statement you've just made, and perhaps it will help clarify a situation that should it occur again could be dealt with, and I read from the Legislative Act, Chapter L-110, Citation 66, and it says: "To the end that all the debates in the Legislative Assembly be grave and orderly and that all interruptions be prevented: (a) if any member of the Assembly makes any disturbance or acts in a disorderly manner whilst any member is orderly debating, or while any bill, order, or other matter is being read or dealt with, the Speaker shall call upon the member by name making such a disturbance. If the member does not thereupon refrain from the disturbance or disorderly conduct, and does not forthwith make due amends to the Assembly therefor, the Speaker shall thereupon censure the member and shall direct him to be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms and detained in such custody for such period as the Speaker orders." And subsection (c) goes on to point out that: "If the Assembly is in Committee of the Whole when any such disorder or disturbance takes place the Committee shall forthwith rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again, and the Chairman shall inform the Speaker of the fact of the disorder or disturbance whereupon the Speaker shall deal therewith in the manner hereinbefore provided for as fully and effectually and in all respects as if the disorder or disturbance had taken place while he was occupying the Chair."

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, on the point of order here, it has been stated that a retraction was made. There was no retraction made by the Member for Flin Flon that I recall, and I sat through the debate last night. Mr. Chairman, in the first accusation that the member made, there was an apology issued after the first statement; there was no retraction made per se. After the second and third statements, particularly the final statement with reference to the Member for Thompson, there was not even an apology let alone a retraction of the statement made. And, Mr. Speaker, I recommend to you highly that you take and examine the records . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please. The honourable member has not raised a point of order, he has just debated what took place last night. Oral questions. The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: My point of order is that there was no retraction issued on any of the points. Mr. Speaker, what in fact happened, we watched a kangaroo court in action with the First Minister in his chair last night.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I would hope that all honourable members would conduct themselves honourably. I would hope that all honourable members would accede that others in this Chamber be treated the way they wish to be treated. Order, please. Order. -- (Interjections) -- Order, please. I would hope that the courtesy to each -- I would hope that -- Order, please. I would hope that the courtesy that each member expects would be extended to every other member of this Chamber, and I would also respectfully request that at least that

POINT OF ORDER

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd) be granted to the Chair occasionally too. May we proceed with the question period.

The Honourable Minister of Tourism and Recreation state his point of privilege?

MR. DESJARDINS: I would ask the member who lectured us here today to withdraw remarks he made about me.

ORAL QUESTIONS (Cont'd)

MR. SPEAKER: Question period. The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to return to mundane matters, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Industry. Has the government through either the Statistics Department or his department initiated any formal studies on the benefits and the impact of the proposed pipeline, gas pipeline route, from the Arctic through the Manitoba boundaries - through the route proposed for Manitoba. Are there any formal studies?

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

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, I don't know what the honourable member's definition of formal studies is. However I can advise him that we have at least two staff members who are examining this question very closely in the Department of Industry and Commerce.

MR. ASPER: Is there -- to the same Minister, Mr. Speaker, -- is there any material, or any conclusions or reports, that staff members have produced indicating some evaluation of this project for Manitoba?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, we have various kinds of data; we have an opinion that would indicate what the ideal route of that particular pipeline should be, but beyond that I don't know whether I should -- there is a certain amount of discussions that will be going on the future, and I don't know whether I should go into detail with regard to inter or intra-departmental studies.

MR. ASPER: Has the government formally advised the Government of Canada, or Ministries of Canada, or Crown Corporations, that it has staked out its claim for the pipeline running through Manitoba. Has that been formally done?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, we have indicated I would say in more of an informal way our concerns in this matter. By informal I mean by discussions with the various Ministers - at least two Ministers.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I wonder if the Honourable Minister could indicate to the House the number of drivers that are under suspension at this time due to being charged under the impaired section of the Act or those that have been in the last twelve months?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. That would be better done under an Order for Return. The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I asked him a question about the senior citizens home in Cartwright and he indicated that the title for the property was the holdup. In view of the fact that the title to one piece of property has been in his department's hands since last November, the other for almost two weeks, could he now indicate what the stage of the situation is now?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I do think that the honourable member in fairness to those that must be inquiring of him would probably be better served to contact the General Manager of the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation and request information - he is a very open man, and I'm sure he would give -- be quite open with the problems that may be confronting in Cartwright.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. Under the impaired section of the Highway Traffic Act that the fines are rather extensive. Where does that money go - into the general fund or into the Treasury of Autopac?

MR. PAWLEY: I can't understand why the honourable member directs that question towards me. It is better directed towards the Minister of Transportation but it's part of the general process of fine collection. It goes into the -- the Attorney-General could answer that question -- into the General Revenues I suppose.

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

MR. A. R. (Pete) ADAM (Ste. Rose): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Mines and Resources. I am wondering if there are any changes being contemplated on the opening dates for sport fishing this year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member probably was not here when I indicated that there was no contemplated changes.

The honourable member asked me a question yesterday about the Fairford Dam and whether it had been closed. I am advised that the discharge through the Fairford Dam was reduced to 250 cubic feet per second on March 1/73. Previously the outflow had been 1600 cubic feet per second and had been maintained at that rate from October 27/72 to March 1/73. The reason for reducing the outflow to 250 cubic feet per second was the anticipated low normal runoff due to the light snow covering of the Lake Manitoba watershed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could respond to the question put by the Member for Roblin. The honourable member was asking whether the moneys collected by way of imposition of fines for violations of the Highway Traffic Act, sundry violations - if he was wondering where those revenues go, they go into Consolidated Revenue. If the violations occur within the limits of a town or village, municipal jurisdiction, either in whole or in part, they would go to the coffers of the town or village - I believe in whole.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. CY GONICK (Crescentwood): I have a question for the Minister of Industry and Commerce as the Minister in charge of Energy Resources. Has the Government of Manitoba made a formal presentation to the Federal Government regarding the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline?

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

MR. EVANS: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GONICK: Does the government intend to make a formal representation to the Federal Government on the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that our course of action will be the course of action that will be most beneficial to the interests of this province and therefore I would suspect that in due course at the appropriate time there will be presentations and consultations. I can advise the honourable member that we have already had some meetings with the National Energy Board people.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I wonder if he can indicate whether the government's considering using the empty military houses at Gimli for low cost housing at that place, also the federal blocks that have been sitting empty there for two years?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, there have been some requests that have come forth to examine the housing conditions in the Town of Gimli. There has, and is right now a survey being undertaken, and part of the terms of reference in respect to do that analysis would be to ascertain what existing facilities might be used in Gimli, would could in fact take in that referred to by the Member for Thompson.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson, a supplementary.

MR. BOROWSKI: A further question, yes, a supplementary. Has the Minister asked Ottawa if he could buy those federal blocks that I believe are almost brand new and have been sitting empty for several years? Has he asked the Federal Government if he could buy them - say for a dollar perhaps?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could shed some light on this for the Honourable the Member for Thompson. Those houses in question are not owned by the Federal Crown, they're owned by some private entrepreneur or developer, who has a ten-year - I believe it's a ten-year contract with the Federal Department of Defence, the terms of which are still active until the end of the ten-year period. It would be a case of negotiating with that person I believe rather than with the Federal Crown.

ORAL QUESTIONS

(MR. SCHREYER cont'd)

Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet I would like to clarify one aspect of the reply I gave the Member for Roblin. If the fines imposed for convictions under the Highway Traffic Act have to do with impaired driving charges these come under the Criminal Code and as such are under provincial jurisdiction, the revenues accrue to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the province. An example of the kind of infraction of the Highway Traffic Act in which the revenue from the fine would go to the municipality would be in the case of failing to stop at a stop sign - the lesser offences one could put it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I have a question to direct to the Minister of Mines and Resources. In view of the very low levels on the Red River, I wonder if the Minister could undertake to discuss with the Federal Government the difficulties imposed by banks slumping of the Red River because of the statutes of the Federal Government to not put in the St. Andrews Locks at this time of year. The problem arises because of the early break-up this spring, and many people along the Red River bank are finding a very particular difficulty because of about a three-week delay that is not normal, and the very low levels are causing severe slumping of the banks. I wonder if he could undertake to explore with the Federal Government whether this fixed provision of theirs could not be altered to more effectively protect the environment of the Red River.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'll undertake to convey my honourable friend's remarks as they appear in Hansard tomorrow to the respective Federal Minister.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. Referring to the studies that were going on his department on the northern pipeline route, could the Minister undertake to make the same information as to the route, best route that he referred to for the pipeline, would he undertake to make that information available to all members of the House either by tabling it or at the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, similar questions have been asked of other Ministers with regard to departmental material and I think the First Minister has indicated in the past, as have other Ministers, that this is not in keeping with legislative proceedings, or that is, in keeping with the rules and traditions of government as we know it in the British Parliamentary experience and system, and therefore the answer is no.

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister would indicate to us whether any other departments of this government are involved with that study, such as the Department of Environment, Department of Mines, so that the position arrived at by the Government of Manitoba has taken into account not only the industrial impact but the environmental impact?

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, alternately the Manitoba Energy Council which was set up a short time ago will be advising the Government of Manitoba on this matter - a member of the Manitoba Energy Council is the Deputy Minister of Mines, Energy and Environmental Management.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder in his statements with regards to the McKenzie Valley Pipeline in which he took exchange, whether he's referring to an oil line or a gas line?

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

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I have a few questions that I would like to direct to the First Minister. The first question: Has the government of the Province of Manitoba made any protestation, or raised any objections, to the Federal Government on the new regulations re immigration, because of their restrictiveness?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware of which regulations my honourable friend is referring to.

MR. FROESE: If I may clarify the point. The restrictiveness in the manner that people cannot come here until they have been given approval to do so. That they can no longer get landed status after arriving here.

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(MR. FROESE cont'd)

A second question: Does the government consider regulations too stringent when there's a need for certain people in the province and the natural population growth not meeting needs?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, if the regulations my honourable friend is referring to are the regulations I think he's referring to, they are merely an extension in minor degree to those changes which were made to immigration law and regulations some six or seven years ago. That's when the basic changes were made, and I don't quite follow the assumption in my honourable friend's question as to what it is that the province will gain or lose by virtue of these new regulations being promulgated. We do have problems of adjusting, providing sufficient employment opportunity to those Manitobans who have been here, who are already resident here; we think we are coping reasonably well. If my honourable friend is suggesting that there ought to be a liberalization of immigration law because of a manpower shortage, he should make his argument and we'd be interested to hear him.

MR. FROESE: One final supplementary. Have any recommendations been made to the Federal authority re immigration regulations?

MR. SCHREYER: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I will check.

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 Mines and Natural Resources and Environmental Management. Can you indicate to the House how many inspectors we have operating under the Clean Environment Commission throughout the Province of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. GRAHAM: Supplementary. Could the Minister indicate, or get the information and advise the House of how many inspectors there are covering the rural part of Manitoba?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the First Minister. It relates to the Veterinary Services Clinic at Cypress River. I understand he received a brief from those people there. Is he prepared to meet with them now the delegation is prepared to come in to see him?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I cannot verify that I did receive such a brief but it may be, I will check. I would simply indicate, Mr. Speaker, that the program is one which operates under the aegis of the Department of Agriculture. I am assuming that the Minister of Agriculture has been able to deal with all representations in connection with veterinary clinics and to have done so rather well.

