

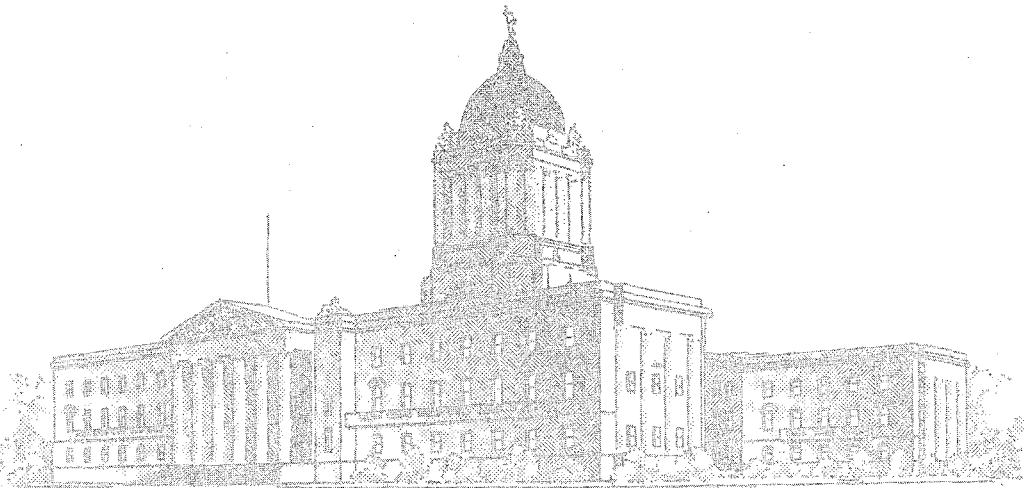


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



Volume IV No. 25

February 22, 1960

2nd Session, 26th Legislature

DAILY INDEX

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
2:30 o'clock, Monday, February 22nd, 1960.

Opening prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting Petitions

Reading and Receiving Petitions

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

Notice of Motion

Introduction of Bills.

The Honourable the Member for Portage la Prairie.

Mr. J. A. Christianson (Portage la Prairie) introduced Bill No. 82, an Act to amend The Dental Association Act; Bill No. 75, an Act respecting Dental Technicians.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

HON. GEORGE JOHNSON (Minister of Health & Public Welfare)(Gimli): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to table the annual report of the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba to the year December, '58.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. M. A. GRAY (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I want to bring to the attention of this House, the fact that today marks the beginning of Brotherhood Week in Canada and the United States. This week is sponsored annually by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, and this year the Honorary Chairman is the Prime Minister of Canada. The Council is an educational civic organization seeking the brotherhood of man based on the fatherhood of God. The Council does not compare languages, races or religious beliefs. It holds that the real strength of Canada lies in our freedom to be different and our desire to be interested in such things as are common to all Canadians. In short, it believes it's unity with diversity. Mr. Speaker, these aims, I am sure, are subscribed by all in this House. Here is a cause everything should honour. It is regrettable that in these enlightened times, it is necessary to observe Brotherhood Weeks, but we have heard in recent days, evidence of the revival of race hatred; smears and libels on this continent as well as in Europe. When brotherhood becomes a living reality, there will be no need for Brotherhood Weeks. In the meantime, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews serves an important cause in emphasizing the duty and necessity of all people living together harmoniously as one family of man, in dignity and in freedom. It is fitting that this House take note that this is Brotherhood Week and that we will all do our best to further the ideals of all our deliberations.

HON. DUFF ROBLIN (Premier)(Wolseley): Mr. Speaker, I trust the House will allow me to add a comment or two to what has already been said by the Honourable Member for Inkster on this very important topic. A certain latitude I believe should be allowed on an important matter of this sort. We in Manitoba of course, arising as we do from the settlement of this province by men and women of a very diverse group of people indeed, understand very well I think the meaning of Brotherhood Week. I think it's not untrue to say that we have made substantial progress in this province in joining together along the lines that the honourable member has indicated in his statement. We have in the past, as the members will know, passed a law in respect to fair employment practices. We are considering one, or we shall be considering one shortly, with respect to fair accommodation practices, and perhaps this is well and good, but I feel that there is no room for self-satisfaction in this matter. It seems to me that we still have a long way to go before we can claim to measure up to the ideals expressed by my honourable friend. It's all very well for us to deal with the legal and mechanical side of the problem as best we can, but I am sure that we will not be satisfied until we have passed beyond the bounds of what may be called tolerance into an area which can be described as that that responds to the sentiments of respect and affection one for another. So I would endorse what the honourable member has said and thank him for bringing it to the attention of the Assembly.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Leader of the Opposition)(Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, I agree with the Honourable Member for Inkster who has brought this matter to the attention of the House at the beginning of Brotherhood Week, and with the remarks also of the Honourable the First Minister who has spoken briefly concerning it. It seems to me that it is fitting that we should, in

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) . . this Chamber where we have the privilege and pleasure of accommodating members who come not only from all walks of life, but from all those national extractions that go to make up the warp and woof of our society; that we should join in the expressions of goodwill toward Brotherhood Week itself and once again rededicate ourselves to its purpose.

I suppose that anyone who would be sitting in the galleries of this Chamber would sometimes think that we, in showing our unity through diversity here, perhaps show a little more diversity than we do unity, but that's to be expected under circumstances that we meet with, but it shouldn't I think, either here or in the great outside, mar our judgment of the great principles that are behind movements of this kind. I'm not as much of a believer in dealing with these things by legislation as I am by education and assimilation, and I think that Manitoba and Canada as a whole have done very well in this regard. But as the First Minister says, it's no time for complacency. It's well that we continue to keep the ideals before us at all times and see to it that they are enshrined not just in the statute books of the country and the provinces but in the actual hearts of the people, because we here must be one place that just has to realize that as the world itself is shrinking in its size, these days, so our country is a part of that whole world and we do have an example--we do have an opportunity to set an example--a real good example to the rest of the world. Well having said that, I suppose we'll go back to disagreeing about individual items, but I hope it won't in any way override the main principles that have been mentioned here.

MR. R. PAULLEY (Leader of the CCF Party)(Radisson): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the Honourable Member for Inkster, for introducing to the consideration of the House the fact that this is Brotherhood Week in Canada and the week is sponsored by the Council of Christians and Jews. I can agree with both the previous speakers in respect of legislation, that legislation alone will not be sufficient to bring about a true brotherhood among nations and faiths. It does however pinpoint the desirability for such a brotherhood, and while this Brotherhood Week is sponsored by the Council of Christians and Jews, may I suggest that also we have within Canada and in this globe of ours, many people who are other than of the Jewish or Christian faith, and that while it is pertinent today and in this week to consider Christian and Jew, that if the same basic philosophy is extended to take in other faiths throughout the globe, it would be well for us even in this week to consider that. And I would suggest that, as I mentioned a week or so ago, a song--or a sentence from a song, which was written for the occasion of an opening of a school in Transcona, should be our philosophy in this Brotherhood of Man Week, indeed throughout the 52 weeks of the whole year--"May greater understanding bring about the brotherhood of man". I join in the tributes to Christians and Jews in this Brotherhood Week and hope that the principle will soon be extended to encompass all faiths and all peoples throughout the whole world.

MR. P. WAGNER (Fisher): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to have a correction in the Hansard, on page 680, February 18th, second paragraph. It's attributed to my name, and I believe it should have been in the Honourable Member for Emerson instead of me. There is nothing wrong in the speech what he said, but except he may feel hurt that I have it under my name.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

HON. J. B. CARROLL (Minister of Public Utilities)(The Pas): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day, I would like to lay on the table of the House the first annual report of the Public Utilities Board for the year ending December 31st, 1959. I would also like to table a return to an Order of the House, No. 7, in the name of the Honourable the Leader of the CCF Party.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Honourable the Minister of Public Utilities? Is that volume the reply to my two simple questions in respect of rates?

MR. CARROLL: Yes, sir. It's not a very simple answer, I'm afraid.

MR. SPEAKER: Orders for Return. The Honourable Member for Seven Oaks.

MR. A. E. WRIGHT (Seven Oaks): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Fisher, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing (1) the number of private residential telephone lines in the Greater Winnipeg area; (2) the number of party residential telephone lines in the Greater Winnipeg area; (3) the number of subscribers per

(Mr. Wright, cont'd.) . . party line in the St. Norbert area, in the East St. Paul area and in the Narol area; (4) What is the limit of distance beyond which the Manitoba Telephone System will not provide city exchange telephone service?

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Inkster.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for St. John's, that an Order of the House do issue for a Return showing (1) How many liquor stores or outlets were operating in the Province of Manitoba in (a) 1943-44; (b) 1958-59; (2) What were the values of gross sales of the Liquor Board in each of these years? (3) What were the profits of the Liquor Board in each of these years?

Mr. Speaker presented the motion.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Attorney-General)(Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, before the question is put, I'm afraid that the Honourable Member has perhaps run afoul of the rule--of not only of this House, but of the Federal House, whereby he is seeking information set forth in documents which are equally accessible to the questioner as they are to myself, and this information--I can give him the page references in the annual reports where it can be found. I'll be only too happy to send the paper over to him. I should say this, Sir, that there is one item, 1(a), that question cannot be found in the reports and certainly I would be prepared to accept the Order for Return with respect to 1(a), although I have the answer very briefly for him here, and I would be only too glad to give him that information if he would like to withdraw the order. But the essence of what I am saying is that this information is in the annual reports of the Commission, and I'll be only too pleased to give the page references to the honourable member by separate piece of paper.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Speaker, I leave it to the intelligence of the Attorney-General. Anything he said, that could give me the information, I'll be satisfied.

MR. CAMPBELL: I suggest that the Honourable the Attorney-General put the page numbers on Hansard so that the rest of us would have them available as well, if that's convenient.

MR. LYON: I would be pleased to do that, Mr. Speaker. 1(b), the number of stores operated by the Commission in '58-'59 is shown on page 13 of the 36th annual report for the year ended March 31st, 1959. Question two--gross sales, '43-'44 is shown on page 7 of the 21st annual report for the year ended 30th April, 1944. Gross sales '58-'59 are shown on page 16 of the 36th annual report of the Commission, year ended March 31st, 1959. Profits of the Commission, '43-'44 are shown on page 8 of the 21st annual report of the Commission and '58-'59 are shown on page 16 of the 36th annual report of the Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: It's taken that the motion is withdrawn by consent of the House. Agreed? Address of Papers. The Honourable Member for St. George.

MR. E. GUTTORMSON (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Selkirk, that an Humble Address be voted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for a return of all correspondence between the Government of the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada with respect to emergency aid for disaster-stricken farmers with unharvested crops.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion.

MR. ROBLIN: We would be glad to accept it, Mr. Speaker, subject to the usual reservations.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on the proposed motion. Second reading of Bill No. 62. The Honourable the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBLIN: My honourable friend is not ready. That matter could stand please, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Order stand. Committee of Supply.

