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DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, May 1, 1979

Time: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Before we proceed, I should like to draw the honourable members' attention to the Speaker's gallery, where we have as our guest Dr. Leader Stirling, Minister of Health, from Tanzania. We also have Dr. K.N. Mtera, his Deputy Minister; we have Dr. H. Bannerman of the World Health Organization, and Dr. C. Wright, of the University of Saskatchewan.

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

We also have 84 students of Acadia Junior High School, who are hosting an exchange group from Ecole Beausejour, of New Brunswick. These students are under the direction of Mrs. C. Jamieson, and Mr. Duguay. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Fort Garry, the Minister of Health and Community Services.

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 . . .

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. ABE KOVNATS: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply has adopted certain resolutions, directs me to report same and asks leave to sit again.

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Virden, that Report of Committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Mines.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I have a statement respecting the flood situation as of May 1st. I'll attempt to summarize part of this to keep it brief.

The precipitation over the past 24 hours is not expected to have any significant impact on predicted levels along the Red River, but may have some effect in some of the other watersheds such as the Boyne, Willowbend Creek, Squirrel Creek, and Pine Creek. Water level forecasts issued yesterday for the Red River are unchanged, but some changes have been made in the anticipated dates that crests will arrive at various points along the river. These have been extended by up to two days, the reason being that with the expanded volumes of water in the Valley the rate of flow has not been as great as anticipated. Flows along the Boyne River are expected to increase as a result of precipitation over the last few days, and it is expected that there will be a second peak at Carmen on about the 7th of May, but at stages 3 to 4 feet below that which occurred on April 22nd.

There also is a second crest expected on the Pembina River, but that also will be approximately 3 feet below that experienced 10 days ago. On the Assiniboine River, as of yesterday, outflow from the reservoir has been increased to approximately 500 cubic feet per second. Inflow to the reservoir is at approximately 8,000 cubic feet per second. Water levels along the Assiniboine River have largely crested. The amount of water being diverted through the Assiniboine Diversion at present is approximately 12,000 cubic feet per second, and the flow in the Assiniboine River at Headingley is approximately 6,200 cubic feet per second.

Water levels along the Souris River in the Melita area have risen by about 0.35 feet in the last 24 hours. The Souris River is expected to crest at Melita on May 7th at levels below those which

occurred in 1974. At Hartney, water levels have risen by 0.14 feet since yesterday, while at Souris and Wawanesa stages have not changed significantly. Water levels along the Souris River can be expected to rise more rapidly during the next few days as the crest from the United States approaches. And flows on the Pine, Squirrel and Willow Bend Creeks are expected to increase over the next few days as a result of recent precipitation, but stages should be well below those experienced during the third week in April. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister responsible for EMO.

HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may, I will just proceed with also a brief summary of the activities of Emergency Measures Organization to date. I have distributed copies of the statement, Mr. Speaker, today. I would first of all, also in addition to that table a copy of a letter — I have copies available to honourable members opposite — that the Premier discussed with the Prime Minister this morning. It suggests some changes and improvements in Federal policies which, if implemented, would help both present and future residents of the Valley. I draw your attention to the comments dealing with long-term programs.

Respecting the flood situation in general, Mr. Speaker, I would like to report that the evacuation of the flood-threatened area of the Red River Valley is now virtually completed. Most people remaining are either essential for the protection of Valley communities or are located, in the opinion of the RCMP, in responsible municipal officials in reasonably secure situations.

The success of the evacuation process is due primarily to the effective and efficient efforts of municipal councillors and staff assisted by the local representatives of the provincial and Federal departments and agencies, and backed up by the co-ordinating activities at headquarters here in Winnipeg. Volunteer workers working at all levels have provided that extra effort in very substantial terms that made all this possible.

Just very briefly, with respect to the transportation in the Valley, Emerson has access from the west over a built-up ramp on No. 75 for emergency vehicles only; Letellier has access from No. 75 which is open as far north as No. 14 highway, for the next very short while emergency vehicles still have a possible route east; Ste. Jean has access from south via Highway No. 75 and the connecting Highway No. 14; Morris is now completely isolated with some 2.5 feet of water covering the access that it still had as of yesterday; Rosenort has limited access on provincial road No. 205; Ste. Agathe has access through provincial road No. 305.

I should also report, Mr. Speaker, that yesterday some additional 38 grain cars were moved out of Ste. Agathe and 8 more moved in prior to the closure of the CNR track at St. Norbert this morning by completion of the dike. Highway No. 75 which is currently being closed at St. Norbert still has ramp facilities that facilitate traffic to some extent.

Agricultural representatives are arranging to make a final helicopter check of any possible isolated herds of livestock remaining. As of this morning 70 percent of the animals east of the Red River had been evacuated.

Food supplies were delivered from Dominion City to Emerson yesterday by helicopter.

The sandbag situation, Mr. Speaker is well in hand. As of today, approximately 8 million bags have been ordered or are on hand. Of this 8 million total some 6 million have been distributed to municipalities, the valley, to diking areas and the like. We have on hand about a million bags and are expecting an additional 600,000 arriving in Winnipeg between Wednesday and Friday.

Mr. Speaker, that gives a general overview of the flood-fighting measures that are taking place in the valley at the moment. We seem to be in a hold position.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I would like to, on behalf of the Opposition, thank both the Ministers responsible for Water Resources and for EMO for their statements. We have not had an opportunity to peruse in any depth or detail the letter from the First Minister to the Prime Minister and we will reserve, of course, comment in connection with that letter until we have had an opportunity to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

HON. KEITH A. COSENS (Gimli): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I took as notice a question : by the

Member for Churchill concerning a grant received by the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Association. The Manitoba Progressive Conservative Association applied in good faith last year for three legitimate positions under the Private Sector Youth Employment Program. The application was received by the Youth Services Directorate, treated in the usual way and approved by departmental officials. The positions applied for were new positions — a general clerk, a mailing machine operator/typist and a machine operator/typist. The association received a grant of \$2,242.50 for creating these jobs under the program.

However while these jobs were legitimate and approved by departmental officials, it was never the intention of the government that the program extend to political parties. Accordingly the government has instructed that the terms of reference be amended to exclude political parties. The Manitoba Progressive Conservative Association has been advised of this change and has been requested to refund the grant, and I'm advised this refund has been received. It is our view that public funds should not be used to assist political parties even where, as in this case, legitimate jobs were created for three students who otherwise may not have found work. Moreover, governments must be clearly separated from their political parties and therefore we have taken this action to place the whole matter above any misunderstanding whatsoever.

There were a number of questions, Mr. Speaker, and I now have the information for those questions that I took as notice yesterday. I can inform members that this program was designed to create employment in the private sector, in jobs that in the main would not have been created, and were either seasonal or where there was some prospect of year-round employment. The program created 4,918 jobs. A questionnaire was sent to all employers, and I understand an evaluation based on this questionnaire is being prepared in the Department of Labour and Manpower. Two applications were received from the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Association and two approvals . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Minister rose to respond to a question that had earlier been asked. Now he's moved into the area of providing the House with a statement during the Question Period. We do not have copies, Mr. Speaker, of the statement that he is presently in process of providing the House. We look to you, Mr. Speaker, for your guidance.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is objecting to the length of the question, that, Sir, is certainly something for you to judge, but certainly there can be no misunderstanding that the Minister of Education is responding to some very specific and urgent questions that were placed to him yesterday, and that is precisely what the Minister of Education is doing. I see no point of order at all, Mr. Speaker, in this situation. The Minister of Education may be challenging your often repeated admonition to the House with respect to the length of answers given. That Sir, is up to you to judge, but there's certainly no point of order here to be raised.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan on a point of order.

MR. PETER FOX: Yes, Mr. Speaker. First of all, there was an indication from the Minister to stand up when you said "Statements". Secondly, let me also indicate that the Minister, besides answering the question that was specifically asked by the Member for Churchill, is also indicating a policy statement which he made in respect to an issue that was raised in this House, and that falls into the category of "Statements" so therefore I think you should rule it as such.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, again we do not have yesterday's Hansard before us but the Honourable Member for Churchill asked several questions, the Honourable Member for St. Johns asked several questions, asked questions and asked material to be provided to them which I think the Minister is in the process of doing so, but Sir, he is answering questions asked yesterday by the members opposite and the government is demonstrating its forthrightness in answering them at its earliest possible convenience.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Johns on a point of order.

MR. SAUL CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I am the one that informed our Whip,

the Member for Kildonan, that the Minister was standing when you called for statements, and he was doing so correctly. You know, Mr. Speaker, that your practice is that the Leader of the Opposition is heard first when you call for the Question Period. The Minister was standing before you called for the Question Period. And, Mr. Speaker, the whole question before us is whether we will be able to respond to the Minister's statement or not. That's all there is, and if you reflect, Mr. Speaker —(Interjections)— Mr. Speaker, you notice how sensitive they are today. —(Interjections)— Mr. Speaker, if the Minister for Economic Affairs would relax . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please, order please. —(Interjections)— I would appreciate it if all members of the Chamber paid attention to the Chair and addressed their remarks to the Chair, and some of the remarks may not be very complimentary if they're addressed to the Chair. I wish that you would give the Honourable Member for St. Johns the opportunity to speak to the point of order. The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, the point I was making is that the Minister of Education rose before you called for the Question Period. Now, I know that that's so; I'm satisfied that it's so. Now, as I said earlier, the only difference is whether it counts against the 40 minute Question Period, or whether or not the opposition has a right to respond to a statement.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it so happens that the Minister of Finance, who is screaming from his seat abusively, is not the person that decides, Mr. Speaker, whether or not it was a statement. You decide whether or not it's a statement. I believe it was, and I don't know why the members opposite are so indignant that they don't want to hear a response to a statement.

