

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
Tuesday, 3 March 1981

Time — 2:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): Presenting Petitions . . . Reading and Receiving Petitions . . .

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

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

I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Dauphin, report of committee be received.

MOTION presented and carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements and Tabling of Reports . . . Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: At this time I would like to draw the honourable members attention to the Speaker's Gallery where we have 20 students of the Political Science Club of Grade 9 to 12 under the direction of Mrs. Linda Martin from Balmoral Hall.

We also have 45 students of Grade 5 standing from Elwick School under the direction of Mr. Ron Solomon. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

We also have 26 students of Grade 9 standing from Victor Wyatt School under the direction of Mr. Richard Ducharme. This school is in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. Vital.

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

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. Can the First Minister confirm that Jake Epp, the Member for Provencher, was speaking on behalf of the Government of the Province of Manitoba when he's reported to have stated that Manitoba Premier Sterling Lyon, a Conservative, and the staunchest opponent of a rights charter was willing to compromise and accept a binding charter on certain conditions. Lyon was not available for comment.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I'm reminded again of an anecdote that is told about the Duke of Wellington who was walking

through St. James Park one day, and a chap approached him and said, Mr. Smith, I believe, and the Duke looked at him and said if you believe that, sir, you would believe anything.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then I guess that speaks for Jake Epp and what Jake Epp had to say in Ottawa. Is the First Minister prepared then to acknowledge that he is still opposed to a Charter of Rights under any conditions?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, this government is prepared to acknowledge that we support the Federal, parliamentary, monarchical system in Canada which needs the support of all good Canadians at this time considering the kind of attack under which these three items of our traditions are presently facing.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, again stripping the response of all rhetoric, is the First Minister opposed to a Charter of Rights under any condition?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I think that this government has made it very clear on any number of occasions as to its opposition to an entrenched Charter of Human Rights. If my honourable friend wants the latest copy of my speech in that regard, I'll be happy to send it him because he is obviously ill-informed on the position of the government. However, Mr. Speaker, we were treated last week to the position of his party which is that he expressed the view on behalf of himself and the other 22? Is it 20, is it 19, or is it 18, have their own views?

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then I would ask the First Minister if he would ensure that a copy of that speech is sent to Jake Epp so that one thing is said in the Province of Manitoba and not a different thing down in Ottawa as was the case here — it was the case here — apparently to a convention of young Conservatives over the weekend.

Mr. Speaker, a further question to the Minister of Finance. Can the Minister of Finance advise the amount of additional gasoline revenue that will be obtained by the Province of Manitoba as a result of the announcement last night of further gas increases?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I think that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition is probably aware or should be aware that any further increase in provincial taxation depends upon an assessment of the prices being charged at a time that a survey is taken, of some 20 service stations I believe it is, throughout the Winnipeg area. So until that sort of a survey is taken again and one is not immediately contemplated, then there would be no further increases and any suggestion that may have been in the media that such an increase would automatically take place, is not the case.

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MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, then further to the Minister of Finance. The Minister of Finance then is acknowledging that there will be an increase in the gasoline tax, the Province of Manitoba's result of the announcement last night of further gasoline price increases.

MR. RANSOM: I would think at some time, Mr. Speaker, that would probably be the case but it doesn't necessarily follow that it automatically happens the next time there is an adjustment because as the honourable member may be aware, the price of gasoline fluctuates in the city for various reasons and if there is a price war on and the price happens to be lower then the tax can in fact, decrease. So it is not an automatic thing that the next adjustment of tax will result in an increase.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. VIC SCHROEDER (Rossmere): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the First Minister. David Crombie has been reported as telling a young Conservative meeting last week that one area of compromise Mr. Lyon is willing to look at is having the courts, in ruling a violation of rights, place the burden for correcting the law back on the Legislature and this refers to the Charter of Rights. If that is the Premier's position, and I don't know whether it is or it isn't but that is what Mr. Crombie is quoted as saying the Premier's position is, if that is the Premier's position can he inform the House as to what current or proposed law could be interpreted as removing from the Legislatures the burden for correcting a law?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, this bears of course upon the question that was asked by the Leader of the Opposition earlier, with I'm sure on his part some frivolity if that's possible in the Leader of the Opposition these days, I can't be responsible for what the press in Canada report other people as saying on my behalf. All I can say is that I made no speeches with respect to the Charter of Rights while in Ottawa on the week-end, to the young Progressive-Conservatives or to anyone else and no comments that differ at all from what I have said since 1968 on the concept of a Charter of Rights, in that it would be bad for human rights and civil rights in Canada and it is not our system, and I've said that consistently, Mr. Speaker, over a period of some 14 or 15 years.

Since this first idea was proposed by Mr. Trudeau when he was Minister of Justice and later the Prime Minister of Canada, I have not changed my position at all on that and I welcome the support that I judge some members of the Official Opposition are about to give to that proposition and growing numbers of people across Canada are giving to that position, when they see that human rights and civil rights in Canada are better protected under our present system than under any tinkered system that Mr. Trudeau or anyone else could prescribe for Canada.

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, another question to the First Minister. Again I am

quoting directly from Montreal Gazette, February 27, 1981 from Mr. Crombie as quoted: "Talking about one area of compromise Mr. Lyon is willing to look at", with respect to the Charter of Rights. Is the Premier then going to tell us that he has not discussed this matter with Mr. Crombie and with Mr. Epp, or are these people just telling a different story in a different part of the country, where people might like to hear a different story? Is the Conservative Party speaking with a forked tongue again?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I believe I made it clear as recently as yesterday that I and the Government of Manitoba does not subscribe to the position on the Constitution vis-a-vis an entrenched Charter of Rights which is taken by the Federal Progressive Conservative Party. I repeat that again today, I'll repeat it tomorrow if it's necessary for my honourable friend and I cannot be responsible for any newspaper clippings that he manages to dredge up from his marvelous research section, which at the same time can't dredge up that the increase on supplement to senior citizens is double what they say in their own propaganda.

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

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Possibly the First Minister could get his Minister of Propaganda to issue a statement telling us exactly what the position of the Conservative Party is with respect to the statements of Mr. Epp and Mr. Crombie. I will have this document forwarded to the First Minister and maybe he can send corrections to Mr. Crombie and to Mr. Epp so that we will know. (Interjection)— My question is, is he prepared to send this document to Mr. Epp and Mr. Crombie to explain to them what his position is, so they won't go to Montreal to the Young Conservative meeting next month and tell them some more untruths about the position of the Premier of Manitoba?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, I am willing to concede that when it comes to the matter of untruths, my honourable friends have the full monopoly on that topic as compared to this side of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable, the Minister of Labour. Can the Minister of Labour advise as to whether he foresees any difficulties in terms of employee demands on employers in the upcoming round of negotiations, whenever collective agreements expire, by virtue of the standard which has been set by one of the highest paid groups in society in demanding a 49 percent increase in their fees, in terms of the new agreement that they wish to enter into with the province?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson): Mr. Speaker, I have to say that the particular organization that the Member for Inkster is referring to is entering into negotiations, in my opinion, not in

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a good way. I have said many times in this House, I've said it privately to my own wife, that I don't believe you negotiate in the newspapers, I don't believe it is advantageous to either side. All I suppose they were doing was opening up some sort of salvos to get somebody's attention — and I suggest to you that they got our attention — but what credibility will be established to that type of request that they chose for whatever reasons, to get on the front page of the newspapers, is questionable.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a supplementary question to the Honourable, the Minister of Health and I would ask the Minister of Health whether, in view of the fact that his colleague has already expressed some disfavour with the manner in which the medical profession has apparently decided to start negotiations and have indicated that they are entitled to a 49-percent increase in fees and I suppose they say that should apply to the steelworker and the packinghouse worker and everybody else, could the Minister advise what, if any, protection the Department of Health either has now or envisages with respect to having an alternative — and I'm not suggesting any elimination — but alternative forms of medical care services put into place over the long run so that there are alternatives in the form of medical care services available to the people of the Province of Manitoba other than the almost monopoly fee-for-service plan that is now in place?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L.R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I can only advise the Honourable Member for Inkster that we have no precise firm alternatives that we would suggest could be considered for putting into place but I understand the import and the implications of his question and I'm sure also that the Manitoba Medical Association will understand the implications of that question.

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

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister of Health wouldn't consider as to whether the Manitoba Medical Association would understand better the implications of the question if the Minister indicated that in the long run Manitoba has to consider that there will be alternative forms of medical care available, one such form being community clinics where doctors are employed by the clinic on a salary basis, a form by the way which is practised in the best tradition in the State of California by a private medical group.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, in a long and ongoing series of consultations and discussions with the Manitoba Medical Association over the past three years I think I have made the case for co-operation, for reason and for responsibility; certainly some of these other areas have been touched upon at least peripherally during those discussions. I don't wish to comment on the 49 percent request that's been publicized by the media; I might say I was surprised to learn of it in the media. It had not been conveyed to me; it had not been conveyed to the

Manitoba Health Services Commission. It has now I believe been so conveyed at meetings convened today but I remind the Honourable Member for Inkster that we are not an island, insofar as health care and professional medical competence is concerned, we live in a continent in which we must compete to maintain our professionals and keep our services at high quality and certainly any consideration of unilateral action of the type he's suggesting has very serious ramifications and I can only suggest to him that it's considered in an abstract way not in a direct way, in terms of implementation at the present time.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Fort Rouge

MS. JUNE WESTBURY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs. Would the Minister tell us whether he has replied to the letter from the Manitoba Landlords Association, in which they asked for the Landlord and Tenant Act to be amended to change the criteria for landlords to evict their tenants?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer Affairs.

HON. GARY FILMON (River Heights): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not only have I not replied to the letter, I have not received it as yet.

MS. WESTBURY: Well, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the President of the Manitoba Landlords Association is reported to have mailed it about the third week in February, I wonder if the Minister would find out whether it was, in fact, received in his department, since this is a matter of great delicacy and concern to many of the tenants in our various constituencies, Mr. Speaker.

A second question then, on another matter, is the Minister prepared to reassure his tenants in the Manitoba Housing and Renewal residences that their rent will not be increased by up to 50 percent in the coming months?

MR. FILMON: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The matter of rents as a portion of income for tenants in subsidized public housing in Manitoba is part of a Federal-Provincial agreement. As the member may or may not be aware, it is up to a maximum of 25 percent of the tenant's income that is allowed to be spent on rent. In the particular case that has been written up in the paper, of the Bluebird Lodge, all of the apartments are subsidized. In all cases, the tenants are paying no more than the 25 percent of their income for rent.

I was quite surprised to read the front page article and, as a result, this morning I asked senior officials in the department to look into the matter; they went through, apartment by apartment, the 135 suites that were involved. They found out, among other things, that they had undercharged in a couple of cases; they informed me that a rental increase had not been put through for 15 months, rather than the normal practice of 12 months; they found out as well, that tenants perhaps were not aware of the fact that the payments they were making monthly included such

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extras as parking, cable television hookup, telephone and hydro and that in no cases was there more than 25 percent of their income being asked for in lieu of their rent. The entire story appears to be based on some rather questionable information.

The fact, of course, that it originated from a nominated candidate, or a potential candidate for the New Democratic Party in the next provincial election, possibly explains why the information was such. I can assure the member that if at any time I am informed of a situation that contravenes the policy that's established under the Federal-Provincial agreement that is, if in any case we find that by some error rents are charged at more than 25 percent of the tenant's income, we will rectify it immediately.

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

MS. WESTBURY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I'd remind the Minister that I admit that he's getting rather clever at twisting questions but the question was, are any of them going to have a 50 percent increase? That was not answered.

I wonder if the Minister would tell me or tell the House when he expects to be able to answer my question of the 20th of February, relative to the regulations on Pensioners School Tax Assistance and the availability, or the use or otherwise, of income-to-rent ratio, whether that is being used as a criterion, please.

MR. FILMON: There is no income-to-rent ratio taken into account in the \$175 Pensioners School Tax Assistance supplement.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Wellington.

MR. BRIAN CORRIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Honourable Minister of Housing whether he can provide some explanation for why his government has raised the rents at the Bluebird Lodge accommodation for senior citizens some 155 percent in the four years that this government has had tenure and office in this province. Can he provide any rational explanation why that sort of increase has been levied against senior citizens resident in MHRC accommodation?

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, I'd just like to reaffirm that we are following exactly the same policy of rent as a percentage of income that was followed by the previous government. In fact, they set the rules when they constructed those facilities and if in any cases, any of the rents have gone up by 155 percent, it is only because the incomes have gone up by that level and I don't accept the fact without seeing any proof of it, that there are those instances. I suggest that these are things that are being blown right out of proportion and I would like to see the figures before I even accept that. But if they did go up by 155 percent, it's only because their incomes have gone up by that amount. The same rate applies.

MR. CORRIN: Mr. Speaker, in alluding to the question that was implicit in that response, I can indicate that there are documented cases and

incidents demonstrating that rents for single pensioners have risen since 1976, from \$39.00 per month by a further supplement, by a further sum of some \$71.00 in the four years of government administration and, Mr. Speaker, I calculate that to be some 155 percent increase in four years.

Mr. Speaker, my second supplementary question to this Minister deals with whether any justification can be given for the government's increasing of a single pensioner's rent, by rent-to-income ratios formerly applied of some 21 percent to some 25 or 26 percent — depending on whose advice one follows — in this one past year. Can the Minister advise how much of the government's expensively advertised Manitoba Supplement for pensioners' increase of some \$7.82 will be absorbed by these rent increases that are being passed on to MHRC tenants? Can he provide us with some advice in that regard?

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the short answer is that any amount of money in addition that is given to pensioners in those dwellings, only one-quarter of it can go to increase in rent, so three-quarters of it remains in their hands for their other personal disposal.

I'd like to say that in response to the earlier information he gave about the rent going up from \$39.00 to \$110, the minimum that a single pensioner receives today, with the combination of the OAS, GIS and the Manitoba Supplement, is \$420.72, which is substantially more than it ever was under the previous government in office.

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

MR. CORRIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask whether this government is concerned that its actions in increasing MHRC rents and cutting back to the bone, Mr. Speaker, construction of new senior citizens housing in this province, whether that inaction, whether that inattentiveness to proper policy will enhance the competitive advantage of private developers in this respect, which will work to the detriment of non-profit housing organizations and public housing organizations trying to serve the needs of elderly renters in this province. Is the government in effect, Mr. Speaker, trying to enhance the competitive position of their friends in the private sector, to the disadvantage of low income senior citizens in this province?

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that that tirade deserves a little response, I'll say that all the programs that have been brought in by this government have been targeted to the real needs of senior citizens and needy people and have not been the kind of shotgun, wasteful approaches that his government put forward during their years of office.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. JAY COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Environment, and follows in light of recent allegations and statements outlining serious and potentially hazardous deficiencies in toxic waste

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management and waste disposal in the province, some of which were made by senior officials of his department. Is the Minister now today, able to provide detail to the House as to any action he has initiated to deal with this problem? In specific, can he update us as to the province's investigation into the construction of a chemical waste disposal facility in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, the comment which the Member for Churchill referred to yesterday by Dr. Bowen, the Assistant Deputy Minister in my department, was one that referred to in generality, the fact that we were aware that many types of hazardous wastes were being dumped in a variety of different ways, in small amounts perhaps, but in a variety of different ways, in water courses or in surface streams or in ditches or elsewhere, either accidentally or on purpose in the province. The fact of the matter is that all of that is contrary to the provisions of The Clean Environment Act and these people are doing these things illegally. But just as you have probably heard police refer to the fact that there is vandalism in our society today, unless and until we are able to find these sources, investigate them and prove who is responsible for them, we are unable to do anything with it. I can assure you that my department takes these matters seriously, that they investigate and they follow up on any incidents that they become aware of and they prosecute where they can identify the source of the pollution.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, the reference was made to chemical — what was the latter part of the question — toxic waste. There is a study under way. It's a Federal-Provincial joint study that's been commissioned; a consultant has been appointed and a draft of the report I understand has been presented to the various Provincial Governments. I have not yet seen it because my senior officials are reviewing the matter and when they come forward with their assessment of the report and their recommendations, I'll be happy to share them with the House.

MR. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has indicated exactly what the problem is but has failed to answer the question and I would submit has failed to direct his department's energies fully to answering the problem, and that is what is his department doing to investigate these allegations and what is it doing, in specific, to find those persons who are, either advertently or inadvertently, dumping waste into the environment indiscriminately? Can he provide us with some sort of systematic plan of action to deal with what is a growing and I would suggest is a long-reaching and an extensive problem in the Province of Manitoba?

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, I suggest that if you could find a way to prevent every illegal action from happening in this society that I would subscribe to that. On the other hand, we are, and I confirm once again that our department is following up on every incident that they become aware of; investigating it and taking it as far as they can to find out where the

source is and to proceed, in fact, to prosecute if they do identify the source of the pollution. That's the best that we can do, it's the best that ever has been done, it's the best that the police can do in following up on crime. These are illegal actions and we endeavour to find the cause for these illegal actions.

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

MR. COWAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Obviously the Minister doesn't accept the statements of his senior officials in respect to this. But I would like to ask the Minister on a somewhat related subject if he has directed his department to investigate the advisability and the appropriateness of disposing of toxic waste by explosion at landfill sites, and if so, can he report to the House as to any conclusions or recommendations his department might have made in respect to this procedure.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Speaker, we can get into this in more detail in my Estimates which are to be on the order very shortly in the House. But I would say that in response to his initial allegation that some members of my department indicated that nothing was being done; the indication in the comment made by Dr. Bowen was that despite our best efforts at controlling pollution and the disposal of hazardous wastes, by accident or on purpose, in illegal manners, it is still happening; that was the only essence of his comment. Secondly, with reference to the explosion of various types of solvents, primarily, that has been done on a test basis in a landfill site in Winnipeg, they're satisfied that it can be disposed of safely in the manner in which it was done under close supervision by people from various areas, including the Fire Commissioner's office, including munitions experts, including people from our Environmental Branch, including people from Workplace Safety and Health and so on; they're satisfied that in these particular instances the disposal of the chemical results in carbon dioxide and water and those are elements that are present in the atmosphere and present all around today. If there are minute amounts of carbon monoxide produced they're not in any greater amounts than you would find in walking down the street today produced by automobiles.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rock Lake.

MR. HENRY J. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, I direct this question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of statements that we have heard in recent days about the possibility of a strike coming off at the port of Vancouver; also the possibility of a strike materializing at the Lakehead, I wonder if the Minister of Agriculture is prepared to give us information as to whether or not he is prepared to discuss the possibility of moving grain through the Port of Churchill in the event that these strikes should come off this spring.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

HON. JAMES E. DOWNEY (Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I can indicate to the member that anything that we

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can do to encourage the movement of grain through Churchill will be done whether it's from strike action at the west coast or at the east port outlets.

MR. EINARSON: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary which I would like to now ask the Minister of Transportation. Because of the fact of the duality in the way the Federal Government has the responsibilities divided up, I would like to ask the Minister of Transportation if he would also use his good offices to deal with the Minister of Transportation, where they come into play and their responsibility so far as the movement of grain to the Port of Churchill is concerned, in the event of these strikes materializing, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Transportation.

HON. DONALD ORCHARD (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, that is certainly a suggestion that I welcome from the Member for Rock Lake and one that is well taken by both myself and my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture. In that regard we are attempting to establish a meeting with the Federal Minister of Transportation and the Prairie Ministers responsible for Transportation and Agriculture, to meet on the very subject matter of the Port of Churchill and its future and its use in the City of Dauphin later on this year, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. WILSON PARASIUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health and it arises out of his answer earlier in the question period that since Manitoba isn't an island and has to be competitive in the whole area of health care, implying some solicitude for the doctors, could the Minister indicate whether this government has adopted one style of negotiations with doctors and another style, a much harder and flexible style, with other workers in the health care area because last year this government's inflexible attitude led to a strike?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to emphasize to my honourable friend that I'm not expressing any solicitude for the doctors, I'm expressing solicitude for the health care needs of Manitobans.

MR. PARASIUK: A supplementary to the Minister, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister then prepared to send the doctors a copy of the speech that he made in the House where he said that health care workers, other health care workers, have to be prepared to be overworked and under paid; is he prepared to send a copy of that speech to the doctors because he made those comments in relation to other health care workers when this was being discussed last year, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that those doctors who are so interested and health care workers who are so interested have already been circulated widely by my honourable friend, canvassed

widely by my honourable friend, with fitting and effective and typical distortions of the remarks that I made in the House at that time; it's not necessary for me to comment further, Sir.