MR. ROBLIN: I beg to move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a committee to consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. Speaker presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the Honourable Member for St. Matthews please take the Chair?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Department VI, Appropriation No. 12, Predator Control and Grasshopper Control. (a),

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I believe we had some slight discussion dealing with predators on the item preceding this one, but I purposely delayed my comments until we reached this particular item. My first word, and again I don't want it to be taken as a criticism of the Minister, because I think perhaps it was not brought to his attention, but my first word is one of protest that once again we have these two items grouped. I thought we had at least an agreement, if not an understanding by the Minister last year, that they would be separated, because I protested last year about the fact that these were grouped and we had some little difficulty in getting them ungrouped because the Minister wasn't just sure of them. Then the Minister said quite frankly that he didn't know why there were grouped. He disclaimed responsibility for them being grouped and he later on agreed that they should be shown separately. Now once again, although the items are not large, I do not think that they are ones that belong together, although perhaps both are predators. Yet I think the type of work in connection with them is quite distinct and that they should be separated as they used to be. Then it's quite easy for us to get the breakdown as between the two. I have no doubt that the Minister is able to give us the breakdown so far as this present estimate is concerned, and also that he can tell us what has been done last year as well in the way of expenditures. I wish he would consider for next year the separating of the two items because I think it would make it a little easier for us to have the information that we want when we rise to speak.

Now I'm sure that the Minister will be aware of the fact--and I want to deal with predators first, and perhaps have something to say about grasshoppers later on--I'm sure the Minister will be aware of the fact that there have been representations made by both the Union of Manitoba Municipalities and the United Farmers of Manitoba with regard to predator control. I don't know whether the Minister will be in a position to make a statement on that. Perhaps he is and perhaps I'd rather wait until he makes his statement if he plans to make one. And then, would the Minister as well, Mr. Chairman, agree to read onto the record the exact position so far as municipalities are concerned regarding the payment of these bounties, because I'm quite sure that the one that the Minister put on last year is rather inaccurate. The Minister last year said, and I'm quoting from page 674 of Volume 20A of July 7th, 1959, and this is a direct quote from what the Minister said, and I really think that it is not correct: "The Predator Control Act provides that a municipal corporation, subject to the conditions set out in the Act or regulations made thereunder, shall, on a claim being made, pay as a bounty to each person during the period from the first day of November to the 20th day of June in the year next following, both days inclusive, kills the predator of any kind than the municipal corporation sets some as prescribed in the regulations to the bounty of killing predator of that kind." Now making any allowances for any mistakes that may have been made in picking up the transcription, I think that there is an indication here that the bounty is paid during the period from November to June. I would think that was--or at least I should say that that was the period in which it is paid--I would think that is not correct. And inasmuch as there is some misunderstanding about it, and perhaps that has shown up in one or two of the resolutions that we have seen as well, maybe the Minister would be prepared to clarify that situation.

MR. GRAY: I don't know anything about this subject at all, and I don't know how mean or how gentle the predator is, but I think perhaps I wouldn't be out of order if I could mention now a man who sat in this House for many years, and that was his pet subject for years, and no one else dared to say a word about this subject except him, and this is the late MLA George Renouf for Swan River. I thought perhaps when it comes to the preyers and the predators, I cannot sit quiet and not mention his name. And I think this gentleman is old now but he's still alive, and I think perhaps he would be very happy to note that his name in this House, on this particular subject for 25 years, has not been forgotten.

MR. N. SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Chairman, when we were discussing predators under item No. 9 Friday evening, it seemed to me that there were some confusing statements made and I would like to know from the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture; does he consider jumping deer as predators? And if so, has this government any existing program or legislation that will provide compensation to farmers for damage to their crops caused by predators? Now I know that some three or four years ago, the government started their duck feeding program, of which no doubt he is quite familiar, and I'll admit that it did open up this subject of compensating the farmers for damage done, but there again, I don't know whether ducks are

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) . . considered predators or not, or whether we should be discussing it here. Now the Honourable the Member for Swan River went on record stating the damage, the extent of damage done to crops in his area and I suppose that I will be granted the same privilege as he was in reading a letter that I have just received from an area that is partly in my constituency and partly in the Cypress. But it just points up the extent of damage that is done and I will read it now. "Edrans, February 15th, 1960. We, the undersigned, are confronted with a problem which we have no power to control and would appreciate your assistance in any way possible. You will be aware of the ever-growing deer population in our district which has grown so rapidly during the last 20 years. During the last few years, we have overlooked the damage they have done to our crops and hay stacks, but it has got so serious this last few years that we can't put up with it any longer. They have gathered in bunches up to 150 in some fields, so imagine the damage they can do. You can refer to Ralph Hancocks, your game warden at Westbourne; also the game warden at Brandon, as they have both been down here and put out bomb machines, but they have done no good and these men are aware of the damage they are doing and the number of deer there is in this district. We have done everything possible to save our crops but all to no avail. So we would appreciate you help. For the destruction to our crops and hay stacks we ask compensation in some manner and further protection for the coming years". And then they list the section, township and range and the damage that has been done in that area. On Section 33-12-13, 80 acres of swathe and sheaves, a total loss; on section 3-13-13 and 16-13-13, 20 acres of swathed oats and damage to 150 tons of alfalfa hay; on 32-12-13, 84 acres of wheat and oats all in the sheaf, a total loss; on 3-13-13 and 4-13-13, 28 acres of stooked oats and 15 acres of barley, completely destroyed by deer, and damage to 40 tons of alfalfa hay; on 17-13-13 damage to stooked grain and alfalfa hay stacks; on SE 13-13-13 and the W 1/2 2-13-13, 46 acres stooked oats and sheaves damaged; and 35-12-13, 21-13-13, 18-14-13 and 1-14-14, 35 acres of oats stooked, total loss; and damage to 35 acres of alfalfa hay; so there is extensive damage in there. I don't know whether we should be discussing it under this item or whether we should wait until we've reached the Game Branch estimates. I know that the Honourable the Minister in that department knows that we have other predators in our area and they haven't caused damage to the crops as such, but in one particular case down there the raccoons, one raccoon or a couple of raccoons, destroyed 147 chickens or hens in one night. Now as I pointed out before, Mr. Chairman, whether these are considered predators as such, and whether this government has any program to pay farmers for damage caused by predators, I do not know. And I would like to have the answer.

HON. GEO. HUTTON (Minister of Agriculture)(Rockwood-Iberville): Mr. Chairman, to answer the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition first; the procedure, I suppose you would call it, for collecting bounty on designated predators is that the predator must be taken from the period November to the 20th day of June. The municipality may pay the bounty or the person taking the predator must make application to the municipality concerned before the 30th day of June, and the municipality must make application not later than August 31st to the department or to myself, asking for the Provincial Government to reimburse them to 50% of the bounties that they have paid out. The bounties are paid on coyote, red fox and bear, except in those municipalities which have by Order-in-Council, by proclamation, declared red fox, including a pup and any bear, including a pup to be not a predator within the municipal corporation. They can do this provided the municipality is contiguous to unorganized territory, to a boundary of another province, or to another municipality which has so proclaimed themselves not responsible for the designated predators.

In reply to his question asking for the breakdown of the cost of the two programs to deal with predators; in the calendar year of 1959 the municipalities paid out \$30,368.50 and the province paid out \$30,368.50 or a total of \$60,737. It might be interesting to know possibly what has been paid out by the government since 1943--\$645,822. That has been the government grant from 1943 to '59 inclusive. For the '59-'60 year--fiscal year to the end of January, the amount paid out in bounties by the Provincial Government is \$24,845.

To answer the question of the Honourable Member for Gladstone as to whether deer would be considered predators; I don't think so. I know they are not considered predators under the terms of the Predator Act, but I hardly think that we could consider them predators under the designation or the connotation of that word, because we think of animals of prey, but there is

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) . . . no doubt that at times these animals can do a lot of damage. There is no compensation for the damage of the deer herds per se, and I think I made it clear on this point the other evening, that as far as we are concerned, with the crop loss assistance program we don't take into consideration what happens to the crops once they were snowed under. For all intents and purposes they were lost, and because of this, if they qualify under the terms of that program they will qualify for acreage payments. But as far as any further payments of compensation are concerned, which are directly related to the loss, and I should say probable loss, because it is hard to tell what would be available in the spring even if the deer hadn't--aside from your stacked hay--it's hard to tell what would be available in the spring because in many cases, and I think there's experience in the past that has shown us that the mice,--field mice can do a tremendous amount of damage to crop that is left over the winter, if conditions are right. But there is no compensation program for the damage that has been done to the crops that are out by the deer or elk or whatever it may have been.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, under what department then do we find the item that covers the money spent by the government for duck feeding stations? I understand that that cost runs into 30 or 40 or 50 thousand dollars annually. That--(interjection)--I see. And on another question, and I had this one asked to me this morning, on the crops that are covered with snow; if a man does go out and attempt to salvage some of that for cattle feed, then he will be paid? If he goes out now--he needs the feed--if he goes out now and he does salvage some of the swathe or the sheaves--that's quite all right? It won't disqualify him under the scheme?

MR. HUTTON: December 15th was the datum.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Fine, thank you.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, on Friday the Minister said that farmers who have suffered crop losses through deer could still qualify for the emergency aid. Does that apply to duck losses as well?

MR. HUTTON: Well it really hasn't anything to do with ducks, or deer, or anything else. If a man had failed to harvest half of his crop by the 15th of December, and taking into consideration the other qualifications, it didn't matter what happened to his crop after that. He had already qualified--the very fact that he hadn't harvested.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Losses from deer and ducks then are covered to a degree last year by this emergency aid. Has the government any program whereby the farmers this year will be assisted if they suffer similar losses from deer?

MR. HUTTON: No.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Are they contemplating any program to assist these farmers?

MR. HUTTON: No.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister did not give us the breakdown of this \$44,000 as between predator control and grasshopper control. Has he that?

MR. HUTTON: No, I haven't. You mean of the \$25,000. You want to know which is--

MR. CAMPBELL: Of the \$44,000 that we're asked to vote here.

MR. HUTTON: No, I haven't the breakdown.

MR. CAMPBELL: What I was wanting to get, Mr. Chairman, was--and I'm sure the Minister could bring me those figures later on because they would be known to his department when they were making up these estimates, I'm sure--what I wanted to get was, we're being asked to vote \$44,000 here. Well actually \$25,000, but \$44,000 is the expected expenditure because \$19,000 is held in trust. And when we come to the grasshopper part of it, I'd like to know how much they expect to spend on grasshoppers, because obviously the balance is for predator control. The point I was going to make was that it seems that the views of the Farmers Union and the Union of Municipalities are rather well founded, that the program is not being effective, and if the Honourable the Minister wants to say to me, "well you folks changed the program a few years back", I admit that that is a fact, and I do not think it was a beneficial change. I said that last year and I'm still of the same opinion, but it seems to me that their contention is borne out by the fact that in the calendar year '59 the province spent 30 thousand dollars odd, and in the fiscal year, with just two months to go, they have spent 24 thousand eight. It looks as though they will end up with a smaller expenditure this year than last, and that would seem to bear out the views of the Union of Municipalities and the Manitoba Farmers Union that the program is not effective and I think we should try and get some program--get back to a

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) .. program that would be more effective.