The Minister of Education was clearly describing 4,900 and some jobs placed, and elaborating on the program. He was not answering the question; the question was answered by the Order for Return.

Mr. Speaker, it's foolish to continue to discuss this with the members opposite, who are so indignant about giving us an opportunity to respond. I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that you do declare that we revert it back to the Statement Period. We, on our part, would waive the distribution of a statement, and listen to it.

Mr. Speaker, could you teach the Minister of Finance to keep quiet while he's seated, so that he is not disrupting the proceedings for which you are responsible? He is still doing it, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Economic Development is helping him. Is this the order that we can expect from Treasury Branch during this Question Period?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Does the Honourable Member for St. Johns wish to continue with his point of order?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I've completed my point of order, in that I do insist, and I'm as certain as can be that the Minister of Education rose before you called the Question Period. —(Interjections)— If there's any doubt about that, then by all means, let's revert to Ministerial Statements, let him complete his statement, permit us to respond — that's really the whole question before us — and then we can proceed to the Question Period.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. I don't know how many times in this Chamber I have asked members not to be repetitive in questions, not to proceed with long, detailed preambles to questions which invite long, detailed answers. I do know that yesterday we had a whole series of questions, some of which bordered on repetition; however I did allow them to go, and most of them were taken under advisement by the Minister of Education, who, in my opinion, is now providing answers to the questions which he took under advisement. The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may continue, in answering the questions that I took as notice yesterday, two applications were received from the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Association and two approvals were given because the request met the criteria for this Youth Employment Program. Copies of these applications and approval forms as well as the general criteria have been provided to honourable members opposite. These forms show that three positions were created which were for clerical jobs, and that the total grant provided was \$2,242.50.

Further answering the questions that I took under advisement yesterday, Mr. Speaker, no other political party parties applied for a grant under this program. Under this program, approximately 2,500 employers participated. When signing this form, every applicant indicated that the application met the conditions stated therein. The applicants were individually evaluated to ensure they met the criteria as stated in the application. A follow-up assessment, as I have stated before, is being

carried out by the Department of Labour and Manpower.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the application form which has just been tabled by the Minister of Education with the Opposition reads among a number of items insofar as the declaration is concerned that "this business or farm has been in operation for at least six months prior to May 1st, 1978", is the Minister indicating that the declaration by one A. Shaddy, Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba to the effect that the Conservative Party is either (a) a business or (b) a farm is in fact a truthful one.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, under the criteria that are also on the application form in front of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, according to that particular criteria, this Association that we are alluding to today met the requirements to receive a grant under this particular program.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister indicate just on what criteria the Conservative Party of Manitoba met the criteria?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I suppose in the same way that the YMCA, day care centres, unions and a number of other organizations met the criteria.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the news release which had been issued by the Minister of Education, indicated specifically that e publicly funded agencies were excluded from the program, can the Minister advise the House under what basis still the Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba qualified for this program?

MR. COSENS: I will state, again, Mr. Speaker, under the criteria that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition finds in front of him was the decision of the personnel in the department handling this particular program that they qualified.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, if I could refer the Minister to his own application form in which under ineligible employers are listed, those using public grants to offset wages of employees hired under this program, I wonder if the Minister would wish again to reassess the earlier answer which he provided to me?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, anyone who received grants other than from this program was not eligible. Is he suggesting that this particular association was receiving grants other than this particular program?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, only a moment ago I heard the Minister suggest the YMCA and the YWCA I believe, one or the other, were eligible for the program. I am wondering on what basis the Minister answers by making reference to an organization which is specifically using public grants to offset wages of employees hired under this program.

MR. COSENS: Once again, Mr. Speaker, I say that the personnel in my department in analyzing these particular applications decided that these organizations met the criteria.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister indicate when information pertaining to the receipt by the Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba in the sum of \$2,200 and some dollars in respect to this grant, when this information first came to his attention?

MR. COSENS: About 24 hours ago, Mr. Speaker.

MR. PAWLEY: Would the Minister advise then if in fact the monitoring and the evaluation of this program, indeed, is as sloppy and as inefficient as the Minister is apparently acknowledging it to be; if he can advise how it could only be yesterday that it would have come to the Minister's attention that an organization received funds under this program which in fact was not eligible for the receipt of such grants.

A MEMBER: How many others?

MR. COSENS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat surprised that the Leader of the Opposition, having been a Minister of the Crown in this province would not realize that it is probably never the practice of a Minister of a department to go through 2,500 particular grants.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then . . . —(Interjections)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. Order please, gentlemen. May I suggest to the honourable gentlemen that if they want to carry on a private conversation that probably the Chamber is not the best place for it to occur. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could advise this House as to how many other grants were given to groups or organizations which did not meet the criteria or the guidelines which his government, itself, had published as to be the guidelines for the program.

MR. COSENS: In the estimation of the people in my department who processed these applications, Mr. Speaker, all of the people who received grants under the program met the criteria.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his earlier statement the Minister confirmed that a questionnaire form was sent to each of the participating employees for the purpose of evaluation and that the employers were directed to return these forms. I wonder if the Minister could also confirm that the employers were directed to return such questionnaire forms in an anonymous manner and if he could can indicate when the evaluation of the forms that were returned was first initiated — if it was not, in fact, initiated just recently?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, the particular program in question now resides under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Labour and Manpower, and that evaluation that the member has alluded to is being completed by his department. The program has resided under his jurisdiction for some months now and as I say, the evaluation has been ongoing. So if the member requires specific information in regards to the completion of the evaluation then I would refer him to my colleague, the Minister of Labour and Manpower.

MR. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, well taking that advise in hand, I would ask the Minister of Labour if he can confirm that the evaluation forms were to be returned anonymously with no name on them indicating from which employer they emanated and if he can also confirm that the analysis of such returns were just recently initiated.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. KEN MacMASTER: I can't confirm either statement, Mr. Speaker.

MR. COWAN: Yes thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well that seems to be the problem with this whole program, is that the members of the government opposite never knew what was happening. My question to the Minister, and I don't expect an answer given the fact that they have yet to have cognizance of what this program is, my question to the Minister is, can the Minister confirm that according to the results from the questionnaire, approximately 1/3 of the participants of the program admitted that they would have created the jobs that were being subsidized with or without the expenditure of public moneys and in fact that those jobs cannot in any sense be considered new job creations for the Province of Manitoba? And if the Minister cannot confirm or deny that at this juncture I would ask him to undertake to find out and table in this House that information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill with another question.

MR. COWAN: Yes thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to either the Minister of Labour or the Minister of Education, whomever chooses to answer — can the Minister confirm that according to the results of the questionnaire wages scales paid our participating employees in the program

were in the main barely above the minimum wage?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. MacMASTER: I can't confirm the exact average of the wages paid but I know that some of the applications coming in today, Mr. Speaker, are in some places considerably higher than the minimum wage.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Education — given that increases in tuition fees, resident fees and transportation costs during the first two years of your administration, can the Minister confirm that salaries paid and moneys earned under this program were in many cases inadequate to meet the needs of post-secondary students and also that much of money expended under the program were given to high school students?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I certainly cannot confirm nor do I agree with the statement of the Member for Elmwood. If his particular thesis was true, then how does he account for the fact that we had a 20 percent drop in applications in Student Aid last year? If he is suggesting that because of supposedly low salaries, I believe that was his implication, that students were facing some hardship in a financial way, I refer to him to the drop in applications in the Student Aid Program.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would also like to ask the Minister this. Is he prepared to table documents showing the summer savings of students participating under the program and their total earnings as employees under the private sector youth program?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I would have some problem there. I feel that's a private matter between the student and his own particular bank. I don't have the bank accounts of the students available to my office, so I would have some difficulty in tabling that type of information.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood with a final supplementary.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Speaker, we'll have an opportunity to explain that more fully under the Minister's Salary. Were the recent increases in the Student Aid Program announced by the government necessitated by the inadequacies of the Private Sector Youth Program to provide summer students with adequate jobs paying wage scales that would enable them to finish their schooling without increased subsidies?

MR. COSENS: The increase in the Bursary Program, Mr. Speaker, and I surmise that is the program the Member for Elmwood is referring to, took place last year in fact, before this particular Private Sector Youth Employment Program was in place, so I would suggest that one was not a reaction to the other.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK: Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Education and arises from the statements he made at the opening of Question Period. As the Minister responsible for this program when the Conservative Government granted moneys to the Conservative Association, will the Minister under the tradition of parliamentary . . . accept responsibility for the sloppy administration of this program last year?

MR. COSENS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I suppose in the operation of any program of this nature, there is bound to be some example of human error. I don't know how you go about ruling that particular factor out of any program and I understand it has existed in most programs of this nature. But I suggest that we will double our efforts in this regard and recheck and recheck to make sure that we don't have reoccurrences of this particular type of problem.