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

MR. PARASIUK: Yes, Mr. Speaker. One doesn't have to distort the truth, it's damning in its own right. I would ask the Minister if his . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order please — the Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: I'd like to ask the Minister if, in reviewing health care costs, the government has been able to ascertain whether doctors incomes have changed positively or negatively in relation to other professions and other health care workers since the introduction of Medicare, in view of the fact that doctors are saying that they have suffered so much since the introduction of Medicare; indeed, if you can recall, Mr. Speaker, the introduction of Medicare was opposed by this government.

MR. SHERMAN: Mr. Speaker, that is a question that emanates from a particular rhetoric that we have all become very familiar with on this side of the House from the Honourable Member for Transcona. It's an impossible question to deal with in question period. I'm prepared to deal with it with him during my Estimates or in some other suitable forum.

I would only say this, that the costs of our health care system, and that the costs of meeting the increased volume in medical services, have far outstripped many other increases to which the doctors have referred in the CPI, in the gross industrial wage, and also in terms of their own increases in the fee schedule. That position can be documented and the government's position, with respect to careful assessment and evaluation of their arguments, relative to the fee schedule can be supported by the fact, Sir, that our total medical payouts in terms of volume increases, and the increasing numbers of doctors in practice in this province, has created a considerable multi-percentage multiplier increase in the overall costs of health care services and the doctors will be reminded of that in their discussions with our negotiators.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. RUSSELL DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct a question to either the Minister of Consumer Incorporate Affairs or the Minister of Government Services concerning the official opening today of the Environmental Lab. Given that delays cost money and that material and labour costs have risen significantly in the last few years, can the Minister explain why this project which was begun in 1977 was only completed now?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Government Services.

HON. WARNER H. JORGENSON (Morris): Mr. Speaker, honourable gentlemen opposite are

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expecting a great deal. They think that from the time that the design was started and the completion of construction of a building of that nature, as technical as that one, can be completed in much less than four years then they are optimistic indeed.

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

MR. DOERN: A second question, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to ask the Minister, and what the Minister says isn't accurate because that program was ground to a halt for a number of months while the government was making a reassessment, so that is not entirely accurate. Mr. Speaker, my second question is can the Minister indicate whether there were any lawsuits by contractors as a result of that delay and were there any major program changes from the original design?

MR. JORGENSEN: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The time for question period having expired we will proceed with Orders of the Day.

The Honourable Member for Logan.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: Mr. Chairman, I wish to make some substitutions on the committee on Statutory Orders and Regulations. The Honourable Member for Transcona in place of the Honourable Member for Brandon East; the Honourable Member for Rossmere in place of the Honourable Member for St. Vital.

MR. SPEAKER: Those changes duly noted. Orders of the day. The Honourable Acting Government House Leader.

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

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty with the Honourable Member for Radisson in the Chair for the Department of Cultural Affairs; and the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Environment; and the Member for Roblin in the Chair for the Department of Labour and Manpower.

The Honourable Member for Radisson.

CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY SUPPLY — LABOUR AND MANPOWER

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, J. Wally McKenzie (Roblin).

MS. JUNE WESTBURY (Fort Rouge): Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions that I tried to get at last night but they came under this particular division. So I'm referred to the Women in Trades

project and I asked the Minister last night, reading from his press release of February 20 which said, "The Women in Trades project gave extra support and preparation for about a dozen women interested in careers in skilled trades and assisted their employers through wage subsidization and this began last fall". I just wondered how things are going, if the dozen women are still in the project, if any of them have graduated and have gone on to unsubsidized employment and if he would just give us a progress report on what is happening with that project, please.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson): Mr. Chairman, I wonder could I do a couple of things. I'll answer your question, there's no question about that. Could you give that to the Member for Churchill? That's the Other Expenditure sheets. Also I wonder if the Member for Fort Rouge would permit me to make the opening remark on apprenticeship and then get into it.

MS. WESTBURY: I'm sorry, go ahead.

MR. MacMASTER: I'm not usually much of a regimentalized kind of person but we've got a system going and I'd like to sort of stay with it.

The Apprenticeship Program: The Apprenticeship Program is responsible for the administration of The Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualifications Act as well as The Barber's and Hairdresser's Act. The program enables individuals to become trained to the level of certified tradespersons as well as provide opportunities for persons with experience and who satisfies certain conditions through qualifying examinations for certificates of qualification in the designated trades. It also maintains and upgrades the standard of service in the fields of hairdressing, barbering, beauty treatment and manicuring by conducting examinations and issuing licences in those trades.

In the past year, extensive effort has resulted in reactivation of the Apprenticeship Board and Trade Advisory Committees. Ongoing liaison and co-operation with the federal CEIC has been developed in order to address problems of skilled shortages and to improve quantities of training. The quality of training is also being enhanced by a more comprehensive approach to curriculum development based on extensive industry input.

Emphasis on women entering apprenticeship has resulted in the development of a financial incentive training program aimed towards this goal. Activity continues in broadening the numbers of designated trades. An extensive review has been undertaken of The Hairdressing Act and regulations with a view of upgrading skills within the trade.

Staffing: With respect to staffing in the current fiscal year, 1980-81, there are 26 staff man years in the program. We are requesting the same number in 1981-82.

Now to give the member a rundown, there was 14 women that originally went into that program. Two had terminated for personal reasons. Two terminated but are now enrolled in pre-employment courses at Red River Community College; one is in the auto

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mechanics and the other one is in painting and decorating. One is apprenticing with Manitoba Hydro as a power electrician; one is apprenticing with Sherritt-Gordon Mines as an industrial welder; one is a printer at Videoprint; one is a watch repairer in the Canada West Watch Repair at Dauphin; two are auto mechanics; one is autobody repair work; three are taking up carpentry; since then, I'll just check my numbers before I give us the mike if you wish, since then there have been one or two or three more; and there are two pending applications that we think will be through within hours or days for autobody mechanic.

MS. JUNE WESTBURY: Are those being subsidized at the present time, Mr. Chairman?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, they are.

MS. WESTBURY: As they graduate from the program and go on to other things are they being replaced by new women coming into the program?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, Mr. Chairman, it's like so many other things you start; you think you're doing well and you find better ways to do it as you progress through it. We had thought, and I think I probably said some place that we had taken in 14 to start with; at a later date we'd take in maybe 12 or 14 more; we have now found that the 12 or 14 was fine, initially, working reasonably well, now we are taking on an on-going basis one and two more, like as I just mentioned, there are two virtually ready now to get in, within a week there might be two more and three more and we are just going to continue to build on that program.

MS. WESTBURY: Thank you. I wanted to ask about representation for women on the Apprenticeship Board, the Tradesman Qualification Board or on the Trade Advisory Committee. When I asked about this last year I got the impression in his reply, that he didn't feel it was his responsibility to make those nominations but the opinion that the Women in Trades Association had and the reason for their requests being directed to him was that it is his prerogative to call for nominations regarding these appointments. What they asked him to consider, supported by the Provincial Council of Women, was to consider the need to have woman representatives on those boards and committees before renominating an all-male board and perhaps, in calling for nominations, to stipulate that they should include names of appropriate women as well as appropriate men.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, last year I said we'd endeavour to do something about the situation that the Member from Fort Rouge is talking about. We've found ourselves in the last few years on the Advisory Committees, particularly for the trades, and it goes back many years and there is documentation to establish this that the Advisory Committees just weren't working. In fact, people were not only absent; people had passed away; people had moved out of the provinces. We found that it was in very bad bad shape going back to about the mid-early 70s and for a variety of reasons I suspect it was never really brought up-to-date, all those

committees. We've worked very hard at it as the industries and the labour movement will tell you in Manitoba. Worked to the point where we were probably becoming aggravators but we were determined to get those committees filled. We just didn't think apprenticeship programs were going to work well if they weren't filled and we were correct.

We have asked people in various organizations to submit names, not one name has been submitted that is a woman, to sit on any of those committees. I'm not sure if I should reverse discrimination, if you wish, and if the pipefitters send in a name or the electricians or the carpenters, just say to heck with you I'm going to put a woman on there. Time may help us in that area but there is not one woman's name submitted by any organization who, by statute and by right, it just makes sense that you have certain organizations represented on certain committees, and we did not receive one woman's name as nominated. As I said time may change that. What we did do is assured ourself that we now have two women in the Apprenticeship Division on staff with our government. We're very very pleased with the way that has worked out.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member for Fort Rouge.

MS. WESTBURY: In calling for nominees did you ask the Women in Trades Association to submit any names?

MR. MacMASTER: The Women in Trades Association had suggested to us that we attempt to get some women on these Advisory Committees and we sent out letters to the various organizations and to the labour movement saying, there's vacancies, would you update. In fact in a lot of cases we just simply said, look, are you satisfied with who you have on there, give us some names, and we did not again receive the names that the member would like to have seen so that it would appease and satisfy her question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

MR. PETER FOX: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Honourable Minister can indicate if there have been any changes in the apprenticeships which indicate reduced time or reduced qualifications in the trades qualifications and what they are, if there are.

MR. MacMASTER: It's a two-part question and I'll answer it in two parts. The quality is not deteriorating in any way, shape or form. We are reviewing and we've had 11 meetings in the last year on curriculum for various trades; one is taking place right now in Brandon. So we are looking at the curriculum from the trades persons viewpoint and from industry's viewpoint, the Department of Education, ourselves, we're working on that. Again, it's something that, whether it's 5, 10, 15, 20 years, hasn't been reviewed in a lot of cases and had good solid input from all parties concerned.

MR. FOX: Can the Minister indicate if any of the advisory groups have made any major recommendations in respect to change and could he

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give us a brief outline of those changes that have been suggested? Maybe I should give you a couple of questions and that would give you a chance to put them into context.

The other area was, I was wondering if there has been any elimination in respect to any of the trading programs. I know we've had standbys for years and years and years and some of them we find that there's a dearth of unemployment simply because there just isn't any more of the same call, and I won't be specific because I'm sure the Minister has much more and better information than I have.

The other thing was, if there have been any consultations between the Federal and the Provincial Governments in respect to new training thrusts because of the changing technology; whether there are any areas that we are getting young people interested in and what those would be; whether there is any research going on in his department in respect to training development, even before the Federal Government asks for some because Manitoba may be unique in some particular area? We may have some special interest development in some industries that are just particular to Manitoba, so therefore, we may have to develop some capacity as well in determining where to go. So those are just a few of the questions I'd like some information on for a starter.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, I'm advised that the curriculum update is taking into consideration one of the things that the member has mentioned. For his information the trades that have been updated to date are machinists; now the next two of course are the two new designated ones, so of course they are pretty current, and that's your tool and die, it's just been designated in Manitoba; the mould and pattern maker has just been designated in Manitoba so they are pretty updated; industrial mechanic and the heavy duty mechanic; those five are all updated with a very substantial amount of input from Industry and Labour.

MR. FOX: Are we having any development in respect to the electronic and electrical industry? Considering that we're getting into more and more technological change and automated equipment, are we developing a thrust into that particular area?

MR. MacMASTER: Electronics per se, Mr. Chairman, are not presently designated but the industrial electrician's course is one that's on-line to be updated, the same as the ones that I just mentioned to the member.

MR. FOX: The Minister indicated in our earlier discussions that there was upgrading in the construction industry. Could he inform us whether this is through the regular training program or is this specifically geared to individuals and not necessarily to the trades training?

MR. MacMASTER: I understand there are 130 tradesmen involved in that particular program. The curriculum was established by the Apprenticeship Division and it's a six-week course.

MR. FOX: Is this just a general upgrading course or is this related to a specific trades group or are they a

mixture of tradesmen and the courses are just to upgrade them in — well, I wouldn't know exactly what but general . . .

MR. MacMASTER: Eleven trades are involved.

MR. FOX: Eleven trades. The Minister indicates 11 trades but he's indicated it was 132 people. Does that mean there is 11 courses or are they all one course and everyone is getting upgraded equally?

MR. MacMASTER: There are separate trades: two weeks on blueprinting, maths and safety; and the blueprinting is something that tradesmen have said to me over and over again that they really want to get themselves into more. The final four weeks is job specific related upgrading, carpentry, electric, whatever the case may be. So the first two weeks are general, blueprint, preparation in reading, maths, safety and the last four weeks is upgrading in the specific trade.

MR. FOX: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I asked the Minister also whether he had any specific major recommendations from the advisory groups with respect to the development of some particular trades training and I think he didn't get the information from his staff. Would he answer that, please?

MR. MacMASTER: The Machinist Trade Advisory Committee, and I don't know if this is specifically what the member is talking about, but this is one of the beauties of having these committees so active, a lot of good things are happening. They have us looking now at a type of a trade called a machine set-up operator. The tradespeople themselves presently in the trade feel that the other, though it may not be a three or four-year apprenticeship sort of a trade; there is enough talent required that it could be specified as a type of a trade. They have asked us — that's the Machinist Advisory Committee of Union and Management — to look at the possibility, and we're working with them now, of establishing a two-year course on machine set-up operations. What we finally call it, what the final title would be, how it would be designated, we can work out the mechanics of that.

MR. FOX: Are there any others besides this one particular recommendation, Mr. Chairman?

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, I think this will be the last. Now, there may be some that are at the beginning stage; but two that have progressed past the beginning stage, in addition to the machine set-up operator, is a roofer, in the roofing industry; and the airplane maintenance engineer, the oil space industry has a whole host of semi-sort of trades and the industry and the unions involved in that. I think what they are trying to do is carve out a piece that they feel could be called a trades person's portion of the operation. For years we had millwrights and helpers and now the example of the industry machinists are millwrights. An excellent example, I think, is that the machinists themselves in industry are now saying that there is another sort of a trade there called the machine set-up operator. Now, in the aerospace industry they are saying there is a type of a profession or trade, whatever you wish to call it

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and at the moment that isn't designated or thoughts haven't been given as to how that would happen, but the airplane maintenance engineer is a type that is being looked at at this moment.

MR. FOX: In respect to these new developments that the Minister indicates, are these going to be diploma courses and then eventually developed into journeyman status or what will be their qualifications? Will they be specific to a particular industry that requires these or will they have enough general background to fit into a wider area in respect to finding employment?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, we hope that we can designate them all, that's the objective, and certainly certify them. The objective is not to train a person precisely for one type of equipment with one type of company, that's not the objective. The objective is to give that person basic knowledge, hopefully some day a diploma or certification or have the trade designated or whatever, so that person is versatile, talented and has a bit of elbow room to move across the street to the other competitor if he so chooses or back into the city or out of the city whatever the case may be.

So I think I know what the member is saying and if he is suggesting that we're trying, or he's hoping that we don't — or at least I hope he's hoping because it concurs with my thoughts — that we're not gearing training in for specific machine for a specific company. We're trying to give them the general knowledge as it relates to the operation that happens at that time to be with the company or a particular industry.

MR. FOX: Yes, I would concur with the Minister. I would hope that this would not just be slotting people because there is a need at a particular place that they would get enough general background so that they could vary their place of employment from a particular plant or even industry.

I have one other question before I turn the floor over to someone else. The Minister indicated that he had I believe, one SMY extra in this department; no? But the salaries indicate something like \$100,000 or more increase. Can the Minister indicate why, if there is no increase in SMYs in the training area?

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, we added five people to that division during the course of the year. Two were the women in the Apprenticeship division and three were Critical Skills. We had this Critical Skills Program and negotiated ourselves into what we thought was a heck of a program and just didn't have the horses to do the job. Again we kept working during the course of the year, got ourselves into the Women in Trades Program and didn't have the horses to do the job.

MR. FOX: If I understand the Minister correctly then, he has added SMYs or else they were vacant SMYs that he is now filling. You had them before. You added them, I see. Okay, thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. WILLIAM JENKINS: How many apprentices does the government or its Crown agency have

under the Apprenticeship Program at the present time?

MR. MacMASTER: About 101.

MR. JENKINS: Of these 101, how many are women apprentices at the present time?

MR. MacMASTER: One power engineer with Manitoba Hydro.

MR. JENKINS: Is this a new apprenticeship or is this apprenticeship being carried on for . . .

MR. MacMASTER: It's a new one.

MR. JENKINS: And we have no other apprentices in Government Services or anything else — no women apprentices in those trades whatsoever. Is that correct?

MR. MacMASTER: Just one at the moment.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chairman, I'm a bit disappointed because I think we had a fairly good discussion on this last year and I think I pointed out at that time that while I'm all in favour of women getting into the apprenticeship program I think that the government has to be one that has to set the example. I'm very disappointed in Government Services that there are no women apprentices at the present time. I would hope that the Minister would draw this to the attention of the Minister of Government Services, hopefully that we would set the kind of example — it's all very well to say to industry that they should be setting up these programs and I think there is incentive programs for them to do so, but we certainly can't expect the general public to follow if we're not prepared to show the way.

I must express extreme disappointment that we as a government, an employer of people in various fields of industry because there are various services that are supplied by the government itself. We have carpenters, electricians, I imagine some bricklayers and not being able, and that seems what it is, either it's an inability to attract them or it's an unwillingness to even participate in the program. The only woman apprentice that we have at the present time in any government agency or Crown corporation is one, at the Manitoba Hydro. I think that is an appalling record. When we are setting up all these programs we should be leading and showing the way to the rest of the province in the field of making it possible for those who wish to enter into apprenticeship programs, I think that the government should be the leader and showing the way in this field. Unfortunately, we haven't made . . . I don't know maybe we had none last year — I guess that's 100 percent by getting one, but that in itself is a very very poor record, Mr. Chairman. I would certainly hope that the Minister when he's in contact with his colleagues in Cabinet and especially those that are employing people where there is apprenticeship programs, that he would try and stress onto them especially, that there should be at least an effort made to recruit people who are willing to serve apprenticeships and I must say that again, I express extreme disappointment at the record that this government has achieved in this field.

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MR. MacMASTER: I have no disappointment in the efforts that we've created in this particular field. Last year in total government Crown agencies there were 90 people involved in apprentices — none were women. This year we've got 101 and one is a woman. Last year there were 11 in the entire province and the Member for Logan said to me, I hope that number's up next year — well there's 23 this year. I'm not saying that's enough but I'm saying that's a substantial move over the course of a year. Within government agencies we don't intend to create or go force somebody to create a position for an apprentice. There are all kinds of opportunities for government that when openings become available and there's lots of opportunities within industry for women to get into those trades. We're promoting it, never promoted before and I have difficulty accepting the member saying that he's appalled at the record.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chairman, we went up from 90 to 101 apprentices serving with the government and its Crown corporations and Crown agencies, of those new 11 positions we got one. I believe that we went up from what was it 11 to 23. I would say that the private sector has certainly in their effort done a much better job than what the government has done. The Minister says that he is spending a lot of effort and I'm not disputing that he isn't, but I wish he would spend a little bit of effort convincing people within the purview of government. Mr. Chairman, if the increase, and there was none, I quite agree with the Minister there were no women serving apprenticeships in government service whatsoever, but to have one, and we have been able to have an increase of 12 in the province and that's a start, it's disappointing I have to admit it is disappointing but I think that, and I have to reiterate, you cannot expect the private sector to do the job that you expect them to do unless you're prepared to show them the way. An increase of one person, and I guess if we hadn't of raised the issue last year perhaps we wouldn't even of had that one, I don't know how we got that one person.

But was there any effort made by the government and by the Crown agencies and Crown corporations when there were 11 new apprenticeships available, how hard did the government work, and his department, work at making this knowledge to women — I don't even know what the apprenticeships were, maybe they were not of a type that women could do, I don't know, but I don't think there's any apprenticeship at the present time that women, from what I read and what I hear, are prepared to do anything, any job, and they're prepared to take their lumps as well as the male sector of the population. But just what input did the Minister's department have in getting that one person involved in an apprenticeship program out of the 11 positions that became available? I'm not saying to the Minister they should create some special conditions whereby these people are going to be in that position, but of those 11 positions that became open how much input was put in by his department and the apprenticeship people within his department to make sure that at least these people or the people who were interested had an opportunity to make an application to serve that apprenticeship within the government services.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, I'm not running around the province with private enterprise or with government ordering them and I don't intend to. What we do intend to do is continue to encourage. I have been in touch with virtually every Minister that has responsibility for departments who have tradesmen working in them and made them aware of the fact that we have a program, and made them aware of the fact that when vacancies occur that we would appreciate them giving consideration for women. We don't intend to go around ordering people to do it; that's not the way to get into the program. It's a new area. Encouragement and support is what is required and that's what we're doing.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chairman, I never intimated at any time that the Minister should tell them. I intimated to the Minister that he should make them aware.