Now it's true that we've paid out a lot of money by the figure that the Minister gives us—a great deal of money since 1943, but goodness knows how much we may have saved the farmers. I haven't the Farmers Union resolution of this year with me. I read it; I heard them present it; but when I came to look for it, I'd mislaid it, but I have the one of a year ago, and I recall that the one this year is somewhat similar. And they start off their resolution with the statement that there is evidence of a considerable increase in the number of coyotes, foxes and timber wolves in the province in the past three or four years. They say that it's generally thought that this increase is a direct outcome of the elimination of the bounty on these animals. Well the Minister knows that the bounty hasn't been completely eliminated of course, but I expect they mean of the—some municipalities voting themselves out of the program as he mentioned, and I think we were told last year that 18 or 19 had so voted themselves out. Then they go on to say that apart from the nuisance factor, a heavy destruction of game-birds and nests takes place as well as losses of livestock, sheep and poultry. Then they mention timber wolves which are not a problem generally speaking to this department, but will be discussed—and incidentally when my friend mentioned our old friend from Swan River, it was timber wolves that he was mainly concerned with, rather than these that we are talking about now. They say that they are getting a fairly heavy build up. And then they come to the "meat" of their argument. It's unfair and almost impossible for municipalities to pay bounties unless adjacent municipalities do likewise. We request that the bounty be reinstated by the province which would encourage Indians and trappers to concentrate on the destruction of these predators and they have some recommendations re the poison bait as well. And there again I expect what they mean is that we reinstate this system of compulsory bounty by the municipality. And I must say, Mr. Chairman, that my experience with this matter over a considerable number of years leads me to agree with the position taken by the Farmers Union. Now then, I know that they had a somewhat similar resolution this year—not identical—and I presume it was discussed with the Minister and I would like to hear his views on that same question.

Then we have Resolution No. 1 of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, and here again I have no doubt that a presentation was made to the government and likely the Minister sat in and likely took some interest in this particular one. I won't read all the whereases but the second one is: "Whereas red foxes and wolves have increased to such an extent that some ratepayers have stopped trying to raise poultry because their losses were so heavy; whereas some municipal councils would like to go back to paying bounty on red foxes and wolves". They seem to have the idea that wolves as well as red foxes can be excluded and the Honourable Minister seemed to indicate that they couldn't vote themselves out of wolves. Is that correct? If they were fairly sure that there was no bounty being paid for foxes and wolves, from other municipalities, and that always was the situation of course, that it pretty nearly had to be compulsory because if it wasn't compulsory and one municipality didn't pay it, the neighbouring municipality was apt to have quite a few wolves and foxes caught there. "Therefore, be it resolved that we request that the Predator Control Act be changed so that any municipality may, by passing a by-law, pay bounty only to bona fide residents or personnel living within the boundaries of the municipality". That's a new approach as far as I'm concerned. I hadn't heard that one before, but it's an interesting one and I think it is evident that the municipal people as well as the Farmers Union are convinced that there is a build-up once again of coyotes and foxes; that it is prejudicing the poultry industry apart altogether from what it does to the game birds; and that some better method is needed. And the figures that the Minister gives seemed to me to indicate that we're planning for a smaller amount to be spent this coming year than we did last year; that perhaps last year was not as big as the year before; that with a bigger build-up that we're not spending as much; and I honestly think myself that it's that legislation that was passed some time ago allowing the municipalities to vote themselves out.

Well I'm not going to read the other resolution. I'm sure my honourable friend is familiar with it. It's No. 32 of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities dealing with the Predator Control Act, and it deals mainly with raccoons and goes on to suggest that the Municipal Act should be amended so that raccoons and other predators could be so declared by the municipal council. Oddly enough, this one comes from an area just north and west of my own and I'm told by our local farmers that raccoons have made a very definite appearance in our area too.

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) . .

So, Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that when the Minister has had some opportunity of considering these things that maybe he would be inclined to go back again to the system of compulsory bounty payment that we had some short time ago. During my time in the House, we have had that system--compulsory for all municipalities to pay bounty; and then we have had that legislation completely changed so that there was no compulsion on them to pay; then we've gone back to partial payment and to a compulsory system again; and then due to representations, that at the time I'm sure seemed to have merit, we put in this legislation that is now in effect whereby municipalities if they are contiguous to the provincial boundary or the international boundary or a municipality that has already voted itself out, etc., can get out of paying bounty on some at least of the predators. And I must say that my own judgment is that maybe with all the experience that we have had, that maybe to go back to the compulsory bounty is the best because I still am of the opinion, and I know that a lot of the others don't agree with me, but I'm still of the opinion that the most effective way of all is to get the Indians and other people who will hunt and trap to go out in the spring with a sharp, round-mouth shovel and dig out the little fellows in the dens. I know that some people argue that the folks who do this will leave the mature animals to keep on raising the pups, but I would think that eventually the mature animals would die of old age. If they keep on taking the crop we wouldn't have a very serious problem. So I would be interested in the opinion of the Minister and what he thinks should be done with regard to these representations that have been made, because evidently these two organizations that are in close touch with the farm people seem to think that we're not getting results at present.

Then, of course, there is the registered poison bait that has been tried in some areas and perhaps the Minister has some information to give the committee in that regard.

MR. HUTTON: I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I think that the possibility of dealing with the situation through the poison bait program is one which will have a great deal of bearing upon whether we're going to enlarge on the bounty type of control. Where it has been used it has been quite successful, and this year 14 municipalities have undertaken to carry out the program, and under the present policy, the local government districts are also enabled to take advantage of the program. If good control or satisfactory control can be maintained by the poison bait type of program, I think much more can be said for it than can be said for the bounty policy. And since in a sense the poison bait program is in its infancy really in this province, because I believe it was only begun in 1958 on an experimental basis, then I would suggest that it's a little early to discount that approach to the problem in favour of going back to mandatory bounty programs. And as I say, they have had marked success, they feel, and also, I think there's a fact that other provinces and other jurisdictions in the United States aren't too well pleased with the bounty approach. And I would say at this stage at least, that we should wait and see how successful, with increased participation from the municipalities--on the part of the municipalities, that we should wait and see just how effective this is going to be, because maybe it is the manner by which we should eliminate the predators.

In addition to the coyote and the fox and the bear, and of course we have the timber wolf, and this is out of my jurisdiction, but I understand there are five professional hunters now and that the cyanide bombs are set up as more or less of a fence to keep them out. I'm not denying that they still are a problem to individual farmers, but as I say, this is not under my jurisdiction. But I think for the time being that it would be wise to let this experiment run with further participation on the part of the municipalities on the poison bait program.

Now in connection with raccoons and skunks, we will be introducing an amendment to cover raccoons and skunks during this session. I don't know if that covers the whole point. I think it does.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I don't think that either of these organizations that I was quoting was suggesting that the poison bait program should be curtailed at all in favour of the other, but that the compulsory bounty system should be reinstated as well. It was in addition to the poison bait I think rather than in substitution for it. I take it that the 14 municipalities that the Minister mentions, Mr. Chairman, are for this year coming up now. Were there eight or ten this past year? My remembrance is that it was started first in '58 in something like four or six areas. Has the Minister any definite report on what happened?

(Mr. MR. HUTTON: The trouble of course with the previous winter was the heavy snowfall. It knocked the program very badly before they could get it underway. But I think it was agreed that this shouldn't be taken as an indication that there was anything wrong with the program. It was just that they happened to run into an exceptional winter.

MR. S. ROBERTS (LaVerendrye): Mr. Chairman, unfortunately while we adopt this wait and see attitude as to the effectiveness of various predator control programs--I think it's obvious by the remarks of the members of the committee and also by representations being made to the government--that predators are increasing in number each year. I don't suggest there is anything wrong with the program if it goes ahead, but the Mines and Natural Resources vote on predator control--the amount voted each year has not increased over the past four years. And I note under the item that we are now discussing in agriculture, No. 12, the predator control program has been decreased each year for the past four years, and I think that while we are adopting this wait and see attitude that the number of predators in the province appear to be on the increase. The damage reports have been coming in more frequently; the reports of damage by wolves to livestock appear to be getting more serious; and damage to crops by various predators appears to be getting more serious. I can't see that each year debating this subject and coming up with the same answers saying that we must wait to see how our program is going to work out is going to solve the situation for anyone. I think that the Provincial Government has got to take the attitude that they are going to have to lead the way in this field of predator control. They can't let the municipalities just accept it if they please and do otherwise if they please, because it ends up, as we all know, with some municipalities carrying out a reasonably good program whereas others suffer. And those who want to carry out a reasonably good bounty program suffer doubly because they end up paying bounty on all the predators that are trapped or caught in other municipalities as well.

The Manitoba Farmers Union this year, as the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition has suggested, passed a resolution which I think is quite to the point, and it has no doubt been presented to the government, but I think it's very short, and I should read it on the record: "Livestock and poultry producers are reporting increased damages and losses from predatory animals in various areas of the province. These farmers believe the campaign to control predators by hiring trained personnel for that purposes has not succeeded, and the former arrangement where municipalities paid the bounty was unfair and almost unworkable, because adjoining municipalities would not participate in the program. We therefore request that bounty payments on predators be reinstated in all areas of the province",--I think they definitely means all areas of the province--"and that such payments be maintained throughout the year under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government". And I think that until such time as the Provincial Government is prepared to accept the responsibility of this particular field of predator control and one department or the other actually accepts the responsibility or providing the bounties or the bombs or whatever plan they intend to use, and show leadership in it, until that time, there's going to be a continual increase in the number of predators. I think this is simple enough logic and I'm objecting to the wait and see attitude that we apparently have at the present without either the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Mines and Natural Resources taking a step forward and providing the leadership required for the control of these predators.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, there's just one thing I'd like to point out. Since 1956, the government expenditure on predators has increased from \$19,000 to \$25,000, to \$28,000 to 30-odd thousand, so that the expenditure is not decreasing--it's increasing, and I don't think that there is any question of a wait and see attitude here at all. The fact is that we have a development in the control of predators. Let us say a scientific approach if you want to use that term, but a different approach. Now it has been used with success in other areas, and we feel at the present time that it might be much, and quite possibly is much more effective, to get the participation of the municipalities in this program rather than in the bounty type of program or control. And since the policy has only gotten under way, I think it's a little premature to pre-judge it at this stage. It may be that as the policy gets more publicity, and now that it is available to the local government districts as well as the municipalities, I think that in another year there's good reason to believe that we may have a great deal more participation on the part of the municipalities and the local government districts than we have in this current year.