However, I do not accept that it has been sloppy on the part of the staff who handled it; I think they have handled it to the best of their knowledge and conscientiously. They were attempting a four-day turnaround, Mr. Speaker, between the day when applications were received until they were

mailed back to the applicant, and I found that most employers were very enthralled and quite appreciative of the fact that we could achieve such rapid action in government. In achieving that we may have paid some price in efficiency but I would suggest no more that has existed in other programs.

MR. PARASIUK: A supplementary question to the Minister. Can he inform the House how many people were responsible for accepting, verifying, and completing applications that numbered over 2,500, and as he, as the Minister responsible for the Estimates, who brings the Estimates before us in the Legislature, is he accepting responsibility for the administration of that program? Can he tell us how many people were responsible within his department for handling this program and does he accept responsibility for their operations?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I would have to take as notice the exact number of people in the department last spring and summer during the administration of this particular program.

To answer the member's last question, it is certainly within my understanding that as Minister in charge of a department, that I take responsibility for errors that may have taken place in the department oversights or misinterpretations.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. HARVEY BOSTROM: Relating to this Minister's responsibilities regarding this program, I'd like to ask the Minister if there was any study done previous to the program coming into existence, during the program's existence, or after the program was completed, to assess the regional distribution of unemployment in the Province of Manitoba, in order that this program could be tailored to that?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the honourable member that the final evaluation will probably contain the types of indications that the honourable member is referring to.

MR. BOSTROM: Mr. Speaker, more specifically to that point, did the Minister in his administration of the program, attempt to direct the efforts of the people administering the program to focus their attention on areas where there was high degree of unemployment, such as areas where there are a high degree of youth unemployment, or in those areas where, for example, in Indian Reserves and remote areas in the north where there is a high degree of unemployment among all people?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, of course there were a number of programs in place last summer as far as summer employment was concerned. We placed no quota on particular geographic regions of this province as far as the Private Sector Youth Employment Program was concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland with a final supplementary.

MR. BOSTROM: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister then explain why there was an inordinate high percentage of job subsidies allocated to the Minister of Education's constituency? I would ask him if this indicates that this particular constituency is suffering a very high degree of unemployment or if there is some other reason to explain this phenomenon?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, without checking the particular figures across the province, I really can't accept the member's statement in that regard. I haven't seen the figures as far as constituencies are concerned. As I said before, I certainly was not monitoring these particular applications, so I have no idea at all as to the particular distribution across the province of the jobs under this program.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wellington.

MR. BRIAN CORRIN: Yes, my question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Honourable the Attorney-General. I would ask, Mr. Speaker, whether the Attorney-General has now had the opportunity to review the particulars of section 18 of The Manitoba Legislative Assembly Act? As I am sure, the Attorney-General is aware, and I'll paraphrase the section for him so other members can as well be aware, this section deals with persons contracting with government and renders in certain cases, persons, members, of this Assembly ineligible to sit and vote in this House. The section indicates that no person directly or indirectly or alone or with any other, by himself or by the interposition

of any trustee or third party, holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing any contract or agreement, expressed or implied with or for the Crown in right of the province or with or for any officer of the Crown, is eligible to be nominated for, elected as, or to sit or vote in this Assembly. I wonder whether the Honourable Attorney-General could indicate for us with respect of course to the information that has been provided to us by the Honourable Minister of Education in the indication that he will accept ministerial responsibility for what has transpired respecting the Youth Employment Project. Could he indicate whether or not he will be reviewing those particulars and seeking legal advice in that regard in order to establish whether the Minister has in fact breached the provisions of section 18, and whether he is in fact still qualified to sit as a member of this House?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. GERALD W.J. MERCIER (Osborne): Well, Mr. Speaker, I certainly haven't been asked yet to examine the provisions of that Act, but if asked, I am certainly prepared to do that, Mr. Speaker, as I was last year during the Session when we considered and introduced into this House and passed legislation to cover up the moneys accepted by the Member for Wellington in violation of that Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wellington.

MR. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, normally one would be incited to respond on a point of privilege, but with respect to the allegation that has just been made, it is so bald-faced and so ridiculous a prevarication that I won't do it the honor or service of a reply, but rather I will ask the Minister whether or not in keeping with his government's policy of having independent reviews with virtually everything respecting his department — in view of that policy, will he undertake to have an independent legal appraisal —(Interjections)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. Order please. Order please. I hope all members of the House will give courtesy to members when they are addressing their so-called questions to members of the bench. The Honourable Member for Wellington.

MR. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, I was asking the Honourable Minister, when I was interrupted by members opposite, whether or not the Minister would contemplate, as he has done on several occasions in the past 18 months, having an independent legal opinion on the applicability of this section, produced and provided to members of this House, in order that members of the public and members of this House can be assured that this matter has been seriously reviewed and given proper consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, this matter will be given all the consideration that it deserves.

MR. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, the Minister would seem to make light of what I think is a very serious matter and I would ask that he remember that he is responsible for the enforcement of the law. I would ask whether or not in that case, Mr. Speaker, whether he would concur with my opinion that perhaps the matter, if it's not to go before an independent legal counsel, it could be sent to the House's Committee on Rules and Privileges in order that this matter can be further considered as is provided for in the . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. Order, order please. If the honourable member has a question, I wish he would express it at this time.

MR. CORRIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I thought I did ask a question. I asked the Attorney-General whether he would, in view of his response and his obvious reluctance to send this matter before —(Interjections)— I can't out-shout 30 some members, Mr. Speaker, and I won't attempt to either.

Mr. Speaker, I'm asking the Attorney-General whether he will contemplate sending this matter to the House's Committee on Rules and Privileges, in order that it can be considered there, and discussed further at that point?

MR. MERCIER: Mr. Speaker, I'll simply reiterate my answer to the previous question, this matter will get all the attention it deserves.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Education also. Can the Minister of Education indicate what procedure was used last year to determine whether an application was coming from a bona fide employer for the purpose of creating new jobs?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member takes a close look at the application, he will notice that the applicant, the particular employer who may be applying at that time, signs a declaration that he is fulfilling certain requirements under the program.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for his reply, but could he advise what procedure was used by staff to ascertain whether the information being submitted by the employer was correct and proper, and within the guidelines, within the criteria established by the Minister and the government for the program.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member is asking if we sent out several hundred inspectors across the province to make sure that young people were, in fact, being employed by this program, the answer is no.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, could the Minister explain to the House, or advise the House, how he and his staff were able to ascertain that the jobs applied for on the forms and moneys granted, how these jobs were new jobs or jobs that were in addition to those that would have been created otherwise, and in particular, Mr. Speaker, would the Honourable Minister indicate how his staff would indicate that these were new jobs or additional jobs for seasonal employers, particularly companies such as ice cream vendors and the like, who are definitely in a seasonal business in the particular season.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, once again I would refer the honourable member to the declaration form that is signed by the employer, who is applying, where he declares what type of job he is applying for.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a fourth question.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask this question then, of the Minister of Education. Was there any check made whatsoever, was there any inspection made whatsoever by his staff of the firms involved, of the employers involved to ascertain whether or not they were fulfilling the terms of this program?

MR. COSENS: No, Mr. Speaker, we did not have a formal process to fulfill that particular function. We have a certain element of trust in the people of this province that obviously the Member for Brandon East does not share.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a fifth question.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, is the Honourable Minister of Education now telling the members of this House that normal common sense auditing procedures are unnecessary, and are a waste of money; that ordinary common sense auditing procedures should not be involved when millions of dollars, hundreds of thousands of dollars of taxpayers' money are being spent? Is the Minister saying, Mr. Speaker, my question is —(Interjection)— Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the question if the Honourable Minister of Highways would please give me the courtesy of asking the question, because on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, and a point of privilege, all too often does the Minister of Highways interrupt the proceedings of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please. Order please. Is the Member for Brandon East standing up on a point of order or a point of privilege, or does he want to ask a question?

The Member for Brandon East with a point of order.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, my point of privilege is the continued ignorant boorish interruptions of the Minister of Highways.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

MR. ENNS: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. It's because I suffer from the close proximity of the Honourable Member for Brandon East, and therefore am exposed in a much more intimate way to his somewhat inane wanderings as he searches to pose a question to members of the Treasury Bench. It's for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that on occasion, I feel compelled to interject.

MR. EVANS: I think the Honourable Minister is misplaced. He missed his calling, Mr. Speaker. He should have been with the Bob Hope Show or some such thing.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Minister of Education, before I was so rudely and unparliamentarily interrupted by the Minister of Highways, if he does not think that it is prudent and good management, careful management, not to have at least some semblance, some degree of auditing of expenditures of public moneys under this program, and I gather there was no auditing and no surveillance whatsoever of the expenditures of these moneys.

