

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 19, 1970

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions. The Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

MR. WALLY JOHANNSON (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the petition of the Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba praying for the passing of An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Reading and Receiving Petitions; Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees. The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

REPORTS BY SPECIAL COMMITTEES

MR. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present the First Report of a Special Committee appointed to examine the Statutes and Regulations governing professional associations and the licensing, provision of standards and disciplining of professionals in the Province of Manitoba.

MR. CLERK: Your Special Committee appointed to examine the statutes and regulations governing professional associations and the licensing, provision of standards and disciplining of professionals in the Province of Manitoba beg leave to present the following as their First Report:

Your Special Committee of the Legislature composed of Honourable Messrs. Mackling, Miller, Toupin, Allard, Beard, Bilton, Boyce, Craik, Desjardins, Doern, Johannson, Molgat, Sherman, Spivak, Mrs. Trueman and Mr. Turnbull was established on Wednesday the 17th day of September, 1969 at the First Session of the 29th Legislature to examine the statutes and regulations governing professional associations and the licensing, provision of standards and disciplining of professionals in the Province of Manitoba, and to examine any Bills respecting professional associations introduced in the previous three sessions of the Legislature and not passed, and to consider the advisability of enacting uniform legislation whenever practical and applicable.

Your Committee appointed Mr. Desjardins as Chairman and the quorum was set at seven members.

Your Committee met on: Thursday, October 9, 1969; Tuesday, February 3, 1970; Thursday, March 5, 1970.

Your Committee has received from a committee of the Manitoba Bar Association, appointed to assist us, a report together with a "Check list for professional societies".

The committee of the Manitoba Bar Association was under the able chairmanship of Mr. J. O'Sullivan. Our Committee wishes to express to Mr. O'Sullivan and his associates its appreciation considering the thoroughness and the work involved in the preparation of these documents.

Copies of the "Check list for professional societies" as prepared by the committee of the Manitoba Bar Association were forwarded by our secretary to professional associations in Manitoba together with a covering letter requesting them to review their Act of Incorporation and/or by-laws in the light of this document and ascertain if all matters covered in the "check list" are included in the Acts of Incorporation or the by-laws. Your Committee has received a number of replies or comments from some professional associations, while others are still considering the matter.

Your Committee recommends that any new legislation or amendments to existing legislation dealing with Private Acts or incorporations under The Companies Act of professional groups be dealt with through the ordinary channels, and that no legislation be held up on account of the sitting of this Committee, although the professional group applying for legislation should be informed that while the legislation will be proceeded with it will eventually have to comply with the standards which will be established by this Committee.

Your Committee recommends that the following documents be transmitted to the re-constituted Committee on Professional Associations:

- (1) The report of the Committee of the Manitoba Bar Association, headed by Mr. O'Sullivan, appointed to assist the Legislative Committee on Professional Associations.
- (2) The Report of the Royal Commission (Ontario) - Inquiry into Civil Rights, headed by Honourable Mr. McRuer.

(MR. CLERK cont'd.)

- (3) The Model Act, recommended by the McRuer Report, if such Act is available - Report No. 1. Vol. 3, p. 1211.
- (4) The minutes of the Special Committees of the House on Professional Associations for the past three years.

Your Committee, not having completed its work, requests that it be reconstituted as early as possible at this Session of the Legislature, with the same powers as set out in the resolution passed by the House on Wednesday the 17th day of September, 1969.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre, that the report of the Committee be received.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): . . . moved, seconded by the Honourable Member for Arthur, that the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion; Introduction of Bills. The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

HON. SIDNEY GREEN, Q.C., (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources) (Inkster): . . . have leave, Mr. Speaker, to have this matter stand in the absence of the honourable member.

MR. SPEAKER: (Agreed.) The Honourable Member for Logan.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS (Logan) introduced Bill No. 11, an Act to amend and incorporate the Sinking Fund Trustees of The Winnipeg School Division No. 1; and Bill No. 12, an Act to amend The St. James-Assiniboia Charter.

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

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

MR. WALTER WEIR (Leader of the Opposition) (Minnedosa): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I wonder if I could ask the First Minister if he would be in a position to define for us the things that he sees in the future that are going to possibly require the heavy capital investment for public purposes in the near future. I note he made some comments on it outside the House last night.

HON. ED. SCHREYER (Premier) (Rossmere): Well, Mr. Speaker, more detailed information will be given by the Minister of Finance at the time of the bringing in of Capital Supply. I wouldn't mind in the least elaborating on the necessity of having considerable authorization for capital spending in the event that the economy takes a turn as some economists are anticipating; but without going into detail now, Mr. Speaker, I would repeat that the Minister of Finance will be in a position to elaborate in some detail before too long.

MR. WEIR: Mr. Speaker, would the First Minister be able to define what he would consider the circumstances that would warrant such a thing?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, for example, Mr. Speaker, if it does turn out as more and more economists are beginning to predict that in the entire context of the North American economy unemployment starts to increase substantially over levels of 1969, 68, 67, it would require pump priming, as the term is used. I'm sure the Honourable Leader of the Opposition would agree with that kind of general analysis.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: I'm wondering if at this point I introduce the guests whom we have with us. In my loge to the right we have with us today Mr. Robert G. Williamson, Member for Central Arctic constituency of the Legislative Council of the Northwest Territories. On behalf of the Members of the Legislative Assembly I welcome you this afternoon. And I also note that we have with us a member of the last Legislature and a number prior to that, Mr. Hillhouse. And in the Speaker's Gallery we have a former member of this House together with a number accompanying him, Mike Kawchuk, formerly member for Roblin, now Mayor of Gilbert Plains, and with him Reeve Verne Campbell of the Rural Municipality of Grandview and Mayor John Adamack, Mayor of the Village of Grandview. On behalf of the Members of the Legislative Assembly we welcome you this afternoon.

(MR. SPEAKER cont'd.)

We also have 33 students of Grade 11 standing of the Sanford Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Hew. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Morris. And 20 students of Grade 11 standing of the Rosenort Collegiate. These students are under the direction of Mr. Herbert Bjarnason. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Morris. On behalf of all the Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly I welcome you this afternoon.

Orders of the Day. The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD (cont'd.)

MR. STEVE PATRICK (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd like to pose a question to the Minister of Labour. Today there were some national figures released in connection with unemployment in Canada. I wonder if the Honourable Minister has the percentage figures of our working force unemployed in Manitoba and if the situation is improving or is it getting worse.

HON. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Minister of Labour) (Transcona): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have the figures in connection with unemployment in Canada and some of the provinces including our own. May I indicate, Sir, to my honourable friend that I'm not satisfied with the present rate of unemployment in Manitoba, and as indicated by the First Minister a moment ago we're preparing for action if deemed necessary in order to help resolve the situation. The figures as I have them, Mr. Speaker, is for Canada as a whole: 6.2 percent. For the Province of Ontario -- that wealthy province -- 4.5; Alberta, 4.6; Manitoba, 4.7; and the province to the west of us, 7 percent.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. WARNER H. JORGENSEN (Morris): Mr. Speaker, just to make sure that the Honourable Minister of Transportation doesn't feel too neglected I should like to direct my question to him and ask him if he has taken the eager members of his caucus into his confidence and advised them of his road program for 1970.

HON. JOSEPH P. BOROWSKI (Minister of Transportation) (Thompson): I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I wasn't paying attention. Could you . . .

MR. JORGENSEN: He has become so accustomed to sitting there without being questioned now he doesn't even know when a question is directed towards him. I'll repeat my question. I just wondered if he has taken the eager members of his caucus into his confidence and advised them of his road building program for 1970 so that they can go about their constituencies and appraise their constituents of what his plans are.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, it seems that you're meddling in internal problems. How I deal with the backbenchers I don't really think is any of your business.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question then. I wonder if the Minister has advised the contractors, who he by no stretch of the imagination can say are not concerned?

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I believe the practice has been, at least on the surface, in the past that the program is to be tabled in the House first and then the people advised, and I am doing that. The contractors have not been told by my department what work we're going to do.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a further question. Is there not danger now that in following this practice that all the contractors will be leaving this province and when his vast road-building program has been announced there will be no contractors to do the work.

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, if that's true then I'm surprised they're still in the province because on the surface this is the practice you followed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. BUD SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable the First Minister. It arises out of the interesting interpretation which one newspaper put on an exchange between the First Minister and myself the other day, Sir, and I'd like to ask him whether he is of the opinion that a convention centre for downtown Winnipeg can proceed without the full scale Centrepoint development.

MR. SPEAKER: May I remind the honourable members of the House that questions asking an opinion are not proper for questions before Orders of the Day.

MR. SHERMAN: Well may I rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker? And ask the First Minister whether it's his impression, Sir, that it might be possible to proceed with a convention centre in downtown Winnipeg independent of the over-all complex that was contemplated by the projected Centrepoint developers?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, certainly it would be possible, but it would not be desirable in my opinion, because we are of the view that the construction of a convention centre should be dependent upon the rest of the project's construction, that is to say the Centrepoint project. And in any case even though we do regard Centrepoint as being an integral part of any project for the development of a convention centre, even if we were to proceed alone it would be important to know what location the private developers have in mind for any ultimate development of a Centrepoint.

MR. SHERMAN: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could I just then ask the First Minister whether we may conclude that there will be, despite the interpretation which I and some others may have placed upon that particular newspaper report, may we conclude that there will be no independent initiative undertaken with respect to an independent convention centre?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there have been no firm conclusions drawn.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON (Rock Lake): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I'd like to address a question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Could he tell us if it is correct that the cost of licences for fishing and hunting have gone up; and if so, by how much?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there was an adjustment but I will take my friend's question as notice and give him the actual figures tomorrow, I hope, because I don't remember them.

MR. EINARSON: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister be kind enough to explain why the reason for the increase?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the increase is based on the considerations that are involved in granting licenses, there are a whole series of considerations including the rising costs that are involved in conducting any operation.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Pembina.

MR. GEORGE HENDERSON (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 1969 I asked for an Order for Return showing the amount of money received by the government from the 5 per cent sales tax in each month from January 1st to July 31, 1969. I haven't received anything on this yet; I wonder could I expect it soon?

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q.C. (Minister of Finance) (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, may I ask was that an Order for Return that was accepted?

MR. HENDERSON: Yes it was.

MR. CHERNIACK: I will look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. INEZ TRUEMAN (Fort Rouge): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Cultural Affairs. Is the government taking any steps to save the former home of our former premier H. J. MacDonald at 61 Carlton Street, with the idea of designating it an historical site?

HON. PHILIP PETURSSON (Minister of Cultural Affairs) (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, officially the government is not taking any steps at this time. It is under study along with two or three dozen other historical sites that do need good attention.

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

MR. HARRY E. GRAHAM (Birtle-Russell): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Government Services. When I arrived in the Chambers this afternoon I received an envelope with 12 pins in it. Now I am a farmer and I don't happen to have 12 suits. I have two pair of coveralls and two suits. Would you want me to return the other unused pins?