MR. WAGNER: I heard the Honourable Minister say that poisoning of the fox and coyotes--

(Mr. Wagner, cont'd.) . . it wouldn't be very feasible to carry on the poisoning program amongst the farmers and that's where the most coyotes and fox is, is amongst the farmers, close to his chicken coop in summer and in winter also. Therefore, I would suggest that the bounty should be re-established due to the fact that we have quite a few fellows out in the country that they made these homemade snowplanes, and they got a great kick out of chasing around the coyotes and the fox on the prairie and they kill them, but they don't want to chase on their own. If there would be a bounty paid for them, it would pay at least for their gas and shells. Now in particular--my area in that part of the corner we have two Reserves and the people from the Reserves they would be just too happy to go out and shoot these things and catch them the way they can, but due to the fact that there is no reimbursement on their fuel and on their shells, so therefore the coyotes and foxes are tremendous, particularly in that area. I know the farmers have to keep their chickens in and turkeys because they just come out into the yard and snatch it away. And I will recall a few years ago when there was a bounty on foxes and coyotes, and even the people as far as 20 miles they come from the Reserve with shovels, and they came to my place and they were going to dig any place as soon as I would show them a hole or anything. If it would be a groundhog, they thought it was a fox there and they would hoe. Generally there would be a control if the bounty would be re-established. I don't want to discuss the timber wolves in this item because it doesn't belong here.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, do the Indians have sufficient knowledge of English to know their boundaries? People talking about the boundaries, do they know sufficiently where the boundaries are?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I understood the Minister to say that he thought the expenditures or the estimates had been increased for this work in the last few years. I can't agree with him on that because I have the estimates for the year ending '59 in front of me--there's \$35,000 estimated there to be spent on predator control by itself. Now when we came to the estimates for the year that we are now in, this grouping had taken place that made it difficult to find out exactly what the amount was, and I tried to find out from the then-Minister, but he wasn't too sure, but he thought that about \$30,000 was the amount, which would be a reduction of \$5,000 from the year before; and then again, the Minister today has not been able to break it down exactly between these two items, but there is only \$44,000 for both, so I would think that it is certainly not an increase. If he knew how much is suggested for grasshopper control we would know--

MR. HUTTON: About \$10,000, I believe.

MR. CAMPBELL: Pardon?

MR. HUTTON: I think for grasshopper control it was in the neighbourhood of \$10,000.

MR. CAMPBELL: If grasshopper is \$10,000, then the estimates for the other is \$34,000, and that would be getting back within a thousand dollars of what it was in '59.

MR. JOHN P. TANCHAK (Emerson): Mr. Chairman, I wish to add my few words to this. I touched on this subject before, and although I am one of those that do not believe in complete annihilation of any species of natural resources or any animal at all, it seems to me that the poison bait would have a tendency to completely annihilate a certain animal while the bounty system would not do it. We have had several examples where poison bait was used in the west and the coyotes and foxes were completely annihilated, and as the Honourable Minister mentioned before, there is a danger of field mice taking over and that's exactly what happened. It seems to me that the bounty system would work better. Now I would like the Honourable Minister to tell me which method is the cheaper and maybe we should try that. There's another reason, raised by the honourable member to my left here from Fisher, that in certain areas there are quite a few Indians who in the spring of the year always supplemented their meagre earnings by going hunting for these wolves, and I do not think we should deprive them of this small income because they really need it.

Now I think that is just about all I wanted to ask. I would like to know which method is more costly. But there's just one more--I know in the municipality of Franklin, the council there seemed to be afraid of this poison bait and the people--the farmers, as I mentioned before, they think that they may lose some of their animals through the poison bait, so some municipalities do not wish to take advantage of it. There's just one more question I would like to

(Mr. Tanchak, cont'd.) . . . raise. It seems to me that east of the municipality of Franklin the fox is not considered a predator, and certainly the fox, east of that municipality, is a predator at the present time. It raises havoc with especially poultry and other game birds. The eastern part of my constituency used to be considered one of the best hunting grounds for the prairie chicken but now you can travel up and down and you can hardly ever see a prairie chicken or a partridge, and I think it's between the skunks, the foxes, and the coyotes who have destroyed the nesting places and destroyed the eggs and so on. I would like the government to seriously consider the bounty system. I myself, although I'm not criticizing the poison bait, I know it's quite effective in some areas, but I'd prefer the bounty system to help some of these Indian friends. I don't think we'll completely annihilate animals by the bounty system which I wouldn't like to see done, because I still love the coyotes--to see one once in a while and the fox.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, it might be interesting to note that there are 35 municipalities in the province which have proclaimed the fox and bear not to be predators.

As far as the cost of the program, I think you could only evaluate the costs in the light of the efficiency of the two programs and I'm not in a position to state which would cost not only the government but the municipality, because the municipality has to pay half of the program. I wouldn't want to offer any suggestion with my meagre knowledge of the efficiency of the two as to which would pay the best. But on the question of as to where this should be best used, I understand that in order to use the poison bait program efficiently, it must be in an area that is accessible. It takes supervision. And I questioned, as the Honourable Member for Emerson, the putting out a poison as deadly as what they were using, but in those municipalities that have undertaken it, they don't consider it to be too much of a hazard. There is one bait used in every township and in order for the municipality to qualify there must be as I understand it, five bait stations, and I can only go by the information that's at my disposal and that information indicates that the program is quite acceptable. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to comment on the fact that the fox has gotten the best of the prairie chickens. I would suggest, as a layman, that the weather conditions have a great deal more to do with the increase or decrease of the game bird population than predators, and I think there is a story back in the old primary school--amongst the primary school readers, that proves that the chicken can get the best of the fox at times.

MR. SHOEMAKER: The Honourable the Minister has told us a little bit about the poisoned bait program. I wonder if he has had any complaints from the bird watchers or bird lovers of the province suggesting that this program has reduced the number of birds. Now I happened to remark to a fellow the other day that I hadn't seen a chickadee this winter and I haven't up to this time. Now--and I've been around a bit too. And he immediately said, "well," he said, "you know why that is, don't you?" And I said, "no". He said, "It's the poisoned bait that they're putting out". Well I don't know whether it is or whether it isn't, and I'm just wondering whether it has reduced the number of woodpeckers and chickadees and the like. That's point number one. Point number two, Mr. Chairman: in view of the answer that the Honourable Minister gave us a few moments ago, relative to the damage to crops by deer and elk, I think that the Press should put out another notice killing this one because on Saturday, February 17th--here's a clipping from The Free Press headed "Deer and Elk Damage Qualifies". I don't know how many farmers saw it but I saw it in the paper and it certainly is a little misleading. I'm afraid that the Honourable the Minister will be receiving a lot of applications for assistance or payment for their crops in view of the statement that came out here. I don't know whether the Honourable the Minister has read it or not, but I'll just read one paragraph--one paragraph.

SOME MEMBERS: Read it all. Read it all.

MR. SHOEMAKER: "Deer and Elk Damage Qualifies", that's the heading of it. "Agricultural Minister Honourable George Hutton told the Legislature Friday that farmers who had suffered crop loss due to precipitation in October or through trampling by wild animals over the winter months, could qualify for assistance under the province's emergency measure announced last December". Now that is just enough to have a lot of farmers writing in to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and saying, "well listen; I had half my crop trampled into the ground by the deer, and I want some money". So I would suggest that a little larger notice go in the papers saying that it just isn't so.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, in the test areas where the crop insurance plan is being tested now, in those particular areas, if the farmers suffer loss of crop because of ducks

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) .. or deer would he qualify under the crop insurance plan for benefits like he would for rust or hail or anything else?

MR. HUTTON: I imagine if the crop insurance agency waited--

MR. GUTTORMSON: Pardon?

MR. HUTTON: I imagine if the crop insurance agency waited to determine whether the farmer had lost his crop until the point where the deer had it all eaten up, we'd have to leave the province.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, before we leave this item, I gather that we'll be doing so fairly soon, I wanted to ask the Minister if he has anything to report with regard to the grasshopper situation. I presume that he has already answered that question to some degree by saying that he thinks the part of this appropriation devoted to grasshopper control will be only approximately \$10,000. That seems to indicate not a very big infestation. Could the Minister tell us how much was spent during the year that is just closing now? And what the prospects are for the coming year? And where they think the infestation will occur?

MR. HUTTON: There was very little spent in the year '59; the fiscal year '59-'60 to the end of January, only \$1,171.73 was spent in grasshopper, and my information is that the indications are for a lighter infestation in the coming year than for 1959 and

MR. CAMPBELL: That's good.

MR. HUTTON: it's entirely confined--whatever infestation is contemplated is looked for on the light soil areas.

MR. M. N. HRYHORCZUK, Q. C. (Ethelbert Plains): Mr. Chairman, if I may just make a few remarks on this item before we pass it. This particular question of predator control has come up in this House in the ten years I've been here and had no doubt come in for many, many years before. There's not only Manitoba that finds itself in these difficulties. I guess wherever you find a farming community, you find these same problems. We had the bounty system for a long time and it didn't prove too satisfactory and went into what is now known as expert hunters and poison bait and so forth. I for one, Mr. Chairman, do not agree that we should entirely eradicate the predator because he has his good points too and he's got his usefulness, and when you take what the Honourable Member from Emerson mentioned a moment ago, what happened in Alberta where they put on a concentrated drive in eradicating the coyote? What happened there was it wasn't long before they were in another type of a pestilence and that was rodent damage. It's pretty hard to say whether the farmer suffers more from rodents--that's gophers and mice--than he does from what we call a predator under this Act or under these estimates. It would appear that neither one of the programs have proven satisfactory, nor a combination of them because we've had it all. I'm just wondering, Mr. Chairman, whether we're being systematic in our approach to this problem; whether it couldn't be possible to put in more men employed by the Province of Manitoba to do this work with some objective in mind, not in a sort of helter-skelter manner in which we've had it. I think we've had pretty good success in the Department of Mines and Natural Resources with these expert hunters and couldn't we extend that program a little further and bring it into this department? The difficulties apply in all municipalities. I'm quite sure that if the predator was out of control in most of the provinces, we'd have the municipalities back into it; but the fact there are only a few come back, and then some of them have been forced into it, because of the neighbours having come back into the bounty control; whether it wouldn't be best for us to try a less expensive approach. If I understood the Honourable Minister correctly, he said there were \$60,000 spent last year in bounties. Well \$60,000 would employ a large number of expert trappers and hunters and if these trappers and hunters were only used in the areas that need that type of control, I think we might get into what could develop into a systematic control, not wipe out the predator altogether, but keep his numbers down to where he is not harmful to the farming community and still leave sufficient numbers there to give them the protection from the rodents that he sure requires. Because if we were to eradicate the predator entirely, then I'm afraid we'd find ourselves in the position where we'd spend considerably more money trying to fight something that would be much harder to fight and that's the mice and the gopher and all these other rodents. So I'd suggest to the Honourable Minister to have his staff or those members of his staff who have given this some thought, to see whether you couldn't work out a system of that nature. I might also mention that some of these predators are scavengers and as far as our wild life is

(Mr. Hryhorczuk, cont'd.) .. concerned, these scavengers are important to keep the herds of wild life healthy, and without this scavenging, I think we'd be losing a lot of game that we wouldn't otherwise lose.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b) passed.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, on this matter of the possibility of the poisoned bait reducing the wild birds in numbers--is it the opinion of the Honourable the Minister that there is anything to this argument that it could reduce the number of birds?

