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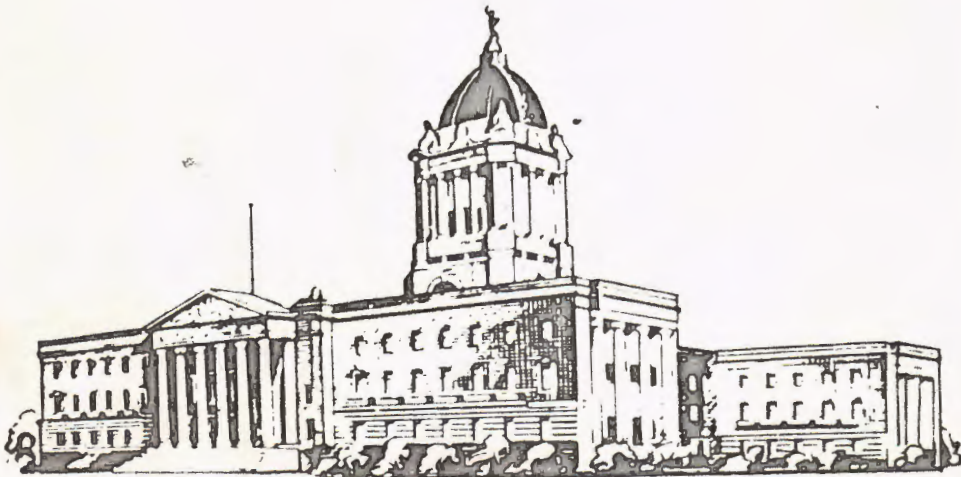
of the

Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

26 Elizabeth II

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Speaker*



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2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, 1978

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

Time: 2:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): I should like to draw the attention of the members to the gallery where we have 30 students of Grade 7 and 9 standing of Hugh John Macdonald School. These students are under the direction of Mr. J. Sinclair. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

We also have 22 students of Grade 12 standing from Precious Blood School who are now entering the Chamber. This school is located in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

On behalf of all members we welcome you here today.

Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I have a brief statement to make on the April labour force statistics which were released this morning by the Federal Government.

According to Statistics Canada —(Interjection)— There's copies being distributed, Mr. Speaker. According to Statistics Canada, Manitoba's actual unemployment rate improved by 8/10ths of a percentage point, from 7.8 percent in March to 7.0 percent in April. This is the largest improvement in percentage point terms in any of the provinces and left the rate just 2/10ths of a point above the April, 1977 level of 6.8 percent.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the rate went up by 3/10ths of a point between March and April, from 6.5 percent to 6.8 percent. The 6.8 percent rate in April was also 3/10ths of a point above the seasonally-adjusted figure for April of 1977. Manitoba retained its position as the province with the third lowest unemployment rate on both an actual and a seasonally-adjusted basis.

For Canada as a whole last month, the actual unemployment rate went down by 4/10ths of a point, from 9.7 percent to 9.3 percent, while the seasonally-adjusted rate remained unchanged at 8.6 percent.

Members may be interested to note that the differentials between the national rates and the Manitoba rates were slightly more favourable last month than they were a year earlier. In April, 1977, the actual Manitoba rate was 2 percent points below the national rate, while in April this year the advantage was widened to 2.3 percentage points. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the gap was 1.7 in April of last year, and was 1.8 this last month.

The actual number of unemployed in Manitoba went down by 3,000, from 36,000 in March to 33,000 last month. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the number went up by 1,000, from 31,000 to 32,000. The actual and the seasonally-adjusted figures were each 2,000 above the levels of April 1977. Employment was also up by 3,000 on an actual basis between March and April and up 9,000 in actual terms over last year. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the number of employed went down by 5,000 between March and April, but was still up 10,000 over April of 1977.

Members will be interested to know that the reference week for, the April statistics was the week ended April 15th, and as a result the figures do not reflect the substantial number of students entering the labour force for the summer or the impact of various summer employment programs.

I should add, for the information of the members, that the government is extremely gratified by the substantial, positive response which has been received thus far to the Private Sector Youth Employment Program which was announced in the Budget on April 10th. I know that the Minister of Education, who is responsible for this will be referring to it further. It is my understanding that approval has already been given to applications for the creation of over 1,250 summer jobs, and I think today's figure was some 1,300, and if the response to the program continues at its current rate, then it is quite probable that it will create more than the 2,000 jobs we anticipated. Thus far, just slightly over \$1 million have been allocated out of the original \$2 million allotment for the program.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader of the Opposition.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, it's very significant that members on the other side of the House feel that there is solace and can applaud the fact that there is an unemployment rate in Canada, and reflected in this province — and I don't blame it all on the province as was the custom under the previous administration — of just under one million people. The news that came forward today, Mr. Speaker, was that there is relief in Canada in that unemployment is now, instead of being over a million, something like 999,000 people, and it is a great reflection, Mr. Speaker, on our society that we start thinking of relief, Mr. Speaker, when unemployment crawls below the one million mark.

It reminds me, Mr. Speaker, of a story which is worth telling at this point, about the woman who came to a counsellor in the old country and claimed that living in one room with three children was a terrible situation,

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

and that the house was very crowded. And the counsellor, who was a rabbi, said, "Have you got a cow?" They said, "Yes." He said, "Bring in the cow." So they brought the cow into the house. And the next day she went and she said, "It's worse than ever." And he said, "Do you have a pig?" And they said, "Yes." And he said, "Bring in the pig." And they brought in the pig. And the next day they said it was worse than ever. He said, "Do you have chickens?" And they said, "Yes." He said, "Bring in the chickens." Now the people were living with their five children, their cow and their pig and their chickens, and it was terrible. So when they came for advice the next time, he said, "Throw out the chickens." And the next day, "Throw out the cow," and the next day, "Throw out the pig;" and then they were living with the family and the five children, and they said it was terrific that they had been relieved of the cow and the chickens and the pig. So what the government is telling us, is that we have a new situation in Canada, unemployment has gone down slightly, and that we are now able to pound on the tables as to our new rate.

Well, Mr. Speaker, let's look at the new statistics. Traditionally when my friend brought in these statistics, Mr. Speaker, he referred to the seasonally — (Interjection) — There are some problems over there.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, the Statistics Canada report on unemployment, the seasonally adjusted rate, which was always the rate that my honourable friend referred to in bringing in these statistics, — unemployment in Manitoba has gone up by 3/10ths of 1 percent which is one of the only four provinces in which this has occurred. But, Mr. Speaker, what puzzles me is not these unemployment rates, what puzzles me is that the government is not expressing some pride in having achieved them. Because, Mr. Speaker, not only is the Minister of Finance, but the First Minister, in talking about the kind of leadership that his government, that his philosophy, is bringing to this country, has indicated that we should be creating unemployment; has indicated, Mr. Speaker, that we should reduce spending — and I assume that spending includes the kind of unemployment, Mr. Speaker, which is achieved with regard to nurse's aides in hospitals, lifeguards, Mr. Speaker — 300 people who are performing service in northern Manitoba. And what's . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Will the Honourable Member for Lakeside please desist? The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, what is surprising to me is that the government Finance Minister has not got up with pride, just as he announced, and the government announced with pride, that 375 people are being laid off in northern Manitoba. I am surprised that this million unemployed at a period, Mr. Speaker, when we should have the highest employment in this country, during the spring and during the summer, that they should not be saying, "Look at what we have achieved. We have reduced spending and we have created unemployment just as we said we are going to do."

Instead, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Minister has gone to great lengths to try to take statistics which indicate, Mr. Speaker, a terrible unemployment situation in this country which I do not blame the Manitoba government for except, Mr. Speaker, insofar as the Manitoba government has claimed leadership in this movement to bring about unemployment in Canada. To that extent I blame them. What they have not recognized and what they continue to fail to recognize is that a million unemployed in this country, Mr. Speaker, is billions of dollars of wealth that goes unproduced because, contrary to what my honourable friends have been saying, it is not the private entrepreneur who creates the wealth, it is the workers of this country who create the wealth and by keeping a million of them unemployed, they are destroying wealth in this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, if we're prepared to continue . . . Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills.

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health. Would the Minister of Health advise whether the Minister in charge of the Task Force was correct when he advised the Rotary Club in Dauphin, I believe, as follows: "When my colleague, the Minister of Health, investigated the charge — which was not really a charge at all but a question with regard to sheets in the hospitals and how often they were changed, he found that at its basis was a change in policy which had allowed for four or five sheet changes a week rather than the previous seven with the discretion of the nursing staff to change them more often than was necessary." Was the Minister of Health correct in reporting that to be the information that the Minister gave this House? — (Interjection) — The Minister of the Task Force, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I would have to check with my colleague, the Minister responsible for the Task Force, with respect to the complete sense and sensibility of

what he said. If he's talking about sheet changes in an accumulative sense, then as I explained to this House that linen changes at the Health Sciences Centre are largely at the discretion of Head Nurses on respective wards, therefore it is difficult to pin it down to a specific number of changes per patient. I can tell him this, that if he wants me to inquire as to how many times a week every one of the 1308 bed patients in the Health Sciences Centre has his or her linen changed I will have to attempt to do that. I've not been asked to do that. If he wants me to do that, and it'll take some time and it may even be impossible, but linen changes in the hospital are carried out according to a procedure that was implemented in June of 1977. The question that was asked of me by the Leader of the Opposition, at least as I understood it, Mr. Speaker, was whether or not the frequency of linen changes at the Health Sciences Centre had been reduced as a result of this government's restraint program and the budget constraints laid upon the hospital to a point that was either unacceptable to me as Minister, or unacceptable from the point of view of quality of patient care. My answer to that question was no, Sir, on the basis of my information I repeat, the answer is still no.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I implore the Honourable Minister to direct himself to my question. Was the Minister in charge of the Task Force correct when he said that you, having investigated the charges — and I'm reading from a speech made by the Honourable Sidney Spivak to the Rotary Club of Dauphin — who said that you, having investigated the charges, found that at its basis was a change in policy which had allowed for four or five sheet changes a week rather than the previous seven, with the discretion of the nursing staff to change them more often than necessary. Did the Minister not indicate several days later that when he was referring to Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays he was talking about twice a week with discretion to do it less often than that if considered advisable by the nurse. Was the Minister correct in advising the Rotary Club to that effect?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I'm not certain whether the Minister responsible for the Task Force is correct or not because apparently there's a reference in there to a schedule that called for changes on a daily basis, on a seven times a week basis, the way I understand the question as it's being put to me by the Opposition House Leader. That was never suggested and I had no knowledge that the Health Sciences Centre was ever on a schedule that called for seven changes in seven days — that called for daily linen changes. So from that point of view the statement is probably incorrect. The implication in it is probably incorrect because I certainly never discovered or never reported or would never have imagined that the hospital was on a seven day, seven times a week linen change schedule.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, would the Honourable Minister then concede that the error that he thought was made by the Winnipeg Tribune in reporting it is four changes a week was also the same error that was made by the Minister in charge of the Task Force?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I assure my honourable friend that I will check with the Minister responsible for the Task Force and attempt to determine the answer to that question. I have no idea what the Minister responsible for the Task Force said or intended to say or intended to indicate until I have a chance to check his statement with him, but I can report to the House Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, that the report and the information that I gave to the House was given with the best of intentions, was given in the spirit of providing more information in fact than I was asked for by the Leader of the Opposition and my statement as given to the House, stands.

The frequency of changes is something that I cannot answer for to a precise figure, but there is a schedule in effect in the hospital that calls for changes on certain days; it has not been affected by the restraint program or the budgetary constraints. Now I will check with my colleague, the Minister responsible for the Task Force and ask him how he interpreted that statement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for The Pas.

MR. RONALD McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I asked a question of the Minister of Northern Affairs a couple of weeks ago in regard to Minago Construction. I wonder if he could confirm now if he's had a chance to review the operation of that company; whether he can confirm that the assets of that company are worth about a million dollars.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. KEN MacMASTER(Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we would get in the neighbourhood of a million dollars when it's auctioned off.

MR. McBRYDE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether or not the government will use that million dollars and reinvest in economic development and employment in northern Manitoba or whether it will be frittered away by the southern bureaucracy.

MR. MacMASTER: I would suspect, Mr. Speaker, if what the Member for The Pas is saying correct, that there has been many, many, many millions of dollars frittered away by the southern bureaucracy, because when you normally sell public assets, to the best of my knowledge, you turn them back into general revenues, so that's been the case over the years. So what you're saying now is, if I follow the normal procedure, and of this government follows the normal procedure, then we'll be frittering away money in a similar fashion to the last, I would suspect, twenty, twenty-five years.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Speaker, I am asking the Minister if he will in fact initiate a procedure that might not have been normal procedure, but it's never been necessary before because we never had the cut in programs in northern Manitoba that this Minister has brought in before, so it hasn't been necessary. I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether he would be willing to consider that this million dollars be reinvested in northern Manitoba for employment creation, in light of the serious unemployment problem that he has caused in northern Manitoba.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to carry on with the Estimates that we are proposing. I am prepared to carry on with the programming that we are proposing for northern Manitoba, and I am prepared to cut out a lot of the wasteful foolish spending of the previous administration in northern Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. LLOYD AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Hydro. Could he tell us whether the Hydro inquiry, the Churchill inquiry, takes as part of its terms of reference, the examination into the uses of nuclear energy in the province and also the potential hazards or dangers related to the nuclear waste disposal question?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference are public but the member will find that they are particularly directed towards the Nelson-Churchill system.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, in supplementary to that, in view of the statement made by the Leader of the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Party on September 28th, 1977, stating that he intends to undertake a major inquiry into the use of nuclear development in order to be able to make decisions, can he tell us when this immediate inquiry will be instituted and when we can begin examining in a public way this question of the use of nuclear energy and the waste disposal in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the indication that was given and the undertaking that was given last fall that the decision regarding nuclear power would be a decision by the government and not by the Hydro, and it is not restricted to the Manitoba Hydro for the purposes of that decision-making process. However, the Manitoba Hydro, as the member is aware, has had studies progressing and has had a major study, initial study, just published by their consultants with regard to this matter. It was also indicated last fall — the member's question mentions the urgency of it in the input of the public into it — the second part is one that we feel is most important. The first part though, with regard to the timing, is that despite the speculation that is now being mentioned, at least from different corners within the province, the government does not at this point consider that nuclear power in Manitoba is in any way imminent, and that in fact there are going to be a large number of other projects examined outside of Manitoba before that type of decision has to be addressed here.