MR. PAULLEY: I would suggest to my honourable friend as Minister of Government Services that he share the wealth and be thankful that he got 12 pins. I have been trying to get one or two myself for some time.

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Speaker, may I reply to this particular question? A number of members have been making requests for these Centennial pins and the ones that are contained

(MR. PETURSSON cont'd.) in the envelopes, I was going to make an announcement about this - I think they number about 12, is that right? I hope that all the members counted them carefully so that they received their full quota. They will be receiving additional pins at an early date. This is to satisfy the desires of those who have been wanting them and have none. To my honourable friend, I would suggest that if he has only two suits to pin them on, he need not return the others, but for some people who can use them for that purpose, they come in very handy in pinning up diapers as well as other things.

MR. JORGENSEN: The Minister mentioned that there would be further pins available to members of the Chamber. I wonder if he could give us some idea of how many will be available to each member approximately and how many are going to be made available to the members of the Cabinet.

MR. PETURSSON: Mr. Speaker, one of my colleagues here suggested that I ask a counter-question about how many suits you have. I do not . . .

MR. JORGENSEN: My reply to that would be the same as the Minister of Transportation when he replied to my question.

MR. PETURSSON: I do not have the information at hand, as to how many pins you will be receiving nor how many the members of the Cabinet will be.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable the First Minister. It relates to the license recently granted to Transair Limited by the Federal Government to provide jet service from Winnipeg to Toronto and intermediate points. In view of the opposition to this license which appears to be developing at the federal level in some sources, could he state his government's position in support of or otherwise the granting of this license to Transair?

HON. LEONARD S. EVANS (Minister of Industry and Commerce) (Brandon East): Mr. Speaker, with your permission I would like to reply to this question. The position of the Manitoba Government is that we are most pleased that the Transair application with respect to the route to Toronto has been approved by the Canadian Transportation Commission. Transair is the regional carrier for this part of Canada. It is the Manitoba Regional Carrier and we feel that the granting of this route will strengthen this company which employs several hundred people in the Province of Manitoba and we are very pleased to see that they now have received access to the City of Toronto and points in between.

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

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON (Leader of the Liberal Party) (Portage la Prairie): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question either to the Premier or the Minister of Finance. Is it correct that a company or a number of companies have informed the government - that is companies with head offices in Manitoba - have informed the government that unless the Manitoba Corporate Income Tax is reduced to the level of some other provinces that they will be leaving this year?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I have had a number of conversations with a number of representatives of a number of companies involving policies of this government.

MR. JOHNSTON: Perhaps my question wasn't clear, Mr. Speaker. Companies with head offices here, is it true that one or more of them have stated that they will be moving their head office unless the Manitoba share of the corporate income tax is reduced to the level of other provinces?

MR. CHERNIACK: I can answer that question "no" because of the way it was worded. I don't intend to enter into a full accounting of all the discussions I have had in the past. I don't know if my honourable friend is prepared to relate to the Legislature all the discussions he has had in the past, but certainly there have been discussions of that kind with several.

MR. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, I'll use my supplementary question to try and clarify. Could the Minister inform the House whether companies with head offices in Manitoba, or a company, has informed the government unless their tax structure is lowered to that of some of the other provinces that they will be moving their head office. Is this correct or not?

MR. CHERNIACK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I figured maybe that my honourable friend is speaking about a specific company and if he is about the same company I'm thinking of, I expect that there will be a statement made in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE (Roblin): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I

(MR. McKENZIE cont'd.) would like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources seeing that the Grandview delegation is in the gallery today with regard to the Pleasant Valley Dam project. Has the Minister got an answer for the Grandview people and me today.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, for my honourable friend and for anybody who happens to be in the gallery, I will be discussing the dam program that my friend is referring to during consideration of the estimates of the department.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SIDNEY SPIVAK, Q.C. (River Heights): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address my question to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. I wonder if he can inform the House how many new jobs are estimated for 1970 to fill labour requirements of those who are entering into the labour market.

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this question as notice.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Youth and Education. I wonder if he could inform the House of how many jobs are required for the university students during the summer season.

HON. SAUL A. MILLER (Minister of Youth and Education) (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I have no way of judging at this time, it is still too early to say.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Arthur.

MR. J. DOUGLAS WATT (Arthur): Before the Orders of the Day I would like to address a question to the Honourable the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Can the Minister tell us if the government has now embarked on a policy whereby grants will be made available towards the capital cost of water and sewage in towns and villages in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the honourable member will be aware that certain policies have been existent and I will be the first to admit that I am not acquainted with all of them. What I can tell the honourable member is there has been no change in the last policy, in other words, that the policy has not changed from what it was before.

MR. WATT: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, then I ask the Minister has there been any negotiations with any town or village in the Province of Manitoba to consider capital grants towards water and sewage.

MR. GREEN: There have been various delegations attending at my office relating to drainage and other water problems. I don't think I could be more specific than that.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this question to the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services. What provincial funds are now being applied to family planning programs and what amount of money would be involved?

HON. RENE E. TOUPIN (Minister of Health and Social Services) (Springfield): Well first of all, Mr. Speaker, my first impression would be to ask you for an Order for Return, and second, I think you will get all details on this when I bring my estimates.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. HARRY ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, just a further question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources in further clarification. Can he indicate to the House has the community at Stonewall, Manitoba, been promised any additional aid over and above what he just explained exists in the present on-going programs, or the programs that have existed in the past?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I didn't clearly understand the Member for Arthur's question and I now contemplate that he was talking about water and sewage. There has been no change regarding the community of Stonewall. My understanding is that representations have been made in various areas and none directly to my office as the Minister, at least no personal delegation, and I can't remember whether they were written ones.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Garry.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Youth and Education and ask him whether his department is planning to undertake any initiatives to help university students locate summer employment?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, the Department is undertaking what we hope will be a very active program in this area.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the First Minister. In view of

(MR. SPIVAK cont'd.) the statements of the Minister of Labour in connection with the unemployment situation, I wonder if he can inform the House the movement out of the province through inter-provincial migration in the last quarter.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that is a request for detailed information which one would not normally expect me to have. But I happen to be able to tell my honourable friend that the net out-migration from Manitoba in the last quarter of '69 was higher than we would have liked it, but substantially less than 1966 and 1962 when my honourable friends formed the government.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question. In view of the statement of the First Minister is he prepared to indicate to the House that it is three times higher than in 1968?

MR. SCHREYER: But considerably less than in 1966. Now what does my honourable friend make of that?

MR. SPIVAK: Actually my first question was not answered, Mr. Speaker. I asked for the information, if the First Minister does have the information, and in view of the statement of open government I think the particulars, the details should be given to the House.

MR. SCHREYER: I shall undertake to do so, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. SPIVAK: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The First Minister has made a statement saying that he had the information. Obviously information . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Has the honourable member a question?

MR. SPIVAK: Well he indicated he had the information, now he says that he will take it under advisement.

MR. SCHREYER: I invited my honourable friend to file an Order for Return and I will be glad to have it replied to.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the First Minister. I am wondering if his government could assure the people along Lake Winnipeg that the levels of that lake will not be raised at any time in the future?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, that is something that the Lord God would have to reply to.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day I would like to address a question to the First Minister or the Minister of Finance regarding the report concerning Hydro development in Northern Manitoba. Can the First Minister indicate what reports are under way that we might expect to receive, and can he give any indication of when we might receive them?

MR. SCHREYER: Well, I understand, and the Minister of Mines and Resources can correct me if I'm wrong, I understand that the Underwood McLellan report is not available in its final form just yet but it is expected imminently; and the Crippen Report is now completed.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, there was a second part of the question. Can the Honourable the First Minister give us an indication of when we might receive it?

MR. SCHREYER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, right now.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Was there any inter-disciplinary study undertaken regarding the northern hydro projects, inter-disciplinary in the sense that it involved the natural resource people, the ecologists and so on?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, I believe so, but I'd ask the Minister of Mines and Resources to explain further.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I have as the First Minister has undertaken to provide, Volume I of the Crippen Report which I am pleased to table in the House. I will have some copies made available to the parties in the House and there will also be a copy available at the Information Services desk for information of the public, including the press. With regard to studies that are being carried on, there are studies being carried on at the hydro level and within my department regarding various aspects of all the material that we are now receiving.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, just so there is no misunderstanding, I am tabling Volume I of the report, not because that's the only one that we intend to give the House, but because that's the one which we are in a position to now table. I also want to indicate that the

(MR. GREEN cont'd.) government considers this type of report to be a report which it need not table in the Legislature, but in view of the great public interest that has been created over the past three years with regard to this particular project, we think that the Legislature and the public is entitled to more information than would normally be incumbent upon the government to give, so I don't want the tabling of this document to be considered as a precedent in the future.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Honourable Member for Riel a supplementary question?

MR. CRAIK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the question is as to whether the work that is being undertaken of an inter-disciplinary nature which you referred to, will then be tabled as well?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the government has no intention to table all of the inter-departmental work that is being done. The inter-disciplinary work which my honourable friend is referring to is work which is internal to two areas of the government, one the Hydro Corporation and one the Department of Mines and Natural Resources.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. MORRIS McGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture. In recent months I have been getting messages of concern, and the question is this: has the Minister any information regarding barley that is being bought by feed mills, malting barley possibly, at fire sale prices, and that we consider off-quota arrangements, and is this ultimately being fed in some cases back to maltsters and breweries, which should be being bought through the Wheat Board?

HON. SAMUEL USKIW (Minister of Agriculture) (Lac du Bonnet): I'm not aware, Mr. Speaker, of any specific instance, although I am aware of the general situation wherein we have off-board sales permitted in accordance with the charges of the Wheat Board policy as of 1960 or 1961. I might add though, that currently the Federal Government committee on agriculture, the House of Commons committee, is again dealing with that very question and that Manitoba has or is in the process of making a submission to that committee.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. Mr. Cass-Beggs, the Chairman of the Hydro, in his first public interview before the press stated that the government and Hydro had not undertaken any study of the multi-use of the resources in South Indian Lake. Is that correct or not?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of commenting on Mr. Cass-Beggs' statement itself. I can tell the House that the answer that I gave relative to studies taking place in connection with all the factors involved in terms of the Hydro development and the resource preservation are being carried on.

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

MR. JACOB M. FROESE (Rhineland): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture. I hope he doesn't rule it out of order because it might be anticipatory. Is the hail insurance program that is being proposed, will it be optional; and if so, are there going to be different rates or is it just going to be one single rate?

MR. USKIW: I think, Mr. Speaker, that the honourable member answered his own question; it does anticipate activity which we will undertake at some time during the course of the session. Matters will be revealed during the second reading of the Bill or the estimates.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. MCGILL: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable Minister of Mines and Resources and relates to the Manitoba activities of Falconbridge Nickel Mines. In view of the recent press reports of progress in Falconbridge's new mine in northern Manitoba, can the Minister report any recent encouraging news in respect to their building of a smelter in northern Manitoba?

MR. GREEN: No, Mr. Speaker, I can't report any encouraging news in that regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): I'd like to address a question to the minister of Youth and Education. Could you advise the House and especially the schools at which time it would be possible for them to expect information in regard to availability of bursaries and methods of application for them. Many students and teachers, especially guidance teachers, are eagerly awaiting this information that is frequently given before this date.