MR. HUTTON: Well, all things are possible and I'm not going to deny that it's a possibility, but I haven't had any complaints--official complaints or representations made to me on this point. There are some birds that are scavengers as well and they can--whether the chickadee is I don't know--but I doubt if there's enough poison bait out in the province today to eliminate the chickadee.

MR. J. D. WATT (Arthur): Mr. Chairman, something practical in here. I have some knowledge of poison bait. In Pipestone municipality last year--that is from about the middle of January 'till the first of March--we were a test area. The poison was so effective that we decided to discontinue it for this year. We felt as some of the other members have mentioned here today, that there was a possibility that we might bring on ourselves a greater scourge than the wolf scourge in Manitoba, that is rabbits and gophers and mice and what have you. We feel, in Pipestone municipality, that it is a cheaper method of keeping down the wolf population but that it can be overdone and we felt that if we used poison bait, probably once in three years, that that might be sufficient to hold the population of the wolf where it should be. In answer to the question of the member from Gladstone; I believe we watched very carefully what effect it might have on the bird population. I had two poisoned baits in my ward. We didn't find one dead bird during that two months. We had hoped that we might clean out probably some foxes; we never found one dead fox. But in that township, we found 57 dead wolves and we figured that there was a possibility that for every one that we found that there might be five other dead, which is a lot of wolves for an area that size. I thought I'd just throw that in, Mr. Chairman, that as far as the bird population--magpies had a harvest all winter. They ate the poison and they ate the meat and they still lived.

MR. J. M. FROESE (Rhineland): Since we are discussing grasshoppers as well and other insects, down in the southern part of the province we are growing a crop that is probably not as prevalent in the north, and I'm referring to sunflowers now, and the production of sunflowers has varied from year to year. We've had diseases; we've had rust and we have also had blackbirds that have done considerable damage to the sunflower crop. I was wondering whether the department had gone into this matter; whether they were advising farmers as to what to do and what they could do in the matter of avoiding damage to sunflowers by blackbirds.

MR. HUTTON: Well this question of blackbird damage has been brought up and it's not being dealt with by my department directly. But rather the Department of Mines and Natural Resources is looking into the question of control of damage by blackbirds and at the present time there is some consideration being given to experimenting with late-sown fields of oats, which would be available as feed to the birds, and I might say which they find very attractive in the milk stage, which, if sown in the proximity of their habitat, will draw them off from the valuable field crops and beyond this I wouldn't want to state. I think it's a question that you could very well take up with the Minister of Mines and Resources when you consider his estimates.

MR. FROESE: there is no--pardon me--there is no information passed on to the ag reps as to advising farmers on this matter?

MR. HUTTON: Not as yet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Control of grasshopper control, passed. \$25,000, passed.

.....(continued next page.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. 50. Water Control and Conservation (a).

MR. T. P. HILLHOUSE, Q.C. (Selkirk): Mr. Chairman, I have kept my mouth shut today and in doing so I feel very much like the third of the three cross-eyed prisoners to appear before the cross-eyed judge. The judge looked at the first prisoner, "he said what's your name," the second prisoner said "Smith," he said, "you speak when you're spoken to," the third prisoner said, "I never opened my mouth." So the only reason why I've got up Mr. Chairman (Interjection) is to deal with the amendment which went through to Section 6 of the Water Rights Act at the summer session in 1959. Section 6 of the Water Rights Act was then amended by adding a sub-paragraph 2A which in effect read, "no person shall (a) divert or impound any surface water not flowing in a natural channel or to contain in a natural bed." In other words no person shall divert or impound surface water, that's really what it means. Or (b) construct or cause to be constructed any works for the diversion or impounding of water to which Clause (a) applies. Or (c) alter the levels, grades or surface of his land in such a way as to do anything to which reference is made in Clause (a) without having first obtained from the Minister written authority so to do.

Now -- I'm just looking to see if the Attorney-General is there -- I think it's well settled that before the passing of this amendment to the Section 6 of the Water Rights Act that it was unlawful for any person to interfere with any running stream or any natural water source, but there was no such prohibition against interfering with the surface water course. And I don't know whether this amendment was intended to place the surface water course in the same legal position as the natural water course, but a situation has developed in my constituency and it may, if we have a big run-off this spring, it may push itself over to the Minister's constituency, wherein a man built a dyke on a surface water course and last fall, owing to the heavy rains that prevailed this dyke held up the water from going into a municipal drainage ditch and backed up on the lands of his neighbor. I wrote the director asking the province to take action under this section and in doing so I pointed out to the director that in my opinion such action could only be taken if this section constituted -- at least if this section implied that it was a continuing offense. In other words the dyke that the man had constructed had been constructed to him before this section became law, because this section only became law when it was proclaimed on September 15th, 1959. So far as his dyke was concerned I couldn't see how you could prosecute him for having done something which he could legally do prior to the 15th of September, 1959. But then, the impounding part, "no person shall divert or impound any surface water." Now the impounding took place after September 15th, 1959, and I submitted to the director that inasmuch as that was the case that section could be construed as dealing with continuing offenses. Now the director referred the matter to the Attorney-General for an opinion and so far no opinion has been obtained. Now at the time I made the request water was being impounded in that dyke that this man had constructed, and no doubt during the winter months it's gone into the ground or it's all frozen up but I'm quite satisfied that it is going to impound water again this spring. I would certainly appreciate it, and I know the owners of the adjoining land would appreciate it, if the Minister would do something towards correcting this situation just as soon as the spring run-off starts.

Now there is another point that I'd like to raise and that is this. I don't know what the intention was at the time that this section was amended. My own idea -- because I had spoken to the director sometime before this amendment had come in -- I had spoken to the director suggesting that in my opinion at least there should be no distinction in Manitoba made between a natural water course and a surface water course because surface water courses in Manitoba served a very, very useful purpose, and that no person should be allowed to dam or obstruct them in such a way that they would do damage to the lands of adjoining owners. Now it's perfectly true that a municipality has power under the Municipal Act to perhaps control that situation, but my experience has been that in most instances it only affects the land say in a section and isn't so widespread in its application as to warrant a municipality going to the expense of seeking either one of the two remedies that is given them. One remedy is that the municipality can define the water course, can offer the owner of the land compensation, and then can apply to the courts to determine the adequacy of the compensation offered, and once the courts determine if the compensation is adequate the plan can be registered and it is then in the same position as if it were a drain. Or the municipality perhaps could go ahead and

(Mr. Hillhouse, cont'd.)... openly establish a drain, but as I have said in a great number of instances it only affects perhaps one section of land and it doesn't pay a municipality to use the money of the municipality as a whole to benefit say one section in the whole area.

So for that reason Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Minister will take this section under advisement with his director and with the Attorney-General with a view to clarifying the law in that particular aspect. And if it was the intention of the Department when this amendment was made to place a surface water course in the same legal position as a natural water course, I hope that if it's necessary to make that clearer, that the necessary amendment to the Act will be brought down this session, because it is a real problem in rural Manitoba and I think it's a problem that's got to be solved and it's got to be solved soon.

MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman, I also want to reassure the Minister that I'm not going to speak when we finish this page again on the Attorney-General. I want to bring in to the attention of the Minister about culverts and some drainages and I am sure that he is not aware of it since he has took office not too long ago. I believe it was brought to his attention what is happening under the local government districts as far as the culverts are concerned, and I hope that he will give close scrutiny and possibly we can alleviate some discrepancy and some hardships on the people. I just want to bring it to the attention where a school is situated on the market road or a church or a cemetery or a public hall, they automatically get a culvert for their driveway, or if it's on the highway. But if it's on the sideroad or if it's just only a little stretch from the market road that it's not feasible to put the culvert from the market road, to build a driveway from the market road but just from the other side of the corner, the school has to buy that particular culvert or pay \$100.00 towards it. So I would bring to the Minister's attention that possibly he would be kind enough to bring in a policy or an Act that if these people on the highway, on the market roads, they get it automatically, why these people that are on the sideroads they also have hard time building these halls, these cemetery grounds and churches and schools, they are penalized and they have to buy the same culverts. Now I want to stress one item as far as drainage is concerned. When there is a drainage going through one's farm, the farmer signs a right-of-way and there in the agreement it reads that it has to be sold to the government for \$1.00 to surpass the agreement. But if the farmer does not make a demand for a crossing, for a culvert to cross one part of his land to the other he does not get it, and once the ditch is dug the farmer then has to put up \$100.00 to get that crossing which his neighbor -- I'm going to use that words -- was more informed, smarter, he said "No, I'm not going to sign the right-of-way unless you will give me that crossing," and he gets that crossing for nothing. That causes commotion, that causes friction amongst the farmers -- they say that fellow get it, I didn't -- why? And that's the argument. If we would have a blanket, once it comes through the farmer's farm -- a ditch, he signs his right-of-way, automatically we give him a crossing to cross to the other side of his land.

Another item I have in mind, that's where the right-of-way is given or sold. There has been done in the past, and I believe it's still on, that one farmer is going to sign a right-of-way, free of charge or for that dollar only to close the sale, and the other farmer is going to be hard and he is going to get paid a thousand or sixteen hundred dollars whatever he may choose to argue with the department. Now I may be wrong on these things but I would hope that we would have come kind of a blanket policy. If we are going to pay to one farmer we are going to pay to all farmers, and if we are not going to pay for one we are not paying for all. And possibly it could be developed under the regional basis. Naturally I understand that its qualification of the land, that region has a better soil and so on and so forth, but possibly it could be established, either everybody gets paid or nobody gets paid. Now as far as drainages are concerned, I don't need to dwell on them because just last Friday I presented a memo to the Minister personally what has been going through, what requests and petitions and whatnot, I don't need to elaborate. But here I have a letter, and I have a lot of letters, and no doubt the Minister if he had time to check those he knows what correspondence I get. But here is one determined farmer that he is really disturbed and I just want to read it to you for the information and I won't be long. It reads, in December 28th, 1958 and it's addressed to me, "Dear Sir: In the past 14 years we lost twelve trucks and there is no reason for us to suffer all those losses. When the Liberals were in power there was five petitions made for this drainage and no one ever came over to look at this matter, and whether we got a crop or not we have to pay taxes

(Mr. Wagner, cont'd.).... just the same and we have no help from the government. In the last six years I have seeded once and when I bought this land I was promised to get a drainage in the near future and that was in 1939. And this was all bush at that time and now it's all open and I cannot even make my living on it. Why? Because we're not drained out, and we can't live on promises, and these promises were not kept. And this drainage will do a lot of good on these 13 quarters, so I am leaving this matter in the hands of Peter Wagner to handle this case for me which he already came over, looked over this drainage, he was the first MLA, " -- well that's a pat on the back -- "that ever came to look up this matter. There is only one quarter of a mile drainage to be done west of 14, township 24, range 1 west. Yours truly, Lawrence Gauthier." And he is east of Fisher Branch.