MR. AXWORTHY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister still indicate, while the decision may not be imminent, if he or the government intends to establish any procedure whereby there would be public disclosure of the studies that the Manitoba Hydro has undertaken in relation to the use of nuclear energy, whether there would be any public examination or assessment of those studies, and whether there would be an opportunity for public debate or discussion of those in some form of forum or inquiry, and particularly not just in terms of the energy requirements but also in terms of the waste disposal issue? Could he indicate that within the life of this government they intend to set up some procedure such as that so that the question will have a full and open public airing before a decision has to be made?

MR. CRAIK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the government recognizes the extreme importance of questions such as this, and when the government regards it a matter that should be seriously looked at by the government, it will certainly make every opportunity for public input into it. In the meantime, if the report of Hydro that I mentioned has not been distributed to the members I would undertake to try and obtain copies for any of the members of the Legislature that are interested.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance in

view of his recent statement that there is no limit on funding available for youth jobs in the private sector. Can he reconcile the apparent conflict between this announcement of unlimited funds for private sector youth employment programs, such as ice cream parlor employees, in relation to little or no funding in the public sector for positions such as lifeguards in provincial parks?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, if the member were to read the comment in the Budget Address, I think he would find that the target was set at \$2 million as the best estimate, we're looking in the neighbourhood of 2,000 jobs. It would appear now that it may exceed that; we expect that what will happen is that there will be an initial large surge and then a fall-off and then a resurgence, at the time that the high schools bring in the 16 to 18 year old group in June. That's our expectation. With regard to the actual type of jobs they're becoming involved in, I assume it's not restricted to ice cream parlors. With regard to the lifeguards at the beaches and so on, that will be dealt with by the Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

MR. DOERN: Can the Minister indicate whether any new programs or expansion of programs was considered by the government in terms of parks and recreation, public institutions or municipal projects for youth employment. Was that considered?

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, the answer would be yes, there was a large number considered. The major one undertaken that I've commented on here is turning out to be, as far as we're concerned, a good move and a good investment by the government on behalf of the youth.

MR. DOERN: Could the Minister provide us with his projections for the number of jobs available in the public sector, government institutions and also municipal projects. Does he have any figures of positions available under his administration?

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I can't give the member numbers on all of those. I can indicate to him, as has been indicated before, that direct government employment is approximately 2,000; the target or estimate on the private sector program was in the order of 2,000 and it appears it will probably go higher than the 2,000. With regards to municipalities and school boards and other public institutions, I don't have the numbers on that. With regard to the other programs that may come from different sectors, I don't have ready numbers on those as well since they don't fall directly under our responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Selkirk.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Finance. Would the Minister of Finance be prepared to confirm that an offer has been made to various mining and oil companies to repurchase mineral rights lost by them as a result of failure to make payment of the taxes in connection with the Mineral Acreage Taxation Act, that an offer has been made to sell back to those companies the mineral rights?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CRAIK: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think the correct answer to it would be that the companies were not excluded from the general list of former mineral rights' holders who had a period of time to retrieve their mineral rights, whether individuals or corporations, so that there's no exclusion for any one whether they're individual or corporate.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, my question was whether or not the Province of Manitoba has offered to sell back to those same companies that had given those mineral rights up, the mineral rights at a fraction of the taxes which were in fact owing by those companies under the Mineral Acreage Taxation Act.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I'll take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rupertsland.

MR. HARVEY BOSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Northern Affairs. Given that he has had some ten days now since he made a commitment to give the House an answer to the question I asked regarding ferry service to Bloodvein and Princess Harbour, could he now give us an indication if the government has made a decision to continue that service for this summer for the benefit of the fishermen who need the service to deliver their fish to market?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs.

HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, to the Honourable Member for Rupertsland, there will be a service in place this summer. We presently have two types of proposals: one from

Northlands and one from Marine Transportation who are presenting proposals of their own and, in addition to that, they are presenting proposals considering leasing the Eggerwood vessel. I should mention — I believe the member raised it another time — that the opportunity be presented to the communities to operate the vessel themselves but no proposal has come forth in that regard yet.

MR. BOSTROM: Can the Minister state absolutely that the communities have been offered the opportunity to put forward proposals to that effect?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, I can't say, Mr. Speaker, exactly what verbiage passed between the government people that are talking to them but I know that there have been government people in talking to the people within the communities and they are aware of the varieties of ways that we're considering to provide that service, but to precisely say that they've been asked for a proposal or help to prepare a proposal, I can't answer that.

MR. BOSTROM: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Given that the latest information I've received is that the community leaders in those communities affected have not been approached by government, will the Minister undertake to have someone from his department approach the Chief in Bloodvein and the chairman of the local committee in Princess Harbour to ask them if they are interested and offer them the opportunity of presenting such a proposal to government in order that they may be able to have the same benefit as the private companies he named in making a proposal to the government?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, Mr. Speaker, I had thought that the local leaders had been contacted. I know that the president of the Northern Association Community Councils, Mr. Bennett, certainly has been talked to. I'll check and just see who's been talked to and assure you that the leaders in those communities will be consulted with.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Is his department investigating the identical bids by the two cement companies to the City of Winnipeg?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs.

HON. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon-West): Mr. Speaker, the matter to which the Member for Transcona refers is one that I believe has been referred to over the years and if my understanding is correct, this properly falls under the federal jurisdiction of the Combines Investigation Act and I presume, Mr. Speaker if there is any referral of this present identical bidding, that the same agency will be consulted.

MR. PARASIUK: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I'll try and read Hansard to get the exact answer provided by the Minister of Consumer Affairs in that the Member for Wolseley seems to be an expert on this subject as well. But I'd like to ask the Minister if he would investigate whether in fact any government departments or Crown agencies have received identical bids for the provision of cement from these two cement companies.

MR. MCGILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'd be prepared to make that investigation for the member.

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

MR. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS: My question is to the Minister of Health. Does not the Minister agree that if assignments are allowed that this will be the end of Medicare as we know it as well as practically inviting all doctors to opt out and certainly making the health cost a lot costlier for the people of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Well that's certainly one side of the debate, Mr. Speaker, and I can assure my honourable friend that I have concerns about assignment, but in the spirit of consultation with the medical profession, it happens to be a topic that is being explored and examined. It's by no means at a point where it's acceptable to me or to the government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health. Is the Minister giving favourable consideration to further fragmentation of social services for children on ethnic and racial grounds by setting up a special native child counselling service.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: No, Mr. Speaker, that would be something that the government would studiously wish to avoid. What we have suggested is that because of the number of child welfare cases being handled by the Children's Aid Society in Winnipeg and Children Aid Societies immediately adjacent to Winnipeg which involve Treaty Indian children, and because of the caseload and the category of difficulties and problems, that it's worthwhile exploring with the Children's Aid Society, the experts in the field and the native community, a concept of perhaps looking at an agency for native children and problems in that area. But once again, it's an exploratory subject.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Health not agree that it is much wiser to explore having these agencies staffed by people who can deal with the various problem children that they receive from all ethnic groups?

MR. SHERMAN: Well, that well may result from the study, Mr. Speaker. I don't expect to have firm answers on that topic much before mid-summer or early autumn and that well may be the result of the exploration.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, another question to the Minister of Health. Is the Minister correctly reported as saying that there is a crisis, there is no question there is a crisis in terms of available psychiatric beds — and I don't use the word crisis lightly — is the Minister correctly reported in saying that and also referring to the difficulties in dealing with it as the current financial difficulty? If so, I would like to ask the Minister whether the \$25 million in tax relief which has been given by the government to the rich people in this province would be able to deal with this crisis, if it was available to the government?

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would say, yes, I certainly was correctly quoted. And it's not the first time that I've referred to the need for psychiatric beds, particularly for adolescents, as a crisis.

The second part of the honourable member's question really relates to the overall subject matter that I was addressing in the whole field of mental health. I would say that part of the difficulty results from the kinds of problems that one encounters when one attempts — and he would know from his own experience as a Minister of the Crown — to free up certain facilities, to free up certain beds. I'm working as quickly as I can on that problem; it's not directly related to the financial situation of the province but there is no question that because of the financial situation of the province and the need to correct that problem and to get our accounts into shape as taxpayers, that we have to move on a priority basis, and there are a great many priorities competing for the available funds. The first thing I'd like to do would be to find some available beds in existing facilities.

MR. GREEN: Well, Mr. Speaker, would the Minister at least have greater discretion in dealing with priorities, if he had the \$25 million in tax relief to the rich that has been given out by this government, as a first priority?

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't accept the premise of the House Leader of the Opposition, that it's \$25 million given out to the rich. I think it is \$25 million that has been more productively directed to a healthy economy in Manitoba.

MR. GREEN: A final supplementary. Can the Minister advise me that this \$25 million, whose intention it is to assist our economy, has assisted him with these psychiatric care beds?

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

MR. SHERMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I'm not trying to foreclose the debate; I would be happy to debate it with my honourable friend and I am prepared to on my Estimates. I think this is hardly the place. I obviously don't agree with the perspective from which he approaches this question, nor he with mine, and I would look forward to a debate on the subject with him next week.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address a question to the Minister of Finance with regard to the question of employment. He advises us, and he is reported in today's newspaper, one of today's newspapers, that about a thousand jobs have been created under the new private sector Youth Employment Program, and he's also indicated that he's prepared to go further, further than the funds allocated. Can the Honourable Minister advise the House if the government has any particular plans to expand the program to take care of a bigger percentage of the approximately 15,000 young people unemployed? The 15,000 young people unemployed amount to 12.4 percent rate of unemployment. What, if any, plans does the government have to at least tackle that portion of the labour force where you have 12.4 percent unemployed?

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that that question has already been asked in this period. The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether that specific question has been asked, but I would point out that the Minister is on record as indicating that they would go beyond, and . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the Honourable Member for Brandon East that this is the question period. The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: My question is to the Minister of Health and Social Development. Could he inform the House whether the hiring freeze on home care staff has been lifted?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Community Services Division of my department has been working towards a 10 percent vacancy rate on the advice of the directorate that the services — that includes home care — could be maintained adequately and competently at that rate. I'm not sure what the present rate is, but certainly anything beyond the 10 percent comes into the category of refillable positions, Sir. So I would have to take the question in part as notice.

MR. PARASIUK: A supplementary to the Minister. If he's taking that one on notice, would he please look into the problem which has been raised with me with elderly constituents, that a couple of them have been — elderly patients have been prematurely discharged from hospitals on the assumption that home care services were available in their homes, and it's turned out that these home care services have not been immediately available when they were discharged from hospital, so will you look into that particular problem?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes, I will, Mr. Speaker. While I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to respond to a question asked of me on the 28th of April by the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet having to do with problems at the Lac du Bonnet Health Centre. The honourable member asked me whether they had been resolved and where we stood with respect to the dispute between the doctor and the board of that centre. The doctor in question, I am informed, has set up a private practice in Lac du Bonnet and Lac du Bonnet Health Centre patients who choose to remain with him can have their health records transferred to his office upon written consent to release their files. Some community members remain unhappy about the conflict, but I am advised, Mr. Speaker, that the community elected and/or appointed board feels that their actions in this situation were defensible and both sides describe the situation as stable. That's my information to date, Sir.

MR. SAMUEL USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for his reply. I wonder if the Minister would consider some intervention or further inquiry into the situation to determine whether or not the facility is able to function in the absence of a resident doctor within the centre itself?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes, I'll do that, Mr. Speaker.

MR. USKIW: Mr. Speaker, I wish to address this question to the Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation. Could the Minister indicate to the House whether there is going to be an additional amount or new employees added within the parks system during the summer period, or whether his staff complement of last year will be the total figure for this year?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Tourism.

HON. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye): Mr. Speaker, I think we'll deal with that in the Estimates, and I will be able to provide the member with the exact figures as far as the employment figures are concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Labour. In light of some very serious allegations made by the past director of the Workplace Health and Safety department that a minimum of 100,000 Manitoba workers will be adversely affected by unsafe and unhealthy working conditions during the next two decades, I would ask the Honourable Minister if she can verify the accuracy of those very ominous projections?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. NORMA L. PRICE (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the statement by the former director is not the gospel truth.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asking the Honourable Minister if she would undertake to investigate, or if she could at this time verify the accuracy of those statements, not whether or not they were the gospel truth.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister then be willing to perform a more simple task, perhaps, of undertaking to investigate Safety and Health Officer complaints that they are not presently receiving the necessary training to enable them to detect industrial hazards at the workplace?

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Speaker, we have a Safety Committee of Inquiry going on at present. They are just waiting for the members from Labour to tell us who their representative is going to be, and then our committee will start and we will be investigating all aspects of the mining and other safety.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Government House Leader.

HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Public Works, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MOTION presented .

MATTER OF GRIEVANCE

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my nearly nine years as a member of this Assembly this is the first time I have ever risen on a point of grievance or used the grievance procedure of this House. Mr. Speaker, I do so because of a veiled threat, and not very veiled at that. I read in today's Tribune: "The NDPs insistent questioning and allegations prompted Minister without Portfolio, Warner Jorgenson, the Government House Leader, to warn that he might invoke the Tories' majority to speed Mr. Cosen's spending Estimates."

Mr. Speaker, the section that deals with this part of closure in Estimates is in our House Rule 65(15), and if I might just quote from the Rule, Sir: (15) states that the Chairman of the Committee of Supply, or a section thereof, that could be a committee outside the House, "may receive a motion to the effect that the entire Estimates of the department of the government then under consideration, except the item thereof that deals with the Minister's Salary, be voted on within a set period on the motion; and upon receiving such a motion, the Chairman shall put the question on the motion without allowing any amendment thereto, or debate thereon, and if the motion is carried in committee, or the section thereof, and if on the expiration of the period set out in the motion, the entire Estimates of the department of government except the item thereof that deals with the Minister's Salary have not been voted on, he shall forthwith put all the remaining items of the Estimates of the department of government except the item thereof that deals with the Minister's Salary to a single vote, which shall end all further consideration on those items of the Estimates in the Committee of Supply or section thereof."

And (16), Sir, is much the same, the only thing it deals with the Minister's salary.

Now I look upon this, Sir, as a threat to the Parliamentary democracy here. I thank the Honourable Member for Lakeside for our opportunity to take part in these Estimates. If I might just give you a brief history, and this might be enlightening to some of the new members of this House, that when I first came to this Chamber, 90 hours were allowed for Estimates. At the end of 90 hours, there was an automatic closure rule, and it meant that departments that were not dealt with were voted on, page by page, practically. I spent six years as chairman of a Committee of Supply in this House, I operated under three different types of rules, and I can tell you that the present rule is the best rule. And I might also say that it was instituted at the behest of the then opposition the now Progressive Conservative Party government in this province. They were the ones that insisted upon the change. We went from 90 hours, Sir, for a one-year trial period, where we divided the departments into the number of hours, which was roughly 20 departments into 90, and if anybody saved any time — the opposition saved any time — they were able to take that time over and use it in another department.

