

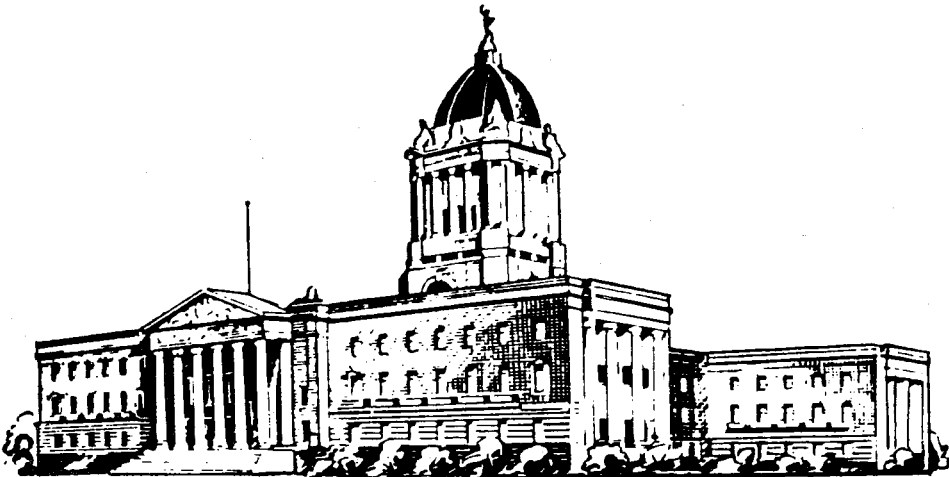


**FOURTH SESSION — THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE**  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**

**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

26 Elizabeth II

Published under the  
authority of  
The Honourable Peter Fox  
Speaker



Vol. XXIV No. 23A

2:30 p.m., Monday, March 21, 1977

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

**OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.**

**MR. SPEAKER, Honourable Peter Fox (Kildonan):** Before we proceed I should like to direct the attention of the honourable members to the gallery where we have some 20 members of the Rosh Pina Senior Group accompanied by Mr. M. Carrol. This synagogue is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. John's.

We also have 20 members of an adult group from communities across rural Manitoba studying the Provincial Legislative System under the leadership of Mr. Don Meadows, who is the course co-ordinator.

On behalf of all the honourable members, we welcome you here this afternoon.

Presenting Petitions; Reading and Receiving Petitions.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

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

**MR. D. JAMES WALDING:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the first report of the **Committee on Statutory Regulations and Orders.**

**MR. CLERK:** The Standing Committee on Statutory Regulations and Orders begs leave to present its first report.

In accordance with section 66.2(5) of the Legislative Assembly Act, the Report on Family Law and the recommendations of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission as to legislative action thereon was referred to the Standing Committee on Statutory Regulations and Orders vide Order in Council No. 1112/76 for consideration and report to the Legislative Assembly and to the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Your Committee met on Thursday, November 4, 1976 for organization and on Tuesday, November 16, 1976 for discussions with the Chairman of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission. Your Committee also met on the following dates to receive public representation with respect to changes in Family Law:

Tuesday, November 23, 1976 — at Winnipeg.

The Coalition on Family Law — Alice Steinbart

The Voice of Women — Terry Gray

N.D.P. Status of Women Committee — Aleda Turnbull

Mona Brown — Private Citizen of Sperling, Man.

The Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba — — Jean Carson

Berenice B. Sisler, Private Citizen.

Mrs. Terry Sharpe — Portage La Prairie

The Manitoba Progressive Conservative Women's Association — — Elizabeth

Willcock

Young Women's Christian Association — Kay Harland

Frank Peters — Private Citizen

Winnipeg Council of Self-Help Groups — Mrs. Frances Roskevich

Winnipeg Chapter, Canadian Congress of Women — Mrs. Jackson

Brief on behalf of Prof. Cameron Harvey, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba —

Laurie Allen

Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women — —Marilyn McGonigal

Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses — Bonnie McDonnell and June

Cummings

Charles Huband — Private Citizen

Manitoba Teachers' Society — Mrs. Helton

NDP Status of Women Committee — Maxine Prystupa and Mary Jo Quarrie

Fort Garry Law Reform Committee — Judy Brennan

Spirit of Truth — Ralph Raphael

Thursday, November 25, 1976 — at Brandon

Committee on Status of Women, Women's Centre — Judy Springer

Region V, National Farmers' Union — Mrs. Eleanor Brown and Mrs. Isabel Proven

Children's Aid Society, Western Manitoba — Mrs. E. Cristall and Bruce Fraser

Canadian Federation of University Women — Georgina Boux

Miriam Bowen — Private Citizen

Lucille Tolaini — Private Citizen

Keith Honeyman — Private Citizen

Thursday, December 2, 1976 — at Thompson

Gail Rebbeck — Private Citizen

Linda Donahue — Private Citizen  
His Honour, Tom Farrell — Mayor, City of Thompson  
Brian Campbell — Private Citizen

Thursday, December 9, 1976 — at Winnipeg

Mount Carmel Clinic — Mrs. Anne Ross  
Catholic Women's League — Mrs. Evelyn Wryzykowski and Mrs. Shirley Scaletta  
Christ the King Parish Council — Mrs. DeBaets and Mrs. Jean Carson  
Family Services of Winnipeg, Inc. — Miss Lois Emery  
Shirley Munroe — Private Citizen  
Mrs. Mary Tracey — Private Citizen  
Jake Feakes — Private Citizen  
Roman Burak — Private Citizen  
Murray Smith — Private Citizen  
Janet Berkowski — Private Citizen  
Winnifred Havelock — Private Citizen

Tuesday, February 8, 1977 — at Winnipeg

Parent Finders of Winnipeg — Laurie Joan Mason

Written briefs were distributed on behalf of the following organizations:

The Widows and Widowers Group  
Family Services of Winnipeg, Inc.  
Family Law Sub-Section, Manitoba Division of the Canadian Bar Association.

Of the briefs presented to the Committee, most expressed support for the Law Reform Commission's recommendations generally, but were opposed to the following recommendations specifically:

1. Relieving parents of responsibility to support and maintain an unmanageable child.
2. Fixing a common-law spouse with secondary responsibility for support and maintenance of the other spouse's child; the briefs suggested that the province should assume this kind of responsibility.
3. "Fault" as a factor in determining spousal maintenance.
4. "Deferred" sharing of assets; the briefs favoured instantaneous sharing.
5. Unilateral contracting out of standard marital regime as to prior assets, with retroactive effect.

Your Committee met on February 3, 8, 15 and 22, 1977; and March 1, 1977 to consider the recommendations of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission. Except as noted below, there was general concurrence among committee members with the Family Law recommendations of the Manitoba Law Reform Commission.

1. Parents to be relieved of responsibility for support and maintenance of unmanageable child. (Page 111, para.4 )

There was concern that, under the recommendation, the province might well find itself saddled with the expense of supporting a child of wealthy parents.

2. Right of one spouse to information relating to the income, etc., of the other spouse. (Page 114, para.1)

There was concern that in some cases it might well be impossible for a spouse to comply with the recommendation without disclosing information as to the personal income, etc., of the spouse's business partners.

3. Obligation of one spouse to consult with the other spouse before any expenditure of income. (Page 114, para.2)

There was concern that this recommendation might be extremely onerous in practice.

4. Right of each spouse to personal allowances. (Page 114, para.3).

Some committee members thought that this recommendation might have a restrictive and generally undesirable effect in many cases, if strictly adhered to.

5. Fault, as a factor in determining maintenance. (Page 116, para.4h).

Some committee members were concerned that the "fault" approach being advocated in maintenance may create hardship and unnecessary friction in the family.

6. Application of maintenance provisions to common-law unions. (Page 116, para. 5)

Some committee members were concerned that this recommendation might have gone too far in broadening the existing provision on the same subject in the Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act.

7. Homestead definition. (Page 121, para.1)

The question was raised as to whether this definition ought to remain the same, particularly in terms of the amount of land that should be considered appurtenant to a

homestead dwelling.

8. Independent legal advice in completing agreements to contract out of the standard marital regime. (Page 121, Para 3)

There was concern about the requirement for two separate lawyers that this recommendation appeared to imply.

9. Deferred sharing of post-nuptial property. (Page 124' para.1)

There was considerable discussion about the feasibility of extending the definition of marital assets to include property being used by the family unit, such as furniture, automobiles, summer homes, etc.

10. Filing of "contracting-out" agreement in public registry. (Page 124, para 3b)

Committee members felt that many persons would not wish to have particulars of their personal domestic affairs available for public scrutiny.

11. Shareable estate of a spouse never to be reduced to a negative value by debts and liabilities. (Page 125, para.10)

Some members queried the justification for requiring a spouse to share all with the other spouse, but not losses that happen to accumulate to exceed the net value of the accumulated assets.

12. Accountability of a spouse for assets squandered during preceding six years. (Page 128, para. 21)

There was concern about the difficulty of defining "squandered assets" whether it was correct in principle to require this kind of accountability and whether the period of accountability should be six years.

13. Recovery of excessive gifts within six years. (Page 129, para.22)

There was concern that this recommendation went beyond the point of a mere accounting as between spouses and could actually prevent title from passing to the recipient of a gift, and that the recipient might therefore not know for years whether or not the gift would have to be returned.

14. Unilateral opting out of standard marital regime in its retroactive application to prior assets. (Page 131, para.27c and page 133, para. 31b)

There was concern that this recommendation would permit a spouse to determine without the consent of the other spouse that certain assets would not be shared, and that the recommendation appeared to go contrary to the general equal-sharing principle of the standard marital regime.

15. Maximum time allowable by a court for paying off the amount of a judgement for an equalizing payment. (Page 125, para. 11)

Instead of the five years recommended by the Commission, the committee agreed that no specific time limit should be imposed by legislation, and the court should have full discretion to determine the time limit, if any, in each case.

16. Court's discretion to extend the limitation period for commencing an action for an equalizing payment. (Page 130, para. 25)

Instead of the unfettered discretion recommended by the Commission to allow an action after expiry of the specified limitation period, the committee agreed that the court should have no discretion to extend the limitation period beyond six years from the date when the right of action arose.

The Committee recommends that the Attorney-General proceed to submit a bill to the Legislature dealing with the principles discussed in Committee, reserving and recognizing the right of each member to debate and/or propose amendments to any particular proposal or section in the bill.

FOOTNOTE: The page references given refer to the Manitoba Law Reform Commission, Report on Family Law. Parts I and II.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Gimli, that the report of the Committee be received.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Ministerial Statements or Tabling of Reports; Notices of Motion.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

**MR. STEVE PATRICK** introduced **Bill (No.36) an Act to amend**

**MOTION presented.** The Employment Standards Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Labour.

**HONOURABLE RUSSELL PAULLEY (Transcona):** Mr. Speaker, I would make a request of you that you consider the admissibility of the bill proposed by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. I note reference was made in the Throne Speech to matters pertaining to overtime. I have received a

copy of the proposed measure introduced by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia, a copy which I received from the legislative Counsel, Mr. Speaker, in which he draws to my attention in accordance with the rules of the House that this bill deserves special attention. So, Sir, in all due respect to the desires of my honourable friend and in accordance with, as I understand the rules of the House, the rules of Beauchesne and others, I respectfully suggest that you take under advisement the admissibility of this bill.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Chair finds itself in the position of not having had either bill that the Minister proposes or the one that the Honourable Member for Assiniboia proposes before it. It is only for introduction at the present time so neither one is printed and I can't make a decision on something that hasn't been printed. The Honourable Minister of Labour.

**MR. PAULLEY:** Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, there seems to be a . . . maybe it was because of the wording that I used. There are not two bills but just one bill proposed by the Honourable Member for Assiniboia, and while I can appreciate the fact that you may not have a copy of the said bill, I didn't want proceedings to occur to the degree that I could not draw to your attention the point that I did. more than pleased to forward the copy of the bill that I received from the legislative counsel but of course bills are not normally printed and distributed except after due course. But I was suggesting to you, in all due respect, that consideration be given to reference to the employment standards which is contained in The Throne Speech notwithstanding the fact that I may have a copy of the proposed legislation.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Assiniboia on the same point of order.

**MR. PATRICK:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak on the same point of order. I hope that the Minister understands that there may be many various factors concerning overtime. The second point that he raised that the legislative counsel said that the bill needs special attention, I believe that is placed on almost every private member's bill by the legislative counsel.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I shall take the matter under advisement until I get further information on it.

#### ORAL QUESTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

**MR. HENRY J. EINARSON:** Mr. Speaker, I direct this question 0487 02 to the Minister of Agriculture, and in view of the overwhelming defeat of the recent Manitoba Beef Marketing Board with the powers designated . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question, please.

**MR. EINARSON:** . . . I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether he is now prepared to allow the beef producers the opportunity to proceed with some of the improvements that they have been asking for. That is mainly in the marketplace.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

**HONOURABLE SAMUEL USKIW(Lac du Bonnet):** Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a very vague question. Some of the points that were made by some of the groups in the debate require authority of The Natural Products Marketing Act which they in fact voted against. So I'm not just sure what it is they want to do.

**MR. EINARSON:** Mr. Speaker, then I think I must put it plain to the Minister and ask him. Now that the producers of beef have made their decision through a referendum, is the Minister now going to stick to the slogan that he used earlier in the campaign that it's either a marketing board or nothing at all? Is that the understanding that I get from the Minister's answer?

**MR. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the Member for Rock Lake that he should not suggest fallacious comments to this House, or make fallacious comment in this House.

**MR. EINARSON:** Well then, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister, then, in view of the fact the beef producers of this province would like to know where their next step is as to what direction they are going to go, I'm merely asking the Minister, Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to co-operate with the beef producers of this province to assist them, if it is necessary, with a marketing plan through the Marketing Board, to help them solve some of the problems that they still have.

**MR. USKIW:** Well again, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Rock Lake should not want to presume that he is going to carry the message forward because I don't know what it is he is suggesting to me. People have an open door to my office and if they have some suggestions to make they are welcome to make them.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. HARRY J. ENNS:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Honourable the First Minister. I note with concern his disability and I trust that it didn't come about as a result of any serious discussion he had with his Minister of Agriculture over the week-end. But my question to the Minister, Sir, is, is he considering making any changes in his Ministry as a result of the vote last Friday.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**HONOURABLE EDWARD SCHREYER, Premier(Rossmere):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure my

honourable friend that whatever disability I may have today is only of short term duration, that it has nothing to do with the beef marketing vote. Indeed, over a month ago, I indicated that whatever the result of the vote that the government would accept it with good grace and that matters will flow from there. There is every opportunity for those that are actively involved in beef production to meet and to bring forward alternative proposals. Where the government will find it problematic is a proposal that would have to do with some compulsory measure, of whatever degree of profundity, without any kind of soliciting of opinion of the producers themselves.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for River Heights.

**MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK:** Mr. Speaker, my question will be to either the First Minister or the Minister of Finance. The consumer price index for the regions was just published and I wonder if the government is in a position to explain why the apparent rise in the cost of living for the Winnipeg area.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**HONOURABLE SAUL A. MILLER (Seven Oaks):** Mr. Speaker, these figures are published regularly and as the member knows, it does indicate a rise in the consumer price index for Winnipeg. On the other hand, it does indicate an even greater rise in some cities to the west of us. What must be remembered is the base from which this all starts. What we have here is the rise from one period to the next, and there is a rise of 7.6 percent, I think it is, in the February, 1977 over February, 1976. But it is not with other cities in Western Canada and it simply proves again that we are not an island ourselves and that as inflation affects Canada, so it shall also affect Winnipeg.