MR. MILLER: The forms are at present at the printers and as soon as they are delivered they will be made available through the various institutions.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. The previous Minister indicated to us -- (Interjection) -- Pardon?

MR. SCHREYER: Did you find out who owned the car?

MR. ENNS: I'm waiting for an answer. The previous Minister indicated to us last year that he had entered into, as he described them, delightful discussions with the mining community. My question to the present Minister, is he continuing those discussions in the same manner?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I've had discussions with various members of the mining community. Perhaps my honourable friend can find out from them whether they were delighted or otherwise.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. I'm sorry, I'd be ruled out of order because I'd be asking for an opinion. I was asking for the opinion of the Minister, whether he considered them delightful or not.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Roblin.

MR. McKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Is the Minister preparing or can we expect legislation during this session re the abuse or misuse of drugs by the young people of Manitoba?

MR. TOUPIN: Mr. Speaker, although I do have personal views on this, this is a matter of policy and will be revealed in due course.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for La Verendrye.

MR. LEONARD A. BARKMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure whether to direct this question to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources; but in any case I guess it can be the House Leader. I have noticed that there have been some special quotas given out for extra grain shipments. Are there any reports available concerning the potential flood problems on the Assiniboine, Red River or other areas for this spring?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, there was an initial flood forecast report that was released and my recollection is that it was encouraging. I will see to it that honourable members get a copy of it and that honourable members receive copies of the flood forecasts as and when they are prepared.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, speaking about floods, I direct a question to the First Minister. Can he indicate to the House at this time that there is no possibility of the high level diversion at South Indian Lake proceeding?

MR. SCHREYER: The honourable member should know by now that I'm not one to close off options before it's necessary.

MR. ENNS: Thank you, Mr. First Minister. I wonder if I can put a supplementary question. In view of the fact then, that the possibility of proceeding with the high level diversion at South Indian Lake still exists, can he justify that open position in point of fact when no additional studies of the multi-nature resources in the area have been undertaken, as per Mr. Cass-Beggs' statement recently?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, there is an assumption tacit in the honourable member's question that is unwarranted, so it becomes impossible to answer the question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Riel.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Youth and Education. Has he or his department been able to determine whether there has been any growth or increase in the use of heroin among young people, particularly in the public school system in light of the rather rapid increase in other parts of the world? I'm speaking about heroin in particular in contrast to marijuana.

MR. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I have no information in that regard. I'll check and see whether any information is available.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: My question is supplementary to that asked by the Honourable Member for La Verendrye to the Minister of Mines and Resources in regards to the possibility of flooding along the Assiniboine and Red River. I wonder if the Minister would not say that it is a fact that thanks to the foresight and the initiative of the previous government, the danger of flood along the Assiniboine has been minimized?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take a leaf out of the First Minister's book and say "Thank God".

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

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable the Minister of Transport. Sometime ago there was a report in the newspapers about certain irregularities in the Highway District Office in the area of Dauphin - Ste. Rose. Is he in a position to give a report of the investigation?

MR. BOROWSKI: Mr. Speaker, the question raised is presently under investigation. Until the investigation is completed, I have nothing to say on it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Speaker, I can't let the answer of the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources pass. I know that they have been critical of some of the investments of the past administration, but I ask him directly does he consider the investment of the Portage Diversion as being of no contribution to the easing of the flooded plains in Assiniboine, and likewise the Red River Floodway?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of saying that there is nothing that was done by the previous administration that wasn't good; not everything was bad, but I repeat, if we are talking about the reasons for there being no flood, then I think that God has as much to do with it as did the previous administration.

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

MR. WATT: Before the Orders of the Day, I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Agriculture, supplementary to that question posed by the Member for Virden. I believe the Minister answered that he knew of no particular fire sale prices of coarse grains, and I ask him, does he not recall at least just one of those cases that he did bring before the House when he sat here and I sat over there?

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, obviously my honourable friend wasn't paying attention to my answer. I said that we have been aware of general conditions with respect to the sale . . .

MR. WATT: I listened to the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources yesterday.

MR. USKIW: . . . of grains that are by-passing the Canadian Wheat Board; and I also stated that the House of Commons Committee is now dealing with the question, to which we are making a submission.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party.

MR. G. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. On Monday I asked a question which he took as notice, and to refresh his memory, the question was, could the Minister give the reasons for the drastic increase in the cost of assessments from the province to the municipalities?

HON. HOWARD R. PAWLEY (Minister of Municipal Affairs) (Selkirk): . . . answer to that tomorrow, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day. The Honourable the Attorney-General.

HON. AL. MACKLING, Q.C. (Attorney-General) (St. James): Before the Orders of the Day, (yes, we still have blue ribbon) I wish to file, Mr. Speaker, the Report of the Provincial Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, His Honour Richard Spink Bowles, in respect to the operations of the Provincial Secretary's department.

Also while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I had a question asked the other day by the Honourable Member for Churchill. He asked who the successful tenderer was in connection with the Liquor Control Commission outlet at Gillam, Manitoba. The advice that I have is there has been no change in the licensee itself; there was a change in the manager of that operation. The licensee is Northland Commissionaires and they have a new manager or operator for that concession.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. GORDON W. BEARD: Mr. Speaker, the Member for St. Boniface wouldn't shut up while you were talking. Was the answer in regard to the liquor outlet or to the beer vendor in the Hydro camp?

MR. MACKLING: Well, it was in respect to - I thought your question was in respect to the liquor outlet at Gillam.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Honourable Member for Churchill a supplementary question?

MR. BEARD: I won't ask that again now. I'll find out from the Attorney-General privately. I would like to direct a question to the, I believe it's the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. I understand the Eskimo people in the Churchill area are not being allowed to hunt caribou as has been their right in the past. Has he any knowledge of this?

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'll have to take the question as notice and undertake to give my honourable friend an answer.

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

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Honourable Attorney-General. I myself, like the Member for Churchill, am quite interested in the affairs at Gillam and would be please convey to me privately the information that he's willing to give to the Member for Churchill.

MR. MACKLING: Mr. Speaker, in view of the intense interest of so many members, I would convey publicly to the House all the information for the particular questions you may conceive.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: May I lay on the table the Annual Report of the Civil Service Commission and the administration of the Civil Service Act, for the year ending December 31, 1969. Copies will be made available to all members.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, give a further answer to my honourable friend the Member for Assinibola in respect to unemployment figures. I now have had handed to me the figures with comparisons of a year ago.

Starting off with the great Province of Manitoba, our unemployment rate for February, 1970, is 4.7, which is 1/10 of a percentage point over what it was in February of 1969. The present rate in the Province of Saskatchewan is 7.4, which is 3.2 above the rate of a year ago. The figure for Alberta is 4.6, which is 1.2 above a year ago. The average rate for the prairie region, February of this year, 5.3 percent as compared with 3.9 percent a year ago. You will note that Manitoba is considerably lower than the average for the prairie region.

In the Province of British Columbia, the rate February '70 is 6.7 as against 6.6 a year ago. In Ontario the present rate is 4.5 compared with 3.9 a year ago; Quebec is 8.7 compared with 8.4 a year ago; the Atlantic region is 11 percent this year compared to 10.5 a year ago; the Canada average is 6.5 compared with 6 percentage points of a year ago, which indicates that the rate of increase in Manitoba is among the least in the whole of the Dominion of Canada.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assinibola.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Honourable Minister for the information. It is, I think, gratifying that Manitoba is in a somewhat favoured position, but I think it is serious enough that the Minister may be considering some action if it doesn't improve?

MR. PAULLEY: I assure you, Mr. Speaker, and all honourable members that the Department of Labour in co-operation with all of the departments of government, we will do our utmost to have the figure reduced.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Lakeside.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Can he furnish the House with a list of the various fee increases, licence increases or other government services increases that have increased apparently lately. We are now facing two questions, one for the Minister of Resources and one for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It may save time for us later on or he may suggest that this will come during his budget speech, but could we have some indication, cataloguing of the increases?

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Speaker, I won't give the undertaking. I'll look into it. I'm quite satisfied in my own mind that the Honourable Member for Lakeside and all other honourable members get free copies of the Manitoba Gazette and I would assume that that's where he'll get all the information, but if I am incorrect in that statement, I will certainly look into what can be done.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for River Heights.

MR. SPIVAK: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. I wonder if he could indicate to the House whether his department have any figures that would indicate the number of jobs that are required for those in the rural community that will not be able to make a living this summer?

MR. USKIW: I think I have to answer the honourable member in this way, Mr. Speaker, that he is somewhat presumptuous at this stage to determine specifically what is going to be the case sometime in the course of the balance of this year.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER: The adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for The Pas for an Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in answer to his speech at the opening of the session and the proposed motion of the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition in amendment thereto and the proposed motion of the Honourable House Leader of the Liberal Party in further amendment thereto. The Honourable Member for Birtle-Russell.

MR. GRAHAM: Mr. Speaker, in rising at this time I sometimes wish I had risen on Tuesday night and even asked the members to come back after 8:00 o'clock. However, today, two days later, and a little bit wiser, we are again in the Throne Speech debate.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the burden of your office will be lighter and that the members of this House conduct themselves in a very parliamentary manner. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the members of the government cabinet who have worked so hard in presenting so many pieces of legislation for this session.

Much of the Throne Speech deals in human rights, a bill of rights, but there's not too much that deals with some of the more important things that face the people today. I think perhaps the one single most important thing that faces people in Manitoba today is taxes. Now I am indeed happy to see that this government is going to continue with a program that was announced last year by the previous government when the Minister, the then Honourable Mr. Baizley, proposed a tax structure committee, and it's indeed a pleasure to notice that in this Throne Speech the question of municipal assessment and taxes will be of prime importance in this session. It will be referred to the Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs.

Now last year in the spring session I spoke on municipal assessment. Those words are recorded in Hansard of last year and I am glad to see once more that this question of assessment is going to be considered again this year. I think it is one of the most important things that is facing us. While many people don't understand assessment there's one thing that farmers do understand. That is when you take assessment and mill rates and put the two together you come up with taxes. And when the farmer gets his tax bill this fall he's not concerned whether the Minister of Education has reduced the mill rate; the only thing that he is concerned about is having to go to the bank and borrow so much money to pay his taxes. And he is concerned about the amount of money that he has to borrow to pay his taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the farmer isn't the only man that pays taxes. The concern that is expressed in the Metro area is equally as great. We have notice of that in the paper the day before yesterday, both in the Winnipeg Free Press and the Winnipeg Tribune, where one column asks for a property tax probe and the other paper said that much property would be assessed higher. Even in the federal field we have evidence in the paper two days ago that the Minister in charge of post offices had to stop the use of a mailbox where the person that was calling for this mail was deluged with protests against taxes. I think that the burden that this government faces is a heavy one because taxes and jobs are the things that count most in Manitoba at this time. We have heard this government say that the whole program, one of the major programs of theirs is the ability to pay, the ability to pay taxes. We have a just society advocated by the Federal Government. We have a government here that advocates ability to pay. But both of them require taxes.

