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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Monday, July 13th, 1959

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 7.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, before we broke off at 5:30 we were discussing the question of hospital space. I was wondering whether the Minister could give us some idea of the present situation, that is, the number of beds available and what there is under construction at the moment? Is there much being done in the way of hospital construction or is there not? And, if possible, the breakdown between what is available in rural Manitoba and what is available in the City of Winnipeg.

Mr. Johnson (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I'm afraid I would have to get more accurate breakdown of this than what I'm prepared to give at the moment. However, in a general sort of way we'll be discussing this and I could have a more complete answer at the time we come to capital cost in our estimates later on. But it is true that a certain number of local enlargements of some hospitals throughout the province have been approved by the advisory commission in the past year. Many of them were started before last summer and those are going ahead as usual-- however, I think at this moment that those will be going ahead. There's a little addition at Arborg; and we opened a hospital in Vita this past winter, re-opened that United Church Hospital, used to be under the United Church. There are numerous smaller units that have planned on these additions and they have met the requirements of the government and proven their necessity. But we feel that before we proceed from here, we'll have to get a better idea of how the distribution should go both as to acute and chronic beds, from our statistics, from the plan, and from this survey. But I'd be prepared to get more information for the honourable member at capital cost.

MR. MOLGAT: Fine, Mr. Chairman, I don't need the figures immediately but I think this is an important figure overall because this question of trends of hospital use is important as most of us were afraid before the hospital plan came in that there would be a tremendous increase in the use. Then naturally we're interested now in knowing what had happened.

One of the other aspects under the Hospital Plan which has risen, and I know the Honourable Minister in his capacity as the Honourable Member for Gimli, and in his private capacity, will be particularly concerned about this -- is the question about the length of stay in hospital -- I've had a number of complaints brought to me by doctors that when they put a patient in, they were turned down for this reason or that. I've had the same complaint brought up by patients who had been sent to the hospital by a doctor and expecting that the Hospital Plan would cover everything-- that they had complete coverage -- and then they found out later they got a bill for a portion of their stay or whatever it was. And this has caused a considerable amount of trouble. From the doctors it seems that the main complaint is that they have had to do a great deal of report writing. I'm sure the honourable member himself will agree that when you are very busy in your practice that you're not too anxious to be filling in reports when there are people waiting to be treated. It seems that since the plan has gone into operation, there has been a great deal more of report writing required by the doctors and a great deal more checking by the plan than there used to be previously under the Blue Cross. Blue Cross I will admit did not have the same coverage, but nevertheless it seemed that there was less difficulties between the hospitals and the doctors and the Blue Cross as there is now on whether stays in hospitals are legitimate or not legitimate and whether they will be covered or not. And I was wondering if there couldn't be some improvement in that so the doctors and the hospitals wouldn't be subjected to such an amount of red tape and reports.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few remarks on what the honourable member has mentioned concerning the doctors. I think that in each hospital the medical consultant has visited them, met with the Board and, they have set up admission and discharge committees. The function of these admission-discharge committees within each hospital is to allow the doctors themselves through their own colleagues to look at their own problems of long stay. And as far as long reports go, I disagree with the honourable member that we merely ask for a diagnosis. A patient can only be admitted or discharged on the doctor's say so. We have to have a classifiable diagnosis, because, after all, this is virtually a cheque which the doctor is writing this patient for this care. For instance, it was a favourite trick of many of us when we

(Mr. Johnson, Cont'd.) had Blue Cross to write down abdominal pain. Abdominal pain is not a diagnosis. We received one such report and the physician became quite irritated when the consultant to the plan in each case where there is a question, phones the doctor concerned and asks him what he really meant. In this case it was a ruptured appendix with peritonitis. If he'd just written down the extra two words, there wouldn't have been any phone call, there wouldn't have been any doubt expressed at all. But we simply have to have this classification. I don't agree that there is excessive red tape in letter writing. We've tried our best to keep it to a minimum. As a matter of fact the portion on the form that the doctor has to fill out he can't say more than one paragraph at the most in most cases. We've tried to individualize as much as possible; I think the internal administration of the hospital we try and leave that, that is left up to the hospital concerned; and these complaints should be brought to the attention of the board or the superintendent of the hospital who in turn could contact us. I have had many doctors contact the plan concerning problems, but this is a little different than Blue Cross where for instance the patient's benefit is discontinued after six days after parturition or after childbirth. There was no coverage after six days; \$60.00 limit on most contracts; and this led to a 6-day stay because the money ran out at the point and that was it. Under comprehensive coverage like this of course, and quite justifiably in most cases, the length of stay has increased but the hospital utilization has been surprisingly good and very little abuse in my opinion.

MR. TANCHAK: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Minister mentioned the hospital at Vita. I know it was opened last winter and we are all very grateful for the opening of the hospital. I wonder if the Minister could tell me anything about opening a hospital in Sprague. It was last May that there was rumours and quite a few promises that there would be a new hospital opened at Sprague. I would like to know if the Minister knows anything about it. Has anything been done about it. Were there any representations about it or not? That's the hospital at Sprague.

MR. JOHNSON: I cannot answer that at the moment, Mr. Chairman. I have attended the advisory commission meetings where in the first instances these requests are placed, and I do not recall the subject of Sprague being brought up, but I would be glad to look into it for the honourable member.

MR. TANCHAK: Another matter that I would like to clarify that concerns the eastern, south eastern part of Manitoba. As we all know, in this part of Manitoba hospital care is not available and the closest hospital is Vita, and most of the patients avail themselves of the Winnipeg hospitals, and we know that the Winnipeg hospital charges more per day than the Vita hospital does. Of course the patients prefer the hospital at Winnipeg; but some of them due to inconvenience of the distance or probably emergency, take advantage of the hospitals across the line, especially at Roseau. Now there seems to be quite a bit of dissatisfaction there because some patients who have previously gone to Winnipeg the total bill was paid by the hospital plan. If the same patient goes to Roseau evidently Manitoba puts those hospitals under a different classification, and consequently only a part of the bill is paid. The patient is required to pay the difference, and he complains, "if only I had gone into Winnipeg the total bill would have been paid." Well because I went to Roseau which was closer, more convenient and I had to pay the difference -- and they cannot see the justification of this. He says, "Well next time I will go to the City of Winnipeg unless it's an emergency." I heard that there will be some changes made in regard to this matter, I'm not quite sure -- I would like the Minister to explain just what is contemplated.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, concerning Roseau, the commissioner has spoken to me about it but I will admit I cannot remember the details; but in view of the fact that it was close to the border and so many of our Canadian patients or citizens of Manitoba went to this hospital, I believe originally we were paying them on the out-of-province benefit scale to \$11.00 a day or whatever it was; but I know that the commissioner has been in touch with the hospital to make some arrangement concerning per diem cost. Again I mentioned in my introductory remarks to the estimates the other day the question of subsidizing American capital costs and so on. All these factors have to be dealt with but we are paying for patients in the Roseau hospital -- up to what amount at this moment I don't know -- but there were negotiations going on recently. I'll get that information also.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Is there a policy regarding the payment for patients in other -- any set figure that are paid in American hospitals. Isn't there a limit you will pay?

MR. JOHNSON: in the brochure to the plan and it's \$18.00 a day for a 500 bed

(Mr. Johnson, Cont'd.) hospital or over.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman,I hadn't intended to say anything more on this hospitalization but over the suppertime recess a case was drawn to my attention that I think I should in turn draw it to the attention of the Honourable the Minister. It's been drawn to my attention that a 6-year old boy was in the hospital for two days at a rate of \$20.26 for extraction of teeth. He was in there for two days, and it's my understanding that it's not going to be covered under our Manitoba hospitalization scheme. Now I would like to ask the Minister if that is so, because I understand in this case that if the hospital plan doesn't take up the bill the circumstances are such that the municipality will have to. And if it is not covered by the plan, I wonder whether or not the Minister could give us any information if it is written into the Act as such as laid down by Ottawa or is it in the regulations, and, if so, has the Minister any plans that cases of this nature might be considered under the plan?

MR. JOHNSON: On answering this question, we did meet last summer with the members of the dental profession and drew out in the regulations just what the requirements were and asked the dentists for their advice and so on, and we did draw up a scale. For instance the removal of 8 or more teeth requires hospitalization for medical reasons such as Blue Cross had -- practically identical -- this was covered. Now I wouldn't like to make any comment without knowing what the situation is here but it would seem to me that certainly if it was necessary to admit the child for extraction that this is covered and this sounds like deciduous teeth and I would just like to get the limit on that or the particular story here. There seems to be something amiss.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I'll get full details of the particular case and draw it to the attention of the Minister.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, we all realize that hospitals are needed, and I have a pipe dream, and I wonder whether the Honourable Minister would give it consideration. It may be only a dream. Hospitals today are not worrying about vacant beds. They are mostly all occupied. A lot of people are leaving in their wills for endowment funds of different hospitals - - individual hospitals. I am just wondering whether all the hospitals who are not suffering for lack of patients could get together and have a separate pool of all these monies for the purpose of building one more hospital as the province probably now is not in a position to spend 3 or 4 million dollars for a new hospital which is very badly needed in the city, and I thought sometime when you meet those hospital superintendents you could perhaps suggest to them. It may be a dream only, but I think a dream sometimes comes true. In other words there are many people leaving in their will large amounts of money --funds-- endowment funds for the existing hospitals, and I thought perhaps if they pooled all their money together and are all interested to have another hospital and this money could be utilized perhaps.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, under which item would it be permissible to discuss nursing; some of the conditions that prevail in nursing; some of the problems of the nursing profession?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): I imagine this is as good a time as any, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I just thought that I would draw the attention of the Minister to some facts or alleged facts with respect to nursing in this province. Now I assume that there is a comparatively acute nursing shortage here in Manitoba, and along with that some people in a position to know, have from time to time made some suggestions as to possible remedial steps. I just don't know, Mr. Chairman, just what liaison exists between this department and the training of nurses in the hospitals; I'm not sure whether the Minister has any jurisdiction. Before I go any further in my remarks I would like the Honourable Minister to inform this committee and myself as to just how much jurisdiction does the Department have over the training of nurses -- that is to say registered nurses, if any.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): The Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, I presume is what you're talking about -- the honourable member -- the MARN, as you know, have their own Act which gives them powers of setting their educational standards within their own profession, and as we know it's a three year course. The MARN have been -- they've organized their own training in each of the hospitals and their educational standards are very high. They feel that there should be more emphasis on nursing education at this time, and they each have their own course in each of the hospitals, largely the teaching hospitals and other hospitals in the greater Winnipeg area, where they demand of these students so many hours of obstetrics, so many hours in the operating room, so many hours in communicable disease, psychiatry and so on -- these affiliations -- and it's as we know a three year course. I might inform the members of the Committee that the MARN are --