MR. COSENS: Certainly, Mr. Speaker, there was an auditing. If you are to take the application forms, the number of days employed, the number of hours employed by each particular student in the program — that type of auditing took place. But what the Member for Brandon East is talking about is a formal inspection that is conducted by government inspectors who are going to go around and inspect each place of business in the province that employs a student or students during the summer. If he is suggesting that that is the only way we can carry out a program, then I suggest to him, Mr. Speaker, that is not the direction that we're prepared to follow.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a sixth question.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister now confirming that he has absolutely no way of advising this House, he has absolutely no information to advise the House, Mr. Speaker? Is this what the Minister is telling us? That he has no information —(Interjections)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, order please. Order please. On numerous occasions, I have attempted to advise members that the Question Period is for asking questions, not for making statements. And if the honourable member has an additional question to ask, I suggest he probably wait until the Member for Kildonan, who has indicated he wanted to ask questions. The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, very simply to the Minister of Education. Has he any information that would verify that people were employed anywhere in this province under this Program?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, we had a number of students located in Hire-a-Student Job Centres throughout the province, I believe it was some 40 some centres, particularly in the rural areas of this province, and these particular students, to some extent, monitored this Program, and helped employers and employees, in fact, get together and achieve this particular Program. So I would guarantee him that in that particular area, yes, we do know that the particular employment took place.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Education. Pursuant to an address in this House last week, in which the Member for Wolseley disclosed that three of the government backbenchers were on the verge of submitting applications under the Summer Employment Program for Research Assistance, can the Minister of Education advise whether or not those applications have been received by the officials in the Summer Employment Office?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I would refer the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to my colleague, the Minister of Labour and Manpower, who now has the responsibility for that particular Program. If there are any applications for this year's Program, he will have received them.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then I redirect my question to the Minister of Labour, and in case

the Minister of Labour did not hear the question earlier posed, whether in view of the statement by the Member for Wolseley, in this Assembly last week, that three government backbenchers were on the verge of submitting applications to the Summer Employment Program in order to obtain assistance in connection with research, can the Minister of Labour advise whether or not such applications have been received by the officials in the Summer Employment Office, and if so, whether those applications have been approved or not?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Speaker, I can check the records and see if those particular applications were received, and see if they were dealt with, but I really don't think I intend to tie up the people in my department, looking for things that people are on the verge of doing.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, a further question to the Minister of Education. Can the Minister of Education indicate whether or not he, as Minister responsible for the Summer Employment Program, did at any time approve the package, and authorize the package of grants that were made during the 1978 Program to the 2,000 and some employers that had received the grants? Did he personally approve the package of grants that were authorized?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: The particular grants were approved by the director of that section, Mr. Chairman. I do not remember particularly approving the package, but I will check into that matter, and bring the information to the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in further question to the Minister of Education, I would ask that he take this question, as well, as notice and report back; whether he, as Minister, was required to sign approval insofar as the provision of the grants to the employers under this Program during the 1978 period?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I think I have mentioned before that these approvals were signed by the director of that particular section of my department.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, so that there indeed be no misunderstanding, my question to the Minister is whether he will check as to whether or not he personally signed approval to the package of grants in total that were provided to employers receiving the benefit of employment from students under this Program?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for St. Vital. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question is very short and straightforward, when the Minister reports back, whether he can advise whether he signed, not only just gave approval, but whether he signed approval.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that the Minister of Education indicated he would take it under advisement, and repetition is not . . . the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in due deference, my question was one to the Minister of Education for further clarification. I believe the Minister of Education does wish to provide further clarification in respect to the answer which he provided to me.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Certainly, Mr. Speaker, I will check into the matter and provide that information to the honourable member.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in addition, can the Minister of Education, as the Minister responsible for this Program, responsible during the period of time in which the grant was made to the Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba, can the Minister personally assure us that in fact the hiring of three students by the Progressive Conservative Association at their Kennedy Street

office, were in fact the hiring of students that would not otherwise have been hired under normal circumstances.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, that is a rather difficult question to answer. I don't really think that the honourable member expects that any one can answer that some particular individual may or may not have been hired. That is certainly something that I would suggest no one can give an answer to you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Education, particularly on the point that he was answering at the moment, can the Minister confirm that a large number of firms were given grants, such as Investors Syndicate, Great West Life, Monarch Life, Shell Oil, Canada Packers, and would he not agree that these would probably be non-conducive to small business help, and consequently that this Program was not being administered correctly when help was given to these large firms?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the honourable member's question, I think he loses view of what the purpose of this particular program was. It was to provide jobs for young people in the summer, whether it was a small business program or a large business program, it was a youth employment program, and I would underline that particular point. I think that is something that several members seem to have forgotten today.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: In view of the fact that I belong to a large firm and that those people always hire people during the summer, and that there are no new jobs being created, would not the money have been better spent on small industry where there could have been job creation?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that he is debating the point rather than asking a question? The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. FOX: I was asking in respect to what the Minister answered.

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

MR. D. JAMES WALDING: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Education. Could he inform the House what percentage of applications under this Youth Program were denied last year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I certainly can get that information.

MR. WALDING: Can the Minister inform the House, Mr. Speaker, whether any applications were denied, given that there was only a 4-day turnaround and no inspection or no checking done whatsoever?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Education.

MR. COSENS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'll endeavour to get that information for the honourable member.

MR. WALDING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A final supplementary to the same Minister. Given that a couple of days ago the Minister said that he had made changes to another one of his student aid programs in an endeavour to discourage the triflers, and those were his words, can the Minister inform the House what steps he is taking to discourage any triflers under this particular program?

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, I refer the member to the application form and the declaration signed by the applicants.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Labour. Can the Minister of Labour indicate if the post-secondary student employment survey normally done by the Research Branch of the Department of Labour and Manpower was done during the year 1978?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MacMASTER: I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker. I can't confirm that.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Time for question period having expired, proceed with the Orders of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. SPEAKER: The Acting Government House Leader.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Economic Development that the Speaker do now leave the Chair, that we dissolve ourselves into committee to consider the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER: You've heard the motion of the Acting Government House Leader.

MATTER OF GRIEVANCE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. PAWLEY: It is my intention to speak on a matter of grievance. Mr. Speaker, it was on September 30th of 1977 that we heard from the Leader of the then Opposition in the Manitoba Legislature in an address in Anola in support of the candidate running on behalf of the Progressive Conservative banner, the present Member for Springfield, that a new day was about to dawn in the province. That a day in which the Leader of the Opposition then, the present Premier said, Mr. Speaker, and I quote "The only people the New Democratic Party represent when they get into office are the people with their own particular membership cards." After eight years, they've got most of them on the public payroll. It is the rest of us who have to support them. "There is going to be a change after October 11th as well." Mr. Speaker, the words of the present First Minister in the province of Manitoba, September 30th, 1977.

Mr. Speaker, we have observed during the past several months a number of instances that have disclosed that this party which represented to the people of Manitoba that they were in fact a party that was different; a party that would not pork barrel; a party that would not hold out patronage; a party which was free and clear of all the attachments that they might be able to associate with the then New Democratic Party government has in fact betrayed, betrayed Mr. Speaker, the commitment they made to Manitobans. Mr. Speaker, let me make it very clear so that there need be no suggestion of duplicity. I accept the part and so do my colleagues accept the part that boards and commissions that operate on behalf of a government are expected to have members on those boards and commissions that share the particular political philosophies of the party that is in power; or, alternatively, are at least sympathetic to the particular objectives of the party in power.

But Mr. Speaker, that is not the impression that was left in Anola in 1977. The impression that was left is that there would be a complete 180 degree turnabout, that a brand new day would dawn. Mr. Speaker, the first evidence that was presented of how the present government operates was the very proud announcement by the present M Minister of Consumer Affairs of a new-found function in government, a responsibility that had been entrusted to him by the First Minister of this province only months after the Anola meeting. And do you know, Mr. Speaker, what that trust was? That the Minister of Consumer Affairs would act as a clearing house for patronage in the province of Manitoba.

And Mr. Speaker, I ask you if you can name any previous Minister since the time of the formation of Manitoba, when we have had the luxury of a Minister of the Crown whose — one of his principle responsibilities has been to approve and to parcel out and to okay the appointment of patronage in the province of Manitoba. Can you name a previous Minister so entrusted in the history of the

province of Manitoba? Can members across the way disclose the name of any previous Minister responsible for pork barrelling in the province of Manitoba? Openly and publicly declared to be his responsibility, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, it has come no surprise to us that despite the representations made by the members of government and by their Premier that there was a new dawn, a new dawn arising on the horizon, that patronage has been handed out left and right, in a way, Mr. Speaker, that I believe that few previous governments could match. The Minister of Economic Development says "Bunk", the Minister that has to assume responsibility for the out-migration of more jobs in 1978 than any other Minister of Economic Development can assume responsibility for since 1969. That Minister says "Bunk", Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, bunk could be better attributed to that Minister's policies and the effects that they're having upon Manitobans.

Mr. Speaker, we have, and I hesitate to list, but members across the way used to enjoy listing appointments, appointments of political colleagues of an opposite stripe. We have hesitated to do so because, Mr. Speaker, we accept the fact that members are chosen to boards that are sympathetic to the government in power, but I think that it is worthy, Mr. Speaker, to list some of the appointments that have been made so that members across the way can know, can recognize, that that speech September 30th in 1977 by the First Minister of this province was indeed — as to use the words of the Minister of Economic Development — bunk.