MR. EINARSON: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I'm not certain that I understood the First Minister's answer correctly in the first comments he made. Did he or did he not receive a brief from the Cypress River Services Clinic Committee?

MR. SCHREYER: Well Mr. Speaker, I indicated that I didn't have any recollection that I had received such a brief and that I would check. It may well be that I have received such a brief and have sent it along to the Minister of Agriculture for his observations and comments before I reply.

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

MR. ASPER: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Labour. It relates to his announcement of government policy last evening relative to portable pensions for government employees. My question is, Mr. Speaker, would the Minister indicate to the House why he has announced that the portable pension for government employees will be limited only to the circumstances under which they change from one government job to another government job but do not achieve full portability. Was there some particular reason for denying full portability?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I don't know that I have denied full portability. As a matter of fact I don't know what my honourable friend is referring to when he uses the phrase "full portability". There has been a system of portability of pensions within what is generally conceived as the public service for some considerable period of time with some jurisdictions. There were a few other jurisdictions that didn't

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) have this same provision, including Manitoba, and it is now our desire to join in with portability within the public service. And the reason I did it last night, Mr. Speaker, because of the fact that the estimates of the department are under review and as the Minister responsible for the Civil Service to the House, I was replying to a criticism by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia because we hadn't instituted such a plan. And I just merely wanted to point out to him that we were not as regressive as we were being accused of by my friend at that particular time.

MR. ASPER: To the same Minister, then it is not the government's policy to permit a government employee to transfer his pension from government to the private sector but only within government?

MR. PAULLEY: Only within government, and if my honourable friend would like to expand and stay around this afternoon, hopefully we will get into a further discussion to the Estimates of the Department of Labour and we can have a more informal discussion at that particular time.

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

MR. EARL McKELLAR (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It's in regard to the annual report of the Public Insurance Corporation. Will this annual report be referred to the Municipal Affairs Committee this session?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, it will be dealt with in Committee of the Whole House during my Estimate review.

MR. McKELLAR: It's required to - the answer requires the . . . we were given yesterday, . . . referred it is going to be dealt with by Committee of the House. Will this not be dealt with by Committee in the other room where the committees can deal with it and meet with and ask questions of the officers of the corporation?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I'd assume that any question one might want to pose would be asked of me during my Estimate review as Chairman of the Board.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Minister of Education. I'd like to ask him if it would be the right thing for school divisions to expect the same kind of pension legislation for the teachers as was announced by the Minister and if not, when could we expect the Act or the Bill to be introduced?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: The honourable member well knows that no one can deny him the right to expect anything he wishes at any time he chooses to do so, and my department's estimates have not been dealt with by the House. There'll be an opportunity to discuss that then and there may be other opportunities to discuss this matter in detail.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable the First Minister and ask him if he's aware that many school divisions are awaiting this legislation in order to assess their staff for next year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Well Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I can't reply to my honourable friend fully because I didn't catch the particular legislation that he was referring to, or the nature of it.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask if the pension legislation introduced by the Minister of Labour, or announced by the Minister of Labour, will be the same for the teachers of Manitoba because many school divisions are awaiting the decision as to the retirement age to assess their staff for next year.

MR. SCHREYER: Well Mr. Speaker, that - I don't see that there is such a causal connection between this legislation and the extent to which school divisions will be reassessing their teacher hiring requirements for next year. The legislation in question is voluntary in nature. It is not mandatory, therefore it will have an effect in degree only. It will not be a very massive or pervasive effect but a gradual one over the years. Well clearly, Mr. Speaker, it's relatively soon it will be enacted and I don't know whether we could give with precision whether it will be within seven days, fourteen, twenty-one, but relatively soon.

MR. GIRARD: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to clarify by asking the First Minister whether he is aware that teachers who are now 60 years old who may . . .

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MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I think I have mentioned before that whether a Minister or anyone else is aware of something which does not pertain to the procedures of the House is irrelevant and is not in order. Would the Honourable Member like to rephrase his question?

MR. GIRARD: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to know if the First Minister will consider the school divisions' urgency in obtaining this kind of information because the teachers who are now 60 years old might well want to retire if the Act is changed, and they cannot make that decision until the Act is introduced in the House and it seems to be delayed.

MR. SCHREYER: Well Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend the Member for Emerson will realize that there are a number of imponderables here. I believe that the Minister of Labour and/or the Minister of Education have already indicated in a most clear and unequivocal way the government's intention to proceed with this legislation. I believe that the subject matter of the legislation is already a matter of record and knowledge, public knowledge. As to when that legislation gets enacted into law depends in part on the pace with which we conduct Her Majesty's business, and in that respect my honourable friend on the other side and on this side share some responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. Can he indicate to the House, or inform the House, as to what type or form the two-price system payment will take under the Canadian Wheat Board for this past year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

MR. USKIW: No, Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of what the intentions of the Government of Canada are in this respect.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (Leader of the Official Opposition) (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he can indicate to the House whether his department monitor the cost of living and are in a position to indicate or to be concerned about any unusual price increases that may take place?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the Economic Research staff in the department is monitoring inflationary trends in the Province of Manitoba. However, I can - very pleased to advise the House that what we have discovered so far confirms what the First Minister has indicated recently and that is that the rate of inflation in Manitoba compares favourably with other areas in Canada. In other words, we have not experienced the same degree of inflation over the past ten or 15 years in the Province of Manitoba as has been experienced in other places such as Ontario or British Columbia.

MR. SPIVAK: I wonder if the Minister of Industry and Commerce can indicate whether there are any impending increases in the price of gasoline or other petroleum products in Manitoba?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to indicate that particular item. This is hypothetical and I am not in a position to give an answer.

I would, while I'm on my feet take the opportunity to reply to a question posed by the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition with respect to the impact of proposed subsidies for Maritimes, Maritime industries, as announced a few weeks ago in Ottawa. I can only state at this time that the subsidies are to be levied on a very selective basis. In other words, they could be levied for selective industries. We have wired the Honourable Mr. Marchand, the Minister of Transport, expressing the concern of the Province of Manitoba that such subsidies do not harm our industries. I can also advise you that we will be monitoring the situation very closely and we would be making representation to Ottawa as the subsidy increases may be announced, or may be in the process of being considered by the Department of Transport or the Canadian Transport Commission.

I can also advise the honourable members that I along with my counterparts in the three other western provinces will be meeting in a matter of weeks with Mr. Marchand and this will be one of the subjects for discussion, and I'm sure it will be one of the topics for discussion for the First Ministers when they meet later this summer.

MR. SPIVAK: On my question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce relating to the statement he just made, or the answer he just gave to the question, I wonder if he can indicate whether there's going to be a Western/Canadian position at that meeting or will there be each

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(MR. SPIVAK cont'd) individual province basically discussing a position from their point of view.

MR. EVANS: The four western provinces have come to a common position with regard to a large number of transportation items, particularly in the area of railway freight rates. Obviously there are some differences but we have prepared now a position paper about which there is common purpose and there is agreement among all four provinces with regard to various changes in the National Transportation Act, which we think need to take place and with regard to many many other matters, with regard to railway cost disclosure, and so forth. And we are one in our determination to have a change in railway freight rates to stimulate and enhance industrialization of Western Canada.

MR. SPIVAK: . . . the Minister of Industry and Commerce can indicate whether that position paper will be tabled in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Minister of Industry and Commerce.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, this was not my intention, and of course at this point it has not been presented to the Honourable Mr. Marchand, and of course it is a joint paper that has been prepared jointly with the other provinces. We are not in a position to do so, at least not at this time.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, a question, but really by way of a question. I wonder if the Minister would consider the possibility of tabling it in the House after the presentation has been made to the Federal Government so that it can in fact be debated in this House.

MR. EVANS: Well Mr. Speaker, -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, we'll take the suggestion under advisement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism. I wonder if he could indicate whether he has found a new set of developers for the building of a lodge and camping facilities at Sasagiu Falls, at about 50 miles south of Thompson?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. DESJARDINS: I'm afraid I'll have to take that question as notice.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary, while he's taking it as notice, could he indicate what happened to the old developer, and is he entitled to any compensation for work that he has done on the site prior to losing it?

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

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask a question of the Minister of Education. I would like to ask him if he would consider making the, making an announcement with regards to teachers' pension in the same way as the Minister of Labour has made the announcement for the purpose of clarifying to school divisions?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. HANUSCHAK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'd be most happy to in exactly the same way during the consideration of my Estimates, and as soon as we can get around to them I'd be happy to make that announcement.

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

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Labour, 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.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. If the shouting would die down I would be able to determine what is going on. The Honourable Member for Pembina.

POINT OF GRIEVANCE

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak on a point of grievance.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Speaker, my point of grievance is the treatment which my area, and indeed the southern part of Manitoba, has received from this government in relation to the considerations given to the Pembina dams.

The final thing that has triggered this off, and my decision to rise on grievance, is a report that appeared in the Tribune on April 25th in which the Minister of Mines and Natural

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(MR. HENDERSON cont'd) Resources has chosen to comment on a letter which was sent to the Premier asking for an appointment with the NDP Cabinet. The letter was addressed to the Premier but it was not acknowledged by the Premier when he was questioned by me in the House.

Mr. Green has chosen to reply to this in the Tribune of the 21st.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. It's significant that the honourable member did not ask me whether I'd made the remarks which were attributed to me and rises on a point of grievance, and now having raised them, Mr. Speaker, I want to indicate that I told the reporter for the Tribune that I had dealt with this matter in the House; that my remarks with respect to it were dealt with in the House; and I told him that the matter was under consideration now by the Water Commission, and that any further reconsideration would have to await a report of the Water Commission. Now, Mr. Speaker, if that had been misinterpreted by the reporter it is because of the general remarks that I had made indicating the pessimism of the position as defined by previous reports, but the matter is now under advisement by the Water Commission; that is what I told the reporter of the Winnipeg Tribune, and I did not go to the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member said that I sought out the Tribune to make a . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. A matter of privilege as I indicated earlier. I would indicate the Honourable Minister had a point of explanation but not a matter of privilege.

The Honourable Member for Pembina wish to proceed with his grievance.

MR. HENDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well possibly the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources didn't mean to report it to the press as such but he was inferring his opinions to the press. He said a letter to that effect will be sent to the lower Red River Valley Commission which this week asked Premier Schreyer to discuss this with the Cabinet.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Minister state his point?

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege. I made no such remark to the newspaper, and I am surprised that the honourable member would not ask me whether I had such a remark before he chose to deal with it in that way.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Speaker, I'm somewhat sorry, probably the Minister never made these remarks and they're put in the press. I think though probably then that this quarrel should be between him and the press because I'm reading this very article from the press.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I believe there is a difference of opinion between members, that is not a point of privilege. The Honourable First Minister.