(Mr. Johnson, Cont'd.) realize with us the shortage that has existed, and this shortage is pretty well universal across the continent. And you can read journals from almost any centre in America and they give you the same story and the same reasons why for. And about 5 months ago -- or some time ago -- must be six months ago now, we had the RN group -- MARN met with representatives of the Medical Association to look into the nursing problem and shortage with the view to advising the government. Of course, the role of this Department is that we don't want to interfere with the educational qualifications which these people lay down; we do want to co-operate with them as far as we can. One may say very realistically that having now reached the point where the government asks everyone to pay a premium and provides minimal for the standard nursing service in our hospitals, that we find ourselves more and more interested in the activities of the nursing profession. However, they are an autonomous group.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, I take it the, as I suspected, that this Department can only give counsel to the Nursing Association. There were only two particular matters which I wish to draw the attention of the Minister to, and one of them is the practical nurses training program. It would seem after perusing the annual report of the Department of Health and Welfare of last year, that perhaps one way in which we could do something towards the end of reducing the nursing shortage -- at least auxiliary to it, would be to step up the practical nursing training program. And also I'd like to ask the Honourable Minister if at any time to his knowledge, has the Nursing Association given any consideration to the possibility of relieving a good many registered nurses of a lot of menial chores in the way of secretarial work, administrative work, because as the Minister is perhaps aware, a good many hospitals in the US a lot of the secretarial work is being done by ward clerks instead of by registered nurses. And I am told that this would certainly release a lot of RNs to doing the work that they were really trained to do. I'd like some comment from the Honourable Minister as to what the government has in mind with respect to alleviating the overall nursing shortage.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Taking the first question of the honourable member -- concerning the practical nurses training program. A year ago we utilized the MTI out here where we've had classrooms for some years, plus the very well equipped nutrition laboratory and so on; and the practical nurses course consists of a four month didactic and lectural course plus eight months practical experience in a hospital. Before the plan came in not all the hospitals were willing to accept too many practical nurses in their hospitals for this type of training. In the last year this picture has changed. From a total of two classes per year and 50 students, we found another classroom at MTI and have hired an instructress for that second class, and now we will have three classes twice a year, graduating 140 in the first year. That is a step towards relieving the nursing shortage. However -- and also the larger hospitals are now only too anxious to get practical nurses in their hospitals. Secondly, the second matter which the honourable member brought up has been a thought of the Department and I believe those who are now negotiating with the MARN to encourage them to do all we can and they can and every one can, to release nurses for actual bedside nursing as the honourable member points out.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, just one final comment on this. I'd like to ask the Honourable Minister if he would -- if he is prepared to say that he expects a substantial increase in the enrollment in the various nursing schools this next year?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Yes, that would certainly be our hope. I can't indicate at this moment, though, I must admit as to just what the situation is; but those in the executive of the MARN are most anxious to get as many as possible. One thing we must consider too is the accommodation for nurses, living accommodation and so on, which has, I think, held back the RN in the past year to some extent. We have to get more nurses residences established.

MR. WRIGHT: May I point out that there is no shortage of enrollment. The difficulty lies in lack of recognition after the girl has received her RN. I think that's a well known fact.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I was asking the Minister earlier on this question of the amount of red tape involved at present with regards to cases that are accepted and not accepted, and he indicated that things weren't quite what I thought they were. I must confess I don't quite agree with him. However, I appreciate his comments. I do think it's something that could be looked at, however. It seems to me if the Plan is and I can understand their reasons for so doing, they want to save the taxpayer money and keep the Plan solvent, but there has been a great deal of difficulty caused in many points. Particularly I think in the rural parts where

(Mr. Molgat, Cont'd.) people come for a long distance to the hospital; sometimes are hospitalized because the doctor simply can't find out exactly what is the trouble with them by an office call, and they're sent to the hospital and they're kept there rather than be sent back 100 or 150 miles to their home, and then subsequently they get a bill from the hospital which they feel should be paid. However, leaving that subject, because the Minister did make his comments there. At the last session we had some comments about the question of space in the General Hospital, at which time it appeared there was a large wing which was not being used, and there was some controversy as to the reasons why it was not being used. I wonder what is the situation now. Is it being used? And if not, why not?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): This is something that I was going to leave for capital supply. The problem at the -- shortly after coming to office the board of the General Hospital paid me a visit and pointed out that they had this new wing and these increased facilities, but that they did not have the proper facilities, kitchen facilities to properly serve this area. I'm quite familiar with the old portion of the General Hospital to which they made reference and we looked into this, and we learned -- or we were told, these beds, 100 empty beds in the General Hospital new portion, because of the inability to service them adequately from the standpoint of kitchen facilities and main supply. This was discussed at some length with the members of the Board who are a very capable group, being in this field for some time and who built this hospital. And I'm quite aware of the fact that at the last session it was stated that it wasn't the lack of kitchen facilities and so on -- it was the lack of nursing personnel. I think there is some lack of -- some lack of nursing personnel, I'm quite aware of this. We are doing everything we can, as I've indicated, to get the profession and the MARN together to help us resolve this problem; but there is no doubt that the facilities at this hospital are certainly antiquated in that portion of the building which is required to service this large new wing and to serve it more efficiently. And that is the truth of the matter; that's the way it has been presented and it was looked into by myself and by my staff and I have nothing further to say on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 7 (g), (h), (j), Health Services. 8 (a), (b), (c). Health Services. 9 (a), (b), (c).

MR. SHOEMAKER: It seems that we're tearing through here at quite a rate now. We're down to (9), are we? I was going to ask the Honourable Minister if he can tell me whether the health unit at Neepawa is now staffed 100%. The Honourable Minister will recall the difficulties we ran into at Neepawa at the first of the year or thereabouts -- and I want to thank him very kindly for clearing up the matter there over our director -- and at that time I know that we were greatly understaffed. I was wondering if at the present time are we -- is the Neepawa unit 100% staffed as outlined on page 51 of the report. I think on page 51 it says that "there shall be one medical director, five public health nurses, two sanitarian inspectors and two clerical staff." Are we up to scratch?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I believe the honourable member is up to staff. I asked that question of the deputy the other day. Now there was one nursing position there but I believe it's been filled now. I believe we're at full strength in the health unit at Neepawa.

MR. PAULLEY: This deals with the extension of, as I understand it, of the Health Units into x-ray and laboratories units. Some time back I understand that they were -- it was more or less of a backlog of applications for the extension of the Health Units to have x-ray and laboratory services. I wonder if the Minister would care to comment on the position, whether that is still true today; whether there seems to be any further desire on the part of the Health Units to put in these additional services such as x-rays and how it stands now?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): You mean are there more demands for diagnostic and x-ray units? Yes, there are. We are doing everything we can. At the moment -- in this past year for instance regarding lab and x-ray units we have -- there's one combined medical technician at Portage in the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie -- that was an addition. Three more technicians to Selkirk, three combined technicians. The thing is that in our Health Units at the present time we are up-to-date now in these various lab and x-ray units. We have students in Brandon as you know, training, and Portage, and we are again up-to-date in the present establishment. However the search goes on for more and more technicians and it is certainly going to be our policy to do everything we can to extend these. In the past year, I think we're up to the point now where we have -- in the past year increases in the lab and x-ray units at Portage was increased by the

(Mr. Johnson, Cont'd): addition of balance of Woodlands representing 1,800 people; Virden lab and x-ray was increased by the addition of the town of Souris, the Rural Municipality of Glenwood, Whitehead and the Rural Municipality of Whitewater representing 5,320 people. And this extra combined technician at Portage la Prairie has been due to the tremendous volume of work done there in the past year. We just had to strengthen that staff because they were covering such a large area and doing some tremendous number of tests. Certainly that will be the policy to go forward as fast as we can get the staff. At the present time I can say we're not short one medical director in our rural units and we are up-to-date pretty well across the line.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, it is a fact, is it not that some of these health units wish to extend but it's the technical staff that is holding them back purely?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Yes, it is.

MR. PAULLEY: How many have a request in for the extension of services? Have you that..

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Just give me a minute. I have the one municipality here. Yes, it was our hope to -- I forget the name of it -- it isn't down here -- we have the establishment of one more lab and x-ray unit -- and I haven't got the name of the district I must say. I wrote all the information down except the district involved. However, we simply haven't got the staff at this moment but we are working toward that end. I will get the name of the area that we had hoped to open up the next year and give it to you later.

MR. PAULLEY: Thank you.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, this has nothing to do with this item, but I would like to ask which item would include the polio situation. Would there be any item in these estimates.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Yes, we are through polio, I am afraid. We completed polio under biologics last night.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (d), (e), (f), Health Services 10.

MR. CAMPBELL: What is this little item, Mr. Chairman?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): This is the medical care under the Health Act, I believe it is. Section 27 of The Health Services Act provides for the payment of fifty cents per capita for those municipalities having what they called a medical care district. That included a municipal doctor in a health unit, and they were given -- to encourage them to get that combination, they would pay fifty cents per capita and that is the amount for that.

MR. CAMPBELL: Just one?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): The . . . the following municipalities qualify -- Woodworth, Blanchard, Harrison, Saskatchewan, Rapid City, Town of Rapid City and Woodlands municipality.

MR. CAMPBELL: All for this much money?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pass. 11 (a) . . . Pass. .

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago we were discussing the drastic nurse shortage and what to do about it. Now I suggest that perhaps one of the best ways to encourage girls to go in training is to increase the bursaries that are available. Last week I attempted to obtain some information for a lady in my constituency as to what bursaries were available for nurses anticipating or considering going in training. So I went to the Department of Education and they didn't seem to know too much about it. They gave me an application form and referred me to Miss Williamson, director of public health services. And she was very kind and wrote me a two page letter but she wasn't able to give me too much information. In fact, in reading between the lines, she indicated that perhaps this is one field that something could be done to encourage the nurses to enter, or encourage students to enter the nurse training field. I know of two or three families at Neepawa and probably there are ten times that many, that would like to see their girls enter the nursing profession but there just doesn't seem to be too much encouragement. In fact, I don't know whether they pay the nurses anything in training now. There was a time when they not only didn't pay them anything, I understand, but the girls were expected to pay for all the broken dishes and thermometers and anything else that they broke while in there. Now in the teaching profession, the new salary schedules are encouraging enough to attract young people in that profession, but in the nursing profession there just doesn't seem to be anything to entice them to enter that field. I was just wondering if something couldn't be done to increase both the provincial bursaries and the federal. I guess item (b) and (c), those are federal bursaries. I wonder what the Minister can tell us

(Mr. Shoemaker, Cont'd.):about (a), (b) and (c)?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): These grants (a), (b) and (c) refer to provincial bursaries that are given to medical and dental students and social workers in this department. They come to a total this year of \$53,000.00. The professional training grant is Manitoba's total allotment of \$28,738.00 under the federal professional training grant and is 100% recoverable from Ottawa. I might say in regard to this item of \$28,738.00 this is the money which was used for instance to hold courses for hospital administrators with the implementation of this plan, a short course to inform them; also permitted 34 sanitary inspectors to take a course; 2 nurses were involved in short courses here; a total of 36 people received short courses; 193 received hospital administration training; 10 received extension courses. This money as I say is a professional training grant. Some of that can be used as a grant toward teaching, mostly post-graduate training for nurses and special classes. The \$53,000.00 that I mentioned here was used to provide 19 medical students with bursaries last year under the Doctor David A. Stewart scholarship; and also the Doctor E. W. Montgomery bursaries, 23 dental students qualifying in that regard for an average bursary of \$870.00. The reason for the higher dental bursary, of course, is that -- actually only three of these students were in first year -- five of the bursaries went to students outside going to other colleges in second year, 9 students in third year dentistry and 6 in their final year. Now five of the six who graduated last year are now located or hope to be located soon at The Pas, Selkirk, Steinbach, Neepawa and Flin Flon. The other chap has not just decided where to practice as yet and has been hired by the department on a day-to-day basis while we are making up this time, or getting his spot lined up. Two of the 23 attended the University of Manitoba School of Dentistry; 8 the University of Alberta; 8 the University of Toronto; 3 at McGill; and 1 at Marquette and Dalhousie. And as I say these senior years as we know, have to be taken outside the province and accounted for the larger amount of money; also the dental course in the final years is very expensive from a standpoint of equipment which these students must have. However, we brought five of them back into the province this year or will have all six graduating students. The medical bursaries of 19 -- they averaged \$447.00 each. We feel we met most of the cases of need and in anticipation of the bursaries this year, we made provision for this amount of money. Of course \$18,000.00 of this -- last year there was an estimate of \$7,000.00 for social workers bursaries; that has been increased by \$11,000.00 to \$18,000.00 This is essential in view of the necessity to get trained social workers for our program in social welfare.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Honourable Minister whether or not the recipients of the bursaries undertake to practice in Manitoba for any length of time?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): One year for each year's grant they receive.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I am very much in favour of bursaries for the simple reason that a girl in training has to live in residence, thereby she hasn't the opportunity of going out like most University students and making a little money during the summer. But I don't think that we're solving our problem that way, because as I said before there is no shortage of nurses -- that is that are enrolling. That can be easily verified. The difficulty is how do we keep them after they graduate? That's our problem. I know we can't keep them from getting married but we certainly could keep a lot more of our nurses trained here in our three good teaching hospitals if we recognized them a little more by giving them a little better wages. We have many of our RNs today making sometimes not as much as a secretary or a stenographer. I think if we looked into this part of it we'd be able to keep more of those who do graduate because there is no shortage of girls wanting to go in for nursing profession.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b), (c). Item 12.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Chairman.....with 15 people getting a total of \$13,400.00, unless it's hard-times salaries or something.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): This is the payment paid to physicians appointed to act as Health Officers in unorganized territories on a part-time basis. Now this is, for instance, in most cases the distances are large and are in areas where the population is scattered, and we pay the men on a part-time basis to go out into these areas and carry out our immunization programs and health service activities. And those people receiving social assistance or mother's allowance are provided with medical care, of course, through the Public Welfare Division of that Department. But this year there is an increase of \$300.00 in that item -- because of the -- a net