MR. MacMASTER: They are aware.

MR. JENKINS: Now I would like to ask the Minister a further question. Of the 11 positions that were open how many women applied for those? Is there any way that this type of information is available? How many people in total applied for those 11 apprenticeships that were available last year? Does the Minister have any knowledge of that or is there any way that we can find that out?

MR. MacMASTER: I have no knowledge of how many people applied for those positions.

MR. JENKINS: Is it possible for the Minister to find out?

MR. MacMASTER: I suppose I could, if the member wants that information.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would appreciate it very much, at least to satisfy in my own mind that there was a fair opportunity given to those people. If there were 11 openings, were these openings bulletined for an apprenticeship program? Just how were these programs advertised? Were they by word of mouth, or was there adverts, or just how were these 11 apprenticeship openings made to the general public so that they could make application, be they male or female?

MR. MacMASTER: I suspect it's done in a variety of ways throughout the departments and the Crown agencies. I don't have a set formula of how they fill their apprenticeship positions.

MR. JENKINS: Could the Minister ascertain what methods were used? Is that possible?

MR. MacMASTER: Certainly.

MR. JENKINS: I thank the Minister, I would appreciate having that. Now in your report on Page 61, where it states that joint effort with the Federal Government Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, it increased apprenticeships in the critical shortage trades with 180 provincially registered apprentices, also on contract under the Critical Trades Skills Training Program. Of those 180

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apprentices that were provincially registered, were any of these women apprentices?

MR. MacMASTER: Part of the answer is, yes. That number within our book can be updated from 180 to presently 193 and I'll get the other number if the member wishes to carry on with his questions. I'll get that number of how many women are involved in that.

MR. JENKINS: Yes, thank you. Could the Minister enlighten us just what these critical shortage trades were? Are they new trades, are they old trades, or what are those trades that we seem to be critically short of — skilled trades here in the Province of Manitoba? Of the 193, just where would they fit?

MR. MacMASTER: I'll get that answer.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Churchill

MR. JAY COWAN: I'd like to ask the Minister if he can indicate or if he can specify as to where the 14 women who were in the Women in Trades Program fit into the figures that he gave us before. He indicated last year that there were 11 women apprentices in the province and this year he indicates that there are 23. Are the 14 that are currently participating in that program considered to be part of those 23 women apprentices in the province?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, the 14 is now 12. I outlined that before and the 12 are part of the 23. Now if you want, I can answer the member's question. The critical trades that we were dealing with — we're still looking for the number of women, I haven't got that answer — is, heavy duty equipment mechanic, industrial electrician, industrial instrument mechanic, industrial mechanic, industrial welder, machinist, tool and die maker, mould and pattern maker, industrial sheet metal worker, air frame mechanic, aero-engineer mechanic. That's the critical trades we have been dealing with.

MR. COWAN: As we were unable to write that list down as quickly as it was presented, I wonder if that's a pamphlet, if he could provide us with a copy or if he could go over the last four. I got up to tool and die maker and then . . .

MR. MacMASTER: Mould and pattern maker, industrial sheet metal worker, air frame mechanic, aero-engineer mechanic.

MR. COWAN: To go back to the previous question, if the 12 participants in Women in Trades Program are considered to be part of the larger body of 23 participants, then what we see is that the private sector hasn't significantly increased the number of women apprentices with them on their own. In fact, if you separate the Women in Trades group out from the 23, you end up with the number of 11, which was the number last year. I'd ask the Minister if he would care to comment on that observation.

MR. MacMASTER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I can't get flak from both sides of the question. The Member for Logan says the private sector and he's giving me heck for them picking up all the slack with the

women in trades, and now the Member for Churchill says that the private sector isn't picking it up, so because I think of the emphasis we've put on the Women in Trades Program, that the private sector certainly has co-operated to this extent. As I said, there's a couple more pending right now and hopefully there will be one or two or three or four or five every month, whatever the case may be. There may be substantially more than that.

MR. COWAN: I certainly don't want to be interpreted as speaking against the philosophy of the Women in Trades Program. However, the point I think that has to be highlighted is that on their own initiative, the private sector has remained exactly where it was in the previous year and that's with a total of 11 apprentices that were brought into the system on their own initiative, or part of the system on their own initiative, without government subsidy.

The Women in Trades Program has accounted for 12 more and we certainly do encourage that sort of support mechanism to enable more women to get into the skilled trades areas. However, I don't want a misinterpretation to remain on the record. I think perhaps even I've clarified that for the Member for Logan as well, that in fact, there were only 11 women apprentices on their own in the private sector, so we haven't seen a significant increase, so if I'm going to give flak to the Minister, I'm going to give it on that basis. And not to say that the Minister is responsible for the private sector in respect to apprentices, women apprentices, but to say that the Minister promised us educational programs, the Minister promised us PR programs last year which were all going to be directed towards involving more women in the skilled trades areas and apprenticeships and if we separate the one program, which is a good program in philosophy, out from the global figure, we see that it just hasn't happened. It hasn't happened, I would suggest, because we haven't seen that sort of massive PR program, we haven't seen that sort of direct pressure applied to the private sector in whatever way to ensure that more women are brought into the apprenticeships.

We have seen the Federal Government start to do something in respect to this problem, through their TV advertising and through their media campaigns and if the Minister wants to make a comment on that because maybe we can both take a shot at the Federal Government.

MR. MacMASTER: We have read some things.

MR. COWAN: That's right. The Minister says we have read some things and we've some ads, but we haven't seen the result yet but I would suggest to him and without wanting to be taken as giving widespread to the Federal Government's efforts in this area, I do think the advertising that they are starting to promote is an essential part of a larger picture. It by itself will not provide the solution that all of seek, but it is a part of the picture and I would say if the government failed, it failed in that respect; if the Provincial Government failed, it failed in that respect and the Minister had suggested that there would be those sorts of public relations efforts and they are important, because if the Minister is saying he is not go on with the affirmative action programs, quotas, whatever, and if the Minister is saying that

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it's the private sector that has to make those choices, and if the Minister is saying that for all his enticements and all his encouragements within his own government, all he has been able to do over the last year is get one woman apprentice into the apprenticeship programs in the government, then what he is saying is that those mechanisms are not working very well and we need to develop other mechanisms.

Now we would disagree on mechanisms. We have different ideas on what mechanisms should be put in place to encourage and to support women getting into the trades, but at least the Minister should have some program. What he has now outside of the Women in Trades Program is not succeeding and if he's going to rely upon public money and subsidy to get women into the trades, then he is going to find that he will be limited by his own budget and that he will never be able to bring about the circumstances and the conditions which will answer the inequity that is already there that will provide access, the great deal of access, that is necessary for women to get into the trades. Is he planning to come out with a public campaign, media campaign, to supplement his own Women in Trades Program to make that program more effective and as well to provide some incentive and encouragement to women who may be in the labour force right now and may be wondering about their future and may be trying to consider apprenticeship as a part of their own future, as well as to provide the sort of public support that is necessary to enable them to get into a field where they have been disadvantaged and discriminated against for decades?

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, we sometimes find ourself not liking statistics and we often use statistics to our own advantage, we all agree to that. I notice that the Member for Churchill, who does a lot of statistical work, isn't saying that there's an excess of 100 percent increase in women involved in trades. I think he may or may not be pleased next year if there was another 100 percent increase, full well knowing that within a few days and we'll even count them, that there's going to be at least two more, so that would be 25. Maybe next year, if it was another 100 percent, that would be 50. The numbers become extremely interesting in two or three years and I don't know whether I have the patience for that or not, but it's interesting.

We have the two women within the Apprenticeship Division, which I know the former government gave some consideration to do doing that, precisely putting a woman in that division to help promote it and for whatever reason chose not to, but we find that's going to be of great advantage to us. We think the 23, 24, 25, whatever it is, number of women that are involved today, as they do well, and we think they are going to do well, that in itself will help break down some of the barriers that other people are watching and looking and are they going to make it sort of a thing? Will they survive and eventually become apprentices and become tradespeople? That is part of the whole scenario.

The two women that we do have within the Apprenticeship Division have done a lot of PR work throughout the province. For example, they have had speaking engagements at Red River Community College, Keewatin Community College; they have had

meetings with the trades advisory groups in different trade areas; example, heavy duty equipment, mechanic and electrical; they have been speaking with teachers in the vocational education system; they have met with supervisors and union people from the, example, the Atomic Energy Area in Pinawa; they have spoke up in Dauphin at Career Days of vocational high schools; they have met with and spoke in Sherritt-Gordon, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake, of course, is Sherritt-Gordon; in Brandon at the Assiniboine Community College; Portage la Prairie; and they got a long list of speaking engagements throughout the province. We really feel that is going to reap rewards for us in familiarizing people in various parts of the province geographically and in different sectors of our society as to the credibility of women being considered within the trades area.

MR. COWAN: Well, I'm pleased with the 100 percent increase in the number of women apprentices that have come about as a result of the Women in Trades Program, which we support in principle. I'm not certain that there haven't been problems with that; I'm not certain that there won't always be problems with new innovative programs, but certainly the principle behind that and the philosophy behind that program we support. However, I am appalled by the fact that less than 1 percent of the apprentices in the government apprenticeship program and less than 1 percent of the apprentices in the private sector apprenticeship programs are women. There hasn't been any significant increase in those particular areas so the statistics cut both ways, certainly.

We do appreciate the Women in Trades Program, the concept of the Women in Trades Program at least; however, it is not meeting the need and that's what we're saying. It's not enough, it is something but it is not enough. We will also say that the speaking engagements by the two apprenticeship counsellors whom are women and who were hired by the government in order to promote, at least in part, the entry of women into the trades field is another area that we support. However, we say again, it is not enough, because as many speaking engagements as they can get, they are going to find that they can't get enough, that they can't speak enough, that they can't be all the places that they should be and there has to be some sort of effort to support them. There has to be some sort of public relations campaign; there has to be some sort of concentrated and comprehensive effort on the part of the government, because what we are trying to do, and the Minister is fully aware of that, is undue decades, perhaps centuries, perhaps as far back as history of discriminatory practices, of ideas and concepts that have been ingrained through practise and philosophy for hundreds of years. Two women going around the province speaking about the advantages of women into trades, women entering into the trades field is not enough. There has to be other programs that complemented their work and the program that has provided us with 100-percent increase in the number of women apprentices in the private sector apprenticeship programs is not enough; especially, if at the same time the number of women in the rest of the private sector apprenticeship program outside of the Women in Trades Program has decreased as a

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percentage, which it has. There were 11 last year; there are 11 this year but there are more apprentices this year. Now I would suggest that decrease is insignificant, that it does not represent a sizable percentage decrease, but the fact is that there are only 11 that are outside of the program. So while the program is to be supported, the other efforts which must complement that program aren't there and we're seeing evidence that they aren't there.

That is a subject which we have debated in the past; we will debate again. We encourage the Minister where we think the programs are good programs but we certainly reserve the right to be appalled by the lack of progress. I'll allow the Minister an opportunity to answer that if he wants to before I go onto another area. He indicates not.

I'd like to talk to an area that I know is of special concern to the Minister and myself and that's mining as a trade, because we've seen a lot of problems in that particular apprenticeship program. So before presenting my remarks I'd ask the Minister if he can provide us with an update as to what's happening with that program and what efforts he's undertaken in the past year to correct some of the problems with that program, efforts which were promised to us during the last Estimates and I think the Estimates preceding that one.

MR. MacMASTER: Well the miners as a trades program has some problems. It didn't have at first; it was a new concept; it was accepted by the entire industry and the union leadership and I think the members. We now find a variety of positions, some by local unions in different areas, some are very forceful about wanting a trade, some I think are finding that a lot of the people working in the working in the mines are necessarily desirous of having the trade. So there are some inadequacies as to the approach by the industry as a whole. We have been trying for a long time to get the parties together to set up a series of meetings with all those concerned and we think we have achieved that arrangement now.

On March 16th we will be meeting with management of HBMS and with the unions of that particular company, that's in Flin Flon; on March 17th we will be meeting with management and unions in Snow Lake; on March 18th we are going to be meeting with Inco management and the unions at Inco; on March 19th we are going to be in Sherritt-Gordon meeting with management and unions; and on March 20th we will be in Leaf Rapids meeting with management and the unions. We hope after those series of extensive meetings that we can come out with some conclusions as to where that entire industry wants to go with that trade . . .

MR. COWAN: Well these meetings, and I'd ask the Minister to be as honest and forthright as he can be without having to take on the robes of a prophet, might these meetings mean the end of the program as it exists today? Might these meetings mean the end of the entire concept of mining as a trade? Is it in that much trouble right now? Are we going to lose this program?

MR. MacMASTER: I suppose there are two sides to every question for every position. The Member from Churchill has suggested that possibly, or I don't

know if that's his words, but what he is saying, coming out of these meetings there is that possibility that that may be entirely the end of the miner as a tradesperson in the three, four, five major northern centres, mining centres. I suppose that possibility is there.

The other possibility on the extreme is that they all may concur that it's a great program and with some slight variations it can be carried forth and it might become more attractive to management and to the unions and to the people working in the mines.

There are three parts and I have always said that even as a union leader. There is the management and the union leadership, who are very desirous of having policy programs, principles, that type of thing and then there are those who are directly affected and that doesn't always concur in total. Your members, your leadership by and large is symbolic of the exact feeling of the men and women in the plants, but sometimes the men and women in the plants either, because for their own personal reasons or because they feel that something is outdated, inappropriate or not prepared to carry on or not interested, whatever the case may be, you sometimes find that the union leadership may still maintain that the idea is a hell of a good one, but for some reason that membership just isn't quite buying that particular direction that you're taking.

At these meetings we may find — we may find, I don't know, we may find a whole bunch of things. That's why we set up the meetings — but the union leadership themselves may say, you know we still believe in the program, we want to vary it, we want to make it more attractive, we want to introduce new approaches to it, because obviously, and this again bears out what I'm trying to say and I don't know if I'm using the right words, but obviously the memberships of those unions are not at this moment, for one reason or another attracted to enter the trade. Now we can say it's because of this, because of that, because of the other things. Let's find out at those meetings before we draw any conclusions.

MR. COWAN: That indeed is the understatement of this set of Estimates, that the miners themselves are not accepting this program. I note from the statistics that there were no new registrations in 1980 or October 31, 1979, October 31, '80 for this particular program, that there were three cancellations and only two completions with the total of 13 active apprenticeships and that's gone down from 18 the year previous, which is up from eight in 1978. But one must go back to '77 where it was 18 and '76 where it was 31, in order to get a more accurate picture of what's been happening trend-wise. The Minister says that these meetings are intended and designed to come up with either some solutions or possibly the decision that the program is not a viable program. How many times has the Mining as a Trade Advisory Council met during the past year?

MR. MacMASTER: I understand they met in January of 1981 and I haven't got the record for '80, but I suspect there wasn't too many meetings and if we go back in the records we may find one but I don't know. But they did recently meet in January of this year.

MR. COWAN: Well the obvious question to the Minister is why hasn't that committee been called

into action to deal with what is obviously some very serious problems in the apprenticeship program, problems which the Minister has acknowledged for a couple of years running now, problems which we all knew were existing and problems which the Minister suggested that he was going to be forwarding to the Advisory Council last year in hopes that they would be able to come up with some answers? With that intention why is it that that committee only met, perhaps the one time in 1980 and I'm not certain, and the one time in 1981 so far?

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, sometimes you find when things are not working well, and this trade hasn't been working for a long period of time, that you should maybe get right back to the bottom of the thing, right back to the guts of it and find out really what is happening. There has been informal discussions take place. This one meeting I'm talking about is an official meeting. We have had informal discussions during the course of the last year with unions and with management.

MR. COWAN: Can the Minister inform us as to who is on the Mining as a Trades Advisory Council?

MR. MacMASTER: Do you want to ask another question?

MR. COWAN: Yes, the Minister indicates that he will provide me with that information if in the meanwhile I ask another question.

Well, the other question was going to flow from that because I think what we have on that committee is representation from both management and from labour and I would hope there is some representation from government on that committee as well. If that's the case then it would seem to me that that committee is eminently suited to deal with the situation. They have been people who have been chosen from the leadership of those groups and to represent those groups, to bring forward the ideas and suggestions and criticisms of their own membership, whether it be industry membership or union membership and that they should have been entrusted with an opportunity to try to come to grips with this program and the problems within this program in a more concrete way. Having given the Minister an opportunity to come forward with some names I'd ask him if they are now available?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There was also a difficulty and I can't tell the member whether it was a two-month or four-month or a five-month problem in getting names submitted for this particular committee. The names, the employer representatives are: Francis Youngworth, R. McComb and G. Marshall. The employee representatives are: Fred Roman, Lex Lovatt and Rex Osmand.

MR. COWAN: Are there government members on that committee, Mr. Chairperson?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, the Director of Apprenticeship and Training is on it plus two others.

MR. COWAN: Now the Minister says that there were difficulties in getting names for that particular

committee. Can he be more explicit as to what those difficulties were and how they were dealt with?

MR. MacMASTER: There was a period of time that we were waiting for nominations and I haven't got those dates.

MR. COWAN: But the committee has been a functioning committee for six months, nine months, four months? That's a question to the Minister; how long has that committee been a functioning committee?

MR. MacMASTER: About last March or April we asked for nominations to that committee. We received all the nominations by December this year and they had their first meeting in January.

MR. COWAN: So the first meeting of that committee was January of this year; is that correct?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, this new group.

MR. COWAN: Of the new group — there was a group previous to that?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, there was in years gone by and I haven't got records of that. I suppose I could dig them out some place.

MR. COWAN: I don't think those records are important right at the moment. However, we discussed this matter last year in some detail and we knew there were problems, we discussed the year previous and we knew there were problems, and it just seems strange to me that with that awareness and that interest — and I'm not accusing the Minister of not being interested in this because I know he is — he has told us he is and I accept those assurances sincerely. I am somewhat confused by the fact that we didn't get a meeting till January of 1981.

Now that we have a committee in place the first thing that appears to be happening is that the Minister's department is circumventing the committee, actually subverting the purpose of the committee by holding meetings in Flin Flon, Snow Lake, Thompson, Lynn Lake and Leaf Rapids with industry people, with union individuals. I'm not suggesting that's not an appropriate action on the part of the Minister but I am suggesting that it is certainly going to take the wind out of the sails of the committee members, and it would make them, I believe, honestly wonder why they are sitting in the committee, why there is that committee. It took so long to put it together and then once it gets together there seems to be a circumvention of the purpose of that committee. Perhaps the Minister would comment on that analysis, perhaps I'm wrong in the way I perceive the process.

MR. MacMASTER: The member is wrong and I can't fault him except that I guess we've been saying so much we haven't been keeping track of what we said. I said to the member a long time ago, like 30 minutes ago, it seems a long time ago — that there were a large number of varied viewpoints on this particular topic. Here we now finally have a committee and the varied viewpoints are very evident

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within that committee. So we have said fine, if the viewpoints are that varied let's go out to the field and go right into the towns and into the industries' areas and that's what we intend to do. We intend to go to Flin Flon, Snow Lake, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake and Thompson and talk to the union leadership in those areas, to management that are directly effected with this program and find out just where the problems are and see if we can resolve them. I don't think it's a matter of circumventing it. All these people on an individual basis during the course of our tours through Northern Manitoba, these people will be involved one way or another because they all come out of that industry.

MR. COWAN: Are these persons going on the committee, the committee members, going to be at each of the meetings in a formalized way? Are they going to be a part of each of the meetings, the whole committee, when the employees of the Minister are meeting with HBMS and the unions at Flin Flon, Snow Lake?

MR. MacMASTER: No they won't be, they have all come as representatives of the particular group they are representing, they all have their own viewpoints, their viewpoints have been expressed, their viewpoints differ and vary so we're now going back to the areas throughout the north to deal with more directly I suppose with a broader group to see if there isn't some consensus someplace within that area.

MR. COWAN: So the committee is now non-functional.

MR. MacMASTER: Yes.