Today in the agricultural economy we have concern being expressed by our provincial government, we have concern being expressed by our federal government about programs to cover acreage payments, some people advocating storage charges on farm stored grain, some advocating two-price systems, but if a government was willing to reduce taxes on the farmer and in turn sell his wheat, all these other programs would be unnecessary. If you sell his wheat and reduce his taxes he can survive without benefit of the other welfare programs that are being proposed in various forms by this government and other governments.

Mr. Speaker, these may be some rather harsh words but I think that the farming community has to face the facts; I think the government has to face the facts; and with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote some figures and this can only deal with school tax because in this year municipalities have not yet set their general levy. As of the 15th of March they did receive the school levy and on the basis of assessment that they have were able to figure out the taxes that would apply only to the schools on some of the properties in my constituency. I will give you one example, and this is an agricultural piece of land, a quarter

(MR. GRAHAM cont'd.) section of land, and the total school taxes on parcel (a) in 1968 totalled \$79.35. In 1969 it was \$78.00 on this same piece of land, and using the formula that the Minister of Education announced on Monday in this House, the taxes in 1970 on that same piece of property will be \$108.00. That same piece of property had a decrease of taxes of \$1.35 from 1968 to 1969 but it faces a \$30.00 increase in 1970.

Another piece of property in the same general area in a different school division has a somewhat different picture. On property (b) in 1968 -- and this was also a quarter section of agricultural land -- we had a school tax of \$82.95. In 1969 it was \$93.02, and in 1970 on that same property the school tax will be \$147.66. The increase in school taxes on that land from '68 to '69 was \$9.07. The increase in taxes from 1969 to 1970 on that same piece of property will be \$54.64. Now, Mr. Speaker, those two pieces of property are agricultural, but in any school system we have a dual mill rate, we have a mill rate for agricultural and domestic and one for commercial. So I would like to now quote the taxes on commercial property in one of those school divisions. In 1968 on property (c) which was a commercial piece of property the tax was \$323.74. In 1969 the tax was \$324.98; and in 1970 it will be \$362.20. There was an increase of \$1.24 from 1968 to 1969 and an increase of \$37.22 from 1969 to 1970.

Now what does this mean, Mr. Speaker? We had the Minister of Education announce that he was reducing the mill rate. Big deal! I'm going to reduce the mill rate. But if you increase the assessment it doesn't really make much difference. The only thing that the farmer, the homeowner, the businessman is concerned about is how much money he has to borrow from the bank to pay his taxes; and if he isn't a farmer or a businessman or even if he is a farmer and he needs a job it's getting increasingly difficult. I sincerely hope that the Committee of Municipal Affairs will delve deeply into assessment and the relative merits of taxation of real property and other forms of taxation. As one writer has said: "Assessment is a barometer of the economic conditions existent at that time." I believe that the principle used in assessment today in the Province of Manitoba does follow along that line. They use a system in agricultural assessment, involving the productivity, the productivity index plus the sale value of the land to arrive at an assessment figure. With the announced program of the Federal Government to pay assistance at the rate of \$6.00 an acre, a maximum of \$10.00 an acre up to a maximum of 200 acres if the farmer complies with their program and seeds forage, I think we have some indication of the productivity and the productivity index. We also know that with the economic situation as it stands today in the agricultural industry, we know that the resale value of farm land is not improving, it is declining; but assessment is not. Assessment is still climbing. It's climbing at an alarming rate. In one rural municipality in my constituency the actual assessment, the total actual assessment of all lands within the municipality in the year 1969 was \$1,732,150.00. The actual assessment in 1970 is \$2,883,990.00, which is a 67 percent increase in actual assessment, even though that municipality disposed of over \$100,000 worth of land to another municipal jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to take too much time, there are many other speakers that want to speak on this Throne Speech debate, but these questions of taxes and jobs are the most important facing us today. Perhaps it is time that this government considered a reduction in taxes. It wouldn't be anything new, it's been done before. It has been done on more than one occasion before. Perhaps it is time that this government appealed to the Federal Government for assistance in this program. I say to you that if you want to truly assist the farmer today, if you gave him a 50 percent reduction in his taxes it would be the greatest thing that you could do to help the economy of rural Manitoba. A 50 percent reduction would probably do more than any other type of agricultural program other than a straight sell wheat program. If you can sell the farmers' wheat and reduce his taxes he won't ask for any other type of program.

Mr. Speaker, I don't speak with flowery language, but I think I do speak with the interest of the farmer at heart. I'm a farmer myself and I have been in close contact with the farmers. Taxes, wheat, sale of wheat and jobs are the things that the farmer is looking to government for leadership and assistance.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you very much for this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Assiniboia.

MR. PATRICK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will try and make my contribution at this time.

When one takes part in the Throne Speech debate it seems customary in this House that

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) we pay our respects to you as the guardian and protector of the rights of all the members of this House and people who sit in it, so I would like to do the same. It is also customary to extend words of congratulations to the mover and seconder of the Speech in Reply. The Honourable Member for The Pas, Mr. McBryde is a gentleman who has friends on all sides of this House and made a most worthwhile contribution. The seconder, the Member for Point Douglas has also given us a very interesting speech, and his concern for the young people and in respect to drugs was worthwhile listening to.

Mr. Speaker, having observed these pleasant courtesies, may I now come to grips with the question of the speech that is before us. I know that at this stage many things have been said and my leader has covered the most important points in the Throne Speech dealing with agriculture and dealing with economic development of this province, so I will not deal with those two, but I will try and deal with some other areas that have not been covered to the present time.

But before I do that perhaps I should say something as Manitoba celebrates its Centennial year this year. I believe it is appropriate to pay tribute to our pioneers who made this province what it is today; explorers, fur traders, farmers, labourers, everyone played such a significant and interesting part. We know that almost every village and town across the province is celebrating this great occasion and there are many people involved in planning these celebrations and I think that we should extend a vote of thanks for these wonderful celebrations that have been planned for the whole province of Manitoba. These people are donating their time and talent without any remuneration and I think it is worthwhile to mention it here.

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to hear the government promises to do so much for the people of Manitoba. It would seem that our province is in for a period of tremendous activity in all areas of human endeavour. But on examining the speech more closely one would say that very few things are new, most of the undertaking is updating of old programs. However, I do welcome the new programs that were listed in the speech. I wish just to make one reference to what I mean. For instance last year when the Consumer Protection Act was introduced and passed in this House, there was a strong appeal made by our members from this side and by myself that to have a meaningful Consumer Protection Act there should be a registry of conditional sales and at that time the government did not propose to have it in their Consumer Protection Act. I understand this year this is what they are doing and updating the legislation which I do accept. In many other areas such as the Bill of Human Rights which have been discussed in this House and was mentioned in the Throne Speech last fall, I agree with these items but they are not new in that respect.

The main thrust of the speech was directed to human betterment and to improve the lot of the majority of the people. Well no one will disagree with that.

Of particular interest to the Metropolitan area of Winnipeg was the freeze on municipal elections. This is a clear intent of the government that there will be legislation dealing with the Metropolitan Corporation Act and with the municipalities in Greater Winnipeg. I think this is most welcome news as far as the people in the Metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I was not going to get involved in this debate on auto insurance; I was going to wait until the legislation is tabled because there was reference made in the Throne Speech; but watching the Minister of Municipal Affairs on CBC last night, prompted me to say something and I hope that it is not the intention of this government to nationalize this industry. I believe that we should have a proper study and improvement in the present automobile insurance, but it concerns me somewhat, watching the program yesterday, to see the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs having a committee study the insurance program, and still when it came to the differences in rates between here and Saskatchewan he was not familiar with, I wonder what the commission or the committee was really supposed to do when it was supposed to investigate and report to the government. I am sure they must have that information and it seems after this committee has completed its report the Minister himself was not much more familiar in respect to the cost of auto insurance to the people of Manitoba or in respect to what is the government plan in Saskatchewan and I was somewhat disappointed.

Mr. Speaker, we must appreciate that Manitoba is the insurance centre with three insurance companies employing many people. The Wawanesa Insurance Company is the second largest insurer of automobiles in Canada; the Canadian Indemnity Company writes insurance

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) all over the North American continent and the Portage la Prairie Mutual Insurance Company is a strong and respected company in writing of farm and automobile business all over western Canada.

I still believe that it would be a great tragedy if these institutions were forced to move out of the Province of Manitoba because of this government's action. I believe free competition among insurance companies to be the best regulator of rates, because after 25 years of government insurance in Saskatchewan no other government has saw fit to adopt that same scheme after many governments or many provinces in Canada have studied the scheme. Many states of the United States as well have studied that scheme and have not seen fit to implement that scheme.

I shall not take time to go into any great detail of the cost but I wish to inform the House that our party had undertaken to make a complete study of the insurance industry by a committee of able people with no interest in the insurance field, and the result was the following recommendations: That the government insurance scheme show no advantage to the present system and recommends against such a scheme; that it be an offense to operate a motor vehicle without insurance, and that an applicant for automobile license be required to submit proof of insurance coverage. In other words, I'm saying that auto insurance must be compulsory. Number three, that compensation without fault in respect to death benefits, dismemberments and compensation during disability, now on a voluntary basis, be made mandatory; and that injured persons retain the right to sue the negligent where compensation does not cover all costs, and that bad drivers should be made to pay higher premiums than the good ones.

Mr. Speaker, further, the following recommendation should be considered for legislation to improve the automobile coverage in this province: (a) that laws be amended to remove requirements that the passenger prove gross negligence in order to recover damages against his own driver; (b) that minimum insurance limits of \$35,000 should be substantially increased, at least a minimum of \$100,000; (c) that insurance companies be permitted to write policies of insurance without the present statutory conditions providing for no coverage in the event of consumption of liquor; the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund be overhauled and changed to traffic victims indemnity and claims in excess of the insurance coverage be entitled in the same manner as persons are entitled to relief where there is no insurance; and stiffer penalties for traffic violations.

These are a few points that I wanted to make in respect to the auto insurance business. Mr. Speaker, I know that it would be worthwhile to probably have changes in the present legislation in respect to auto insurance, but I want to state it again, I feel that in the interest of the people of Manitoba I feel the government should not go into the auto insurance business.

Mr. Speaker, the other area that I wish to refer to now is the property tax. I have an editorial out of the Tribune the other day that the tax is going up on property and on homes in the city. Even on a very modest small home on a 25 foot lot where we find people on lower incomes living in these homes, the old age people, and still with the announcement the other day that the assessment has gone up on land, this will increase the property tax on almost all the homes in the Greater Winnipeg area.

I also wish to be critical of this government, because last year this House unanimously supported a resolution of mine to remove the burden of tax on low and fixed income and people receiving old age security. I asked for legislation to exempt the first \$2,000 of municipal assessment on a residence of an owner receiving old age security and old age supplement. This person has already gone through a means test to receive his supplement and I cannot see why he should be required to pay the full education tax on his property. I am informed that some municipalities at the present time, and the member in front of me just says that Portage la Prairie already is doing this, is relieving the old age citizen or old age pensioner from paying the education tax, up to the limit of \$1,200 of assessment.