Well now Mr. Chairman, these people have been hoping and petitioning according to this letter, and one time I was in town and a particular farmer, I don't know, he felt pretty disturbed and he said, "now look, something should be done. I want you to go and take a look." So naturally to satisfy the group I went for my own information and I looked the situation over. I brought it up to the Water Control Department, the Water Control Department sent out an engineer and he investigated the area and I discussed the matter and it's still in investigation processes. And now I believe the Department is not too well satisfied with the first investigation, they are going to go out -- I hope they go out next spring. But I just want to bring the attention to the Honourable Minister which possibly he is not aware of such things, that these farmers are going through the hardships. And here he says himself in the letter that he has been promised this drainage -- well I don't know by who -- but anyhow he says when he was buying this land he was promised, and the group, that they were going to get this drainage through. So I hope the Minister will take it under consideration and try to alleviate that situation.

MR. A. E. CORBETT (Swan River): May I ask a question? Did you say that the owner required a quarter of a mile drainage to remedy this situation?

MR. WAGNER: What did he say? 13 quarters benefit. The drainage to be done in that is west of 14, Township 24, Range 1 west. You see that's a mile, I think. It's a mile.

MR. CORBETT: Oh, a mile. He lost 12 crops out of --- I thought you said for a quarter of a mile. I thought maybe.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: (a) 1. (b)

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, on (a) 1, Salaries, I was wondering if the Minister is intending to make a statement because this is not only one of the really big appropriations that we pass -- a million and a half dollars -- but it's one in which there is a tremendous amount of interest at the present time. And I think it's possible that if the Minister preferred to make a statement that he might anticipate some of the questions that we would be asking. As far as I am concerned I certainly do want to ask about -- if the Minister would be prepared to tell us what capital is being brought in this year on these matters. I think that the Minister last year was very helpful to the Committee by telling us what capital was coming forward -- Well of course, the estimates themselves indicated the amount of the capital -- but the Minister gave us a rough breakdown of the capital expenditures. If the Minister could do that this year I think it would be very helpful again. Then if he could give us a breakdown of what, in fact, transpired under the capital appropriations of last year, that would be helpful too and might anticipate some of the questions. I'm sure we have a -- I have a good many questions to ask, and I think the Minister might cover some of them if he would give us a report.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, I don't intend to deal with capital at the present time. In the first place I don't think I could do it justice right now. But I think there are some questions, I dealt with them briefly the other day when I introduced the estimates. There are some questions that are going to arise in the minds of the members opposite -- especially if they compare the estimates this year with those of last July -- and I would point out to them, and I did, that the overall increase in bodies under Water Control and Conservation is eight. There were 71 positions appropriated for in July and now we are asking for 79. But what appears as planning division came out of Mines and Resources; and then to further complicate things a little some of these bodies from the planning division are moved up into administration. And then some of the duties and work of the planning division is -- or what was before under Mines and Natural Resources -- these duties and responsibilities have been transported down to the operations division. So it is confusing, it's confusing to me at this stage, and I can well

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) understand that you have difficulty in understanding just what has happened. But this juggling of the bodies in the Department has taken place in an effort to work out a sound and efficient unit. And so now you find them under administration, the planning division and the operations division, which is the group who are carrying out the work in the field.

There are possibly some other items that you would be interested in -- last year's estimates, or this last summer's estimates. You will notice that the two items in last summer's estimates of conservation districts and water supply districts are now not listed separately but these two items have been buried in operations division, (c) 1 and (c) 2, because they were very small items and there was no need to carry them separately. Another appropriation which has elicited some comment is the comparison of 410,000 for water control works in municipalities and so forth -- the comparison of this 410 with 440 as of the previous estimates. The reason for this reduction is that there were two projects that were carried under Mines & Resources as a current appropriation which have been transferred to capital, and they are the Summerberry Fur Block at The Pas and the Clandeboye Bay Project which is still under consideration and they represent a transfer of 27,500. So that accounts for the reduction in there.

Now, as I said, I'd rather not at this time discuss the capital expenditure because they will, as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition mentioned, call for quite a long discussion and I would rather deal with them at that time.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I was hoping that the Minister would find it possible to tell us what is proposed in capital. I think that was helpful last year but he says that he would prefer not to do that at the present moment and we'll have to accept that. I think though, Mr. Chairman, that we would be within our right in asking him to give a breakdown in reasonably detailed form of what happened to last year's capital -- because there was a pretty considerable amount, almost two and three quarter millions voted for capital last year-- and these are projects that practically every member of the House is simply vitally interested in. And just to refresh the Minister's memory I would say that the Minister last year gave a rough breakdown of that \$2,722,000 odd of capital as being in four main projects. Number one was agricultural research, and he gave the figure there as more than \$937,000. The second was soil erosion, water control and drainage projects, just over a million dollars. The third was Seine River, Lake Manitoba, Red River Flood protection, a half million dollars. And the fourth was the Lower Red River Valley Pipe Line, \$250,000. Now Mr. Chairman, if the Minister can give it now, I'd be very glad to have it, and if he can't I really would not be prepared to agree to these items being passed until we got the expenditure under those different items and some report on the progress made, because I think this is one of the most debatable questions that we have before the House this year. Certainly the soil erosion, the water control and drainage has been discussed already this year, to some extent. But as to just what has been accomplished under that million dollars odd that we voted last year, we would like to know. And then this work on the Seine River, and as far as I am concerned and some of my colleagues, the Lake Manitoba stabilization, namely the Fairford River control works, is tremendously important and we're very anxious to see it proceeded with. The Red River Flood protection, there has been some reference made to that already this year, but I would like to have more detail. Those three together were supposed to be \$500,000. I would like to have a breakdown of them.

Then the lower Red River Valley Pipeline, \$250,000. Here is something that we were told would be moving along pretty quickly, and I would like to find out just what has happened there. As a matter of fact, I think I should make some comment on what the Honourable the First Minister has said with regards to this. Back in the November session of 1958 the First Minister referred to this matter and said that the previous administration had passed an Act providing for the establishment of such organization as the Lower Red River Valley Water Commission and he had found that in progress when his government came into office. And he went on to say that, "we are making all the facilities of the government fully available to those people. I believe they are having a meeting very soon to discuss progress. If they have, perhaps it was last night, I am not sure, and one of our departmental representatives will be there. Here again is reasonable co-operation I think, between the government and the people concerned. We're not claiming any credit for having set up the Act that makes this possible because we weren't in power to do so. Our friends opposite must take credit for that"--which

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.)....is very kind and courteous of the First Minister. But he finished that statement with, "We merely say that we are getting on with the job in that respect in an effective way." Well now, I'd like to know what getting on with the job in an effective way means there because I don't know what has been done. We voted money for it last year and I'd like to find out what was done. And so I would like to ask for a report from the Minister on each one of these particular items.

We were told that in agriculture research there would be more than \$900, 000 spent --a pretty sizeable item. On soil erosion and water control there was to be something like \$300,000 available. On drainage projects, there must have been a lot of money left available for that, because the total for those three was a million dollars odd, so that there would be pretty near three-quarters of a million left for that. I would like to know what's been happening.

And then of course on the Seine River, we were told the work that was going to be done there, something like five and a half miles I believe in '59 and control structures at the Red River. But perhaps the one I personally am as much interested in as any is the Lake Manitoba, better known as the Fairford Control Works. These were not itemized, they were grouped together, but there was an amount of a half a million dollars between the three, Seine River, Lake Manitoba and the Red River Flood Protection. There again I would like to draw the committee's attention to what the First Minister said away back in November of 1958, because the First Minister made it very plain that at that time, that they were moving quickly with regard to this Lake Winnipeg and Manitoba report; that they had proceeded immediately to get a cost-benefit survey in motion; that it would be reporting soon and that they were expecting federal financial assistance. As a matter of fact in November of '58 the First Minister said that the cost-benefit study will be ready very shortly indeed and later on he reported to the House, I guess it would be the March sitting that they had the report and it had confirmed their previous opinions.

But, this is more than a year ago, Mr. Chairman, and the First Minister said, I merely bring this up after telling how they had been three times -- they had warned the Federal Government that they were going to be asked to assist financially on this matter. "I want to say," I am quoting from the First Minister, "I want to say to the House that while I cannot give a firm statement as to when we will commence work-- because we need to negotiate with Ottawa, because I have warned them three times we expect them to help us pay for it -- I want to say that from the information available at the present we consider that dam to be a splendid thing. It is our intention to proceed with it one way or another." Another kind of a "We'll go it alone if necessary" statement. The the First Minister continues, "So I serve notice on the House Sir, that they will sometime in the near future be called upon to provide funds for the Fairford Dam." Well the First Minister was as good as his word there because last year we were asked to provide no specific amount, but for the three of them \$500,000. Then I continue with the First Minister's statement, "Whether we will have to pay for all of it ourselves or not remains to be seen. I have been given what I feel to be reasonable assurances that the Dominion Government will share that cost with us, but they will not commence negotiations until a proper cost-benefit study has been prepared." That will be ready very shortly indeed." I merely bring this up because I want the House to know that to the limit of our ability we have been taking prompt action on these problems. I don't blame members opposite if they bring in resolutions on matters like that. It's their duty to do so; it certainly elucidates the matter and places the subject before the public. But I merely want to say that we, in this as in the other resolutions that have been before the House, some of which I shall perhaps refer to by way of en passant as they say in French, as I speak, they will find that we have not been inactive in these matters."

Well now, that was a year ago November, and that sounded very good because it meant a lot of action. And then later on at the next meeting of the House we were told that the survey had been completed, the cost-benefit survey that had borne out the previous impression, and we voted a considerable amount of money in the July session. So Mr. Chairman, could we have a definite report on just what has been spent from that amount of money, the half million dollars that was voted, how much of it for each of the three projects mentioned?

Then I would like to get the figures as to what has been spent up to date on the Floodway. I know that it was discussed to some extent in the House since we met this time, and I wanted to

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) ask also if the formula for the contribution to the water supply areas and water-shed areas had yet been worked out. The Minister indicated last year that they were working at these but that they were not ready to be announced at that time.

Then there is the question of the \$250,000 voted to the Pembina Triangle, lower Red River Valley. I'd like to know also what has been done with regard the Holland Dam because the First Minister indicated that there would be some announcement perhaps could be made there in reasonably good time.

And then so far as the estimates themselves are concerned, apart from the capital I would be interested in knowing what the expenditures were under item (4) of (c) last year. That is 15, (c) (4), an amount of \$410,000 which was Grants for Water Control Works to Municipalities, Disorganized Municipalities and Unorganized Territories -- \$410,000.