Municipal Board Appointed: Tom Farrell, former mayor of Thompson, Tory candidate in 1969; Garnet Kyle, Emerson, Tory candidate 1973; Helen Marsh, Dauphin, former editor of the Dauphin Herald. Legal Services Society Manitoba: Frank Allen, campaign chairman for the Attorney-General; Gerry Mercier —(Interjection)— Ken Philco yes, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pause for a moment. Mr. Speaker, we gave Frank Allen a Q.C., we gave Frank Allen a Q.C. We gave Conservatives and Liberals and others Q.C.s. We gave them appointment because our government was not based on patronage, considerations when it came to the handing out of honours such as that. And Mr. Speaker, I believe for a moment that this discloses the mentality of members across the way when they can burst out with enthusiasm — "But you have him a Q.C." I'm sure they wouldn't think for a moment of handing out a Q.C. to a well-known New Democrat, and they think it's rather strange and very peculiar that the previous New Democratic Government in Manitoba should have handed out a Q.C. to a well-known Conservative. The Attorney-General has proven the point that he did not wish to make.

Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Police Commission: Perry Schulman, active in the leadership campaign against the former member for River Heights, appointed as the Chairman of the Manitoba Police Commission; Einar Arneson, the Tory candidate in St. Matthews in 1973.

Manitoba Liquor Licencing Board: Gordon Skinner — Gordon Skinner a very very active and well-known Conservative out my way particularly, in the Lockport area — Gordon Skinner to the Liquor Commission Board. I'm well aware of his attributes as a good card-carrying Conservative, Mr. Speaker. That is well recognized. James Hinscliffe, active party worker; Ken Alyluia, the Conservative candidate in Burrows in 1977; —(Interjection)— yes, the Liquor Licencing Board is pretty well filled up now, Mr. Speaker, with card-carrying Conservatives, pretty well complete with the appointments, Mr. Speaker, as you can observe.

Then, Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Arts Council: Chairman, Mr. Julian Benson, Tory Party Treasurer — Tory Party Treasurer. Then we have the Manitoba Licence Suspension Appeal Board under the auspices of the Minister responsible for Highways in the province. In fact, it pays its Chairman some \$9,318 a year, plus \$35.00 for each half day, two of its members well-known, active Conservatives in the persons of Mr. Gerald Brown from Wawanesa and Mr. Rene Lacoste from La Broquerie.

Then we have the Economic Development Fund: Angus Spence, a very active Conservative, sought the Conservative nomination in Ste. Rose, I believe, back in 1973. The Manitoba Securities Commission: Derwood Walker, active Tory and Chairman of the Credentials Committee at the 1975 Leadership Convention.

Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation: Chairman, Richard Claassen, also comes, Mr. Speaker, with fine credentials as a proven true-blue Conservative. The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation paying its Chairman, Vice-Chairman, \$7,765 a year in the person of — I'm sorry, the Public Utilities Board, paying former premier Walter Weir as its Chairman. And Vice-Chairman, Jim Thornborough, a Tory candidate in Brandon East in 1973.

Board of Directors of the Health Sciences Centre, Harold Thompson, Monarch Life President, member of the Task Force on Government Organization; Inez Trueman, that used to sit in this House; Robert Harold Vandewater, active Tory Party member; Martin Bergen, very well-known Conservative. I don't believe there's any secret as to his Party allegiance.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on and on, but in concluding my remarks in regard to this particular Section, just so that members across the way may again reflect on the words; the only people

the New Democratic Party represent when they get into office are the people with their own particular Party cards after eight years. They've got most of them on the public payroll. It's the rest of us who have to support them. There's going to be a change in that after October the 11th.

The only change, Mr. Speaker, is that in 18 months — 18 months — more political appointments were made to the Boards and Commissions of this province than had been made in the previous eight years. That was the only change, Mr. Speaker. Then, Mr. Speaker, we have this problem with the fingers; one of two things, one of two things, Mr. Speaker, either gross mismanagement, inefficiency across the way. Either that, or fingers being caught in the cookie jar — one of two.

Earlier this year, and I wish the Minister of Health had not left, we were able to point out in opposition that a tender had been accepted, had been issued by his department, and you know what the provision of that tender call was, Mr. Speaker, that the lowest bid had to exceed the bid by Metropolitan Securities Limited, a firm controlled by the former premier of this province, a present senator, Duff Roblin. And Mr. Speaker, it required the opposition to point that out. It required the assistance of the media to indicate to Manitobans that in fact such a tender call was issued. It required protests from the particular business community that were confronted by this tender call, and after the passage of several days the Minister responsible withdrew — withdrew, Mr. Speaker, the tender call. Mr. Speaker, either it was gross mismanagement or fingers caught in the cookie jar.

Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the former Minister of Agriculture dealt at length on the actions by the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation in the selling of farmlands under very questionable circumstances, very questionable means, on a basis by which, Mr. Speaker, there was no appraisal, no appraisal in the file involved, and farmlands were sold on the basis of cost, Mr. Speaker. And we raised that matter, and we also raised the matter because one of the well-known bidders and recipients, as a result of that policy, was the Ransom Cattle Company down in Killarney; it was one of the beneficiaries of that Program.

Mr. Speaker, it has been brought to my attention, and it's not only the New Democrats that have raised this matter in the Legislature, but it's the weekly newspaper in the heart of the member's own constituency that raised this matter only last week. And I would like to read into the record, Mr. Speaker, because I believe that it does indicate that, yes, you're being questioned. You're being questioned in your own constituency base. You're being questioned even by the weekly newspapers in rural Manitoba, as to the approach and methods by which you are conducting your responsibilities as office holders in this province.

The Boissevain Recorder, Mr. Speaker, reads, "Public Money: In other words, because public money is involved, that the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation should have a reasonable reserve bid on any property it sells. What the Ransom Cattle Company paid for the property in question, we don't know, but it would seem to us that this information should be made public. Surely we have a right to know if we received a reasonable market value for our property, and if we didn't. And there is plenty of speculation in this regard, that the Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation should be held responsible."

Mr. Speaker, the Boissevain Recorder, in the heart of the Minister's own constituency, questions critically what has gone on within the department of the Minister of Agriculture, and whether any on that side have received any undue favours as a result of the policies of this government.

Mr. Speaker, the words speak well. There are questions to be answered, and those questions won't go away unless the Minister of Agriculture finally feels required to stand to his feet and give full and complete answers to questions which he failed to answer during his debate in Estimates on Agriculture. And in fairness to his colleague, he ought to be doing so, Mr. Speaker, but he appears to be not desirous of assisting his colleague.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Speaker, is the Leader of the Opposition willing to yield the floor.

MR. PAWLEY: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHERNIACK: No, as soon as he's done.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has an opportunity to speak for 40 minutes, after I've completed my remarks.

Then, Mr. Speaker, we have the further situation which was disclosed only yesterday: The handing out of public moneys through a channel from the Ministry of Education directly to the coffers of the Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba, in the sum of \$2,200 and some dollars, for the hiring of three students in the summer of 1978 period.

Mr. Speaker, I can say to you with the deepest sincerity that I can, that during the entire eight

years of New Democratic Party government in this province, that not for a single moment, not for a single moment, would an official in the offices of the New Democratic Party office on Broadway Avenue, Mr. Speaker, think for a second of applying for a Work Creation Job Program from the public coffers of the Province of Manitoba. Not for a second.

And, Mr. Speaker, they don't seem to think that there's anything wrong with it, and I believe it does disclose some of the mentality of Conservative spokesmen in this province. —(Interjections)— Ms. Shaddy states in today's newspaper, Mr. Speaker, that she didn't see anything wrong with the Party applying for the grant. It gave them a job, didn't it, she said. And then she goes on in the article in the Winnipeg Free Press today to indicate that there may very well be a further application this year for further grants under this Program — further grants.t \$\$

A MEMBER: They know a good thing when they see it.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, a moment ago, I indicated there was either gross mismanagement, a mess, messy handling of this matter by the government across the way — either that, or fingers were caught in the cookie jar, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjections)— We don't know which, Mr. Speaker, but we shall find out. And besides, Mr. Speaker, I believe it matters very little, very little, because the indictment is just as severe in either case. Whether it was in the case of Metropolitan Security Holdings mismanagement and gross inefficiency that that should have happened, requiring a withdrawal, or whether that mismanagement and mishandling, that mess, in dealing with the Job Creation Grant of the Progressive CONSERVATIVE Association of Manitoba, was gross mismanagement or the fingers caught in the cookie jar; it doesn't really matter. It demonstrates a wilful negligence on the part of this government in dealing with the affairs of the Province of Manitoba, particularly when it comes to dealing with affairs that relate to their friends, their favourites, and their associates in the political world.

We also know, Mr. Speaker, about the situation of the McKellar Estate, and I simply want to indicate, Mr. Speaker, that we know, and members across the way know, that in the case of that estate there was access to the Minister of Finance, an access which resulted in a concession, to some extent, being made by the Minister of Finance. But, Mr. Speaker, an access that the vast majority of Manitobans do not share and do not enjoy, but access that was enjoyed by those responsible for making applications for the elimination of succession duties in regard to the McKellar Estate.

We know that, Mr. Speaker, and I say that final remark with some sadness because I do not want to deal with that particular area in great length. It's a sensitive area. But in fairness to that estate, the Minister of Finance should have assured his colleagues in this House that he handled that estate with no greater favour, no less favour, than he would for any other estate making application. Mr. Speaker, we know that not to be the case.