MR. COWAN: The committee is now non-functional. The question to the Minister . . . the Minister says that the committee is not going to be a part of those discussions, that he is in fact going to go out and make requests for greater representations which is sometimes an appropriate action and I don't want to comment on the specifics on this without having had more time to review and analyze. However, if he is going out for that greater representation and he is not including the committee as a part of that process, he is making the committee non-functional.

MR. MacMASTER: It's a matter of semantics I guess and a matter of words. I don't think it's non-functional. I said to the member that each one of those people come from a particular area in the north. Each one of those people when we arrive at their particular site will be involved and the total findings of that trip will be brought back to that committee.

MR. COWAN: Is this — perhaps the more appropriate question is — who is going to be representing the government on that tour which is coming up starting March 16 and ending March 20?

MR. MacMASTER: The Director, the Assistant Director and the Apprenticeship Counsellor.

MR. COWAN: Are those people then going to make a formal report to the Mining as a Trades Advisory Committee?

MR. MacMASTER: That's what I said.

MR. COWAN: They will be doing that. Then that Mining as a Trades Advisory Committee which is . . . we'll tape that report which is obviously done to represent the varied viewpoints that they already represent and try to put it together into some structure, or is that going to be done before they receive the report? Are the Ministers' representatives going to be not only taking down verbatim the criticisms, the suggestions, the positive approaches but are they also going to be trying to compile that into what they perceive to be the proper approach?

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, I think that the members that I've mentioned that are going on that trip are quite capable of recording the viewpoints that are expressed, the criticisms and the constructive suggestions that are put forward by all the groups that they are going to be dealing with and bringing that back and sitting down with the committee and going over it.

MR. COWAN: I didn't intend nor do I believe my remarks were in any way suggestive that the people weren't credible and competent. I'm just trying to determine the need for a committee if in fact this sort of process is ongoing. I would suggest to the Minister that it's the action which may or may not be appropriate, is too late nonetheless. That is not to say that we can't salvage the program, I certainly hope that we do salvage the program. I certainly hope that we do salvage the program but it should have been done a long time ago. That committee should have been functioning a long time ago and there is something wrong somewhere if for the past year we have been without an Advisory Council to assist the Minister in what appears to be a very difficult process of making that program acceptable to industry, to the unions and to the miners themselves who will be participants in that program. I think the Minister has to accept — well, the Minister doesn't have to accept any criticism but I think some criticism is warranted in respect to the fact that we have not had that committee meeting. We were promised that committee would be meeting; we knew that there were problems a long time ago and it is an area of grave concern.

We're not just talking about a concept here; we're talking about a program that can make a major difference in the working lives of individuals who labour in the mines. One of the reasons for that program in the first place was the fact that it was felt that through this sort of training and apprenticeship program that they could stabilize the work force a bit. That has not been as necessary a process in the last couple of years because the employment levels in the mining industry have been dropping and that has a stabilizing effect on the work force, in the labour force, in that industry in that way. We don't have the high levels of turnover that you have during booms and so the work force has stabilized on its own because of economic conditions.

But another reason was to provide training as to the proper procedures to follow so that the mines would be a little safer place to work and I have to note that we just received the Accidents at Mines Report from the Department of Energy and Mines for 1979 for the year ending December 31, 1979, and

there has been no decrease in the frequency per million man hours worked as far as injuries are concerned. We made no progress in that particular area and I think that is an indictment of a lack of activity and a lack of effort and a lack of positive programs which will in fact deal with that serious problem of workplace safety and health in the mining industry. This was only one facet of a multi approach to dealing with that problem. This was training that was necessary to ensure that workers were well aware of the safe way in which to work underground, but the fact is that this program hasn't been working. The fact is that the frequency rate is staying the same; I'm not certain about the severity rate but I would imagine that it is either the same or in the general area.

We do find that there is all that much more need for this program to succeed and if I sound a bit pessimistic it's because I'm a bit worried and a bit concerned that not enough is being done to ensure the success of the program. I'm looking forward to being able to enter this Estimates debate next year and to discuss what has been done and discuss in more positive terms this particular program.

But I do have to criticize the Minister; I don't believe that enough has been done over the past year despite the assurances of last year. I don't want to have to believe that enough won't be done over the upcoming year despite the assurances of the Minister of this year. I would like to see the statistics which are sometimes a valuable tool and mechanism to analyse programs, appear more positively in next year's report.

I know that there are many concerns about this; I've talked to the miners themselves. I've been part of larger discussions where it has been discussed and I know that it is an area that is very complex and in its complexity is that much more difficult but that much more urgent because it is an area where there has to be a number of steps taken immediately in order to provide the support and provide the proper approaches to making certain that this program does succeed. So I don't mean this as a criticism of the Minister personally but I do hope that he will be able to accomplish more in the upcoming year than he has been able to accomplish in the past three years in respect to this particular program.

MR. MacMASTER: Mr. Chairman, the root of the whole problem may be just the non-desire of the people involved to participate in the program. It's pretty tough to try and force something on people who just are displaying absolutely no interest in it and that seems to be really at the bottom of the problem. I haven't had an opportunity to review the injury figures that the member has mentioned. I suppose there's three viewpoints, if it's decreased or happy if it's held its own, and you're not as unhappy as you are if the number of injuries have increased. I would have to look at it, review it and comment on it at a later date but the member should be aware that I have preached from one end of this province to the other that regardless of the degree of injury that people should report it. Friends of mine in various industries tell me that they are in fact starting to do that whether it's a nick in the finger or a kink in the back, because damn it all, I was involved in too many compensation cases over the years where the kink in the back happened on a Tuesday morning

and it was the following Wednesday or a week later that they tried to relate it to an accident.

So that message has certainly been preached and fostered by myself throughout the province. Maybe, just maybe in some instances that has a bearing on the accidents that are being reported. It was always something I advocated myself regardless of how minor you thought it was, you should sure as hell report it to somebody. That wasn't always the case.

MR. COWAN: Certainly I agree with the Minister in that and if by our words here we can encourage more accurate and better reporting of injuries by workers I think we'll be serving a useful function. However, it has no bearing on the figures or it would have an extremely insignificant bearing on the figures which are presented to the Minister and perhaps the problem is that I didn't explain in full what frequency rate we were using and that is the frequency rate for lost-time injuries and finger nicks and back sprains or a kink in the back are not usually lost-time injuries. In other words, if an injury is going to be a lost-time injury, it's going to be reported one way or the other and we're not talking about reports in respect to medical aid only. So the frequency rate which I presented earlier would not be altered by better reporting mechanisms. There may be other influences on that, that I don't know about but it would certainly not be altered by more people reporting nicks in fingers. It would be only be altered by more people reporting injuries which resulted in lost time so I would suggest that the Minister's remarks which are well taken and important in other contexts, in this context are a significant factor.

I've been looking desperately while we've been talking, for last year's comments on this particular area and have just found them. What I had suspected is confirmed in writing in the Hansard and that was that last year the Minister said, and I quote, "We are in the midst now of going out and meeting with the companies and with the unions involved to see what we can do about that particular trade." What the Minister is telling me this year is that he is in the midst of going out and meeting with the companies and with the unions involved to see what they can do about that particular trade. Now one is a direct quote, the other is paraphrase of the comments of the Minister and that's why we are extremely concerned that something actually be done this year instead of just suggesting that there are things being done. Is the Minister telling us that last year they didn't have those meetings between the companies and the unions in respect to this particular trade or is he telling us that those meetings were unsuccessful?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, for the sake of repeating myself, I said that we had informal discussions during the course of the last year with unions and with management. This year I've given the member a formalized schedule of when we're officially meeting with the companies to get their viewpoints and with the unions to get their viewpoints. We'll document, there'll be no more informality. It'll be very formal and we'll document just what they perceive to be the problems and what can be done to correct it.

MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to get back to the two apprenticeship counsellors that

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the Minister hired specifically to help prospective women apprentices to locate and retain employment for apprenticeships. What has been the success rate of the counsellors to date? This is quoting directly from your report here on Page 61. How successful have these two people been in helping prospective women apprentices locate and retain employment leading to apprenticeship?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, the two women have done a variety of things. The first thing we had to do was to totally familiarize them with the operation of government, the operation division, and we had to get them throughout the province so they knew really what it was all about. That was a fairly major undertaking. I gave the member a large list of speaking engagements they have undertaken and they are working with the women that we have in the program at the moment.

MR. JENKINS: Did these two counsellors have any input into the recruitment of the one person who is now serving an apprenticeship for the Manitoba Power Commission . . . or the Manitoba Hydro? Did they have any input into that recruitment and preparing the way for this person to be able to secure an apprenticeship with the Manitoba Hydro?

MR. MacMASTER: No, they came on after that. They are now presently involved in the recruitment and assistance of women that will be coming into the trades.

MR. JENKINS: Have we any women that have graduated, received a diploma or journeyman's certificate, of women who have been serving apprenticeships in the Province of Manitoba, and how many are actively working at the trades that they served their apprenticeships in? Is there any follow-up? The graduates; are they able to secure employment after they have finished their apprenticeship training, written their examinations, their practical tests that they take in order to secure a journeyman's paper? How many have graduated? How many are still actively working at the trade in which they graduated?

MR. MacMASTER: There are six, Mr. Chairman, and a few months ago they were active. I haven't got an up-to-date recent report on whether they're active in the trade that they undertook.

MR. JENKINS: Could the Minister enlighten the committee on what trades they successfully completed their apprenticeship in?

MR. MacMASTER: Heavy duty equipment mechanic, industrial instrument mechanic, industrial mechanic, industrial welder and motor vehicle mechanic.

MR. JENKINS: I thank the Minister for that information. One of the trades that evidently we have not had much success with and it's one I think I brought to the Minister's attention last year, because I had two constituents who had successfully completed pre-apprenticeship training — what do they call that program at Red River?

MR. MacMASTER: The Pre-employment Orientation Program.

MR. JENKINS: The Pre-employment Orientation Program had taken their training in the trade and I think it was carpentry and joinery, but there was an inability to get employers in the field of construction to have these two ladies apprenticed in the Province of Manitoba. Have we been successful? I know that there are many facets of on-job facilities and whatnot that are required for members of the work force, but have we had any success at all in persuading the construction trade and the construction unions that people successfully complete their pre-employment, successfully complete their program and then are ready for apprenticeship training, they then have to be placed with a prospective employer, indenture papers are signed, but evidently these two ladies had very great difficulty. As far as I know, they are still not employed. Have we had any success at all with the management of construction firms in order to make it possible? I've seen some of the work of some of these two ladies and since I served my apprenticeship in that trade, I certainly can vouch that their workmanship is as good and on par with any of their male counterparts. Have we had any success ratio at all in persuading these people?

The Minister speaks here of a Wage Incentive Program to encourage employers to train female apprentices and prepare women for employment in apprenticeable trades, but I share the Minister's enthusiasm. I think that we need these people to go into the trades, but I'm not going to reiterate that I'm disappointed, but I would like to know. That is one facet of the trades that we don't seem to be able at the present time to crack. Have we made a breakthrough at all in that field?

MR. MacMASTER: We presently have eight women in the carpentry trade and we've been successful in finding employers for them.

MR. JENKINS: Have they signed indenture papers at the present time? Are they in an apprenticeship program, on-the-job training, not in the training at the Red River Community College or anywhere else? Are they actively working as employees as their male counterparts at the present time?

MR. MacMASTER: Six have and two are pending.

MR. JENKINS: Are they employed on projects within the City of Winnipeg or are they spread out throughout the province?

MR. MacMASTER: The companies are based in Winnipeg.

MR. JENKINS: That takes six of the 23 that we have at the present time who are serving apprenticeships; six are in the field of carpentry. Have we any in other trades besides carpentry and joinery?

MR. MacMASTER: I read all the trades that they are involved in before.

MR. JENKINS: I don't think the Minister understands. There are construction electricians, there are bricklayers, there are drywall mechanics, there are other fields in the construction field.

MR. MacMASTER: One painter.

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MR. JENKINS: One painter. How many women are presently in pre-employment and presently at school at Red River Community College in the construction trades, or would I have to get those figures from the Minister of Education?

MR. MacMASTER: I could get them for you.

MR. JENKINS: If the Minister could get those, I would appreciate that very much. I want to go to some of the tables that we have here, Mr. Chairman, beginning with the apprenticeships. I see that the total figures are up, but I want to ask the Minister a question on Table 1, which is Power Electrician, at the present time. There were no apprentices active as of November 1, 1979. Is this a new program, power electrician?

MR. MacMASTER: Yes, we just declared it a program certified trade in '79 or '80; I forget what year. It's a new designated trade.

MR. JENKINS: A new designated trade. Does the completion of this program, when it is completed, is it considered a journeyman trade with a journeyman's papers? Of the 17 registrations — and there are 17 active apprentices at the present time — they are definitely out in the field now as indentured apprentices. What would be the difference between a power electrician? Would these mainly be dealing with power companies like the Manitoba Hydro, Winnipeg Hydro? Is that the type of power electricians we're talking about? Is this like linemen, or just what is a power electrician as distinct from another type of electrician?

MR. MacMASTER: They're working in power generating stations.

MR. JENKINS: Power generating stations. Then I would understand that these power electricians would either be working for Manitoba Hydro or Winnipeg Hydro power system. I thank the Minister for that information.

There is one other one here that I see. I just wonder if it is a disappearing trade because I see that there is only one apprentice active in November 1, 1979 and still active in 1980, and that's Glazier. Does this seem to be a disappearing trade and is there much scope or demand for people in the window glazing field?

MR. MacMASTER: There doesn't seem to be, Mr. Chairman.

MR. JENKINS: Well is the Trades Advisory Committee looking at this and perhaps maybe going to recommend to the Minister that this be dropped, or just what is the status of this trade at the present time here in Manitoba? Just how do we set up a training program for when they come in for in-service training back into Red River Community College? Just how do we accommodate this one person?

MR. MacMASTER: There's a problem with that particular trade; we're having a lot of difficulties. In fact, it's been virtually impossible to date to get nominees for the Advisory Committee on that trade, so I think your assumption that the trade is a

disappearing one is possibly correct, but we haven't given up on it. We're still trying to get a working Advisory Committee for that trade, trying to get the Committee working.

MR. JENKINS: I thank the Minister for that information. I wish to ask the Minister, because there was in the report a survey of all apprentices who had attained journeyman status from July, 1978 to June, 1979, and was conducted to supplement management information on the training program and its outcomes. Their survey revealed that respondents were currently employed and that 85.7 percent were presently employed in Manitoba and over 90 percent of all the journeymen express satisfaction with their apprenticeship training.

In view of the downtrend in construction in the past years, I just wonder if the Minister has any preliminary figures or whether the committee will be looking to carry on this survey, because I think the retention rate is good and the employment of these people is well. But if we are suffering from the lack of construction, which employs a considerable number of apprenticeships when we look at the figures — they perhaps supply at least one-third of the apprenticable trades that are presently actively being pursued in the Province of Manitoba — just what effect has the downtrend been in high interest rates, the lack of construction, building of houses, been on the recruitment of people into this part of the program? Do you find that apprentices are shifting to other trades rather than the construction trade which they had in the past?

MR. MacMASTER: Well, Mr. Chairman, there's two or three things that the member has touched on; (a) the report that he is referring to will be an ongoing one. We'll be tabling one of them next year. With the shutting down of the hydro development, of course that created a problem for the construction industry and what is perceived to be the overbuilding in the housing industry. There are those who indicate that is slowly going to come back. Of course, we all know that hydro is going to commence hopefully sooner than later, so I don't see the construction people dropping off. The construction union leaders tell me that we should continue encouraging people to get into their types of trades and we're certainly doing it.

MR. JENKINS: Do we still have the backlog in or the great attempt to try to get into construction, electricians, that we had a number of years ago where we had quite a number of people and the trades not being able to absorb them in the apprenticeship program? That seemed to be a problem a few years ago and we seem to have a problem of being able to get the younger people indentured.

MR. MacMASTER: No I don't believe there is a backlog of people wanting to get into that particular trade today. Now you know the member is saying there was a few years ago; that's possible, but I don't think there is that backlog today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hour is 4:30. Committee rise.

This Committee will sit again Thursday afternoon.

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SUPPLY — CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MR. CHAIRMAN, Mr. Abe Kovnats (Radisson): This Committee will come to order. I would direct the honourable members' attention to Page 38 of the Main Estimates, Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, Resolution No. 47, Clause 3. Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets — pass.

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, could the Minister give us a breakdown here of that \$896,000 expenditure?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

HON. NORMA L. PRICE (Assiniboia): Yes, Mr. Chairman, the Museum of Man and Nature is \$200,000; Multicultural Capital Grant, \$65,000; Manitoba Centennial Centre, \$240,000; Miscellaneous Capital Grants, \$125,000; in the Historical Resources, it's the Maison Terrain, Bohemier House, \$175,000; regional historic sites, \$66,000; Van Horne Rail Car, \$15,000; and Building Stabilization, \$10,000, for a total of \$896,000.00.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, on the Centennial Centre, can the Minister indicate what improvements of a physical kind will be made there, and in particular we discussed this point last year and previously. I think there's an outstanding need for a marquee in front of that particular building. I think that it's long, long overdue, that people should be able to drive by, as thousands and thousands and thousands do every day in their cars and on buses, and look up at that building and find out what is playing. Now the Theatre Centre has that type of a marquee, the Museum and the Planetarium have a small but effective such sign, and the Concert Hall still has those four or five small poster-sized information bulletins that are only really visible if you're standing on the sidewalk squinting your eyes or if you're walking from Main Street into the building. I realize this will cost some money, but I think it is something that should have been designed when the building was open and is still outstanding. Can the Minister give us a report on it?

MRS. PRICE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. After my estimates last year I did speak to the Board of the Centennial Centre about the Honourable Member for Elmwood's concern about a lack of a marquee. They had numerous meetings and they came up with the same answer all the time, that they felt that it was not in their best interests from an economic point of view, that the shows don't change that often and that they really felt at this time they couldn't afford to have a marquee.

In addition to the other part of your question, the funds that I have earmarked for this year is a building modification, \$35,000; stage drapery replacement, \$15,000; changes to air handling system, \$55,000; sound system, \$45,000; and for the Manitoba Theatre Centre, \$90,000.00.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister if she would indicate what the cost of such a marquee would be, and secondly, would it not be possible for her to provide that type of funding in her Budget?

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, firstly, I feel that the board is there for a specific reason, for the best interests of the Centennial Centre and if they feel that it is not a top priority with them at this time I believe that I should respect their judgment.

MR. DOERN: I then have to ask the Minister what the logic of the board is. I assume that their problem is money and it's because they lack the money that they have prioritized other items, but I know from several years ago that there was talk of the need for such a project at that time. I ask the Minister whether it isn't a fact that it's because of a shortage of funding that they are unable to prioritize that requirement?

MRS. PRICE: As I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, certainly money enters into it, but they have felt from an economic point of view that they have other priorities that they would much rather fulfill than a marquee at this time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Clause 3 — pass; Resolution No. 47 — pass. Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$896,000 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, Acquisition/Construction of Physical Assets, \$896,000 — pass.

I would ask the honourable members to turn to Page 37, Resolution No. 45, Clause 1.(a) Minister's Salary.

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I had a few questions for the Minister before I make a concluding comment. My colleague from St. Vital was interested in the translation services and he had asked some questions, and if I can attempt to indicate what he was interested in. He was interested, for example, apparently some \$220,000 is being spent and he broke out of that \$25,000 for the Moncton contracts, which I believe are the University of New Brunswick contracts, and he wanted to know the basis of those particular contracts. For example, is it being farmed out on the basis of so many dollars per page or are the contracts based on a yearly amount or six-month period? Could the Minister give us some information there?

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, I have a three-page detailed information sheets on the translation and I think instead of reading it out and taking everyone's time I will just give the copy of the report to the Member for Elmwood and he can pass it on to the Member for St. Vital.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I'd also like to ask the Minister again for a comment on the St. Pierre Church. This was quite a controversy and was somewhat of a heated debate and the fallout, I guess, is still going to continue for some period of time. I don't know if that's in the constituency of the Honourable Member for Emerson, but I'm sure that he took a strong position on the fence in regard to that particular project. He firmly planted his feet on each side of the fence, which is a dangerous position at the best of times. I just wanted to ask the Minister whether having gone through that and played a hands-off role, whether she has any regret at this time, because the tragedy always is I guess that once

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these buildings go they're gone forever. In this particular case the suggestion was made as it always is, as it inevitably is, that it is cheaper to knock down than to renovate, I mean that's a normal, common rule of thumb that for older buildings generally speaking, it's often cheaper to rebuild than to renovate, so we can't only look at that. I was just wondering what observations the Minister had to make. I mean, the church is gone but she will undoubtedly be involved in other similar problems and challenges and I just wonder whether this is going to be her approach, that when a historic building is threatened that the government will take no position on the matter.