**MR. SPIVAK:** I wonder if the Minister in reviewing the figures has not considered that there is a danger signal by comparing the rise for this past month with the previous month for the cost of food, housing and all items. The rise is substantially higher than other areas.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, it simply indicates it hit us a little later than it did other areas. I might point out that insofar as Winnipeg and other cities across the country, they are comparable. It's a question of taking a particular point in time and comparing it with another point in time. Certainly, these costs are affecting us, I would be surprised if they would not be affecting us.

**MR. SPIVAK:** I wonder if the Finance Minister is in a position to indicate why Manitoba has led in the increased cost of housing in the country both last month and in this month.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, Winnipeg housing has for many years been below the national average. All that is happening is the adjustment and recognition that in fact it's catching up to those two.

**MR. SPIVAK:** To the Finance Minister. I wonder if he can indicate whether his department has undertaken any study to specifically support the proposition he just put forward, that increased cost is for the reasons he suggested. Does he have any study that would indicate that?

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, I have no specific study in front of me but I do know that over the years, Winnipeg has been sometimes loser and sometimes higher than other cities just as Manitoba has sometimes been lower and sometimes higher than other provinces in the development and as costs move forward. It is on the average, in line with what has happened over cities providing you don't take one camera or snapshot in time but look at the overall figures from over a period of years.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

**MR. PATRICK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs. Can the Minister indicate to the House if the thirty-two trucks with cargo that started over the weekend to Allan Lake were able to complete their trip through the winter roads.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for Northern Affairs.

**HONOURABLE RONALD MCBRYDE (The Pas):** Mr. Speaker, since the member failed to give notice, I'll take the question as notice.

**MR. PATRICK:** Supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I understand that all if not all of them, most of them turned back from Hoe Lake, I believe, Hoe River. Can the Minister indicate will the government be paying for the cost of the trucks not getting through or what is the arrangement.

**MR. MCBRYDE:** Mr. Speaker, the road of which the member talks was open and open for a suitable amount of time for the fri to be moved in. The road was officially closed, some truckers decided to use the road at their own risk and they are allowed to do that. They use it at their own risk.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Riel.

**HONOURABLE DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It is in relation to the activities of the assessment division of his department. Inasmuch as the City of Winnipeg is assessing houses extra that include in their construction solar energy facilities, I wonder if he can advise the House whether that is a practice of the Department of Municipal Affairs.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**HONOURABLE BILLIE URUSKI (St. George):** Mr. Speaker, the member no doubt is aware that the City of Winnipeg has its own assessment department. The Provincial Assessment Branch follows the determination in the Act and I will, with respect to the specifics that he is talking about' take that under notice to find out if they have had any experience at all out of the City of Winnipeg.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Riel.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, on the same topic, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance and ask him if consideration has been given again in energy conservation measures to removing the sales tax this year from insulating goods.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, as the Honourable Member for Riel knows, the government is always willing and ready to consider almost anything for the benefit of Manitoba.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would indicate, since the government voted against such a Private Member's Resolution last year . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The question now is argumentative. Would the honourable member rephrase.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, I want to know specifically if the government is giving any consideration in the way of financial measures to energy conservation including the removal of sales tax on insulation.

**MR. MILLER:** Well, the honourable member, Mr. Speaker, should know that it would be improper for me to advise the House at this point and it would be improper for him to even suggest that I preempt the Budget Speech.

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

**MR. A. R. (PETE) ADAM:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Rock Lake was asking the Minister of Agriculture if he was going to . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question, please.

**MR. ADAM:** I would like to ask the Minister of Agriculture if it is correct that he has advanced \$34 million in the past two years under the Beef Assurance Program to beef producers of this province.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

**MR. USKIW:** Well, Mr. Speaker, that is correct, although I don't know what it has to do with the question that was put to me by the Member for Rock Lake.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister for Urban Affairs. I was wondering if he could indicate to the House when we might expect the legislation amending the City of Winnipeg Act and whether it will be done within the next week or two.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Urban Affairs.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, soon, and that might translate to a couple of weeks, and it might be longer.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, considering the indefiniteness of the Minister's answer, could he indicate whether he has had any discussions with City of Winnipeg officials to determine what kind of time they would need in order to prepare for any reorganization or set-up change in the administrative or boundaries of the City of Winnipeg.

**MR. MILLER:** No, Mr. Speaker, there are no specific discussions taking place but I think the Department of Urban Affairs is aware of the technical matters that would have to be taken into account.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate whether he'd be prepared to release or provide those technical papers and assessments for members of the House so that they could have them available for when the debate occurs.

**MR. MILLER:** No, Mr. Speaker, the technical matters I was referring to are the matters that the member brought up. The question of the city machinery being able to respond, those really are within the city's purview. They know what they are and I'm suggesting that the department knows them as well.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley:

**MR. ROBERT G. WILSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister in charge of the Civil Service, would the Minister confirm that Mr. Wilson Parasiuk is a government employee and a suggested candidate for the Transcona riding?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**HONOURABLE BILLIE URUSKI:** Mr. Speaker, I believe that he may very well be, but he doesn't work for my department.

**MR. SPEAKER:** A supplementary then. Would the Minister confirm that Mr. Parasiuk was arrested or detained by police as an election stunt at the Griffin Steel line in the Transcona riding

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SCHREYER:** Mr. Speaker, that kind of innuendo is no more fitting here than to suggest that someone got himself dressed down by a Queen's Bench judge as an election stunt.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for River Heights.

**MR. SPIVAK:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister and it relates to statements made by the Cultural Development Minister of Quebec in which he indicated that the Prime Minister should be lecturing Manitoba for its treatment of the French Canadian minority. I wonder if the First Minister

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has made a response or intends to make a response on behalf of the government in connection with this statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SCHREYER:** Naturally, Mr. Speaker, we would want to ascertain if anything the lines that my honourable friend is suggesting was in fact said if it was said, we certainly have a ready response.

**MR. SPIVAK:** Mr. Speaker, on another question, but partially related. I wonder if the First Minister can indicate whether there have been any studies undertaken by the government with respect to the various options that the Prime Minister of Quebec and others who are a part of the Ministry have suggested with respect to opting out of Canada, whether there have been any undertakings by the government with respect to the economic impacts for Manitoba, for western Canada, whether in effect any . . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The question is on a hypothetical area. It is out of order.

**MR. SCHREYER:** Let's not choose to proceed on fatalistic studies.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Radisson. Order please.

**MR. HARRY SHAFRANKSY:** Mr. Speaker, may I have leave to revert to the routine proceedings on presenting petitions?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the honourable member have leave? (Agreed) The Honourable Member for Radisson.

### **PRESENTING PETITIONS**

**MR. SHAFRANKSY:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the petition of praying for the passing of **An Act to amend an Act to incorporate**

**MR. SPEAKER.** It will be entered under **Presenting Petitions. Questions.**

### **ORAL QUESTIONS**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

**MR. L. R. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable the Minister reporting for the Civil Service and I would just ask him, Sir, whether he has any information now pertaining to a question I asked him some days ago with respect to identities of civil servants who had been arrested on the picket line at Griffin.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**MR. URUSKI:** Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member well knows I indicated to him some days after the question, that those names that he asked me to inquire about were not available to me, that when those persons appeared in court on the court docket they would be released. I indicated as well to the honourable member that the role of the in dealing with staff is the role of an appellant body and each department and each Minister in his own department would have the role of determining whether employees were not at work when they should have been and any disciplinary action would be undertaken by the relevant department and their managers.

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**HON. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could with file a return to an Order of the House

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the Minister have Leave?

### **ADJOURNED DEBATES — SECOND READING**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Labour.

**MR. PAULLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if you would call the adjourned debates on second reading in the order in which they appear.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you.

### **BILL (NO. 2) — AN ACT TO AMEND THE SECURITIES ACT**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. WILSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Upon examining the bill and the proposed Act to amend The Securities Act, it appears to be mainly a change in brought on by the introduction of The Companies Act are some things in it that are of interest I would think that it does properly exempt the credit unions as really there was sort of a duplication of service and certainly in a year when we are trying to save money, we want to utilize our staff since the credit unions were already being supervised by another department, it seemed fitting that they should be exempted. definitions it really and describes the Manitoba Securities Board now responsibility for the Real Estate Brokers Act and the Mortgage Brokers and Mortgage Dealers Act. And rightfully, it clearly defines some of the big powers of course the former Minister, I called him the Minister of Power, I would have hated to



have some of these powers under him, but I think the Minister now responsible for this department has rightfully gone along with these changes to clearly define when it comes to freezing trust accounts and preventing people from operating. I think these are rightfully watered down.

Many of the proposals in the bill are of sort of a cosmetic nature and I would think that we could possibly deal with it more thoroughly in Committee, getting into the bill. One of the clear things of course means that all these prospectuses that are put out through Manitoba-based companies have to be cleared through Manitoba even though the mining shares of the XYZ mining company might be flogged in the Vancouver Stock Exchange where a lot of these penny stocks are floated the Calgary, or for that matter the Toronto Stock Exchange. It seems we have got to give Manitoba a bit of a lift in the investment field because Vancouver certainly has a bad name for floating penny stocks, operations, and over-the-counter that out a very small number in the past, but certainly one or two have turned out to be Manitoba companies I think our image needs protection and I welcome this particular change in the Act.

So without going into too much further detail, I do think the fact that the mutual funds have dropped the responsibility of auditing and now the government is going to be sending out a questionnaire for some means of control has been an original statement by the Minister that it wouldn't involve any extra staff but I am wondering, if these people answered the questionnaire wrong if his department would be able to handle the workload, or would they be hiring auditors from outside firms? In other words, is there an added expense? Does he envision an added expense? And if not, he could possibly clear that up.

clarification it seems there may have been a possibility of course I don't believe a case was ever tested, but this Act does away with what could have been a field day if it became public knowledge for the legal profession because it seems that many of these term deposits that someone put in say, two years at percent, if he sudden got married or something and decided he wanted to take out the money, then he would be penalized and be given a pale figure of something like say, 5.5 or 6.5 percent. would seem that there might be a legal argument that the credit unions could have in fact been in a bit of trouble with the federal people pertaining to their responsibilities under this section. So I think to keep the credit unions out of the courts and to allow our courts to do other functions more meaningful, I would think this is a good point as well. So I will be talking to the Minister about this bill in more detail in Committee.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Assiniboia, that debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Bill (No. 3), the Honourable Member for Rock Lake. (Stands). Bill (No. 4), the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie. (Stands). Bill (No. 5), the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week we had the opportunity to comment upon Bill the bill introduced by the Minister of Public Works given to land acquisition. As we pointed out to the House at that time, it was both a serious commission of errors in terms of the amendments that were being made, and perhaps more seriously, an omission of errors because of the lack of any attempt in that bill to deal with the question of how to control the prices of public purchases of land. And it does go to the heart, Mr. Speaker, of one of the central issues that we debate in this Legislature that is the question of the management of government affairs.

I think Bill Mr. Speaker, has the same sequence of errors in it, both omission and commission, perhaps going to a much more fundamentally important series of values, even beyond those of the question of management because there is no more serious act of any government than the act of expropriation, the taking of a piece of personal private property from an individual by the State for its own purposes. And we all recognize that the common law has acknowledged the right of government to do that, that where it is considered fair and necessary, the government has the right to impose its own will and say, "I will take your piece of property, provided I give you fair compensation." But, Mr. Speaker, that particular act of government is one that must be done with the greatest degree of sensitivity and responsiveness and responsibility to the person that is having their property taken from them, that there can be no greater intrusion upon the rights of an individual than that right of taking away their stake in society, what they consider to be their own, so when government does that act, it must do so with great care and consideration.

Mr. Speaker, it must do so even more critically when you consider that oftentimes those who are subject to expropriation are those least able to defend themselves. They are those who are oftentimes — because expropriation takes place in downtown areas, inner city areas, in rural areas, — the people are not as adequately sophisticated with the law, with their rights, to ensure that they get the proper protection. This is compounded even more seriously when there are difficulties of language and sometimes with culture.

I could think, Mr. Speaker, to the problems that we experienced in this city last year when the

Provincial Government itself was expropriating a number of properties in the central part of Winnipeg, many of those people who were being expropriated were those who had recently arrived in this country, who came from countries who had very different governmental systems from ours, were oftentimes intimidated by the authority of the state they're coming into, oftentimes handicapped by language difficulties and as a result, were confused and oftentimes highly upset and anxious about that particular procedure. So the Act of Expropriation is something that cannot be treated lightly and in fact requires the greatest degree of sensitivity and the greatest degree of careful consideration that government applies. I can think in some ways of perhaps only in the areas like the Act of Adoption or other areas where dealing with such personal matters, does expropriation have that same quality of requirement.

And yet, Mr. Speaker, when we come to the amendments being proposed in this bill, they in fact are steps away from those very criteria. Rather than expanding and enhancing the ability of this Provincial Government to deal with the problem of expropriation in the most liberal-minded, open, accessible way, they in fact are a series of amendments which begin to restrict the law and begin to pull in the requirements of government to obey basic tentative natural justice which is fair hearing be given to all.

Mr. Speaker, again, it comes as some surprise to me, like a great deal of surprise to me, that other members of this House, of groups other than my own, who expressed with great frequency and vehemence their own commitment to this issue again would allow a bill as important as this to pass by without comment, to pass by saying they see nothing wrong with it.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I can only stand on serious questioning about the degree of dedication that is brought to that kind of commitment if, in fact, as important a series of changes as the Expropriation Act are simply allowed to pass by with very little attention or very little serious address.

**A over yet. MEMBER:** Nothing's passed by yet. It's not

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Well, Mr. Speaker, when someone is prepared to say they support something in principle, I take them at their word. Support in principle means that they are in basic agreement to the principles of this bill. We, Mr. Speaker, are not in agreement with the principles of these amendments; in fact, we are deadily opposed to the principles of these amendments and we will end up asking the Minister to withdraw this bill because it is such a bad bill that it has no sense to it. Therefore, when the Member for Lakeside says, "It's not over yet," I would say that once someone in this House speaking on behalf of his group is prepared to say, "We agree in principle," then, Mr. Speaker, I think that we have no other option but to take them at their word.

**A MEMBER:** Leave that to the Conservatives.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Order please.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** The only system would be is considering the source of those comments and considering the past record of dedication to principle, then maybe there is no reason to take them at their word.

**A MEMBER:** Okay. We cleared that up.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Okay, we cleared that issue up and now we've got past that thing, let's go to the bill itself. What in the basic thrust of the bill does it state?

The first thing, Mr. Speaker, what it really does is require in a fundamental way that one of the basic requirements of expropriation is to assure that all interested parties to that expropriation are informed that it's about to take place and informed of their rights within that proceeding.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if you look at this bill it8 in fact8 withdraws the right of notification to certain critical groups who may be affected. Tenants, as one prime example. There is a very basic standard in our law which says that all those who have an interest in the property must be notified. That is withdrawn in this present sub-amendment and yet that is often interpreted as we interpret it in the Landlords and Tenant Act and other Acts to mean "those who have a tenant residency in those properties."