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MR. SCHREYER: . . . order now, Mr. Speaker. I am not completely certain, Sir, but it is my understanding of a grievance motion that the substance of the grievance when it is demonstrated does not exist, that in fact there can be no basis for a grievance motion, or debate on an alleged grievance. What is at issue here, Sir, is that the Honourable the Member for Pembina feels aggrieved, feels aggrieved because of a certain combination of circumstances which he alleges exist. He has then proceeded to outline what the nature of his grievance is, basing it in large part upon a newspaper account which the Minister of Mines and Resources has effectively indicated is simply inaccurate and quite contrary to what his stated position was. Therefore it does raise the question, the point of order, just what is the nature of the grievance which we are supposed to be entertaining at this point in time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: We are seeing the usual . . .

MR. SPEAKER: It's not a point of privilege we're discussing, we're discussing a point of procedure.

MR. BILTON: We're seeing the same exercise that has gone on before and I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Member for Pembina hasn't had the opportunity as yet

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(MR. BILTON cont'd) to point out his grievance. And if the honourable gentlemen would stay in their seats and hear what he has to say, then take exception at the proper time, we would probably get somewhere in the business of this province. And I think the House Leader, he's been up no less than three times, Sir, and the honourable gentleman's only had the floor for three minutes. How much more can you expect of him if you don't give the chance to exercise his privilege?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the former, the Member for Swan River is a former Speaker and would know that this matter could be cleared up in a way which is in accordance with Beauchesne and I refer to Citation 177: "Reading telegrams, letters or extracts from newspapers as an opening to a question when Orders of the Day are called is an abuse of the rules of the House. It is not good parliamentary practice to communicate written allegations to the House and then ask Ministers either to confirm or deny them. It is the member's duty to ascertain the truth of any statements before he brings it to the attention of parliament." And I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that the member -- Mr. Speaker, the honourable member, his grievance is what I have said to a newspaper and I suggest -- (Interjection) -- Well, Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable Member for Swan River will read Hansard tomorrow he will see that the Honourable Member for Pembina has already made the point which I am suggesting that he made. And all I am suggesting to him is that he ascertain the truth of what I am alleged to have said before he makes it the basis of a point of grievance.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, it would be far from my intention to get into a hassle about this. I thought I was doing correctly when I was reading this thing from the paper, and I can easily throw it away, but when you do read these things you're naturally impressed by them and I said this is what finally triggered off my decision to rise on this point to say that why I was complaining about the treatment we've had in connection with the Pembina Dam. -- (Interjection) --

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Pembina. The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSON: There have actually been two points of order raised and it seems to me that somehow we're confusing the both. The point of order raised by the Minister of Mines and Resource deals with the veracity of a press statement that was made and the Citation that he read out of Beauchesne pretty well in my view substantiates the position he takes on that point of order. However the First Minister raised another point of order as to whether or not the Member for Pembina had the right to introduce a grievance based on the assumptions that were contained within a newspaper report. Whether or not those newspaper reports are accurate or otherwise my honourable friend the Member for Pembina does have a grievance, and it's a longstanding grievance that he wishes to raise, and whether or not he uses the information that is contained in the press report, the grievance still exists with regard to the treatment that the people in the Pembina River Valley have received at the hands of the government with respect to a particular project that they have been advocating.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Thanks, Mr. Speaker. Well I'll try and go ahead from there but the final remark that was in this article that I read that the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources had said that their decision was imbecilic which is attributing a certain type of condition to 50,000 people and my residents, which I don't like very well. I mean I don't like the remark very well, and this is what I mean.

MR. GREEN: The member says again that I made a remark and in this -- well, Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The honourable member says I made a remark. I want to tell the honourable member that at the time that I discussed this with the reporter I had not seen the letter. I was told by the reporter that the agency in question said that if the province didn't want to do it that we should give it to that authority to do it. And I said if we were going to give them the money we wouldn't have a problem and a suggestion that we pay them the money and let them do it would be imbecilic. But I did not say that the suggestion in the letter was imbecilic.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: The Pembina Dam has never been one of the priorities of this

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(MR. HENDERSON cont'd) government and this is their decision and they have every right to it, but it doesn't mean to say that the people of the lower Red River Valley Water Commission are all foolish and that they're wrong, because there are 50,000 people down there and they have a right to their own opinions and what they think might be good for the province. They may have a different set of values as to what they figure is good for the province to what the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources has. Because these people are concerned and they really do want action down there and they're the kind of people that don't mind putting their money where their mouth is, and if the government continues with its inaction you'll probably see that they'll be wanting to do something on their own, because they believe in getting something done, and they're tired of fooling around

People who come from the city, like many on that side, are not really aware of how important water is to people in the rural areas who make their living by farming and special crops and with livestock and poultry. Water is a must if you're in this sort of a business. So when you see their type of livelihood being threatened, it really does bother them; and the Minister, while he says it hasn't been one of their priorities, I want to read from the recommendations and conclusions of the International Joint Commission when they finished with their surveys and then having had their hearings drew up their final conclusions. "The Commission recommends that the Government of Canada and the United States enter into an agreement as soon as may be practical, to implement all features of the co-operative development of the water resources of the Pembina River Basin as it is described in section . . . " so and so. So it was recommended to proceed with it at that time, and at the time of the election in 1969 it was one of the priorities of the Conservative Government at that time, and at the time that the government was changed the Conservative Government were negotiating with the Honourable Mitchell Sharp in regards to working out a satisfactory agreement.

Now just to summarize this somewhat, the people that make up the lower Red River Valley Commission, there's the Rural Municipality of Montcalm, Dufferin, Morris, Roland, Rhineland, Thompson and Stanley, and we have the Town of Morden in there, Winkler, Plum Coulee, Altona, Carman, Morris and Gretna. So you see I'm not just talking about some little wee thing in Manitoba that's just affecting a small pocket of people. It's a whole lot of people, about 50,000 people. Fifty thousand people and there's an area in there which could be irrigated of about 12,800 acres on the Canadian side and about 8,500 on the American side. Now this Pembina River that I've been talking about from time to time, it starts out around Boissevain and works in an easterly direction, on the Canadian side mostly, until it gets near Kaleida and then it weaves south and this is where they speak of the dam that would be south of Kaleida. And then it drops down over the escarpment which is an elevation there of about 500 feet, and goes down towards Walhalla where it levels out and is quite flat land. And it's in there that all the flooding damage is caused, and there's a damage on the Canadian side alone of \$250,000 each year there - they estimate the damage each year that's going on there. On top of that there's good top soil being washed away and people can't get their seed in as early and it has to be fertilized and then they don't get as good a yield, so it's important for the people even that's in the farm.

It's very important for flood control but it could also be used -- at the same time that it's used for flood control it could be used for water conservation, and this is very high assessed land in this area. Many of the quarter sections - and the Member for Rhineland has been talking about this many times - that this land here has a very high assessment, it's very fertile soil and will produce a lot if things are right. It's assessed for \$8,000 and \$10,000 a quarter which is, I would say, double most of the land -- a lot of the land in southern Manitoba. And not only that but this area is somewhat lower. There's 124 frost-free days in that area which is 20 days less frost-free days than most any area in Manitoba, which means that it's very very suitable for row crops, because I know further west up around Manitou and that, we have tried to grow corn and other things and they froze quite often. Often our grain freezes and it doesn't freeze down there. So this is an area that's very suitable to growing special crops.

We also feel that if this here dam was put in on the Canadian side that it would also improve the recreation facilities in that area and we haven't really got too much for the population we have. Even the rural area in there is three times as densely populated as other parts in Manitoba and we have the towns of Morden, Winkler and Carman and Altona, which are all large towns and what you could call growth centres and they're continuing to grow. So this

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(MR. HENDERSON cont'd) area is likely to have a more dense population than it even has now, which means that the people are there and it could easily work to the benefit of everyone if they could develop these dams and maybe go into irrigation and the like. And as you people know, we already have the cannery at Morden and I think probably that the people that are growing vegetables and that are very happy about it, and they would like to see it expanded and we have a great potential down there, because that land is flat and it only drops a few feet to the mile and it's the type of soil that's just really right for it.

The government talks about decentralizing industry these days. I say well here's one case where we could do something out in the rural area which really would help to decentralize and which would keep the people back on the farm. In fact the Pembina Development Corporation took a survey in that area last year of graduates from the Collegiate and they found out that 79 percent of the graduates moved out of that area. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, I will.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, would the honourable member mind indicating whether he is advocating the Pembina Dam as a project unto itself or only in combination with the Pembilier Dam, or vice versa, and could he indicate the storage that he is referring to as the ideal in cubic feet per second, months or whatever.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Thank you very much, I'd be very happy to do that. At the time of the recommendations there was three plans proposed. They decided on what they called Plan #2, which is one dam at Kaleida and one over at Walhalla, and according to the people in the International Joint Commission, and it's in this book, that Plan #2 is the most feasible one. Now that doesn't say that you couldn't modify it in some way but they recommended that this was the most feasible one, Plan #2.

And you asked was I recommending it for irrigation alone or for -- I mean it's a combination. If you go ahead with this you've got to be thinking of flood control, you've got to be thinking about irrigation, you've got to be thinking about industry, you've got to be talking about live-stock production, you know it's a combination of things. So I hope that clears that up, because we have an area in there where they can grow all sorts of vegetables, and corn and peas and tomatoes and everything. I think it's very important, when the Development Corporation is spending money like the way it is and losing money every year, trying to help somebody out, but we really have something out there that you could go ahead with and get results. I'm one of these ones that know it's very hard to reverse the trend of the rural people moving into the city but I think this is one thing that could help. And I was really surprised when I read in the report of the Pembina Development Corporation that 79 percent of the people are moving out of this area, I mean the graduates from the schools. This is not good for an area and I don't think it's what any government wants.

Now, to come to the cost of these things and that's always a thing that concerns people. At the time that this was proposed which was back in 1967, there were figures drawn up at that time -- (Interjection) -- 1967. Now I do know that things have gone up an awful lot, and I just want to emphasize the sharing basis because probably the cost those days will be different from today. I also say that the benefits will be much larger than they were, and in fact I'm inclined to think that the benefits would be more so than they were at that time, because back in '67 in the days when they were filling out this, recreation and tourism and that, there wasn't much emphasis put on that but now we're spending lots of money on that and it seems to be paying off. And by the way we're right across from Langdon there where they have the missile sites and the payroll over there is \$4 million a month, and if we had a recreational resort over there we feel there'd be a lot of them over there.

But what I was saying was that this is a joint affair between the United States government and the Canadian government and then the Canadian government shares with the municipalities -- the Canadian government shares with the province. So actually while it may sound big figures when you'd go over it, it's not all that big considering the way governments spend money nowadays, whether it's in connection with Hydro or anything else, is very small. And I do see as it would promote an awful lot of things that are good, and in fact I think you may put it off for awhile, but there's no doubt but what this will have to come, because as the population keeps getting greater and more people want more food this is one of the areas that can produce it and will produce it.