(Mr. Johnson, Cont'd.) increase rather of \$700.00 -- because of another appointment of another doctor in unorganized territory. The areas where these men, these doctors are located are The Pas; we pay the doctors - the two doctors in The Pas a stipend for the work they do on indigent -- or on the people in that northern area where they are able to assist with immunization and public health matters -- Norway House, Fisher Branch, Pine Falls, Whitemouth, Beausejour, Winnipegosis, Arborg, Ashern, Teulon, Vita, Bissett, Lynn-Lake and Riverton. And these men have consented to carry out these clinics for us and although I can say from personal knowledge, for instance, now that we have the Health Officer -- Health Unit extended to Riverton and Arborg, we won't be using part of that money since these estimates were made up in that area, but none-the less at Riverton the doctor there does some of the clinics in the far northern part of the unorganized district there where he is called on occasion and knows the people and sets up a clinic in a school.

MR. MOLGAT: Not all of the unorganized districts are covered under this, are they?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Beg your pardon?

MR. MOLGAT: Some of the unorganized districts are not covered by this Item. What is the reason for that?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Wherever we are able to -- if the area is not in a Health Unit, if we are able to get a doctor in the vicinity to carry out this immunization service we do so. What areas do you have in mind?

MR. MOLGAT: I was thinking, for example of the local government district of Alonsa, which was not mentioned in you

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): I'll be glad to look into that.

MR. MOLGAT: Beg your pardon?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Be glad to look into that.

MR. MOLGAT: Fine.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 13. Passed. 14. (a)

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, on Emergency Transportation, I would like to say a word. Yesterday morning on the way to the United States, a few miles this side of Piney, a car rolled over in the ditch and I came along there about half past eight. The Mounted Police had been phoned -- at least someone had tried to contact them at Sprague but they were unable to do so. At eight o'clock, a gentleman told me that they had phoned Steinbach for an ambulance. I waited there -- this is Central Standard Time -- I waited there until 9:30. The gentleman driving the car had received bruises but he was able to be up and about but his wife was completely paralyzed in the lower limbs and we suspected that she had a fractured spine and were unable to move her in anything but an ambulance. Made the patient very comfortable and I went on to the States, but a certain gentleman there offered to let me know exactly how long it took. Well that was an hour and a half, and the town of Steinbach, I am informed, they have one ambulance. It could have been out on another call. What I would like to see is that we have some organization that would take care of these emergencies. As I said, speaking to the Ambulance Resolution a little while before -- it's long overdue. And picking up a magazine tonight put out by the British Columbia Compensation Board there is a similar article here. It has to do with the Workmen's Compensation Board: "When a doctor in a remote hospital or first aid post decides what he can do -- that he can do no more for an injured man, then he called upon the Emergency Transportation Department of the Board. Night and day this three-man staff answers these calls promptly and efficiently." Now that's in BC where they haven't yet arrived at the point where they have in Saskatchewan that the government will sponsor the Air Ambulance Service or Emergency Service. But they do realize the necessity for speedy transportation. It says here, I quote again, "Here too," they're speaking about when an accident occurs in a city, "all the facilities to help him are at hand. When a man is injured in a remote logging camp it is often a very different story. Here too, he must get medical assistance quickly, but the problems are increased tremendously by distance and limited facilities. With industrial accidents there is more often the need too, for the skilled specialist, who to provide the greatest service to the most people, must remain in the metropolitan centres." If you remember I said that of necessity that the skilled help have to be in the larger centres. But after my experience yesterday morning I -- it was brought home all the more clearly that we do need in Manitoba some co-ordinated plan for taking care of people who are lying along our highways. Now yesterday morning wasn't a very

(Mr. Wright, Cont'd.)unpleasant morning but here we have a case where we couldn't contact the Mounted Police, the one ambulance at Steinbach had been communicated with but still an hour and a half went by and there was still no sign of an ambulance; and I say that surely we should have some co-ordinated effort because this is a problem that is going to grow; it has to come, and I would invite the Minister to take a look at this situation of emergency service to our injured.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, in answering or commenting upon what the honourable member has said, I certainly share with him the concern that he has for the problem and I do agree with him that a co-ordinated plan is a real necessity. I think that such a plan on our highways, working in conjunction with the RCMP in some fashion would be the wise thing to do. However, in speaking to this appropriation, when I first came to office and wondered about the Emergency transportation in the north I -- we had the idea that possible a Manitoba Government Air Service aircraft could be equipped as an ambulance in the northern areas station at The Pas and so on, and equipped. However, on talking to the doctors who have spent many years in the north and who know that situation firsthand; in speaking to members of this Legislature from that area; in speaking to the director of the Manitoba Government Air Service, and in looking into this very thoroughly as regarding air transportation in the north, we found, for instance, that their advice to us was not to utilize one aircraft, or two, in the north -- that you needed a diversification north of 53 in utilizing whatever aircraft is in the area. For instance there were two aircraft at The Pas they said would be of use to companies running aircraft, and we'd get better service using different aircraft at different times. They pointed out that one as you indicated, may be away on a trip, they can get something else. There were two at Wabowden; there were two airlines moving into Norway House, Thicket Portage, one at Ilford, Thompson, Snow Lake, Lynn Lake, Churchill, God's Island and the east side of Lake Winnipeg, a Manitoba Government Air Service aircraft. Everyone from the north tells us not -- rather to be diversified in using all these various aircraft, and they say this is much more effective than having a single aircraft designated for this purpose. I certainly have to go along with their thinking when men of such experience in that area have directed us in this manner. Last year we spent \$6,400.00 in this field in providing emergency air transportation. In the southern portion of the province, I did take a look at the figures, and find that at about eight centres in the southern half of the province, we do have ambulances in addition to the services rendered by the undertakers of our province, who certainly have rendered a real service to their communities; and I also feel that possibly there is some way of co-ordinating these ambulances a little better because none of us like to see people lying for any period of time on the side of a highway after an accident.

I would point out also at this time that I was in an area where the municipality--as we know in the Municipal Act any municipal corporation may accept a gift to maintain an ambulance or develop one -- municipalities are reluctant to do this. They find that -- in our area when the Service Club in town was ready to give the town an ambulance, the town wouldn't accept it for fear of the danger -- of insurance liability and so on. So a group of volunteers formed a limited dividend company and supply ambulance service to a very large area on a voluntary basis. I am the first to admit that we do need some co-operation in this. However, for instance, with this ambulance, we found that we finally had to fix it, or arrange so that only doctors and RCMP could call the ambulance. Otherwise the ambulance was on the go day and night. And again, I agree with the honourable member -- we need co-ordination. So therefore, at this time, in this appropriation in calling for Emergency Transportation, our hope is to provide any service that's required for sick people in the north, utilizing any aircraft that are ready to do the job, and according to the people who know the story best are most able to do it.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, \$6,400.00 to me is a considerable amount of money and I would like to take the Honourable Minister -- make him a challenge rather -- I know that what he says about the municipalities sometimes looking at these things in a way that might involve them legally, I would like to see the government appropriate a sum of money in order to start this thing rolling and to offer to provide an ambulance. In Manitoba we have many wonderful volunteer fire departments, and I am sure that these same boys would be very happy to man a volunteer emergency ambulance, and I think the government should take the initiative, set up a fund and make these vehicles available to the people that would really use them and take care of them.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, this \$6,000.00 no doubt is to provide for the ambulance trips when these ambulances are ordered and the people can't pay for it themselves. I wonder if the honourable member--Minister would tell me if that also includes the times when these ambulances have been ordered and they arrive at the scene and the patient is already gone.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): What did you say -- the patient gone?

MR. DESJARDINS: Would that include the times when the --certain ambulance has been ordered to the scene of an accident, but upon reaching the scene of the accident, the person involved -- the patient has been transported to the hospital by other means. But the ambulance nevertheless made the trip after being called by the RCMP.

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): To be quite honest with you I don't know what provision there is or what sums of money there are set aside by whom to pay for that type of service. However, in practice, in our area we left the onus on the--as to the calling the ambulance with the RCMP. I can see the member's point but to be quite honest I can't answer that in detail.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b) Passed. 15 (a)

MR. SCHREYER : Mr. Chairman under 14, I understand that there are -- last year there were some thirty points in the province that availed themselves of the dental clinic. I would like to ask the Honourable Minister just how it is decided as to what points in this province shall receive the benefits of this dental clinic, and others not. And also I would like to ask him what financial transactions are part and parcel of this Item?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Well the question the Honourable Member asks, at this time we have the Director of Dental Services and three dental assistants, paid by the Province of Manitoba, from Federal Grants we hire two other full time dentists and one dental assistant and hygienist, for a total personnel of eight. Out of this appropriation are paid the Director and the three dental assistants. Now under this arrangement here, if a municipality or town, or in some instances a service club, want to offer dental treatment, they put up \$25.00 per day, and the dentists and staff go out - the assistant, the dentists, the equipment and supply all materials and so on, and the department pays these dentists \$30.00 a day for their services, plus equipment, and the town or municipality that asked for the services reimburses us \$25.00 per diem. This is the arrangement at this time. Also there are certain monies further on under the grant which is made for crippled children, which money is used in some instances to support these dental clinics for children who are in need. Now this has been the arrangement for some time. We got a full time director last summer again. The former director resigned last June and we got Dr. Connors in and his main emphasis has been on dental education, showing films and operating or pushing the mobile dental clinic. There are established clinics at East and West Kildonan, St. James and Portage la Prairie that operate throughout the year. The East Kildonan clinic gives dental service to North Kildonan and a new clinic was established in Fort Garry.

In last year the mobile dental clinic went to 72 schools and treated 3,400 people; there were over 2,000 extractions and about 14,000 fillings to these groups. As I say again, we have these two men on staff, full time, plus the director and they all do dental treatment. This I might say is in addition to a full time dentist at Brandon - you know for the mental home and so on - but it is true that there is a great need for more work in the dental field.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, the reason I raised this point is not so much to express the need for expanding this service as to get some information, because I have been told by one municipal official that this service was encouraged only in those areas or municipalities which were, you might say, lesser developed, and that in the well developed municipalities this service was, shall we say the officials of the municipality were discouraged from making application for it. This is only, you might say, in rumour stage but I would like the Honourable Minister to say whether this is the case or if it is not the case.