Well, Mr. Speaker, if we agree with the submission of this particular Bill 5, then that right of advisement to those who have an interest in the property is eliminated and therefore, they will not receive a notification. Now, the Minister may be able to argue that some someone will tell them; the word will get around, or friends will let them know. But the fact that it is, I believe, absolutely essential that government have established the right to inform those who are going to be affected by law, not to rely upon word of mouth or informal submission and if it creates an inconvenience for the officials and the administrators involved, then that's just too damn bad. That frankly you can accept administrative inconvenience if it means that you're providing a greater protection of the rights of those who are involved.

Mr. Speaker, when I begin to see a government pulling in its horns just a little — and I know the reasons why this bill was brought in, Mr. Speaker. . .

**A MEMBER:** No you don't.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** . . . I think we know the reasons why, we know the kind of representation that's been made by municipal politicians to the Minister saying, "Oh boy, you know, when we get those

things, it ties us up and it takes time and we'd like to get things done in a nice quick, efficient manner." And, Mr. Speaker, we know that the Minister himself went through a fair degree of aggravation only last year when he was out sort of deciding which pieces of property in which he would plant his little seeds upon which his new Autopac building would grow. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I can understand the feeling of the Minister that he and his *confreeres* perhaps on a municipal level would like to get these things over with. They don't want to have them hanging around; they don't want to extend the time. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I think that in doing so he is really making a fundamental error of those who have been in government too long. They begin to put administrative convenience over protection of basic principles and rights. They begin to assume that being able to keep the machinery turning is more important than making sure that the machinery can be stopped when it has to be. That, Mr. Speaker, is the kind of inkling, the kind of symptom we see in this bill.

Now point number two is again the reflection of the same kind of interest in proceeding with administrative convenience. They're simply saying that we can extend the time of investigation of an enquiry officer without notice. Again, Mr. Speaker, I ask why. Now, the enquiry officer — and I think it deserves looking a little bit at the particular role that that particular person may play — the role of the enquiry officer in an expropriation hearing is designed very much to ensure that there is a full and adequate public representation to consider a variety of facts relating to the case. It would seem to follow if that is the purpose of the enquiry officer, whatever the enquiry officer is about to do, all those who are affected by his or her activities should have the right to know. And if there's going to be a time extension, surely there should be again a way of informing people that they have more time, particularly when you consider the case I mentioned.

Oftentimes those who are being expropriated are those least able to deal with them and if they are only given thirty days notice — assume that they only have thirty days to get counsel, get their case put together — then oftentimes it becomes an overwhelming experience and they give up. But all of a sudden here's a case where government knows that the enquiry officer's time is extended but the people who are going to be affected still have to be notified.

And again the Minister may say, "Well, look," . . . There are certain practices that lawyers follow. I know that several lawyers have been appointed enquiry officers, do their homework before hand and then ask the Attorney-General to set them up as an enquiry officer after they've put down the front end arrangements and that's a fair way of doing it within that thirty day time period. But still, Mr. Speaker, I want to come back — I think what's important is what is written in the law and that we have a proper protection in the law as to what goes on. There are certain practices that lawyers follow. I know that several lawyers who have been appointed enquiry officers do their homework beforehand and then ask the Attorney-General to set them up as an enquiry officer after they put down the front-end arrangements. That's a fair way of doing it within that thirty day time and period. But still, Mr. Speaker, I want to come back to I think what's important is what is written in the law, and that we have a proper protection in the law as to what goes on. Mr. Speaker, that is a relatively minor point in this bill. What is far more critical, to my mind, is in fact that this bill amends the powers of the enquiry officer and begins to cut off certain areas of investigation or enquiry that that officer can undertake. The bill really suggests that the enquiry officer no longer has a right to consider matters dealing with compensation.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what is an expropriation proceeding all about if it isn't the question of what value is my property. If you have gone to expropriation hearings, and I have been at several and looked at the records of others, you'll find that the guy whose house is being taken over has one fundamental question in mind. What will I receive in return and furthermore in considering what I receive in return what are you going to pay me for the social dislocation? The fact that you are tearing me out of my community. The fact that I have lived here for thirty or forty years and will have to totally dislocate my place of residence. What am I going to be paid for that? And all of a sudden, we are saying in this bill that those questions can no longer be considered. Questions that go to the very heart of expropriation. This enquiry officer no longer has the capacity to deal with. He is prevented by legislation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think I'm beginning to know the reasons why. That there was a great deal of consternation on the part of certain civic officials when one enquiry officer a year ago made a report on the Trizec Project and started suggesting what compensation should be involved, because it is not his business to do that. Well I consider it to be his business, because Mr. Speaker, when it comes down to a question if there is going to be decision in the courts relating to compensation, the way that the courts now deal with the matter they are prepared to accept a whole variety and range of evidence. And one of the sources of that evidence . . . If the Minister wants to ask a question, yes, please, sure.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, I'm wondering if I heard correctly. Is the member suggesting that the Act today is written in such a way that in fact the enquiry officer can deal with compensation. Is he suggesting that that is now the Act and that is now being taken away from him? Because if so I think

that he is incorrect. It is my understanding the enquiry officer does not deal with compensation under the existing Act. Now that's my understanding and I'm wondering whether that's the understanding of the member.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I'm glad the Minister interjected because I think the way the Act reads now an enquiry officer is not explicitly prohibited from dealing with those matters. Under these amendments he will be explicitly prohibited. And what has happened in past cases, Mr. Speaker, not in all cases but in those cases where it is considered a necessity to do so, and I can show the Minister enquiry officer reports which in fact have considered cases where compensation should be considered.

There was a case, for example, an enquiry officer report dealing with an expropriation in Brooklands where in fact the case had gone on for a period of seven years and the person who was being expropriated had a legitimate right to say, look at, after seven years, don't you think that seven years of waiting should be taken into account, and the enquiry officer did take it into account and made a report so to state. As was also done on the Trizec expropriation case. So the difference there is that while many enquiry officers do not interpret their function to be that, some have and they provide a valuable service.

And that brings me, in fact, to another point. I think, Mr. Speaker, that rather than restricting and inhibiting and pulling in the rights and powers of investigation and areas of jurisdiction of the enquiry officer, far more critical would be to broaden them. Rather than pulling in, we should be broadening them out to ensure that again in that very critical case that there is not those kinds of prohibitions. So that if it does come down to a matter of dispute in the courts, the courts would have a full weight of evidence before them drawn from a variety of hearings and sources and assessments. An enquiry officer, by the definition of his office, is seen to be an independent, objective commentator upon the merits of what is taking place, and that could and should provide a very valuable source of information and advice the courts could take into account.

And furthermore, Mr. Speaker, even when you consider it, again this Act that we now have before us prohibits the enquiry officer looking at questions of legality of expropriations. Well . . .

**A MEMBER:** That's important.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** I know it's important. Because, Mr. Speaker, let me give you the kind of example that I'll bring before the House; that again no one is arguing, I guess it has been in the common law for several hundred years, the right of the state to take a piece of property. But surely the individual has a right to say what are your purposes for taking it. And if in fact it's the kind of example where the Department of Highways comes along and says, we want a 60 foot wide swath for a highway. Okay, fair enough. Highways are important. But if that same Department of Highways comes along and the guy says, you know, wouldn't it be nice if we had an extra 60 feet so we could put a little border on it, a little landscape kind of, you know, have that area protected, and we want that property, too, and also that extra 60 feet may in fact cut into or totally eliminate any agricultural value, then there should be a right to question the legality of that particular act of government. —(Interjection)—

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Oh, no. In fact there was an interesting case in the expropriations of the new park out on the east side of the river where, in fact, that kind of case occurred. I think that there has to be the right of investigation by enquiry officers into the broadest possible range of examination. And again, Mr. Speaker, if you look at the bill carefully you'll see that in fact the enquiry officer, as it is now set up, has limited powers, in fact, has them even more de-limited by these amendments. And again I would simply raise the fact that there have been cases in the past, and I'll give you the example of the kind of rights that should be given an enquiry officer. This government should not have the right, as it has exercised it in the past, as it exercised it last year, to prohibit, by Order-in-Council, the setting up of an enquiry officer. As they did last year in dealing with the cases in downtown Winnipeg where an Order-in-Council of the Cabinet was passed prohibiting an enquiry officer to be established in that case, even though requested by Council for those who were being affected.

So I'm simply saying, Mr. Speaker, that rather than moving towards that kind of restriction what would seem to have been suggested to me by the kind of difficulties the government itself got into last year would have been a review of how we could more liberalize those activities to ensure greater protection and greater guarantee, not to limit them.

But, Mr. Speaker, you can even go one step beyond that, I believe, and say that again in dealing with a matter of expropriation . . . when presented with this bill on first reading the order paper I anticipated its introduction because I felt finally, maybe, the government will take into account perhaps the most crucial issue, and that is the question of replacement cost. Or what is a proper formula for providing people with the kind of protection that they need when it comes down to deciding their rights and grievances. Again I can only say that we are disappointed that the whole question of what is fair value for property is not touched upon at all. And yet, Mr. Speaker, if there is anything that is demonstrated by the Provincial Government's own acts of last year, is that by simply registering the right of fair market, which is a standard formula in all expropriation Acts, they were in

fact creating a series of injustices upon the people whose property they were taking away.

I did some checking a week or so ago on several of those people who had their property expropriated last year who made the claim, which they could only hypothesize last year, that to replace their house as it was down in the central part of Winnipeg with some form of equivalent house in another part of Winnipeg because there was no properties available in the same district, would require not market value for their own house but perhaps eight or ten thousand dollars more. They were not given that. Well, Mr. Speaker, their words have turned out to be true. A case in point was a person who was paid only approximately about fifteen thousand dollars, what was considered to be market value on a street in the central portion of Winnipeg. To replace it with a house not even similar in standard but in a different district because of the markets being different cost twenty-eight thousand dollars. And for many of those people, particularly those who are older, who don't have much in the way of their own financial resources, that becomes a very serious problem. And many of them are still facing those kinds of anxieties. —(Interjection)—

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister for Public Works.

**HONOURABLE RUSSELL DOERN(Elmwood):** I would ask the honourable member this. The other day he seemed to focus upon the notion that the Land Value Appraisal Commission wasn't keeping prices down; that the government was paying too much. Now he appears to be arguing the exact reverse of his position, that the government is paying too little. Could he enlighten us on this apparent conflict?

**MR. AXWORTHY:** Mr. Speaker, I only say that the conflict appears only in the eye of the beholder. That what I am suggesting, in this case, is that the enquiry officers role and in the kinds of guidelines that we have put down in legislation, would provide a very distinct recognition of a formula that could be applied in the first instance. The argument we were making last week on the land acquisition bill is that what happens now is that there is a great deal of shilly-shallying back and forth and a great deal of kicking the price up because there wasn't that initial representation, and we are saying that there is an opportunity in this expropriation bill to begin to fix that kind of problem. To make that proper definition in the first instance where it should be made, rather than having to get into a situation that is subject, surely, to a series of bargaining.

As I point out, when you get into those bargaining situations it's only the strong who have the ability to really bargain, and therefore I think that in many cases the legislation should be designed, in particular, to protect the weak. I would say, that perhaps the Minister's contradictions appear more to me to be on his side than on this side.

Mr. Speaker, I think that in order to ensure that there is this fair treatment of those who are expropriated that not only should the question of fair market value be allowed to be more carefully examined but there are also other rights that are necessary to be employed. I think it should be very clearly set out in the legislation that the expropriating authority be required to provide both a direct invitation or offer to those that are being expropriated about what their legal rights are, and if they can't afford legal counsel to assure that they have the understanding that they can afford to obtain them. And if they can't afford to obtain them through their own private lawyer then the services of legal aid would be available to them. And yet, Mr. Speaker, there are many cases, again, that I've dealt with individually talked to people, where that ' has not been explained. It gets to be a tendency on the part of, you know, some guys in government side to play the role of sort of Mr., you know, snidey whiplash kind of coming in and sort of acting the role that they've got the muscle, boy, and you better tow the line, and that they are not required by the law to make sure that those rights are clearly set forth. I think that there is a principle in the American Criminal Law, called the Escobedo case where we all see it on all those crime programs, where every arresting officer must read out the rights, saying you have a right to counsel before you can be arrested of A, B, C, and D.

I think, Mr. Speaker, the same rights should be contained in this bill. I think the requirement to state those rights is a fundamental part of the act of expropriation.

**A MEMBER:** We have them now.

**MR. AXWORTHY:** We may have them but they are not set out, and I must confess, Mr. Speaker, having watched and observed the activities of this government in expropriation proceedings last year, I frankly wouldn't trust them. I think that the rights have got to be laid out clear and simple and straightforward, and that if they are not obeyed they can therefore be charged in the courts. To rest upon simply the good words and good works of the Minister leaves me slightly cold. What a cruel blow. I realize that while the Minister is kindly considered by friends and family, I think when it comes to dealing in areas of expropriation he is not a man that I would want to invite to sit down across the table.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would really make the case that it seems to me fundamentally illogical to establish the office of enquiry officer, give people the appearance that you are offering a fair hearing, and then take away any jurisdiction to comment on questions of value or circumstances pertaining to it. Again it suggests to me that all we are doing is creating a little bit as a subterfuge, a little bit of a palliative. Well, I can see the reasoning going, you know, there is going to be a lot of angry people,

let's provide a place for them to show up at, make their grievances, say what they are tired of hearing, and then we kind of go on with the business of what we are going to do anyway. There seems to be too much of that kind of attitude creeping into too much of our legislation and in too much of our activity.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that I think that this bill, frankly, should be withdrawn. I think the Minister should go back to the drawing board. He should go back to some first principles of what's involved in the act of expropriation. He should ask himself what is really required by government to ensure that its actions are of the most just and fair and equitable nature possible, take a look at the areas in the Expropriation Act which are not covered in this bill. The question of how do you arrive at the proper value, how do you assure that the right of those that are being expropriated are protected, how do you make sure that the enquiry that is undertaken is given the widest latitude in a proper jurisdiction. Those are the questions that should be asked in expropriation and that rather than going in the area of prohibition, restriction, and retrenchment, simply to appease either himself, members of his department, or civic officials who have got their fingers burnt too many times because they have been burning too many people in the way they have conducted expropriation, I think it's time that he demonstrated in a much wider and more liberated sense of what the responsibilities of government are, and if he did that he withdraw the bill and bring it back in a much highly different amended form.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

**MR. SAUL CHERNIACK:** I wonder if the honourable member would permit a question. I didn't want to interrupt him but he said something about this government last year having prohibited an enquiry officer to make the investigation. Could he spell that out so I would know what he means by prohibited?

**MR. AXWORTHY:** It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, and I would be pleased to be corrected, that last year an Order-in-Council was passed which waived the setting up of an enquiry officer in the issue of the expropriation of those properties being used for provincial buildings.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** Mr. Speaker, I had a feeling that that's what happened. And the honourable member, in his great enthusiasm for making a point used the word "prohibited". Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether the honourable member, with the education he has . . . —(Interjection)—

**MR. CHERNIACK:** No, I'm speaking.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Johns is speaking to the motion.