Mr. Speaker, we have, in fact, mentality that was expressed by the Member for Wolseley in this House only the other day, when he rose to his feet during the Estimates of the Minister of Education, and I would read, Mr. Speaker, on Page 854 of Hansard: "The Summer Youth Program, which will mean over 2,000 jobs, I think is a real boom to the economy." He could have said a real boom to the Progressive Conservative Association of Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, but he did say to the economy.

MR. CHERNIACK: He didn't know that till yesterday.

MR. PAWLEY: But then he continues, "One of my later on suggestions will possibly add to that." He's going to make the suggestion. I wonder if he made the suggestion to the Party officials down at Kennedy Avenue.

He carries on, "I am pleased to announce" — he's making the announcement, not the Minister of Labour, in this House — "I am pleased to announce that even the backbenchers, our group here" — and he pointed around to his colleagues sitting next to him — "are hoping to hire three students for the summer for helping out in our research, so that maybe we'll have 2,003 jobs." 2,003 jobs. Mr. Speaker, I don't know, the Minister of Labour didn't seem to know when the question was posed as to whether or not an application had been submitted, but I wonder if the Member for Emerson has received the services of that student under this program? I wonder if the Member for Dauphin has received the services? I wonder if the Member for Portage la Prairie has received

the services? I don't think the Member for Pembina, because he often feels he doesn't need anybody's help, would have made any application. So I'm going to skip over him. The Member for St. James, I wonder if he's made any application yet under this Program? —(Interjections)— Possibly the Member for Rhineland has, possibly the Member for Rhineland has, because I know he's still making efforts to get down to the seat of his colleague, the Minister of Health and Social Development, still making the effort. And possibly the Member for Swan River has made application for this grant, because he wants to take over the seat from the Minister of Agriculture, and maybe this would assist him a little bit if he could make an application for that form of research grant.

Would one of the members stand up and indicate whether they have received the assistance of a student from the public coffers of this province.

MR. ORCHARD: Is the Leader of the Opposition willing to yield the floor, Mr. Speaker?

MR. PAWLEY: Well, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Pembina, the very one that I thought . . . would not have admitted that he needs a student

MR. ORCHARD: Mr. Speaker, will he yield the floor?

MR. PAWLEY: . . . is rising to his feet.

MR. ORCHARD: Will he yield the floor?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, if the Member for Pembina is rising to his feet to acknowledge and to admit to this House . . .

MR. ORCHARD: Will the Leader of the Opposition yield the floor?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Would the Honourable Leader of the Opposition yield the floor to a question?

MR. PAWLEY: No. Mr. Speaker, I have no intention to release the floor to the Member for Pembina, unless the Member for Pembina is announcing to this House, in fact, that he very proudly has obtained the services of such a student. If that's what the Member for Pembina is announcing, then I'll provide the member with the floor so that he can give us the full details as to how he will be using his particular chosen student, under this Program, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjections)—

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, we do have a sorry mess. We have the spectacle of a party which was elected to government in this province on the basis of a gross misrepresentation to Manitobans. A misrepresentation to the effect that their type of government would be clear and free of pork-barrelling, would be clear and be free of using public moneys for their own particular advancement in their political offices, a party that would be free and clear of what they suggested were the defects and weaknesses of the previous government. We now see, Mr. Speaker, after a short 18 - 19 months, a government which is already burdened, burdened with the spectacle of gross and extreme patronage, pork-barrelling, such, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, that the First Minister used to refer to some of our legislation as being a puppy's breakfast.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to use another phrase to describe the conduct of this government, particularly its use of public funds, it's pork-barrelling. Mr. Speaker, it's been a hog's banquet with this government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Acting Government House Leader.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my intention to add a few comments to those of the Leader of the Opposition at this time in what surely has to be the most contradictory — contradictory to himself and to his stated intentions — speech that I have heard any member in this House make in a long time.

But, Mr. Speaker, before we lose sight of the issue that's at hand, let's understand what it really is. The question is the eminently successful creation of some 4,800 jobs or, 4,200 jobs, I haven't got the figures before me, for young people. That, Mr. Speaker, is the issue. And, of course, the difficulty with members opposite is that these jobs were made and provided for in the private sector. And that's another problem that these honourable members opposite have. But I'll tell you the kind of ideological blinkers that they have on, that because these jobs aren't created in the public sector,

that they are prepared to lose sight of the fact that upwards to 5,000 jobs were created, and that has to be accounted as one of the most successful programs of job creation this province has ever seen, at the minimal amount of public dollars invested per job created. That is being totally lost with the greed and the envy that's being displayed by honourable members opposite, because some of these jobs happen to be with Shell Oil, or with the YMCA, or with the B'Nai B'Rith Camp somewhere, or with a PC Association.

Mr. Speaker, there is a problem, one that was recognized immediately by the responsible Minister about the appropriateness of a political association availing themselves of this program. Mr. Speaker, I doubt if ever, a matter has been dealt with with such immediateness, with such clarity, and with such forthrightness, as simply standing up and admitting that yes, it's not appropriate for a political party to make use of that kind of a program even though it was legal and acceptable under the applications as they were laid down and as officials within the department — and I stress the word officials within the department — interpreted, those officials — there may well be room — and I'm sure the Minister will be taking advantage, the new Minister responsible for the administration of this program, will be looking at the criteria and at the application forms, to satisfy them they meet this government's concept of where and how this program should apply.

But, Sir, on the question of attending to the matter when it was first raised, of that there can be no question. Now, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition of course, had nothing to say on that matter because of that quick action, that quick response, he then goes on to speak about the overall problems or situations of hirings by this government and, Mr. Speaker, he makes the admission right at the outset that he agrees with me and quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, that he agrees with all other political parties in this country, provincially or federally, that it is acceptable and quite appropriate that any political party, when in government, when in who in the main reflect the policies, the philosophies, of the party in power. He made that statement at the outset. He underlined that, Mr. Speaker.

Then, Mr. Speaker, what did he proceed to do? He proceeded to do exactly what he said he was not going to do. He talked about a Mr. Skinner, he talked about Mr. So-and-so, he talked about boards and commissions and members, he talked about the Licence Suspension Appeal Board. Well, Mr. Speaker, I won't take up the time, because I haven't got that much time, to do the same thing, only to point out that that kind of game of course has no purpose. I mean, I could refer to one Wilson Parasiuk who, I believe, ran in the 1973 election, I believe so, or maybe —(Interjection)— Oh yes, in Riel, and then got appointed to — not to a board, Mr. Speaker, not to a board — to one of the highest paying positions, highest paid salaried job in the government. I could talk about a Martin Blower, I could talk about an Alf Chorney, about one Samuel Friesen, I could talk about a Harvey Moats, I could talk about Len Stevens, appointed Taxi Cab Boards, Mr. Speaker. All I am trying to point out is, is that I agree with the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that this has been practiced, will continue to be practiced and, Mr. Speaker, I know it is surely one of those things that political parties have to rely on to get the kind of necessary support when we go through the onus exercise of putting together the forces, the volunteers, the help, to make a political party viable and to make it electable.

Mr. Speaker, notably, notably, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition did not mention a senior civil servant so employed. He talked about precisely the kind of appointments that every thinking Canadian, every knowledgable Manitoban knows has happened since the day politics was introduced to Manitoba.

But now, Mr. Speaker, let me talk about some of the real abuses. —(Interjection)— That's right. Well, there were none; we will check tomorrow's Hansard, but he couldn't recall or he would have, I am sure, mentioned it. But a civil servant so appointed in this patronage, at this "hog banquet" that he describes it. A name didn't come to his mind. He couldn't list the particular name. I'm not so sure, Mr. Speaker, that somewhere within the appointments that we have made to the permanent Civil Service, although, Mr. Speaker, I think you and indeed other members of the media and the public generally, will generally attest to the fact that the Civil Service has contracted rather than expanded, so that that area for appointment, you know, that kind of pork-barrelling was because of self-impositions, because of government policy, severely limited in our scale.

But, Mr. Speaker, let's speak about a few names that still ring a familiar bell. In fact, Mr. Speaker, let's talk about a Mr. Bruce Lawson. Members of the media will particularly remember him, particularly those who followed the Premier around in the last campaign in October of 1977. Mr. Speaker, he came to us by the grace of Premier Blakeney. He was a press aide for Mr. Blakeney, or Premier Blakeney in Saskatchewan; he was put on contract on the Manitoba payroll, and the people of Manitoba picked up the bills henceforth and was nothing but a press aide and a political attendant to the Premier as he sought re-election now in October of 1977. And, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Finance informs me that the bills are still rolling in, that number into the hundreds if not to thousands of dollars of open-ended accounts and charges that he made against, and which

the people of Manitoba are now having to pay for outright political activity at the height of an election campaign.

Mr. Speaker, this was not a party employee, this was not an NDP Association employee, this was an employee imported from Saskatchewan, put on the government payroll to look after the politics of one, Premier Schreyer, while he was running election.

Mr. Speaker, you also remember, you also remember, and the media brought that to our attention during the election, that my friend, the Honourable Minister of Public Works, at one time had an executive assistant by the name of, let's see, Mr. Chomiak, I believe, Mr. David Chomiak, former executive assistant to Public Works Minister, Russ Doern, who is now working in Schreyer's constituency's office. This is again, Mr. Speaker, a person on the public payroll, not a party hack, to permit that civil servant to work any longer in political office for a political cause and party, and is nothing less than a corruption of the Civil Service at the expense of all taxpayers.