MR. JOHNSON: That was not my knowledge of the case at all. I know for instance in the town that I am in there is an established dentist and yet the clinics have been held in that area and because the need is great, the municipality put up \$25.00 per day and the whole team moved in and treated as many as they could.

MR. WRIGHT: I am very happy to inform the committee that the first Dental Clinic in Manitoba was in West Kildonan. From a grant from Council and School Board and with the co-operation of the local dentists -- and that's many years ago.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 15: (a): (b): Item 16

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, going back to Item 16 - I notice by the summary of activities of the Department that this work has been expanded and I see there is some research going on into what the pamphlet calls "Research in the Diseases that cause RH factor" or something of that kind. Is it a disease that causes this?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, in answering the honourable members question, it's becoming more and more apparent that the more work they have done in the determination of the RH factor, they realize there are other factors in blood much like the RH factor - other antigens as they are known -- and I believe the House was acquainted the Department tells me with the Kell factor last year by the previous Minister which was picked up -- it's similar to the RH factor and in itself is capable of causing the illness erythroblastosis foetalis which is a haemalizing and destruction of the blood of the child in utero or shortly after birth. Dr. Chown has, I'm sure the Honourable Leader of the Opposition realizes, has been a pioneer probably in North America in this field and in every single pregnancy in the province, the blood of the patient is sent to Dr. Chown and his staff, and they test the blood, not only for RH now, but for group, for the Kell factor, and now they have found another factor, and they simply have to test for each one. We visited him last year in his department, and he's moved from the Children's Hospital to the General, and apparently when he was in the Children's Hospital the glassware and so on and certain equipment he used was provided by the hospital and written off, but now it has to be accounted for in the General and he has this increased expense in equipment. Secondly of \$2,000. he had to get another technician and a secretary and this is what put this appropriation up. However because of the fact that he touches the practice of every physician in the province and the tremendous field which is becoming increasingly more complex, requiring increased number of technicians, and time-consuming work, I felt that this increase was certainly justified.

MR. CAMPBELL: I think we all certainly agree with it too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 17 (a); (b)

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would outline what he has in mind in respect of northern health services. I note that on the page that there was no appropriation last year for this - I think this is a new departure - but I'm sure that there were health service provided or at least I feel as though there were health services of some description or degree provided in the northern areas and I would like to hear from the Minister what this entails and what is taking place that was formerly done or where they are going to be located and the like.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, shortly after coming to office the officials in the department drew to my attention the increasing problem in public health matters that is developing in our northern areas with the opening up of townsites, the opening up of more prospecting, camping and so on, that the availability of sanitary inspectors and health services in this area, and all the way to Churchill, had to be tackled by the department pretty soon. It is true that the doctor at Flin Flon has been rendering service to The Pas in the health unit and the health unit cases, and it was felt that the work was increasing in his area and he had a surrounding area around Flin Flon to manage, that it would be very wise to place a permanent health officer in The Pas with a Public Health Engineer and two sanitary inspectors and public health nurses to make a start in trying to find the needs and tackle the problems of health in the north. We have been fortunate enough to secure a Director - a Medical Director for this area who has had a lot of experience in public health and industrial hygiene, and his function would be in a largely administrative and local health officer capacity. I had long discussions with the doctor in charge of Indian Health Services in The Pas and in the north -- a very able man with the Federal Government -- who felt that the provincial program should be tied in with their program, that there was a great need for extra medical care in the area. And we have worked a very satisfactory arrangement to prevent duplication of these two facilities and I would venture a guess that in the not-too-distant future, I think across Canada, that our Federal and Provincial Health Services in the north will have to be combined on a common footing and know where we're going. There is the great need for this type of service which is more or less a local health service to that whole northern area. Now we feel that only by tackling it in this way are we going to be able to --- our director in the years should be able to give us a lot of information as to what he feels the problems really are. The men who are there feel they could do so much more and this is an attempt to underline that problem in that area.

MR. PAULLEY: It's very interesting, Mr. Chairman. Now I notice that - and maybe there is a difference in the circumstances where this new health service is going to be provided. I notice that in the health units in the established municipalities that there are recoveries from the municipalities. In this particular item there isn't. I'm wondering to what degree some of our large development companies are making a contribution in respect of providing health service - I'm thinking at the present time of INCO at Thompson. And then we've also read of some situations that aren't very, very good at Churchill. Of course we understand too that the Federal authorities enter into the situation there to a considerable degree, and I presume - and I may be wrong - that in respect of this particular item in the estimates that consideration is going to be given to the situation at Churchill.

And then of course we have, within the Metis and Indian Report, Mr. Legasse gave us - pointing out many of the situations and conditions that still prevail insofar as our Metis and Indian population in our northern area. And it seems to me that there should be contributions, if there are not, from the development companies in the north to augment this and it does seem to me that -- and I agree with the Honourable the Minister, that it is a start -- but with that vast country and sparsely settled areas it does appear to me that the appropriation is rather small, although again I say I appreciate that it is just a start -- but I'm wondering whether or not the Minister would care to comment on the situation at Churchill. Thompson of course is a rapidly developing community - is the Government of Manitoba undertaking more or less the sole responsibility or are there contributions from the developing companies? I think the situation may prevail to some degree at Kelsey and Snow Lake and those other communities that are springing up. I'm wondering if the Minister would care to comment on those aspects.

MR. JOHNSON: First, Mr. Chairman, in the operation of this northern health unit the thought is in setting this up they are like our local health units - this is largely a preventative medical program rather than therapeutic or treatment program. As you know there are doctors who practice in The Pas and there will be company doctors at Snow Lake, Thompson and so on, and the object of this man will be - he's based in The Pas and will carry out local health duties as public health officer in the area plus immunization clinics and so on for the children and will organize with the nurses all along the line and get this lined up. I imagine he may be called upon to render treatment. Also he would utilize all these doctors in these company towns as part-time health officers, that is have them do immunization clinics in their immediate vicinities on his behalf. This is our plan to begin with, to have him try and organize all this preventative program. Again we do feel some responsibility at Churchill in that we'd like to have our sanitary engineers and people go in there, and we will have to work along with the Federal authorities. As you know there was an outbreak of diarrhea there last year and our provincial bacteriologist did go up there and look into the matter, and if we can do a good preventative program - initially this was our object in setting this out as we just had to get a start in tackling this vast area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 17 - Passed. 18 (a): (b):

MR. CAMPBELL:general health grants that are mentioned here, Mr. Chairman?

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, the general health grant is the \$435,000. This is Manitoba's total allotment under the Federal General Public Health Grant for this year and is 100% recoverable. This is where we pay out first and utilize the maximum grants. Now out of this for instance - this is the appropriation where they pay for the poliomyelitis victim's equipment and again we pay for salaries and expenses of public health laboratory services - that is health and public welfare education, environmental sanitation and our local health units. As we've gone through the estimates every so often there'll be people paid by the Federal Health Grant, and this is the general appropriation to the province that is utilized in this diversified manner. For instance, this is the area where we pay certain expenses and salaries for the City of Winnipeg in lieu of local health service. We give them a grant - we pay for instance, travelling expenses for some public health nurses out of this, and then research grants are available through this grant and largely training of personnel - the last post-graduate course for sanitary inspectors was carried out under monies from this grant and various institutes; and we pay payment of fees and travelling expenses for the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society for their program in rural Manitoba; and we paid out one-half the cost of our purchase of Asian Flu vaccine, and we bought some polio out of this grant; and we pay for staff and travelling expenses, purchase of equipment and supplies to support glaucoma clinics; the poison control

(Mr. Johnson, cont'd.) . . . centre at the Children's Hospital and the home care medical program at the General Hospital which is an experimental basis the last couple of years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution No. 46 - Health Division \$10,393,678. - Passed. Section 3 - The Welfare Division (a) Public Services . . . (Interjection). . .

MR. JOHNSON (Gimli): Mr. Chairman, I feel as fresh as a daisy but I don't feel that I can get into my welfare estimates until I say a few remarks about the nature of our welfare program, which is putting - I wouldn't ask you to vote on something, Mr. Chairman, that was not explainable. However in speaking, Mr. Chairman, to the Social Allowances Bill which will shortly be before the House, and I regret, Mr. Chairman, that it hasn't been, in order to facilitate these estimates. However, I feel it's probably the most single important piece of legislation to come before this Session and I think that members of this Legislature are of the opinion that certain pensioners have need and that these needs should be met as effectively as possible within the resources of the province.

Now following the resolution of the legislature last year, this government, and prior to that, and after the resolution, studied seriously and consulted as widely as possible all those who had concern and interest in this field. We had certain ideas in this field but we consulted with various voluntary, charitable, religious groups and I spoke to the Federal Minister of Health and Public Welfare; I met officials of the Canadian Welfare Council. I spoke to some of our local interested groups in the Aged and Opportunity Bureau, and medical men, etc. Now the result of this Bill I think is a basic change in our thinking and certainly in policy - and what is this thinking? Now the principle behind the Bill is to bring at least a minimum standard of living to every citizen of Manitoba who because of age or disability, physical or mental, is in need, and in the case of children where neglect, desertion or death of the father creates that need. Now the Social Allowances Act is really meant to recognize the necessity of a greater provincial responsibility in the field of welfare which we hope to go ahead with. Now it is based on - the act is based on need in the feeling that this is the socially desirable and economically feasible manner in which to give social allowance. It is designed to provide 100% provincial responsibility for the following types of cases where the standards of living conditions demand that needs be met. The 100% provincial responsibility then in the care of aged and infirm in Institutions; neglected children committed by the Courts to the Director or to a Children's Aid Society; social allowance for the aged, blind or disabled by way of cash allowance and/or health services, and social allowance to the Mothers' allowance type of case. By that I mean that we are taking over under the Social Allowances Act, Mothers' Allowances as such. Now this means complete provincial responsibility on the basis of need for: All widowed mothers with children; mothers and children where the husband is deserted over one year; mothers and children where the husband in gaol over one year; mothers and children where due to the physical or mental disability or incapacity, or due to disability, after ninety days creates need. Also unmarried mothers with two or more children. We also would extend this to immigrants and to the Indian people whom we consider as Manitoba citizens. Now I will have more to say on that point when we come to it later on in the Indian provision.

There are appeal provisions as I have indicated in that Act - the Public Health and Welfare Act which has changed to set up an Appeal Board -- and this Appeal Board, with a permanent Chairman and regional members, is designed to place lay people on this Board to see what our needs are and how these needs are to be met; and it also gives the people an opportunity to appeal the decision of the Director and at any time they feel that they have been unfairly treated; and we think, as I say, it'll help us find out what the needs are. This will leave the municipalities with cases where the father is in jail up to one year; cases of desertion up to one year, and unemployment assistance cases which you can think of as the employable adults. The question arises, what standards of need does the Bill contemplate? Now the standards of need are based on the current Mothers' Allowance rates as set out in the regulations - the Child Welfare Act, and these of course, these regulations can be changed from year to year. The Federal Government will share in this total program that I have indicated, but for the traditional Mothers' Allowance type of case where we have about 1100 cases involving about 3400 people which every province must retain. Secondly, the Child Welfare, which is traditionally provincial responsibility; Medical care that we may extend and other remedial care and administration. This Bill, Mr. Chairman, will make provision for cash allowances and medical and related services to

(Mr. Johnson, cont'd.) . . . pensioners in need. It will transfer responsibility for placement and maintenance of the aged and infirm in Institutions and municipalities to the province. It will abolish Mothers' Allowance as such, at the same time bringing under one provincial administration all long term family assistance cases as a provincial responsibility. It will provide aid to Indians and immigrants. It will along with amendments to The Welfare Act, transfer responsibility for maintenance of neglected children from the municipalities to the province. By its appeal provisions it will try to guarantee equal and fair treatment among all our citizens in need. I think it's one of the most forward and progressive welfare statutes to be considered by the Legislature since the first Mothers' Allowance was passed in 1916.