**MR. CHERNIACK:** I'm asserting the same right the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge had when he spoke and I don't know whether it hurts him to hear me speak about it, but let me tell them that it could not be a point of order because if he misuses the English language in order to create a bias, that's his privilege as a politician. It's not to his credit to do so, but nevertheless it's his privilege. And I want to tell him there is a big difference between waiving the requirement for the hearing or prohibiting. Because prohibiting means that somebody was going to do something and he said, in my words, the government would not allow it to happen. And if he doesn't know the difference then . . . Oh, he knows the difference, there's no use my pretending that he doesn't. He deliberately used that kind of phraseology as as indeed did his entire speech make every effort to confuse the issue, to show bias, to create differences, to attack the government.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry that I did not hear all of what he said because there may have been some things he said that were of value for consideration and to the extent they were then I would hope that the committee in dealing with the, assuming that I did not hear all of what he said because there may have been some things he said that were of value for consideration and to the extent they were, then I would hope that the committee in dealing with the section by section will, indeed, deal with the points he made if they are valid and meaningful. But so much of what I heard was just a broad axe attack on the expropriation program. I want the honourable member to know that I was, at one time, very much concerned with The Expropriation Act as it was some time ago, and I was party to deliberations in committee dealing with The Expropriation Act, I don't remember which committee it was, and I would say that the one person who showed a greater interest and a greater knowledge than I had was a former premier of this good province, Doug Campbell, who spent a deal of time reviewing the legislation. As I recall it, we studied various reports made in other provinces by other authorities that were concerned with expropriation. I believe I recall one from British Columbia or Alberta that had a great deal of content' and it was as a result of the study that was carried on that this Act was passed. It says, assented to in July of 1970.

Mr. Speaker, at that time, this Act was considered a great stride forward in the whole concept of mandatory taking away. I don't know whether the honourable member really meant expropriation is the most serious thing that a government could do. If he does, it just indicates the concern he has for material things in life that a man's land is probably more important to him than other factors in government. But it was just part of the general attack he made that made him speak in superlatives.

Mr. Speaker, the provision which gives the government the authority to waive a hearing by an inquiry officer is there in a case where it is in the government's wisdom an improper use of an inquiry officer, an unnecessary use, a costly use, for which the government is accountable. The decisions of

government are accountable. And the honourable member would have every right to on any one or other case where the government asserts the power given to it by the Legislature to question whether or not he should have done so. But just to suggest that there must be an inquiry officer in every case is inviting a bureaucracy, is inviting a cost and is inviting a great deal of unnecessary and difficult delays to what may be a very necessary operation unless the honourable member does not understand the purpose of an inquiry officer which I am beginning to suspect is the case. As I recall it, there was no provision for an inquiry officer under the former Act. This was brought in in order to give the community an opportunity to say, "If you're planning to tear down those houses and want to build a community club or skating rink or whatever, then we in the community, we the owners object to it being put here rather than somewhere else, object to the amount of space that is being asked for it. We have to have our input and the inquiry officer is expected to look at all the ramifications of the needs of the land." Unfortunately, I confess that I had found this section in the Act which deals with the responsibilities of the inquiry officer. If the honourable member knows the section, I would be happy if he could give me the number so I could read out of it. But the purpose of the inquiry officer was certainly not to act as the judge on valuation. It was certainly not even to get involved in what was being offered or what could the owner acquire or receive by way of compensation. If he thinks that is the purpose, then he misFair game. understands the act. I would not blame him for misunderstanding it because I am not sure that he really stood up in order to make a positive contribution to improve the legislation. I think he used the occasion to attack the abuses which may be valid in certain cases. But those abuses do not relate to the duties of the inquiry officer especially as it may affect the compensation pay.

Mr. Speaker, people should know the purpose for which they are appointed. An inquiry officer should not be given the impression that the Honourable Member from Fort Rouge would like to do, to say that you have the right to look into the need, how much is being taken, how much will be paid, you will be able to look into the whole question of what information the expropriating authority has as to the value of the land. That he should know is not the role that was envisioned, especially since what did happen was a much broader approach made to enable the owner to have a proper hearing as to compensation before a court which is of independent status. And I go on: The owner has the opportunity to employ accountants appraisers, lawyers, whatever is deemed necessary, the cost of which would be included in the compensation paid as I recall it, within reason, but that is there. But he is going further. He is going overboard in describing what he thinks ought to be the provisions in the Act. So, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that in the committee there ought to be a review of points that have validity.

Certainly there will be an opportunity for people more learned than the Member from Fort Rouge to appear before the committee and criticize the Act as it stands now or the amendments as they are proposed. The honourable member would seem to indicate that the amendments are what is wrong whereas I believe that his attack was on the Act not on the amendments. Nevertheless, there would be the opportunity. But let him not appear to get away with his broad attack with accusing without naming, accusing the government of activities and accusing the Minister of attitudes, accusing the people involved in expropriation with — I forget in what demeaning way he described their approach to their work — but rather to act, and I would expect he ought to during the Minister's Estimates or another opportunity which he will find, spell out what he is talking about. It is a little too much to just hear this broad attack. Let him spell it out and let him remember that the courts are there to protect both sides, but especially that side that needs protection more and that's not the expropriating authority. There is provision here for a great deal of protection, for a great deal of recognition of the costs involved on behalf of the owner of the land.

For example, Mr. Speaker, he attacks a section in the bill which he says eliminates a number of people from receiving proper notice. I read what the section did read, I was able to find that one, and the existing Act reads, "The confirming authority shall cause this order to be served forthwith upon the owners of all land affected thereby who are not parties to the inquiry." The change appears to be that the "all owners" in the amendment as proposed shall be those who are ascertained from the records of the Land Titles Office on the latest revised realty assessment roll. I don't know the exact reason for the amendment but I have enough experience and the Honourable Meer from Fort Rouge, in spite of what I said about his lack of knowledge of the English language, surely must understand that the reason would be that there has to be some limit to the extent of what your notice shall be given. In other words, you have to know whom to serve before you make the service. And the way the present Act reads as I see it, it would almost be incumbent on the authority to know who are all the owners of land, registered or not. And the way I read this section, they at least know where to look and if I were an owner, the Member from Fort Rouge were an owner, we would make very sure that our names would be on the records of the Land Titles Office. It's easy to get on there, very easy to get on to the records of the Land Titles Office if you have an interest.

But surely, that's all it is, instead of all the devious thoughts that were attributed by the Member from Fort Rouge to the people who are proposing the amendment. Why they're trying to cut out

people. Why ' Mr. Speaker? Why should they want to do that.

Act Well, the old Act did not say tenants. The present doesn't say tenants. But if the tenant has a right of ownership, and tenants do if they have more than a year lease, as I recall the law but I am saying it the general way ' I am not practising law while I'm on my feet now, so I may be wrong, but as I recall it, a tenant who has a lease-hold interest greater than one year has a right to register a caveat. And indeed, that's the way to do it because the Honourable Member for Assiniboia who deals in real estate and manages property should know that it is not always easy to know who the tenant is, the tenant may not be the occupant, he knows that, too. And therefore,

/ in order to describe his property the people who have a stake in it do have a right to appear before the inquiry officer or to receive the order of the confirming authority.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure both members of the Liberal Party present in the House at the moment know very well that a tenant whose rights are being expropriated will be able to make a claim before the hearing, at the hearing, to present their loss and normally that loss is just a reduction from that of the landlord, because if they have a loss, then the landlord has that much less of a loss in the amount which he will receive. But in any event, it all comes out in the question of value and the amount of expropriation, the consideration to be paid, the compensation as referred to by the Member from Fort Rouge.

So all I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is let us be a little bit more believable by being a little bit more subdued and by saying that there is validity in some of the points, not in others, and let us discuss it for the welfare of the people of Manitoba in attempting to improve the operation of the Expropriation Act. And I would think that that would be more helpful and I would be certain that when this matter comes before Law Amendments Committee that it will be dealt with in that way as the honourable member well knows. But as it is, the improvements that are being attempted, if the Honourable Member from Fort Rouge would have his way, would be the withdrawal or defeat of this bill — and he's nodding his head, Mr. Speaker. I think he is implying that he agrees, the withdrawal or defeat of this bill.

I would like to have him explain to us here in this House how he can better improve the Act as it stands than to have this bill go into Committee and reviewed in committee so that the valid points made could be improved upon. No, he would rather destroy the efforts that are being made to improve on the Act, and of course if he thinks there is no improvement, by all means he ought to vote against it. He ought to deny the opportunity of the committee to review it in detail. That is the way he wants to do it. Well, I would almost say that he will prohibit us, if he had his way, from dealing with the Expropriation Act at the next Law Amendments Committee. That seems to me to be his objective, a prohibition. Now I am using the words he used so wrongly when he talked about the government's action last year where it waived the requirement for the appointment of an inquiry officer.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member from Birtle-Russell.

**HONOURABLE HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Roblin, that the debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**Bill No. 7. The Honourable Member for Swan River. (Stand) Bill No. 15. (Stand) Bill No. 19. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry. Eighteen, I am sorry. That's correct. Eighteen, not 19. (Stand) The Honourable Minister of Labour as acting House Leader.**

### CONCURRENCE

**MR. PAULLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I suggest that before going into a supply debate, that I announce that it is our intention to advance Interim Supply as far as possible at this stage. I call on my colleague, the Minister of Finance.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Labour, that the resolution on Interim Supply that was reported by the Committee of Supply be now read a second time and concurred in.

**MOTION presented.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Riel.

**MR. CRAIK:** Mr. Speaker, we don't intend to bring up items on this particular resolution because we can get at them on the regular Estimates themselves. I have just one question, although I directed a question the other day to the Minister about what he used the 25 percent on, I am curious to know and want to get the answer as to why the tax credits were subtracted out of the original Estimates, and they seemed to have just been pulled out right about the time the Estimates were tabled but the 25 percent is based on the full amount not the amount that was the \$111 million subtracted for the tax credits. Now, it changes the percentage which traditionally means 25 percent if you use the smaller amount. I don't know it's of any great importance, but it really raises the question very temporarily the government has taken the tax credit, pulled them out, calculated an amount of an expenditure but



they haven't used that amount in calculating their Interim Supply they seem to have reverted back to the original amount again.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister should be closing debate.

**MR MILLER:** Mr. Speaker, I thought that rather than respond now . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The Honourable Member for Lakeside wishes to speak . . .

**MR. ENNS:** Just briefly, in terms of your indication that you were closing the debate on the matter. I don't think that is the case, Sir, is it?

**MR. SPEAKER:** We have a motion before the House. We are not in Supply Committee, Interim or otherwise, and the proper way to proceed on a motion is members may speak to it, and the Minister when he speaks will be closing debate because he did introduce the motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, I just have a few comments to make. They are prompted by an occasion in the past when this particular item was, of course, used in a time honoured and traditional way by the opposition to influence or attempt to influence a deliberate and wilful government. I believe the then Minister of Finance was the Member for St. John. The using of interim supply in that manner by an opposition has its traditional roots in the parliamentary system, of course, not any longer with this government. This government has indicated that it is quite prepared to go by special warrant even while the House is sitting for any of the funds that they require in Interim Supply thereby negating any position of opposition that's available to us on this occasion. As the Member for Riel has indicated there are other times in the discussion of the general Estimates, Capital Supply comes down, that we can discuss the individual matters that we are now passing one quarter of and we'll choose to do that.

I only rise, Mr. Speaker, to remind the honourable members opposite that a little bit of tradition has been severely tampered with by this government and in fact, Sir, constitutionally it is still in great question as to whether or not their action at that date was correct; that is by going outside of this Chamber while the Chamber is sitting for Special Warrants. However, Mr. Speaker, that's I suppose just one of the lesser constitutional arguments that we'll be hearing a lot of in this country as we try to keep this country together.

Mr. Speaker, I merely want to remind him that there has been a difference and that's part of the reason why the ready acquiescence on the part of the opposition to the speedy passage of Interim Supply at this time. Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have pulled the traditional teeth out of the opposition in having us being able to use Interim Supply in a more effective way. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Labour.

**MR. PAULLEY:** Mr. Speaker, thus far this session I have remained rather silent in debates. I think it is the first time, this session, that I did not take part in the debate on the Throne Speech after having participated in many for many years. But I do not feel, Mr. Speaker, as though I can sit quietly by after listening to the Honourable Member for Lakeside because it seems to me that in his remarks he was taking out of context what happened a year or so ago when the government, in order to obtain sufficient moneys for the payment of wages to its employees and the cost of operation of the government did, because of the obstinacy of the members in opposition at that time, had to resort in order to fulfil the governmental responsibilities of payment of wages, had to revert or use legislation that was passed by the previous Conservative government. That is the reason for that.

Mr. Speaker, it's now the 21st day of March and we're getting closer to the end of the fiscal period and I'm happy to hear from the Honourable Member for Lakeside that there appears to be no inclination on the part of opposition to withhold Interim Supply this year as indeed it took that attitude a couple of years ago or was it last year.

A very interesting occurrence has happened since then, Mr. Speaker, that at the time of that debate here in the House there was a representative of the Australian Government in Winnipeg. He had found out about the method that the government was faced with having to use in order to obtain sufficient moneys in order to proceed with the orderly conduct of government. On his return to Australia a crisis arose there of a similar nature that we were faced with here at that particular time, namely the opposition's reluctance to grant Interim Supply. The net result there was a little bit different than here in that the government in Australia at that particular time didn't have the benefit of legislation that had been passed by the then opposition or by the government that preceded them. I thought, Mr. Speaker, it would only be proper for me to indicate to the House the pleasure, apparently we are going to go ahead with Interim Supply. But the mention made by the Honourable Member for Lakeside, I think, is taken out of context or at least it wasn't a full disclosure of the situation that prevailed at that time. The reason for the Special Warrant was because at that particular time we felt that it was necessary to proceed accordingly. We used Conservative legislation to do so and whether or not it was constitutionally correct, my honourable friend refers to that as still a problem' nonetheless, Mr. Speaker, I know that since that time the matter has been considered. I've considered it, I've had numerous people who are well versed in the constitutional law and at that time we were quite in order. So I'm happy to know that we have the co-operation of my honourable friend.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Morris.

**MR. WARNER H. JORGENSON:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move, seconded by the Member for Fort Garry, that the debate be adjourned.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Labour as House Leader.

**MR. PAULLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Finance, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Logan in the Chair for Health and Social Development and the Honourable Member for St. Vital in the Chair for Renewable Resources.

### CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

#### ESTIMATES — RENEWABLE RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Walding:** Order please. We have a quorum, gentlemen. The Committee will come to order. I would refer honourable members to Page 55 in their Estimates Books, the Department of Renewable Resources and Transportation Services, Resolution 104(d) Wildlife Management, (1)(a). The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. DAVID BLAKE:** (Inaudible) . . . areas that we covered Friday. I know I missed some of them but I don't know whether we covered the possibility that we may have a deer-hunting season and I wonder if the Minister might tell us if the season is declared, how he plans to run the season, whether it will be on the draw basis or whether it will be an open season, what restrictions or what areas may be hunted? If he could give us some idea, or how they decide what type of season we should have.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**HONOURABLE HARVEY BOSTROM (Rupert Island):** Mr. Chairman, as I indicated, I believe the last day we were considering the Estimates, the population counts have just recently been completed and the department is now working on compiling the statistics. That work should be done shortly. They are also, on my instructions, looking at the alternatives with respect to deer season. The recommendations are not firm yet and I expect they will be coming forward shortly as well and when they are, we will be announcing something in due course. I can't indicate today anything definite other than to say that generally the initial population figures that we have indicate that the deer population is in good shape, there are good numbers of deer, and it is very likely, in fact a good, strong possibility, that we will have a deer season. The type and nature of the season, the regulations and administrative details will have to be worked out, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, that's what I was looking for, Mr. Chairman. I just wonder if the Minister might confirm that these regulations that will be arrived at are the decisions in consultation with wildlife groups or groups that are interested in the preservation of our wildlife as well as with the people from his department, the game biologists and the other people that he would normally consult. I wonder if he would indicate to us that the wildlife people, the various organizations that have some fairly sizeable memberships throughout the province that are interested in land-owners' rights as well as the deer population and wildlife management, if they will be consulted when the criteria for the hunt is being arrived at.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, for the Committee's information, I have operated on an open door policy from the first time I was appointed Minister and the wildlife groups and other interested groups in the province are aware of that. At least, I have made the point on every opportunity that I have had that I certainly would not only encourage but appreciate the advice and suggestions that the Wildlife Federation and other groups that are interested in the deer population and other wildlife matters, I would be very interested to hear their comments and to have them communicate either with my office directly or with the officials in the department who have the technical knowledge and the expertise, and who will be eventually coming forward to me with certain recommendations, so that they have perhaps a couple of kicks at the cat, so to speak, if they wish to communicate with people in the department directly or with my office either now or at some time after I have received the recommendations from the department.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, another question, Mr. Chairman. I don't know whether the Minister would have the figures readily available. He could probably get them. I wonder if he might be able to give us some idea of how many aircraft were employed in the deer count and how many days or hours they might have flown and what the actual cost was on the latest deer count.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, that is a detailed question that I would have to take as notice and bring back to the Committee.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, fine. On the hunting season, I wonder if the Minister might be able to give us some indication of what the situation with the elk population, especially the Riding Mountain area, and if there is a possibility of an elk season next year. That would apply to the moose also in around that particular area. There will be a season elsewhere on moose, I presume.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I have not had any indication from the department that they will be recommending anything different than the kind of season we had last year. Although again with respect to the deer, this is a question on which the department is working and will be coming forward shortly with recommendations as to seasons and so on. There is no firm recommendation yet on either the elk or the moose seasons for next year.