MRS. PRICE: Well, I don't agree with the Member for Elmwood that I didn't take a position on the matter, Mr. Chairman. I took a position that I felt was the only one I could take. There were two very decided divisions in the town, one for raising of the building and the other for the restoration of it. We had a board of trustees set up with members from the community on it as well as a member from the Federal Government and one from my department. We hired an independent company who had no interests, whether it was rebuilt or raised, and they came back with a very thorough study and said that in their view it should not be restored. I would like to tell the member that in addition to, had it been restored, the added expenses of insurance and maintenance would have been over \$9,000 a year extra over their regular maintenance and insurance; so those were all things that had to be taken into account. I'm sorry that it had to go for the sake of the people. I didn't want it to but we had to abide by the rules of a group that we asked to and I think they were better judges of the condition of the building than any of us that are sitting here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Albert Driedger (Emerson): The Member for Radisson.

MR. KOVNATS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't know where to ask the Honourable Minister these questions but I think it is probably under Acquisition or where you acquire something but I do notice that it is under Historical Resources.

Last Wednesday at the Marlborough Hotel when the hotelmen were hosting all of the members of the Legislature for a dinner, when I left the dinner I was looking for my rubbers and I couldn't find my rubbers, my toe rubbers. Anyway yesterday I, by chance . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order Please. Is the member talking on the Minister's Salary?

MR. KOVNATS: Yes, this is under the Minister's Salary, this is where somebody acquires something of mine under Historical Resources. But I have found these rubbers and these rubbers were acquired by one of the other members and it wasn't an Opposition member and when I confronted the member saying, those are my rubbers, the member said, well, somebody took mine. And I don't think that justifies him in taking my rubbers and I would hope that the Honourable Minister would assist me in getting my rubbers back from the Honourable Member for Emerson.

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, at this point, some questions had been asked of me yesterday and I would like to answer them —(Interjection)— This is an internal strife between the two of them and I'm not about to be getting into the middle of it.

MR. KOVNATS: It's the only way I can get my rubbers back.

MRS. PRICE: The Honourable Member for St. Vital asked me if there were any Special Warrants that were going to be issued and I would like to tell him what they are: The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for a deficit reduction of \$150,000, the salary increases as per the MGEA Agreement 146,600, Other Expenditures are Cultural Development for unexpected branch programming costs \$14,600, Provincial Archives for handling of Hudson Bay Archives as per agreement with the Hudson Bay Company \$50,000, Public Library Services for Library Establishment Grant \$10,000 and this is for a total of \$371,200.00.

At this time the department estimates that approximately \$200,000 will lapse at year end, most of which will be in the Translations Services Salary appropriation that is presently estimated at \$120,000 and Other Expenditures totalling approximately \$40,000.00.

My colleague, the Member for Rhineland asked me if I would get him a statement of the Operating Grants that had been given to the Winnipeg Art Gallery from 1974. In 1974-75 it was \$333,000 grant, 1975-76 \$350,000, 1976-77 \$520,000, 1977-78 \$561,000, 1978-79 \$750,000, 1979-80 \$814,000, 1980-81 \$962.3, 1981-82 \$1,051,005.00. The total increases from 1974-75 to 1981-82 is \$718,000, so the total percent in increase during that time was 215.8 percent.

MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kohnats: The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the Minister about a matter that was discussed last night but not by myself and that is the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Building, again near Portage and Main, which is probably one of the finest pieces of architecture and design in the City of Winnipeg. Could she report on the present status of that bank? The City of Winnipeg was talking about moving in there at one time. I think they were trying to interest the Chamber of Commerce into, about that building and there was a number of years ago a proposal about the Arts group moving in and fortunately the building is still there. We're still talking about a building that still exists. Could the Minister indicate to the best of her knowledge what the fate of that building is?

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, the building being in the City of Winnipeg's jurisdiction, I am like the Member for Elmwood; the only thing that I know is what I read in the newspaper also. I can't enlighten him on that and while I'm on my feet there were some questions that the Honourable Member for Fort Rouge asked me last night. I believe she wanted to know what my thoughts were on the Planning Winnipeg. I would like to tell you that it has just come into our department. I haven't had a chance to

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study it yet but certainly the little that I have perused of I feel that it is something that should be encouraged and given high priority in the final analysis.

Also she asked me about the heritage buildings and the government space requirements. We have a very close liaison with the Government Services and I think that the Provincial Government has over the years made some attempt to utilize some of the older buildings and the case in point is the Archives Building, and the Law Courts Building, the Land Titles Building, and several other structures in rural Manitoba, such as, the Brandon Courthouse is now being looked at, the Morden Courthouse, the Robert Fletcher Building. They are all being looked at by the Government Services and they have asked my department to lend their expertise in coming to a decision about future use for them.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could clarify something here. There was an announced program in October of 1980 about "ads will promote winter pleasures" about a \$27,000 advertising effort to sell city dwellers on the pleasures of outdoor Manitoba in winter called Warm up to Winter Program. Now there are two types of programs that I am aware of and I'm not quite sure what this one is. There are some ads appearing on television showing a lot of interesting and vigorous outdoor activity; skating, skiing, snowbiling, etc. Those ads I think are well done and I think they effectively encourage people to enjoy our winter. We don't have much choice; you either get out there and enjoy yourself or you hide in your little apartment or house and press your nose against the window. So it's either fight 'em or join 'em or whatever.

But although that program I think is good — and I'm talking now about quality, there is another program which I consider to be a complete waste of taxpayers' funds and that is some company, advertising, public relations, has been given a contract by somebody, either the Minister or somebody in government, to think up all the silly projects that they can. They have come up with some real losers and I don't think they have ever drawn more than flies in any of their projects. The last example I can think of was the fiasco held behind the Winnipeg Public Library where the Lieutenant-Governor participated, a couple of skaters, a few people carrying torches or something and no public interest whatsoever, I think for obvious reasons. I just wondered if the Minister can indicate whether these two extreme programs, one, which seems to be no more than stunts and the other one which seems to be effective advertising, is that the same program or is one from her department, if so, which one, and one from somebody else's?

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, neither of them are from my department although I would like to disagree with the Member for Elmwood about this. The silly venture, it's Winnipeg A.M. that you are referring to. That, to quote you, "fiasco" by the City Library, drew a couple of hundred people and it was a very bitter cold day and I am one of them that was there. These people do not ask for funds, they are people that make their own ideas and I think if more people would look on their attitude towards Winnipeg and Manitoba and what a wonderful place this is to

live in, we wouldn't have all the doom and gloom that is being spread throughout our province. Our own people are our worst advertisers in a public relations forum and these are people that have got together, trying to make a turnaround and have the people and the news media look on our province as a beautiful place to live, not as some place to run away from.

MR. DOERN: That's a very interesting observation but I have to tell the Minister that I haven't seen anything that's come out of that group that I would consider to be worthwhile. You know, it's not the weather that is causing the doom and gloom in Manitoba, it's the government and that's the distinction that I think must be borne in mind. I mean this has been one of the best winters we've ever had so the doom and gloom that's around has no relation to the weather, Mr. Chairman. It's clearly government policy and the state of the economy which is bothering people and inflation and so on. Running around throwing snowballs isn't going to change that attitude and people don't have to have a Winnipeg A.M. to tell them to go out and enjoy the program. I mean people have been enjoying winter for centuries and participating. They don't need this group to come up with gimmicky festivals. But I am delighted, I really find it hard to believe that this group doesn't have any government funding because apparently there is an ad agency or a PR firm involved but the Minister is saying that not a penny of government funds . . .

MRS. PRICE: Not to my knowledge.

MR. DOERN: . . . goes to that particular group. Well, I'm glad to hear that.

Mr. Chairman, I also just wanted to ask the Minister if she could make some general comment about support for the ethnic community and the cultural organizations, there is a good number, and Folklorama. I just wondered if she could make some general statement or observation about the kind of support that she is offering in this next fiscal year for our many fine cultural organizations that are showcased in Folklorama but have been running on their own for many years.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I disagree again with the reasons for the doom and gloom in our province. I think the doom and gloom that is being spread is from some of the extortions of the truth that are taking place by our Opposition members here that is not correct and that's where the doom and gloom is emanating from as well as the sources I just mentioned.

With regard to our help in the different ethnic organizations we take each of them on an individual basis. Folklorama does get help; they do run an extremely good organization and the help they get is not a large one but it's what they have asked for. The others though, as they come up to us, they are treated individually. They give us an audited financial statement of their expenditures and their revenues, etc., and we take them all on individual merit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (1) — pass — the Honourable Member for Emerson. I'm sorry, the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

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MR. DOERN: He's the one that stole your rubber boots, not me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'll get them back, thank you.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, I just noticed, having received their March magazine, is trumpeting an evening with the arts and is inviting people on March 5 to participate in some special program at the main foyer of the Art Gallery and they will have entertainment by Winnipeg's finest musicians and performers, celebrities, etc. It's an arts benefit. I wonder whether the Minister is familiar with that particular, what I assume is a fund raising arts benefit and whether she will be participating in it as well.

MRS. PRICE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am aware of the evening. It is a fund raising and the proceeds will be divided amongst the major groups and the minor ones according to the size of them in a percentage sort of a way.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, also the Director of the Art Gallery gave some interesting figures and I recall the debate that we had here in this Chamber which I think was a low point, certainly in the cultural debate in this Chamber and of other debates, and that was because of an attempt by a number of Conservative members to block a show that was to be brought in, imported by the Winnipeg Art Gallery a number of years ago — that was I guess five or six years ago, 1976 to be exact, the Master paintings from the Hermitage, that was a show that was brought in for the American Bicentennial, sponsored by Mrs. Gerald Ford, the wife of the President, and was taken through the major capitols of the United States, major cities and the City of Winnipeg. I remember some deplorable debate, largely emanating from the present Minister of — I don't know is it the Environment, the past Minister of Government Services, Mr. Enns to be specific.

I notice in the calendar they mention that they have had increased attendance at the Art Gallery, an 11 percent overall attendance increase over '79 and that their attendance was calculated at 203,000 in '79, rising to 226,000 in I guess 1980. But they also mention that the highest attendance, in other words they're increasing their support now and they're increasing their attendance, it's up some 22,000 but no year has yet equalled the year of the Exhibition Master Paintings from the Hermitage when attendance was 274,000 — that's still an all time record because that show alone, Mr. Chairman, which featured some of the best works of the great Masters in European art history, they had over 100 or 150,000 on that show alone that particular year.

I was also going to ask the Minister, because of these figures, whether she was aware of any major exhibitions that the gallery is negotiating because for example, the Director mentions that the recent King Tutankhamen Exhibition which was shown in Toronto and Chicago and so on — I happened to see that show twice myself once in each of those places — wasn't available to Winnipeg, and the Van Gogh Exhibition which is now in Toronto wasn't available either. But I was just wondering, given the great success of the Hermitage show and the Gold for the Gods, which was also very successful, is she aware

of any major international exhibitions which the gallery is bidding on or has booked for the near future.

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, I haven't been advised of any that they are negotiating with and being as how we fund them in a global manner I stay at arm's length and it is up to them what type of programming or exhibitions that they want to bring in.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I guess I will then attempt to make a few concluding comments to the Minister and depending on what she says may make a few more. So we'll see who gets in the last word.

I wanted to say that some of the current improvement in the Department of Cultural Affairs, I think the credit for that should be given to this Minister. She's obviously been able to charm her group of colleagues, I won't use anything stronger than group and encourage them to support, I won't use derogatory terms like gang, for example, or any of those bad words. So, Mr. Chairman, I want to congratulate the Minister on increasing her budget by some 30 percent. I do however want to say that some of that credit cannot be given to the government because I think in the first few years of the government's term in office they were practically starving the arts, or they were providing inadequate funding. So now we're going from a situation where they were not giving adequate support as they were not in various social programs, now providing what might be considered reasonable support and so the whole thing in the end sort of balances out.

The restraint program has now been thrown aside because of a pending election but I can't be overly enthusiastic in terms of commending the government; it's like somebody digging a hole and then filling it up and saying to you, well look I filled up that hole when they dug it in the first place. If they hadn't done that in the first place they wouldn't have had to take the second action. So I don't know how much credit we can give them.

Similarly, the Minister has in her Estimates a whopping increase in the Provincial Archives for the Hudson Bay Archives, and that's commendable but on the other hand the last few years the government's been playing with fire in the sense that they haven't been providing adequate support and were threatened a number of times by George Richardson and the Hudson Bay Company about the danger of them not responding, and the threat of course ultimately was to pull the Hudson Bay Archives from the Archives Building. So although on one hand we'll give the Minister credit for responding, we also have to blame the government for skating on thin ice and almost blowing the ball game and so on.

So I wanted to make those points. The other comment I wanted to make, Mr. Chairman, is the question whether in terms of government policy, whether the government is building an oasis or a desert because I believe that when it comes to supporting the major cultural organizations that the record hasn't been too bad, but again when it comes to individual artists I think more attention is going to have to be given in the future because there are certain professions and certain artistic pursuits that are not covered when one supports only the

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Winnipeg Art Gallery or the Museum or the Symphony, etc. there are thousands or at least hundreds of competent artists who I think merit individual support. Again, I don't want to talk about anybody who calls himself an artist, I want to speak in particular here about the professional artist but I don't want to exclude the talented amateur. I think there should be general encouragement for both and in particular an opportunity for the individual to survive in what is obviously a very high risk field. For every Ivan Eyre who paints a canvass and sells it for 20,000, there's probably a dozen or two others who sell their works for 1,000 to 2,000 and then there's probably another 100 or so who can pick up a couple of hundred dollars for their art work, and then after that it's people who sell them to friends or relatives or give them away to friends.

So I want to just reiterate to the Minister that I would like to see her turn some of her attention, to not be totally preoccupied with the major cultural organizations — that I think is, in a way, her first responsibility. We must have a strong symphony and theatre and ballet and so on and we do, but that can be done through proper funding, through getting our City Council, which is not exactly leading the cultural charge, they tend to come along in some cases kicking and screaming. It's the Federal Government which seems to lead in this department, followed by the province, followed by the city and last and not least, Mr. Chairman, followed by the private sector — the days of strong private support have all but disappeared.

The other point I remind the Minister about is the public facilities, the hours of the Art Gallery and the Museum in particular; I debated that and discussed that with her and she said she's going to look into that and I would hope that she'll be able to do something about that so that we don't have facilities which are open from nine to five, which coincides with everybody's working day, but that we have facilities which can be seen and enjoyed in the evenings as well even if it's only one night a week or two nights a week. But let's make our facilities open, let's open them to the public and also let's open them to the artists and the many, many amateur and semi-professional and professional groups as well.

So I think those are my general concluding comments. If the Minister starts debating me again about doom and gloom I'll have to debate her on that but if not maybe we'll wind up for the year.

MRS. PRICE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say to the Honourable Member for Elmwood that I would hope it would be more than my charm that would have had my colleagues be so generous with me and my department in allowing me to have the increases in all the areas that I've had. I think a great deal of credit goes to my Deputy and my staff who are a very devoted, loyal group of people who, it is a vocation with them really, and without them this department wouldn't be in the healthy state that it is. It's because of their great interest.

I think with regard to the Hudson Bay Archives, you must remember that that started in the previous government's time and they hadn't picked up the slack for the archivist that was needed to augment in order to get the archives in the healthy state that they should be in but however that it is on a good sound track now.

I think the reason that our government has seen fit to be generous with my department has been because they really feel that it is in the interests of all Manitobans to encourage a healthy and sound cultural life here in order to attract people to move to Manitoba. It is a known fact that if there isn't sound music or entertainment or theatre that people are not anxious to make moves from a company to make a transfer into a province unless they know that there is something there for their families to be entertained by in their many leisure hours that they have so I think that is one of the real reasons why my colleagues saw fit to augment the amount of my budget.

I know that you are interested, the Member for Elmwood is interested in having a wider scope of interest in smaller groups as well as the major groups and I think that you will realize that we are doing just that with our participation we're having in the new film making policies and the search for the novelists, and we are making a real strong endeavour to take the little people into consideration as well as the major groups.

With regard to the hours at the Art Gallery and the Museum, I mentioned to the member yesterday that when I have these people in to discuss their Budget with them that I will certainly bring it to their attention. With their increased funding I think they should give it attention. I thank the Member for Elmwood.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I join with the Member for Elmwood in congratulating the Minister on a fairly well run department. I would suggest to her however, that she should not be attempting to defend some of the other less well-run departments by suggesting that it is the Opposition that is talking about gloom and doom in the province. While she was talking, I just happened to pick up the Minutes of a meeting of the Benchers of the Law Society which I had received in the mail today and that is not exactly one of the organizations which in general, supports this side. Item 8 on Page 2 of it laments the fact that there are considerably less funds and grants, or less interest moneys coming to the government from the Law Society this year than last year, and it says as follows: "It appeared that the interest collected in the past year was down considerably from the year before and the grant the Society would receive for its educational programs for the coming year would likely be down, from \$291,000 to \$220,000. The reason for the decrease appeared to be the general economic slowdown", and there were other factors, but that was the first factor referred to, so I would suggest to the Minister that although she can very well defend her department, it is difficult indeed to defend a less well-run department and the Department of Economic Development is one which — although you might want to defend it — it is practically indefensible and it is a hard task indeed to make that attempt.

Now I just have one area of concern. I had asked the Minister a question a few weeks ago and she was kind enough to send a message back to me asking for a detailed question, which I admit I should

have provided to her. I didn't get around to it and now at the end of the Estimates, I just want to talk a little bit about the Interlake Festival; if the Minister has a comment, I'd be glad to hear it. As she is aware, a number of the people who worked on that organization last summer wound up not receiving their pay cheques. I believe the Department of Labour is involved with this one and is doing what it can to assist.

However, it would appear that management has made off with the bulk of the grants given between the Federal and Provincial Governments, that had the season ended properly, that is not in the middle of the season but at the end of the run, there would have been several more thousand more dollars and there are still, according to my understanding, several thousand dollars outstanding. I'm just wondering if there has been any progress made in — the Member for Elmwood indicates tens of thousands, I'm not referring to the amount of lost wages by employees, I'm referring to the specific amount of money that may still be available for payment which I understand, the department would be reluctant to pay out to those especially who were in charge and who apparently are claiming a substantial percentage of it — but is there any intention to pay that money out, possibly to those who come in at a status with that organization of employee as opposed to Director? That's number one.

Number two would be — is the department doing anything to assist these young people who are interested in the arts and certainly this gave them an opportunity, funded by the province, to get involved, is the government doing anything to assist these people to prosecute what may be, what rights they may have in the courts, under the Corporations Act, against the Directors of the Interlake Festival as Directors of that corporation, for unpaid wages. I'm just wondering whether there's anything being done in that area?

MRS. PRICE: I'm sorry to tell the Member for Rossmere that there aren't any more moneys coming to the Interlake Theatre. We knew last year that they were on shaky ground, but we felt if they asked us to give them an extension of time and some money, which we reluctantly did, to see if we couldn't make them solvent. There really isn't any monies. They were a corporation and the whole Board retired or resigned and therefore the people that are owed the money by them, I guess it would have to be they either would have to take direct action against these people. I think when they did resign, one of the mainstays of it had a nervous breakdown right at that — or just before that time and I don't know if that hastened the death of the Theatre.

You asked me if there was anything going to replace it. There are a couple of groups and I think one of them is called, The Gimli Drama Group — anyway from the Interlake. There are a couple of groups that are interested in pursuing something along a summer theatre; I don't know just what the nature of their performing will be, but they are working with my department now trying to come up with something that would substitute what there was.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) — pass — the Honourable Member for Rossmere.

MR. SCHROEDER: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the matter of funds being payable, I understand that there are no funds now payable in any legal sense, but my understanding as well is, that had the season closed the way it should have closed, that there would have been funds available and that it was on that basis that there was an understanding by not only the employees, but other independent contractors. All kinds of people got stuck on this one. There was an understanding

MRS. PRICE: If the run would have been successful.