So I think that we needn't just look at the figure that they talked about and say that things

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(MR. HENDERSON cont'd) have changed. Sure it's changed, but the benefits change, probably the proportions have stayed the same. So I'm very disappointed that -- especially the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources has always never considered this a priority. He's so outgoing on the things that he is concerned with and that he believes in, I wish to heck he'd have believed in this a long time ago and we had it all done now.

It's rather disappointing to me because - I just want to go over again the names of the municipalities that are -- the different areas that are wanting this -- if I can find that clipping, because I think it's very important. Yes, here it is here. We have the municipality of Montcalm, Dufferin, Morris, Roland, Rhineland, Gray, Thompson and Stanley. These are rural municipalities, they're taking in an awful lot of people. And then we have the Town of Morden in there, about 3, 500; Winkler, a little bit more I think; village of Plum Coulee and Altona, Carman, Morris and Gretna. So we're talking about an awful lot of people that are in favour of this project. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, that's right too. But these are the larger areas, I really think it's important to the province. We've even had members on your side, I think the Member from Crescentwood has got up sometimes and spoke about the United States exploiting our natural resources and everything. Well here we have a natural resource and here we are as Manitobans sitting back and doing nothing. In fact the States were wanting to go ahead with it a year ago and we wouldn't move and at last -- that was two years ago I guess -- they said, well we'd let them go it alone as long as they didn't interfere with something that we could do later. But here we are, we're complaining about the States interfering with our natural resources and not taking them over, and here we are sitting back on our natural resources we aren't even trying to develop.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion agreed to? The Honourable Member for Logan.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 73(a). . . The Honourable Minister of Labour had 20 minutes left.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, what I was doing was trying to reply to the questions raised by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. I think I handled most of them. However, there was one or two I note that he may not have received the answer for and despite accusations to the contrary, I do try to run an open department and answer questions that are asked of me.

One of the questions that the Member for Assiniboia raised was the one dealing with the 44-hour work week, and he indicated that I had in the past been mighty concerned with the establishment of a 40-hour week, and he is perfectly correct. I am, and I was. However, I am of the opinion that it would be far better if at all possible for workers to reach a 40-hour week through negotiations rather than by legislation.

One of the basic principles behind our new labour legislation is a more favourable ground basis on which the workers in Manitoba can become organized and I have indicated and suggested that this is far removed from the previous base upon which the workers of Manitoba had to operate. I do not intend at this particular session to introduce legislation establishing a compulsory 40-hour week. I understand that there is a possibility of an election sometime between now and the next time that we meet, and if I find at that particular time, because I am sure we will be returned to office, that there hasn't been any widening of the provision of the 40-hour week, then I would be prepared at that particular time to introduce legislation calling for the 40-hour week.

One of the problems of course, and I'm sure my honourable friend the Member for Assiniboia will recognize, is that while we can establish a 40-hour work week by legislation, provisions also have to be made so that there isn't any reduction in the salaries of the persons affected as the result of such legislation. And if and when a 40-hour work week is introduced, I feel, Mr. Chairman, it will be necessary to have within that legislation a provision whereby no employee receives less wages for the 40-hour work week than he was receiving under the 44. So I accept the criticisms of my honourable friend and indicate to him that after the plebiscite to be held as to who shall be members of this Assembly, the chances are we will bring in legislation accordingly.

One of the other points, and it's a most important point, raised by the Member for Assiniboia, Mr. Chairman, deals with the matter of compensation to widows whose spouses have been killed in industry, and I share with him the opinion that under our present legislation the payment is not as high as it should be. When we changed the pension rates last year, they were changed to some of the highest in the whole of the dominion; still inadequate in many respects, I admit. We took a very close look at the compensation for widows of deceased workers as a result of compensation, and if I am correct, I believe the result that we arrived at was the highest in Canada; there was possibly one province that would be higher than we were.

Now the Member for Assiniboia has suggested, suggested that the widow of a worker who is injured in industry should receive not less than two-thirds of the husband's salary that he was receiving at the time of his demise. And I merely want to point out that there would be difficulty really in arriving at a precise percentage of the actual salary; it would bring about fluctuations in the amounts that a widow might receive. But last year too, Mr. Chairman, when we were considering the estimates of the Compensation Board and also that Act basing the limits, we gave more recognition to the children of somebody who had lost a breadwinner, or a family that had lost a breadwinner, and this increased the amount. But I do say in all sincerity, in all honesty and I hope it's accepted this way, that we're going to have to take another look at it. I felt that in the general area of Workmen's Compensation having made the increases that were made last year that we should at least see the effect of that before bringing further increases on a wide basis in this current session. It's something that we do recognize and I appreciate the thoughts and the opinions of other members of the Assembly.

And my honourable member in his opening remarks particularly drew to my attention many of the items that I had advocated while in opposition and also he referred to many items that he had advocated as well. I'm not sure right now, Mr. Chairman, what the score is as far as my honourable friend is concerned because he said we did bring into effect many of the things that he had suggested but that there were some still lacking and there were some that we had advocated when we were in opposition that we have done but there were others. So

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd)quite frankly, Mr. Chairman, I say to my honourable friend, really I don't know what the score is, and maybe he could give me the benefit of his tabulations.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, and I thank the Honourable Minister of Labour for yielding the floor for just a couple of minutes. I do so because I don't want to be in a position of misleading the House or having any misunderstanding with regard to what I have said in the House.

I indicated to the Honourable Member for Pembina that I did not make the remarks attributed to me in the newspaper. I just discussed the matter with the reporter and to be fair to the paper, the difference may lie in the emphasis which was given to various remarks. I did indicate the same pessimism to the newspaper reporter that I have indicated on the Estimates but I did tell him that the Water Commission was now studying the question to see whether our pessimism is justified by existing cost benefit studies and that that is what would be written to the organization that wrote us the letter. It appears, Mr. Speaker, from source that what we would be writing the organization is that the dam would not be proceeded with. That is not what was intended. What I indicated to the reporter was that we would be writing the organization to indicate that the Water Commission is now studying this matter to review modern day cost benefits, and in all fairness to the person who wrote the story, it depends on what emphasis is put on what parts of the remarks.

Also, I indicated that the reporter told me that the Commission wanted us to give them the money so that they could do the job; the reporter denies telling me that, I was interviewed earlier in the day by other reporters who gave me that information and perhaps I extrapolated the two situations. I didn't read the letter at that time. What I thought it said was that we give them the money and they do the job, and I said for us to do that would be to be imbecilic, if we were going to give the money we would do the job ourselves.

So in fairness to my honourable friend I thought that I should clarify that I did discuss it with the reporter and the remarks could result from a difference in emphasis which was given to the words and to what the hearer said; but I would be writing the Commission that the Water Commission is now looking at the present cost benefits to see whether we can now go ahead. I regret if I advised my honourable friend anything differently.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. HENDERSON: Mr. Speaker, I accept what the honourable gentleman has said. However I read this out of the paper and I got my impressions from it and I can't think that anybody can fault me for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: To continue with the remarks of the Member for Assiniboia dealing with the Estimates of the Department of Labour, he suggested that the labour force growth has been too slow. At the same time, if I recall correctly, he did indicate that there was some growth, 6,000 or some figure like that. And I'm hoping, Mr. Chairman, as the result of the announcement that I made last night in reference to the civil service being able to retire at 60 without penalty we will be able to provide more jobs as the result of people being able to leave the labour force per se earlier than they have been in the past as the result of having the benefit of more early retirement without the loss of -- or being penalized for that. And I of course would recommend to industry that they follow the lead of this progressive government in the reduction of the compulsory retirement age.

And also there is the fact that we cannot overlook, is the withdrawal from the labour force of those who through attrition or retirement leave and they, generally speaking, affect the total number within the labour force.

The first question my honourable friend asked me, Mr. Chairman, was, how is the new Labour Act working out? I think I can safely say that after a considerable amount of apprehension on the part of management particularly, that the Labour Act is working out reasonably well, that we haven't had any real serious strikes. We did have a long strike with the elevator construction workers, which was a very serious situation, but that commenced of course before the new Labour Act came into effect.

One of the fears that was expressed during the deliberations in respect to the new Labour Act was the change in onus, or change in onus dealing with unfair labour practices. We were accused at that particular time of changing the basic principles of British justice in that a

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(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) person was guilty until he proved himself innocent, if I recall some of the phrases that were used. I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that in that connection we set up a provision within the Act for an examiner to be able to, upon complaint of an unfair labour practice, to investigate the same and try and resolve the matter without the necessity of charges and countercharges and having to go to court.

I believe that I've had about eight occasions in which to appoint an examiner to look into allegations of unfair labour practices, and I believe that seven of the eight were resolved as the result of the examiner taking part in discussions with the employer and with the employee, and they were resolved satisfactorily.

I want to also say, Mr. Chairman, lest we're accused of only listening to complaints by employee as against employer under this section of the new Labour Act, I did cause an investigation to be made into the alleged unfair labour practice of one of our trade unions, which also was resolved without any further necessity of appeals to courts and the like. And as I indicated the other day in the essential services industry sector, many agreements have been signed without strikes at the present time. At the present time negotiations are going on between the construction industry and the construction industry workers and I'm hopeful, and that's all I can say, I'm hopeful that they will be able to resolve any differences that they have and reach a new agreement without resort to strike.

As far as conciliation officers are concerned, Mr. Chairman, there was a fear, an apprehension, that because of the new legislation the conciliation officers would no longer be required, and no longer really serve a useful purpose. I want to indicate to the House that not only are they serving a useful purpose, they're being asked for more than ever now than they were under the old legislation, in which case they were usually not called on until they got down to real crunch situations in negotiations. Now in some cases a request is being made, Mr. Chairman, for me to appoint a conciliation officer some two or three months before the termination of an agreement rather than as it was in the past two or three weeks before this deadline was on the horizon.

So I think that by and large, in answer to my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, the new Labour Act is working out well. I noted that even in Conservative Alberta, the Minister there is considering introducing some parts of our legislation in order to have more meaningful negotiations during the life of a collective agreement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I didn't complete my remarks last night when speaking, I didn't have sufficient time and I want to bring one further matter to the Minister's attention. And this has to do with the matter of farm labour and labour in general. I did ask some questions of the First Minister during the question period this afternoon in order to get certain information and whether the government had made any recommendations to the Federal authorities regarding people wanting to immigrate to Manitoba. And for the benefit of those members who are not informed on this, Manitoba and Winnipeg especially is at the bottom of the totem pole when it comes to people wanting to immigrate to this province and especially to the city, but to this province, let us say, and find employment here. We have a very low rating, and as said we have the lowest rating possible under the norms and the regulations set up by the Federal Government in connection with immigration. I take exception to this, I feel that the restrictions are far too severe and that this should be liberalized. In discussing the matter under the point system that we operate, that even the people working in that department and in those offices concerned, they told me themselves they could never qualify under the regulations set up. It was an impossibility for them to meet the requirements because of the situation that we have here in Manitoba. I feel that this is very undesirable and that this needs to be changed.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if my honourable friend would allow me to interject? Are you, Sir, talking about point system under regulations under the Federal immigration laws?