**MR. BLAKE:** Does the province do the actual elk count in Riding Mountain park or is that done by federal officials, federal parks people?

**MR. BOSTROM:** I believe that within the park itself, Riding Mountain National Park, since it is a federal park, the population counts for wildlife are the responsibility of the Federal Government. The province does not have the jurisdiction nor the responsibility to manage the wildlife in the park. Around the periphery of the park, certainly there would be. This would be checked as part of the department's regular resource inventory.

**MR. BLAKE:** The season then in that area would only be declared in consultation or on the recommendations of the federal authorities of the national park.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, there would be some discussion with them but not as to the nature of a season, I don't believe. Since the population within the park itself has never been subjected to a season, I don't think to my knowledge, and the policy of the federal parks, with that particular park anyway, is not to have a season. So only as how it would relate to those populations of the park, elk or moose, that may venture out of the park, there would be some discussion between officials but more or less on an informal basis, nothing formalized in that respect.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, before I leave that, Mr. Chairman, I am still concerned with the reported number of moose on Hecla Island. I wondered if the Minister has had complaints or just what the damage may be to the lavish facilities that have been provided there at taxpayer expense, how he would be prepared to maintain the golf course in particular, free from damage by large animals traversing back and forth across the fairway.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, that is a problem which has not come to my attention. There was some publicity recently in the press regarding one biologist's opinion of the situation there, and I emphasize that it was one biologist's opinion and was not done with the authorisation of the department.

The department is having regular meetings with senior parks people to discuss the wildlife management in that park and in others, so that I believe that a common-sense solution can be arrived at with respect to wildlife matters in that park and in others. To my knowledge, there is not a serious problem there and I think, as I indicated in earlier comments on this issue, that common sense would indicate that if in fact there is a problem with moose numbers in the Hecla Island area, that the moose are intelligent enough that they would find their way quickly off the island and onto the mainland where there is an abundance of reasonable habitat for them. So I don't really think that if you look at it from a common-sense point of view that moose numbers will become a problem on the Hecla Island park itself.

**MR. BLAKE:** They don't understand "fore", Mr. Minister, when it's hollered at them. Well, it certainly wouldn't be to me, Mr. Chairman, it wouldn't be a very difficult task to check the island. It is not very large. And if there are 200-and-some-odd moose there as has been reported, it would seem an overly large number to be on that particularly small area. I know very well that they will move, nature will indicate to them where they should go if they are not finding enough to eat on the island. Because there is a small amount of graze on the golf course, I am thinking of the damage they might do walking across it. It wasn't whether they were going to be grazing there or not but having made that point, Mr. Chairman, we won't belabour the fact the Minister is well aware of our concerns that there may possibly be damage to that facility there and that is our main concern. That is fine for that item, Mr. Chairman, if some of the other members of the Committee have questions.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

**MR. BOB BANMAN:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to just pursue one of the points that I have made in the last several years when this item has come up and that is with regards to the type of hunting season that we would possibly be having in the province. I would wonder if the Minister could tell the Committee whether his department has done any studies as to implementing a draw system for the deer season similar to what we have had for moose and elk.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, that possibility has been looked at and it will be one of the items under consideration when in fact we are considering the alternatives for a deer season in 1977.

**MR. BANMAN:** I would just like to, at this time, again mention to the Minister that I believe that if it did go to a draw system, what could happen is that you could fluctuate the number of licences that are issued from year to year, depending on the type of harvestable amount, or the type of game that could be taken. So this is my suggestion and has been for the last couple of years, that possibly this is the approach to take and we could limit the number of deer being taken. If it is a good year, you raise the amount of applications that are given a licence and on a poor year you bring it down. So I leave

that with the Minister at this time.

I would like to ask the Minister as to what kind of an arrangement the Department of Renewable Resources has with the Parks Department as far as implementing seasons in parks areas? And I draw this to the Minister's attention because I think as we get involved with dealings with the Federal Government for the implementation of wilderness parks such as he is very aware of, the one east of Lake Winnipeg, also the Provincial Wilderness Park that is being proposed just north of the Whiteshell, are these going to come under the privy of the Department of Tourism? What kind of game management is going to be included in those particular areas? Are you going to issue licences in those areas? Whose jurisdiction will it be?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, according to the legislation, the Minister of Parks has the authority within the provincial parks, although we have been operating on a common-sense administrative procedure whereby officials from my department, meet with the officials from parks and work out the details for the kind of season and/or seasons that make sense within parks. The general criteria used so far has been a common sense one. Where there are built-up areas of parks and intensive recreational use areas, the ideas has not been to allow hunting in those areas. However, there are wilderness areas in parks which are remote enough from any intensive use that have been opened for hunting and I submit will probably continue to do so for many years to come.

With respect to the use of the fur resource in parks, there is a separate arrangement there whereby parks people issue permits in addition to the permit that is issued by my department, that is, a trapper's licence is issued by the department and I believe that Parks Branch issues another permit to them. I believe this is for an administrative check to ensure that they know who is in the park and when and so on.

With respect to licences for hunting seasons, there is the one licence issued and that is issued by the Department of Renewable Resources in this case.

**MR. BANMAN:** With reference again to the wilderness parks areas, will this come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Renewable Resources? And I am talking about game management. Because if the type of development occurs as the government has every once in awhile expressed certain intent with regard to wilderness parks, would this be an area where hunting would not be allowed? Will that be again run by the Parks Department or will that be run by the Department of Renewable Resources?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps I didn't make myself clear, but the legislation is clear in that it makes reference to the Minister of Parks having jurisdiction within parks for wildlife, so that in effect the Minister of Parks has the final say there. In actual operation of course, these matters generally go before Cabinet and it is a government decision to follow a policy of hunting or no hunting, whatever the case may be.

In actual practice thus far, as I have indicated, the practice has been to allow hunting in those areas where it makes sense to allow hunting. There is no provincial park to my knowledge that is strictly wilderness area. All of the parks that have been developed in Manitoba by the Provincial Government have been multi-use in nature.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

**MR. JAMES FERGUSON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister what the arrangements are to do with this wild turkey season. I understand it has been announced there will be a season. Now as I ask when is this going to happen and who is going to be involved?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, I don't wish to prejudge Cabinet on this one. It was announced by way of informal interview with one member of the press that we were considering instituting a wild turkey hunting season this year. It has come about as a result of a request from wildlife groups that have been instrumental in introducing the wild turkey into Manitoba, and they are now at the stage where it is in the department's opinion that a harvest can be taken because of the nature of the populations of the wild turkey in certain areas. I will be taking a submission to Cabinet next week recommending a wild turkey season and recommending the fee to be set and the way in which it will be administered so an announcement will probably be made Wednesday or Thursday of next week.

**MR. FERGUSON:** Just another couple of short questions I would like to ask while we are on it, and this would be, are any Crown lands involved in the area or is this land all held privately? Is there any negotiations going on between the province and the individual owners or will this have to be done by the person who is wanting to hunt on it?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, last year it was suggested that we have a season and one of the things that decided us to forego the season last year was indications from land owners in the area that they weren't too excited about us having a season.

Most of these wild turkeys are located on private land and my instructions to the departmental staff were to have a look at the situation this year to see if in fact the land owners there are interested in allowing the hunters to go on their land, because it would be academic for us to establish a season if the land owners won't allow people to hunt there. In recent meetings that have been held between

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the land owners, the wildlife groups and the department, there seems to be a spirit of co-operation here which would lend itself well to other kinds of hunting seasons that are to be established. If we can achieve the kind of co-operation that reports that I've been getting indicate, I would say that other kinds of hunting seasons could probably be modelled after this one. That's the initial indications that I've had from the department, and I believe that we can now proceed to have a hunting season because it appears to have the concurrence of the land owners in the area. It certainly has the recommendation of the wildlife groups as well as the recommendations of the experts in my department that this is a good idea.

**MR. FERGUSON:** Just one other question, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask the Minister, in view of the fact that there are many wildlife management areas being developed in the province could I ask how these are going to be classified? Will they be classified as unoccupied Crown land, or how will they be classified?

**MR. BOSTROM:** Mr. Chairman, the department has taken the position that wildlife management areas are classified as occupied Crown land.

**MR. FERGUSON:** As occupied. Okay.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order, please. In accordance with our Rule 19(2) I am interrupting the proceedings of the committee for Private Members' Hour, to return to the Chair at 8 p.m.

**ESTIMATES — HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. William Jenkins (Logan):** I refer honourable members to Page 29 of their Estimates Book, Resolution 60(h) Dental Services (1) Salaries \$1,060,900—pass? The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

**MR. WARREN STEEN:** Mr. Chairman, we were discussing dental services last Friday afternoon at some length. I didn't have an opportunity to say to the Minister some of my comments regarding dental services.

The Minister is quoted in Saturday's Free Press as saying that the number of persons that have been serviced by this program is in the neighbourhood of 8,000 plus and that the Estimate shows over \$2 million being spent on dental services. My quick calculation is that the cost of this program is around \$260 per child. The Minister also spent some time. . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister state his point of order.

**HONOURABLE LAURENT L. DESJARDINS, Minister of Health and Social Development (St. Boniface):** On a point of order — because his calculation will be all wrong. The 8,000 my honourable friend is talking about is for next year not this year.

**MR. STEEN:** That's fine, Mr. Chairman, that's what I meant is that we're talking about the coming year's Estimates and the number of persons that the Minister feels will be serviced by the program. The Minister spent a great deal of time talking about the reason why the expenditure per user is fairly high, because of the start-up charges. He made some reference to Saskatchewan. The information that I can find, Mr. Chairman, is that Saskatchewan has had their program in force now for four years and from their experience they have found that the cost per child has not come below \$300 per user even in the fourth year and the program does not come down in cost even after you've paid your start-up charges.

There are a number of insurance schemes available to the public in Manitoba for dental services, Mr. Chairman. Firms like Great West Life, London Life and Blue Cross offer such a program. Blue Cross, for example, offers on a group basis, dental services to families and the cost per child is \$75.00 per year; the premium. For a family of four the cost is \$260 per year. In Manitoba there are approximately 150,000 persons that are covered by various dental insurance schemes through group purchases.

A good example is up in the Flin Flon area where the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company has approximately 3,000 employees. They have a dental program for their employees and their families and yet this government feels it necessary to institute a dental program through the Flin Flon school division where in Flin Flon if we have 3,000 persons employed by the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company and if you use the rule-of-thumb that a family is made up of four persons, even if we said that only 2,000 of the 3,000 employees were married persons with families we would have in the neighbourhood of 8,000 citizens in the Flin Flon area covered by the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's Dental Insurance Program. My question to the Minister is, is a program in Flin Flon through the Flin Flon school division, which basically just serves the City of Flin Flon, really necessary when the company looks after the majority of the persons living in Flin Flon? Are we not having a duplication of services? Are we not letting the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company off the hook where their insurance carrier could be providing the dental services for the majority of youngsters in the Flin Flon area? I question the Minister as to why Flin Flon was chosen when we have Flin Flon as a city which is often referred to as a company town and they have some of the best insurance benefits available in all of Manitoba.

Another area that the Minister went into at great length on Friday was the quality of service. In Manitoba in the last two or three years, we have had 75 dentists graduate from the school of dentistry that have stayed behind in Manitoba to practice. Yet on the other hand the provincial government finds it wise to hire dental nurses, send them out to Regina, Saskatchewan, to take a dental program — they go there on a grant as my understanding is of \$3,200 the first year and \$3,600 during the second year. I've also been told that 50 percent of the students that enroll in this dental nursing program either drop out of the course or are dropped out of the course because of bad grades by the end of year one. I wonder whether it is wise that the provincial government Dental Services Program goes along with a two-year program of dental nurses when the failure rate is extremely high, when perhaps we could work out something with the Manitoba School of Dentistry. For example, from my understanding the Dental School offered the provincial government an arrangement where if they subsidized students through the Dental School they would see to it that these students upon graduation would spend one year working in the Dental Services Program prior to receiving their license to go out into private practice. If the 75 students who have graduated in the last two to three years had remained in Manitoba perhaps we could be having a greater degree of quality and service' if we had four-year graduates from the School of Dentistry providing this service rather than dental nurses who have two years of educational background.

The 25 nurses that were sent off to Regina the first year to take the dental nursing program were done so at the time that the Minister and the Member for St. Johns were negotiating with the Manitoba Dental Association. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister was bargaining in good faith with the Manitoba Dental Association in trying to come up with a scheme that was agreeable to both members of their association and members of the government when at the very time that they were negotiating they had 25 students off into another province taking a dental nursing program. So it was obvious from Day One that the provincial government wanted to bring in such a program.

I have three areas of concern, Mr. Chairman. One is the cost. I think it's unbelievable that the insurance companies and Blue Cross can provide a program for \$75 a year for young people, especially the people of the same age that this provincial government is covering where it is costing the government \$260 per year to cover these children. He talks about the start-up charges. Saskatchewan has found from four years of experience that the cost per child does not come down. Then when he picks examples throughout the province that the program should be operated in, I find it unbelievable that they would choose Flin Flon as a particular jurisdiction in which to have this program go into effect when three-quarters of the people in Flin Flon are covered through the company program. So what he is really doing is he is letting Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting off the hook from some of their responsibilities.

Also, I can't help but believe that 75 new young graduates in the last two to three years couldn't do a better job of looking after young people's teeth than nurses that have come off a two-year program and have had much less practical experience through their nursing program than the dentists get from their four-year program at the dental college.

My fourth point is that I believe that the Minister really led the Dental Association, and he did mention Dr. Ted Derrett on Friday afternoon, down the garden path when he and the Member for St. Johns talked about negotiating and trying to work out a good compromise with the dental association in coming up with a dental services program while at the very same time they had 25 girls off into Saskatchewan taking a nursing program knowing full well that they had every intention of bringing in this dental service program regardless of what the dental association in Manitoba thought of it or what input that they had planned to put into it.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend is right we did cover that quite extensively on Friday so I certainly will not belabour this but in all fairness my honourable friend asked some questions, he didn't have a chance to speak on on Friday so I'll try to give him some of the answers.