What I am asking for Mr. Speaker is not expensive and the least we can do is to allow these citizens to live the rest of their lives in their own homes in dignity because for years they have saved all their money to be able to retire in their own home and today some of them are forced out because they are not able to keep up their property, they are not able to pay the property and realty tax.

Mr. Speaker, tax reform is one of the most important issues facing us in this province today; it is a matter which concerns every Manitoban and it is one which must be tackled now. A complete review of the whole tax situation in Manitoba must be made. There is one specific

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) change that must be made immediately, and certainly that's the one I just referred to, and that is the property tax, because for those people on low and fixed incomes it is the most crushing tax of all. Everybody knows it has skyrocketed in the last few years in this province; and again, as I indicated the other day, that Metro has increased its assessment on land and again the taxes will be up on almost all residential properties in this area.

I feel that the 5 percent sales tax should also be removed from at least the following items: children's clothing, used clothing, shoe repairs, soaps, sports equipment for community clubs, and many others. For instance, the utility tax on electricity I feel should be removed because electricity is not a luxury today, it is a necessity as more and more homes are heated today in this city by electricity.

MR. CHERNIACK: May I ask the honourable member a question? Does he consider the sales tax a luxury tax?

MR. PATRICK: No I don't, but I do feel that a sales tax placed unnecessary burden on many old people and many people on fixed income who cannot afford to pay this tax.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that this cannot be corrected overnight but I think the government must undertake to study the tax structure in this province and make a start, because some of the other provinces have made a complete study. For instance, the Province of Ontario and the Province of Nova Scotia have done that.

MR. MACKLING: Would the honourable member yield to another question?

MR. PATRICK: Yes.

MR. MACKLING: I'm wondering whether the honourable member has some constructive advice to give the government as to the field that should be sought for the increase of revenues necessary. Is he suggesting that we increase income taxes?

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, all I'm saying is all you have to do is keep your election promises, because during your election promises, if you want me to repeat it, your party has promised \$2,000 of assessment exemption for the whole Province of Manitoba which would amount to from \$22 million to \$23 million. All I'm talking about is \$900,000 exemption for the old people and the people in need.

A MEMBER: We're just asking you to keep your election promises. The Minister of Education promised this.

MR. PATRICK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a few words on student unemployment. There were a few questions before the Orders of the Day today. But last year the university students had great difficulty in finding summer employment. I know that there are programs involving Manpower, Chambers of Commerce and some other organizations, and I think these are good, but I still feel that the Provincial Government must provide financial help to operate employment offices on all university campuses, also that the government departments must be able to provide employment to some students. I feel government departments can reserve employment for university and secondary students in order to assist them to obtain money for their tuition fees. I'm sure that with some proper planning at least we cannot solve the whole problem but we can alleviate it to a great extent.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to just touch a little bit on labour - I see the Minister of Labour is not in his seat - but the Throne Speech did make reference to adjustment of minimum wages and amendments to the province's labour legislation. I know that this will be welcomed by many of our working people and I know that this government has been committed to improve the lot of the people in this province and to remove some of the poverty that exists. Well, I will be awaiting with great interest action that it will undertake, Mr. Speaker, because I have in my hand here a survey that was made by the Planning Division of the Metropolitan Corporation, which revealed that 2,224 families in the Notre Dame area and C. P. R. representing a cross-section of all families, had incomes of less than \$3,000.00. At least 50 percent of these families were living below the minimum wage level. All these studies indicate the proportion of the community poor at least in one heavily populated area of the city had actually increased in a seven-year period of generally high employment, high wages and great productivity. So what's happening? These people are finding themselves in a worse situation as time goes on, and I would like to see what programs this government intends to introduce to improve the lot of these people.

The TED Report shows that wages in Manitoba are too low, higher somewhat than the Maritimes but much below Saskatchewan, Alberta and considerably below Ontario and British Columbia. A study of the over-all wage reveals that average earnings in Manitoba

(MR. PATRICK cont'd) are rising at a much lower rate than the national average, and this is reported in your TED Report on Page 345. At the present time, a man in Winnipeg supporting a family of four on the present minimum wage is eligible for supplements from the City of Winnipeg. I understand there are some 300 families receiving such supplement. But at the present time there appears to be a certain amount of shame attached by going to the Welfare Department, since public assistance sometimes is viewed as a charity instead of a right, and I hope this attitude can be changed in some way. According to the D. B. S. I understand that Winnipeg is somewhere in the 49th or 50th position in respect to cities in Canada as per capita income earnings are concerned, so I think that it's time that we try and do something for the people that are in the poverty level. A proper minimum wage will not solve all the problems of the workers; it will not allow them to save money to buy a home; it will not allow them to save money for any kind of leisure time or the thing that we should provide for these people; but all it can do is at least eliminate exploitation of workers when those workers feel that at this low minimum wage that they are exploited.

I know last year I introduced a resolution to this House for longer vacation pay, that people not working on statutory holidays be paid, and I'm looking forward if the Minister will be bringing this legislation.

I also feel that it's time that we moved in the area in respect to the working week. At the present time I think it's 48 hours. It's time we moved to 40 hours, because what's happening in this province at the present time, your industries are getting automated, many of our workers are getting displaced, and in the last few years this displacement has been absorbed by your service industries, and at the present time the service industries have almost reached a peak where they will not be able to absorb this employment. So in order to employ more people I think what the governments must do, not only here but right across Canada, is to have a shorter work week. I will not be critical of the government but I will wait for legislation, and if there is no legislation then I will reserve my remarks for that time.

Mr. Speaker, in the area of public housing and urban renewal, Ontario has made tremendous progress in this area, as many people in that province can buy a home with \$450.00 or \$700.00 down, places where they rent the land and you can get people in that low income bracket to be able to own their own home. This was made through the Ontario Housing Corporation and I believe it's a Homeowner Easy Plan. We have not moved in this area in this province.

I think we also have to examine the present policies of building huge and costly homes which are sometimes looked at as building ghettos for the poor. I know that this has been referred to the Burrows-Keewatin, which serves a good purpose, but I think that our public houses should be scattered throughout the city and should not be so much different from any other apartment block or any other housing complex, that they should be so completely distinguished that it's a low rental or public housing complex. I think this is what we have to get away from.

Reference was also made in the Throne Speech that the government will enlarge the borrowing authority of the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. Mr. Speaker, I hope the housing for the handicapped will not be overlooked. The problem of finding suitable accommodation for paraplegics and other disabled persons continues to be a major block to successful rehabilitation. Subsidized housing, low rental units within urban renewal projects, must be considered.

Mr. Speaker, there's just one more area that I wish to cover at this time and that is in connection with taxation of land affected by urban influence. As long as I can remember for the last many years that I've been in this House, every time there's people come up before the Municipal Committee this matter has been raised, and during our municipal committee meetings we had representatives of councils appear before our committee respecting problems of taxation of ratepayers in municipalities where there are people engaged in agriculture and market gardening pursuits. These lands are located pretty close to the city and they sell for probably much higher than more remote land but for less than right in the urban area, and somehow the sale price of this land is influenced to the extent that this is used by the assessment people for taxation purposes. The unfortunate part, Mr. Speaker, is that many of these people want to continue to farm this land, to continue to have their market gardening operations, and just because some of the city people, be it speculators or someone that wants to buy a piece of ground, can pay any price without relevance to production or anything of the sort, and

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(MR. PATRICK cont'd) somehow this establishes the market value of this land, which is not the case because the farmer next door may put this land, or next to the farm that has been sold, for sale and it may not sell for a year or longer. So I don't think this is a fair way to establish the assessment on this land.

Now I know that nothing has been done in this area for some time. I feel that there must be some legislation for these people. We have to establish who is a bona fide farmer who is making his living off that particular farm, and I think there must be some consideration given, because one of the members before our committee told us that in his area, in his municipality, some of the market gardeners had to pay as high as \$75.00 per acre tax on this land. Mr. Speaker, this is straight expropriation and I cannot see how these people can be able to keep this land for any length of time even though they wish to remain and farm. This is an area that the government must do something to bring some legislation.

Mr. Speaker, these are a few areas that I wish to cover at the present time and I'll be making my remarks later on on various departments and legislation.

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MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I, along with the members who have preceded me, would like to extend, as is traditional, to the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply my congratulations for their efforts in proposing and seconding this motion. I would like also to say to you, Sir, that as you resume your onerous duties that we hope the task that will be before you during the coming session will be easier by virtue of the experience that you had during the last session. During the time that you have occupied this position I believe you have attempted to administer the rules of this Chamber in a fair, impartial way, but as we discovered during the consideration of the rules of this Chamber during the committee meetings of the rules, there are many areas that are not clear, many areas that require some changing and some clarification if we are to have a system of rules in this House that will enable members to carry out their function in a manner that is befitting a place such as this.

I note that in the Speech from the Throne the theory is put out that we must abandon old ideas, dogmas and traditions, and I note in looking through a very interesting book that I picked up a few weeks ago, Ed Russenholt's Heart of the Continent, that there was some interesting anecdotes contained in reference to Manitoba Legislature, and one of the references says this: "The First Session of the Manitoba Legislature assembles on the fifteenth of March" (that's in 1871) "in the home of A. G. B. Bannatyne, a spacious two-storey frame structure. Many of the 24 MLAs neither know nor care about parliamentary procedure." Mr. Speaker, I doubt very much if that has changed very much when you consider what has transpired since this House resumed its sitting.

A MEMBER: Can I put that on my government car?

MR. JORGENSEN: No, that's fair advertising. On Thursday we saw the Attorney-General break a tradition of this House that has been long standing without regard to the consequences, and my Leader pointed out what the consequences of that action could have been. Now there's one of two conclusions you can draw. Either it was a crafty political gesture or it was abysmal ignorance of the consequences and I shudder to think what will happen if this is the criteria that's applied to the introduction of legislation into this Chamber and the administration of government, and they can take their pick as to which one it is.

A MEMBER: Both...

MR. JORGENSEN: Well I don't know what other alternative there is.

On Friday we had another interesting situation here. Hoping, I suppose, that we were going to get off to a good start, before five minutes had elapsed in Friday's sitting we were in the situation where we were attempting to amend a motion that was out of order, and I can't help but recall what Mr. Russenholt said in this book, the remark concerning parliamentary procedure.

Well on Monday we had something else, a motion that was proposed by the member for Portage and there was a debate taking place, that took place on this matter, as to whether or not the motion was in order, and the House Leader very properly got up and stated his opinions on it. Well, it is generally known that the reason that the Minister of Labour was moved out of that position, and one can only guess at the reasons why, but I would presume that the reason why he was moved out of that position was because he has never been known for his capacity to use a hundred words when a thousand will do and the delaying of the business of the House was so noticeable that I presume that the Premier decided that it was time for a much younger, a much more virile person in that position, but on that particular occasion the former House Leader, the Minister of Labour, decided that he was going to assert his authority, like the old barnyard rooster who is not going to give way easily to a younger rooster, and he stood up in his place and asserted himself, crowing loud and long.