MR. FROESE: Yes.

MR. PAULLEY: Oh fine. Okay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: It used to be before the regulations were revamped about a year ago or so that people coming in under a passport and under granted permission to visit could then

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(MR. FROESE cont'd) apply for landed status and in this way could remain in the province and in this country and take up work. But this is no longer the case, and before they can come to Manitoba to visit even, they — and especially if they want to do some work here — this all has to be prearranged and this is next to impossible to obtain under the point system that is being used.

Many of the people that have come to Manitoba have made their home here and are working and are industrious and who really fill a need, especially in Southern Manitoba. If it wasn't for these people coming in from the South, the people in southern Manitoba just couldn't carry on with the sugar beet industry, with the potatoes, onions and so on, the special crops and also the manufacturing that takes place in the smaller centres of which we have quite a few. They're dependent on this help. Now we find ourselves in a situation because of the new regulations that these people will not be able to come in this year as in past years to do beet work, hoeing and so on in the fields. That this labour supply is cut off completely. -- (Interjection) -- As a result of the Federal regulations, naturally. But I feel that it's incumbent on this administration here in this province to make protestations and to make our views known on this and that we decry the situation that is presently in existence here today.

The point system is very severe and just by not knowing the language it already sets them back ten points and you have to have at least 50 points in order to pass. And there is other matters under the point system to — because of the low priority Manitoba has, that people wanting to come in and applying are unable to get permission to do so.

Then in past years under the system as it was before, people would come in under a visitors pass and then apply for landed status. A procedure that was being followed was that these people would appear before the immigration people and even if they didn't meet the qualifications, they then had the right to appeal and the appeal had to be made within 24 hours to the Federal Government. And this they did. And because there are such a large backlog in the Federal Immigration offices, these appeals probably won't be heard for two or three years. So on this basis these people have been able to remain in Manitoba and work here and many have set up their homes and probably by the time that the appeals will be heard, they have probably acquired the language sufficiently and met other needs that are required so that they may be able to get this landed immigrant status by that time. But there are a lot of appeals pending right now. I think they probably would be in the hundreds. So that these people have been able to remain here. But as far as the people coming in this year to work on the farms in southern Manitoba, they just won't be coming because they can no longer leave their country of origin unless they have the papers prepared and unless they have pre-arranged so that they can come in, otherwise the immigration officers would no longer allow them to come into this country.

I mentioned the need is there; and it definitely is there. We need these people to perform a certain type of work. And I know many of the city people would not come to the country and perform that menial task. They just won't do that even if they may be unemployed. I am sure of that. I would like to hear from the other side if they think differently, but I am sure that is the case, that many of the people just won't do that type of menial work.

Then also, a number of these people that did come in are very industrious, certainly have skills because some of them are self — a number of them are self-employed; not only self-employed they'll set up industries right in our area and I would ask the members to come down and visit Winkler some time and see for themselves the industries that these people have set up, and are employing many many people. So that because they set up these industries, language is no barrier and is certainly no reason for not having them admitted.

I too feel that . . .

MR. BOROWSKI: I wonder if the member would permit a question?

MR. FROESE: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member from Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: I didn't catch all of his speech, Mr. Chairman. Is the member seriously suggesting that the Provincial Government petition the Federal Government to make immigration more liberal and easy into Canada and into Manitoba, and knowing that there was half a million unemployed last year which cost us \$2 billion in unemployment funds and millions of dollars in welfare? Is he seriously suggesting that we should allow Canadians to walk the streets with no work while we open immigration doors?

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MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I'm very happy that he put the question because this is the just a case I just mentioned. That the people, those that are unemployed today will not go and perform this type of work, that we need a certain group of people that will do that type of work and these are the people that will do it. That when these people come in certainly they don't take jobs away from other people that are presently here in this province and in this country. So that there is a need. I too feel that this country is large enough to provide for many many more people than we presently have in this country. Surely other countries in Europe and other areas have much denser population than we have. We, with the large country that we have and especially the vast spaces in the prairie provinces certainly can absorb many more people, and especially if we provide and start up secondary industries such as is being done in our locality in southern Manitoba. So that there is room for many more people and especially those that are willing to work and have acquired skills.

Then, too, I think many of these people are resourceful and have shown that because they are self-employed to quite a large degree and can make their own way without having to be a liability to the governments of this province and of this country.

I feel that we cannot let the situation remain as is because it really is a serious situation and will become more serious during the summer season when a lot of work will be available and will be there and that we can quite well run into a serious shortage. This is experienced farm help that I'm speaking of. These people have been engaged in agriculture and are agricultural people so that agriculture is not strange to them and they can perform the work quite readily.

Then, too, because the Federal Government in their immigration laws puts a very low priority on some of these countries from where these people want to immigrate. They give preference to English-speaking people and people coming from England, whereas people from other countries are unable to come in because of the low priority that is put on those countries. So this is another setback and another consideration that they have to meet. -- (Interjection) -- I didn't get the question that the Member for Thompson was trying to put. Maybe I can deal with that later on.

Certainly I think we should make every effort to have the laws liberalized and especially to people who want to work and for which there is a need in this province and in this country. I think there is at the present time a certain unfairness and probably a discrimination that we are practicing against certain immigrants because of their language or other barriers that there might be. I don't feel that this is proper and that things should remain as they are. I feel that improvements can be made and I feel that this government should make recommendations to the Federal authorities to make some changes in this regard.

So, Mr. Chairman, this is one of the points that I failed to make last night because there was insufficient time at my disposal and therefore I could not deal with it. But to me this is very important and already there is a problem as I indicated because many of these appeals will be coming up within a year or two, so that they will have to be dealt with when they are coming up. I hope that we will see some liberalization so that when these people have been here for a year or two or three that they then will not have to be deported to their countries where they came from.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Osborne.

MR. IAN TURNBULL (Osborne): Mr. Chairman, the remarks made by the Member for Rhineland are ones that I think strike at the heart of labouring people in, not only this province but in the country, in Canada. He is suggesting I think that the immigration policies be even further liberalized as he says than they were in 1972, and before that.

Mr. Chairman, I think that the point system that was established some oh, four or five years ago now by the, the new point system, by the Federal Department of Immigration is one that certainly does enable those people who want to come to Canada to come here and to find work here, providing of course that they are filling a labour market demand, a need, and providing that they have the qualifications to do the work.

But I really think that further liberalization of the immigration laws would be detrimental to harmonious labour relations in Manitoba and in the country. To me, Sir, what he is suggesting is not a humanitarian course which would give those individuals who find themselves in this country a better break or even a fair break, because I couldn't disagree with that. If he is talking about individual cases, if he is talking about people who for one reason or another have had to leave their country of birth and have found a refuge in Canada, then of course I would

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(MR. TURNBULL cont'd) agree with him. If he is talking though only of those people who require labour, and cheap labour, then I must disagree with him. I will not, I will not tolerate the idea that the Federal law should be so liberalized as to enable men in this country to establish sweat shops . . .

MR. FROESE: Mr. Chairman, I want to raise a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of order. The Honourable Member for Rhineland has a point of order.

MR. FROESE: The member referred to what I said and I didn't refer to cheap labour in any way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for . . .

MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Speaker, I think that that kind of cheap labour in the Province of Manitoba would be detrimental to our whole economic system, the whole system which has produced high productivity in the farm sector.

To me, Sir, it is all in a piece with the kind of labour market that exists for example in parts of California, where what we have in fact is the importation of labour to do those jobs which no American citizen apparently would do, to do those jobs that no American citizen would consider it worthwhile in terms of the economic return or wages that he earned. And I think that the undertone, the suggestion of the Member for Rhineland is one that would in fact result in cheap labour being brought into this province to do those jobs which Canadians find it un-rewarding to do because of the wages paid.

Mr. Speaker, I heard some, oh two years ago now, representations made to the Agricultural Committee in the southern part of the Province of Manitoba, and they were representations that indicated to me that we did in fact have even within the boundaries of our province the kind of cheap migrant labour that the Member for Rhineland is suggesting the Federal Government allow. And as far as I could make out from the representations to that committee, Sir, and I did not investigate them further, as far as I could make out from the representations to that committee, people who were native to northern Manitoba were allowed, did in fact go to southern Manitoba to harvest the various kinds of specialty crop that they have there. In particular, the sugar beet crop was mentioned. Sugar beets requiring extensive hand cultivation during the growing season.

And as I understood it, Mr. Chairman, what happened was that the Metis or the Indian families from northern Manitoba moved south during the sugar beet season to these farms where they were hired. But they were not hired, Sir, under the basis of contractual labour relations and agreements that would normally exist. They weren't, they had no union for example. They didn't enter into a wage scale collectively agreed at between the owners or the managers and the workers. They didn't even enter into individual contracts with the farmers in those areas, Sir. What happened was that the families from the north moved south presumably at their own cost and the head, or the alleged head of the family was hired. Now that meant, Mr. Chairman, that the head of the family, or the alleged head of the family, could employ or could have working in the fields even during the school year, his children, or those who claim to be his children. They were paid as I recall now, it is two years since I heard this representation, they were paid at a flat rate, so much per acre, I believe it was. And it was not, Sir, the kind of wage scale arrangement that seemed to me to be an arrangement which would benefit all members of the working unit or the family. Quite the contrary. What it meant, it seemed to me, was that the boss man or the alleged family head was enabled to get whatever money the farmer was willing to pay him and then to dole out to his family those moneys that he thought was worthwhile.

In addition to that situation, Sir, these families were in some cases required, and perhaps they wanted to, but they were required to live in housing provided by the farmer. Now I did not, I did not examine these farm units and the kind of housing and accommodation or the food that was provided to these working families; but the whole situation, Mr. Chairman, appeared to me to be one that really did come very close to the kind of situation that has existed in Southern California with regard to the grape harvesters, the workers in the grape fields.

And I think, Sir, that the Member for Rhineland in making the suggestions that the immigration laws be liberalized to allow labour to come in here to work at rates that no Canadian could find acceptable, to do those jobs that no Canadian might find suitable, is really, Sir, a regressive idea and one that takes us back to the years before 1900; and I think, Sir,

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(MR. TURNBULL cont'd) that that kind of suggestion in labour relations or in farm employment in this country is unacceptable.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The hour being 4:30, the last hour of every day being Private Members' Hour. Committee rise and report. Call in the Speaker.

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

IN SESSION

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

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

MOTION presented and carried.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Private Members' Hour. First item is resolutions of private members. Resolution No. 20. The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

RESOLUTION 20.