First of all the cost in Saskatchewan, I will refer him to something that wasn't prepared by Manitoba, the same Journal of the Ontario Dental Association that just came out this month. I don't know where my honourable friend got his figure. Of course they are all one-sided and he's stating that as if it was the Bible. But here I've got another figure that it says the total per capita breakdown of SDP costs for the first year's operation are available from the Saskatchewan Department of Health and it's known that the cost per enrolled child is \$158.29, not the \$300.00 that he's talking about. There is no doubt my honourable friend wasn't listening on Friday when I talked about when these people are on maintenance it's going to be something else. Now at no is time anybody talking about comparing certain work by an expert, a dentist, and somebody that has been trained to do a limited amount of work. That is the main thing and there is nothing that would direct that we weren't bargaining in good faith when it was an obvious fact that we were going to use the paramedical profession for certain things. The total cost you will see, Mr. Chairman, and through you to my honourable friend, it will come down, if it was only the dentists involved, that's the second point.

The third point, my honourable friend doesn't realize that there is a shortage of dentists. You can look at it anyway you want. I'll go back to 1925 in the —(Interjection)— That's the year your dad graduated. Okay, well the year your dad graduated there was one dentist for 6,637 in the rural area and now, 50 years later, there is one dentist for 6,400. So, you see, it's the same thing as the medical profession. Winnipeg is not that bad off but in the rural area there are no dentists. And talking about Flin Flon, there are two dentists in Flin Flon and there was a shortage of dentists in Flin Flon, too, and it is a universal program. We didn't say, when we brought in Pharmacare, there are certain plans that are covered and so on, so therefore we're not going to cover, it will be a universal plan, but it won't be covered there.

Why did we start? We didn't start, as my honourable friend might have a point, we didn't start with the City because there was better coverage. We started in Flin Flon because the area was something different. My honourable friend is right. It was the city and around the city or the town and this is what we wanted to see. It's true, we found out some of the information that we wanted. The utilization wasn't quite the same.

Now my honourable friend's fourth question. He was talking about the insurance company. Well the insurance companies are the same thing. The utilization wasn't that, well you can be covered but if you are not using the services, the utilization and this is probably why it would be cheaper also. They were covering about half the population. Now we're covering and everybody is paying. So we

are covering instead of the 40 percent, and maybe less, 40 percent is counting everybody in an area so if the utilization was that you can just imagine that the utilization covered by the insurance schemes would be much lower instead of the 90 percent or 85 percent that we have now, the utilization that we have now, Mr. Chairman.

As I say, I'm not going to review the whole thing again. There is no point in being repetitious. I think I went into detail about the discussion that we discussed and it must be remembered also that the dental profession wanted to discuss this. They said is there anything that we want to discuss. We're ready to discuss anything and everything but then when they were told about the different givens well then it was a different story. Well that's not my fault. I certainly agree that discussion is going to be, all right, why is the government running this plan? Is that socialism? And that's fine. But let's have the argument on that. To say that there was no discussion that is completely, completely false. There was some discussion. Of course somebody has to make — a discussion doesn't mean that it goes on for generations — somebody has to take the responsibility.

We took the responsibility as duly elected members of this House and as the government and we'll stand behind the decision that we've made. And we're still ready to discuss with the dental profession. We're ready to discuss, especially in the rural areas, the use of clinics, of using them for sessional work and also using them for referrals. Well, they're getting those referrals. We're ready to discuss with them how best to try to and this is something we'll have to discuss with them the same as we'll discuss with the medical profession— the possibility of what do we do and there is no easy solution. What do we do to attract people to go outside of Winnipeg because Winnipeg in Winnipeg, it's not all of Manitoba.

**MR. STEEN:** I thank, Mr. Chairman, the Minister for his comments. I hope he didn't refer that I had said there was no discussion because I know there was discussion between he and the Dental Association and his representatives. I just say, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the government was bargaining or discussing in good faith with the Dental Association when they had already enrolled 25 students in the Dental Nursing program in Saskatchewan.

The reason I mention the insurance costs and if the Minister doesn't know I will tell him that in all likelihood the 150,000 Manitobans that are in these insurance schemes are usually people from higher income areas; wage earners in large manufacturing plants, that the manufacturing plants can afford group benefits such as these schemes, and in all likelihood many of the persons that are enrolled in such group plans are persons that have had some dental care through their lifetime and therefore it's obvious that the insurance companies are getting the cream of the crop and therefore can offer the services at a lower rate. I'm not saying that the Dental Services Program should ever think that they could compete with the insurance companies because of the anti-selection. Reason for mentioning the insurance company premiums and costs is simply a target for the government and for this Minister to try and bring his costs per child down somewhat into an area, perhaps in the ballpark area of these insurance companies at some future date. I admit that there are start-up charges with the program and I cite Saskatchewan having a program that's costing per child just as much in its fourth year as it did in its first year. The Minister disagrees with my figures. My figures are from the Manitoba Dental Association. They are not from his department which is very obvious. So we're both getting figures from various dental associations.

The reason I cite Flin Flon in my questioning was that I'm wondering if the Dental Services Program and I ask the Minister, is it letting off a major employer in this province who has an excellent group program going, off the hook with a number of students in the Flin Flon area because the Flin Flon School Division and I gather from Friday's conversation that the Dental Services Program really works through school divisions, well the Flin Flon School Division really only takes in the City of Flin Flon. Other areas 100 miles away from Flin Flon are in different school divisions. So I'm questioning the Minister, is he letting Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company off some of their responsibilities. Is the Dental Services Program covering areas that these people should be covering?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

**MR. PATRICK:** Mr. Chairman, I wish to raise a couple of questions with the Minister at this time in respect to the same area. I know that the plan covers such things as preventative measures be it X-rays and filling, X-rays and extracting teeth. Can the Minister indicate to the House what kind of a dental educational program is also included with this plan because I think whatever we do the most important fact will be the kind of an educational program, the Dental Health Educational Program which may be a great contributor in preventing disease in certain children. I think it's a very important factor so I hope the Minister can indicate is there such a thing included within this plan, any kind of a dental educational program.

The other point that I'd like to raise with the Minister and I know that the Minister indicated the program will be operative in certain jurisdictions and certain towns and certain areas. Now I would like to pose to the Minister, I don't know if he can hear me or not, but say if there is a small area that has at the present time, you know I don't want to name an area, but say if in an area that there is a



dental office there with about two or three dentists in it or four dentists and a couple of technicians, nurses, which would not at the present time cover the whole area or region, and maybe with an extra staff — (Interjection) — in rural Manitoba, that's right, and with an extra couple of dental nurses and maybe three or four dental nurses, that small dentists office, maybe two or three dentists can cover that region without a government duplicating the same system all over again, so has the Minister consulted with some of these dentists in rural areas and say, well look this is what we want to do. This is the area that has to be covered.

You have already expended quite a bit of capital in building a dental office. You have a couple of nurses but to cover this area, to cover the school division you may need another two or three nurses or four nurses and can some kind of arrangements be made with this dental office and the dentists with the government say, to give them service in this area. Because what may happen if you don't and bring in, say establish a government operation in this district which may not be required, what will happen? That small dental office will probably decrease in size and staff, so what we're doing would be duplicating there. What I'm saying to the Minister, has he examined the possibility of working out with some dentists in rural communities that are there now, that this program could be implemented say not totally by the dentists but in some co-operation a program could be implemented.

The other thing is, I don't know if the Minister heard me or not but when I started I tried to find out, I know that the plan is supposed to include diagnosis and preventative X-rays and extracting and filling and so on. My point is what kind of education, can the Minister give us some indication because I think that's going to be one of the most important factors in this preventative program.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, one of the first things that is done to each child is exactly this education. He is given a tooth brush and is shown how to brush his teeth and also there is the preventative methods also that are given to them. There is a questionnaire that goes to the parents, finding out especially about the diet and then the parents, if they're interested, are brought in and we have people on that to give the education and there'll be a little folder such as this one that will explain the programs and some of the work.

Now as far as the rural area there is no doubt that we

we'll bend over backwards. Well, first of all I don't believe there is any worry that this program will hurt any rural dentists. There is no way. I think it will help and as was mentioned by the survey with the Ontario Dental Association because that was a concern in Saskatchewan also but they find out now that there is more usage and the parents themselves are more aware of it and follow through when the kids are out of school and they've been busy.

Now if somebody wants to, is coming in in an area and God knows as I give you the figures, there is a dentist for over 6,000 people so they're going to be busy, they're busy — but if there's somebody that is trying to set up his practice somewhere and he wants to co-operate, no we'll not have two administrations and two programs. That is one of the things that I discussed at the time to see if there would be a pilot project at the request of the dental profession. They never came forward with a program. Now the decision has been made, it is a universal program. That doesn't mean that we cannot work with them but it will be the one program with dental nurses. That is not saying that this will be done in this way and that another way. Again, I mention, I repeat what I said on Friday. We will be more than willing to discuss with the dentists, to have them work with us for sessional fee, to do the preliminary examination and then of course getting all the referrals because the referrals are certainly not done and there are many instances that work is definitely not done by dental nurses but by dentists and they would get all that work, providing the parents choose them. The parents could go anywhere they want but we would cover the referrals only part of the program is the financing, the paying for the referrals but we don't deliver that at all.

**MR. PATRICK:** Well, I'm glad to hear that Mr. Chairman, because it's very important. You may go into an area where there is two or three dentists with pretty elaborate offices and good staff and what may happen is that that staff in the office will be decreased in manpower because of duplication of the government so if something could be worked co-operatively I think it's worthwhile.

The other point I would like the Minister, I think it's the last point I have on this topic, is what kind of measure or yardstick is the Minister going to use? How effective his program is. I understand in one of the States, I believe it's Iowa or Idaho either one, when I introduced a Resolution some three or four years ago to this House for the preventative dental care measures, their statistics indicated that by the time a person gets to a certain age by having preventative measures taken while you're young that your dental costs have decreased as much as by 40 and 50 percent. Now they have a great many statistics to prove that. I hope the Minister will not have a great big staff or department involved doing this but I still feel there must be some way of measuring if the program is effective. There must be four or five years down the line, people in the dental profession must be able to have some sufficient proof that the program is effective otherwise how do we know how good it is if he doesn't have some standards to find out if the program is working?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I would imagine, I'll watch the gentleman in front of me very carefully so I don't go wrong on this, but I would imagine the first thing that we would want to do is test the utilization. I think the first thing we do is the utilization where at one time you had 40 percent. Now we knew that 60 percent were not getting any service at all. That's number one. Of course the quality of the service and we have a committee with dentists serving on that and standards will certainly be mentioned. And my honourable friend is right. This is why we can't give all the information as to what it's going to cost now because it will take a few years because you're going to look at not only the start-up for clinics and staff and the people themselves but the maintenance. Many of these people would then be on maintenance and that'll be the important thing. I think that when you look at the total, I don't think, I know that the cost will go down and when you're set up and so on. But I'm not saying that it's going to be cheap. It is not going to be cheap but more people, you know, when you look at it, if you're talking about total dollars, you say, well you weren't spending that before. This is what's being spent by the insurance company. This is what's going to be spent. But if you all of a sudden are doubling the people that are getting the service, well then it becomes cheap for the same amount or maybe a little more. So it's the same thing as people are saying, well if you add fitness and if you add this and that the cost of hospital care and so on would be less. That's not true because eventually the people who need hospitals, the only thing instead of needing it at 50 or 30, it might be at 60 and 70 and the people are living longer. We have that in the Mental Hospital where the average was about 14 years old, now it's 32 years old' but I would think that in the meantime the people will enjoy the good life and will get proper care. We are giving an education that cannot do anything else but to promote better care of the teeth and therefore usage of the dentists so this is why I think they've noticed now in Ontario that that was one of the things the dental profession were very much afraid of, you know, you're coming in here; you're going to take over from us — and that's not the case at all. First of all, they have a real shortage of dentists especially in the rural area, not only in Manitoba but all across Canada and now you're going to provide more work for them if anything that will still be, maybe even more so worried about the shortage.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. WILSON:** Mr. Chairman, the other day I asked the Minister a question pertaining to those that appeared to be treated that didn't fall under the six year old category and I asked him what revenues did we collect from those? I was talking about these clinics being out in the country.

The other was, of course I had my figures of about \$300 per pupil cost; I understand it has been brought out today that it was \$260.00. Also, I wanted to confirm, it would seem to me that this program is basically being left to the rural areas. I wondered if the Minister has any of these programs in the city; from my knowledge there doesn't appear to be any because it seems that what they do now is his government gives some moneys to the City of Winnipeg and they carry out a preventative program. I have a child in one of the Winnipeg School No.1 districts who comes home with a particular forms that says: "Your daughter has one cavity." In other words, there's some responsibility left to the parents and that's the way I have understood the Denticare program, for lack of a better word, has been going on for years in the Winnipeg school system — preventative.

Now I accused the Minister the other day of never wanting to go into a universal program. The Member for St. Johns stood up and said, "Yes, it is going to be for everyone." Of course the Minister said, "No, it's just going to be for children." Maybe the Minister could elaborate. When does he anticipate it will come into the urban areas, if ever? These dental nurses that are being trained, is there — and it may sound ridiculous but it's a concern that I have — would it not be better if this program is never going to come into the urban areas, that these girls that are applying for the jobs, where do they apply? Would it not be better if they had sort of a rural upbringing if they're going to be spending most of their time in the rural setting? Is there any particular requirement? Where do they go to apply for this job? Do they have to have any political requirement; do they have to be friends or relatives of the government; who can apply for these jobs and where?

**MR. DESJARDINS:** The last ridiculous question I won't try to answer; the other question that he stated might be ridiculous was probably the best question he asked. Yes, Mr. Chairman, we are recruiting mostly in the rural area and before they are enrolled, they are told they will have to work in the rural area where they are needed so that is a condition of the enrolment.

As far as what is the revenue, there is no revenue in this program at all but my honourable friend is talking about what was happening in the department before, something that has been combined with the department to facilitate the people in areas where there was no dentist and in areas especially of the north. We gave incentive and we made arrangements with them just to go and work in these areas and, of course, that was for adults and is something that is not covered; it's not universal at that point and these were where the revenue came from.

The City of Winnipeg — I'm not going to argue with my honourable friend again — I did state that it will be a universal program not for — I think the Honourable Member for St. Johnstalked about what the Party wanted; I'm talking about what the government is doing now, it's announced a universal program for the dental care for children. Now the City of Winnipeg, I can't really tell him exactly when

the City of Winnipeg will be ready, it depends when you're in place, you're not going to announce something if you can't deliver the service. There will be recruiting, it depends how much money I get from my colleagues, it could be four years, it could be five years, it could be less.

Now what was the other — oh yes, the program that exists now. Of course there's going to be the same latitude and we need the same freedom of the parents and the individual that my honourable friend now has available to him. The people are sent a notice. If they say, "No, our children will not participate" — they don't. That's the percentage that I gave you on this that it's instead of being 40 though it's around the 90s. . The program that we have now, that the City of Winnipeg has; it is true that in certain areas, not in universal programs but in areas that the City of Winnipeg does receive a grant from the province in some areas, in the Health field and on welfare and they administer it. Now the program is not the same at all; it is a program of inspection and then there's a note that will go on to the parents telling them that this is what their kids should have done. There's nothing done at all and the only thing that is covered might be some people that are receiving social welfare or social allowance.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Crescentwood.