As I have indicated, the Bill makes provision for the relieving of municipalities of all their long-term, high cost welfare cases. It transfers to the province 100% responsibility in the field of aged and infirm care; neglected children; it makes provision for cash allowance and medical and related services; and it leaves with the municipalities the short term cases - up to one year, of desertion, and where the father is in jail, and the employable adults. As I have also indicated, but for our traditional Mothers' Allowance case load and neglected children, and until now, administration, medical care - Ottawa will share 50% in this total program.

In my estimates that are before you, the Welfare Division, as you see for this year \$10,040,000. represents an increase of approximately \$3,000,000. over the estimates of 58/59 in this division. Now this increase in the amount reflects most exclusively this government's policy as I've announced, of bringing forward the Social Allowances Act under the provincial administration of these long term, high cost, assistance cases. And as I say, it provides for cash and medical services to our needy pensioners.

Now before dealing with each individual item, I would like to call the attention of the committee, what appears to me to be the most significant change in these estimates as a reflection of the new policy of this government. First of all you will note that there is a substantial increase in the item of salaries and supplies. We believe that a social allowance program based on need will only be successful as we are able to develop and provide an adequate individualized and personalized service to deal with those cases who apply on the basis of need. Included in the estimate for salaries and expenses - is provision for an additional 66 people including the provision of the cost of the Public Welfare Advisory Committee. I should advise this committee that we have already recruited and retained 15 of these additional people on the basis that this was required to bring our staff up to strength in terms of the present program of the division. We are in the midst of recruiting and organizing staff for the remainder of this staff development.

The next item under this heading - Social Allowances - where members of the committee will note that the amount voted for 58/59 is two million four. This has been increased by well over two million to the amount requested for this year of \$4,684,000. Included in this estimate is the provision for carrying forward the case load of Mothers' Allowance and social assistance in unorganized territory, which will now all be Social Allowance, which we estimate would itself cost in 59/60 two million seven. The remainder of the two million is required to implement the new social allowances program for the balance of this year - for transfers of long term cases such as the aged and infirm, from municipalities and the provision of cash allowance to needy pensioners. At this particular point I would like to make it clear to the committee that this amount requested does not cover a full year's program of the new social allowances. When these estimates were prepared originally for the last session of the House, we believed that it would take us until October to get the necessary staff required recruited, placed and in operation. In the meantime we have gone ahead with this plan and we have every intention of trying to get the program under way so that the necessary allowances would be available for the coming winter months. However the vote requested of four million, six, will in all likelihood have to be substantially increased in the estimates of next year and that is for 60 - 61.

The next item is under the appropriation 8-3-A-4 or Ward Maintenance. Here again members of the Committee will note a very substantial increase of almost \$600,000. This item too reflects the policy of this government under this Act of taking over complete responsibility from the municipalities the care of neglected children committed by the juvenile courts of this province. The final main policy change reflected in the estimates of the division is 8-3-A-6 Assistance to Municipal Aid Expenditures, and as soon as our policy goes into effect,

(Mr. Johnson, cont'd.) . . . the municipalities will at that point be relieved of all long term cases such as the Aged and Infirm, the Maintenance of Wards and the Mother's Allowance type of case, such as the woman deserted for more than a year or the family where the husband is in jail for more than a year. My department estimates that for the year 59 - 60, the results of this will be that the municipal expenditures will drop from three million, seven, to two million, three. As a further aspect of this, provincial reimbursement under the Social Allowances Act will drop from what had been an expenditure of two million, three, to 903 -- this reimbursement -- that is as the municipalities spend less the reimbursement is less. I might have pointed out that those -- that program that is left with the municipalities, they will still be able to claim over the -- under the old formula of 80 - 20 and 60 - 40, with the program they have left with them.

The foregoing then, in my opinion is the main policy and expenditure changes in the estimates of the Welfare Division. I will try to answer the questions the members of the Committee must have as they pertain to the specific sub-appropriation items. Thank you.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, I'm looking forward -- we're looking forward with great anticipation to the bill. I think perhaps it would be a better place to discuss each item so I shall not take very much time to the Minister's introductory remarks to the welfare estimates. The only thing I would like to express my regret that it has taken so much time to introduce the bill and as we see now it will be October before there would be any benefit to those recipients. Hungry people cannot live with anticipation, meantime they have to eat and I think (interruption) . . . pardon . . . and I think perhaps that this bill even now could have been introduced last session with all the arguments advanced that we did not let you do it, that's all -- the elections are over and I'm not going to repeat this -- it's wrong. However I regret that it passed so much time and it will take another two or three months before the Old Age Pensions will see an extra dollar bill. Meantime cost of living is going up. I still feel Mr. Chairman that the House made a big error by defeating the motion of requesting the Federal Government to increase the Old Age Pension -- the basic rate, all the extras they'll still need -- to \$75.00, and I venture to say if I'm alive in the next four or five years, every member in this House will regret their action. However, that's for the future.

As to the present situation the introductory remarks by the Honourable Minister sounds very promising, we'll still have an opportunity to try to improve it if at all possible, and we shall have to be satisfied and accept a half a loaf or a quarter of a loaf if you can't get it all. So for the time being we will wait, and I hope that it'll be done in this session and there'll be no excuse of any to postpone it for another session, and the sooner we'll deal with it, because anything can happen in this House. Some honourable members may want to quit, the weather is hot, want to get their holidays and they may speed up everything and leave the bill on the desk, so Mr. Minister please see that the bill is introduced even if there is only a quorum left in this House.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to tell the Honourable Member from Inkster that when he becomes fully acquainted with this bill, that this bill meets the needs in a very realistic manner and we're out to meet need, we're out to do a job. This isn't trying to avoid an issue. We honestly think that those pensioners who are in need are gonna have these needs met by this bill in a more realistic and effective manner than if we had a straight supplementary allowance which is as you realize tied to income where it's given another area, another jurisdiction. We are not tied. Old Age Security, Old Age Assistance in itself does not disqualify a person from extra cash allowance on the basis of need -- this will be met.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the Minister for his statement on this and in saying that I must agree with my honourable colleague the member for Inkster that it would have been far better for the members of the committee to fully have followed the Honourable the Minister on his introductory remarks insofar as welfare is concerned, had we have had the bill before us. I can appreciate the fact incidental to that that there was a bill presented into the last legislature. But of course we're not sure whether it's exactly the same bill being presented this time or no, so therefore we're incompetent of making any comment on the bill until such time as we see it. But seeing as the Minister in his statement almost, or I presume has pretty well made the same speech as he's going to make on the second reading of the bill when it is printed, possibly a comment or two in anticipation of what the

(Mr. Paullay, cont'd.) bill may have to say would not be amiss at this time -- In conjunction of course Mr. Chairman with the estimates that we have before us.

Now, first of all I appreciate very much that the fact that the Minister has told us the amount of contribution will be forthcoming from the Federal authorities due to the different approach to this subject. That is not included in the estimates, or the format of the estimates like it is in the Department of Health less recoveries from the Federal authorities by way of grants -- and also as it is in respect of Blind Persons' Allowances and so on, we are told within the estimates the amount of recovery that we are going to get from the Federal authorities. I suggest to the treasurer and the treasury bench that possibly next year when we deal with this particular branch that that be shown the same way as it is in respect of the other recoveries from the Federal Government so that we would have it more clearly before us.

Now then, just on the basis of the estimates that we have before us and the amounts that are shown, would lead members of the committee to the assumption that notwithstanding the taking over of the provincial authority many of the former responsibilities of the municipalities that there was not sufficient money in here to take -- adequately take care of the situation. Unfortunately I haven't investigated and possibly the Minister has the figures, of what the total contribution of the municipalities were prior to this new setup. I appreciate the fact that there was a recap insofar as the municipalities were concerned of, depending on the total amount spent, of the possibility of 80% in respect of certain social allowances, contributions made by the municipalities. What I do hope when we see this bill is that the bill is quite specific in spelling out in as much detail as possible what actually is going to be covered. Now the Minister mentioned the question of regulations, and I suggest that in regulations that sometimes we as members of the legislature, even though we do get the Gazette when the regulations are proposed, but we're really not competent to discuss all of the ramifications of a bill of this nature until such time as we've actually seen the regulations. It may be that the government has certain ideas in respect of what they're going to call 'need' for instance, and that will be covered within the regulations, which we will not have if the usual practice is followed, until after the bill has been passed by the legislature. In that way it handicaps the members of the committee from a true criticism and analysis of the full import of the bill itself, because I'm sure that the members of the committee can understand that there will be different interpretations of the word 'in need'. It can be a point that is argued hour after hour -- what one person thinks is need, the other does not. And if all of those aspects or the general aspects in connection with that are written into the regulation, I think the committee can appreciate our position of a criticism of the bill itself because we haven't the regulations before us.

I can recall a few years back my friend the House Leader had criticized the former government for the point I think that I am raising now, that there was so much in so much of our legislation that was left to regulation, that we weren't able to fully give a full analysis to the legislation itself. And incidental to that, if I recall correctly, the last time we met there was some suggestion on the part of the ministry that a Committee of the House would review the whole aspects of regulations in prespect of our legislation. Possibly that will not be done at this session but I do trust that the thought has not left the mind of the Honourable the Premier for future consideration. I think it's very important when we are dealing with this broad question of welfare and the appropriations which we have in these estimates, that if possible, the Minister acquaint himself with what the overall expenditure for Mothers' Allowance and Social Assistance in the province, from all sources. Now the Minister has told us in his outline of this new Act that there are going to take into consideration our new immigrants who may become recipients of social allowances in the Province of Manitoba. It is my understanding previously, that our new immigrants until they had been in the country for a certain period of time, that those allowances were paid by the Federal authorities.