And Mr. Schreyer indicates in response to this request from the PC Association president in complaining about this, Mr. Schreyer says he does not intend to stop Chomiak from working in his Rossmere constituency office. Doern in an interview, said that Chomiak was seconded — seconded, Mr. Speaker — from his office to the Premier's office in March and now in effect is an aide to the Premier. Mr. Speaker, how eloquent that sounds. A little while ago, we were dining at a hog's banquet. But when the Socialists do it, then they become aides to the Premier at election time, far removed from this building, far removed from the taxpayers who are paying him to work in this building, but he is working in the height of an election in election campaign headquarters, while supposedly still the aide to the then Minister of Public Works, seconded to the Premier's office, then seconded by the

Mr. Speaker, there are others of course, perhaps one of the more notable ones now that the Honourable Member for St. Johns is back in his chair, involves one, Mr. Marc Eliesen, who, after all was one of this government's former top advisors, he then chose greener fields I suppose, or perhaps just nicer weather, when the NDP achieved power in British Columbia and Mr. Barrett lured him no doubt with higher salary. Anyway, he left for British Columbia in the hopes that there would be at least a paradise there of perhaps two or three terms of work that he could do with these Socialists friends in British Columbia. Well, Mr. Speaker, we all of course, know what happened. Even senior economic advisors to governments sometimes miscalculate.

Along came a used car dealer, Sir, three years later, with a few others as a matter of fact, and they turfed Mr. Barrett and his Socialist hord, out of office in British Columbia. But the compassionate heart of this government rose to perhaps its finest occasion, by offering to Mr. Marc Eliesen a contract, again to be paid by Manitoba taxpayers and, Mr. Speaker, did not even demand that he had to return and come and live in Manitoba just left him stay right there in the Minister of Education comes into this House without being prodded, without being prompted, —(Interjection)— well, Mr. Speaker, there was a great attempt made at preventing the Minister of Education from doing that. But the point of the matter is, and the record speaks for itself, not only has he clearly indicated to the House that we believe that that kind of application of program is not appropriate although there is nothing wrong with it. There is a question of propriety, there is a question of what is perceived to be right and what is perceived not to be right, and I think that we are no less endowed with that perception than all the members opposite are, and that that regulation will be changed, which excludes political parties from application to that kind of program and it may well be that now having it brought to our attention that we will take a harder look at the criteria for the application of that program.

But, Mr. Speaker, let's not lose sight of the fact, and this of course bothers all the members opposite, that it was, again I repeat, one of the most successful job creation programs ever introduced in this province, and 5,000 youngsters got jobs. If it is not good enough for a person to get a job at the YMCA, if it is not good enough for a person to get a job at a day care centre in a supportive way, if it is not good enough for a person to get a job — Just look at the list. These are all in that list too.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if there has been a broad interpretation of some of the criteria of the rules, then, Sir, we stand to be corrected and we will review them together. But, Mr. Speaker, let's clearly put the responsibility where it lies. —(Interjections)— This opposition is not so much interested really in the creation of jobs, they have to be created in a way and in a manner that suits them ideologically. A job at Shell Oil is no good, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member for Kildonan just rose up on that point. A job with Dominion Bridge is terrible . . . —(Interjections)— Well, a job with Canada Packers, they should be banished.

A MEMBER: Right.

MR. ENNS: It's terrible.

A MEMBER: That's was his bread and butter once.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, what are we talking about? We're talking about jobs.

A MEMBER: You better believe it.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, we're talking about a successful program.

A MEMBER: He wants to destroy it.

MR. ENNS: Attention has been brought to the Minister of one application involving three students that we admit, you know, in retrospect ought not to have been accepted. That has been rectified. The money has been paid back and we are changing the regulations to see that that kind of, in our judgment you know, utilization of programs doesn't occur.

Well, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition does have a problem though. He does have a problem when he wants to invite people to view the lists of guests that are assembled at his banquet table, his hog's banquet table as he describes it, and tries to measure that up in any meaningful way with the lists of guests that assembled at different tables. I won't call them and describe them in the colourful language that the Leader of the Opposition uses.

Mr. Speaker, you will have noticed, Sir, that I have considerably toned down my speech and my delivery. Perhaps it's the weighted responsibilities of the flood waters of this province or some such thing that find me incapable of demonstrating my usual indignation at wild and outlandish charges like we've heard today.

MR. DOERN: You're all wet' Harry.

MR. ENNS: The fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that in his listing of what he calls patronage appointments and let's agree, Mr. Speaker, to agree for once and for all, that a Conservative government will appoint Conservatives and like-minded friends to our boards and commissions just as a New Democratic government will do the same, just as a Liberal government, and by the way, you know, really our friends of the Liberal government should not be left off the hook entirely, if I can be allowed to spend a few minutes in that area. They are the prize masters. If there is a banquet table laden for friends and supporters, the Liberal Party surely has to top the list. Mr. Speaker, out of this very Chamber the Member for Portage la Prairie, now an esteemed citizenship court judge, and leader that never managed to make it into this Chamber — now an esteemed judge, fine person. Albert Vielfaure, a member that was defeated by the now Minister of Sports and Fitness, fine grain commissioner. —(Interjections)— The Member for . . .

A MEMBER: Wellington.

MR. ENNS: . . . Wellington. What about him? Oh I don't know about him. I am speaking federal, Mr. Speaker. What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, in this brief dissertation is really that the idea that a Liberal government will appoint Liberal supporters to certain posts, the idea that a Conservative government will appoint certain supporters to posts, that is accepted and the Leader of the Opposition stood up in his first statements and indicated that. Then he could not remember and could not name people that were appointed to high ranking civil service positions in the same way.

Mr. Speaker, what the Honourable Leader of the Opposition forgot about, of course, in this whole matter is that really this is secondary, this is nonsense what we are talking about. We'll debate that on the hustings when we are talking about politics. What we are talking here is jobs, 5,000 jobs for youngsters, and the New Democratic Party is prepared to go on record saying that they are opposed to that kind of job creation, that they wanted penned in that they don't want those jobs out. Mr. Speaker, that is the net result of this nit picking, that is the net result of this searching out and examining about the kind of a program that the Minister of Education ran, and the Minister of Northern Affairs is now going to run.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that the program was imminently successful. We have every reason to believe that it will be every bit as successful in the coming summer and, Mr. Speaker, we are doing it with far less expenditure of public funds and that's of course the other thing that bothers the honourable members opposite. You see, the antipathy against the private sector is so great with members opposite that they are prepared to trample on what I tend to believe is really a sincere conviction and concern of the honourable members. I believe that they are

about job creation but they have such a problem about accepting it in the private sector, they have such a problem accepting that it need not be the public sector, you know, that provides these jobs, that they allow themselves to be pushed into a corner, where I must warn the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, he treads on very dangerous grounds as far as the public is concerned, because there were the 5,000 students that got those jobs and some 2,000 employers that made use of their services. You want to tackle them, you want to challenge the program, you want to suggest that it should be thrown out at a time when job concern is at the highest level of particularly these people. Take on, take on. Then go ahead and nit-pick. We have made a straight and clean cut alteration to the program. We recognize that the application that the association made for these specific jobs was not appropriate. That matter has been dealt with, the matter has been cleaned up. —(Interjection)— well, it is, Mr. Speaker. —(Interjections)— But, Mr. Speaker, let me assure the honourable members opposite that in no way, Mr. Speaker, will this situation or this incident defer us from our determination to work at that plan, to work at that program and make it work better this summer than it did last summer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Acting Government House Leader that we go into Committee of Supply, are you agreed?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Speaker, unless there is a disposition on the part of the honourable members to do a . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. There is a question before the House that we go into Committee of Supply.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Radisson in the Chair for the Department of Education, and the Honourable Member for Virden in the Chair for the Department of Economic Development.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: The hour being 4:30 p.m. we are now in Private Members' Hour. The Honourable Member for St. Johns.

MR. CHERNIACK: On a point of order. I am not too familiar with the change of rules, I believe that there is now an occasion to move adjournment so as to release you, Mr. Speaker, for the evening. Is that not correct. —(Interjection)— No, not correct. Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry, I thought I would be helpful but apparently it wasn't necessary. I withdraw that suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER: I want to thank the Honourable Member for St. Johns for the concern for my well-being.

We are now under Private Members' Hour. On Tuesdays the first item of business under Private Members' Hour is Private Bills. The first Bill is Bill No. 33 - An Act to amend an Act to incorporate Bel Acres Golf and Country Club standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. WALDING: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The second item of business is Public Bills. Bill No. 29 — an Act to amend the Clean Environment Act standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. ARNOLD BROWN: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 34 - An Act to amend the Fatality Enquiries Act, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

RESOLUTION NO. 7 — CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

MR. SPEAKER: We then move into Proposed Resolutions, Resolution No. 7 - Capital Punishment. At 4:30 p.m. yesterday the Honourable Member for St. Vital proposed an amendment to the Resolution and that amendment reads that Resolution No. 7 be amended by deleting all the words

after "resolved" in the fifth line thereof, and substituting "That this House establish a Committee to gather information information on the effectiveness of the death penalty as a deterrent. Are you ready for the question? —(Interjection)—

The Honourable Member for St. Vital has already spoken on it.