MR. SHROEDER: Yes, there was an understanding that we've got no problems, Norma Price is going to come up with the money, basically, the understanding that people had and now of course, those hopes have been dashed for those people. Now you mentioned that the directors have resigned. My latest check at the Corporations Branch didn't reveal that a few months ago, but even if they had resigned, I believe the Corporations Act does provide that under certain circumstances Directors can be responsible for unpaid wages for a period going back I believe, a year from the time of their resignation.

I'm just wondering whether, in light of the fact that some people did get involved with this organization, whether we like to admit it or not, some people did get involved with the organization because of government backing, assumed government backing. I'm not criticizing you for it, but that is the understanding people had and they went in on that understanding. I'm just wondering whether you would consider giving some assistance, and I'm not talking in money, but in terms of advice to these people, in order to prosecute their rights against the possibly former directors of the company, if they indeed have resigned.

MRS. PRICE: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry if anybody did business with the Interlake on the premise that it was a good thing to do because of the government giving them some grants, if they were going to lean on us for comfort like that, then they should have come to us and asked us before they went into any transactions with them. I'm sure that my employees would have enlightened them that it was not really a good risk.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) — pass; 1. pass — Resolution no. 45 — pass.

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,353,000 for Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources, General Administration Division, \$1,353,000 — pass.

That concludes the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources.

SUPPLY — CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND ENVIRONMENT

MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kovnats (Radisson): I would ask all honourable members to turn to Page 31 of the Main Estimates, Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Environment. Resolution No.

36, Clause 1. General Administration, (a) Minister's Salary — the Honourable Minister.

HON. GARY FILMON (River Heights): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a privilege for me to bring my Estimates before the House today for the first time in my term as Minister. I would like to beg the indulgence of members of the House if I require a little time or a little extra support from my departmental staff in supplying thorough and complete answers to all their questions, but I hope that they'll understand that in the short time I've had to prepare for these Estimates, I've endeavoured to accumulate as much information as possible, but should there be any lacking, I'm sure that members of my staff will have sufficient information to supply them to answer all their questions.

The major change in my departmental Estimates from last year is the addition of the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation's Budget. This change reflects the government's continuing efforts to improve housing opportunities for low income families by bring under one Minister, responsibility for public housing and for the Landlord and Tenant Act, which applies to all residential and rental accommodations, including of course, those provided by the private sector.

In Appropriation One, General Administration, there is an increase of \$163,00 or 17.1 percent. The majority of this increase \$139,300 is in regard to negotiated salary increases.

The balance of the increase is for general cost increases and for improved distribution of news releases and press conference electronic distribution by the Information Services Branch. No additional staff have been provided for.

Consumer Affairs, Appropriation 2., has increased its budget by 20 1/2 percent or \$245,900.00. This division, in addition to its existing programs, will be co-ordinating credit counselling services, from this point forward. Currently, in Manitoba, there are agencies offering information on money management, budgeting, borrowing, income tax rebating and so on.

The Consumer's Bureau will co-ordinate the existing work of such offices, with community counselling committees to be established throughout the province and encourage credit grantors to actively participate in extending counselling services, beyond that which is presently provided. It is anticipated that the program will become operational in 1981.

In the area of landlord and tenant Programs, our government has made available mediation and voluntary arbitration services, through the office of the Rentalsman, as an alternative to the court process, for any dispute arising from a tenancy, including orders for possession of premises. These services reduce cost to landlords and tenants and ensures speedier response to the needs of both tenants and landlords.

We have also provided security of tenure to tenants residing in premises being converted to condominium status. With the commencement of the Tenancy Arbitration Bureau, additional arbitration powers were acquired to deal with rental disputes.

Initially the major thrust of the Tenancy Arbitration Bureau has been the resolution of rent protest disputes. As part of the process of resolving these

disputes, extensive rental market analyses are done to determine prevailing rental rates for the various rental premises. As of January 31st, 1981, 940 rent protests were received by the Rentalsman. Of these 477 were withdrawn or settled through mediation by the Rentalsman. Of the 463 rent protests which were referred to the Tenancy Arbitration Bureau, 28 protests did not qualify, 136 protests were withdrawn, 77 protests were settled by voluntary arbitration and 24 rent protests were settled by compulsory arbitration. A balance of 199 rent protests remained at the end of January.

I can inform the House and can provide the exact figures during the process of discussion of the rental arbitration portion of the Estimates, that a substantial number of these 199 protests have since been disposed of by the rental arbitration process.

Appropriation 3. deals with Corporate Affairs. This division has budgeted for an increase in expenditure of \$321,500 or 21 percent. A new system of incorporation which will result in improved service to the public, will be implemented in 1981-82. It is contemplated that the time for filing corporate documents would be decreased from a standard turnaround time of 10 days to two to three days under the new system. This will necessitate amendments to The Corporations Act and various regulations. It is also proposed that in 1981-82, The Business Names Registration Act would be revised to make it comparable to the Corporations Act and the procedures would be simplified in order that the public may be better served. These changes would simplify and expedite the filing and return of documents, ease the paper burden on the branch, the public, and the legal profession and in general improve the administration and the operation of the branch.

The Environmental Management Division, Appropriation 4., has requested an increase in funding of \$1,249,600 or 25 percent. This area, in addition to its ongoing Environmental Protection Program, will be developing a Provincial Waste Management Plan to include waste disposal grounds, hazardous waste disposal and waste recovery. This will involve continuing work with other provinces on a phased approach to hazardous waste disposal facilities, work with Environment Canada on a PCB inventory, and work with municipalities and industries to determine solutions to the growing problems of chemical and waste disposal.

My officials will be placing an increased emphasis on our Hazardous Materials Program with a co-ordinated effort with the Federal Government and neighboring provinces to finalize a transportation manifest system. Of course no transportation system can eliminate the need for an environment accident response. In this regard the Accident Response Program will be improved by regulation requiring mandatory reporting of environmental accidents. As well, this year, an inventory of fertilizer and pesticide storage sites will be undertaken with a view to improving storage and minimizing the danger associated with these chemicals. Field monitoring equipment and laboratory equipment is being upgraded to deal with newer and more complex chemicals.

The W.M. Ward Technical Services Laboratory was opened this morning. The new facility centralizes the

laboratories of the Environmental Management and Mineral Resources Divisions, which were formerly scattered in four Winnipeg locations. The laboratory is specifically designed to be flexible, to meet future laboratory requirements. At the same time it is one of the safest and most modern laboratories of its type in North America.

The laboratory was named after William M. Ward who dedicated 38 years as a public servant to pioneering Manitoba's laboratory services for public health and environment programs. Mr. Ward retired as director of the Environmental Protection Branch in 1980.

Appropriation 5. is the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation Estimates, which I will present in detail later.

In the 1980-81 fiscal year the department established a Community Relations Branch to co-ordinate the information and public affairs functions of the department. The 1981-82 fiscal year will represent this branch's first full year in operation. The primary role of the Community Relations Branch is to foster increased public awareness and appreciation for environmental, consumer and corporate concerns via the production and dissemination of brochures, films, audiovisual displays, advertising, etc. The former Consumer Communication's Office which served only consumer affairs and the departmental reference service which involves the library services of consumer affairs and environmental management are part of this new program.

Two existing administrative positions vacant due to reorganization in environmental management have been redeployed to provide for a director and an information writer. More information of the department's programs can be provided when the appropriations are discussed in detail. We believe that this Budget will maintain the high level of service provided by existing programs and permit the introduction of the new and necessary programs I have mentioned. I recommend these estimates to the members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item (b) Management and Administration (1) Salaries — pass — the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

MR. DOERN: Mr. Chairman, I want to welcome the Minister to his new responsibilities and congratulate him on achieving what I suppose is the goal of every aspiring member of the Legislature, namely to become a member of the Executive Council. It is interesting to serve in the Chamber as a member of the backbench; it is certainly interesting and a lot of fun to be in the Opposition, but the most miserable of the miserable are the government backbenchers who really do have my sympathy because they have to watch their warriors against the attacking members of the Opposition and often they say to themselves . . .

MS. JUNE WESTBURY (Fort Rouge): He was the Works Committee Chairman and automatically gets his Cabinet.

MR. DOERN: Well, I don't know about automatically but nevertheless, it would certainly not be uncommon for members of the government

backbench to look at their Ministers and say - gee, I could do a lot better than that or how did they ever get there?

Mr. Chairman, I think that we're going to watch this department very carefully because we have been very disappointed, as have the citizens of Manitoba, in the performance of the government in the field of consumer protection and the protection of the environment. The previous Minister, who is with us now, really showed no interest in these particular matters. He failed to rise to the challenge, failed to respond to the needs of the consumers.

(Interjection)— Well, my colleague from the Pas says that's why he lost his job or was fired, but whatever the reason, I think that consumer groups and consumer activists and individuals were extremely disappointed in the position of the Minister and the government. In my judgement for the past three years we have had in effect no Minister responsible for Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the Environment; that is what it is tantamount to being. My colleague from the Pas, who is pretty hot this afternoon says, there are no shoes to fill. Normally the expression is those are large shoes to fill, but in this case the Minister's feet will be pinched because the shoes are so small that he'll only be able to get his big toe into those bootees.

Mr. Chairman, the standard response of the government in the first few years in every department, and most noteworthy and deplorable in this department was that they are monitoring everything. I hope I never ever hear that word again. I first of all grew sick and tired of the word restraint and that is no longer being talked about. Then we got into the word monitoring, which meant do nothing, and that word has finally been dropped. The Ministers opposite are reluctant to discuss that as a so-called government response.

We've had really a do-nothing government and we've had a do-nothing Minister in this particular field, so the field is wide open for a young Minister to make his name, or cut his throat depending on how well he does and how carefully he proceeds.

In almost every area that we have drawn to the attention of the government, there has been no action. I think just as by way of example, the Minister of Labour isn't interested in elevator safety; the Minister of Highways doesn't care very much about safety on the highways when it comes to such things as seat belts or motorcycle helmets; and the previous Minister wasn't interested in milk pricing, rent increases or environmental problems. Those, I think, are among the most important that will be faced by this particular new young Minister. My colleague wants to combine two of these problems. He wants to put elevator safety with filling the Minister's shoes, and he comes up with elevator shoes, or he comes up with the First Minister's elevator shoes and so on and so on.

Mr. Chairman, when it comes to milk prices, we were very disappointed, and I was personally interested in this issue, that the Minister of Consumer Affairs did not appear to involve himself in the protection of the consumer. There were no representations made ever on behalf of the consumer, or interventions made on behalf of the consumer, whether it be for poor families, single parent families, young children, babies, whatever, the

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Minister just stood aside. Then the Minister of Agriculture came up with this wonderful new program, after some 50 or 60 years of protecting the consumer and protecting the producer, he abolishes the Milk Control Board, surely one of the more regressive steps taken by any Minister in this particular government. They weren't interested in milk prices. They don't seem to be interested in rent increases. When there were crises and accidents in terms of the environment, like the MacGregor spill and so on, that was just a complete disaster when it came to the manner in which the government handled itself.

Mr. Chairman, we're really left with very little. The government which came in some three and-a-half years ago with a bang, is going to go out with a whimper. They have built up their Cabinet. I guess one of their biggest achievements was building up the Cabinet from 13 to 17. They came in deriding the previous government with the size of their Cabinet, picked a small Cabinet. They're still shaking it out. You will notice that nobody ever gets dropped; to get dropped is to get demoted, but nobody is actually pushed out of the Cabinet. Once you get in your in for life. (Interjection)— Yes, but that was a case of merit. I want to make a distinction between merit and inertia. They have Ministers that clearly should be dropped; at least three. I am not going to name them. I won't be that unkind, but there are at least three who are surplus baggage, Mr. Chairman. I am sure you're frustrated when I say this, because you are undoubtedly one of the backbenchers who has his sights set on higher goals. The very government that attacked this government, the previous government, for having too large a Cabinet, winds up with a bigger Cabinet than was ever in place in the Schreyer administration. (Interjection)— It's inflation. I think that's probably true; 10 percent a year.

This Minister has the undistinct of sitting in the third row; apparently historically, he's not the first. I thought he was the first Minister to ever sit in the third row, but he told me once that he isn't, that there was somebody else. (Interjection)— I don't know, but in my time, and perhaps in yours there were no Ministers sitting in the third row. I think the Cabinet is getting so big that if we stick around for another year before the election, we'll have three rows. We'll have 32 Ministers, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to say that I certainly feel that the allocation of responsibilities by the First Minister has been totally improper, and that he has not made wise decisions in terms of distributing the workload. He still has, after all these years, over-worked Ministers and under-worked Ministers. The thing that disturbs me is the fact that he who has the heaviest responsible and his Attorney-General who is next in line who has a great number of portfolios, are preoccupied with the Constitution. Instead of dealing with the problems of Manitoba, they are running around dealing with other issues and my question is, who's left minding the store?

Mr. Chairman, we're going to watch with great interest the performance of a new Minister. He can only do better than his predecessor but that doesn't mean to say that he will be above and beyond criticism. I think we'll give him his honeymoon period but we will also very carefully watch his performance

to see whether he's going to do something because the government is notorious, this government is notorious for window-dressing and for smoke-screens. I think that's all that we're seeing in 1981; we're seeing a constitutional smoke-screen which is blowing across this department, blowing across the economy, Economic Development, Government Services, Labour and so on. Government continues to whip up smoke and billow smoke and attempt to cover the basic problems and the fundamental issues of the Manitoba economy.

Mr. Chairman, I will end with one small specific to the Minister. Today he opened the new environmental lab and I wish that I could have attended to see that facility. I hope to get to see it somewhere in the next few weeks. I had a meeting today with my colleague from St. Johns with the Manitoba architects to discuss their bill, so we were unable to attend that opening but I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that building took far too long to build, far too long to build. That's one of the projects that was frozen by this government when they came into office. It was already at an advanced stage of design and construction. At the time when the government came into office the foundations were being built; I believe that there was some \$700,000 already invested in the project. The configuration of the basement was in place in relation to the design of the building. There had been of course buildings and a few homes expropriated and demolished and the project was under way and they froze the project.

Now they did that in a number of cases. They did that in regard to The Pas and they deferred on a project there that had been given the green light and they were hit with a lawsuit and we still don't know the amount of money or the penalty that will have to be paid for that project. When it came to the Provincial Garage, they kept that facility deliberately empty and then finally were forced to access it. In this case they simply stalled the project for a number of months and then attempted to sell it. Now can you imagine, Mr. Chairman, taking several acres of land in the heart of the city and attempting to put it out for sale? I mean, who is going to buy a piece of land with a foundation?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. The Honourable Minister on a point of order.

MR. FILMON: Yes, on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I think that all of us have been very patient as the Member for Elmwood rambled through various departments and various Ministries in the Provincial Government but to get into a department whose Estimates have already been completed and go on to the matter of the Public Works Garage, under Item 1.(b) Management and Administration, (1) Salaries, is just beyond my recognition.

MR. DOERN: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the lab is an environmental lab and I'm putting that into context of today's question period. I'm putting it into the context, Mr. Chairman, of the stupidity of the government in freezing that project. The government has wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars by stalling that project and the other projects that they stalled, also cost similar amounts of money. They blew several hundred thousand dollars on a lawsuit for The Pas Jail, we still don't know the bill. They

blew hundreds of thousands of dollars keeping a garage empty and they, I suggest to you, have blown hundreds of thousands of dollars on the environmental lab by stalling the project and going so far as to consider dumping the whole project and selling the whole project. I say to the Minister, as a young Minister, what would have happened if you didn't have this building? How efficient were all your labs? How efficient was it to have labs for experimental purposes in the Norquay Building where it was for years with inflammable materials being stored in hallways and on the roof and in the building where there is 1,000 office workers? How about building for the future?

Well, our government did that; we built for the future and we've been vindicated even by this government when they have been forced by events to proceed with these projects. So they simply opened a project that our government planned for and started and I would challenge the Minister to stand up and say that environmental lab isn't needed or wasn't needed when it was planned. All I'm saying here, Mr. Chairman, is that they considered in 1977 and 1978 selling the property for that lab and selling the basement. Well, the Minister shakes his head but I say that if he does he doesn't know the history; I say he doesn't know the history. That was up for sale even though there was \$700,000 worth of concrete and work and architects' fees poured into that basement. I'm saying to you that as a result of the stalling and the indecision and the stupidity of the government you have to add costs in, in terms of labour costs and material costs; you have to impute a cost for that stalling.

So those are my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, and I leave to my colleagues to expand other points.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, I assume that was an opening salvo and I will give it the response that it deserves.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item (1) — pass — the Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: The Minister is indeed starting off by being extremely arrogant right off the bat. There was going to be something approaching a honeymoon period —(Interjection)— that's right. I think that the people on this side of the House want to make points, they want to co-operate to ensure an expeditious passage of Estimates but if the Minister is going to not respond and respond with arrogant flippant comments I think he's putting himself in for a long tough ordeal. What it shows really, Mr. Chairman, is that he feels he can't defend himself, can't defend the record of the government over the last three years against the charges brought forward by my colleague, the Member for Elmwood.

And you know, that's been one of the weaknesses of that government. Their Ministers have not been prepared often to defend the positions of the government, and a lot of the people on the back bench, I thought, were sitting there, fretting, wondering why they have to carry the ball with Throne Speech Debates and Budget Debates. So we have a backbencher given the opportunity to defend the actions of the government over the course of the last three years, and he refuses to do so. And I don't know what he figures his position is, just one of

sitting there, letting the issues float by. And all I'm saying is a piece of advice to the Minister. If he feels he can't defend the record of the government, that type of diversion with a flippant arrogant comment, just won't wash. (Interjection)— That's right. As my colleague, the Member for Elmwood says, if you can't take the heat, you should get out of the kitchen. I assumed that the backbenchers were anxious to get into the kitchen and make up for some of the weaknesses of their colleagues on the Treasury benches, because as my colleague pointed out, the record in this department has been abysmal, zero, over the course of the last three years. We've had it with respect to consumer protection, with respect to the cost of living, we've had it with respect to bread price increase, gasoline price increases, and that was because the Minister prior to this one, ideologically was opposed to doing his job. He did not want to be the Minister of Consumer Affairs. He didn't believe there should be such a department. And that's why the First Minister had to remove this embarrassment from the government.

But the point is, over the last three years, the people of Manitoba have suffered with respect to bread price increases, have suffered with respect to gasoline price increases from time to time, they've had the problem with respect to milk, we've had problems with respect to the Rentalsman, we've had problems with respect to rent controls, and that's a big issue. We've had problems with respect to the environment, and the Minister wants to come along and assume that last three years of history didn't take place.

I want to focus in on the Rent Control Program. I would have hoped that the Minister would have been able to say something a bit more positive in his introductory comments about the Rent Stabilization Program and the after effects of it. We have a situation right now where the people feel that this government has turned its back on them as renters if they are renters. And we aren't getting the petitions and the protests in a very vocal manner because many of the people who are renters who have been affected most are elderly people. They aren't appearing before the Rentalsman, about seven, eight of them in a block, are filing a complaint, one or two, if that, are appearing for hearings; and they say, what's the use? I've talked to many of them, they say, what's the use, we just cannot get a fair shake from this government; we will wait for our opportunity when the election comes of turving them out and getting a far better arbitrator on our behalf. And that is the position that they are taking.

And the point is, I would have thought that the Minister, coming on to the responsibility, would have tried to turn around that perception of the people which is based in fact, based on their experience, caused in large part by the indifference and the active opposition to their interests by the previous Ministers. And I would have thought the Minister coming on to the scene, who I thought had some problems last year with the changes and the abolition of the Rent Stabilization Program, I know he had some problems last year. I know that the Member for St. Matthews, who's running away from that constituency of his because he had terrible problems with the abolition of the Rent Stabilization

Program, I would have thought that the turks in the back bench would have come forward, and once this Minister was appointed to the portfolio, that he would have tried to establish an aggressive, fair program of rent control for renters, especially the elderly people. What we have right now is a very passive administration. It is up to the renters to file the complaints, to pull together the documentation, it is up to them, and for the elderly, I suggest that is a very large task, one that most of them cannot fulfill.