He has also told us that in this appropriation, if I understood him rightly, that the benefits of our Social Allowances Bill will be extended to our Indian population, which I understand up until now, has been a sole responsibility of the Federal Government. I don't know how much the Minister -- and there's no indication of it at all in these estimates -- I don't know how much money has been estimated as an expenditure in respect of just those two items, Mr. Chairman, not taking into consideration any others. And for that reason it seems to me

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) . . . that we cannot really make a true analysis of how these additional expenditures are going to, and to what degree, are going to accrue to our old age pensioners or recipients of Mothers' Allowances. We are also going to take into account or into consideration, and I appreciate and agree with the Minister -- desertion now one year instead of three. Previously it covered four -- thanks, Mr. Minister. I think that's a good move and it's one that has been suggested in this House without avail before. Now then whereas before the four year period that was solely a municipal responsibility, it's now going to become a, solely, in the original instance, and then the municipality depending on its total social aid got back 40 or 80 per cent or 60 or 80 per cent. How much of a greater expenditure is that going to mean in dollars and cents of the overall picture? The same thing insofar as a man who is sent to a penal institution -- Now the province is going to take over after a year. Previously I believe that was three years if not four in respect of the municipality. So in all of these things, Mr. Chairman, unless we have that picture before us I can't see how we can get a true picture of how this is actually in dollars and cents going to benefit those people which my honourable colleague from Inkster has had in his mind in the past. It is true the amount which we are going to appropriate in this estimate is considerably increased but before we could analyze the whole estimate itself, we should have before the committee, the previous total cost across the board, municipal and provincial contributions, and to see what the net increase is going to be.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that's all the comment I have to make at the present time except again to say that I trust that when, if at all possible, that when the Bill is laid before us for our consideration at second reading, the Minister or the government may be in a position to lay before us the regulations pertaining to the Bill itself. I think the Department must have that in mind, Mr. Chairman, because the Honourable the Minister has told us that he has had the staff working on this and that he hopes to have the program or anticipates having the program start on the 1st of October. And I would suggest that there is the possibility that that being the case, and I believe it will be the case with my honourable friend, that the regulations are pretty well all drawn up at the present time even though they may not have passed the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, but the outline of the regulations may be laid before the committee at that time so that we may fully analyze -- more closely not fully -- more closely analyze the net effect, because as I mentioned at the offset, the question of need and the degree of need is one which can be argued backwards and forwards for a considerable period of time, but if we had before us what the regulations mean insofar as that was concerned, I think we could more intelligently discuss the Bill; and I think had we had them we could have more intelligently discussed these estimates. I would say to the Minister it does appear to me that this is going along the right road but for a true and careful analysis of the expenditure I suggest cannot be done, first of all without the Bill; secondly, without the regulations.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I rise at this time to object to proceeding with this particular item of the estimates. The government is planning a change in policy under this item. There is a bill which will be proposed to the House. We are told that the bill is not ready, that there are printing difficulties; and yet if I recall properly, during the last election campaign my honourable friend the First Minister was able to run up and down the Province of Manitoba and wave the bill before the various audiences to which he spoke; he was able to get up in television and wave this same bill again and say this is what these terrible people in the opposition prevented us from putting in. Now if he was able to get a copy to do that at that time why has not the bill been presented to the House so far. I see no reason whatever that the bill has not been presented and that we don't have a clear idea of what the policies are of the government on this matter of welfare. Now we're being asked to consider welfare division estimates -- a total amount of \$10,000,000.00, knowing that there's a change in policy the government intends to put through, how can we possibly discuss these estimates intelligently unless we know what that policy is. I submit that the bill should be before the House; we should have a clear idea of what the bill proposes before we can proceed with these Health and Welfare Estimates. In view of the fact that the bill was apparently printed before I see no reason why it isn't before us at this time.

MR. ORLIKOW: Mr. Chairman, I think that the relationships of every member of

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) . . .this House with the Honourable Minister in regard to individual cases has been of the best. I for one, and I'm sure every member has found him very helpful in particular cases, and I believe that the Minister believes that this bill will take care of all the people who are in need, and it may be that the bill and the money provided for will do that. But I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that when the Minister arises tonight to propose the expenditure of \$10,000,000.00, when he says, and I tried to take down what he said word for word -- "that this is the most important piece of legislation which will be brought into this House at this Session" and I agree with him on that. This House has now been meeting for over a month, Mr. Chairman, I don't accept the suggestion that there are difficulties with the printer, it seems to me that if this is the most important piece of legislation which we are being asked to deal with, that the bill should have been ready almost the day that the House met. I certainly hope that this legislation will do everything which the Minister says it will do, but I join with the other members and with the Honourable Member from St. Rose in suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that it is virtually impossible to discuss this matter intelligently -- not only for the members of this House -- I suggest to the members of this House that the people concerned, the people who are going to get assistance as a result of this bill will have no way of knowing tomorrow what they may expect in the way of assistance because we have neither the bill -- and I want to suggest I'm going to go further, I think than our Leader -- that the Bill in itself doesn't mean very much. That the Bill doesn't mean anything until we know what the regulations are.

I want to remind members and use a federal case because it's a case I know best -- a lot of people expected great things of the Disability Allowance when the Federal Government brought in its legislation, and there were hundreds if not thousands, of people in all parts of Canada who were heartbroken when that bill went into effect because the regulations made it such that you practically had to be a bed case before you could get assistance. I can tell the Minister and I know he knows cases of people who could do nothing but dress themselves and walk, who were turned down because they could dress themselves and they could shave themselves -- that's about all they could do. But under the Federal deal and under the regulations which they had at that time, they were excluded from provisions of that Act. I hope and I trust that that won't be the case with this bill, but we have no way of knowing how this bill will work out until we see the bill and until we see the regulations. I think there are other important matters which need to be discussed. I am wondering and I know that a number of people who are actually working in the welfare field, are wondering how this bill will work and how the regulations will work organizationally. There's a good deal of difficulty at the present time in this field -- we have had and we'll continue to have the provincial welfare department in the field; we will continue to have the municipal welfare departments in the field, some of them like in the City of Winnipeg are relatively efficient, relatively well staffed; some of them in the local municipalities and this is true of the urban municipalities around Winnipeg, and I'm sure possibly true even more so in the rural areas, are not so well staffed, they'll be in the field. I presume we'll still have the private agencies such as the Family Bureau and the Children's Aid Society. We'll still have, I presume, the Federal Department because I don't expect that the government intends to take over the administration or the cost of providing welfare services for the Indians who are on reservations. Possibly in the future we'll see some more co-operation but all these problems will still be with us, and I for one while I greet with the good deal of sympathy the principles enunciated by the Minister, Mr. Chairman, I want to say to the Minister and to the government that until we are able -- and this I think this is also important -- had the bill been in early, had the regulations been in early, we could have, and I think we have a right and a duty and a responsibility to compare the assistance which will be given to the people who are covered by the bill in this province with the assistance which is given in other provinces. I think we and the people concerned and the taxpayers would want to know -- will want to know how we are doing in relationship to other provinces. Are we high on the list or are we low on the list, or are we in the middle? These are matters which the members of this House and people will want to know and these are matters which we do not know tonight and I am afraid we will not know not only after we get the Bill, Mr. Chairman, but until we get the regulations, and since we are I trust, halfway through -- at least halfway through this Session, I presume that we won't see

(Mr. Orlikow, cont'd.) . . . the regulations -- I hope I'm wrong -- I know the Minister doesn't have to do it, but I hope that when he brings in the bill that he will give us at least the main provisions of the regulations because if he is estimating for an increase of more than two million dollars he must base them on draft regulations which are at least in the bulk ready; and I'm hoping that when we get this, Mr. Chairman, that we will get this information because otherwise, Mr. Chairman, we on this side of the House certainly cannot feel satisfied that we have the information which I think it is our right to have before we are asked to pass estimates of this size or before we are asked to pass a bill of the importance which the Minister has placed on this particular proposal.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I've listened with a great deal of interest to what's been said in connection with the bill which is not yet before the House. I think I should tell the committee that we are never satisfied with the job that we do and while it is perfectly true that we had a bill prepared in time for the last session we took advantage of the fact there was a delay between the last session and the present moment to improve that piece of legislation. It went through a very careful re-examination I don't mind saying which I think has improved it in several important particulars and that is why it is not ready at the present time. I wish to assure the committee that there has been no delay in presenting this bill, that was unavoidable. It has been in the hands of the printers now for about 10 days and really it ought to be here and my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition will know as well as any some of the troubles you get when you are trying to get the bills out of the committee. But if there is any feeling at all, we should not proceed with the welfare division estimates until the bill is before the House for second reading, I'm sure we would not have the slightest objection to postponing the consideration of these matters until such time as the bill is here, and with that thought in mind I have suggested to my colleague, the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources that we proceed with his estimates at the present time. He is the next man on the totem pole here. We'll just let the welfare division estimates rest until the bill is here and members have a chance to see it and in the meanwhile we will give my colleague a rest too, I think he has been doing nobly and I would like to say that I am delighted with the way that he has carried his estimates. He has provided a fund of information which will very much improve the education of the members on the other side if they pay proper attention to it.

So with those thoughts in mind I have no objection to leaving welfare and suggest we can go right on with Mines and Resources and come back at the time when the bill is ready.

MR. CAMPBELL: I must agree with the Honourable, the First Minister in paying tribute to the excellent job that the Minister of Health and Welfare has done, and I am sure that so far as this side of the House is concerned that we have benefited by the information. When my Honourable Friend says that we would likely have benefited by it if we were listening; the people who weren't listening were the ones on that side of the House. We were listening. I saw the caucuses going on on that side of the House a great deal of the time. I was out of the House for five minutes exactly, exactly -- and you were out of the House twice, that's about the relative merit of our performance so that when my honourable friend wants to lecture us about the time that we spend in the House or how much we are listening he had better take a look at his own side of the House first.

MR. ROBLIN: able to provide a majority on this side of the House.

MR. CAMPBELL: It's lucky you are.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, apropos of that I would like to inform the Minister that had it not been for not wanting to interrupt one of his honourable colleagues the other day, we could have had the committee rise and report, so you did not have the majority at all times in the House, my friend. Now in respect of this question of deferring the estimates of the welfare department, I think that is a good suggestion. It's one which we would accept. I would appreciate very much if in the meantime before we get back to the welfare estimates, if the Minister would take under consideration the question I raised insofar as the total combined expenditures of all sources in respect of social allowances, mothers allowances, ward maintenance care for the province, say for the last fiscal year, that he may be able to get that information for comparison basis. I am sure that my friend, the Minister, has more access to the inner chambers than I have, or will be able to have the staff get it more readily than I will if I have to go on my own hook and I would appreciate that from the Minister for comparison.

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) . . . And I think that the suggestion of leaving the welfare division until such time as we have had a chance to look at the new bill and I hope the regulations -- we can then consider to a greater degree the aspects of welfare legislation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department IX - Mines and Natural Resources. 1. Administration.

HON. GURNEY EVANS (Minister of Mines and Natural Resources) (Fort Rouge): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it would suit the convenience of the House if I presented a general statement on the department on the item of the minister's salary or administration, and then chose two other occasions or three other occasions to make separate statements. Some of the honourable members have shown an interest in the fishing situation and I agreed at an earlier stage in the House that I would make a special statement on fishing and I thought that might well be reserved until the item of salaries under the fisheries branch. Then with respect to mining there is no great change of policy but some expansions of our efforts in that direction, I would make a special statement on the item of salaries under the mines branch and add under the forestry branch on the item of salaries some detail about the developments that have taken place in southeast Manitoba. So if that suits the convenience of the House I will then begin with a general review of the major policies within the department of Mines and Natural Resources.

The government's policy of course in respect to this department is the determination of the values of the different resources and where they are located. To assist in the making of these economic regions accessible insofar as the efforts of this department can assist; to encourage the fullest economic development of those resources, and in this connection of course working closely with the Manitoba development authority which is now under consideration and will be before the committee. I believe tomorrow, and with the Industrial Development Fund so far as that may apply. And then an important policy is the management of the replaceable resources so that they may be continued on a sustained yield basis and yield the maximum amount that may be taken from those resources but at the same time insure that they are not depleted. The situation at the present time as I see it is this; that there is both under-utilization of our resources and over-utilization in different locations within the province. The under-utilization takes place mainly in the north where some of the resources are being wasted particularly forest resources due to a fairly large amount of forest resources coming to be overage so that if they were taken either as saw logs or as pulp at the present time they would not be satisfactory. That is one aspect of under-utilization.

Then particularly in south east Manitoba that very important forest area of the province there has been over-utilization and I will deal with those points in greater detail later.

Well the action that is needed with respect to the north particularly is more information, improved access, and the conservation of the replaceable resources involving improved protection as far as the forests are concerned from fire. Fire, that is a high hazard area and we will not interest outside capital or development in that area until there is further assurance of fire protection in that area. Those who go into the north must be assured of course of an ample wood supply for their operations and plans are being carried forward now for increased fire protection in the north.

For the south part of the province there will be a development of increased conservation methods and scientific management of the forest resources and the fisheries resources on a sustained yield basis.