It reminds me of the story of the farmer who had decided that it was time to change the rooster in the barnyard, so he went to a lot of trouble locating one that was tested by all the qualifications that the Minister of Agriculture imposed, paid a good price for him and brought him in. Well -- and I'm illustrating this story to warn the House Leader of what might happen to him, because these old roosters, you've got to watch them -- when the young rooster was introduced to the barnyard the older one said, "I'll race you around the barnyard but because of your youth and virility how about you spotting me one turn around the hen house. We'll race around three times and I'll just take two." And so they started this race, and just near the finishing line when the young rooster was in hot pursuit, a shot rang out and the young rooster dropped dead, and the farmer was heard to mutter: "Durned fool rooster. I paid

(MR. JORGENSON Cont'd). . . . I paid \$20.00 for that bird and he doesn't know the difference between a hen and a rooster." And so I must warn the Minister that he is perhaps going to find that some of the tricks that are going to be played upon him in his role as House Leader will have to be watched very carefully.

Well, Mr. Speaker, enough of that. I want to join with those who have preceded me in congratulating the Manitoba rink in the 1970 Brier, and I shudder to think how close I came to missing that last game when the committee was sitting and the Member for Elmwood almost prevented me from getting to that game, and it would have been the worst calamity that could have happened because it was without a doubt one of the most exciting sports spectacles that I have ever witnessed, and Manitoba's position today at Utica is one that I'm sure that we're all proud of as well. I don't think there's any doubt in anyone's mind that we're going to win not only the Canadian Championship but the World Championship.

Also in Mr. Russenholt's book there was an interesting anecdote dealing with Members of the Legislature and curling. It says that this happened in 1892, and here again we haven't abandoned old ideas and traditions. This chapter says: "Our hard climate challenges our capacity for enjoyment. This February our Legislature cannot assemble a quorum and must forego sitting. The MLAs are all at the bonspiel." Well, if the Legislature had been sitting during that week I daresay that the same would have happened again.

But I want to offer my congratulations to those people who thus far have demonstrated that Manitobans intend to participate to the fullest in the celebrations of their Centenary, and some of the early indications that we have had are very encouraging indeed. I speak of the attendance at the Brier. Earlier this year a snowmobile safari was organized in southern Manitoba, a tour starting at Morris and finishing up at Carman. It wasn't a race as such; it was simply a safari where 100 people with their snowmobiles toured through that area reliving the days of the early fur traders, visiting the historic sites and thereby gaining a lot of information about their own country. I suggest that perhaps this is one of the worthwhile features that will come out of our Centennial, that we will be able to learn a little more about our past, and in learning more about our past perhaps have a greater appreciation of our responsibilities.

There are many things that could be done within the province to help people appreciate our history. I believe that a great deal more could be done in advertising and promoting, for example, such things as the La Verendrye Trail, a very historic route; the Dawson Trail. I think it's really a shame that more hasn't been done to encourage our tourists to this country to come to that part of the country and to learn more about Manitoba's history.

And then of course, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of other celebrations that are being planned and some of them that have already taken place that have met with the same degree of success.

Monsieur le President: On ne peut parler des activités et des célébrations de notre année centenaire sans offrir aux organisateurs du "Festival Voyageur" et aux citoyens de St. Boniface et des alentours, nos sincères félicitations pour la façon dont ils l'ont supportée. Je souhaite sincèrement qu'à cause du succès de cette entreprise ils en feront une affaire annuelle nous permettant - de jouir des nos hivers au lieu d'avoir à les tolérer.

(Translation: Mr. Speaker: It is not possible to speak of our centennial celebrations this year without offering our sincerest congratulations to the promoters of the idea of the "Festival de Voyageur" and to the people of St. Boniface and the surrounding districts for the way they supported it. I sincerely hope that the encouragement they received from the success of this venture will cause them to make this an annual event, enabling us to enjoy our winters instead of just tolerating them.)

Mr. Speaker, there is one other event in Manitoba that in my view has become one of the best and most successful of tourist attractions in this province, and I'm sure honourable members know what that event is: The Manitoba Stampede and Exhibition. Now here, Mr. Speaker, is an example of how people can promote their areas and their communities by the kind of cooperative effort that the people of that community exhibited in starting, first of all, and building the Stampede. I doubt very much if anything quite compares with a Stampede in excitement, in thrills and enjoyment, and the reason that I have passed these brochures and these car stickers around is that I hope that all members of this House will assist us in

(MR. JORGENSEN Cont'd)...

promoting that great event and drawing even more tourists, more than the hundred thousand that visited the Stampede last year. For those of you who have never visited it, I would hope that you take advantage of the opportunity that will be provided you this year and book your reservations early, because I was in the Stampede Office just the other day and reservations are coming in from all parts of Eastern Canada as well as the United States, and it appears as though we are going to enjoy a project that is even more successful, and as each year goes by the project becomes more successful.

Mr. Speaker, despite what has happened in the past, despite the difficulties that we had in the province in the early stages of our development, Manitobans look to the future with confidence in spite of the fact that today, as we look around us, we see evidence of a great deal of discontent, talk of western separatism, and talk of forming a separate economic unit in this part of the country is not idle. Anyone who is familiar with the rural situation today knows this to be a fact and we would be very blind indeed if we failed to recognize these signs of uneasiness that are felt here in the west about our role in Confederation, and I think it would be even more foolish for us to ignore the fact that westerners want to play a greater role in deciding their own future. Agriculture has been, and I think will continue to be, no matter what form it takes, whether it's grain or livestock or whatever it is, will be the cornerstone of our economic well-being, and that surely must be painfully obvious to many of us when we watch the stifled yawns of the easterners when we talk about western problems, that there is little if any hope that we can expect any help from other parts of Canada. I think our responsibility is doing something about helping ourselves.

It may be of interest at this time to point out that Louis Riel, a very controversial figure in Manitoba, appeared to recognize this problem many years ago, appeared to sense that there wasn't going to be much consideration given to the problems of the Metis people unless they did something about helping themselves, and he sought to ensure that considerations of the difficulties that they faced would be met. Well, he was hung for his province. But I think that one must recognize today that Riel's foresight in recognizing that difficulty is somewhat remarkable and I suppose it's an indication of the capacity of that man.

Well, what are the alternatives? What must we do to give consideration to the problems that face us? Some suggest - and this is a classic Socialist philosophy - that a unitary form of government is the best, where everything is determined from the central point and the ivory-towered thinkers go to work and plan for everybody. But surely we should have come to the conclusion by this time that it hasn't worked, and we have a somewhat ridiculous situation where we slough off and turn over all our responsibilities to the federal government and they in turn have to develop regional policies to apply across this country. This is somewhat new thinking. It used to be that everyone would believe that one general policy applied across this country would suffice. It's recognized now that that won't work so I think that we must revise our thinking along those lines.

Then there's another school of thought that separatism is the answer. Well, I don't subscribe to that view at all. I think it's a refusal on our part to accept the responsibility that is clearly ours, and that responsibility is of insisting that we have something to say about dealing with our own problems. As an example, agriculture in western Canada has nothing in common with the problems of the east. The development of the dairy program, for example, works a hardship if applied equally across this country, works a hardship against the western producer, and yet I presume that in eastern Canada it works. An attempt to rationalize those things has produced nothing but unsatisfactory solutions to regional problems. How can you, for example, justify a freight assistance program on feed grains going to eastern Canada? How indeed? You have the situation where farmers in western Canada, grain producers in western Canada, pay all of the freight of their grain to the Thunder Bay region and then pick up the tab for the cost of subsidizing the remainder of the freight on that grain to their competitors in eastern Canada. Surely this must be the height of absurdity, and yet this is the result of central thinking. Now I have no objection to the eastern provinces, if they choose to subsidize out of their own pockets the transportation costs on feed grains going into eastern Canada even though I think they'd be foolish to do so, but to ask a farmer to pay all the freight half-way there and then part of the freight the remainder, must be nothing short of lunacy. But someone has said, from Ottawa's point of view it seems to be quite a rational policy. It shows you the kind of thinking that you can get into and

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(MR. JORGENSEN Cont'd). . . the kind of problem that you can create for yourself by that kind of arrangement.

Well that leaves us, Mr. Speaker, with one other alternative, and it has often been mentioned; we accept the fact that the present system is not working - and how anyone who has ever watched the Dominion-Provincial Conferences in the past can ever come to the conclusion that it is beyond me - and that alternative is to recognize the similarity in the economic destiny of the three prairie provinces and the need to deal with our own problems and our own future in our best interests. I get a little tired of listening to the screams of anguish coming from the Globe and Mail of Toronto every time that a final payment of wheat is announced, which is the farmers' own money, or a program that is announced that might put another nickel in the farmers' pocket. I'd like to see that problem and I'd like to see the wheat problem dealt by a government in this part of the country that understands what the problem is and does something about it. The idea of one prairie province is one that I accept in principle, but I don't think that we want to get carried away with the idea that all you have to do is adopt it and your problems are over. Far from it, because first of all you're going to have the difficulty of getting three governments of three separate stripes agreed on how you're going to do this and that may not be easy.

But then there's the very real problem that even if you were able to do this, how can you change anything that exists today under the present Constitution? Regional policies to deal with regional problems must be developed by the people concerned and they must be given the muscle to implement those policies and the muscle in this context means the taxation powers and the jurisdiction to implement.

Now it's **always** struck me as rather strange that the Province of Quebec, for example, that are so jealous of provincial rights, so jealous of Ottawa's intervention into their internal problems and those matters which they feel they have jurisdiction over, have never once lifted a voice in protest over anything that the Federal Government have done in the matter of agriculture, just as if, "Get them off our hands." Problems in agriculture, I think, largely stem as a result of the fact that people in the provinces do not have the authority or apparently want the authority to deal with those problems. When I came into this Legislature, there was one speech after another that I heard saying, "Well, now it's the Federal Government that has the authority in this field. We can't do anything about." So I asked why? I think that we should have the authority to do something about it and I think that we can do a heck of a lot better job than what's been done in Ottawa. Now this is not to say that if you form the one prairie government that you're going to deal with all the matters. I think that there is still a very important role that the Federal Government must play, but when it comes to the question of development of the economy, I think those matters can be best dealt with by the provinces concerned and they must be given the authority to do so.

Now apparently, if we were to decide that we wanted to form a prairie government, there would be no squawk from Ottawa. The Prime Minister, in travelling through Churchill a week or so ago, in an off-hand manner gave Churchill away to the Northwest Territories as if it was the back 40 that he wanted to get rid of and gave it away to the neighbour. The real problem, as I see it, is getting an amendment to the Constitution that will allow us to amend the Constitution, and until we can agree on a formula that will enable us to come to grips with our own problems then I think that very much of the impacts that currently prevail will continue.