**MR. STEEN:** I will try and be very quick, Mr. Chairman. There were two points that I raised earlier and I would like the Minister to comment on. One was: Did the Manitoba School of Dentistry offer a program where graduating dentists, who were financed by the province through dental school, would come to work in this program for one year prior to getting their license to practise in private practice?

My second question is: I have been told there is a 50 percent dropout of dental nurses that are attending the Regina Campus of Dental Nurses. Is that true?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The hour being 4:30 I am interrupting the proceedings of the Committee in accordance with Rule 19(2) and shall return to the Chair at 8 p.m. this evening.

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

#### RESOLUTION No. 8

**MR. SPEAKER:** The first item Monday Private Members' Resolution. Resolution No. 8 is before the House. The

Honourable Member for Sturgeon Creek.

**MR. J. FRANK JOHNSTON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The last time this was up, Mr. Speaker, I was speaking to the amendment that was congratulating the Minister of Agriculture for his tremendous work that he had done and I think I made it very clear at that time that I don't think that we can be very very proud of the work of the Minister of Agriculture in this province, especially where the land situation is concerned.

Other members have spoken before me really trying to make excuses of other changes but wouldn't admit that it was because of the pressure from the opposition but mainly from the people of Manitoba when they went through the country and got the opinions of the rural people regarding the government owning all this land, that they found that it was certainly a program that was not desirable as far as the people in the Province of Manitoba were concerned. The congratulations to the Minister, I really don't know how we could possibly support it now since he chose to become part of an election campaign and was thoroughly beaten while he was in it. If he had been a Minister in Agriculture who would have just turned the elections over to the Chief Electoral Officer of this Province and we had a standard form of having elections, nobody would be involved in it, but the Minister wanted to go on an election campaign and he went out and did it and he lost. Quite frankly, that takes any congratulations that might have been presented to the Minister much farther away.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution to begin with was a little redundant in that the government had made the change and for the government to then amend it, congratulating the Minister for the change and the reasons he did it and pat him on the back is absolutely not acceptable and even less acceptable today because we have a Minister who changed because the farmers didn't like it. A Minister who was in a battle with every part of the farm industry; first the milk producers; then some other producers; then somebody else and then got into an election campaign with both feet and lost. You know, quite frankly, congratulations are not in order, Mr. Speaker, and we couldn't possibly support this amendment.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I am happy to have an opportunity to participate in this debate on the motion to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture and certainly insofar as our Minister of Agriculture is concerned in Manitoba, the Minister of Agriculture since 1969 to the present time. I would think and I say this not lightly, Mr. Speaker, that there had been few, if any, Ministers of Agriculture that have done the job as well in providing benefits to Manitoba farmers than the present Minister of Agriculture in the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, we can only reflect back to the times of the TED Report, which was commissioned by

the former government in this province in 1969, when they predicted a large decrease in the number of farmers operating farmlands in the Province of Manitoba. In fact, Mr. Speaker, it predicted a drop to some 20,000 farmers operating farm units in Manitoba by 1980 and, of course, the philosophy of the TED Report of the Conservative government of that day and of Ministers of Agriculture which were part and parcel of the Roblin-Weir governments, was that farms should be larger and larger and fewer and fewer. That was the philosophy that was embodied in the TED Report and it was a philosophy which existed in June 1969 when this government was elected and when the present Minister of Agriculture assumed his responsibilities. In fact Mr. Speaker, it was indicated by the fact that it was the former government that withdrew the loan program under the Manitoba Agriculture Credit Corporation, the former government got out of the lending business insofar as young farmers were concerned in Manitoba. Young farmers didn't have anywhere to turn in June 1969 for financial assistance insofar as the province was concerned. Sure, honourable members will refer to the Farm Credit Corporation at the federal level, but insofar as the provincial instrumentality, there was no assistance being granted to young farmers so that they could commence their farm operations. So that in June 1969 we had a situation which can be thoroughly documented, that some 60 percent of the debt cost to the average farmer attributable to land, whether it be by way of principal, interest or taxes, was not being taken care of by way of any program from the provincial level of government. There was a total and complete vacuum insofar as the former government was concerned; insofar as providing assistance to young Manitoba farmers.

So that what happened in June 1969 is that the Minister of Agriculture who I must say that I am very proud of because I think that he has demonstrated leadership at great courage, Mr. Speaker, often to himself and has often had to pursue rather unpopular causes, but that does not mean that those causes had been wrong. I think with the passage of time, he has again and again indicated, it's been shown that the positions that he has adopted have generally been correct ones. A policy was developed that which is the one that is presently under such attack.

Now in the election of 1973, honourable members will recall huge one-page advertisements in most of the newspapers in Manitoba which showed monstrous hands reaching around the Legislative Building, and the message that a certain political party in this province were trying to infer to the Manitoba voter is that there was a ' government that was planning to far-out radical revolutionary confiscate all the farmlands in the Province of Manitoba. I can recall campaigning — (Interjection)— yes, Mr. Speaker, in the weeks and months prior to the June 1973 election and unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, there were a few farmers who believed the honourable gentleman present, believed the paid advertisements that the honourable gentlemen opposite were responsible for in the news media and, in fact due to this type of fear campaign which is so typical repeatedly, repeatedly typical of the Conservative Party in Manitoba, it undoubtedly had some success from their point of view in the 1973 election. But that does not mean that the policy that was advanced by the Minister of Agriculture in Manitoba was not a correct one. And, Mr. Speaker, what it did do was: 1. It provided an opportunity for those farmers who had reached 65 years of age to sell their lands to the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation so that young farmers in turn could purchase those same lands so they could establish an economic farm unit. It wasn't a question of confiscation, of nationalization. It wasn't an ideological area at all though honourable members are working so much under the huge blinkers that are presented to them as a result of doctrinaire rigidity. It had nothing to do with this; it was a practical program made available to young farmers in Manitoba permitting them to get into livestock operations, other type of farm operations and permitting farmers when they had reached an age of retirement that they could step aside and let young farmers commence. This was the program in contrast to a no-program when this government was elected in June 1969, from a no-program, from a complete policy vacuum, a policy that was represented by the TED Report which foresaw the elimination of thousands of farmers in the Province of Manitoba by that party which now represents the Opposition in Manitoba. This was an alternative that was provided by our government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, much ado is being made about the fact that the Minister of Agriculture undertook certain changes the other day to this legislation. I don't see, Mr. Speaker, where these changes are of such a nature as could not honestly be said that they improved the program without undermining the best aspects of the program as it's been in effect since 1972. We've always had a provision, always had a provision in the legislation providing for a purchase back within five years, an option by provision. Any young farmer could purchase that land which he was renting from the Province of Manitoba, return it to his individual ownership at the end of five years. There has always been option program but what the proposed policy statement that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture presented was that over a 20-year period young farmers could in fact purchase the property that they had been renting and could, on a graduated basis, gradually have returned to them some of the benefits of the capital gain, five percent each year. This was a reasonable proposal yet I happened to be in committee when the Minister of Agriculture presented this proposal the other evening and I must admit I was amused, but yet rather taken back, at the contradictory response from

the Honourable Member for Pembina. He expressed consternation and distaste. Distaste, to put it very mildly, for the proposals. The Honourable Member for Gladstone seemed to be very, very uptight, very fidgety about the proposals. I don't know why he was so uptight, why he was so fidgety. The Honourable Member for Pembina, as I say, expressed distaste. And finally after a great deal of perplexity, confusion in the ranks of the opposition and yes, anger, then I seemed to sense that they were then saying, well this is a pretty good thing after all. This is what we've been advocating you do. That was the impression, but first we had to go through this no man's land of perplexity, confusion, anger and downright uptightness. So the honourable members were in some way fearful that these proposals would undermine their particular electoral ambitions, in what they expect to be election year. That's the only interpretation that I could give to the reaction by the honourable members the other evening in committee, to the proposals.

So that, Mr. Speaker, we have a program that I think we can be proud of in Manitoba; a program which has tested the passage of a number of years, that has tested the attacks launched against it during a hysterical campaign that was initiated by the present opposition; a program which has been improved as a result of the very constructive amendments by the Minister of Agriculture. I think that, Mr. Speaker, if I can say so, and I say it in all modesty, that as a result of the changes by the Minister of Agriculture that he has developed — not only he but through the assistance of his advisors in his department — that without question, without doubt, he has developed one of the best programs pertaining to support for young farmers trying to get into farm operations, in order to provide them with some alternative as to the type of operation they actually launch and at the same time providing some means by which those farmers who wish to retire can so retire at the age of sixty-five. And at the same time, Mr. Speaker, he has made it feasible, he has made it possible, in fact he has made it in such a way that young farmers can be encouraged to purchase the land and place that land in their own title, in their own name. He has done all these things. Now what more can a Minister of Agriculture be expected to do? And therefore, Mr. Speaker, I think that we have no alternative under these circumstances but to salute the efforts by the Minister of Agriculture and the thought, and the work, that he has contributed towards this present program, Mr. Speaker. Thanks.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Morris.

**MR. JORGENSON:** Mr. Speaker, the self-serving resolution that is now before the House inviting the members of this House to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture on his program would be laughable if events of the last few days were not so tragic for the Minister of Agriculture. I think that farmers of this province have indicated very clearly what they think of this Minister of Agriculture and his programs.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have compassion for the Minister in these days, who doesn't come into the House very often now, and we're going to allow, notwithstanding the hard line taken by the Member for Sturgeon Creek, we're going to allow — as if we had any alternative — the amendment to pass. I don't think really that it's so different from many resolutions that are introduced by honourable members opposite on these occasions, self-serving, congratulatory messages in order to bolster the sagging spirits of honourable gentlemen opposite. If that makes them happy, why fine. They can wallow in that kind of condolence, if they choose.

The Attorney-General talked about how this government, and how this Minister has come to the assistance of the young farmers and helped them get into production and get land. And then he compared that with the program that was in existence prior to the time that this government came into power. What he fails to mention, of course, is that that difficulty was not there until this government came into power. And what this government has done, and what this Minister has done, has created all their own difficulties. It created those

difficulties notwithstanding the advice and the suggestions given to them by members on this side of the House, and members in the farming industry themselves. There isn't a problem that the Minister isn't confronted with today that isn't of his own making.

And, you know, it's very easy to keep coming to the rescue of the farmers if you get them into trouble in the first place. And that's what this government has consistently done in the eight years that they have been in power. You know, they point with a great deal of pride to the thirty-odd millions of dollars that is now being spent in agriculture as opposed to the small amounts that were spent in previous years. Well it's a longstanding axiom of Departments of Agriculture that the more you spend on agriculture the worse off they are. The success of the agricultural industry has always been inversely proportional to the amount of money that you spend on it. And if my honourable friends opposite take any consolation and any satisfaction in the thirty million dollar budget that they now propose for agriculture they can also be assured in the knowledge that agriculture is in bad shape as a result of the policies that they have been implementing.

The Minister made some reference to the reaction of the opposition when the announcement was made by the Minister of Agriculture. Well, that shouldn't be surprising because almost invariably my immediate reaction to anything this government does is to oppose it, on principle, until we've had an opportunity to examine all of the little fish-hooks that are in it. And of course the purpose of those

amendments were very obvious; obvious from the first day that the Minister took his committee through the country in an effort to find out what farmers were thinking about insofar as foreign ownership of land was concerned. And I draw that to the Minister's attention because he just accused us of initiating the reaction that took place when the committee held its hearings. Well, when the committee was set up — don't have the precise wording of the resolution before me, but the committee was set up, not to examine the government ownership of land, it was set up for the purpose of examining foreign ownership. That was the purpose of that committee, they were going to tour the province to determine what the farmers thought about foreign ownership of land, if they wanted any policies or any legislation implemented in this Chamber for the purpose of restricting foreign ownership of land.

But what happened? From the very first brief that was presented to that committee — you know, the honourable gentlemen opposite can give me and the Member for Lakeside all the credit they want for our capacity in organizing farmers. I tell you I know enough about farmers that you don't organize them very easily, as the Minister himself has found out, and to do us the credit of suggesting that we were capable of dragging forcibly all those farmers who appeared before that committee and presented briefs, not against foreign ownership of land, no, against government ownership of land.

The Minister, apparently, is incapable of distinguishing a gut reaction, an immediate reaction, and a sincere emotion, from a pseudo one. I tell you that people that appeared before that committee, time after time, meeting after meeting, were not prompted by anybody else. It was their immediate reaction to the government policy of farm ownership of land, and they expressed it in no uncertain terms. Those farmers that appeared before that committee were expressing their sincere feelings about the unfair kind of competition that they were experiencing in having to bid on the government on ownership of land, in the areas in which they wanted to purchase land. They were expressing their resentment at having to bid against their own money, the taxpayers' money, in order to buy land that they wanted. And there were various nuances to the opposition to government ownership of land that were expressed, and expressed very forcibly, by various people who appeared before that committee.

Now that wasn't the only area in which there was opposition expressed against the government policy of farm ownership. At my honourable friends' convention, at the Convention Centre in 1974 — I'm sure it was 1974 or 1975, the NDP Convention held in the Convention Centre, there was opposition expressed there by the delegates that attended that convention. And I hope my honourable friend, the Attorney-General, does not accuse the Member for Lakeside and myself of having organized that kind of opposition. Because I think that would be stretching the imagination a little bit too far to suggest that we could have any influence with those delegates. But opposition they did present, and opposition they did expect. And so to suggest here, in this Chamber, that the opposition to the government's program was initiated and instigated by the members on this side of the House is just a little bit far fetched. And I suspect that the Attorney-General, himself, made that remark with tongue-in-cheek.

Now then, Mr. Speaker, the Minister went on to mention the TED Report. And this has been done on numerous occasions, throughout the hearings, since, and I suspect even before. What they are attempting to do is to suggest that the observations that were contained in the TED Report were government policy. The fact was that that TED Report was not released until after the government changed hands, so how could it possibly be government policy? How could we embrace it, if we weren't the government? It was an observation that was based on the . . . And you know I have some knowledge of how these projections are made. They are made on the basis of a study of past records and past history, projected into the future. That happens very frequently. There is one difficulty with making projections on that basis, as some of the people who have made projections have found out. And that is if economic circumstances change, or if attitudes change, or markets change, and world conditions — as my honourable friend, the Member for Pembina, has pointed out — if they change, then that pattern does not necessarily follow. And that happened in agriculture. I think on the basis of the history, up to that point, those who were responsible for the final drafting of the TED Report, perhaps with some justification, had made that prediction, but events have proven them wrong.

There have been several events that have proven them wrong. One has been the different economic climate throughout the world today, the sudden surge of market opportunities that started in about 1972 and continued on until 1973. Land costs have to a large extent, at least in the area within about a 50-mile radius of the city of Winnipeg, have changed considerably. We don't have the rural areas now empty in these smaller towns and villages within that periphery or that radius of the city of Winnipeg. They are filling up. Well my honourable friend opposite says the stay option is working. He said it very quietly because I don't suppose he wanted too many people to hear it. But it has nothing to do with stay option. Nothing to do with stay option whatsoever. If my honourable friends want to take credit, if they want to suggest that there's stay option, then the biggest factor in the stay option was the increase in land costs in the city of Winnipeg that has moved a lot of people out into the rural areas. Secondly, there has just simply been a change in attitudes of a lot of people. At one time,

everybody wanted to move into the city. Everybody wanted to move into the city. It was the place where the lifestyle was the best. That attitude has changed. People now want to get back — the ecology, the environment; a greater awareness of the environment has changed the attitudes of a lot of people. They now want to move out into rural areas. They find that their lifestyle can best be fulfilled in a rural or a small community area.