Turning then to the surveys branch which is largely a service branch but is a very important one, the need is for the extension and intensification and re-establishment of certain of the surveys, the basic surveys of the province. In the beginning of course, these lands were laid out by homesteaders and many of the posts, many of the survey posts of those days have been lost, and it's required to re-establish as quickly as possible some of the basis surveys. In addition to that there will be a continuation of the Manitoba northwest boundary survey which is at present underway in co-operation with Canada. An important venture because who knows when we might find another mine even as far north as that, and find ourself in the situation where as we have it at Flin Flon the important mine of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company straddles the provincial boundary and almost a matter of inches is worth a great deal of money; and so the survey of the northwest territory boundary is being continued. About 255 miles is required to be done of which approximately 90 miles

(Mr. Evans, cont'd.) . . . was done last winter shared cost basis with the Canadian government on a 50/50 basis.

Turning now to the forestry branch. The need is for the continued development of the intensive forest inventory. The main inventory which was to approximate the total quantities of timber that might be available in the province and in each area of the province has been largely completed, but the second stage is now underway in lots of approximately 2000 miles each to re-photograph with two objects in mind. To find not only what the total quantities of timber may be or of pulp, but what the species are and what the age and maturity and the sizes of the trees in those various areas are; to enable proper utilization and proper laying out of forest management areas. There is need for sustained yield management plans for the regions that are being utilized. The allowable cut of course must include allowance for the trees that are coming to an age where they will be less than satisfactory if they are not taken into use. It must allow also for the loss to fire and then the amount that can be cut is the remainder. There must be an extended and intensified forest protection plan. There must be increased re-forestation particularly in the southeast part of the province and there must be better and more diversified utilization. Now that better and more diversified utilization I think so far as I have been able to learn anything about the forestry business, comes down to this, that certain trees of certain species and size yield a greater value when taken as saw logs and certain other species and size yield their value through pulp. And so it becomes important to see that every tree is put to its most productive use and plans and further developments along that line are necessary. The ideal thing as I understand it is for foresters to mark any timber sale, marking those trees which should be taken now; leaving others to grow to a greater age and a greater maturity. We are doing that as far as we are able now and the plans are to extend that practice into the future to make sure that every dollar that can be gained from the forest is in fact recovered. Well action under this head comes under these classifications that we have made additions to staff. There is one forester who is in charge of parks and recreational development now, that had been carried on as the general duty of the department or the branch itself, but now one forester, Mr. Danyluk who was in charge down in the Whiteshell during the development of the Falcon Beach area, or in charge of one of the areas at Rennie, has been brought to Winnipeg and is in charge of recreational and tourist planning as far as it concerns the forestry branch. There is a chief forest ranger in the southern district, and eight engineering aids, and three conservation officers have been added to the staff. Under the heading of forest improvements and management, we are increasing the fire towers by four. There are two ranger headquarters being set up in the north, and two dwellings for forest rangers in the south east. Planting will amount to 1,850,000 trees this year. The expansion of the nursery facilities at Pineland which was begun several years ago is being further expanded again this year, and we have completed the initial inventory reports and as I indicated a moment ago, are proceeding with the more detailed and more intensive forest inventory from the air.

Under recreational development there will be the maintenance and expansion of recreational camping and picnic facilities under the current forestry account. This will cost over \$90,000 this year in forest reserves excluding Falcon Beach which will cost \$47,000 to maintain. That is the main outline of the operations that will take place then under the forestry branch.

With respect to game, there is need for more intensive management of certain species, and I refer particularly to the barren land cariboo, and to a very considerable extent to grouse. Unfortunately these migratory herds of barren land cariboo appear to the experts to be in danger of extinction. They are an important source of meat and hides and so forth to those who live in the north, and the decline in their numbers has been very discouraging until this year one small ray of light has appeared on the horizon -- and perhaps it is only a small one but the calf crop does appear to be more satisfactory this year, larger in numbers than in some recent years. Nevertheless, concern for this great natural resource of the north does continue and there is a co-operative research program in progress in co-operation with the Government of Canada.

With respect to grouse, I understand that the numbers of grouse this year are not satisfactory but they are very ; they do reach larger numbers and then fall off quite seriously; and it isn't so many years ago as I recall that we were quite concerned about

(Mr. Evans, cont'd.) ... the absence of this wonderful upland game bird in the Province of Manitoba. So in spite of the fact that there is an improvement in numbers this year, we feel it's important to carry forward a continued program of research into two things. Anything that can be done of course to preserve the flocks and the quantities will be done, but particularly we will study bag limits and the hunting seasons so that the proper hunting may be done when the quantities are large and the pressure removed when they are small.

Under game, it seems to me that game management is one of our real problems in its aspect of the hunter-farmer relations. This is a most difficult question because I feel there is room for genuine misunderstanding on many cases between the hunters and the farmers. You can place yourself in the position of a farmer having his own private land, and having people come on that land who either don't see or will not see his sign that he has posted on his land. It is quite within the rights of any farmer of course to post his land, and if he wants to do so the hunters themselves must be encouraged not only to observe the posting but to receive that decision gracefully. The pressure of hunting of all kinds, both for birds and the larger game is intense, and in some of the areas the amount of rifle fire particularly in the deer season has increased to a point where there does appear to me to be danger in the amount of hunting. There have been losses of farm animals; there have been bullets travelling close to people, and of course every now and again a great tragedy occurs when someone loses his life.

I studied the reports of shooting accidents, both fatal and otherwise, when I say study -- let me say this -- that all I have done is to read them through, and I have been astonished at the variety of causes of a hunting accident. I can recall from the reports one case where a man saw a deer and decided to stalk it. First of all removed the safety catch from his rifle, got down on his hands and knees and dragging the rifle behind him with the safety catch off, shot himself in the leg, fortunately not fatally. There have been a number of accidents in which bullets ricocheted off water, and to the inexperienced hunter I suppose people would not think of bullets ricocheting off water. I may say that from the general concern over the safety of people and the tragedy which occurs when someone is shot fatally, we have been giving thought to anything that can be done to help in improving the hunting practices in the province. Perhaps our best thinking has always come back to this point -- that education is going to be the answer. Education in various ways. Education in the use of firearms; education in the dangers which follow from the use particularly of a high powered rifle and the distances that a round will carry; but education also in the general dangers that occur when hunting in the field. And so some considerable thought has been given to this great menace. I wish I could tell you that we had in sight a program which we consider practical and which would hold out hope of a considerable reduction of this danger. We have examined the efforts that have been made elsewhere in other jurisdictions both in Canada and the United States, and have not been able to come up with any conclusion that is firm except the great need for education and constant vigilance on this point. I must say that we appreciate Mr. Chairman, the co-operation that the government has always had I am sure, and certainly has been extended to us -- of people in the publishing business and in all its forms, radio and television, as well -- to help to spread the messages that we want to have brought before the public. We are continually impressing on hunters so far as our means permit to request permission to enter a farmer's land -- if permission is denied, to accept that decision gracefully; and if permission is granted, to observe the rights of the farm owner and to observe the common courtesies while on his land. We propose to increase the direct communication from the department to the hunters and to the farmers as well designed to continue the improvement of relations between them. We have the co-operation of several organizations in this field, notable among them of course is the Game and Fish Association. They have their own program of instruction for youngsters using rifles for the first time. They have a very active program in that regard, and as in so many other cases the results of that program are seen, if I can use that expression -- in something that didn't happen; an accident that didn't happen; a person who wasn't killed. But I do at this time want to pay tribute to the Game and Fish Association for not only the time and the effort that their members spend on in but the good hard cash they put into it, and I think all of us in public life owe them a debt of gratitude in this connection.

It is proposed to discontinue the introduction of pheasants into Manitoba while the effects of the earlier introduction are being studied. There has not appeared any strong

(Mr. Evans, cont'd.) . . . evidence that we have been able to discover that these birds have established themselves firmly. I am not saying that the program at the moment should be called a failure, but I am indicating that we have not been able to discover evidence that gives us confidence to go ahead with further introductions of pheasants into Manitoba. It may well be that we can discover types of country or habitat where we can introduce these birds and they will survive in better conditions, but so far I regret to tell the House that that experiment has not shown the signs of success that many had hoped for it.

Now with regard to the Manitoba government air service, there needs to be increased facilities in the north, particularly in connection with the settlement at Thompson; there needs to be a strengthening of the radio communication system of which that air service forms an important part. Radio communications are very important in the Department of Mines and Natural Resources; they are important in fire fighting; they are important in game conservation, and in other ways. They are important too in survey parties in isolated places and in other operations as well. This system has been quite remarkable. I have been up to Lac du Bonnet and have seen some of the equipment and some of the instruments that have been put into service there and throughout other branches of this government air service which runs the communications branch, the radio. They have done it on a remarkably small shoestring. They have done it in a remarkably economical way. Certain hand instruments that I saw there looked remarkably like old fashioned telephones and they were. When the telephone system abandoned the old standard telephone which came up on a standard and had the thing beside it that you jiggled up and down that held the receiver, they acquired some of those and used them for some of their transmitting microphones; and my understanding is that this system has been largely put together by the technicians of the government air service branch and they have done exceptionally well. Nevertheless at the moment there does appear to be some need for re-study of this system, particularly to take in the type of wave escapes me - that - what is it, not microwave it's another type of wave, the name of which I forget, but it doesn't matter.

(Interjection) -- The Leader of the Opposition says permanent wave, well permanent wave adds up to a good many things and I think we might well consider that in almost any branch of human activity. Nevertheless there is. I think, frequency modulation is the term that I've been looking for. There is need to consider some of the newer techniques and some of the newer equipment within the radio communications section of the government air service, and of course imposed on the entire service now are much longer distances now that we're moving north. It's a matter of great importance to have fast communication. They tell me in the forestry branch the matter of five minutes or a very short period of time indeed can make the difference between controlling a fire, a forest fire, and letting it get away. A mere matter of five minutes may make the difference between a fire which causes practically no economic loss and one which may indeed destroy some fine stands of timber; it can well be understood when you see some of the fires in progress. And so communications are receiving close study and it may be necessary to consider some revisions of the communications system. But I do want to say this that not only in inventing the system and putting it together and manufacturing it, but in operating it, the Manitoba government air service has performed a good and efficient operation and one of which I personally am very proud and I am sure that the other members of the committee can be proud as well.

We are continuing in the government air service another experiment and that is bombing of small fires from the air with water in bags. That experiment was begun under the last jurisdiction and we are continuing it with some hope that there can be sufficiently accurate bombing at least on what might be called a saturation basis -- without trying to make a pun out of it (Interjection). I think my honourable friend from Fisher over there and I had better be very careful when we start to use that word. But that experiment is continuing and it would be a wonderful thing if a technique could be developed to squash a small fire from the air rather than being required to fly a party to a lake which might be miles away, through impenetrable forest almost, to come to a fire, and by that time it is much farther advanced than is desirable. Well during this next year we will commence the development of the sub-base at Thompson for obvious reasons, and as I indicated the strengthening of the radio system with more powerful sets and some repeater stations to enable operation to be made over longer distances.

(Mr. Evans, cont'd.)

With respect to the Lands Branch, it seems to me that soil surveys and land classification for the particular purposes of this department must be pressed further. When we come to discuss the -- what the developments in south-east Manitoba, we will see that the important first step must be to select those lands which are suitable for forestry and see that those are maintained in forestry and to locate other lands which are suitable for agriculture or for other uses and see that they are put to their proper uses. My colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, has advanced far in his plan for soil classification for agricultural purposes and of course, we will be in the closest co-operation with his department and with the work that he is doing.

continued on next page

(Mr. Evans, cont'd)... There is need also for continuation of land reclamation and the operation at Pasquia which is advancing well though, that the survey has been completed and the ditching is proceeding and a major investment is being made in the area that is the delta of the Saskatchewan River. These lands, of course, are technically described, I believe, as drowned lands, where foreign waters, particularly from the Saskatchewan River has inundated them, but the land was good agricultural soil underneath and so in our unique experiment initiated by the last administration, this land was rescued by dyking and by ditching within, and even by installing pumps so that the ditches might be emptied during high water stages of the river, when gravity would not take the water out of the ditches. Under Land Reclamation, \$120,000 will be expended on land development projects. Nearly all of that sum in the Pasquia area where the land will be made available under this year, and probably under a lease option arrangement.