The opposition of the day, the Progressive Conservative Party, felt that that was not right, so they went again to the Rules Committee on which they had representation, and the government of the day had representation, and the Liberal Party, and a new set of rules dealing with the Estimates and how they would proceed in this House was set up. That is the one we have in vogue at the present time, which means that every department is given equal opportunity for discussion in this House. Under the old system that I spoke of first, it was quite easy for certain departments never to see the light of day in Estimates in this House, and I look upon the threat by the Government House Leader of stifling the opposition and to intimidate us and upon his whim at any time he wants to invoke closure he can do so — he has the majority. And you have the horses over there to enforce that rule any time you wish.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Minister without Portfolio, the Member for Morris gets very excited because he seems to think that the opposition is just digging its heels in and not passing the Items of Supply. Well, I can tell you I spent many long hours down there with our Clerk of the House

and there were many times that we even thought that debate would ever finish, but never, never once, to the credit, will I say of our Government House Leader at that time, and now still our House Leader, the Member for Inkster, never once did he suggest or even intimate that he would invoke closure in this House. But no, the great rules expert of the other side, the great exponent of parliamentary democracy and freedom of speech, the Member for Morris, the Government House Leader, threatens, threatens we on this side of the House that if we don't shut up and pass the Estimates that he'll invoke 65(15) and 65(16). Well, I'm not going to . . . —(Interjection)— and I could tell you — well, the Honourable Minister for Lakeside may think it's a joke, and perhaps to him it is a joke, but I think everything in life to him is a joke. In fact I think he's a joke, as the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge said.

I feel that this threat to we, as members of the opposition — the hours were abolished — why were they abolished? They were abolished in order to give all members of this House, and that includes members of the other side, an opportunity to take a part in the spending Estimates of this House. And it was prompted mainly on the insistence of the now Government House Leader. He was the leading proponent of the members of the Conservative Party on the Rules Committee. And you know, when the Government House Leader gets so excited — I might just say that since we have combined two departments — last year we had a Department of Education and a Department of Continuing Education; this year we have all the spending Estimates in education under one department. You have got a new set of dealing with Estimates. You have squirreled away money from one department over to another, as I found out the other day asking the Minister of Education of Capital Supply that originally had been in the Department of Education, and I now find it is — lo and behold, where is it — I haven't an opportunity to go over there and ask — with the Department of Public Works, the Honourable Minister for Lakeside — he has the money. Well, I'd like to find out if that money that was squirreled away from the Red River Community College, and Assiniboine and Keewatin Colleges, is there, and I'm going to make it my business before that Committee finishes to find out if that money is there.

But how much time have we spent in Education so far, Sir? Up to last night we had spent 30 hours and 25 minutes in Education. Last year we spent 28 hours, 55 minutes in the Department of Education, 10 hours and 5 minutes in the Department of Continuing Education, for a total of 39 hours. We are approximately 8 hours and 55 minutes still less than what took place last year, and if you don't think that the Minister of Education was not getting upset and hoping to get through his Estimates, he was last year. I mean I can understand Ministers, threatens the members on this side of the House if they do not toe the line according to his whim that he will invoke closure.

MR. PARASIUK: He doesn't have anything else to do.

MR. JENKINS: Perhaps he has nothing else to do but sit and count the hours and twiddle his thumbs. I don't know. But he certainly has set the tenure for future debate in Estimates in this House by the very threat that he's going to invoke closure. If he thought that was going to get cooperation from members on this side of the House well then I can assure him that he's very sadly mistaken, and that under every department he's going to have to invoke closure. If that's the way he's going to operate in this House — that we will do as he says we shall do — I will allot you so much time, and when I figure you've used up what he thinks is the proper time, then he will invoke closure on us — if he thinks that's the way he's going to get harmony between this side of the House and that side of the House then he is sadly mistaken — sadly mistaken.

And I know that I might be accused of just reading in the newspaper something that he might have said, but I checked with the Honourable Member for Burrows and he confirms that the Government House Leader did make this threat to invoke closure. And I find it ludicrous that the Member for Morris, who, as I said before, is a great proponent of parliamentary democracy in this House, should be the one that would threaten us with closure. It could be the Minister of Education, I could understand that or any of the other ones, maybe in frustration, but the Government House Leader, the one who was very instrumental in the drawing up and passing — and I might say, Sir, that these new House rules, they ran for a one session term, there were slight adjustments made and then were voted on and unanimously passed. No one in this House, on either side of the House, stated that they felt that the rules as they now stand should not carry on, especially those dealing with the Spending Estimates. I think that they have worked well; I think they've worked very well. I can say that when we were the government, we thought that they worked well. I heard the members of the Conservative Party, the opposition of the day, say that they thought they worked well but, you see, they were over on this side of the House then, Sir, but they're now over on that side of the House and they don't like to give us the opportunity to dig for information that we require.

It is doubly difficult this year, Sir, because the Estimates have been changed, they have been changed radically from what was in vogue before. When we find that we have to dig and dig deeper to find the information, of course that takes time. Next year when the Estimates come in and if they're in the present form — I hope they will be — who knows? They might even change them again and we'll be again in a quandry that we are at the present time.

But to accuse the opposition of just stalling and, you know, I think what has really upset the Government House Leader is the fact of the length of time that we have spent on the resolution Universities Grants Commission and that's some \$89 million, \$90 million with one line. It sounds very nice. Well, why should you spend so much time on one item? But that's a big item and it's a very big item and a big item of money. The lack of information that members on this side of the House

received from the Minister of Education led to the extra time.

For the Minister of Education to say, as he said yesterday, that he was not going to control the universities, well he certainly does control the universities because I believe it was the Member for Churchill said that he who pays the piper calls the tune. By setting forth how much money that the Department of Education, through its Universities Grants Commission, is going to give to the universities certainly limits their programs, whether they can be expanded or whether they have to cut back. The Member for Churchill, I think yesterday did an excellent job as a Member of the Opposition, this was dealing with the Inter-Universities North which appears nowhere else in the Estimates. This is the only place that he could debate it and find out the answers. I'll say one thing that he did ferret out of the Minister of Education that if the item was cut next year by the Universities Grants Commission, that he gave his word — and it will be very interesting to see next year if he keeps it and I expect him to as a fellow member of this House and a gentleman — he's given his word that if the Universities Grants Commission cuts the Inter-Universities North, that he will make sure that funds are available. Mind you, he didn't say how big funds would be available but that is something we'll have to fight with him about next year.

So, in speaking to the grievance that I believe is before the House — and it's a grievance that I think that is definitely within the the House's will to carry out — I implore the Minister without Portfolio and ask him to reconsider this threat that he has made, tries to intimidate members on this side of the House that either we will pass the Estimates or he will introduce a Motion in Supply. Incidentally, Sir, in Supply, I wouldn't have any opportunity to debate this because the Motion, once introduced in the Committee of Supply — as I read to you before — the Chairman will accept the Motion and he will put the question on that same Motion without allowing any amendment thereto. The Minister without Portfolio might say, "Well, I'm going to give you an hour. One hour from now I move that the question be put." This is always an opportunity. He might give us ten minutes, who knows what whim of fancy may strike him at the time?

It also says that the Chairman, the Honourable Member for Radisson I imagine will be in the Chair at the time, and a good Chairman I might add, but he would have no option but to accept the Motion, call for the question on the Motion and it would be put and we couldn't even debate. That's why I'm up now making my pitch because this is the only opportunity, Sir, that I would have to debate going into closure. There's no opportunity for me in our House rules or any opportunity for any member on this side of the House, or even a member on that side of the House who wishes to oppose it and even to debate it. The question has to be put forthwith which means Ayes and Nays and if we ask for a standing vote, then we call in the members. But that's the way it operates. So I have no opportunity; neither does any other member of this House have any opportunity in which to debate what I think is a very dangerous precedent that is going to be set.

In all the years that I sat down there and operated under three sets of rules and I must say that I think that the rules that we have adopted here — and I believe we've been . . . the Clerk would probably be one who could correct me if I'm wrong, he can shake his head or nod his head, I think it's about four years that we've had this in operation. Something like that, four years? Fairly close, somewhere. I think it has worked because there has been a spirit of co-operation between the government and the opposition. I don't feel that by threatening members on this side of the House that, "Either you are going to pass the Estimates within a certain length of time or I'm going to invoke closure upon you," certainly will not work for an harmonious relationship between this side of the House and that side of the House. So I would say to the Honourable Member for Morris, the Government House Leader, think very carefully before you even contemplate introducing such a motion when we get into Supply. How much time have I got, Mr. Speaker?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The honourable member has — you started speaking at 3:23; you still have a lot of time, sir.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you. That's good, very good. I thank the Honourable Speaker. Maybe the Honourable Speaker's mathematics is not too good today. —(Interjection)— I don't have to use all the time, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to know whereabouts I was in time because I don't want you to jump up, if I only had about a minute or two to go, and stop me.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would say that . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A few minutes after four your time is up, sir, at 4:03.

MR. JENKINS: He tells me I have till three minutes after 4:00. I don't believe I'm going to go that long, Mr. Speaker, for the simple reason, I think, that I have given notice on this side, from members on this side of the House, how we feel on the threat to our right to investigate under the Supply motion, whatever department may be before the Committee at that time. And I think that we should be given the opportunity to examine these Estimates. It's a lot of money that's being spent and the government is always talking about restraint; well, perhaps they're carrying restraint a little too far. They want to even restrain the time that we speak in this House. They're going to introduce a new method of restraint, cut down the amount of words and time that the opposition is going to have to investigate the spending Estimates — well, the hiding of money that they do from one department to the other, so we get an overlap, we don't know really what Minister we should go after. We had a good example of that a week ago Friday when we were unable to get answers from the Minister of Education dealing with the Dental Nurse Program. Just by luck and chance we did have the Minister

of Health in here, but here you have an overlapping from one department to the other. We certainly were not getting any answers from the Minister of Education; I don't know whether he was stonewalling or what. I don't accuse him of that, but I can assure you that he certainly was making no attempt to even say that he was going to try and find out what was operating. It was only when we got up in this House and threatened to keep him here for a long time the Minister of Health, who happened to be in the House, jumped up and started to take part in the debate.

Well, we don't have that neat feature, because still part of the Estimates of the Department of Education are in another committee, and that's the ones I was telling you about, which are Capital that are over in the Department of Public Works. So I asked the Minister of Education here, and lo and behold I've got to get on roller skates, run down to Room 254 and ask the Minister of Public Works if the \$1,899,000 for Red River Community College in Capital Supply is in his department. I haven't had that opportunity yet, but sometime before his Salary is passed, I'll be down there to ask him about that, and Keewatin College and Assiniboine College. It's a sum of money approaching, I think, roughly in the vicinity of \$4 million.

So, as I said, Mr. Speaker, before, this threat by the Government House Leader to curtail debate in this House is not only undemocratic but it's a threat by the Conservative majority, and you have the majority over there, to curtail debate on the spending Supply of the Province of Manitoba which are in excess of \$1 billion.

If you don't want to discuss the Estimates, you can introduce this motion as soon as you go into every department, and they'll give you one hour, two hours, whatever the case may be. And it'll be on your heads, and it'll be on your conscience, and if that is the way that you want to operate in this House, then I must say that any respect that I had for members opposite will certainly take one hell of a drop. —(Interjection)— You know, as we are members in this House, and we have different political philosophies, that is part and parcel of the whole system of parliament. But I look upon all members of this House as honourable gentlemen and ladies — lady, I should say, because there's only one, and that's unfortunate, there should be more ladies in this House — but I've always looked upon members of the opposition as friends of mine. We may differ politically but if you're going to come in and force closure on this House then I'm going to have to reconsider very seriously my friendship with some of the members on the other side of this House. Because if that is your idea of democracy then I say your idea of democracy and mine are certainly miles and poles apart. —(Interjection)— And all I can say, Sir, is to the Minister Without Portfolio, I beg you and implore you, do not invoke this rule, because I can assure you, if you do you're going to have a battle all the rest of the spending Estimates of this Legislative Assembly.

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

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

SUPPLY — PUBLIC WORKS

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Warren Steen: Committee come to order. We have a quorum. To the Members of the Committee, we're on Page 72 of the Estimate Book, Item 6. Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets. 6.(a)—pass — the Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, there are about a dozen projects here that I would like to question the Minister on. Perhaps he could start with one that I've had a note on — I'd just like sort of a current update — that is the Brandon Indian Residential School. Could he inform us where that project is? We were negotiating with the Federal Government, could he tell us where that project is at in terms of Acquisition and Renovations?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister. 8HON. HARRY E. ENNS (Lakeside): Mr. Chairman, that project is not being proceeded with at this time. It is on the deferred list.

MR. DOERN: Well, then I would like to turn to some of the major projects. I don't think I'm going to get any more information out of the Minister at this time on the garage. He has indicated that he is looking at a number of options and hopes to make a decision soon. I would like to know about the Environmental Lab. I received an impression the other day from the Minister that construction was going to proceed. Now, can he inform us what is going to happen in terms of the Environmental Lab? How much money has been spent so far? I believe the first phase of construction has been completed, the foundations are in, the first floor, what happens now?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member is aware that the time of the temporary freezing of that project in this particular instance a substantial amount of work had been completed, that is the foundation work principally was in place; some additional concrete work was in place. Staff will

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

provide me perhaps with some updating of figures as to dollars currently in the project, but I can perhaps circumvent a lengthy discussion on this matter by suggesting that the original plans for the lab totalling some \$4 million, which possibly is exclusive of land assembly or land costs, had been allocated for the completion of this major construction project.

MR. DOERN: So, my figures are considerably higher than the Minister's, more in the order of \$7 or \$8 million for the complete project.

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think what these figures reflect is the department's best estimate on the dollars to be spent this year on the project. There could be additional moneys involved in terms of the land assely that could bring those figures to some greater degree of harmony. My understanding of the project also is that it is of the order of 6.something million dollars, all inclusive. What the figure represents here is the amount of dollars that is being asked for for this project out of this year's money supply.

MR. DOERN: So, at present, there has been a couple of million dollars spent on land assembly, architect's fees and the first phase of construction.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the indulgence of the Committee to allow me to take that question as notice. Staff is attempting to arrive at the precise figures to indicate exactly how many dollars are currently in the project. I would suspect it's substantial, namely land and the basic foundation work that is in place.