Those things have done more to change that kind of pattern than anything that has ever been deliberately concocted by honourable gentlemen opposite. The fact is that these changes will occur from time to time, as my honourable friends will find out. Factors beyond their control will be influential in determining what people will or will not do. And, my honourable friends, if they persist — you know they can't have it both ways and neither can we. I'm going to make a deal with my honourable friend, the Attorney-General. From time to time I have quoted excerpts from the Guidelines for the Seventies and had attributed to my honourable friends opposite that that was their policy. They denied. They said it was just a working paper that was presented to the government and did not necessarily reflect government opinion. Fine. I am prepared to accept that but I want them to stop suggesting that the projections and the report contained in the TED Report are government policy as well. My honourable friend can't have it both ways.

It just seems to me, Sir, that if the honourable gentlemen opposite are interested in the interests of accuracy and honesty to reflect the events as they actually are rather than what they would prefer to portray them, they would have less difficulty in being believable. But it is a tendency on the part of the honourable gentlemen opposite to exaggerate, to state facts that are not indeed facts or to make statements that they purport to be facts, and to attach responsibility and blame in areas where blame and responsibility cannot legitimately be attached.

I suggest to my honourable friends that in the area he suggested, that we were in favour of farms getting larger. I remember making speeches in this Chamber not once but on several occasions where I suggested that in agriculture as in almost any business, there is a limit to how large any farm can get. I do know and I do recall having made these observations that there is a self-limiting factor involved in agriculture, and that is just as soon as the farm gets beyond the personal capacity of one man to manage it, it will begin to deteriorate. That has been proven to be a fact in so many cases that I am surprised that my honourable friends haven't recognized it.

It was the Minister of Agriculture who in a flourish used the statement made by Labatt's Ogilvie that they were going to build a feed plant in Otterburne and a hog breeding station in Steinbach. He used that as a means of getting the Hog Marketing Board in without a vote. That was the impetus that he used and it was a false thing. But where is that feed plant? The co-op owns it now. They sold it to the co-op movement. And there is no hog research station and that is the pity because such a hog breeding station in this province would have served the hog industry very well. It is a pity that the Minister chose that opportunity to be political rather than be sensible and responsible as a Minister.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

**MR. USKIW:** Mr. Chairman, I regret that I didn't hear all of the remarks of the Member for Morris

**A MEMBER:** Aw, they weren't very much.

**MR. USKIW:** . . . because usually they are quite entertaining, if not necessarily factual. I think one thing is certain, that whenever the Member for Morris speaks, we on this side do enjoy it to quite a degree. He is a fairly good orator and of course he does give us the odd chuckle when he tends to exaggerate the point he is making.

I would like to suggest to the Member for Morris that I don't know what it is that preoccupies the minds of friends opposite on this issue because it is really a non-issue in the sense that it gives the land-lease program, tends to give prospective farmers and existing farmers a greater freedom of choice as to what they wish to do and how they wish to do it. And I always got the impression from the Conservative Party that they were all for freedom of choice. So it is in that context that I have to chuckle when they present a position of total opposition to having the State provide a more flexible approach of land tenure to the farmers of this province or for that matter to any particular group, that somehow they are tied so ideologically to the concept that only ownership is the way through which one can control poverty.

You know I don't believe that many people in Winnipeg look upon that, especially in the business community, as a means of controlling property because most — well, I would hazard a guess that a very high percentage — of commercial properties are on a lease basis. And if you are to compare the business community of Winnipeg with anything, it could be compared with the farmer who is also a businessman and who also has the same problems in the limitation of capital supply, the constraint of having a shortage money. He may have enough money for the purchase of buildings and equipment and so on, but not necessarily enough money to be able to buy land at very high costs, very high mortgage interest rates and so on. So this particular program really is a means of getting around one of the greatest handicaps that young people have if they wish to enter into the agricultural industry,

and that is the capital financing that is so difficult to raise.

And it is very well to suggest that well, we would simply allow them to borrow money at a discounted rate as was the case when they were the government, Mr. Chairman. The youngsters were able to borrow money at an interest rate of two percentage points below the standard rates, but that didn't mean that it accommodated every sincere, innovative individual who wanted to get into the industry. All it meant was that if someone was already in the industry or had some assets, that they could borrow more money to get into it in a bigger way. But certainly it meant that they had to be somewhat established with some percentage of fixed assets that they owned at the time, they could put up as collateral. And that was a very serious bar, and still is a very serious bar, to many young people who want to graduate from their parents' farm or graduate from the agricultural college or whatever and undertake an enterprise of their own.

So this particular program does provide an option. It gives the young person an opportunity to get started without undertaking a horrendous mortgage. If you are talking about mortgage and agriculture today, you are talking not in tens of thousands but you are talking in terms of hundreds of thousands of dollars depending on the nature of the enterprise, but certainly a hundred thousand dollars today is not a great deal of money if you are talking about land costs, machinery costs, building costs and so on.

And so it is necessary for some other option or approach to make it possible for those people that are unable to raise that kind of money to still get into the industry. So it is a greater freedom of choice that we are talking about and nothing more. And it seems that the last three or four years should have been a good example with the rising land values, a good example of how difficult it is for individuals to compete in the marketplace. Not only is it difficult to raise mortgage money, but it became impossible, based on the inflationary land values of the last three or four years. There is just no way in which one can logically compete with the market as it is in the last two or three years, as it is today, with land prices going up to \$400, \$500, \$600 an acre. The people who are buying the land are not at all dependent on a return on that investment through the rentals or whatever arrangement they make after they have purchased it in so far as its continued operation is concerned. So when you are into that kind of competition, it demonstrates most fully that there is a need for another approach.

It also has to be pointed out that not everyone wishes to lock all of their profits annually back into land values through their mortgage payments, that they would prefer to do other things with their money and that is another freedom of choice that they do have under this arrangement.

I would suggest to members opposite that I don't believe for one moment, Mr. Speaker, that they do not recognize the problem that I have cited but that really they hope to capture some benefit in the discussions on the theory that somehow this program has more to do with ideological questions than it has to do with the assistance to young farmers and existing farmers who need more land but can't afford to buy it, to get these lands through a lease arrangement. I really believe that that is their motivation rather than real opposition to another measure through which young people can become agriculturalists in this province.

I know that if you look at the statistics of the people who are on the program, you will find, Mr. Speaker, that about 40 percent of the applicants are new people, young people. The other 60 percent are well-established farmers, about 50 percent of which are people who want to expand their operations and who are unable to do so because of financial constraints. And about 10 percent are financial crisis cases where that is the only way in which they could sustain themselves in business. For whatever reasons, they have entered into a period of financial difficulty and I don't think I have to explain that to anyone on that side because anyone involved in any business, and in particular the agriculture industry, would know what I am talking about when they talk about getting into very difficult financial straights. —(Interjection)—

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am not at all going to be distracted. I wanted to make the point that the members opposite — a good number of them are farmers in their own right, fairly substantial operators, not all of whom own their own land, Mr. Speaker, some of whom wish to lease land from the State and have done so for a long, long time — that they know what I am talking about when I talk about the financial difficulties that farm people get into from time to time. And it is not because it is entirely their fault, it is partly their fault but not entirely. With respect to commodities which we largely consume in this province, I would say it is entirely their fault if they haven't put their market in order in such a way that they can realize a return on investment and labour. But with a good percentage or the bulk of our production in this province, we are net exporters. We ship most of our products either overseas or to other provinces and to that extent these people are constrained from tidying up their market situation in such a way that they could realize a reasonable return. So I can't fault that particular group for not having done a job in management of market production and marketing, that perhaps they are good managers in production but they are handicapped in the marketplace. Those things can only be accomplished at a national level and therefore it takes some initiative on the part of people in the provinces, the provincial governments, and the Government of Canada.



But in any event, we have to face the reality, and that is that we have all of these weaknesses in our present system. We have to recognize the fact that if the Russians and the Chinese don't buy wheat for a year or two, that we face bankruptcy on the prairies unless we can assume that they will be back in the market in a very short period of time. You know if you go back in the last twenty years, it has been basically sales to that part of the world that have really kept the prairies going, and certainly in the last ten years. We are very fortunate that we are able to sell to that large a market, given the fact that we are a nation of only twenty-some-odd million people and that we produce much more. We have a land base much greater than what is required for our own consumption and so we have to have an export market and that is true for most commodities.

So it is important that there be flexibility in the area of land tenure so that people with ability can participate in the industry as well as those that have the money with which to purchase land and to set up a farmstead. I think it is wrong in principle for any government to rely totally on the marketplace as a means of access to land for whatever purpose. I really think that is wrong, Mr. Speaker. I think that as Canadian citizens everyone should have a right to some portion of our land mass, a right in order that they can achieve in the same way that anyone else would wish to achieve, whether they have money or whether they would not have any money. And if we are going to continue on a basis that only people with money shall have property rights, then I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that we will be back to where our forefathers were when they left feudal Europe where they had a landless peasantry by and large, tenant farmers, huge landlords, which I am sure the parents of some members opposite had to escape from, as did mine. That is not the kind of thing that I would want to see in this country.

I know that the Member for Lakeside would like to suggest to me that, "Well, but then we have tenants of the State because after all the State is involved in a land-lease program and that is bad." Well, I would like to put the argument to him that that is not bad because the State is controlled by the people and the people and the State should be the same thing. And whenever you elect a government, Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that you reflect the majority opinion of the people. So it doesn't matter who it is in government, Mr. Speaker, we have the protection that every four years or so we refer ourselves back to the electorate and they make a decision. And so you cannot equate the land tenure arrangement under government land lease here with that of feudal Europe, Mr. Speaker. That is not an analogous situation whatsoever. There you had a situation where the landlords and the State were one and the same, virtually, the landlords controlled the government of the day; the peasants didn't have the franchise, had no input into the government, and were slaves of the landlords. Every time their productivity went up, the rents went up, and every time the markets went up, the rents went up and so on. And one can go back to the Irish potato famine to illustrate that point. So it is always good to look at it in proper perspective, Mr. Speaker. It is wrong to draw an analogy between feudal Europe and an option program here in this province where it is designed to facilitate people, people who are not able to raise the amount of capital that would be required if they were to go through the normal market channels in order to enter into the agricultural industry.

Now the Member for Morris got somewhat upset about a reference that the Attorney-General made to the TED report and I don't know what reference it was but I suspect it had to do with the fact that the Conservative government of the 1960s in this province took the position that the best way to handle the problems of rural Manitoba to do nothing ' to not act as a catalyst to make things happen in rural Manitoba and the Member for Morris suggested that if we refer to the TED report then he would like to refer to the Guidelines of the Seventies report and use them in the same way. That is not just possible, Mr. Speaker, because it was obvious through the administration of that government that in fact they were following the principles of the TED report all along. The Member for Morris even admitted it when he said, "Well how do you put together a report?" You look at what happened and you project what will happen and you have the answer. Well, Mr. Speaker, that's true. That's true if you are not prepared to intervene, to intercede in a given situation and that is the approach of the Conservative party, whatever comes, the state will not play a role. They are not going to be involved or concerned about the welfare of huge blocks of people in society.

The Guidelines of the Seventies talk about the need for giving rural people an opportunity to make a better choice, it is referred to as the stay option. You can look at all of the programs, a number of programs, and not all of the guidelines have been accepted as policy but a good number of them have or conform very much with that philosophy, and that is that whenever you look at the thrust of the government with respect to rural Manitoba, you find that consistently in every move, there is a philosophy of creating greater opportunities in order that people can decide for themselves that they wish to remain within the rural setting, rural lifestyle as opposed to being forced by economic circumstances to move into the cities or whatever, out of the province completely. You know, nursing homes are good examples of that; senior citizen homes are good examples of that; and a whole host of other things that were done over the last several years in the spirit of the stay-option principle which is the guiding principle of the Guidelines for the Seventies. One could not say that about the Conservative government prior. One can only say and conclude, and quite honestly, Mr. Speaker, that the TED report was a reflection of their ongoing policy and that is do nothing and the

marketplace will make all of the decisions and those people that are squeezed out of the system and depopulate the rural part of this province will be squeezed out by the normal set of circumstances. To them, normal means that someone in the marketplace, some set of circumstances . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please.

**MR. USKIW:** . . . a set of circumstances in the marketplace is the guideline. Now, that is a very lazy approach, Mr. Speaker, and it typifies a Conservative administration. It is a very lazy approach. I leave that to the public to judge as to whether they prefer that lazy approach of a government that wishes to do nothing to intercede on behalf of the people when they have difficulties, as opposed to a government that wishes to intercede in order to alleviate and assist.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

**MR. ENNS:** Mr. Speaker, listening to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, he makes it that much easier for all of us to understand why in one case 77 percent of the constituencies that he is most directly involved in, and people he has paid a great deal of attention to, in terms of dollars and has had a tremendous campaign and program involved in trying to influence their decision-making in this last little while, why the farm community understands the Minister as well as they do. Mr. Speaker, the farm community will also understand the Minister very well with respect to his maneuverings, his actions, his adoptions with respect to the land-lease program. Mr. Speaker, it happens to be because they understand him better than he would like to think that they do. They understand the nature of the party that he represents, and they believe it. They believe that when he and his party initially drew up some of the tenets of their faith that all matters involved with the production of goods and services should belong to all the people all the time, when that was drawn up in the Regina Manifesto in 1934, reaffirmed when the NDP was formed, reaffirmed in this last convention, then they understand that. They understand, Mr. Speaker, that this Minister does not believe in any private ownership of land, anywhere in the province. They also understand the direction that their First Minister gave them at their first convention after forming government, that it is necessary to bend those principles from time to time. And, Sir, what we are seeing here is a necessity to make that bend as we approach election year.

Mr. Speaker, when the Minister muses, and has, in fact, mused aloud to the media that he believes, for instance, that all land should be returned to the Crown at a dollar an acre that all land should be treated as a public utility — Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact, most people in this world live under systems like that. So let's debate that if we want to. I am also prepared to acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, that these members opposite would like to perpetuate themselves in office, and are prepared to wait, are prepared to go slowly and much more slowly, in fact even deviate off the path for awhile as we approach election time. And that really is what we are doing with respect to the land-lease program at this time. The amusing thing, Mr. Speaker, is that while we were accused of the scare tactics, of misrepresenting the original land-lease program as it stood, this Minister, this government, now sees fit, now sees need to change that program, underlining the very things that, in fact, we suggested to the people, to the farming committee in 1973. The very thing. And with what degree of cynicism, Mr. Speaker, with what degree of cynicism! It takes no exaggeration on my part, to indicate to the people of Manitoba that the Attorney-General simply does not believe in private ownership of land. I know that that is true for the Minister of Agriculture; I know that is true for the Member for St. Matthews; I know that is true for the member of — and I can could name a large number. Whether or not, Sir, that they will collectively stand up and make that part of a platform particularly an election platform, that of course is another issue. In fact, / they are they are prepared to do demonstrating quite the opposite. But, Sir, that happens to be the truth, or else they are not socialists. They have become very proud of being socialists.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The hour being 5:30, the honourable gentlemen will have an opportunity to carry on the next time we get to Private Members' Hour. I am now leaving the Chair and the House will reconvene at 8:00 P.M. in Committee of Supply with the Deputy Speaker in the Chair.