MR. WALDING: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member of St. Vital on a point of order.

MR. WALDING: The point of order is that since this was dealt with at the last Private Members' Hour, would not the Resolution drop down to the bottom of the list of resolutions?

A MEMBER: No, let's talk about it today.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The matter stands on the top of the Order Paper on the ruling of the Speaker. Order please.

The Honourable Member for St. Johns on a point of order.

MR. CHERNIACK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to you that had you ruled yesterday then it would have gone to the bottom of the list and we assumed that it was only being held up for the ruling. Otherwise it would go to the bottom of the list, otherwise you would have two days of debate, and, Mr. Speaker, we were frankly assuming that that was the case and we are prepared to go on with the other resolutions.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Acting Government House Leader.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, if it's any help to you, we have no objection to seeing it rotate in the normal manner.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the unanimous consent then that it drop to the bottom of the Order Paper? (Agreed)

RESOLUTION NO. 5 — MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

MR. SPEAKER: Resolution No. 5 — Minimum Wage Increase, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Inkster, who had five minutes left. Are you ready for the question on Resolution No. 5?

The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In rising to close debate on the Resolution that I introduced some few weeks ago, I want to first of all take the opportunity to thank all members who took part in the debate. While some members did not see fit to support this Resolution, I still want to thank them for their participation. In fact, I want to thank the Minister of Labour. It seems that the Minister of Labour only took part in this debate after I smoked him out when I spoke on a Matter of Grievance after the Minister had introduced his changes, proposed changes to the minimum wage as were announced in this House some couple of weeks ago. It's quite interesting, Mr. Speaker, that this party that is now in power, the Progressive Conservative Party, has seen fit to make the changes to the minimum wage. As I pointed out the other day that it causes further discrepancies between those who will be at the maximum and those who will be at the minimum.

It was interesting today also, Mr. Speaker, to note that during the matter that has seemed to have taken up the better part of the afternoon, the item of the student summer employment program that the now Minister who is in charge, the Minister of Labour was asked if the jobs that the student employment program for the summer of 1978, what the average wage was paid and it might be quite interesting also, Mr. Speaker, that members might peruse the Order for Return and find that there are many places, I imagine, that are employing students under the age of 18. And, given the rationale that the government has decided to keep the minimum wage for these people at \$2.70 an hour, it is quite feasible that last year the government was picking up \$1.50 of the \$2.70 an hour that these people who were working in places like ice cream parlours and things like this — and not that I am opposed to small industry receiving help — but the government has seen fit this year that they are going to keep students or young people — they may not even be students, they may be young people — who have left school, gone into the work force in one

shape or form or another and if they are unfortunate enough to have to work at the minimum wage that they are going to be penalized, penalized by approximately 50 cents per hour.

And as I said earlier in this debate, Mr. Speaker, I have over the years reluctantly accepted that there had to be a difference in the wages paid to those over the age of 18 and for those under the age of 18. It is not one that I accepted easily, Mr. Speaker. I feel that when people enter the work force, they enter the work force as productive members of society, and while there might be a learner period, but there unfortunately is no learner period under the minimum wage, and the learner period now is an age. To say that people under the age of 18 are not productive and can't learn until they become the age of 18 which then they will, if they don't work in a beer parlour or a place where they sell hard drinks, which they can at the age of 18 now because of the age of majority is now 18, but in the meantime they are going to be penalized to the extent of 50 cents per hour.

Well I know that it is a fait accompli that the government has seen fit not to support this resolution. It is also strange, Mr. Speaker, that the government has not come up with any other solution but the one that we have seen in the past, which makes the people who have to work at the minimum wage level in Manitoba dependent, and I say dependent, dependent upon the whims of this Legislative Assembly and unfortunately it has to be the whim and the will of the party whatever political party be in power. And as I have also said before, Mr. Speaker, I don't excuse ourselves when we were in government. I think that we should have adopted, if not the formula that we have here, some other type of formula. So that these people will not be, every year, dependent upon what kind of pressure can be brought upon the Minister of Labour by the business community, by those who have to pay wages out to what the minimum wage will be in that year. And sometimes they will go, as we have seen now, they're going to go approximately 33 months before they receive an increase in the minimum wage.

And that is inexcusable, Mr. Speaker. That is really inexcusable for this House. I have appealed to the members of this House to take it out of the realm of politics. And if the Progressive Conservative government of the day would have done so, I would have given them credit for it. I don't give our side any great marks for what we did as far as instituting a formula, but at least we did increase the minimum wage approximately once every year, in some cases even less. But this government has seen fit that they are not going to increase the minimum wage for a period of 33 months. And God knows, it may be another 3 years before they get another increase. So here again we will have the same situation as we have today; that the Minister of Labour, the treasury bench of this government, will be pressured by the business community to keep the minimum wage down as low as possible; that if you increase the minimum wages in Manitoba you're going to drive all the industry out of this province.

Well, that hasn't been the case, Mr. Speaker. It hasn't been the case where the minimum wage has been increased. Because if the minimum wage at the lowest level would accrue to the employment benefits of that province, then the province of Newfoundland with a minimum wage of \$2.50 per hour should be the beehive of industrial activity in the whole country. But we find that the minimum wage in Newfoundland is not attracting industry.

We find that the average unemployment rate in Newfoundland is in excess of 17 percent, and that is a seasonally adjusted figure. But if you went to the figures under the age of 25 or even the younger people, I'm sure that you would find that the unemployment levels in the province of Newfoundland would be much higher, much higher than they are perhaps in anywhere else in the Dominion of Canada.

So all I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that I have tried, and I can assure you and I can assure the government that this is not the last that you will hear of the minimum wage. I will be back next year with another resolution. It won't be the same one, but another resolution will be introduced next year dealing with the minimum wage, and hopefully that we can — as water drips on a stone — we will make a dent into the thinking of that government over there, that they should take this issue out of their legislative debates, out of the field of politics and if this government would do that and set a reasonable rate of increasing the minimum wage, then I could assure them that I wouldn't have to be up here next year making another resolution and another pitch on the issue of the minimum wage here in Manitoba.

But I know that it is just like talking to a stone, because their hearts and their minds are set against giving this type of aid to those people who are at the bottom of the economic ladder, those who have to work at that minimum wage because of the lack of job skills and other things, but their costs of living are just the same as other members in society in our province. And even if we were to go to the Minister of Labour and as he said, "God forbid, \$3.65 an hour here in the province of Manitoba." That this would be such a terrible thing, \$3.65 per hour. Well, Mr. Speaker, you calculate that out and that would not be such a tremendous salary for these people. And if they wanted to keep their 25 cent differential for those under the age of 18, it would have been

\$3.40 for those below the age of 18.

But they have seen fit not to. The Minister has seen fit that he made this recommendation and it has all the force of law, because he can change the regulation by ordering it by Cabinet decree. So that we are faced with the issue and of course I know what the Minister will say next year. I can practically say and hear what the other members on the other side are going to say when I introduce the resolution again next year: "Well, we increased it in July, and we've increased it again by another magnificent sum of 10 cents an hour in January of 1980."

Well, Mr. Speaker, as I said the other day, I have nothing but utter disgust for anyone who would introduce such a measly increase in the cost of living for those people who are most unfortunate in our society, those who have to work at the minimum wage level. And to say that they can say next year, "Well, we made an increase in 6 months", but it'll probably be another 3 years before they make another increase. So, Mr. Speaker, without flogging a dead horse any more, I want to just say once again, I thank the members who took part in this debate. While I do not agree with some of the — in fact I don't agree with anything that came from the other side of the House, because I think that these people — there wasn't one of them who might have expressed sympathy, but sympathy doesn't put bread and butter and meat and potatoes on your table. You can express all the sympathy you like, but that isn't going to improve the lot of those people to have to, unfortunately, have to work at the minimum wage level as it is here in Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The question before the House is the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Logan, Resolution No. 5. Do you want it read out in entirety, or are you prepared to vote on it?

QUESTION put, MOTION declared lost.

MR. JENKINS: Yeas and Nays, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the Members.

Order please. The question before the House is the proposed resolution of the Honourable Member for Logan, in short form we have referred to it as the Minimum Wage Resolution.

A STANDING VOTE was taken, the result being as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Adam, Barrow, Bostrom, Boyce, Cherniack, Cowan, Doern, Fox, Hanuschak, Jenkins, Mallnowski, Miller, Parasiuk, Pawley, Uskiw, Walding.

NAYS: Messrs. Anderson, Banman, Brown, Cosens, Craik, Domino, Downey, Driedger, Einarson, Enns, Ferguson, Galbraith, Hyde, Johnston, Kovnats, Lyon, MacMaster, McGill, McGregor, Mercier, Minaker, Orchard, Ransom, Sherman.

MR. CLERK: Yeas 16, Nays 24.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion lost. The Honourable Acting Government House Leader.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, I believe there is a disposition to call at 5:30. Accordingly, I move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Highways that the House do now adjourn and that we resume in the Chamber, examining the Estimates of the Minister of Education and in Room 254 on the Estimates of the Minister of Economic Development.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon. (Wednesday) Committee will meet at 8:00 tonight.