MR. DOERN: Could the Minister indicate when he will start the second phase of construction, the superstructure. He's completed the sub-structure a number of months ago; when will they commence the superstructure?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, we're in the process of preparing tenders. The tenders are not out as yet, I understand, but will be within the next. . . The request for approval to go to tender is currently before Management Committee, and inasmuch as the project otherwise has had most of the detail work ironed out, and there are no changes being contemplated in terms of redesign, or any change in the structure, we don't anticipate any delay in getting the tenders out to proceed with the superstructure work.

MR. DOERN: Well, I would just say that I am pleased that the Minister is proceeding on that particular project which I think is needed and will enable several government departments to do their work properly, and also to eliminate the lab that's in the Norquay Building which should have been taken out of there perhaps some time ago.

Could the Minister bring us up to date on one project that is not dear to his heart but should be, and that is the proposed MPIC-MVB Building? Now I would like to just mention that our understanding was that his department, the MVB, is probably the most crowded department — just about the worst example we can give in terms of government sardines — and that the ability of the people to work properly out on Portage Avenue has been seriously limited at 1075 Portage because of this. Also, of course, we're renting space for MPIC, and MPIC is making money, so I know from our discussion with MPIC that they would have been more than happy to have built their own building, that they felt that they had the justification and that they also had the money available to undertake a project of this kind. The Minister is now leasing some 40,000 square feet in the Bank of Montreal Building at \$10.50 a square foot and that lease has been extended. It would have seemed that this project should have gone forward but yet the impression is that the project has been killed. Could the Minister bring us up to date on the fate of this project?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, the honourable member is correct when he indicates that the leases of current space which is reasonably adequately serving the requirements of MPIC have been extended. I have asked the Corporation to, in their renewal of leases which took place just on or about the time the government changed, I believe they expired either on October 1st or October 31st or something in that area and were in negotiation at the time that I assumed responsibility for the department, to have their leases in the several different spaces that they occupy to be coterminus with an expiry date of October/November of 1981. There have been no further plans for building with respect to MPIC undertaken by the government; there's been no further work done other than the cleaning up of the already in action land assembly that was involved. The status of that is not totally complete yet. Some properties are in the process of expropriation at this time — they are all expropriated I'm advised but they have not been finalized in terms of final payments.

MR. DOERN: Well, is the Minister telling me that the project is still alive in the sense that the option is there to proceed or not to proceed, that he has not in fact killed the project, that he is in fact considering proceeding?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I'm considering many things that are of a higher priority rating and listing on my desk these days. Physically speaking, nothing has been done to foreclose on any options with respect to building some time in the future. Land acquisition is in the process of being

completed. We have some pretty valuable property close to \$1 million worth — \$935,000 worth — of property consisting of seven individual properties. Negotiations with the city are under way to acquire closure of lanes and streets that are involved. That is all in position and nothing has been done either by way of disposition or by change of a direction in the land assembly but I want to leave the committee with a very clear impression that I consider the project shelved.

MR. DOERN: You consider it shelved. Can you tell me at what stage the architects are on the project? For instance, were they half-way through the working drawings? How much money, for instance, was spent on architectural fees to the point where the Minister stopped the architects and at what stage were they in the working drawings? I assume they were somewhere in the midst.

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, in the two phases of the project, the foundation work as such which was essentially completed in terms of working drawings; in terms of the Phase II, the actual office structure itself, working drawings were completed to the stage of between 60 percent and 70 percent.

MR. DOERN: Sixty percent and 70 percent of the working drawings.

MR. ENNS: Pardon?

MR. DOERN: Sixty percent to 70 percent of the working drawings, not the total drawings but the working drawing phase.

MR. ENNS: No, just the working drawings. The honourable member may understand better that term than I do. Working drawings, I assume, is a technical term for a specific kind of work.

MR. DOERN: Right, right. In other words, these are the drawings that the contractor uses to follow. Were the architects instructed to complete the working drawings or have they just been told to stop?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I believe that all further work and calling for expenditures of money on the project were stopped.

MR. DOERN: Okay, another project. The Provincial Courts Building as it is called or sometimes called Magistrates Court Building and so on, and so on. There is an apparent long term need, non-term requirement here for additional courts and adjacent facilities and the Woodsworth Building was part of the plan, part of a longer range plan to take some of the pressure off the Law Courts. Part of the functions that were formerly in the Law Courts were transferred to the Woodsworth Building and the beautiful, or ugly, overpass — depending on your aesthetic sense — connecting the two buildings was for the purpose of easy access between the two buildings. In fact, the Woodsworth Building at one time, I guess, was called or considered to be called the Justice Building because of the fact that it would be primarily for the function of the Attorney-General's Department but there's a number of components here to see. One was the Woodsworth Building; one is a renovation of the existing Law Courts and one is the new Provincial Courts Building. One of the reasons for this, of course, is that there is such a backlog of cases that has been going on now for years that it takes months and months and months to get cases brought before the Bench. There was an article yesterday in the paper about Greg Brodsky of the Trial Lawyers' Association claiming that if the Honourable Ron Basford's new legislation is passed by parliament, he says it's going to increase the cases in the courts by tenfold. I don't know how accurate that is but certainly we know that there has been a tremendous backlog and that if the Federal Government passes new legislation, that workload will become even greater. So I'm saying, there's this long standing requirement here, and this thing has been talked about since God knows when. I have a memorandum here from 1968 signed by the Attorney-General, the Honourable Sterling Lyon, or let's say it was addressed to him — remember him? — and the Honourable Stewart MacLean, Minister of Public Works.

MR. ENNS: Is his middle name Rufus?

MR. DOERN: Yes, one and the same.

MR. ENNS: That's the same fellow, then.

MR. DOERN: I'm saying that back in 1968, and I'm sure long before then, from there was this memorandum from John Graham, an architect, and from Sam Sims too. There was the Honourable Stewart MacLean, Minister of Public Works, the Honourable Attorney-General Sterling Lyon saying: When are we getting on with the job of the new provincial Courts Building? Well, that administration has come and gone; the Weir administration — well that was the Weir administration — and it didn't happen in the Roblin administration, it didn't happen in the Schreyer administration. Now we're into another government. Can the Minister tell us what's going to happen to that project?

MR. ENNS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I again want to make it clear which I have attempted to do throughout the discussion on these estimates, that when it becomes the urgent and pressing priority of the Minister directly charged with the responsibility of administering justice, namely the Attorney-

General's department, then it will become my urgent concern and desire to meet that responsibility. In other words, the client department, in this case the AG's office, has to initiate the start-up or the deferment or whatever of that project.

We have undertaken certain studies with respect to possible sites in land assembly, but we in the Department of Public Works are not initiating further action on this matter at this time pending the advice and direction and consent by Cabinet to the Attorney-General's request for us to proceed. Now I can indicate to the honourable member, because he will remind me that I sit around the same Cabinet table with the Attorney-General, that the project maintains a very high rating of priorities within the Attorney-General's department and it would be my estimate that when the government feels that the cash flow situation is somewhat easier, that the project may well proceed at that time.

MR. DOERN: Well, that's my question, Mr. Chairman. It's the case of the chicken or the egg. Is the Attorney-General not pressing because he has been told there are no funds available, or is he not pressing for the project in that he doesn't believe in its significance, and therefore no funds have been allocated?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, I don't expect the Attorney-General to press for moneys for me to build the highways; I consider that my responsibility, and I consider it's the Attorney-General's department's responsibility to press for the necessary government action to do whatever he wants to do. So things haven't changed much from his day in government to our day in government.

MR. DOERN: No, but if he had pressed, would the money have been made available or did he not press because he was told there was no money available?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, that question can't be answered by me; that question properly is asked of the Attorney-General.

MR. DOERN: Can the Minister then tell us what's happening in terms of land acquisition? We were I believe on the verge of completing all the necessary expropriations and arrangements for the site acquisition. Has that now been completed?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, negotiations are going on with some seven privately owned parcels that are involved in this Assembly; in addition there is of course some vacant and improved land owned by the City of Winnipeg, and apart from the public lane involved, negotiations are taking place with the properties involved. I can name them, if the honourable member wishes identification of them, but I don't think it serves any purpose to.

MR. DOERN: So the total site will be acquired, or has been acquired?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, it is in front of Management Committee for permission to proceed and we have not received any direction from Management Committee as to their intentions. I would suggest that it hinges partly with the overall decision as to the Attorney-General's success, or lack of success, to press or plead his case.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I would then ask the status of the renovations of the Law Courts. You know, there have been complaints again for at least a dozen years, if not longer. I am sure the Attorney-General is aware of poor air control, poor lighting, poor acoustics, inadequate facilities, inadequate courtrooms and change rooms, and everything else. We dealt with the judges, and let me tell you, I don't think there's a more difficult client ever than a group of judges coming to meet with the Minister of the Crown. I will leave it at that. They suggested what they thought was a necessary renovation of the existing Law Courts and we put some price tags on that; figures ranged I believe up to seven and a half million and beyond. We also talked of completely new buildings to replace the existing Law Courts, so we were confronted with a whole series of alternatives and our government decided to go for one of the lower levels of renovations, about half or less, maybe 40 percent of what the judges were looking at, and we approved the initial phases of that program. So can the Minister tell me — I say this largely for his benefit, because when he starts getting involved in meetings with the top judicial people in the province he will then have been forewarned, and the same will happen to the Attorney-General, the two of you will be put through the wringer — so I am saying, what are you doing in the existing Law Courts? What has been spent and what are you doing now?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, let me indicate to the Honourable Meer for Elmwood, the judges' disposition to anything being done or not being done hasn't changed much from his time to my time. If a workman bangs away at some renovation, the Premier and other Cabinet Ministers receive calls asking them to stop interfering with their judicial process.

MR. DOERN: Don't you have rubber mallets?

MR. ENNS: We are investigating the possibility of using rubber mallets. the situation that we're proceeding with there are minimal renovations, the installation of two elevators, necessary work associated with that, and that is all at the present time, part of the reason being, is that it

hinges on the overall question of the future new law courts facilities — new judges' courts facilities — and to what extent the renovative work ought to be carried out in the present facilities, and that's where the matter stands. Again I say, Mr. Chairman, we act in this instance on behalf of the Attorney-General's Department. It is essentially the Attorney-General's responsibility to indicate to Public Works at any time, what level of work to proceed with.

MR. DOERN: So then my impression is that the Minister is not being pressed by the Attorney-General in terms of the new provincial court building and the existing law courts.

MR. ENNS: The Attorney-General is just too nice a fellow to ever press this beleaguered and burdened Minister of Public Works.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, when he starts getting pressed, he will start pressing somebody else, because that is about to happen. I will just leave that for the moment. My colleague . . .

MR. ENNS: The member may wish for his information, the renovative process that is taking place is of the order of \$300,000 to \$350,000.00.

MR. DOERN: My colleague wanted to discuss The Pas jail and court house, so perhaps he may do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for The Pas.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Chairman, the Minister asked me to wait until his Estimates before he answered some questions I had had. I wonder if any decision has been taken yet by the government in terms of the court house and jail facilities that were supposed to be constructed at The Pas?

MR. ENNS: Mr. Chairman, earlier on in the consideration for some of these major projects, the question certainly included among them is the upwards to \$5 million, I believe, in general figures that was allocated for this project in The Pas. Both the Attorney-General and I, for different reasons, have the project listed very high among our priorities of projects necessary to undertake. We are not totally convinced that the plans that have been made for the court house facility need to be as lavish as they are, and there has been some preliminary discussion with the contractor for some redesign — some modifying of design. There has also been a search made as to whether or not this project can proceed with the most urgent pressing matter, that is the actual facility that houses the prospective inmates. We recognize the temporary situation that we are operating out of in The Pas, and also the difficulties that we have with the compliance with the Manitoba Fire Code and the general unsatisfactory situation that currently is there. It's my hope that this will be one of the projects that can be and will be proceeded with once these considerations have taken place.

MR. McBRYDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a few comments on that. I think the Minister is probably aware by now that there was an old building there that was constructed in The Pas many years ago which performed as a court house, and then as a jail. The jail part of this facility was upstairs. The building was condemned by the Fire Commissioner's Office as an unsafe facility. At the same time people were locked in the second story in a building that was a serious fire hazard, and so action had to be taken. I won't go into all the details of getting the support of the Minister responsible for the Fire Commissioner's Office, etc. to push for this matter but obviously the same kind of push isn't taking place at this time with the present Attorney-General and the present Minister of Public Works. But after it became absolutely essential to move those people out of a second-story fire hazard, temporary facilities were put in trailer units at The Pas. There was special co-operation between the Town of The Pas to allow those temporary trailer units going in, but they would only do so on a firm understanding that construction would begin on the jail facilities.

After the election, the community contacted the various Ministers concerned; the Minister of Health and Social Development wrote to them saying that the project had been cancelled, and questioning him in the House, he said the project had not been cancelled, no decision had been made. Then he had to check and find out he was wrong.

The MLA for Swan River announced in the community of Swan River, that the project had been cancelled, and yet no one officially informed the MLA for The Pas or the Town of The Pas or those who were vitally concerned with the project itself, and I think that's a clear example of bungling administration, when people don't know what letters they have sent and they have MLAs announcing certain things. —(Interjection)—

MR. ENNS: I don't want to listen to this any more.

MR. McBRYDE: Let the record show that the Minister said he didn't want to listen to this any further.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It's 4:30 p.m. and in accordance with Rule 19(2), the hour of 4:30 having arrived, I am interrupting the proceedings of the Committee for Private Members' Hour, and will return at 8:00 p.m.

The Member for The Pas will be, at that time, permitted to continue onward.

SUPPLY — EDUCATION

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. A. Kovnats (Radisson): I would direct the honourable members to Page 28 under the Department of Education, Clause 6, Universities Grants Commission, Resolution No. 46. Clause 6—pass — the Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, after the roundabout discussion that we had yesterday and last evening on Inter-Universities North, I still believe that there are a few questions that are left unanswered and I think we might best go about getting the answers to those by a short summation of the Inter-Universities North program, because for my own particular self I feel that the concern in this department is a concern for the continuation of that program. In 1969, Mr. Chairman, in response to a need for educational university credit courses north of the 53rd parallel, the School District of Mystery Lake, along with the University of Winnipeg, set forth to develop a program to provide northerners with those credit courses. The school board at that time guaranteed \$1,000 for the presentation of the program and provided the instructor and the support necessary to hold the program in Thompson. That year 40 students took a course in Introductory Psychology in Thompson, the first advance of university credit courses into the north.

In 1970, the 1970-71 school year, that program was enlarged to six courses held in three communities, Thompson, Churchill and Cranberry Portage. In that year, Mr. Chairman, 197 students partook of the opportunity to advance their university education through that course, and instructors from the University of Winnipeg were called into play to provide the necessary instructional levels.