Then one other matter that I have been very interested in Mr. Chairman, the fact that-- the Minister at the time that these estimates were before us last year stated quite definitely that individuals could receive financial assistance under these votes-- under this program. I'd like to know if any individuals have received financial assistance and for what type of project those were given.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I realize that there are several questions involved there. The Minister may not have taken them all down but as we proceed with these I'd be willing to indicate once again the different ones so that we might get full information on them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We're now on the (a) Administration.

MR. HUTTON: Well in the first place I should thank the Honourable Leader of the Opposition for giving me notice of all the information that he wants, and when we are considering the capital expenditures in regard to these programs I am sure at that time that he will have the opportunity to compare what we intend to spend in the way of capital in the coming year with what was spent in the past year. But I have no intention of discussing the capital expenditures at this time. The current program is under consideration and I think it would be much better to leave the capital until such time as the capital expenditures are being considered. But as I say I appreciate very much the detailed manner in which he set out the information that he wants and I will do my best to see that he gets it.

I haven't the figure at hand, but I think I am not far out in saying that due to the very early fall, the very early snowfall -- freezeup, that approximately \$300,000 was expended under the (c) (4) appropriation. As I pointed out there is no reduction whatsoever in the monies appropriated for 1960-61 in this type of work. As you will see there is a slight increase in the appropriation for grants to drainage maintenance districts. I think that answers those questions which I wish to answer at this time and I beg the indulgence of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to await the other information that he requested. I'll be most happy to get it for him.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I accepted, I hope with good grace, but certainly I accepted the Minister's statement that he did not feel in a position to bring down the -- or to inform the committee what the capital requirements would be this year. I can understand that he perhaps would prefer not to do that at the moment and I quite accept that statement. Last year it was done and I think it was helpful that we had the capital before us at the time that we were discussing the current estimates. And if the Minister prefers not to do it that way it's quite okay with me. But I certainly do not agree that he can refuse to discuss last year's capital, because last year's capital was voted by the House in order to do certain projects, and I think when we are discussing this present program that we have every right in the world, Mr. Chairman, to receive information on what was done with the money we voted on last year's capital estimates. Now surely that has a bearing on what we are being asked to do this year. We voted a great deal of money, some of it current, and he has replied with regard to the biggest single item of the current. I accept his statement on that particular item, but we want to know how these works are proceeding on the last year's capital project as well. So, Mr. Chairman, I must say that I do not agree with the Minister's position in that regard. If he wants to simply take some time to get the answers to these questions, I want to be fair about that, but I certainly am not prepared to accept his answer that these will have to wait until this year's capital comes in. These works are before us now.

MR. HUTTON:for monies that were spent in 1959-60?

MR. CAMPBELL: I'd be very glad to know, to have a report on the various projects

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) that were put before us last year at the time when both the current and the capital estimates were being discussed, and we passed both those current estimates and the capital estimates, and we were told by the then Minister that this amount of money, both current and capital, was needed in order to perform certain works. I haven't given them all, by any means all, but I've given ones that are of particular interest to me and I'd like to get the work that was done under those different items. For instance, I don't remember very much discussion -- there may have been, but I don't remember the discussion on the agricultural research, a sizeable sum -- nine hundred thousand dollars odd. I'd like to find out just what was done under that. The soil erosion, water control and drainage projects were more than a million dollars. I'd like to get the list of what was done. The Seine River, the Lake Manitoba and Red River Flood protection were half million dollars; and the lower Red River Valley Pipeline \$250,000 was a challenging item especially in view of the Honourable the First Minister's statement of what was going to be done. Now on all of those I think we're entitled to now, when we're considering this year's estimates, have a statement of what has been accomplished up to date. I'm not interested in every last detail but I would like to know the progress of the work on these various projects.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I'm rather reluctant to interfere in any way in this discussion between my honourable friend and the Minister of Agriculture but I do think that there is a consideration here which should be looked at, and that is where we should have these discussions on Capital items. Now I think that last year the items that my honourable friend has been referring to were brought in by way of the Capital Supply Bill, and in order to have that Capital Supply Bill, they came in before the usual committee such as this committee, and some account was given then of the projects for which this money is required. Now it seems to me that it would be entirely logical that we should have any further reports that the committee requires when the same items will be up before us again in Capital Supply. If we have them now we run into the danger that we run into before of having two debates on the same subject. I really haven't been very encouraged by members opposite in my suggestion that we should avoid this double debate but it looks to me as if we are running into the same kind of thing again here, and that we'll have the debate on the current items and then we'll have it all over again on the capital, and while I feel that the Minister will be glad to provide this information to the committee it seems to me there is some reason in his proposal that we should have that debate on the capital item and not on the current. I don't think it's a subject on which he should be pressed to give that information now. I think there's a good argument for doing it on the capital when we have all the aspects of the capital projects of the government before us. And I put that before the committee because I would be reluctant to think that we were necessarily going to debate the capital budget with the current when the capital is not before us and when the proper place to debate is, in my opinion, and perhaps to debate the previous year's capital supply would be at the time the committee considers capital in toto. So I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that he might consider whether his requirements might not be met by having the discussion in as much detail as can be provided on the capital items.

MR. EDMOND PREFONTAINE (Carillon): Mr. Chairman, I was very much interested in the progress report with respect to the Seine River. In my speech on the debate on the Speech from the Throne I mentioned what seemed to me a lack of progress. I think I was told at that time that this would be debated when we came to the matter on the estimates. I think this would be the proper item to discuss it and I certainly would like to have from the Minister a progress report on the Seine River.

MR. ROBLIN: You'll have it too.

MR. CAMPBELL: Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't know the reason -- my honourable friend would have to give us a reason -- as to why the Capital items, Capital totals, were given in our estimates of last year -- the year that is just finishing now. We had right down at the last page the Agriculture and Conservation Department Estimates -- here is the capital, expenditures, buildings and other projects to be authorized by Capital Supply Bill \$2,721,995. Now why the Honourable the Provincial Treasurer decided to set our estimates up that way, I don't know but we were quite agreeable to having them in that form, and when we reached this state in the discussion the Minister was also quite willing to give us the details, in very broad outline, of what was contained in that two million almost three-quarter dollars. And so I could

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) ... understand, could have understood it if the total had not been given on the estimates page, because it was given we were in a position at that time to ask about it and the Minister very kindly agreed to give us a broad outline. Now -- (Interjection) -- Yes, and in general one that I have more confidence in than the former one. I say that quite frankly. But in this particular case the former Minister set a standard that I hope that the present one will live up to, because even if the Capital Supply had not come in until much later and no details had been given regarding it, it would still be before us now and we would be quite entitled to ask the question: What has been done with regard to our Capital Supply voted last year? And Mr. Chairman, I can quote an excellent authority in this regard because on November 7th, 1958, the Honourable the First Minister didn't wait for the Capital Supply to come down. He made this statement that I've been referring to on the motion to go into the Committee of Ways and Means. He was making a very great statement about the whole program of the government and the Holland Dam, the Fairford Dam, the lower Red River Valley and all of these, and many other things are included in here. And I think, Mr. Chairman, that it's only fair that we should have the information as to what has been done up to date before we consider what is necessary for the next year that we're entering into. Now I don't see any objection to that, but if the Minister tells us that he simply hasn't those figures before him and isn't in a position to give them yet -- I'd still like to know what they are -- I suggest that the item stand until we have them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item (a) (1)

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, if it helps any I can run over some of the work that is done under Capital, but I suggest that it isn't in any way going to be satisfactory and I'm quite sure that when the Capital estimates are considered for my department that we're going to have to debate this thing again. In fact I would be somewhat disappointed following the past week if they were to go through without any debate, but I can run over some of the items that were under construction during the past year. Under drainage construction in '59-60 there was the 'U' drain in the Municipality of Lac du Bonnet; there was the Shannon Creek floodway in the Municipality of Morris; the Touround Creek extension in the Municipality of Hanover; the Norquay floodway outlet at Morris in the Municipality of Morris -- brushing on the Morris River; Elm Creek floodway -- earthwork; Crescent Lake project in Rockwood and the Bryson drain excavation and bridges in the Municipality of Grey. Under soil erosion there was work on the McCreary Experimental project; there was work on the Burnt Lake project in the interlake; and there was work on the Pine River headwater storage. Under the Seine River there were bridges completed on the westerly 1/3 of the project; there was an outlet drop structure partly completed; the first earthwork contract which was put under way in 1958 was completed in 1959; the second earthwork construction put under way in the fall of '59 but very little of course due to the wet fall, was done on this. In the case of the Lake Manitoba project and the Red River water supply, these two projects, the investigation and preliminary work are complete. As my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition knows there was some difficulty in making arrangements with the town of Niche for the pipeline and for the supply of water. I'm not going to go into that at this time, the difficulty was not one of misunderstanding or anything of that nature, it was just a question of the problems involved in dealing with a town across the border, and we feel that very satisfactory progress has been made and is being made in arriving at a solution. But at this time I say again that this work has been done and I will give and be very happy to give the details of the work that was carried out in 1959-60 on all these capital projects; but I am also adamant in saying that I will deal with them in detail when we consider the Capital Estimates -- expenditures for the coming year.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, I note that the Minister told us that the western six miles of the Seine River diversion were done in 1959. I think I would like to disagree with the Honourable Minister. I think these six miles were done in 1958 under a contract which had been let by the previous government -- not done in 1959 except for a few trimmings. (Mr. Hutton: ... completed in '59) The same contract was completed with a few trimmings, but the main job was certainly 99% done or just about in 1959. May I ask the Minister if there was another contract let, an excavating contract let for to carry on the extension, to extend the work in an easterly direction:

MR. HUTTON: I said there was a contract let in the fall of '59.

MR. PREFONTAINE: There was?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. PREFONTAINE: For how many miles and what was the amount?

MR. HUTTON: Very little was done.

MR. PREFONTAINE: What's the amount of the contract for how many miles?

MR. HUTTON: I haven't that available.