And so in the absence of any type of fair role on the part of the government, the landlords have, in many instances over the last year, taken unfair advantage of them. And I would be interested to find out from the Minister at this particular stage, because we're talking about overall management and administration, to get from the Minister an indication of how he sees the rent decontrol program, one year or six months, about nine months, after it was brought into effect. We have heard nothing from them about that from the Minister and I give the Minister this opportunity, and I hope he takes it seriously, to give us an indication of how the government sees the performance of the rent decontrol program that they brought in last year. I invite him for that comment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. J. R. (Bud) BOYCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I want to congratulate the Minister for accepting this responsibility and I emphathize with him because I had that same experience of moving in mid-term into a portfolio. But perhaps you should take the advice of the Member for Fort Rouge and join the Progressives. I think the caucus would find you acceptable and listen to most of the things that you say.

I guess it falls on my shoulders to make our first policy statement relative to Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Chairman. It will be our position that Consumer Affairs —(Interjection)— I regret very much, to the Member for Rossmere, the situation but nevertheless I will do my job as I understand it.

To start again, Mr. Chairman, the position of our group will be that Consumer Affairs should be taken out of this particular portfolio and set up a separate department, which will become an advocate for consumers, that in the initial stages that it should only deal with those things which are monopolistic or owned by the Crown or a necessity of life. The reason we are suggesting this, Mr. Chairman, everyone agrees that the accounting procedures which are used by large corporations, and Crown agencies are large corporations, it puts the individual consumer in an almost impossible position. In fact some of the accounting procedures, it puts governments and large corporations when they're in a juxtaposition to each other in difficult situations. It is very difficult to prove just exactly how much it costs to ship grain, for example, because the railway traditionally has taken their accounting procedures and used it to their advantage within the law, apparently, and one accountant will argue with another.

So it's in some of these areas we feel it is necessary, Mr. Chairman, in the public interest to establish an advocacy type of approach to

consumerism so that the expertise necessary for the presentations of cases be undertaken by the Crown; where it has been in the past the policy that private groups, consortiums of people of different types have gotten together to make their case before utility boards, before milk control boards and other such bodies, they have been restricted by finances to the depth with which they can analyze the economic situation and the legitimacy of the case being made by those people who are asking for a raise. We are not at this time enunciating a comprehensive list, but it is just a matter of statement of policy.

This is the only time in this Session other than by the presentation of a private members' resolution that we can raise this particular point, because the government is asking us to approve the expenditures of money for the management and administration of the Department of Consumer, Corporate Affairs and Environment. It is on this point that I rise, Mr. Chairman, to perhaps even suggest to the Minister that he steal our thunder and investigate the efficacy of moving in this particular direction because it is in the public interest we feel to so move.

MR. FILMON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, I would like to apologize if in my remarks directed to the Member for Elmwood if I appeared to be arrogant. I would caution him and say that people seem to take greatest offence in finding their own disliked qualities in other people and perhaps that was why he took offence at what he perceived to be arrogance. I thought I was just merely making a statement on his wide range of commentary on what I did not believe was properly directed to the particular item in question.

A variety of different subjects have been touched upon by the various speakers who have spoken to date. If I may, I'd just like touch on the matter of the length of time that it took to complete the W.M. Ward Technical Services Laboratory. Perhaps one of the objectives that the member for Elmwood had in meeting with the architects today was to find out a little about the time it takes from commencement of a project to completion, and I'm sure that he should be aware, and I'm surprised that he isn't as a former Minister of Public Works, that from the time a project is conceived or even designed it takes a great deal of time when you're looking at a large and complex facility such as this lab to bring it to fruition. I believe that it was our view that when we were constructing a facility that we intended to have in use in this province for a long time in future, when we were constructing a facility that involved some very complex technical equipment and the ability to perform tests and environmental analysis the like of which perhaps is not available almost anywhere in North America, it was important to have it designed in conjunction with not only with our needs today but our future needs.

In fact, in our tour today of the facility, I was very proud to see the equipment, the types of operations that are being carried on, the testing, the very complex technical analysis that can be done in that facility. We also had the opportunity to discuss with the architect what he considered to be a very, very unusual situation of developing the project designed in conjunction with the engineers, the technicians, the scientists, the researchers who are going to be using this facility, of being able to in fact design a

facility completely in concert with their needs for the types of equipment that would go in there. In some cases, they were completely controlled environments, temperature controlled, humidity controlled, lighting controlled and so on. All of these required a great deal of sophistication and a great deal of cooperation between the architects, the contractors, and the scientists and research people who will use that facility, and as a consequence, we may have taken more time than the Member for Elmwood would have liked to have seen in the completion of this project, but I can assure him that it was only to satisfy ourselves and the people who will use that laboratory that it will be the best facility of its type and that we will have gotten the very best returns for our investments on behalf of the province and certainly the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Environment. My predecessor, the present Minister of Government Services, was very conscious of that in his term of ministry and had a great deal to do with insuring that that facility was well constructed, was properly constructed for its needs now and in the future, and I suggest that the Member for Elmwood is way off base in his criticism of that time span.

Secondly, several members, both the Member for Elmwood and the Member for Transcona, have made reference to the fact that consumers were not being properly looked after in a variety of different ways in our province and they referred specifically to the issue of the Milk Pricing Board, the removal of the Milk Pricing Review Board and they just don't appear to be in touch with what's going on today. They make widespread allegations, which I think we've come to expect from members from that side, with no basis of fact behind it. They suggest that we were not concerned with the consumers viewpoint in respect to milk pricing. They're suggesting all sorts of wild implications of price rises notwithstanding the arguments of producers and their right to get a fair return on their investment, but they suggested there were all sorts of unusual increases that may have occurred or are occurring as a result of the removal of the Milk Prices Review Board.

They obviously aren't even keeping up to date with stories that are in the news media currently, and I quote from yesterday's newspaper the Free Press and the headline is — "Few Instances of Over-Pricing of Milk Found". The story goes on to recount an interview with the representative of the Consumers Association of Canada, Manitoba Branch, saying it has found few cases to date of what it considers over-charging for milk in the wake of the abolition of the Manitoba Milk Control Board. Rose Ryan, Chairman of the Association Milk Pricing Committee, said in January about fifty volunteers checked prices at 57 Winnipeg stores and 78 outlets outside the city. Of these only one Winnipeg store and ten outside the city were charging prices that Committee members thought excessive, although the store owners were not asked about their prices. Later it goes on to say that she said the Association feared elimination of price controls would open a hornet's nest of price increases, but thus far this hasn't occurred. Ryan said that major Winnipeg Supermarkets did not increase milk prices in January keeping them at .68 cents a litre, Homogenized; .66 cents a litre . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I could just suggest to the honourable members that under the items that we're on, it's general statements. I would hope that if we're going to be something specific that we could get down to line by line, and I would think that the topic under discussion would probably come under Consumers Affairs Salaries and I'm just giving some direction. I'm not ruling the honourable minister out of order. The Honourable Minister.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your remarks and I concur with them. Unfortunately, the gauntlet was thrown by members opposite, who suggested that it was their desire to have me respond to their remarks, and I would only be too happy to do so in whatever area of my Estimates you would choose me to do so. I have responses to all of the various remarks they've made in their opening statements and I'm more than happy to carry on with it now or a line-by-line basis wherever you choose in my Estimates. I'm at your disposal, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At the suggestion of the Chair, if we could get down to the line-by-line and get it in detail rather than on general statements; I think that general statements have been made and I'm not limiting debate at all, but if the honourable members would cooperate and we will get down to a line-by-line basis.

Item (I) Salaries — the Honourable Minister.

MR. FILMON: If you're going to call, that's fine, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (1) — pass; (2) — pass — the Honourable Member for Transcona.

MR. PARASIUK: Yes, I just wanted to point out to the Minister, that we thought that we were on Management and Administration and we're on Salaries, and surely Management and Administration is an area — we weren't making general statements, we had one general statement, and I wanted to get some specifics out of him. You know there aren't that many lines in this department. We have later on in this department, we have one line for \$32 million, that's one line, so that I don't know if we want to limit the Minister and I certainly invite him to continue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Minister.

MR. FILMON: Mr. Chairman, I'll carry on in the discussion about the milk pricing situation.

The article goes on to say that major dairies are recommending .71 cents a litre homogenized; .69 cents a litre for 2 percent; and .65 cents a litre for Skim, but on the other hand stores have chosen not to charge the prices that are being recommended even by the dairies, so I think that one of the suggestions that was made during the debate by members on our side that milk might in fact be used as a loss leader, that it might in fact be used on a sale basis in stores, is in fact happening in the marketplace. There's no question that the Minister on our side was very concerned about consumers viewpoint when he supported that Bill, because he knew, as is being proven today, that milk would be sold at cheaper rates and that consumers would

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benefit from an opportunity in the marketplace to have competition in milk pricing and I think, Mr. Chairman, that it's being proven today contrary to anything that may have been said by members opposite.

To go further, members opposite have suggested the same type of situation prevails in rental accommodations in this province and I might indicate that from the period July 1st, 1980 to October 1st, 1980, 40,000 tenancies came up for renewal in rentals in this province.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. The hour being 4:30, I'm interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour, and will return into Committee at 8:00 this evening.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. We're now under Private Members' Hour, and on Tuesdays bills have first priority. We have Second Reading of Public Bills, Bill No. 14, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Inkster. (Stand)

BILL NO. 17 — THE MEDICAL ACT

MR. ARNOLD BROWN presented Bill No. 17, The Medical Act, for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to be the sponsor of this bill. This bill is primarily designed to update The Manitoba Medical Act which was last revised in 1964, and to bring it into conformity with the government's guidelines for legislation of the health professions.

The Act has been restructured in a format to allow more ready recognition of the different functions and for comparisons with the other health disciplines. The present Act spells out the various provisions and allows the College to set rules.

Under the new Act there will be three levels: Firstly the Act itself, which requires legislation approval, then regulations which are subject to approval by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and finally by-laws, which must be approved by the council of the College.

The qualifications acceptable for registration in the province are moved from the Act to regulations. Also regulations will provide for the prescribing of standards of continuing medical education. The conferring of honorary membership and the definition of duties and responsibility of persons on the educational register who are not yet eligible for full registration. The Act restructures the council of the College to provide for lay membership on the council which is the governing body of the profession. The appeal provisions under the Act are brought in to allow for appeals against refusal to register or against the decision of the complaints committee as well as allowing any aggrieved party to appeal against the decision of a formal enquiry, thus not only the doctor but the complainant will have the right to appeal to the courts if not satisfied with the decision.

Senior medical students and interns carry out medical care but are presently governed only by rules passed by Council. This is being moved to The Medical Act and Regulations by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

The specialists register currently only in the rules, is being moved to the Act but is essentially unchanged. The present Act refers to registration and annual dues. Most doctors think of the annual dues as a current licence and this is common usage. The new Act will provide for registration which indicates that the person is entitled to take out an annual licence if they wish to practice medicine. In cases of suspension, only the licence is suspended. Membership would only be revoked as a decision of a formal enquiry indicating the person has committed an offence so serious that they should not continue to be registered as a member.

One of the primary responsibilities of the College is to assure the public that licenced practitioners practice in an ethical, honest and competent manner, and a series of committees are established to make this function effective. The bill establishes a complaints committee with lay membership which presently exists under Rules, is established under the Act to attempt to informally resolve complaints from members of the public. The complainant has the right to appeal decisions of this committee. This committee now exists under Rules.

The bill establishes a new officer of the college to be known as the investigation chairman. This officer shall be appointed from among the elected councillors and oversees the investigation of any matter referred to him from any source, including the complaints committee and also including a matter referred by a complainant who has been unsatisfied with the decision of the complaints committee. This officer has the authority to seek subpoenas to obtain pertinent data for the appropriate investigation of complaints. At the end of the investigation, the investigation chairman makes a recommendation in writing that either no further action be taken or that a formal enquiry be conducted and he may recommend the suspension of the member pending inquiry if it is so indicated.

There is no provision in the present Medical Act for such an investigation, and therefore the College is often hampered in the investigation of complaints. Matters can only be subpoenaed after formal charges have been laid, and frequently, without the opportunity to review the evidence, the appropriateness of the charges is in doubt.

The bill provides for a standards committee, and this is a professional audit committee protected under Section 11 of The Manitoba Evidence Act which presently exists under rules of the College. It is absolutely essential that this committee be completely separated from any investigative or disciplinary arm of the College. This committee does have access to considerable information throughout the province of a medical nature for audit purposes only. It may interview and recommend refresher training to doctors but does not have the power to enforce such actions. It would not pass on any of its information or considerations to any other arm of the College. The standards committee could, if it reviews, warrant it, suggests that the practices of a specific doctor be investigated through the arm of

the investigation chairman who would carry out the review from the original basic subpoenaable data.

The bill provides for formal inquiries and it is essentially the same as the present provisions but adds a clause defiling the composition of the committee, including lay membership. The committee presently has such composition but it is not required by the legislation. This is the full legal view process which is required to enforce the decision of the College upon any member.

Other sections in this Act are self-explanatory and are primarily administrative changes.

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

MR. SAUL CHERNIACK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address a question if I may, to the honourable member. In view of the fact that about eight months ago a very similar bill was presented in this House and not dealt with because of, I suppose, effluxion of time, can the member indicate the changes that were made between the bill presented last year by his seat-mate and the bill he has now presented so that we could have some idea, to be shown the change rather than to have to search it out. Can he also explain the reason for the change?

MR. BROWN: I must say that I have not checked this bill against the other bill in comparing the two.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there are several points that I would like to make with respect to this bill. They relate firstly to the section which creates the investigative committee which is designed to provide an investigative, or almost — and I don't say this unkindly, police arm to the College to be able to gather information for the purpose of subsequently dealing with a discipline problem. And I understand that at present there is no way of getting that information unless they start a disciplinary procedure and then issue a subpoena to get the document.

I'm not certain, Mr. Speaker, as to how I feel about that at the moment. I would like, when the College comes to committee, to explain as to how this operates in other jurisdictions and why it's not possible, Mr. Speaker, to possibly make some of that information readily available to the College. For instance, I was shocked to be advised, Mr. Speaker, that the hospitals will not make information available to the College of Physicians and Surgeons unless there is an inquiry and unless there is a subpoena issued. Perhaps I shouldn't have been shocked. Perhaps this is confidential and should not be made available. I, however, think that if the College of Physicians and Surgeons is conducting an investigation and work has been done by a professional in a hospital, that information should be made available to the College of Physicians and Surgeons unless it's something of a very confidential or private nature. But if it relates to the practice of medicine, would it not be more simple — and I ask the College to answer the question, whether we could not pass a law saying that such information shall be made available by the hospital where it relates to the practice of medicine by a member of

the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the College is investigating that practice, that information is made available.

What has happened in this Act is that they've set up a committee of inquiry, an investigative committee, which can then go to court and convince the court that there should be a warrant or some other court document requiring the giving of the information. And I am not really convinced that that is either right or wrong, Mr. Speaker, I am asking the College to further explain that when they come to committee to see whether it is not possible to do this other than through setting up a separate committee of inquiry, other than having to get a court order to release the information and whether or not it would be just as feasible to require the hospitals in the case of an investigation, to provide this information.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the hospitals would give information to the Police Department about certain things that happen when the Police Department is conducting an investigation. And I just don't know why some similar accessibility is not available to the College of Physicians and Surgeons when it is demonstrably operating within its jurisdiction to try to deal with that problem.

The second area, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to deal with, is potentially a bigger problem, and I bring it to the attention of the members of the House that at the present time, under Section 18(2), it is specifically stated that a person is entitled to be registered as a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons and thereby to practice medicine, if he meets certain requirements. And I'll just give a for instance: "Is registered in the medical register for Canada under The Medical Act, and who has satisfied the requirements for that purpose by way of examination."

Now as I understand it, Mr. Speaker, if a man meets the qualifications which are presently clearly enunciated by statute, he is entitled to a certificate. And I am further advised that the College does not believe that it has the right to refuse a certificate if a person meets those qualifications, so there is no possibility of the College excluding somebody because they happen not to favour the person. And I tell the honourable members that I don't suggest that the College would ever do that, has ever done that, but I say that when they have the power to do it, it becomes a problem.

Well, at present, the qualifications under Sections 18(2) are very objective and if one produces those qualifications, is a graduate in Medicine, upon examination by the University, or produces to the Registrar the certificate under the corporate seal of the university for provisions made under Section 44, all of these things deal with objective indications and the College then registers.

Mr. Speaker, if there is going to be a further qualification, then I would respectfully suggest that it not be a qualification which is subjective, or which enables the College, for reasons which are not known in advance, to reject an applicant. I believe, although I'm not certain of this, and in British Columbia, there was a case, Mr. Speaker, for those who are interested in entrenchment in human rights cases. In British Columbia there was a case where a lawyer graduated from law school, asked for a certificate and was refused because he was a

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communist. That, to my knowledge, would not, or could not happen in the Province of Manitoba. He was entitled to his certificate.

And the present status of the College is similar. You are able to get a certificate provided you meet the statutory requirements. Now it is the intention, Mr. Speaker, in this Act, to now remove the statutory requirement and say that these requirements are set by regulation. So we don't know what they are, we don't know what they will be, but let's presume all kinds of good faith that they are the same as now exist in the statute and what is being sought here is flexibility but, Mr. Speaker, we don't know what that flexibility will produce. And especially when we are now at a time, when we are discussing the availability of practitioners and we are getting demands of 49 percent, I would really not want to provide a greater discretion to the College of Physicians and Surgeons for the entry of people into the medical profession than presently exists, and presently the rules are fairly clear, and if somebody can meet those rules, he's in. The Act says that the person has to possess those qualifications as prescribed by a regulation made pursuant to Clause 19(a). Clause 19(a) says, "Without limiting the generality of the provisions," and I have to read this, Mr. Speaker, because it's part of the principle, "the council may, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council," so they'll need the Cabinet's approval — that doesn't make me feel any more comfortable, "make regulations with respect to any one or more of the following matters: The determination of the professional qualifications and experience including the postgraduate clinical training program required of an applicant for registration as a member of the college, the proof that may be required as to the professional conduct and general fitness of an applicant to practise medicine."

Mr. Speaker, that's a dangerous clause, and I think it should be brought to the attention of the medical profession that is a dangerous clause. There will have to be very good reason to substantiate that clause, and those people who are going to come to talk to this bill on second reading should deal with it and I leave it at that, because I'm not going to try to gild the issue at the moment, I want to hear what is said about it.

Mr. Speaker, there is another feature of the disciplinary procedure which should be offensive to all members of the House and the fact that we may have done it or closed our eyes to it for years, and the fact that it exists in other Acts is not an excuse for it. It's merely an excuse for taking it out of the other Acts. And that is that feature of the discipline that says that where the college determines that a person is guilty, they have a right to charge him with all of the expenses of the inquiry, and the expenses of the inquiry at this point can be momentous, Mr. Speaker. How momentous? Well, the last inquiry that they charged the expenses of was \$16,000, I believe or in that neighbourhood. That was the Schwartz inquiry. But now they have an investigative committee and the court appearances were subpoenaed and all of the work, and who knows whether the Schwartz case was a big case or a small case. I can envisage expenses amounting to \$20,000, \$30,000, Mr. Speaker, that a doctor would have to

pay. Some may say, if he's guilty, let him pay it. Mr. Speaker, it's more subtle than that. The committee that is determining whether he is innocent or guilty is also determining whether they pay it or he pays it. In other words, if they find him guilty, he pays, the doctor pays; if they find him innocent, they pay, the board that's . . .

Mr. Speaker, suppose I am appearing before you and you have the choice of finding me guilty or innocent, or perhaps we should turn it around to make it so that deals more with my integrity than yours. You are appearing before me accused of a crime. If I find you guilty you pay all of the expenses of the crime. If I find you innocent, I pay all of the expenses. Do you feel comfortable appearing before me? Mr. Speaker, that's what it says. That's what the Act says. Somebody will say, well, what's the difference? Surely the committee is not going to make a finding based on the fact that they are going to save each of the members \$750 or \$75, whatever it is. But, Mr. Speaker, it doesn't work that way. We sat here for the past three weeks discussing items of \$15,000, and not \$15,000 in a budget, of over \$2.3 billion and more is going to be said about that budget, about those expenditures before the year is out, with a lot of red-faced Tories, about expenditures of government. I won't have to go back, Mr. Speaker, to quote chapter and verse because the chapter and verse is ringing in everybody's head for three years, as to what was said about expenditures of government.