In the academic year of 1971-72 this program officially became what we are discussing today, the Inter-Universities North Program, in which all three universities, the University of Winnipeg, Brandon, and Manitoba, participated. The program was then funded by special grants, plus tuition fees. Also in that year we see the start of local contact people in the various communities, a northern co-ordinator for the program who at that time was based in the south. There were 11 courses in a total of six communities; Flin Flon, Lynn Lake and The Pas being added to the list that year, and 251 students taking the course. What we're seeing here is some fairly rapid growth in response to the opportunity to take those academic courses to fulfill the need. And at this time, most of the participants, Mr. Chairman, were teachers trying to further their own academic qualifications for both monetary and personal reasons.

In 1972 and 1973 we see the Universities Grants Commission enter the picture with funding for the Inter-Universities North Program. We see 15 courses in six communities and a total of 328 students, Mr. Chairman. Again, this rapid growth is increasing.

In 1973-74 we see 16½ courses, 371 students, and we see the program expanded to eight communities in total with the addition of courses in Snow Lake and Gillam.

The next year, Sir, 1974-75, there was a director appointed to head up the Inter-Universities North Program. This director for that year worked in the south. There was also a 8 northern co-ordinator brought into the picture at this time who was based in Thompson, and it was the start of putting some community co-ordinators in the various communities that were served by this program, to better enable it to meet and reflect the needs of those communities. There were 19½ courses that year, Sir, 437 students, and Leaf Rapids was added as a community that was being serviced by this program.

In 1975-76, the director, who had been based in the south the previous year, moved to the north and the southern office closed in the fall of 1976, and a central Inter-Universities North office was opened in Thompson in 1977. We see this program now, Sir, becoming a northern based program, in response to 8 northern needs. We see the transition of a program that was initiated in the 8 south, while in response to the needs of northerners was directed from the south, progressing into a program that was directed from the north by northerners with 8 northerners having the main impact and input into the program.

In 1975-76, there were 25 courses — it's growing again — 11 communities, with the addition of Garden Hill, I believe. And that, Sir, would be the first native traditional community, remote community, that would be serviced by it. I believe the course was Native Education, although I could stand corrected on that. And there were 620 students; again, a substantial growth.

In 1976-77 year, Mr. Chairman, we saw a levelling off of the program in response to acceptance of the program in one community, and the communities served was reduced to the number 10.

But we see again an increase in the number of students in those 10 communities and in the number of courses; we see 23½ courses and 644 students. In the 1977-78 year again, Sir, we see those same 10 communities served with 27 courses and again a levelling off of students to the number 547. So we see the program enjoying rapid growth in the first few years as people respond to the availability of educational programs in the north and we see it towards the end, in the last few years start to stabilize at what we must consider to be the optimum level for it — the most number of students deriving the most benefit.

What I've tried to portray by that brief summary is a growing and evolving educational program which has been servicing areas of the province neglected and in the case of industrial communities neglected academically for decades. In the communities, traditional communities, traditional native communities, it's servicing parts of the province that have been neglected for centuries. It's a proven,

and it's a viable program, Mr. Chairman. The figures bespeak of the viability of the Inter-Universities North Program, a program that was, to use their words, designed to provide university credit courses north of the 53rd parallel and, indeed, that's exactly what it was doing.

And over those years, those eight-nine years that it had been a functioning program in the north, Mr. Chairman, the originators and the funders of this program sure have tried to come forth with a format that best served the needs of northerners and I'd like to explain how that was done — how that format was brought about, or what the format in specific was.

The courses, and I'm quoting now from the Inter-Universities North calendar, 1976-77 calendar, I believe — 1977-78, excuse me, it said, "Courses offered are a direct response to the stated needs of the communities in which they are offered." In other words it's no longer a program that's originating from the south and being directed from the south, but it's a program that is trying to directly respond to the needs of northerners as indicated by northerners. And they did that through a format of community co-ordinators, and community contacts who would be in the various northern communities and would be responsible for the proper function of the Inter-Universities North Program in that community. And in November of each year there'd be a public meeting held in each community where they expected to have an Inter-Universities North course, and at that community meeting the residents that were interested in the Inter-Universities North program would select the courses which they thought would have a wide local appeal for that specific community. In other words they were the ones that were originating the course selection in November of each year.

Those selections that they made, which were far-ranging at that time, were incorporated into a survey form by the Inter-Universities North committee, I believe. That survey was widely distributed in January of each year. That would go out to most residents in the community so that they would have the opportunity to learn of the program if they did not know of it — perhaps they were new residents — and they would also have the opportunity to make their voice heard in what courses should be held in their own community.

Then, after these surveys were brought back and compiled, the offerings of the courses offered would be chosen on the basis of the polled recommendations from the residents of the communities. Then the members of the Inter-Universities North committee would go north, I understand, and they would visit the communities and they would discuss the different courses that had come about, being chosen through the first public meeting in November, then the survey in January. They would discuss it with the residents and the community contacts in the communities and they would devise a proper format for that specific course.

So all the time, Sir, you see a course that is evolving to meet stated needs of northerners as stated by northerners, a course that is in direct response to what the people in the north feel they need; not what the people in the south feel northerners might need. If the number of registrations in that course is any indication of the success of that course, then I think we'd have to conclude that the course is highly successful, because the number of registrations has grown by leaps and bounds for seven or eight years until it's reached a levelling off point which it seems to have now. If the protests of the cutbacks or the elimination of that program, the Inter-Universities Program, is any indication of need for that program, Sir, then we have to assume that it is highly needed, highly accepted, and highly regarded by the participants and the residents of the north. The program was still growing and evolving up to this year. It had made several innovations in the 1976-77 year. For the first time auditing was allowed at half fee for people who didn't want the credit but wanted to audit the course. Senior citizen auditing for a fee of \$2.00, and in my own constituency, Sir, that is probably not as important as it would be in a community like Thompson, or Flin Flon, or The Pas where you have primarily an older population than many of the towns, but indeed it was important to those communities.

There was a three-year Business Administration Certificate Course, a new type of innovative way of dealing with the needs of Flin Flon, offered at Flin Flon for that year, and there was also a restructuring of the Inter-Universities North Program in response to certain needs that the committee had perceived to make the program even more viable and even more responsive.

The Committee, the Inter-Universities North Committee, states its objectives in the Inter-Universities North Annual Report 1976-1977 — that's the last Annual Report that I have at my disposal, and they say, "Guidelines for establishing a priority in course offerings in 1977-78." They say, "The quality of service instructional and administrative be maintained." That was No. 1 — that was their first guideline.

No. 2, that all communities presenting reasonable requests for courses be allocated at least one course and they explain that further by saying, "IUN has a mandate to serve the north, not just the larger centres of the north." And I think that it was a good move, Sir, to move into the traditional communities, such as Garden Hill, one that has been caught short by the budgetary restraint imposed upon the Universities Grants Commission by this government, and I think that we may see many years now before we see that sort of re-initiation of courses into traditional communities where they have been neglected not for decades but for centuries.

No. 3 was that courses with appeal to only one segment of the community would have lower priority than courses which appealed to several segments. I think that's just an obvious recommendation and we can agree with it if you want to. You do have a limited budget at all times, Sir, and you would want to allocate your expenses as best you could to meet the needs of the most number of people that you could in any community.

The needs of individual students who require specific courses for completion at the DREE programs be given what consideration is possible. I think, Sir, that that recommendation is obviously

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

directed towards perhaps teachers who would need courses to upgrade their own academic qualifications and in that sense is probably a fair recommendation seeing that 40-some-odd percent of the participants of the Inter-Universities North Program was teachers and who want. . . Speaking about that, Sir, I'd just like to point out that in the beginning some 70-some-odd percent of participants were teachers, and that had gone down, which showed that the program which initially was directed towards one segment of the society was broadening out its base and was being utilized by all segments of the society.

They had certain criteria as to where a course would go and what course would go in what area. They said the number of years IUN has been serving a community would be a certain criteria. The clientele being served — they would look at the clientele being served and decide what communities would be served. The geographic distribution of the program — the geographic distribution of the program brings to mind an example of how well accepted this program was in the north. There was a course, Outdoor Education, I believe, given in Leaf Rapids this past academic year, and they had — it was the only outdoor education course given in the north through Inter-Universities North Program — and they would have people who would drive up to Leaf Rapids over gravel roads for the most part, — make a 132-mile drive to attend this course every two weeks — to attend two hours of outdoor education at Leaf Rapids, and then after the course drive back down to Thompson at their own expense. They were not being paid transportation or per diem. It was their own expense because they wanted to take that course. This is how InterUniversities North has been accepted and utilized in the north.

So what we have is we have a situation now that confronts the Minister and the new government when they took office in October of last year, a situation where we have a growing and viable program that seems to have levelled off, that seems to have been utilized and accepted by northerners without exception. But we have here a government that does not have, or does not appear to have — let me put it that way, Mr. Chairman, because time will tell for sure — but we have here a goVernment that does not appear to have the same dedication to the north as the previous government did. Historically they haven't, Sir, and I would suggest that by their actions today they have proven that they still do not have that same dedication. We have a government hell-bent for restraint, Mr. Chairman, and a government, not only with tunnelvision, as has been suggested by many of my colleagues, but with dyslexia, a vision problem where they see everything backwards, where they want to keep marching off into the past.

So coincidentally, along with Focus and Extension Services, two other northern education programs which we'll come to in the Estimates of Education and Northern Affairs, the InterUniversities North Program is cut. And I say coincidentally, because everybody tells me that this did not happen because of any interference or any suggestion by the government to the Universities Grants Commission, that they just . . . After nine years of a program that was obviously successful, obviously viable, obviously growing, and has gained wide acceptance in the north, they just decided to cut that program off entirely. It had nothing to do with the new government. I find that hard to believe but that's what they're trying to tell them. The Minister says that it was done in isolation. I find that hard to believe. The Minister says he talks to the Universities Grants Commission, which I should hope he does, but he does not influence them. Well, I would hope he would talk to them with the intent of influencing them, Sir, to a certain extent, when it comes to a program such as this that is being cut, with credible reasons for the cut. The Minister says the Inter-Universities North cut was the sole responsibility of the Universities Grants Commission. Well, there are some contradictions here, Sir. The obvious one is one of timing. Why after eight, nine years did the Universities Grants Commission suddenly decide to totally eliminate this program, along with the total elimination of Focus and the total elimination of Native Extension Services in the north? Now that's sort of an elusive statement to prove — that they did so under direction from the government, but I would say that all evidence would point to the fact that it had to have something to do with the new government taking power, unless, of course, they had all of a sudden received numerous telegrams and suggestions from the north that the program was no longer serving the north, in which case I could understand their action, but there has been no indication that they've received anything of that nature at all.

I have a news article from the Thompson Citizen, Sir, dated March 15th, and the headline says, "Government cutbacks force cancellation of Inter-Universities North Program." And in that article, by-line by Steven Gower, a reporter for that newspaper, "Dr. Michael Blonar, the senior universities officer for IUN, and Dean of Arts at the Brandon University, said that because the provincial government has cut its funding to the Universities Grants Commission by \$1.2 million, the Commission in turn has been forced to eliminate several programs, including IUN."

So here we have a senior administrator of the program saying that it was done because of the new government — that it was because of their restraint program. "Blonar said that W. J. Condo, the chairman of the Grants Commission has indicated that the three universities involved in the Inter-Universities North could run the program themselves. However, Blonar said budget restrictions make this alternative very difficult." He also goes on to put in his own plug for the program. He says, "The cancellation of IUN is really unfortunate because IUN is the only agency delivering university level courses above the 53rd parallel." Well, I think it would be safe to say that it is the only agency that is delivering credit classes above the 53rd parallel — I'm sure there are extension courses as the Minister spoke of yesterday.

We have to follow the whole unfolding of the Inter-Universities North's affair chronologically, I would suppose, to get a grip on it, a hand on it.

On March 10th, we have a Government News Service release which says several small programs

operated through or by the Commission, including Inter-Universities North Program, have been eliminated. We don't have any reasoning for that, we just have that press release of that date. It's the last line on a two-page press release, by the way.

Then we have on March 22nd, and there was some controversy last evening about this date as to whether the Member of Parliament for the Churchill Federal constituency, Cecil Smith, could have had advance information as to the continuation of the program, so I called up the The Thompson Citizen this morning and said, "Look, there seems to be some controversy as to an article you ran. Could you please send me some indication of when the article was?" And it's been confirmed from The Thompson Citizen — the telegram arrived just recently and I just have the phoned transcript of it at the moment, I'm sure the telegram will arrive later — but it says, "Confirmed from The Thompson Citizen March 31 Page One lead-off — A Phone Interview with Churchill Member of Parliament Cecil Smith" — and then the article goes on to say "A phone interview with Cecil Smith last night . . ." "A phone interview with Churchill MP . . ." — I'm reading from the article, or reading from a transcript of the article — ". . . Cecil Smith last night offered hope that the IUN Program will be continued. Smith commented that he was very upset when he heard that the IUN might be discontinued. He said it was one of the better programs in the North. Smith said that he had been in constant contact with the Provincial Cabinet and has been assured that the Inter-Universities North Program will be retained on the basis of need." And he said that announcement would be made within a week's time and that Northern Affairs Minister Ken MacMaster could not be reached for comment at that time.

So we see the Churchill Federal Member of Parliament coming out with an announcement that the program will be continued and basically correct, basically accurate announcement, on March 22nd. That's also reported in the Free Press: "U Credit Courses to continue Northern Manitoba Assured," and it talks about a phone interview — this is dated March 23, 1978 and it talks about a phone interview with MP Cecil Smith on Wednesday, which would have been the 21st, so he phoned the Free Press on Wednesday, or the Free Press had phoned him — I'm not sure exactly how it happened, and also Thompson on the Thursday. The official announcement, and I have the press release here, Mr. Chairman. It says "Limited Universities Program for the North" and it was read last night, so I don't think I need to read it. The Minister has a copy of this exact same press release dated March 23 and he says that was the date that this press release was issued. I did not get this press release until much later, Mr. Chairman, and my date is March 31, 1978. I also checked the Caucus office to see their copy, when it was dated, and it was also dated March 31. So there's a bit of discrepancy there, but notwithstanding that one discrepancy, what we do know, that if we take the date given by the Honourable Minister of March 23, we do know that the Member of Parliament, Cecil Smith, for the Churchill Federal constituency, had advance notice the program was going to be continued and in what manner it was going to be continued. He also gave an interview to the radio station at that time.