Now we can take as an example the very program that was announced just recently by the Federal Government. They are spending a lot of money publicizing it and their public relations machine is working overtime grinding out literature for farmers to swallow, and it isn't being swallowed. A meeting in Dominion City last Friday night clearly indicated what farmers in this area are thinking about it. But why was the program developed in the first place? Well, we get some clues when you look at some of the statements that are being made. Here is a clipping from the Winnipeg Free Press, Saturday, February 28th. It says -- Mr. Olson is speaking and he says this: "He said that some eastern farmers have been concerned that the wheat surplus could lead western producers into competitive products, namely in the feed grain and oil seed fields. 'The government's plan to pour \$100 million into the prairie farm scene will cut the surplus and at the same time ease the minds of the eastern farmers,' said Mr. Olson." And on the same day an editorial in the Globe and Mail said this: "The Government expects that the farmers will reduce wheat production by 400 million bushels this

(MR. JORGENSEN Cont'd)... year," (that's sure optimistic on the part of the Globe and Mail) "at a cost in acreage payments of \$100 million or" (and get this) "approximately what it would cost to store the wheat if it was grown."

Now, what conclusion can you draw from this? They're not pouring a nickel into the western economy. They're taking it out of one pocket and putting it into the other. They didn't introduce that program because it was going to be of benefit to the western farmer but because it was going to be of benefit to the eastern farmer. Mr. Olson said so himself. And look at the estimates. In the cost of storing grain in the estimate table in the House of Commons just recently, a figure of \$70 million. The deficit on the 1968-69 crop will be \$48 million and the interest on the cash advance program will be \$22 million, which is a total of \$140 million or approximately the amount they expect they are going to have to put into this program. There is not one nickel of money that is coming into this part of the country that hasn't already been coming, except it'll be coming in a different form.

But despite this, despite the fact that every bit of evidence shows that this program is going to be of no benefit at all to this province in particular, or the west in general, what do we hear from the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture? Well, the Premier had this to say: "It's going to be very helpful in easing the cash shortage crisis on the prairies." How in heaven's name can he possibly say that this is going to help the cash shortage on the prairies when the payments are not even going to be made until the middle of July, and then only half of it? That's the first point. "The plan will help ease the critical economic situation many farmers are in." How can he say that? How can he say that? There is absolutely no evidence to prove that it'll do anything in western Canada. Mr. Schreyer said he doesn't think the program will cost \$100 million as being forecast by Ottawa. Well, if it isn't going to cost \$100 million that's even worse. Then the program is less useful. Then he goes on to say this: "Mr. Schreyer said that the announced program of acreage payments removes the urgency of any kind of supplementary cash advances for western farmers." What nonsense! The problem is there just as it was before. This program is going to do nothing; nothing to help farmers in Manitoba or any part of the country; and these, Mr. Speaker, are the people who are supposed to be speaking for the farmers of this province and I suggest to you, Sir, and I submit, that they are failing in that responsibility.

Now what does the Minister of Agriculture have to say? "We can look upon the new program as a sign of hope for the western farmer." Some hope! Mr. Uskiw told a press conference, "I think our problems are being recognized." They take money out of one pocket and put it into another and our problems, according to the Minister of Agriculture, are being recognized. That, Mr. Speaker, is the height of ignorance. It's an indication of the attitude of this government insofar as farmers in western Canada are concerned - an attitude of indifference. Oh, the Minister using his public relations machine, the Winnipeg Tribune, had a full page spread which was entitled "Minister of Agriculture Plans Exciting Legislation." Well, we looked, Mr. Speaker, at the Speech from the Throne. If that is exciting legislation! That's about as exciting as yesterday's oatmeal porridge.

Now then, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier have praised this legislation as being the salvation of the western farmer and this is somewhat of a paradox, somewhat of a strange situation. You have the Member for Crescentwood, who is not in his seat at the moment, who continuously rails about American domination of this country. There was nobody, there was nobody that was happier about the introduction of this program than the American farmers and the American government, and they said so in boxcar letters, so delighted with it because it's going to relieve them of a problem while at the same time do nothing for the farmers here. Strange isn't it, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: May I remind the member he has five minutes remaining of his time.

MR. JORGENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker: five minutes will do it.

Strange, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Agriculture should talk about how exciting the legislation is and how much they are going to do for the farmers of this country. Strange, isn't it, that when he was on this side of the House there was a great -- and the Minister of Mines and Resources was one that joined him in that chorus, the talk of the plight of the family farm. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, have you heard anything about the family farm since they've sat on that side of the House? No. Now they talk in terms of corporations, cooperatives and kibbutzes. *Maybe* my pronunciation is incorrect...

MR. GREEN: The word is "kibbutzim".

MR. JORGENSEN: Not a single word, Mr. Speaker, have we heard from the Minister

(MR. JORGENSEN Cont'd) of Agriculture about the preservation of the family farm. They forgot about it; they forgot about it. Their votes are not there; they're in the city, so let's destroy them. I wonder, I wonder if the Minister has calculated -- and that was a rather interesting reply that he gave to the Member for Crescentwood about the job opportunities, or the job possibilities for people who are going to be displaced on the farm. He doesn't even know. He talks about it. He talks about taking people off the farms, bringing them to the city, finding jobs for them, and he doesn't even know how many are going to be involved. What kind of planning is that, Mr. Speaker? It's a bunch of utter nonsense. Mr. Speaker, like Christopher Columbus, this government fails to see. Christopher Columbus didn't know where he was going, he didn't know where he was when he got there, he didn't know where he'd been when he got back, and he did it on borrowed money. This describes this government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gimli.

MR. JOHN C. GOTTFRIED (Gimli). Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your recognition at this time and the opportunity to enter in the debate on the Speech from the Throne. I concur with my colleague, the mover, the Honourable Member from The Pas, and the seconder, the Honourable Member from Point Douglas, for the timely remarks about the plight of our fellow Canadians, those of Indian and Metis extraction, especially in the northern regions of our province, and I think that it is most appropriate that Her Majesty has seen fit to visit many of our settlements in the north to view at firsthand the living conditions of many of her loyal subjects.

The reference to the present abuse of drugs amongst our youth, while many of our citizens on old age assistance find it difficult to purchase necessary medical prescriptions, is an indictment of our society and demands that the Legislature take appropriate measures to alleviate the situation.

As I address my remarks, Mr. Speaker, to this the last Legislative session in our first century of existence as a province, I am extremely proud to be counted with those who have been labelled as "The Ethnics" and with that government which is pledged to upholding and promoting the social democratic form of government. While it is correct and proper that honourable members be sensitive to the needs of the constituency which elects them, I know that all members will join me in a concern for the broader community called Manitoba. This is perhaps belabouring the obvious, since it is now widely recognized that day by day the individual in society is becoming less of an island unto himself. Certainly the issues and programs so ably outlined by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of the opening of this session, strengthens my confidence in my view that this government will concern itself with the broader role we must play in the affairs of our nation and of the world.

As a member for the constituency of Gimli, I will at all times be conscious of the need to take the broader view. At the same time, it is my intention to bring to your attention the things that should be done to enhance the quality of life of the people in my constituency and the opportunities that should be seized upon to promote the development in that area. Therefore on the broader plane, Mr. Speaker, I should like to make first a few remarks on the political philosophy I uphold.

Economic individualism, or the image of the rugged individual, is no longer a functioning reality in our industrial society. You better accept that fact. It has been abolished by the growth of mass production and distribution. There are only really two choices left before us: some form of social democracy, and should we even consider the second form, which would have to be some form of socialistic dictatorship. That is, working collectively to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number under a democratic form of government, which is the first, or adopting socialism to such a degree that we lose all our freedom and become servants of the state.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that we leave democracy behind and pass under a dictatorship. The antithesis set up between the rugged individualist, as exemplified by free enterprise, and socialism is false. There never was, in the life of the human species, a sheer individualism. It would be anarchy. No, Mr. Speaker, we would all love to have such a great scope of freedom of action with no responsibility for the welfare of our fellow man, but to be that free we would have to abandon society and I believe that man is man only as a member of some social order.

There are no self-made human beings. The realization of human individuality is made

(MR. GOTTFRIED Cont'd) . . . possible only by membership in a social order, only through participation in a social culture. Individualism is a function of collectivity or the socialization of a human being. So, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be numbered with the socialists, to that group dedicated towards working collectively to secure the greatest good for the greatest number. As I see it, the degree we use the collective or socialist approach to solve our social and economic problems in a democracy can range from the absurd, the impractical position of the rugged individualist, to the sublime, that of a socialistic dictatorship. The socialist element is a variable which, if placed on a continuum, would extend between these two extremes. Collectivism is an element of democracy, for how else can we define democracy as the government of the people, by the people, for the people?

So, Mr. Speaker I do not ascribe to either of these extreme views so frequently referred to by the members of the Opposition. I am a Social Democrat, a socialist with the emphasis on democracy. To the man who boasts that he is a self-made man, I can only say that I am glad to hear it for he relieves the Almighty of a great responsibility.

No, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the really bitter struggles in our society are not with the degree of socialism we the government shall employ under democratic rule, but rather (a) who shall control the social order, the upper, the middle or the lower income groups; and (b) to what end shall it be controlled? That is, those are the two main facts in the arena. I feel safe in saying that we on the government side of the House will not stop presenting the case for the lower and middle income Canadians. This was demonstrated in our handling of Medicare and is reflected in the numerous pieces of legislation mentioned in the Throne Speech. I think, Mr. Speaker, because of the special significance of this Session in our Centennial year, we should take here time to reflect upon the great strides we have made in the growth of democracy from 1870 to the present. Our first 100 years of growth may be divided quite easily into two periods, the first extending from 1870 to 1887, and the second, that period from 1887 to the present day.

A short review of our historic past will reveal that during the first period - I'll repeat that again, 1870-1897 - of our existence, democracy meant something akin to the following to those who were in power - majority rule, provided we are the majority. It was a period characterized by strife and turmoil, a dual religious education system with guarantees of the rights of minority groups included in the Manitoba Act. Yet in the short space of our first 27 years, Louis Riel was forced to flee the province and was sentenced to death in 1885. In 1890 the Public School Act was passed and after a number of attempts by minority groups to seek redress under the Manitoba Act, the Privy Council on January 29, 1895 rendered a decision favourable to the minority groups, but the three recourses in the decision were never put into effect because the Government of Manitoba refused to obey the order. The action was by the Laurier-Greenway compromise in 1897, in which both sides agreed to accept a temporary truce on the premise that half a loaf was better than none - or was it merely a crust?

Such was the measure of democracy or constitutional government in 1897, so the year 1897 is a significant date in our history, not only because of what I have already related, because it was also in 1897 that emigrants from continental Europe began to arrive in this province. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that it has been due to a large extent to the genius and industry of this group that we have been able to sustain such a lengthy period of continuous progress and settlement and in our development of political democracy to the point we have arrived at present.