MR. SHOEMAKER: Mr. Chairman, I think perhaps that I should be entitled to say something in this department because I note in going through the journals that back in November 4th, 1958, I had a resolution on the order paper dealing with the Riding Mountain-Whitemud River Watershed and it's interesting to note too that that resolution was agreed to -- probably the only one that I will ever propose that will be agreed to -- but it was agreed to, and then that fact does too point up the fact that the former government had something to do with it. The honourable the member for -- I'm calling him the honourable -- I shouldn't call him the honourable but the -- yes I should too, I guess, the Honourable the Member for Swan River. He is an honourable gentleman. -- (Interjection) -- That's right, we're all honourable. He suggested that this government should get all the credit for the watershed and the water control conservation. I suggest that they shouldn't get all the credit as one of the honourable members pointed out because there was a bill introduced two or three years ago on this very subject. And then again, Mr. Chairman, it is a fact that the people in the Whitemud River watershed pioneered in this field and nobody will dispute that fact. On Thursday last I went down to the Publications Branch and asked them for all of the literature that was available on the watershed and the subject matter, and it's interesting to note that they only had two booklets in the whole branch regarding this subject and they both deal with the Riding Mountain-Whitemud Watershed. One of the books is called "The Whitemud Watershed" and the other one is "Your Watershed" but they're both referring to our watershed. Now I am a little bit disappointed, Mr. Chairman, to note that while item No. 15 does account for one-third of the total expenditures under Agriculture -- and it's a pretty good sized one -- it hasn't been increased actually over last year. It's true it has been increased by 73,000 but then in totalling the salary increases, they amount of 87,000 so that actually there hasn't been an increase. I know it's true, Mr. Chairman, that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has suggested that there will be further money in Capital Supply that isn't showing in this report, and we'll await that with interest, but my guess is that so far as a program in the Riding Mountain Whitemud Watershed area is concerned, my guess is that there will be nothing spent there in 1960 and that may be understandable. I guess that it is the only watershed that is actually organized to date. I think that's correct. I don't know whether they have been granted a license if that's the proper word to use, or whether they are authorized, I guess perhaps that's the term, to operate as yet. But Section 17 of Bill 8 -- and that is the bill that deals with the establishment of the water conservation districts, to conserve the water resources of the province -- Section 17 deals with the financial aspects of the bill, and it says "at its first meeting in each year and not later than the 14th of February, the Board of each district shall, subject to subsection 2 and to subsection 2 of Section 21, determine the amount that it will require in that year to carry on the affairs of the district including the operation and maintenance of all water control works under jurisdiction, authority of control of the Board, and the payment of all other expenses but not including the payment of interest and principle due in respect of borrowed money. Now since it is a fact that we're past that date already, this being nearly the end of February, and since it is a fact that our Board as such has not been set up, my guess is that there will be very little work carried on in the watershed this year. I would like to know though, Mr. Chairman, how much was spent by this government in the White mud Watershed in 1959?

Now when I talk about the Riding Mountain-Whitemud River Watershed I know that some members here will think that it is pretty small potatoes so to speak, but I would like to remind them once again that the area involved is one million, 635 thousand acres and nearly a twelfth of all the farm in Manitoba, so that it is of vital concern to the 13 or 14 municipalities that are in the watersheds. The reason -- or one of the reasons that I'm disappointed that the work is not progressing as rapid as I would hope is that presently when a farmer goes to a municipality within the watershed over a drainage problem within the watershed, the municipality is rather reluctant to deal with it, and it's understandable too because they think that well here is a problem for the Watershed Committee because it could conflict with the long-range program that the

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) ... Board might have in mind, so that it is really holding up work more than one might realize because of that fact. I don't think that I have to tell you that the soil and water conservation program is one of the most important aspects of agriculture. If you haven't got the soil and you haven't got the water you just haven't anything at all; you haven't the basic requirements for farming. So I will await with interest, Mr. Chairman, the Minister's remarks when we come to Capital or prior to that, to learn what has been done to date and what they expect to spend in this field during 1960. I'm wondering too on the Fairford River Dam project just how far that has developed because that does affect, and is of a great deal of interest to a good many farmers all around Lake Manitoba.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister to give us as soon as he can the details of the new contract let with respect to the Seine River diversion? I think the Minister just informed me and informed the House that contract had been let for excavation purposes. I checked the newspapers, I missed -- I didn't find the call for tenders on that particular job. I'm surprised that one has been let. If one has been let, and I believe the Minister, I would like to know the successful contractor -- the mileage involved and the cost.

MR. HUTTON: 5 1/2 miles, \$125,000.

MR. PREFONTAINE: And the contractor?

MR. PREFONTAINE: No. Do you know the name of the contractor?

MR. HUTTON: Highway Construction.

MR. E. R. SCHREYER (Brokenhead): Mr. Chairman, before we leave this item, I would like to raise two points here. The first point that I would like to make is that I concur completely with the argument put forward by the Member from Selkirk when he spoke about the need for some revision in the Water Rights Act. It's not a small problem and certainly several municipal officials have brought the matter to my attention and they've asked if there was any possibility of getting some clarification in these statutes so that municipal people would have some authority to decide what constitutes a surface flow and a surface flow channel, because in the springtime with a fairly large amount of surface water running off the fields, if someone should decide to put up a dam of a sort then he can do it, plug it up and it causes a large amount of damage to the neighbours' fields and there is simply, up to now, nothing much that can be done. I'm wondering why there should not be some provision made whereby an individual would have to get permission to construct any dam -- some kind of obstruction, because this must not be a small problem obviously if municipal officials are worried about it as they are. Now I would like the Minister to give us some assurance that he will give it serious thought.

And the second point I wish to raise has to do with the matter of PFRA. I realize that it's a federal matter of course, but I know too, that the Minister and his department are in close liaison with the PFRA. That's a good thing of course. Perhaps the Minister is not aware of this rather unique situation which exists just east of the Red River in the East St. Paul Narrow-St. Clements area, and in that area market gardeners in the East St. Paul Municipality can install an irrigation project and they receive some financial assistance up to, I think, \$300. Now then just across the municipal boundary in St. Clements you have the same kind of farmers, the market gardeners, specialized crop growers, and some of them are thinking very seriously of installing irrigation work but yet because of the limitations in the statute of PFRA they are not eligible for the \$300 grant, and they are wondering why. Now I did write to the headquarters at Brandon, I believe, and the man in charge there wrote back and said he couldn't understand the situation himself but it was there in the statutes and he had to abide by it of course. Now I would ask the Minister to use his good office to get the PFRA law changed so that anyone who is a market gardener in the fullest sense of the term, could qualify for that irrigation cost assistance.

MR. HUTTON: Well the last question that has been raised by the Honourable Member for Brokenhead is merely due to the fact that an area in Manitoba is designated for PFRA operation, and it just happens that the line of demarcation runs between the two farmers that you spoke of, and it runs across the province in a line. I think it's approximately around Stony Mountain straight across to the bottom of Lake Manitoba, and it follows the western edge of Lake Manitoba up to the Birch River country and then strikes across to the border there, and within this area PFRA can carry out all of its programs. In the area, and I think this question was raised in the House last week, in the area outside of the PFRA designated area they undertake

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) ... certain projects under a special agreement with the province which began, as I understand it, on the Edwards Creek project a number of years ago. Gradually the projects in the area were extended so they undertook works in the northwest escarpment, and then this agreement was enlarged again so that they could include special projects in the Interlake, and it is now known as the Northwest Escarpment and Interlake Agreement. As you know, PFRA began its work because of the disaster that hit Western Canada in the '30's and primarily their work was to make water available and to try and decrease the soil erosion and so forth, and gradually their program has expanded and expanded over the years. And it is possible that in the future we may be able to wrestle more from PFRA than we have in the past. But this is the reason why one farmer can get this type of assistance and another one can't.

In reply to the questions put by the Honourable Member for Gladstone, I think that he has every right to believe that the Whitemud Water Conservation District is just about one of the most important projects in the province at the present time because it is new; it envisages a different approach to the problems of water control and conservation and soil conservation; and I would assure him that there certainly are monies in the estimates which in any case would go to that area even though they were not a conservation district. These items are buried both in the current estimates and the capital estimates and so I think that there isn't any need for concern that if the municipalities pass by-laws supporting the terms of the agreement setting up the district, that there won't be monies for them to operate on. I can assure him that there will be.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Chairman, I'm inclined with the Honourable Member for Brokenhead to urge on the Minister that he make further representations to Ottawa regarding the extension of the boundaries of the PFRA area northward from the present boundaries as they exist, because I can assure the Minister that I have the same problem in the parish of St. Andrews as the Honourable Member for Brokenhead has in the parish of St. Andrews on the east side of the river. And quite frankly, conditions existing there are similar, in fact identical, to conditions existing farther south which is in the area. And it's pretty hard to explain to the market gardeners there why they're not getting it and their neighbours to the south are getting it. So I would therefore urge the Minister, Mr. Chairman, to use all the powers of persuasion at his disposal to try and induce the officials at Ottawa to extend the boundaries of that area northward as far as Lockport on both sides of the river.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (b) (1) -- passed; (2) -- passed; (3) (a) -- passed.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, could we have the salaries -- the number of people who receive these salaries broken down into the three divisions. I know that the Minister told us that there's a total of 79, I think. Could we have

MR. HUTTON: Yes, there are 14 in administration, 34 in planning, and 31 in operations.

MR. CAMPBELL: 34, and 31 in operations?

MR. HUTTON: That's right.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you. Now, Mr. Chairman, as far as I'm concerned the only item here that I'm particularly anxious to discuss is on No. (4) of (c) and if the Minister wishes to go through these others I have no objection, but it seems to me that the planning division seems a bit top-heavy in comparison with the operations division as they are shown here. I suppose it's true to say that the planning division has also the responsibility for all the work that is done under capital expenditure as well and that when capital is included that the top-heaviness is not as apparent as it is in this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (3) (b) -- passed; (c) -- passed; (4)

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, on (4), I have two questions and I would like answers to them because I have raised them before, and in some manner or another there was no answer forthcoming. The first one has to do with the matter of the Red River flood diversion program. Perhaps the First Minister could help me out on this. Now according to the tentative survey the route that this diversion channel is supposed to follow is east of the city here

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, this is covered by our capital estimates and we intend to give as full information as we can on that particular matter then.

MR. SCHREYER: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, the other matter probably will come under capital too, although I doubt it, and that has to do with the matter of riverbank erosion. Now

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) ... I brought this matter up last session, and I don't know if members will be surprised or not, but the then Minister of this department agreed -- he agreed that where the Federal Government did not wish to come in that where there was a serious problem of riverbank erosion existing that the onus was on the Provincial Government to do something about it, and I can produce proof that he felt this way. Now then, I would like to ask the Minister whether any serious consideration has been given in the last few months towards coming up with a definite policy on combatting river bank erosion. When I brought this up last year I got a lecture from the Attorney-General, a friendly lecture, and from the member of Swan River on the law of caveat emptor -- when people buy land they buy it sight unseen and so on and so forth, but that is merely a digression from the problem. We have serious riverbank erosion along the east bank of the Red, north of the city, and it's eroding a considerable area of land every year, and just what does this government intend to do about it? Is a policy forthcoming or not? That's my question.

MR. HUTTON: I personally haven't given it any consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (c) (4). The Honourable the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. CAMPBELL: On (c) (4) I think that certainly even though the Minister is not prepared to deal with capital estimates here, under this one we could at least ask, and I hope get the work that was done under a similar item last year. And before the Honourable the Minister answers that one, may I ask him as well, Mr. Chairman, how much money actually was spent on these different projects that he related to us a short time ago? He mentioned drainage; he mentioned preliminary work being completed on the Fairford Dam; and he mentioned something about the lower Red River Valley water program. Would he, for the evening session, bring in the actual figures if he doesn't have it now -- the actual figures that have been spent on those projects? And then with regard to last year's vote similar to this one, I think a similar amount as well, \$410,000, would he bring in the various projects that were

MR. HUTTON: the amount of money that

MR. SPEAKER: 5:30 and I leave the chair until 8:00 p. m.

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