On March 23 we have questioning in the House as to the continuation of the program over that very subject; I just throw that in to verify that the night before, the statement had been made by the Member of Parliament from the Churchill Federal.

On March 27 we have an article from the Thompson Citizen saying, "IUN to continue on Limited Basis." And in that article we have Ken MacMaster, the Northern Affairs Minister, the Honourable Ken MacMaster, told The Citizen on Thursday that he and the Education Minister had met with the Grants Commission during the past week and reached an agreement on a continuation of the Inter-Universities North Program next year. Now, the Minister assures me that that meeting never took place, and I'll be asking him that question again, just once, to confirm it; I don't want to belabour the point any longer.

On April 27, more recent, we have "The North not satisfied by Program Cuts" headline in The Thompson Citizen in which it says that the Education Minister Keith Cosens had met with a group from the North and I think Doctor Condo had also met with that group in the North to discuss the continuation of the program.

Then on May 3rd we have a University of Manitoba bulletin, "Scaled-down Version of IUN Continues," and it gives us some indication as to how it's going to continue, and that's from no less a source than President Campbell himself. It says that it will continue on the basis of, I believe, five summer session courses and 11 full-time or regular session courses for Inter-Universities North. Yet we can't elicit any information from the Minister in regard to that; he says he doesn't know. He says that information is not available yet.

Then in recent days, Sir, in the House here, we see the stonewalling and the obvious contradictions that are surfacing in regard to the Inter-Universities North affair. And that bothers me, Sir, because mismanagement of the whole affair, of this whole Inter-Universities North Program and the continuation or not continuation of it has set Northerners ill at ease. Because they see IUN, as I have demonstrated by their acceptance of the program, as a viable program, they see it as a needed program and they want it to continue in the form that it has always continued in the past. And now what they see, because of statements coming out from the Federal member, Cecil Smith, because of statements coming out from the Honourable Minister of Northern Affairs, because of the lack of statements coming out from the Minister of Education, they see the whole Inter-Universities North Program being used as a political football tossed about to enhance — and that enhancement is very much needed, Sir, I might add — to enhance the political fortunes of their colleagues and of their friends, of the government's colleagues and the government's friends. And that situation, Sir, cannot be left to rest. We must now sort out the difficulties; in very brief order I believe we can sort out the difficulties with the Inter-Universities North Program. The Minister must take responsibility for answering some of the questions so that we can set the northern citizens of this province at rest once

again as to whether or not they are going to have their Inter-Universities North Program.

We can set the record straight, we can do it with a few short questions and a few honest answers, I think. So, as my first question to the Minister, I would like to ask him what criteria was used to justify the elimination of the Inter-Universities North Program, as announced in the March 10th press release?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. COSENS: Mr. Chairman, I have no idea what criteria may have been used by the Universities Grants Commission in making that determination of a program that falls within their responsibility.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the Honourable Minister have any indication whether that decision was made with consultation with Northerners at any time during the course of deciding that it was not . . . ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is a repeat, and I would rule it out of order. The question has been asked previously. The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I might add that most of these questions have been asked previously without answers, and all we're trying to do at this point is to elicit some honest and comprehensive answers from the Minister. But I'm not going to belabour the question, we did last night enough, and if the Minister, after having slept on the issue, decides not to answer the questions today then I will ask him once and leave it rest at that.

To the Honourable Minister then: who supplied information as to the future of the program to Cecil Smith, Member of Parliament for the Churchill Federal constituency, at least one day previous to the official announcement from the Universities Grants Commission?

MR. COWAN: Mr. Chairman, I have no knowledge of who may have supplied Mr. Smith with that information. I should mention to the Member for Churchill that quite often, policy decisions or matters are discussed in Cabinet, or information is given to Cabinet some time before announcements are made, or before press releases come out. This well may be that type of situation, and it may be one of the reasons why the Honourable Member for Churchill has some problem with the dates of the different press releases and so on, that he has been coming up with.

I have here a press release from the Winnipeg Free Press of March 25, under Legislative Briefs, that says "Manitoba Universities Grants Commission has reversed an earlier decision and will continue to operate the Inter-Universities North Program on a limited basis in the coming year, Education Minister Keith Cosens said Thursday." That was the 25th. Now, as I say, these decisions, or this type of information often comes to Cabinet a day, two days, three days — in some cases, I suppose, a week — before an announcement may be made or before a press release is put out, so this may be one of the explanations. But to the member's earlier question, I do not know where that information may have come from.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Chairman, I didn't want to interrupt the particular soliloquy that we were experiencing, but I thought that perhaps before Private Members' Hour came upon us I might get some toe-hold into this long — probably the longest damned debate on universities that we have had here in a long time — because there were some things that disturb me, I suppose more as a member of the university community than as a member of the Manitoba Legislature about the tone and character of this debate that's occurred so far, both in reading it and listening to it. I would simply want to make some short comments followed, I hope, by some observations and questions to the Minister.

But I would start off by saying that the Minister is dealing with a very disturbing situation in the universities, and he should be aware of that, that there is a lot of concern, anxiety, and to some degree, anguish about what's happening to the universities in the Province of Manitoba, not caused simply by the recent budget cuts but conditions have been building up over many years. I would say, to be quite blunt about it, Mr. Chairman, conditions that have been ignored by past governments as well, that we have been tending to go on an ad hoc, year-by-year basis, ignoring some of the fundamental changes going on in the universities and not recognizing some of the problems that were existing. I'm afraid that the debate in this Estimates discussion so far hasn't done much to relieve or alleviate those concerns or those disturbances. I had wished otherwise, Mr. Chairman, I had wished that the new Minister of Education responsible for colleges might have been prepared to maybe start with a clean brush on some of these areas, and particularly I was disturbed that he was not prepared to deal with some of the very spurious and silly allegations that some of his own members have been coming forward with. I'm thinking particularly of the statement made by the Member for St. Matthews yesterday which, while he was claiming students were guilty of exaggeration, he himself attained some very new standards of that form of exaggeration in this House by following to the old stereotypes about, you know, sort of fat-cat professors, overpaid, underworked, nothing to do, big summer vacations, and why bother with them? You know, that kind

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

of stereotyping which is so silly and has been so dangerous and so destructive to the university community, should have been responded to by this Minister and should have been combatted. And if he can't do it, Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to do it when 8:00 o'clock comes tonight.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member will have 28 minutes of time left.

In accordance with Rule 19(2) I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour and will return at the call of the Chair.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

PRIVATE BILLS — SECOND READING

MR. SPEAKER: We are now under Private Members' Hour. The adjourned debate on second reading on Private Bills. On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. James, Bill No. 10 — An Act Respecting The Royal Trust Company and Royal Trust Corporation of Canada. The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. PETER FOX: Stand. (Agreed)

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Roblin, Bill 13 — An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba Limited. The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Stand, Mr. Speaker. (Agreed)

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for St. James, Bill No. 16, — An Act to Amend an Act to Incorporate St. John's -Ravenscourt School. The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

MR. WALDING: Stand. (Agreed)

PUBLIC BILLS — SECOND READING

MR. SPEAKER: On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for Emerson (Bill No. 5) — An Act to amend The Liquor Control Act — the Honourable Member for Inkster. Stand? (Stand)

On the Proposed Motion of the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge (Bill No. 6) — The Freedom of Information Act — the Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON: Stand.

BILL NO. 8 — AN ACT TO AMEND THE PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE CHARTER

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. LLOYD G. HYDE presented Bill No. 8 — An Act to amend The Portage la Prairie Charter for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage.

MR. HYDE: Mr. Speaker, in 1944, the Legislature passed An Act to amend The Portage la Prairie Charter, giving the City the authority to levy an amount of one mill to support the Parks Board of the City. Over the years, the one mill limitation was sufficient to meet their annual requirements, however, the council is now of the opinion that this one mill limitation restricts the flexibility of the city and the Parks Board in the proper development and maintenance of the Parks system. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, council is now of the opinion that this one mill limitation should be removed.

In reviewing the Municipal Act, Sections 4.16 through to 4.18 it is noted that all municipalities now have the authority to establish a parks board and to levy annual taxes to meet the operating costs. There is no mill rate limitation.

Mr. Speaker, on the basis of the above information, council is now of the opinion that firstly the one mill limitation should be removed from the Charter and secondly, since there is sufficient flexibility in the authority specified in The Municipal Act, there is no need for duplication in this Charter. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, council has requested that I propose An Act to amend The City of Portage la

Prairie Charter which would, in effect, repeal their special legislation on this subject.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. FOX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Rupertsland that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 — EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

MR. SPEAKER: On the Proposed Resolution of the Honourable Member for Brandon East, the Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. LEONARD S. EVANS: I would move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kildonan, that WHEREAS current levels of unemployment in Manitoba are the worst since the Great Depression of the 1930's, and,

WHEREAS forecasts indicate continued abysmally high levels of unemployment, and

WHEREAS approximately 17,000 or one-half of the unemployed in Manitoba are young persons, and

WHEREAS the rate of unemployment among young persons in Manitoba was approximately 14 percent according to recent statistical surveys, and

WHEREAS unemployment is very severe in certain areas of Manitoba and among certain disadvantaged groups,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the government consider the feasibility of accelerating construction of provincial and municipal works projects and public housing for families, senior citizens and handicapped persons .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government consider the feasibility of adequately funding employment programs with particular emphasis on jobs for young people and in the north and the inner core of Winnipeg.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I welcome the opportunity to speak in this Legislature on this particular problem which, without doubt, is the single most important economic and indeed social problem facing the nation today and certainly facing the Province of Manitoba today. I would suggest that unemployment, Mr. Speaker, is a new form of slavery which does not shut men and women in as slavery does and has done in the past, but which shuts them out, which shuts them out of the mainstream of activity. I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that it is the shame of the '70s the degree of unemployment that we have today.

The facts that were released, the statistics that were released today confirm the very very bad situation existing in the country and in the Province of Manitoba and, as has been noted, Manitoba was among four provinces where unemployment became worse in April compared with March on an adjusted basis, that is, taking the seasonal approach, taking the seasonally-adjusted figures, there were four provinces in Canada that got worse and Manitoba was among those four. The fact is that the statistics show that there are 33,000 Manitobans unemployed as of April and that over or about half of them, I should say, about half of them are young people. The statistical rate of unemployment among the young people is currently running — and this is on an unadjusted basis, it would be higher if it was on an adjusted basis but on an unadjusted basis, it is running at 12.4 percent. I think that that, too, is a shame, that so many of our younger people who have great aspirations, great hopes as young do have, great expectations of future achievement, whether they've had university or college education or technical school education or whether simply high school education or whatever, the great hopes and aspirations of the young are being dampened today by the serious economic stagnation that's facing this province.

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that we have a large army of unemployed in the province today and that that army of the unemployed is growing, where we have hordes of young people in this province virtually walking the streets seeking employment and being frustrated. Unfortunately, many of these have already given up looking because they have been turned down so often and therefore the labour force survey, the statistical survey on unemployment probably doesn't pick them up any longer because they have given up looking for work. So I would suggest that the unemployment situation is probably a lot worse than the figures, than the official figures show them to be.

There is no question that with this large degree of unemployment in our province and the under-production that accompanies it, that we are engaged in a senseless and useless waste of our most precious resource, namely our human resource. On the material side, it causes a deplorable loss in production and in both goods and in services, a loss, Mr. Speaker, that can never be regained. Once it is lost through time, through factories being under-utilized, through farms being under-utilized, through other organizations being under-utilized, through manpower being under-utilized, we are

losing wealth that is produced in time and having lost it in time, we can never go back and recapture it. That income that could have been produced is gone forever and this is a tragedy. But maybe a greater tragedy is the loss in human dignity that accompanies this unemployment and this very terrible situation that faces the Province of Manitoba today. The frustration of the unemployed, the bitterness of the unemployed is something that we cannot measure in statistical surveys. It is something that cannot be quantified; it is something that is very personal, very qualitative but nevertheless, immeasurable as it may be, is very real.

I had an opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to read an article from Reader's Digest, I guess it's a pre-print of Reader's Digest that was mailed to us dated May, 1978, that is, it will appear and is appearing in the May issue of the Reader's Digest, where they review the unemployment situation in the 1970s, asking questions about who are the jobless, who are the unemployed, and going on to examining why the economy is out of kilter. There are a number of stories about personal crises that are being experienced and they refer to people who are the victims of layoffs and lack of opportunities in many parts of Canada. But included in their review are people from this province and I'm quoting one paragraph in this article: "A Winnipeg accountant with 35 years experience has been job-hunting since last June but employers consider him too old at 54. 'Every morning I get up thinking this is the day I'll find a place,' he says wearily, 'and every night at bedtime, my young son says, 'It will be tomorrow, Dad, don't worry.'"

Another case is related in this article to a young person 22 years of age. Again I'll quote the paragraph, "Especially hard pressed to find jobs are newly graduated teachers who face a sharp decline in school enrolment that reflects the falling birth rate. One was Alison Fields, 22, of Winnipeg. 'You start out job-hunting with such big hopes,' she says, 'but after the hundredth rejection letter you begin to wonder what's wrong with me? It's an awful feeling.'" That is the end of the quote' Mr. Speaker.

I say, therefore, that this sense of frustration, this almost shame, I would suggest, that seems to accompany unemployment, this loss of human dignity, the feeling of being unwanted, the stigma of being unemployed is something that perhaps is the worst aspect of unemployment in the Province of Manitoba today. I would say, therefore, that unemployment ranks as one of the great evils of our time along with the poverty, along with sickness, along with lack of education and bad housing but unemployment surely is one of the gigantic evils that must be attacked and destroyed.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the figures show that unemployment is not getting better but really is getting worse and the prognostications of various economic forecasters are adding up to continuation of economic stagnation in Canada and Manitoba is included in that as a province that is expected to experience a very very low rate of economic development.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the Conservative government of Sterling Lyon cannot shift the blame to Ottawa or to some other force beyond their control or to the business cycle as such. There's no doubt that the Manitoba economy is affected by national economic forces; there is no doubt that policies of the Federal Government, whether they be commercial trade policies, whether they be policies pertaining to the money supply, whether they be policies pertaining to fiscal measures, that there is no doubt that the policies of the Federal Government have an impact. There is no doubt that we are part and parcel of the national economy but I would submit, Mr. Speaker, that this government has made matters worse, has aggravated the stagnation that we're facing. This government has caused more unemployment in Manitoba through the cutbacks in most essential services, in many essential services, in the field of health, social development, education.