Mr. Speaker, I have very briefly reviewed these events, not because of the religious implications, but because of their political significance. I'll pass over the intervening years from 1897 to 1965, 70 years later. While writing a thesis on the development of education, I visited a country school one mile north of Arnes on highway No. 9. It was a public school in a district wellknown as the birth place of the arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson, and noted also for the scholars it has sent forth to make names for themselves as doctors and legislators. It was a new school, so the name was freshly painted above the entrance. It read: Arnes Protestant School District No. 586. I'll repeat that in case some of my honourable members have not heard it. The sign above the doorway in 1965 read, "Arnes Protestant School District No. 586." In bringing this fact to the attention of the House now, Mr. Speaker, I am not implying that the dual school system was not abolished in 1890, nor am I implying that a single non-sectarian school system was not established in 1890. I leave that to the House to determine. I am only interested here in tracing our political growth to its

(MR. GOTTFRIED Cont'd)... present place of maturity. This school district had been established on June 6, 1889 and had retained its original designation. For many years all correspondence with the Department of Education carried on its letterhead "Arnes Protestant School District No. 586" yet Department officials thought nothing unusual about it.

From what I have here briefly related I see, as I am sure some of you must, a series of interlocking events beginning with the suppression of the Riel uprising and serving to promote an ever-widening rift among those who have chosen to settle in this province, those who are native to this country and this land, and those descendants and the descendants of those who played an active role in the events leading up to the turn of the century. This is why it is most fitting, in my opinion, that a monument will be erected on the Legislative grounds this year to honour the memory of **Louis Riel**. It should do much to hasten the unity and lessen the discord existing amongst the citizens of this province. The government's concern with a civil rights bill is also long overdue.

I have been concerned about the difficult position our farmers are facing, and even though I know that the government of any single province cannot hope to solve the farm crisis by itself, it is most encouraging that the government of Manitoba has embarked upon a major adjustment program. We did not wait for the federal government to act. We realized that action had to be taken without delay - action that would assist our farmers in shifting into livestock production. When I consider the payment of a subsidy to encourage farmers to go out of wheat production, I find it difficult to reconcile this thought with the fact that daily the world population increases by some 160,000 - we need more food to care for our fellowmen, not less. This to me again is an indictment of the system of private enterprise and I would ask our government to seek other ways out of this dilemma.

Another area of major concern of course is pollution. Do you know, my friends, that one month ago the fishermen on Lake Winnipeg did not know whether they would ever be able to fish again - Why? It was because of pollution: mercury pollution, industrial pollution, over which my constituents have no control. I am happy to say that prospects for the industry are improving but we must keep contact with our fishermen. They need to know. It is their livelihood.

At present there is a petition circulating throughout my constituency amongst the fishermen to the effect that they would like to have the B. C. Packer Plant, which was closed last year by the former government, they would like to see this packing plant re-opened and used as a sub-depot in the movement of the fish from the northern fishing grounds to Winnipeg. There exists in Gimli excellent dock facilities built at great expense and there also exists in addition a number of highly skilled personnel. If this should come about, the saving in time by docking at Gimli rather than at Selkirk would reduce the trip, or the time necessary, by six hours to that to Selkirk. On the return trip there would be a saving of 12 hours, and this I think is highly important because it would ensure that the fish would be placed in proper storage more quickly and it would guarantee a fresher product for the market. This I believe is a very important fact in the fishing industry. Not only that, but the 12 hours that would be saved on the one trip could also enable this boat to make many more trips to the north to bring in the fish. I have also been led to believe that there have been years when it's quite difficult to navigate up the river to Selkirk. So therefore I would request the government to give some consideration to this petition. It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, it could provide work for as many as 30 people.

Returning again to the subject of pollution, I could go on about pollution - I know everyone is now concerned, but let us in Manitoba lead the Centennial in setting standards that will in fact protect and make possible the good life that we are now discussing. Of all the future possibilities for the development of my area, recreation has the largest potential, the largest potential and therefore it should be the first to be considered in the Gimli constituency.

In the area of education, I am deeply concerned at this point with the fact that an attempt is being made to hold the line on teachers' salaries. I was in the profession immediately after World War II and I realize how difficult it is for a profession to build itself up. I can recall approaching school boards, holding numerous meetings, and ending up with approximately a \$50.00 increase for the year. Yes. And then came Sputnik and we had people paying more attention to education. Therefore it does bother me, Mr. Speaker, to note that this year teachers' salaries are being held down to about a two to three percent while in the case of many other groups the increase does amount to approximately 10 or 12%.

(MR. GOTTFRIED Cont'd) . . . and I understand the firemen in Winnipeg are asking for 35%. The teachers should be maintained at their proper level with the rest of the citizens of the province.

Another matter that I have in connection with teachers has to do with the Teacher Pension Plan. During and before World War II, a clause was included in the pension plan to the effect that a veteran would be granted pension rights for the time he served in the armed forces. This is only fair since had the person not been serving his country, he would in all probability have been teaching and therefore should not be penalized by having that time deducted from his pension service.

I agree that this has been a good clause but I say that it does not go far enough. It does not go far enough because it excludes certain people who have served in the war and who have not been awarded pension service for the time they have spent there. I am thinking, for example, of a case of a young man who went, say, permit teaching, taught for a year, then entered Teachers' College, and while in Teachers' College received his call to the armed forces, left, served possibly four or five years, came back and immediately went back into teaching. This person contributed to the pension fund before entering the services and immediately continued teaching after he returned, certainly we can assume that this person would have continued to teach had the war not intervened. Now I think a review should be made of this clause so that it will be possible to admit those who have been exempt so far, because at this stage many of them are reaching retirement age and we would be doing them a grave disservice if we did not award them this right that we have given to others.

In the field of Medicare and particularly in the case where husbands are separated from wives, different numbers should be issued to both parties. The situation now is such that a husband may receive a cheque for services rendered to his wife, the wife becomes liable for repayment if the husband uses the money for other purposes. This matter should be looked into, I believe, and rectified.

And finally, in connection with water and sewer. I refer in particular to the Town of Stonewall. This town, with a population of 1,600, is completely lacking in water and sewer facilities and I understand that it is the only town with a population of that size that is so lacking. I have been informed that they have laboured without success approximately six years to try to get assistance, to receive assistance to enable them to install water and sewer in their town. However, all of their attempts have failed to date. I would therefore request again that the government look into this matter and try to provide some form of assistance for these towns.

I'd like to conclude my remarks at this point with the hope that during the next century the citizens of this great land will be able to enjoy a greater measure of political and social equality so that we may truly go forward united as Canadians, as equals.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Mr. Speaker, Honourable Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly: It is with considerable pleasure and pride that I rise to address this gathering in this, Manitoba's Centennial Year. The constituency which I have the honour to represent is historically the oldest known settlement by people of European origin in this area. Fort Rouge was built on the instructions of Monsieur LaVerendrye in October, 1738, 232 years ago. This settlement was succeeded by progressively more sophisticated communities and developed into the present dynamic metropolis of Winnipeg.

Every condition of life and every ethnic heritage appears to be represented within the boundaries of Fort Rouge. Amongst the most interesting people is one who is quite outstanding, Mr. Duncan McLean. This gentleman is 93 years of age and at eight years of age he was a prisoner of a Plains Cree at Fort Pitt. He and his family travelled with the Indians for several months and the Woods Crees, who were more friendly, saw that their lives were spared. His father has written a firsthand account of those times of Louis Riel. Mr. McLean is not happy about the proposal to place a statue of Riel on the Legislative grounds and would like to see this matter reconsidered.

Now most of the people in my constituency enjoy the benefit of a Canadian way of life here in the midwest, which in my opinion equals the finest anywhere on the face of the earth. Within the framework of this community it should not be difficult to improve the situation of those whose circumstances do not now permit them full participation in the benefits of our society. One of our goals for the seventies should be to deal more effectively with the problems of poverty.

(MRS. TRUEMAN Cont'd)...

During the years I was associated with the Community Welfare Planning Council and more recently during my tenure as an alderman in the City of Winnipeg, I have been impressed with the social injustice in our ways of dealing with deserted or separated wives who are left with families to raise. They represent a large proportion of the underprivileged poor. Any husband or father can walk out on his responsibilities knowing that it is considered economically not worthwhile to pursue him and force him to contribute to his family's support. If the wife goes out to work, at present she cannot deduct for income tax purposes the cost of care for her children. If she is on welfare and tries to work, with the exception of the first \$25.00, the welfare cheque is reduced by the amount of her wage. So where is the incentive? She works a whole month for another \$25.00. She cannot afford a divorce and if she then resorts to living common law the law does not recognize her. She has no means of improving her qualifications for employment and she hasn't a hope of escaping from an ignominious situation. Almost 50 percent of the welfare case loads are families of sole support women. If we could resolve their problems we could reduce our welfare costs dramatically, while at the same time restoring them to a place in the community which gives them dignity and independence.

There is another serious problem which we will have to recognize, the plight of the unmarried mother and her child. There is little if any legislation for their protection. They are still regarded as social outcasts and we are only occasionally made aware of their existence. Perhaps you read the newspaper item a few days ago which noted that the age of unmarried mothers is getting lower. At the annual meeting of Villa Rosa, a home for unmarried mothers run by the Sisters of Misericordia, it was pointed out that in their 1969 statistics ten of these unmarried mothers were between 12 and 14 years of age, while 155 out of 165 were 23 years of age and under. Apparently the pill has failed to prevent illegitimacy. To the unmarried girl, taking the pill indicates premeditation so it is rejected in order to maintain a facade of innocence. She takes the risk and produces an unwanted child who then may become society's responsibility. Again, it is economically impractical to pursue the father whose responsibility for that matter cannot be proved. Hopefully the child will find an adoptive home and live a normal life. In fact, the parents can abandon him to a life which is a traumatic and bitter experience from beginning to end.

The report of the Manitoba Volunteer Committee on the Status of Women proposes some social reforms which are long overdue and that should be considered by us as lawmakers. We must be progressive and bring forward new knowledge and new concepts for the solution of our society's problems. The many social agencies in our province, public and private, achieve a great deal of good work in spite of financial restrictions, shortages of staff and limited opportunities to introduce and apply new thinking. I feel that continued acceptance of current welfare practice is unjust, inefficient, uneconomic and ensures that the poor, like death and taxes, will always be with us.

The Member for Point Douglas brought to our attention the serious matter of a non-medical use of drugs. There needs to be more study to enable us to cope with this matter. Intensive education should be instituted now before the problem gets out of hand. We know that psychological and physical dependency on drugs is a goal of pushers, who, spiking relatively innocent drugs with addictive heroin, assure future sales and steady customers. Now surely this problem is partially a matter of law enforcement but we wonder where the municipalities would get the money to hire more police. Two psychological factors seem to be important to a child who takes drugs. One is the respect of his peers who are on drugs, and the other is the seductive release from the hard reality of growing up. I note that in New York City where the problem is most severe with 900 deaths last year from self-dosage, drug education will now be started in the fourth grade. I would like to see similar education programs here to prevent worsening of the situation. Mr. Speaker, shall I continue later?

MR. SPEAKER: If the honourable member wishes she may continue at 8:00 o'clock, as it is now 5:30.

MRS. TRUEMAN: Thank you. I'll do that.

MR. SPEAKER: It is now 5:30. I am leaving the Chair to return at 8:00 o'clock tonight.