Under the heading of Recreational Development, Maintenance and Expansion of recreational developments and sub-divisions outside the forest reserves under current lands branch account, will cost approximately \$165,000. At the south end of Lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg, we have excellent water fowl breeding and resting areas. This is one of the great fly-ways, of course, for geese and ducks in the world I imagine, and funnels very largely down through the Province of Manitoba and the foots of these two lakes -- or the feet of these two lakes, if that's more correct English -- are a point of high concentration for this flight. South-western Manitoba is not so well favoured with the exception of the Whitewater Lake and a few smaller water areas, and water fowl breeding and resting areas are scarce. The areas are however excellent up-land game bird territory. I'm indeed pleased to be able to announce that the syndicate which owns and controls a large block of marsh land in the Oak Lake-Plumb Lake area, approximately 5,000 acres, has agreed to sell the marsh area to the government. Negotiations have been proceeding on this particular acquisition for over six months, and has resulted in a very substantial reduction in the original asking price.

I'd like to pause there to make a comment that these owners of the marsh could easily have acquired a very much larger price for the sale of this land. But these sportsmen, and I use that term advisedly, and would ask you to consider it, these sportsmen having regard for the necessity of sanctuary areas and areas of this kind which can be either used as public shooting grounds or preserved as pure sanctuaries, turned down offers and perhaps the honourable members will remember a discussion in the press, or at least speculation in the press, that these lands might be alienated to private interests from outside the province. But these sportsmen said this, that this is necessary for the preservation of our bird-shooting possibilities in Manitoba, and they have deliberately and of their own will, turned their backs on other much larger offers and made the land available to the government. The agreement has not been signed, but my understanding is that the agreement in principle has been arrived at, and I felt that I should pay this tribute to them for what is a genuine sacrifice on their part, and let them know that we do in fact appreciate it.

That is a very general and of course, sketchy review of the operations in the branches of this department, which you will have noticed very quickly omit Fish -- the Fisheries Branch, and the Mines Branch, and I thought it might be convenient for the House to discuss those particular items and then when we come to the Mines Branch, I would offer a separate statement on that branch, and then when we come to the Fisheries, I would discuss our plans for rehabilitation for the fishing in Lake Winnipeg and such general conditions as surround the fishing industry. So that at this point if that suits the committee, Mr. Chairman, I would be glad to discuss any -- provide any answers that I can provide or get information that honourable members may want.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, is the Minister going to deal with Predator Control -- Item No. 12?

MR. EVANS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Predator Control I think is the last item of the estimates and I will be glad to deal with that question separately at that time.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I find the background information that the Minister gives very interesting and I understand that Mines, Fisheries, and Predator Control will be covered at a later time in a separate statement.

MR. EVANS: And I thought when we came to the Fisheries Branch as well, Mr. Chairman, I would deal with developments in south-east Manitoba, so far as they affect the forestry branch.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, my general comments can be quite brief. I'm afraid that I will have my usual reservation to make, with regard to the work of my honourable friend, the Minister of this Department, in that I think he has been giving less credit than is due to the officials of the department -- I'm not asking credit for the former government -- but to the officials of the branches concerned in this department in some of the public statements that he has made with regard to the situation with regard to forestry in this province and with regard to fisheries. Fisheries, even having a statement made in the House here a few days ago. However, we will be able to discuss those matters when we come to them. I'm in agreement with him about the necessity of a forestry inventory and the urgent necessity of fire control to the extent that it is possible so that the resource that we already have in the forest can be protected as far as possible, while the arrangements are being made for their further utilization. I have always had the impression that the fire hazard is not so great in the north because of the nature of the terrain up there and the abundance of water. But certainly the fires that one sees in flying over that area must be quite a considerable waste as well. I hope that the Minister is right in assuming that they can interest at least one or may be two pulp and paper mills in locating in that area at some time. If they can, then the interest that's shown in both forestry inventories and fire protection will be well worthwhile. Because those of us who have for a long time been impressed with the contribution that agriculture makes to this province and this country, can't help but notice the tremendous value that the forests products of other provinces, and our own to quite an extent too, are making to the economy in these times. Lumber, pulp, paper and such products of the forest industry really are extremely important and I share the Minister's optimism that by continuing the policies that have been advocated by the departmental branches for, to my knowledge a good many years, of careful inventory, fire protection, sustained yield basis of resource development that we will get them to make an even greater contribution in the future.

Now as far as Game is concerned, I again don't pretend to be an expert, but I have some direct experience with the hunter-farmer relations program, and I gather that there has been some consideration about an insurance fund being established to take care of - not of course personal accidents, but accidents that result in other ways through mistakes in the hunter's approach. Is there anything being done in regard to an insurance fund that would look after damage that occurs from the hunter's activities? The growth of gun pressure that the Minister speaks of, both shotgun and rifle, has certainly been an interesting development in recent years. And I agree with him that education in that regard is sorely needed - it's tragic to see the number of people that get out hunting, either big game or small game, who really are not yet acquainted with the rudiments of proper control of themselves, let alone the other requirements. I read in the Saturday Evening Post, a couple of years ago, of a farmer who noticing the activities of hunters who drove past his farm, decided that he would take the stuffed pheasant that he had mounted someplace in his house and put it out in his yard. And he put it right in the farmyard, half way between the house and the stable and -- knowing that it would be toppled over with the first blast, he secured it there and within a very short time he had to go out and retrieve it again because several people going past in cars had stopped and fired at this pheasant regardless of the fact that it was right in his barnyard and on one occasion, they had even fired without stopping the car. And he became convinced that there would be an accident happen to the human beings themselves and he had to abandon his experiment. Well, I've never seen anything quite as bad as that happen in Manitoba, but I certainly have known of the accidents that have happened; the one that was mentioned in the House here, where a valuable mare was shot in a hind leg, even before dawn on a farm in the Pilot Mound district. Right in the farmyard and before it was light in the morning. Well, I don't know what the answer is to that except some kind of an educational program, and I don't think that there's very much use of trying to educate anybody who's got along to - well, certainly to the years that I am -- or even ones a good bit younger than that. The place to start undoubtedly is with the young folks and that's where these - this organization particularly, and there may be more, but the one that the Minister mentioned has been doing, what in my opinion is some very wonderful work. And I'm sure that a good many of the members of the House here saw the display that the Game and Fish Association of Winnipeg put on at the Red River Exhibition and the field that they had laid out there and the trials that they had for the young folk. It was quite interesting to stand there and

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd)... watch the young people and I presume they had an age limit on this attempting the trials there, but it was quite interesting to stand and watch the young fellows going through. And as honourable members who saw the display know, they were checked very carefully at all points in that contest and their reward was - whether they scored well or not, their reward was some free shots with a rifle at target practice there over in the corner. Well, that kind of thing, I think, is extremely useful and when you get it developing in a good many centres of the province as well, I have a lot of hope that the younger folks are going to grow up a lot better trained than the present generation are in total. When any assistance that can be given to people who are doing that kind of work I think is useful.

Now, as far as the different species that my honourable friend mentioned, I shall not comment on except perhaps the pheasants. It seems to me that it would be worthwhile to continue the program, even though they have not been over-wintering well up to date, because I would think that by rearing them through the summer, releasing them in the fall, that it will attract a lot of people into the areas where they're let loose, even if they don't manage to establish themselves; that keeping a few in those areas that they're naturally adapted to would be still worthwhile. However, if the department has arrived at the conclusion that it would be better to assess the benefits that have already flowed from the experiment that was conducted for a few years; I have no great complaint on that except to say that it might be that we've had unusually difficult winters and it seems to me that even if we just got them to provide a certain amount of shooting for the one fall, that it would be worthwhile to continue it is some measure.

So far as the Lands Branch are concerned, I think I'd reserve my remarks until we reach that item. But I was interested in the Minister's few words regarding the Pasquia development. I think that is going to turn out to be a most interesting experiment. I must confess that I was a bit of a "doubting Thomas" with regard to it in the early days, and certainly not arising from the quality of the land, because I'm sure that on the basis of the quality and depth of soil there that my Honourable Friend, the Minister of Agriculture would find that it even exceeds the Dauphin area that he was speaking of. (interjections) Yes, actually a deeper soil than the Dauphin area. I think there is no better soil anywhere in Canada than that, but I have always wondered - used to wonder until I saw several years experiments in the area - if the frost-free days were sufficient up there to grow a crop. But the thing that I had not taken into account at that time, when looking at the number of frost-free days, was that you have to figure in, as well as the frost-free days, the hours of sunlight in the day. And it is a fact that when you get that far north, that there is in the growing season, just enough extra hours of sunlight to almost - maybe not completely - but almost make up for the shorter day. And I'm sure the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities will be glad to hear me say that I am at least partially converted to the view that pretty general agriculture can be carried on there. And certainly some intensified agriculture can because of the combination of wonderful soil that they have there and the market of the north will just be aided by those extra hours of sunlight sufficient to grow the food for that area, particularly the vegetables and green crops generally, it may be -- it might well be -- that that can be an intensively farmed area that will turn out to prove that a lot of that other area up there as well can be developed. My honourable friend knows, I'm sure, that is just a small part of the delta that is, I think, a million and a half or two million acres in extent if it should all turn out to be useful. Well, I'm still wondering about the effect of that short number of frost-free days. It will need some further experimentation I think, but that's been going on under the Department of Agriculture, as well as perhaps under this department as well, and that should be answered pretty soon. In the meantime the land is fine and there's been a lot of money invested in it, both federal and provincial. I don't know if the Honourable the Minister has an estimate as yet, as to what that land will have to be sold at in order to be reasonably remunerative, so far as the cost that has gone into is concerned, but it seems to be a worthwhile experiment anyway, and will be a pilot plant to see if further development is warranted.

The Honourable the Minister mentioned the waterfowl areas at the south end of Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg. Certainly they've been great breeding and feeding and resting grounds, concentration areas, through the years, and one of the effects of their resting activities and their concentration preparatory to their flight south has been that the farmers of those areas have suffered great crop losses through the years, and those crop losses have been another factor that have rather strained the relationship between the hunters and the farmers, once

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd)... again, and I was just wondering if the Minister was going to tell us whether it is his intention to continue the duck-feeding program that was put into effect there two years and I believe last fall as well. My impression of that program is that it was spectacularly successful. Two years ago I was pretty close to it -- saw a good bit of it. I didn't see much of it last year, and I don't know - I'm not so well acquainted with just what happened at that time, but I would think that two years ago, it would be safe to say that for every bushel of grain that was fed to the ducks that probably saved at least ten or perhaps much more to the farmers of that area. I think they would be interested in knowing whether that program is going to be continued or not.

Mr. Chairman, I have not much more to say at this time anyway, I'll make any further remarks I have on the individual items. I would appreciate the Minister, at his convenience, giving an answer to two or three of these matters that I have mentioned.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, the committee would agree to rise and report as it is now 11 o'clock or very close to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Committee of Supply has adopted certain resolutions and asked me to report the same, and ask leave to sit again.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Osborne, that the report of the committee be received.

Mr. Speaker put the question and following a voice vote, declared the motion carried.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Speaker put the question, and following a voice vote, declared the motion carried, and the House adjourned until 2:30 the following afternoon.