The Conservative fiscal policy of this province is a total and utter disaster. The ideological position taken by the First Minister, the Minister of Finance and indeed by the Conservative Government of Manitoba is causing immeasurable economic and social grief. They are taking a dogmatic, ideological approach to the role of government in the economy and Manitobans — and particularly the unemployed — but not just the unemployed but also those who are suffering because of the cutback in services, are the worse off on that account. I submit that the much talked of program of private sector youth employment that the Minister of Finance refers to, is really an inconsequential and very halfhearted effort to tackle the problem; I would suggest it's a drop in the bucket, and of course it's a very temporary thing. I would say compared to what was done last year by the previous New Democratic Party Government, this attempt to tackle the unemployment situation is a drop in the bucket. I compare a \$2 million program for private youth employment to a total program — first phase of the program — amounting to \$20.59 million for approved projects throughout the province that created as of the middle of July of last year 5,500 jobs, and coupled with that were other provincial job programs that created in total, as of July 13th, 1977, an estimated 10,000 new jobs in the Province of Manitoba; 10,000 new jobs, Mr. Speaker. That is an effort in attacking the problem of unemployment. The efforts, the statements made by the Minister of Finance and his colleagues to date indicate the very halfhearted, the very uninterested, really indifferent, nonchalant attitude and opinion that they have of this particular problem.

I submit that anything that this government has suggested that it would do, pales into insignificance, compared with the achievements of the New Democratic Party Government of last summer. This only relates, Mr. Speaker, my reference to the NDP program only relates to the first phase. There was a second phase that we were to begin but of course members opposite, the government opposite, virtually killed most of that, except some of it that was already committed and they couldn't back off on.

So, I guess we're going to have to rely, as the First Minister has told us in the past, on the private sector, because this is the thrust of this government. It's a wrong headed thrust, it's an irrational

thrust, it's a thrust that has been proven not to work, and yet we have the First Minister of this province — the Premier of this province — and the Finance Minister of this province, going back to 19th century thinking, saying we've got to have less government, we've got to withdraw, we've got to cut back. . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member has five minutes.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've got to cut back, and we've got to rely on the private sector. We've got to rely on the private sector, the Premier of this province says that the private sector is on trial. As the Member for Inkster said the other week, we never put the private sector on trial, we weren't that hard on the private sector. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, if the private sector is on trial, it is found wanting and will continue to be found failing and wanting in this challenge of stimulating the economy and creating jobs. And it's unfortunate, but this hostility to government involvement in the economy is going to cause Manitobans to have a lower standard of living than they would have otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, there are methods of coping with unemployment. I mention the direct job creation programs that the NDP government had engaged in last year where we created, through various kinds of programs, about 10,000 jobs, and the records show that. But in addition to this there are other ways and means of creating employment including the acceleration of public housing. Really, the public housing program has slowed down to a near standstill. Whatever is being built now, is based on commitments made by the previous government, and the commitments incidentally, neared \$60 million and this was approved by Cabinet — we committed \$60 million worth of public housing — and we have details of this showing each project throughout the province. But we should have, right now, a step up in the construction of public housing, we should make moneys available to municipalities so that they can engage in various public works. Let's start building nursing homes in this province. There's a crying need for them. Let's build some personal care homes, let's add to the hospitals, let's renovate hospitals and provide extensions to hospitals where they are needed. Let's help community groups help themselves. If I had time, I could go into a lot of detail on worthwhile community group programs that could be financed and could give people work.

Mr. Speaker, I know these things will not be done because there is a bias against public expenditure, there is a thinking on the other side that says in so many words that public expenditure is really bad. Well, education is part of public expenditure, it's a kind of thinking that says education is unproductive and bad, but the manufacturing of school toilet seats is productive, is good, because it's in the private sector. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that this kind of thinking is nonsense, this kind of thinking is simply going to lead to further aggravations and further unemployment in the Province of Manitoba. We have a government committed to a fiscal policy that without question is going to lower our standard of living, not just among poor people but among all people. So I would urge members of the Legislature to give thought to this resolution, to pass the resolution which recognizes the seriousness of the situation and which will go at least part way to solving the problem.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, it's only a partial solution which I suggest here; there are many other things that must be done including a positive fiscal policy which in my view, could also help the situation. But I would commend honourable members of this House to this resolution and hope that we might have a good debate and a positive approach to tackling the number one economic and social problem of this province.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Meer for St. Matthews.

MR. LEN DOMINO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to commend the Member for Brandon East, his motives I am sure are the best, and I think at this point it's time we debated something of this sort and I'm glad he's brought this before the House. I don't in any way want to endorse the solutions he has proposed, but I think it's good to discuss these matters and it's good to bring them out, because I think it demonstrates a basic difference between the dogmatic approach of the ND Party, and more pragmatic common sense approach of the Progressive Conservative Party.

Now I would agree, and I agree completely with the former Minister when he discussed the problem of unemployment, and the degradation that unemployment brings to people, the heartbreak it brings to people, the real suffering it causes, and I am sure there is not a member in this House who wouldn't agree with that. There are times when members opposite would like to pretend that those of us across here are heartless and cruel; it's not so. I think our objectives are the same. We would all like to see an economy that was so buoyant, was so strong, that there was no need for government make work projects, and an economy in which there is no need for us even to discuss this because we'd have full employment, and meaningful employment for everybody in our society. But that's not the case.

I spoke earlier in the year — the member wasn't present, I think, at that time — during the Throne Speech Debate, and I tried to discuss the real reasons for the unemployment we have in this province right now. I suggested that Progressive Conservatives hadn't been in power long enough to create the unemployment. If you know anything about economics, you know there's a time lag involved and I still think that's true. Right about now we might have had time to create a lot of unemployment if we deliberately set out about to do that, which we haven't.

I think the blame for the present high rate of unemployment, especially among the young people of our province, has to rest squarely on the shoulders of the members opposite. Their job creation record in the last three years of their administration was abysmal, even with those 10,000 jobs they created at government expense, even with those jobs their job creation record was very low in comparison to western Canadian provinces and it was lower than the national average. The reason their job creation record was so low was because they failed to work with the private sector of our economy. The reason they're dogmatic is because they see the answer to every problem in terms of more government money and more government investment, always.

Now, I want to go on record and I think most members across here would support me — that I'm not basically against public expenditure and I don't think public expenditure is bad — I believe in the mixed economy, in a true mixed economy, in a partnership between the private and the public sector, but not in a situation as we've seen in this province and this country, where over the last seven years, and each year, each succeeding year, we saw the government share of the gross provincial product growing faster than the gross provincial product, meaning that there was a course of continual erosion of the private sector. It doesn't take a great genius or a great economist to extrapolate a little bit and to see that sometime in the future, the government runs everything, and there is no more mixed economy. You can't believe in a mixed economy based on a government continually increasing its share; it doesn't work, it means eventually you don't have a mixed economy.

I think members opposite have to look back over the last three years and they will see that our employment rate — and I agree, it's not just Manitoba's fault, but the Government of Canada has been following policies very similar to those of the former ND Party Government. They're following policies which discourage the creation of private sector jobs. The unemployment rate in this province rose steadily, it rose steadily over the last three years.

I noticed in the statement made by the Minister of Finance today, there wasn't much glee across the way; they of course expected us to have a higher rate of unemployment, but we don't have a higher rate of unemployment in this province. To be exact, there are more people employed this year than there were last year, and there are 3,000 less unemployed this month in real terms, than there were this month last year. —(Interjection)— Someone yells, "In terms of the seasonally adjusted figure." Our unemployment problem in relationship to the Federal problem, is better this year; we've put more ground between us and the national average this year than last year, and those are seasonally adjusted figures. No matter how you look at it, the Government of Manitoba and the people of Manitoba — and it's not a good situation at all, it's not a good situation but it's a situation in which it's not as bad as last year. I would suggest that already the private sector has begun to take up some of the slack, to improve the situation in this province, because we've announced some initiatives which have given them some confidence, which has made them feel like there's a role for them, and a continuing role in our economy. They're no longer the enemies; they're now a partner, a partner with the government, and don't let it be said that we're against all government expenditure, we're just against the exclusive use of the government to solve all problems, and not for ideological reasons but for practical reasons because it doesn't work, simple as that.

Now let's take a look at what this government has done, because it has done some things, and our approach shows a genuinely pragmatic and open minded approach. We have a Job Creation Program this year for students, a Job Creation Program which will incorporate approximately 2,000 students directly into the government service. That's government expenditure; that's use of the government, but it's not a continual expansion of the program, it's still a use of the government public service to incorporate some of these students in the summer jobs.

We also have a Private Sector Employment Program, okay? A Private Sector Employment Program which is more successful than we even thought. Already 1,250 students have been placed; it is the Minister of Education's Estimate that in excess of the 2,000 he anticipated, maybe as many as 3,000 students will be incorporated into the private sector of this province, because of the government subsidy program, where the government pays \$1.25 an hour subsidy for students under 18, and \$1.50 an hour for people over the age of 18, and that's going to . . .

A MEMBER: How about lifeguards?

MR. DOMINO: You said, how about lifeguards? Another example of our pragmatic approach — the Minister of Tourism just announced to me right now that the number of lifeguards in this province will be increased, and why — not for ideological reasons. We're going to have 70 more lifeguards than you people had . . . —(Interjection)— Please, you'll have to stop giving me this advice; I'm getting mixed up. We're going to have more lifeguards, and why, because the Red Cross came to us and they made a good case and they showed us that our restraints were . . .

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

MR. DESJARDINS: In order to help, we would allow five minutes recess for them to go in caucus so the Minister . . .

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

MR. DOMINO: I thank the Member for St. Boniface for his kind offer, but let me suggest that the situation in this province regarding lifeguards will be this: we announced a cut in lifeguards, and then

we admitted we were hasty. Now we plan to employ 70 lifeguards, which is 10 more than were employed last year, and the reason we plan to employ those extra lifeguards is because there is a genuine need for them, that's why. It shows a pragmatic approach to problems on our part. So if you take a look at our record, we indeed do have a summer job creation program in the public sector . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to all members that they will have an opportunity to debate in this debate. The Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

MR. DOMINO: Thank you. And we also have a private sector employment program, one that's working, and it is providing jobs for people. If you have a job creation program that is the absolute test of its efficiency, whether it supplies jobs for people.

We've also done some other things, other things that haven't quite caught such headlines, but long-range things, because this government doesn't only believe in creating 10,000 jobs the year before an election — it believes in creating long-term productive jobs for people, because that's where the real answer lies, in getting our economy buoyant again, and getting it moving and growing, so that there are jobs for the young people. That's what we'll do over the next four years, and the four years after that, and probably the four years after that too, because we'll provide meaningful answers to people's problems.

One of the things we did which got a little headlines but not much, is we've initiated, together with the other Prairie Provinces, a study of a potential power grid for Western Canada. How does that apply? Well, if we can hook up with the other provinces, we can sell some of that excess capacity, which we now have in the production of power, and we can go ahead and bring those other hydro-electric power stations on stream ahead of time. —(Interjection)— The Member for St. Boniface yells, "What were we doing?" What you were doing was expanding the hydro program with no hope of selling it, so the result was extra cost to the users, and now we have to pay more for our hydro. It was a foolish program you had for hydro; it was a short-term make work now, make the hydro user pay over the next 20 years. We've reversed it — we are going to find the markets and then we are going to put the people to work building those plants.

Something else which is close to my heart is the problem of the Native people in the centre of Winnipeg. As a teacher at Gordon Bell High School for the last four years, I had the privilege of teaching the Native Studies Course and it brought me in close contact with a lot of the Native students in downtown Winnipeg. Those students and their friends and their relatives make up a large part of the unemployed and the disadvantaged, which this resolution talks about — the core area children who can't find jobs. Well, we've done a little bit there. We've announced funding for a program called "Staff", which seeks to help exactly those kind of people — children who have been in trouble with the law, who have very minimal job skills — to help them find work, and to prepare them first so they can find work. It's a \$400,000 program announced by the Minister of Education in December.

We've also entered into an agreement to do a study with the Federal Government on the needs and the numbers and the problems that are faced by Native people and Native young people in downtown Winnipeg. It's a first step before you can start dealing with the problem, you have to find the problem, another small but at least important program.

Another example of our pragmatic approach to jobs is the \$2.8 million loan guarantee we offered to the Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited. The loan guarantee was offered by the Province of Manitoba in conjunction with the Federal Government, the Government of Alberta, the Government of Saskatchewan. We've also —(Interjections)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Order please. Now if the honourable members will just contain themselves, they will have an opportunity to debate. The Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

MR. DOMINO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another program that we have announced, I think is important, is the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. —(Interjection)— That's a Federal Department — right, but in conjunction with the Federal Government. The last time I checked, there was one taxpayer in this country, and that money coming back to Manitoba probably came out of Manitoba, because one taxpayer pays for everything. Now, that's a program to strengthen the infrastructure of our province, it's an industrial development program, and it's a co-operative program negotiated between the Federal and Provincial Governments, with both governments putting in money and the end result will be a strengthening of Manitoba industries so that we can create more private sector jobs again in the long run.

Now we've talked a little bit about our present government, and what we're doing, and I'd like to quote from the Minister of Finance, what he has to say about job creation and the economy of the province. This is in a statement he made April 14th: "A government which has its own activities under effective control, which levies taxes at reasonable and competitive levels, and which makes certain that the competitive market system functions with maximum efficiency, has provided an essential prerequisite for sustained expansion of the private sector and more job opportunities for our people."

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member has five minutes.

MR. DOMINO: In this context, the restraint program is also a job creation program in the long run, and a very effective one, and one that'll work, and one that — the Member for Fort Rouge is so

concerned about the Federal Government — and one that I think you will see the Federal Government no matter what colour the party whether it's the Liberals or the Progressive Conservatives who form the next government — one I think you'll find them emulating, a program of restraint you'll find them bringing in too, because it's necessary, the people want it, and it's what we have to do if we are going to make ourselves more competitive in the International Market, and if we're going to create the jobs we need to create.

Now, I want to talk for a minute about just what happened in Manitoba last year. In Manitoba last year, we had a growth in our provincial product of under 1 percent, that's with all the confusion of government money and everything else, and a bad national economic situation, but a national economic situation that's got even worse this year, I might add. This year, according to Stats Canada, they predict increased public investment in our province and they predict that we may have increased private expansion in their share of the economy in the order of 6.5 percent. Now I think that's a direct result of an improved attitude and a more positive attitude towards business in our province.

Now, I want to quote from a member. This is what was said by one of the members opposite: "Some people on my left, that's the way they think. They are the saviours of humanity. They are the ones that are going to do everything for the people, everybody else are enemies. That's the way it is, sure, — give, promise, that's easy, that's what they're doing and that's what they want to do. Now there is a danger that other parties will enter this race of promising, promising. Well, I'd much sooner be on the opposition all my life, or be out of here, and still respect my conscience, than go on and promise and promise just for the sake of being in power. And I think that's what's wrong."