MR. THOMAS BARROW (Flin Flon): I move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Member from Crescentwood,

WHEREAS mineral resource development has historically proceeded on the basis of secrecy of mineral reserves; and

WHEREAS their practice is detrimental in that it militates against integrated planning of resource development including the establishment of secondary smelting and refining capacity and also creates considerable insecurity, and uncertainty and instability of mining communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the government consider means of requiring mining companies to supply much more comprehensive information concerning their mineral reserves. MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

MR. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this is a problem that has beset the people of Flin Flon since 1930. If you look at the history of mining, in 1930 they found enormous ore body. They would never never portray any more than 15 years, which was a complete fallacy which no one believed. But in 1952 on my arrival in the Town of Flin Flon, it was quite interesting at that time. I came there with \$20,00 and looked for a place to settle, to raise my children and to build a life. The second year, in '53, I decided to build a home. The person I went to for advice then was Mr. Jack Freedman, who I think you all know, he's been mayor there for many years, he's 82 - 83 years old, and he said to me, don't build a large elaborate house. Do not put down roots because the ore expectancy of this town is only 15 years. So many people were caught in this predicament. They didn't build nice homes, they didn't settle down, didn't put down roots on account of this 15-year expectancy of ore.

In 1959 we were sent to Snow Lake to develop different mines and the company were good in this case. They did build houses, 15 years, \$13,200 homes, a tenth down at no interest. But again, 15 years. In '60, 15 years. And now, Mr. Speaker, we're coming into 1973 and the ore expectancy has dropped from 15 to 12 to 11, and I've gone to five different experts and asked why, why would they say an ore body is only good for so long when it isn't true. One gentleman was under oath, Mr. Warick and his version was fantastic. That they found a stope and by luck or guess they found another one so they could increase, which was completely false. He was one of the top executives. The Member from Thompson was with me and my colleague the Minister of Labour, and I asked the manager of the mine there, how do they determine ore expectancy? And his version, they drill 400 feet, and that's it. They drive a level 400 feet more, and that's it. Which is completely false too because they have drills now that will drill thousands and thousands and thousands of feet. It won't give the breadth or the length but it will give the thickness and they can come through with a much better version.

I went to the manager of Inco, I think his name was Munn, and I asked him because he had nothing actually to do with the Flin Flon operation. I asked him, could he tell me why the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting would only give 15, 12 or 11 years expectancy ore. And he

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(MR. BARROW cont'd) talked for 20 minutes but he didn't answer the question. You know, he just didn't say. So it amazes me and I would like to know the answer. But I went to two or the engineers and they say this to me. Do Eaton's tell Simpson's their business? — You know, I think this should be brought out in the open, because what this does create in Flin Flon, Mr. Speaker, it puts me in a position of where it's very hard to obtain anything permanent. The people would like to come in there with a second industry, apartment houses, supermarkets, but this 15 year thing is just not possible. But as a last resort, I went to Mr. — I had a very good opportunity to talk to Mr. Kierans on his very well prepared brief which I certainly agree with and I asked him in his opinion why would they say this. Well he said, look, if they told you there was 50 years ore expectancy and their profits range is \$30 million, would make a profit of 1 1/2 billion, then people start to think. They start to think well, why don't we get more of the profits. And I think possibly that was the best version of all.

A humorous aspect of this, Mr. Speaker, was during the pollution deal, when we put pressure on them to cure air pollution and they . . . on a stack of 825 feet and the license was for five years and they appealed it. I went to both meetings, I went to Appeal Board and they wanted a license for 15 years. And Mr. Leon Mitchell, who I admire very much, he said why do you want a license for 15 years when your ore body expectancy is only eleven. And they couldn't answer the question. He said well do you gain in taxes? No. Is there any advantage financially by not announcing your program? No. So what I want this government to do and I'm calling on the Minister of Mines, also the Minister of Labour, to give answers to this very very simple question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, I have just a few remarks to make on the resolution of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon. This is the second contribution from the honourable member in less than 24 hours dealing with problems I presume of his particular constituency. I think it was last night that he made his contribution on the Estimates of the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Speaker, I did not hear all of the member's contribution last night. It was during the course of his remarks that I had the distinct impression that the ventilation system in our Chamber had somehow failed and I went to find some fresh air, so I didn't hear all he had to say. Nevertheless, I had the feeling as I departed that I had heard enough. Mr. Speaker, the Member for Flin Flon is sometimes described as the new spokesman for the government for the north. I trust that what he has given us last night and today will be read with interest by his constituents and I hope that it will be more meaningful in the fresh air that exists in the northern part of our province.

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, this resolution certainly poses some questions. The member has said that mineral resource development historically has proceeded on the basis of secrecy of mineral reserves. That is not at all my impression, Mr. Speaker, that mineral resource development has proceeded in that way. He has not suggested that he is referring to any particular developer. I presume that he means to include the Manitoba Mineral Resources Corporation and any other corporations who may be involved in this operation.

But, Mr. Speaker, it's my distinct impression that the developers of mineral resources in Manitoba have made a particular point of revealing their ore reserves in a manner that is very detailed and in a way that is intended to give all of the possible information they can to their shareholders. There has been a question of accountability raised in this House from time to time by members on this side in respect to the operations of the Manitoba Development Corporation, and the Minister responsible has said that he would like to give as much information as he possible could, but he thinks that to reveal certain aspects of the operations of his corporations within which he has an equity would somehow be detrimental.

Now I wonder if the House Leader has discussed this matter of accountability with the Honourable Member for Flin Flon and whether they feel that they are completely compatible in this respect. I think perhaps there's something to be learned from the accountability of those companies that are now operating in the development of our north.

The honourable member suggests that it would be a great thing to have ore reserves blocked out and stated, defined for more than 15 years. Mr. Speaker, I submit that it is not possible to do that because it is not possible to determine at this time 15 years hence what does constitute ore. The definition of ore is something that is economically definable in terms of

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(MR. MCGILL cont'd)profitability of development. Mr. Speaker, much of the rock that was considered just rock ten years ago is now classified as ore, because the value of the minerals contained and the methods by which it can be extracted have greatly improved and the value has increased. So how, Mr. Speaker, does the member in all seriousness suggest that we can block out and define ore reserves for periods longer than 15 years? The very way in which we define the term "ore" suggests that this is not a possible way of stating the assets of any mining corporation. But I think we might take the report of any mining corporation, or almost any, and examine it just to see what they do say about their ore reserves.

Here is a mining report for the period ending I think March 1973 — and I would bring to the attention of the House Leader that this report was delivered to the shareholders in March of this year, and the annual meeting will take place on the 27th of this month. So they've had this report and they've had an opportunity to examine it for two or three months. I think it would be an excellent example to take for what we might say is the annual meeting of the Manitoba Development Corporation which occurs perhaps when we have our Standing Committee meeting of the Economic Development Committee on Monday. Had the people of Manitoba received the reports of the various Crown corporations two months in advance they certainly would be able to take a more intelligent interest and a more intelligent part in the debate which undoubtedly will follow.

But let me, Mr. Speaker, merely quote what it says here: "In the Flin Flon-Snow Lake area proven reserves of copper, zinc, ore in the company's mines at year-end total 17,283,600 tons; assaying gold .037 ounces per ton; silver .57 ounces per ton; copper 2.9%, and zinc 3.3%. Ore reserves at year-end '71 totalled 18,344,900 tons." Now, as the market for zinc or copper or gold or silver changes, so will the ore reserves or this company I'm sure, because they are based entirely upon those reserves which can be economically mined at this time, and under these prices. -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Speaker, I have only a few moments in which to discuss this matter and I would prefer that if the Honourable Member for Flin Flon has a question he might reserve it for his period of rebuttal in his windup of the debate.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution itself I find somewhat difficult to understand. He discusses mining and resource development in the first "whereas" and in the second "whereas" he says "whereas their practice". They I assume means the mining companies but there have been no mining companies mentioned in the first part of his resolution.

I think that since we have examined how one company in Manitoba states its ore reserves that it would be equally fair to examine the report of the Manitoba Mineral Resources Limited company operated by the Province of Manitoba. And while admittedly this report is for an early period in their operations, they do have investments in certain properties which I would assume have had certain values proven. But, Mr. Speaker, I find nowhere in this report any suggestion that they have any proven ore in their balance sheet, that they have taken options and they have paid certain amounts of money for options of properties. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the whole question of accountability should be one that receives leadership from the Province of Manitoba; when the Province of Manitoba chooses to go into business it should be the leader in providing accountability to all the people of Manitoba. Surely we're all shareholders in those companies that this government and any other succeeding governments may see fit to buy an equity position.

I think it's of the greatest importance that financial reports be tabled, that they be tabled well in advance of what constitutes an annual meeting and they provide not just as much as a private corporation provides but much more. -- (Interjection) -- Well, I hope that is the case, Mr. Speaker. We have so far had great difficulty in receiving any information about the Crown corporations that would be helpful to us in answering questions or in asking questions at an annual meeting of the Manitoba Development Corporation.

A MEMBER: Would the honourable member permit a question?

MR. MCGILL: I'd be very pleased at the conclusion of my remarks, I think that I'm very close to being finished, Mr. Speaker, and I know the House Leader is anxious to ask questions in this respect.

Mr. Speaker, let me just conclude by saying that in my view there is no reason for the Honourable Member for Flin Flon making the suggestion that there is a secrecy in the ore reserves of our companies. It has long been an established fact that responsible mining companies provide for their shareholders and for anyone else who wishes to obtain a copy of

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(MR. MCGILL cont'd) that report, complete facts about the proven ore reserves which they have. If they were able to look into the future and foresee the price of metals they would be able to do that for a greater length of time than is now possible. It is not usually the practice of a mining company, as far as I am told, to spend great sums in exploration far beyond their limits of ore consumption as they envisage them at the time. This would require great amounts of capital and that capital would be tied up for great lengths of time. But I do feel that it is the established practice of the mining industry in Manitoba to provide this information, exactly the information which the Honourable Member for Flin Flon now suggests that they are not providing.

So for that reason, Mr. Speaker, I feel that this resolution has no purpose and I see no reason why we should support it.

. Continued on next page.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: . . . ask the member a question if he would. Is it not the case with regard to, for example the oil industry, it is possible for them to define what a proven reserve is and also what the probable reserves and also possible reserves, at least three categories, which would depend on the extent to which the resource is mineable at a particular time, and is economically feasible at a particular time. Now from a technical point of view, why would this not be possible for the copper, zinc, nickel and other kinds of ores which we have in this province and which the resolution refers to?

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, in replying to the honourable member's question, which I think he poses quite seriously, but the definition of ore is that it is material that can be economically refined, but the price of the metals contained in that ore and the processes of refining are constantly changing. Technology makes rock piles into ore piles in a very short space of time. So, Mr. Speaker, I think that the Honourable Member for Crescentwood is suggesting something which really is being done to the full extent and with all the knowledge that those companies have and with all present facts taken into account.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson. Does the Minister wish to ask a question?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether in the statement that the honourable member is referring to, there are any assets shown for shares held in other corporations.

MR. MCGILL: This will take a little time, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, I will examine this report and let the member have his reply in due course.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister.