Nevertheless, we've argued about \$10,000, we've argued about \$15,000, we argued about \$26,000.00. We said we're going to take \$26,000 away from a man. We don't think the public of Manitoba should pay it, even though he is protesting his innocence, he's out on bail, but he has been convicted of an offense. If we're so worried about \$26,000 out of a budget of \$2.3 billion, why should not the college be worried about an expense of \$16,000, in a budget which is far less?

My friend, the Member for St. Boniface says that if they get their 49 percent increase, then they will be less worried about convicting the doctor; that they will pay the expenses. Mr. Speaker, every time I start to make this type of statement, I am sure that somebody is going to prove me wrong, but it is probably not in the annals of judicial jurisprudence anywhere else, that the convicting authority — and I know that it's in The Law Society Act and it shouldn't be there — it may be in The Dental Act and it shouldn't be there. I notice that they are breaking up a Veterinarians Act and it's in there. I can tell you it shouldn't be there either. The veterinaries are going to discipline a veterinarian, and they are going to uphold the costs of the inquiry against him, and if they don't discipline him, they pay the costs.

You cannot, Mr. Speaker, surely condone a practise where the judge gains by convicting and loses by acquittal and say that the practise of justice seemed to be done.

I tried to discover the history of this section, and I was told by a good friend of mine, who happens to be a member of the judiciary, that there were some lawyers who expanded the costs of the inquiry and that's why they got this . . . That's the kind of bad cases, Mr. Speaker, the hard cases, that make bad

law. That's the same reason we have in our statutes today a section that says that if the Member for St. Boniface is convicted of —(Interjection)— No, no, not bribery, have to take the bribery out — convicted of a terrible heinous offense, like joining the Progressive Conservatives — if he is convicted of an offense and sentenced to four years, he can sit in this Assembly. If I am convicted of an offense and sentenced to five years, an offense of manslaughter, where I happened to be drinking too much at a Hotelman's dinner and drove home and killed somebody and sentenced to five years, I am thrown out.

My friend, the Member for St. Boniface, could commit armed robbery on a bank, not kill anybody, get four years; he's permitted to sit. We passed such a law because it was a hard case, and that apparently is how this thing got into The Medical Act.

Mr. Speaker, I say it shouldn't be there. The College of Physicians and Surgeons having accepted the power to discipline members, having said that is a power which is of benefit to them and to all of society, having the power to tax their members for the costs of such disciplinary procedures, should pay the discipline, and if not them, the state. If a member is accused of a crime, it costs much more than \$16,000 to try him. He can be convicted, he can be disbarred from practise, he can be incarcerated if it's a crime, but disbarment from practise is the disciplinary procedure. When a member commits a crime . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please, the Honourable Member has four minutes.

MR. GREEN: Fine. . . . he doesn't pay the costs of the criminal prosecution, I mean, it would be horrendous if 12 jurors could sit there for two weeks and a judge who is earning \$60,000 a year. The medical profession puts all of these costs on to the guy who they kick out of the profession and they can only put it on him if they kick him out of the profession or otherwise discipline him. If they don't, then they pay it themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I think that this is not a satisfactory situation, that Dr. Schwartz was convicted and is prevented from practising or is suspended, that is his punishment. The procedure which brings that about is not something that he should have to pay for and particularly the College shouldn't say that by inflicting the punishment, because that is, how small it may seem, an incentive to convict rather than to acquit, and I would strongly suggest that when this bill goes to committee that there be some talking about that section and I would prefer to see it removed.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks, debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

BILL NO. 19 — AN ACT TO AMEND THE VETERINARY MEDICAL ACT

MR. JAMES R. FERGUSON presented Bill No. 19, An Act to amend The Veterinary Medical Act, for second reading.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

MR. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is another one of the bills that was withdrawn last year after First Reading. There is no change in it from the previous bill. The board is a regulatory body composed of six members, all practising veterinarians. The amendments are more for clarification than rewording. There are now 178 vets in total in the province, working in 30 public clinics involving 45 vets, 17 are practising outside of clinics and the balance are involved in various other aspects of the trade.

The bill gets rid of the definition of gross negligence and incompetence. The bill puts the election of council on an ongoing basis. The bill simplifies the procedure by which colleges and universities can be recognized. Complaints in writing to a board about a vet; the board may dismiss complaint if it is deemed to be vexatious or frivolous.

There will be two weeks notice of an inquiry against a member, and the board has the powers to limit practise under conditions where vet appears deficient in some ways. The board has power to collect costs of filing an order in court. There will be an appeal on the record of evidence submitted to the board, rather than new evidence submitted to a judge as is presently the case. Registered vets may employ technicians who meet standards prescribed by by-laws of the association, but who may not have passed any technical courses prescribed by the association.

This is a very short bill. There is probably a clause in there that the Member for Inkster doesn't like, but with that explanation, Mr. Speaker, I recommend it to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

MR. JENKINS: I move, seconded, by the Honourable Member for Kildonan that debate be adjourned.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The Honourable Member for Inkster on a point of order.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak at this time if I may.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the honourable member care to withdraw his motion of adjournment?

MR. JENKINS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, I do wish to indicate that the clause that I referred to in The Medical Act is also contained in The Veterinarian's Act, and I believe that the veterinarians should also be advised, that committee, that this has caused concern in the minds of at least one member and that they should be prepared to deal with it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Logan.

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MR. JENKINS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kildonan that the debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

**RES. 7 — COST OF RCMP
POLICE SERVICES**

MR. SPEAKER: We will now proceed resolutions. Resolution No. 7, in the name of the Honourable Member for Dauphin, standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Seven Oaks, the Honourable Member has 17 minutes.

MR. SAUL A. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I spoke for just a few minutes the other day on this Resolution and as I indicated, the message I was getting from across the way to justify the Resolution being put on the order paper at this time, was that the Provincial Government was staking out its position vis-a-vis not the Federal Government, but staking out its position vis-a-vis the municipalities; because they didn't need a resolution of this kind, in negotiating with the Federal Government, to negotiate as hard as they could to the benefit of Manitoba. That goes on all the time.

Various Ministers go to Federal-Provincial conferences. They're negotiating on various cost-sharing arrangements; on transfer of funds; on equalization; the whole gamut of Federal-Provincial funding is discussed regularly, agreements are struck for one year, three years, five years and then renegotiated time and again.

So bring in a Resolution to this House saying, we ask the House to please endorse the tough stand that your government is taking, to me really makes no sense at all. Of course everyone wants the Government of Manitoba to negotiate as hard as they can, to get as much as they can from the Federal Government or from any other government for that matter; to negotiate their agreements, whether they be with the government or with a private industry, to exact as much on behalf of Manitoba as they possibly can.

So there's no need for this Resolution. Everybody knows that. But there is a need if, in fact, the Resolution has another purpose, and as I say the other purpose is a message to the municipality; a message which says we are negotiating, but we may not succeed and if we don't succeed you, the municipalities, are going to get stuck. You, the municipalities are going to have to carry the brunt, because, Mr. Speaker, the track record of this government proves what I'm saying. They've had no hesitation at all, since coming into office of pushing the costs of various services to local levels, whether it be a school board, whether it be a council, whether it be a consumer; they've had no hesitation in that at all.

In the case of the City of Winnipeg, we know that transit fares have gone up 25 cents, which existed for years, and now because this government is not prepared to fund 50 percent of the deficit, now the City of Winnipeg is talking about a 60 cent transit fare.

Now in this day and age when you want to encourage people to use transit and leave their

vehicles at home, to me it's working against that very theory by making transit fares so costly that it pays to take the car, and certainly you can't beat the private car for convenience. So that this government by its actions has consistently pushed cost onto municipalities, they've had no hesitation in that.

The City of Winnipeg at one time got 50 percent of the funding for the purchase of the new transit buses, that disappeared, and now we hear that maybe the Minister is going to permit them to use UTAP, which is Federal monies, to purchase buses. Actually those funds were for such major undertakings such as the Sherbrook-McGregor Overpass or the Southwest Corridor, that sort of undertaking, not for transit buses. But he says he'll think he'll consider allowing the city to use the money for that.

Again, the province getting out and ducking its financial responsibilities vis-a-vis their own creatures, that is the municipalities. Because who are the municipalities? Does it have any status? Are they recognized anywhere except within the Province of Manitoba by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Government, the Legislature, has simply created them and has given to them certain responsibilities or transferred certain administrative responsibilities to them. But in doing that, and no one, I don't think, has ever suggested that in fact having done that the province just turns their back on it, because in the final analysis the province is responsible, not the municipalities.

So, Mr. Speaker, what I fear is that what we're witnessing is an attempt, as I say by this government, to simply separate themselves from any responsibility vis-a-vis, RCMP cost of services.

If the provinces are not successful in their negotiations with the Federal Government, or they're only partially successful by their measurements; if in fact, the Federal Government says no way are we going to continue the old formula, then the municipalities are going to be in the unfortunate position, where they have to pick up the cost. I believe the Member for Portage the other day indicated I think it was an increase of something like \$221,000 that Portage would be faced with. You know that, for the ratepayers of Portage la Prairie that indeed is a very difficult sum of money to raise from the limited tax space which municipalities have. What is their tax space? A little bit of business tax. It's the property tax, the millrate. That's all that they have.

Sure in 1975, I believe it is, the former government transferred certain tax points to them, personal income tax, corporate income tax, because they are a growth tax and would grow over years, and that was the first time that the municipalities were given any access to taxes that might yield something.

I recall we gave up the amusement tax and said municipalities can now impose it themselves, and as a result, I know in the City of Winnipeg that has meant a yield of about a million dollars in the last year, but generally speaking, municipalities, particularly small towns, villages, the only access they have is property tax and there is no doubt that if they're forced to pick up the entire cost of RCMP services, it will be a hardship on the municipality and it will be a hardship on the individual ratepayer living in that municipality if the only means of raising the funds by the local town council is a millrate increase.

Mr. Speaker, we heard nothing from members opposite saying that in the event that they couldn't get a better agreement from the Federal Government, that in fact the Federal Government was listening to the injunctions of a group of Conservatives, who have argued for years that the Federal Government is spending too much money, that they have got to tighten their belts, that they got to get their fiscal act together, as this government claims they have. Now the Federal Government is trying to do that and doing exactly what that government has done. They're simply saying, yes, we'll tighten up, we'll spend less money and you spend more, which is what the Conservative Government of Manitoba has done for the last three years. They dropped certain expenditures; the municipalities have to pick it up at the other end, or the consumer picks it up at the other end. They cut some income taxes, but the consumer had to pick it up at the other end.

If you had somebody going to university, if he used transit; if you had to buy licences; everything has gone up, to it more than offsets the \$15 or \$20 per annum that you saved in your income tax; and, Mr. Speaker, not to talk about personal care homes and other charges that they've imposed.

So, Mr. Speaker, the silence of members opposite, those speakers who have spoken and the member who introduced the resolution, to me speaks louder than the words they didn't use, because to me it is an attempt to paint the Feds black, to say there is the enemy, the Federal-Liberal Government is the enemy. We on this side are Simon pure, you help us; you, the Legislature endorse us in our desire to remain Simon pure, because we are right and they are wrong.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal-Liberals are no more right nor wrong than the Progressive Conservative Government of Manitoba, because all the Federal-Liberals are doing is practising the same kind of restraint, on behalf of the Federal Treasury, that this government has practiced for the last three years. I say to them it is somewhat — I won't use the word hypocritical, but it is cute politics, that is all I can say about it. It is being very cute; I don't think it is being responsible.

What you are being asked to do is to endorse the position taken by the Manitoba Government. I am not quite sure what the position is, we are not privy to the discussions that take place at these meetings, they are at a ministerial level, and there may be some releases made to the press after the meeting, but the meeting is in there, and I have never seen any documentation. But I gather the Manitoba Government is simply saying, don't change it, don't change anything, just let things be; recognize the inflationary costs but otherwise let the thing continue as it has.

I believe the Minister for Urban Affairs posed a question to the Member for Fort Rouge the last time this was debated and said, didn't she think that it was proper that since the government in the past had indicated that their formula and their approach was consistent, that wasn't it right and proper and fair to expect that the government today would assume the same, would acknowledge that what was said five years ago was valid and therefore it should be equally as valid today.

Again that is being cute, because this government inherited a policy from the former government, which indicated and did say that the province would support the City of Winnipeg at certain levels; that they would participate 50-50 on certain programs; and they chose to say, no, we're not going to do that, we're simply going to make a bulk payment available, block funding available, and you can do with it what you want. If you want to buy buses, buy buses; if you want to build new roads, build new roads; but that's it, and perhaps it will increase annually. But we know now that the City of Winnipeg has over the last three years lost about \$7 million under the present formula, as compared to what they would have received had the old formula pertained.

Is anyone saying to the government across the way, now wait a minute, if a program, a policy, established previously was valid, was equitable, how can you now change it and are you being fair in changing it? That's the kind of approach that the Minister of Urban Affairs is taking. Because five years ago, the Federal Government indicated they were agreeable to a certain cost sharing arrangement, that they should continue that same formula, because five years ago, they had established that, makes no sense at all particularly to this government across the way, because they're the ones who ignore past practises, who ignore past policies and as rapidly as possible moved away from that to establish their own.

Mr. Speaker, I regret that the speakers who have spoken so far have indicated no concern for the municipalities except wringing of hands and shedding crocodile tears, saying the terrible Federal Government is putting these municipalities in trouble.

The municipalities are the responsibility of the province. If the municipalities are in trouble, the province has to get behind them. The province has to make up the difference in costs or the province has to give them access to greater taxation; the province has to do something. It's not the bad Federal Government, it's these people here.

If the province can negotiate a good contract with the RCMP, all well and good. Fine. I hope they negotiate so well that as a matter of fact instead of paying 50 percent, they'll only pay 10 percent. Good luck to them. But I've never heard the Treasury Branch come forward to the Legislature while negotiations are taking place and say please support us, give us your moral support. That's their responsibility. That's why they're government. They can't come running to the Legislature. Their responsibility is to negotiate as hard as they can for the best deal for Manitoba, but once that's through, their responsibility extends further. It extends to the citizens of Manitoba, to the municipalities, to the towns and villages to make sure that they're not faced with the \$221 million increases Portage la Prairie may be facing, and some of the other figures I don't recall. But to simply say, that's what's going to happen to you Portage la Prairie if the Feds don't moderate their demands. It's simply blaming the Feds and saying don't blame us, we're Simon pure because we're trying our hardest for you, but once we don't succeed, you're on your own - sink or swim, we don't give a darn. That, Mr. Speaker, is not only invalid, I say that's abdication of responsibility by this government towards the municipalities which are their concern and their responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: I don't know if it's me, they say it's in the eye of the beholder but I seem to think that Moses is smiling a little broader today. I may be wrong but here, Mr. Speaker, we have another manifestation of the government's wanting to throw money at problems. I've been listening to this debate as it proceeded and the government accused the former government of trying to solve problems by throwing money at them, and as I see this particular topic as we're discussing it, it's whose dollars are you going to throw at it, Federal dollars or Provincial dollars or Municipal dollars. And, I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we have to take a look at analyzing what we expect from the police in the Province of Manitoba

For example, in this City of Winnipeg, primarily as a result of the Member for Seven Oaks' efforts, the province took over part of the traditional role of the police force in dealing with people who were publicly inebriated. We had passed a law, the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act which said it was no longer a offence for which a person could be arrested and so it was felt that we have to do something to alleviate the problem, we couldn't rely entirely on the police to solve that social problem. So, my point on this, looking at this, is not just the narrowness with which it is being debated, because we can continually escalate the amount of money that we're paying for police services, but is there a better way to solve some of the problems that traditionally have been relegated or delegated to the police forces in our society?

Reference was made to Portage la Prairie for example. I imagine a lot of the cost involves some of the urban problems that I mentioned, but also the highway patrol component. Is it time that we looked at other ways of solving highway patrols? Is it time that we look at dealing with social problems rather than criminal problems by some other instrument of society than a traditional approach that we have used in deploying police forces to deal with these social disruptions?

I mentioned earlier that the Main Street project was an instrument, and we can discuss the details of how well it's doing under the Estimates of the Department of Health because I think they're funded through the Alcoholism Foundation. I don't know just what exactly what the arrangements are at the moment, but that was an example of what can be done and it was difficult in having the acceptance of this approach by the public and by the police forces themselves, but nevertheless inroads were made.

I have seen statistics, and I'm not going to bandy those about because I don't recall them that well, but a high percentage in urban areas, a high percentage of the problems of policing is more involved with social problems than with criminal problems. And I will hasten to add that some social problems can be quite dangerous where we have people responding to a case recently in which there was a death involved which started out as what would be conceived as a social problem rather than a criminal problem until such time as it went across the pale and I mention this to point out there are difficulties. I'm not answering a simple solution but I was wondering in listening to the debate, Mr.

Speaker, whether the government would undertake in-House, not to set-up a Royal Commission or a Task Force, there are capable, competent people on staff in the various departments, in the Department of the Attorney-General, and the Department of Community Services, who, I believe, could be gathered together to present the information in a way in which we could approach a solution to this problem which doesn't necessitate the escalating dollars.

And it is of concern that even on a cost basis, I don't know if it's worth it in the public interest to pace 10 percent of roughly 40,000, I think it is. I think it's about \$40,000 a year that the province is charged per staff man year and if we're paying 50, 60, 70, 80 percent of that 40,000 which is escalating, to have someone patrol the highways.

I see the Member for La Verendrye wondering about that also. I'm not saying that we have to rush into that because there are problems and we have to be cautious that we're advised as to some of the problems which may occur by those people who have been involved with delivering these services in the past.

But, I agree with the Member for Seven Oaks that the cop-out of the Provincial Government on this particular resolution and just asking the Federal Government that we confirm the approach of the government in trying to pass on to the Federal Government more taxes. Let them raise the taxes and give it to the province or the province can give it to the municipalities. In my 12 years I've found that this is a pet ploy of politicians, let somebody else tax and I'll spend the money. Now the city would much rather we taxed and give it to them on unconditional grants and the school boards would much rather we taxed and give it to them in support systems for education.

So the two points, Mr. Speaker, that I wanted to make was 1. That I think it's time that we look at what we expect of police services in the Province of Manitoba, and there's a time to perhaps spin-off some of these responsibilities and it can be dealt with in a more economical manner. My second point being, Mr. Speaker, that the resolution itself is but an attempt by the government to chide the Federal Government for not spending more money which seems inconsistent with their basic position that they have been admonishing the Federal Government, cut back on public spending, cut back on public spending and I've heard this position articulated by the Conservative Party since 1977 and I'm still waiting, Mr. Speaker, for them to give me a for instance of where they think that the Federal Government should cut back. Because, after all, — (Interjection)— I hear the Minister of Finance say the Civil Service. Well perhaps this is the Civil Service you're talking about.

Mr. Speaker, through you to the Minister of Finance, maybe I shouldn't ask him the question, but he says cut back on the Civil Service. Are these the Civil Servants you're talking about? The RCMP should be cut back?

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. RANSOM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the honourable member asked a question about which civil servants

should be cut back. I'd like to point out to the member that had the Federal Government undertaken the same sort of restraint in the hiring of civil servants, the maintaining of civil servants in the government . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I think maybe the Honourable Minister may be entering the debate rather than . . .

The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

MR. BOYCE: I misunderstood the Minister of Finance. I thought he wanted to ask me a question. —(Interjection)— If you think Gene Autry has lots of bullets in his gun, you wait till you see mine. —(Interjection)— The moral of that story is, Mr. Speaker, for those who aren't in on it is: Don't mess around with Malinowski. It was very interesting to note that here again we have an example of the position of the Conservative Party, cut back on the civil servants but not that one, not the RCMP, not the people in Health and Welfare, not the people in Agriculture, not the people in the Wheat Board, no, no, each one of them, oh no, oh no, spend more money, give us more services, but cut back on public spending.

It's an inconsistent position, Mr. Speaker, and once again the Minister of Finance helps me out in the last minute of my presentation, he bails me out because he makes the case.

The Conservative Government wants the Federal Government to increase spending and at the same time cut their spending and I think the people of Manitoba are finally catching on to this government in the province and their approach to problems all across the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

The Honourable Member for Wellington.

The hour being 5:30, I will recognize the honourable member when this item next arises.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

MR. JORGENSEN: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn and return in Committee of Supply at 8:00 o'clock. I might add, Mr. Speaker, there'll be only one committee sitting tonight here in the Chamber, as well as tomorrow.

MOTION presented and carried and the House adjourned and stands adjourned until 2:00 o'clock tomorrow (Wednesday).