That was said in the year 1960, a long time ago, by the then Member for St. Boniface, who I think changed his mind since, because he accepted a Cabinet position, but I think that's good advice for the members opposite.

The Member for Inkster, who wasn't here to hear my last remarks, said that every time he spoke in this House he was fighting the next election, and I think a resolution like this certainly proves it, because it's not doing anything to help the people of Manitoba — a resolution like this — the only thing that it will do is help the fortunes, maybe — if the people are gullible enough to believe it — of the members opposite.

Now, let's hear some positive constructive advice. Let's not just propose resolutions which are an excuse to thump your chest for things that you did last year or the year before, but let's talk about real things we can do. Not just expending more and more government money on make work projects, let's talk about some real co-operation with the private sector. Let's talk about some real mixed economy type of things. That's what we need in this province. We don't need a call for more and more public expenditure — things like on hydro, where you develop a resource ahead of its time simply so you can create a few jobs in an election year and then you force all the hydro users in Manitoba to pay extra to finance this — that's short-term stupidity. —(Interjection)—

This government is undertaking a combination of a public and a private program and a long-term program which will create jobs, and which will see us re-elected. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Member for St. Vital has a question.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge. I'm sorry but the Honourable Member's time is up. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, after listening to the Member for St. Matthews, I'd like to turn an old cliché on its head with and "With enemies like this, who needs friends."

He has just proceeded to give, I think, probably a glowing tribute and commendation for the work undertaken by members of other parties, to secure the economic futures and fortunes of the Province of Manitoba, and I would like to thank him for those endorsements and those words of support for initiatives taken by other levels of government, even though they were done so over the opposition and grinding antagonisms of the First Minister, who says he couldn't stand all that Federal money that was being spent, and my goodness, what an awful thing to do. Well, I'm glad that the Member for St. Matthews has the sense to oppose his First Minister, and is a little bit more understanding of the importance of shared co-operation and of capital investment and of government programs in the support, because all of the programs he said his government takes credit for, were in fact programs initiated and supported on the basis of 60—40, or 70—30 contributions by the senior or Federal level of government.

I would also like to thank him, Mr. Speaker, for that announcement. He's a very helpful spokesman, I think he's probably been hired as the new information officer for the Conservative Cabinet or Caucus. We find out more from him in five minutes than we do from the full Cabinet in five hours, usually, and I would certainly like to thank him for the announcement of the lifeguards. It goes to prove, as the Member for Inkster and I were discussing just lately, that one Liberal and 23 New Democrats can produce one important contribution. We share of course that contribution 50—50, and I'm glad to see that the 50—50 effort by the one member and the 23, and I'm glad to see that the government has now recognized its basic stupidity in cutting back lifeguards, and has now

recognized that they had to bring back sufficient numbers. I didn't think that the first response of the Minister of Tourism and Recreation, about the problem of safety, when he said he was going to build more "Don't Go Swimming" signs, was really the most adequate answer that we could ask for. The fact that he now sees fit to hire a few more lifeguards is very welcome, and I would only remind members when they get a little disparaging about the ability of one member of the House to create it, I think that we can say that the questions raised in this House last week concerning the lifeguard situation had something to do with the fact that the government has now backtracked on its previous position, and has now recognized the folly of its ways. It had nothing to do with it, of course, but the odd front page doesn't hurt every once in awhile.

I will only indicate to you, Mr. Speaker, that I would hope that in the future we will have the same opportunities to provide this kind of . . . Common sense government means simply they know when to cut their losses, and get out of a bad situation, and I only hope that the lifeguard situation will be a precedent that will be followed in other circumstances, and I would encourage the Member for St. Matthews to — if he has any other announcements he'd like to make we'll certainly look forward to Private Members' Hour so that he can reveal more to us, what's going on inside the government. It's about the only way.

With the absence of a Freedom of Information Act, Mr. Speaker, he's the best thing we've got going for us right now in terms of what this government is doing. The only problem with the speech of the Member for St. Matthews is that other than that it didn't make any sense, other than those statements, it just didn't make any sense, so I would only wish that, aside from his initial contribution, he would have addressed himself more neatly to the resolution at hand. Because what he was really talking about, his so-called common sense Conservative approach on economics, of course, has resulted in one of the most serious and debilitating economic situations that this province is beginning to face. He takes, of course, great pride, great pride, Mr. Speaker, in sort of saying, "Look at these new statistics."

One of the statistics I think we should begin looking at, Mr. Speaker, is how many people are leaving Manitoba to get a job? How many of our graduates of our universities and our high schools — well, it may be for good reason — no, I think it is a strange kind of phenomena that local Tories think that by going elsewhere you don't serve your province, I know that's the way the members of Parliament of the Conservative Party treat their responsibilities, but I don't necessarily believe that going to another place necessarily means you leave the province. I would say this, that I think one of the important statistics that we should start monitoring, and I would ask the Minister of Finance to start maybe making quarterly announcements, is how many people, how many young people in particular, graduates of our colleges and our universities and high schools, have to leave this province to gain employment. I would say that would be a far more revealing statistic, a far more revealing figure about the health of the economy and I would suggest to him, Mr. Speaker, that he begin looking at some of those statistics because in some cases they are available.

We only had to read in the newspaper today, how many nurses were applying to go down to — California, how many nurses — they said that they would come up here to be recruited, they were going to be here for one week. After one day they closed down shop because they were swamped with graduate nurses having to take their first job outside the Province of Manitoba. — (Interjection)— Mr. Speaker, you know, I think that if we are going to be dealing with honest economics, we should be dealing with some of those facts and figures. But the fact of the matter is that the employment opportunities in the Province of Manitoba for the products of our schools and universities is declining, not growing.

One of the things that I think was also revealing, it came up in the House in a way yesterday, but it didn't get fully explored. I wonder if the Member for St. Matthews and other members, other colleagues have talked to people that are in the construction fields. Have they talked to architects; have they talked to engineers; have they talked to how many layoffs there have been in the architectural field in the last two months? Do you know how many firms are beginning to lay off five, ten, fifteen members of their firms? Do you know how many, sort of, construction firms are going on the edge of bankruptcy in this province? So when we talk about this great thing called the market economy, had they really been measuring the indices of construction; have they seen the number of building permits and the way that they are down in this province? — (Interjection)— By comparison, Mr. Speaker, they are down, because there is no capital investment taking place in this province. When he talks about a mixed economy, it means a mixed economy, it means that there is an equal sharing of investment, but that is not going on in this province. And if he thinks that you are going to solve the problem by using euphemisms called "mixed economy", which his government shares no responsibility for economic performance, then he is dead wrong. Because that is the problem that is going on at the present moment. This government has neither an economic program nor an economic plan; it has dogma, rhetoric and sort of out-of-date principles to work on. That is what it has got going for it, and to try to sell that as an economic program in this day and age just simply won't wash.

Mr. Speaker, I think, you know, in this economic debate we have many of them in this House and it's going back and forth like a ping-pong match, I think one thing we should establish is some of the realisms about the unemployment problem because I think until you get down to some of those diagnoses, you are not going to come up with the real solution.

One of the important issues that we are facing is that for the last three years we have created more jobs in this country than we have ever created before, but we have also had more young people to deal with. That the particular population bulge, the demographics, simply moving through the

economic system, have now come on the job market. It was like a tidal wave going through the social system of this country beginning from 1945 to 1950. That is the basic sort of situation, not faced just by Canadians but faced by every industrial country in the western world. You only had to read, I think, it was the Leader of the Opposition who has cited the OECD Report saying the fundamental economic problem facing every industrial country is the unemployment of young people, in West Germany, in Great Britain, in Canada, and the United States. I don't think we get anywhere by putting blame on people, I don't think when the Member for St. Matthews gets up and say, "That government last year was worse than the one this year." That is not solving a problem. Come on. You know, why don't we face up to the fact that this is a condition that is being faced by every country, and begin to ask yourself if the solutions that are being adopted are really the way to solve that problem.

Let's look at another realism about the employment problem. Do you realize that only about five or six years ago about 20 percent of the women were in the work force? It is now closer to 40 percent of women in the work force. Now I think, Mr. Speaker, that that becomes, that that is something that is an important economic fact, and to deny that that is a fact, and it is simple to get back again into the ping-pong match about who was right or wrong, again does a disservice to those people because it means that we are not applying our best minds to the solution of those problems.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that until we get the people opposite to think about that and to get off their idea that Adam Smith, who wrote *wealth of Nations* in 1789, or whatever it is, had the complete and total answer to modern economic problems. Until we get them off that peculiar sort of wave-length that they continue to recite back to us, then I think that we are not going to be able to address the real employment or unemployment problems in this province. Because it does rely, it does rely, Mr. Speaker, on something more than simply cutting taxes two percent. Because if you look at the results of that tax cut and realize that a large number of the consumer goods that those tax cuts might buy are produced outside the Province of Manitoba, you realize that it has very little impact upon the private economy in this province. But what does have — (Interjection) — Well, I am coming to that. I don't want the members opposite to get impatient. We have got three minutes left, I can handle things in seven or eight minutes. — (Interjection) — Well, I think I have got enough time, I think, to satisfy the Member for Pembina, seeing as his ideas are usually in about a fivesecond duration, I think I can match his without — so if he gives me five more minutes of dissertation I will still be able to treble his output.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that the fact of the matter is that members opposite should start sort of leveling about what is the unemployment problems.

The Member for St. Matthews also begins to beat his chest with some frequency, about his concern about core area problems. What he doesn't talk about is the fact that the unemployment problem in the Inner City area runs around 20 percent, of males and females, many of whom are native people in this province, many of whom are going to require something more than a two percent tax cut for large corporations in order to get employment. That's not going to give them any jobs, because what they suffer from is a total lack of skills, grade seven or eight education, a very different cultural background, coming into the city without any of the apparatus or abilities to get into the job market in the first instance, plus a fair degree of discrimination. And you think you are going to solve that by the policies announced in the Budget Speech? You are going to solve that problem by these kinds of programs? Then you are absolutely out of your mind. You just don't simply understand what is going on. If you are trying to represent a core area Inner City constituency, then you better understand that that is a problem that up to this point sort of no one has tackled successfully, and I am asking you to tackle it. I don't want you to get up and start blaming previous governments, I want you to put your application to that problem, which means you have got to get into some very serious remedial programs of retraining and re-education, which this government is cutting back. They are not adding to them, they are cutting back every time you turn around. — (Interjection) — Sure, more money — yeah, there is the Member for Wolseley, that great sort of Progressive Conservative, saying more money again.

I will tell you something, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you something and maybe the Member for Wolseley — you know, one of the benefits of the government getting elected by the way, is that we don't hear from the Member for Wolseley as often as we used to. I suppose if there is any asset in the last election — I think that is the only positive outset from the last election I can think of, Mr. Speaker.

But the fact of the matter is that when he talks about costs, I would suggest to him that it's a heck of a lot more economical for this province to provide a job for people in the inner core area than supplying sort of new spaces in Headingley Jail, or new places, sort of, in the social welfare ranks, which is where they are ending up right now. If you want to do some cost accounting, that is where you start doing it, not by your curious sort of ethic which says they have to be punished simply by the fact that they are dispossessed, and that's, I know, the curious curriculum that you work in. — (Interjection) — Well, I suppose that the answer for the Member for Wolseley would be, if he doesn't want them brought in the city, is to start providing them with license passes like they do in South Africa, so we begin to control exactly where people move in this province and they can. . . — (Interjection) — Yes, that is a great solution, isn't it? Let's give native people passes so that we are going to control where they are going to move. I think, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Wolseley better be prepared to defend that particular solution to the economic problem of native people. I think he would find members in his own constituency a little concerned.

But let's come back to the question of what is the proper responsibility of the Provincial Government in this area. I would suggest first, Mr. Speaker, it is to provide for an economic development program in the Inner City of Winnipeg and that means beginning to put money, not just

Tuesday, May 9, 1978

into sort of businesses who are working in the industrial parts, sort of in St. James, it means putting money into the redressing and redesigning and reimprovement of the Inner City of Winnipeg, and helping sort of many of the minority groups now to start their businesses and to start an economy. That is not going to be done simply by their odd tax cut, and I have been arguing that case in this House for five years, Mr. Speaker. I have been arguing that the best way to solve that unemployment problem, that hard-core structural unemployment problem is to do a proper Inner City economic development program, which means putting public money and private money back into the Inner City of Winnipeg, where it has been withdrawn for the last 20 or 30 years. That is how we start providing employment for those groups of people. That is how you start providing jobs rather than jails for people, which is the way that we are doing now, and that is what we are doing. We are talking, you know, that's the way to deal with it. So I am saying that is one way you begin.

I would suggest as well, Mr. Speaker, that we are going to find ourselves in a curious problem in five years's time —(Interjection)—

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. May I suggest to the Honourable Member for St. Matthews that he has had his 20 minutes. The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge.

MR. AXWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, I am almost prepared to concede some of my time to the Member for St. Matthews if he would come out with something more rational than he did in the first 20 minutes. I think maybe the second 20 minutes around we might get another run around the track, and I think it might be worth it.

So I would say, Mr. Speaker, that I think it is about time that this government recognizes that they are not going to solve the economic problems of this province and the unemployment problems simply by this kind of market theology that they have adopted. There is not question that the market has got to be part of it, but I would simply suggest that they begin looking at the partnership issue much more realistically, which means trying to utilize the enormous financing that is available in the private sector, by using their public money to lever it back into the Inner City areas, where the hard core unemployment exists. That is how they should begin doing it.

They should begin putting money back into the areas that will stimulate growth immediately like housing. Housing on the low income area. We have yet to hear one single word spoken by the Minister of Housing about what he intends to do. All we have heard is what he is cutting back, what he is stopping, not what he intends to do.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we are not going to find many people living in the central part of Winnipeg affording the \$450 apartments being built on the far edge of St. Vital, and the fact of the matter is that that is becoming one of the most critical areas, and if he wants the proof and evidence of it, as the First Minister asked for, he only has to read the report that was issued yesterday by the Winnipeg Branch of Central Mortgage and Housing to get confirmation of that fact. They are simply saying we are not providing any housing in those critical areas of moderate cost accommodation. Now I ask the Member for St. Matthews to take that into account.

I'll give him another kind of an example where he can use it. Productive work is what he wants to do, that there is a number of productive employment requirements in the city that could be developed if we started putting money into. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The hour being 5:30 I am leaving the Chair and the House will resume in Committee at 8:00 o'clock. The next time the honourable member will have four minutes left to complete his remarks.