MR. GREEN: When he is examining it and if he does find such an investment in either other corporations and subsidiaries, would he also see whether the statement of those subsidiaries is contained in the statement or whether that was also sent to the shareholders, because the statement of the Manitoba Development Corporation was also sent out to the shareholders several months in advance of the meeting that the shareholders will be having.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Yeah, well, Mr. Speaker, I would like to just spend a couple of minutes on this laughable and almost infantile resolution --(Interjection)-- It's one that really should be properly brought into the House by the opposition, not a government backbencher. As a matter of fact, probably if one checks the resolutions over the years he would find that such a resolution was probably brought in by the NDP or by the CCF Party -- undoubtedly. And it seems to me that the government has now lost its courage to do what it has the power to do. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker we living in those communities have had a great deal of concern and have expressed it on many occasions about the future of a community when a company outlines its ore generally for 10 or 12 years, and I think there's been discussions at conventions about it. I can't put my finger on any particular date, but the government is in a position now that they don't have to ask us such questions or pass such resolutions, they're in a position now by regulation or by legislation, they can do precisely what that resolution asks.

It seems, Mr. Speaker, that this is another example of a king-sized cop-out by the government, not having the courage to do what they know they should do or at least what they believe. I know they believe that that should be done. They want the opposition to hold their tender little hand and say, "We'll support you and bring in this resolution," so then when they bring it in they can go out and say, "Well, you know, everybody voted on it and if it's a bad thing then those guys are just as guilty, because they supported it." And I'm really amazed that that resolution was brought in. Perhaps the Minister of Mines and Resources didn't want that kind of a resolution or perhaps he had something to do with it coming in, I don't know, but I do know that he, as the Minister, has all the power and authority vested by this Legislature to do precisely what's in there, and why it should be brought in to be discussed and to get the opposition to either reject it or approve it, I don't know why. They have the majority and they don't need our two cents or our support to support this resolution.

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(MR. BOROWSKI cont'd). . . .

It seems to me perhaps it may be a case of the Member for Flin Flon being very desperate about the next election. He is losing support every day. He got in on coattails, as was mentioned, as others have, and because of his inactivity in the last few years which was, you know, about zero, and the language he has used in here, you know -- the miners may swear underground, Mr. Chairman, but the miners do not swear at the kitchen table, they do not swear at the restaurants, and I think that the Member from Flin Flon is pretty desperate and he wants to show the boys back home what a great champion he is of the working man. I think he should tell the boys back north how come he can't convince his colleagues in Cabinet that they should bring in such legislation instead of playing games, and bringing in a resolution that even if passed, Mr. Speaker, means nothing. We know that a resolution means nothing, so even the passage of that resolution is not going to achieve what he wants that resolution to achieve. And may I simply suggest to the government that if they do not have the courage or the ability to pass such legislation, then perhaps they should, as someone said last week, "Move over Alphonse" and let someone else get in there who knows what has to be done and knows how it should be done without asking the support of those who are in opposition. We have government by an elected government, we do not have legislation and the running of a province on the basis of what the Opposition wants or requests or demands; the government has that sole responsibility and decision-making power and I suggest that they should exercise it, they should not waste valuable time of the House by bringing in ridiculous resolutions like this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, a few words on this resolution. There's two different points that have been made here. The major point here is that the Member for Flin Flon is calling for more disclosure of information. Mr. Speaker, I think we do need some explanation from the government side, particularly I suppose the Minister of Mines and Resources, an explanation as to whether or not the present procedure and powers of the government which are to take sample diamond drill cores from the exploration activities of mining companies, which are now by regulation required to be deposited with the Provincial Government, as to whether or not the responsibility for disclosure does not in fact lie with the Provincial Government as much as with the mining companies, and why the resolution of the Member for Flin Flon is not directed to his front bench or to himself, as much, Mr. Speaker, as much as to the mining companies.

The Member for Brandon has indicated that the mining companies as a matter of information to their shareholders and to indicate to future shareholders, I suppose, of the viability of their company, indicate the commercial availability of the ore they're mining. What he's saying is that the Member for Crescentwood said here, but what about the other grades of ore, the non-commercial grades of ore? And what about your geophysical work that you're doing? I suppose that's what they're saying. But what has been omitted to be declared by the government is that the power now lies in the Department of Mines and Resources to require the depositing of drill cores from exploration work, and the Norquay Building basement's full of them if you want to go over and look at them. So why are you directing your resolution solely, and I say solely, at the mining companies when you've already got regulatory provision to get from the mining companies their core samples.

So, Mr. Speaker, this resolution has to be considered as much a failure of the government to after four years of power not have taken advantage of the powers they already have, if in fact they think there is a non-disclosure of information by the mining company, or at least explain their position. So why bring in wasted time in this Legislature over this resolution, which I think is a very valid question that has been raised by the two members on this side of the House?

Now I think there was another point, the second point that was raised by the Member for Crescentwood, which compares mining with recovery of oil and gas resources, and I think that although none of us are expert in this field, I think it is fairly common knowledge that the means of estimating reserves in oil and gas because of the seismographic techniques and so on which can predict the structures, the cavity structures in geological structures, is much more refined and much more accurate than the means of predicting the availability of minerals, and I think that anybody who is familiar with the mining industry knows very well that lands have been held by companies and have been gone over with geophysical tests and so on, have been held by them and then dropped because they felt there was nothing there, and then another mining company has found mineral in the same area. And there are these cases which I don't think you'll find

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(MR. CRAIK cont'd). . . . parallel in the oil and gas industry.

If a piece of property is held by an oil company, they know very well from the accuracy of the technology that is developed, they know very well before they abandon a property whether or not there is any value in it. They know what the contents are below the ground in a deposit of oil and gas. And I don't think you'd ever find a case where they abandon a property and then a second company came in later on and just happened to discover an anomaly that they overlooked and then found oil and gas, but you do find this in the mining industry. So that all I am saying is that the predictability of finding mineral resources, the predictability capacity is much different, the technology is different, the predictability is much less on the basis of known technology, for spotting mineral reserves and also being able to delimit the value of the reserves in the ground unless it's a very uniform and standard deposit that is relatively easy for them to define. But it's just a different set of yardsticks and rules that are used for defining the extent of mineral deposits as compared to oil and gas. And I agree with you that the oil and gas industry has traditionally been different than the mining industry and the regulations that control it. That is a valuable arguing point, Mr. Speaker, I think that could be brought out as to whether or not the regulation with regard to royalties on the mineral resources have a justification for being that significantly different than the regulations which apply to oil and gas companies. But don't try and say that the exploration activities and the discovery and identification of reserves of oil and gas can be compared with minerals, because it can't.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude here by saying that the main thrust of this - what little thrust there is to this resolution here, must point itself as much at the Provincial Government which has regulatory power now to take core samples from exploration work that is done on Crown properties, and if there is not adequate processing of those to give the members of the government and, if they so desire, the public, a better picture of what has been found in those samples, then I think the government has to answer rather than bring in a resolution in here that points solely at the mining companies and saying "you're not disclosing enough."

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

MR. GONICK: Mr. Chairman, I just have a question of the member. Is it not the case that with respect to both predictability and technology of extracting oil from the tar sands, is not quite analogous to extracting ore from ore bodies in, say, the Province of Manitoba? And is it not also a fact that the oil and gas companies are able to make estimates of the possible values of tar sand with respect to oil?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Yes, they are. From the tar sands the predictability is quite high, but geographically the tar sand areas are very confined compared to the areas you're talking about for minerals. The mineral deposits, you know, just looking at the map of Northern Manitoba, the locations are spread all over Northern Manitoba, but the tar sands are located in a fairly confined geographical area and it's well known that at this point you can delimit the tar sands and you know the processes and you know exactly when those tar sands are going to become commercially viable, when the price reaches a certain level. So again, the tar sands recovery is much more analogous to the existing oil and gas industry than it is to the mining industry.

So, Mr. Speaker, there's no comparison directly to the mineral industry of the tar sands as much as there is to the existing oil and gas industry.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the House prepared to adopt the motion? The Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, there have been criticisms with regard to this resolution on several sides. Let me first of all say that, as Minister responsible for the area concerned, I haven't researched the problem that is being raised by the Honourable Member for Flin Flon. I know that it has been raised from time to time and I know that the conflicting statements that have been made and the feeling of the Honourable Member for Flin Flon is sufficient to consider what is requested in the resolution. All that is being suggested is that it be resolved that the government consider means of requiring mining companies to supply much more comprehensive information concerning their mineral reserves.

The Honourable Member for Brandon West says they already do so. If that's so, Mr. Speaker, then there's no problem with regard to the passing of the resolution. The Member for Thompson says they don't do so and this is something that the government should do, and that the passing of the resolution is something that is completely unnecessary and that we should

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(MR. GREEN cont'd). . . . have the guts to do it without the resolution. That is what I take his argument to be. If that's the case, Mr. Speaker, then it appears to be in direct conflict with what the Member for Brandon West says - I'm not sure which is correct . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Thompson.

MR. BOROWSKI: Yes, I'd like to make a correction. The Minister is misquoting me. I said that the government has the power to do what the resolution says. I did not say I was for it or against it, at least I didn't think so, although I said from the point of view of the community they'd certainly like that information. I simply indicated the government has the power to do precisely that and if they believe in it, and I think they do, they should do it without bringing it here.

MR. GREEN: Then I take it that what the Honourable Member for Thompson is saying is that the resolution is a good one but shouldn't be on the Order Paper, we should have done it already, or we should be doing it without the resolution. I take it that -- I am trying, Mr. Speaker, not to be in any way provocative or critical. All I'm saying is that there are two conflicting points of view. The Member for Brandon West said that it's already all there, you don't need it. The Member for Thompson says you have the power to get it; you should go ahead and get it and you shouldn't worry about the resolution, in which case what he is saying is that the government consider this requirement and go ahead and do it, and that the bringing in of the resolution shows a certain weakness on the part of the government; and I really don't say that again as a provocative statement, I only say it to indicate that at least between the two members here who represent some of the mining communities most of the mining communities, I would say that between the Member for Flin Flon and the Member for Thompson they represent the bulk of mining communities in the Province of Manitoba, and they say that this should be done and they are pursuing the government to do it. And I don't look at this resolution as being directed against the company. I would accept what the Honourable Member for Riel says, that this resolution should be directed against the government in whole or in part - it doesn't matter, I'm willing to accept it either way - and that the government has the responsibility in this area which they are not fulfilling, but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't pass the resolution. In other words, none of the things that have been said in any way indicate to me that there is a problem in the government considering the various positions that have been put. If the Member for Brandon West is correct that we are getting all the information that is necessary, then there is no harm in passing the resolution. If the Member for Thompson is correct in saying that we should be doing it and that the Member for Brandon West is wrong, that this information is needed, that he who lived in a mining community feels that it is needed, then again, Mr. Speaker, even if I haven't found out that the department would agree with one or the other, that there is no harm in seeing whether more information is available.

The Member for Riel says that we have the exploration core. My impression is there - and again I haven't checked this out - is that those things are given to the government on the basis of secrecy, that they are absolutely not to be revealed to anybody; that they are deposited in that way and that they cannot be revealed. Now the Honourable Member for Riel says go ahead and reveal them. Well, Mr. Speaker, as I've said before with respect to various institutions who have practiced in Manitoba in accordance with a certain set of rules, you don't just change that, and if what he is saying is correct that the cores have the information and that the government could use them and use them for whatever purpose they wish including the making of them public for the purpose of resolving some of the problems that have been raised by the Member for Flin Flon, and he's suggesting that we do that, I would say that we would have to consider that. I would say that if mining companies have proceeded here on the basis that their exploration cores are filed and kept secret, that we then have the powers to merely release them, I'm afraid that I'm not quite as radical as the Member for Riel is in that respect, Mr. Speaker. I would have to consider . . .

MR. CRAIK: A point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Member for Riel state his matter of privilege.

MR. CRAIK: I did not advocate to the government that they release them. I said it was their decision.

MR. GREEN: Oh. Well, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member gave me the impression that we have the responsibility in this area, that we have the information and that therefore the

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(MR. GREEN cont'd). . . . passing of this resolution is meaningless because we can go ahead and do it. And, Mr. Speaker, I say that it is not that simple; that if that information has been obtained - and I'm not entirely sure - has been obtained on the basis of secrecy, and that is the basis upon which the mining companies have played the game up until now, then it would not be the government's intention to merely say, "It doesn't matter what happened up until now; the rules are now changed." We would have to consider whether there is strong justification for doing that type of thing and I'm not sure that it's as simple as the Honourable Member for Riel says, so I wouldn't want to say that that kind of thing should be done just at the drop of a hat. I do think that the question of disclosure with regard to mining reserves and proven ore bodies has come up from time to time. I've got two members in the House from mining communities who say that their citizens worry about it. I've got one member of the House who says that the information is there and government has the power to make it available. I think that on the basis of that information, without any further problems affecting the department and without suggesting that the Member for Brandon West is wrong, Mr. Speaker, if the Member for Brandon West is correct and there is no problem with regard to information, then I feel safe that the passing of this resolution will be harmless and I would expect that he would take the same position. If the Member for Thompson is correct that the information is a secret and should be made public, and that the government doesn't need the resolution but should go ahead and do it and not ask for support, well, Mr. Speaker, then the resolution can be passed or defeated and we could do the same thing, and possibly that's what will occur. So once again, the passing of the resolution does no harm except that two members of the House who come from mining communities say that this problem exists. The Member for Riel, on the other hand, says that the information is there, the government has the power to reveal it.

The question of having the power to reveal it, and revealing it is of course something that the government would have to consider in light of its integrity as a government in having dealt with people on certain basis. I'm not sure whether the exploration core bodies is the information that satisfies the intent of the resolution but if it is, then, Mr. Speaker, at least I know from the Honourable Member for Riel that if that information is valuable we have the power to reveal it and I did not get the impression from his speech that he would object if we revealed it, that he seems to say that the government is the one who is responsible for the secrecy and if secrecy is a bad thing that the government should be criticized for maintaining that secrecy and that it's the government who this resolution is aimed at. So be it, Mr. Speaker, let the resolution be aimed at the government. I'm not really upset that a private member here will be criticizing the government for maintaining a secrecy position. On the other hand, the resolution doesn't say that that position has to change. All it says is that we should consider whether there is a way of dealing with the situation.

And on that basis, Mr. Speaker, and without prejudice to any of the positions that have been taken, and without saying that they are right or wrong, I see no difficulty in the government looking at the question of disclosure. I've heard it raised by people within the department, I've heard it raised on the national level, so it can't be as clinically clear as has been made by the Member for Brandon West. However, if it is, Mr. Speaker, there's really no harm done and on that basis the government does not find itself in any problem by passing the resolution. There is, I think the Honourable Member for Brandon West did bring out one point. I think that probably there is a typographical error which can be more or less ignored, that the second Whereas where it says "their practice" it would appear that if it's referring to what is referred to in the first paragraph, we're talking about the word being "this practice is detrimental" rather than "their practice" because it doesn't refer necessarily to a person or persons in the first resolution, it refers to a practice, and possibly the proper word should be "this" but we would interpret it that way and I think that the honourable member is correct.

When he talks about the mineral exploration company and proven reserves, well, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether a mineral exploration company would have the same type of a statement as a mining company, and perhaps that's the reason why proven reserves are not referred to. I wish I could venture the optimistic hope that there were proven reserves in the mineral resources statement which they are keeping secret. I rather expect that that is not the case. I wish I could feel that that was the case, and I certainly wouldn't want to keep them secret for very long if the mineral exploration company had found something, because I believe it's something that I would want to be quite jubilant about, but I don't expect that that is the case.

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(MR. GREEN cont'd). . . . Perhaps; that is the difference that my honourable friend is referring to.

With regard to my honourable friend's analogy that the mining companies give all of this information to their shareholders and that we have not given a statement to our shareholders, Mr. Speaker, that is just not correct. The Manitoba Development Corporation gave a statement to the representatives of its shareholders, I suppose about six weeks ago, I can't remember the exact date, but it would be approximately two months before the meeting, and in that statement it referred to fully-owned subsidiary shares in other companies. Well, Mr. Speaker, I receive similar statements. I receive a statement from the Royal Bank which shows as part of the assets— and I'm trying to remember correctly — yes, as a shareholder of the Royal Bank, I receive a statement which shows me that the Royal Bank has interests or investments in other securities, but it doesn't then send me a statement of every company in which it has invested money, and that is the difference. And, Mr. Speaker, as a member, as a holder of shares in a mutual fund, I do not get a statement of every company in which the mutual fund has invested money, I get a statement showing the mutual fund. And that's, Mr. Speaker, one of the things that I meant when I said that these shareholders will get far more than you get at any private shareholders' meeting, because not only will you get the statement of the Manitoba Development Corporation, which is the financial statement, but the corporation is going to report on the various companies in which it holds shares, which are fully owned, and that report will be made and I'm told that statements of every single one of those companies will be presented to the members of that committee.

Now, Mr. Speaker that is more than is given by any private company to its shareholders, And another thing that occurs at a shareholders' meeting, Mr. Speaker, which won't occur at this particular meeting. At a shareholders' meeting, if a shareholder asks for information and the board of directors doesn't want to give that information, it can either refuse to give the information or it can ask, Mr. Speaker for the sustenance of the shareholders in refusing to answer the question. --(Interjection)-- Yes. But generally speaking, Mr. Speaker, the shareholders who can control a private company, control it on the basis of a big shareholding by the people who are in control of the directorate. Now that will be similarly done here, Mr. Speaker, that there will still be an opportunity of a majority vote at the meeting, but I assure you that it will be far less used and far less information will be withheld than is withheld from the private shareholders of a private corporation. That is so obvious that it goes without saying, and it is already obvious from what information has been given in this House and will be further obvious on committee when we are dealing with this question.

So, Mr. Speaker, without prejudice to any of the positions put, I see no harm in passing the resolution. If there is more information that can be made available, which will result in better planning on the part of the communities involved, by all means we'll consider ways of getting it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable House Leader, the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, has properly confused all of us on this particular resolution in the speech that he just made. He agrees with the mover of the resolution, he agrees with the first person on this side that speaks in opposition to the resolution, he agrees with the Member for Thompson who . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The Honourable Minister state his point of order.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I never agreed with the Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. ENNS: Allow me and I hope the Minister allows a little bit of leeway and paraphrasing. What I'm suggesting is that he wasn't violently opposed to anybody that has spoken on this resolution and the various positions that they have taken on this resolution. He has in fact indicated, quite honestly to himself and to the House, that maybe the resolution is redundant, that in fact as the Member for Riel suggested, that maybe a great deal of the information that the resolution seems to call for is already in possession of the government, and that if the government should choose to exercise its desire in this respect for any number of reasons not necessarily, certainly not necessarily abandoning its responsibilities with respect to discretion, with respect to recognizing under what conditions the information was collected — I'm referring to the essay samples that the Department of Mines and Natural Resources has — but

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(MR. ENNS cont'd). . . . nonetheless the Minister that is responsible, the Minister to whom this resolution is most specifically directed to as the Minister responsible for the mineral development in the province, has really indicated that this resolution -- well, again to be fair to him, he's indicated there can be no harm in the House adopting this resolution. No good, mind you, but no harm.

So then, Mr. Speaker, let's examine the reason for the resolution in the first instance. And the reason for the resolution is of course, and it was really displayed by the Minister himself in accordance with, when he remarked or when he attempted to correct the little typographical error which referred to the word "their" you know, and this is very true. The reason, the purpose of this resolution is of course one more attempt on the part of the members opposite to wage that never-tiring, never-ending class warfare that they like to wage particularly on the eve of an election, particularly for a member who's in difficulty with his seat up north. He wants to put this right in the kind of language that he hopes his beer-drinking buddies will understand when he gets back to them, and that was certainly there although the Minister, I think will now choose to argue about that when in the second Whereas it comes out very clearly "their actions." Whose actions? Big company, big business. And it isn't "this" practice, it isn't "this" practice that exists in the mining industry.

So, Mr. Speaker, let's understand very clearly what this is and it shows you to what extent, to what extent even an otherwise responsible Minister of the Crown will go to accommodate a fellow NDP member, you know, who I think he has every reason to worry about in terms of the next election, but even the otherwise responsible Minister of Mines and Natural Resources is prepared to allow the House to waste its time on a resolution that he himself has expressed no confidence in. To use his own words: "can do no harm - the other side of that question of course is perhaps" also will do no good, but we are, we will take the time of the House to attempt to bail out the political difficulties of the Member for Flin Flon in the kind of situation that he finds himself."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I honestly suggest that in view of what the Minister himself has already admitted, that he is not quite aware himself of the information that the government already has; in fact that we ought to accommodate the Minister who would after all be responsible in this matter if he were to act on the resolution; that the resolution be amended deleting the words after the word "communities" in the seventh line, and replacing them as follows: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be considered six months hence. Moved by the Honourable Member for Riel.

I wanted to give the chance to the Minister to look . . . the Norquay Building to see what he has.

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

MR. GREEN: Without wanting to detract from the comedy relief that we've had from the Member for Lakeside, it is not, I believe, in order to move an amendment to a resolution by referring to reading it six months hence because resolutions are not read like bills, and therefore the hoist procedure, which he is suggesting, is just not available to him. There are ways of tabling resolutions but the reading of a resolution six months hence is not a procedure which is available in the House.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, I want to assure the Honourable Minister it is for the sake of trying to save the Minister some future embarrassment that I moved this reconsideration six months hoist. I am sure that the Minister of his own resolve will take that actions whether we do it in the House or not.

MR. GREEN: I thank the honourable member for his solicitude for my well-being. Unfortunately the rules do not permit him to make the kind of consideration for me that he would like to.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Let me suggest that the point of order is well taken. The Citation in Beauséjour is 202 subsection (11) - (13). Therefore the amendment is not in order.

The hour being 5:30, the House is now adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon. (Thursday).