

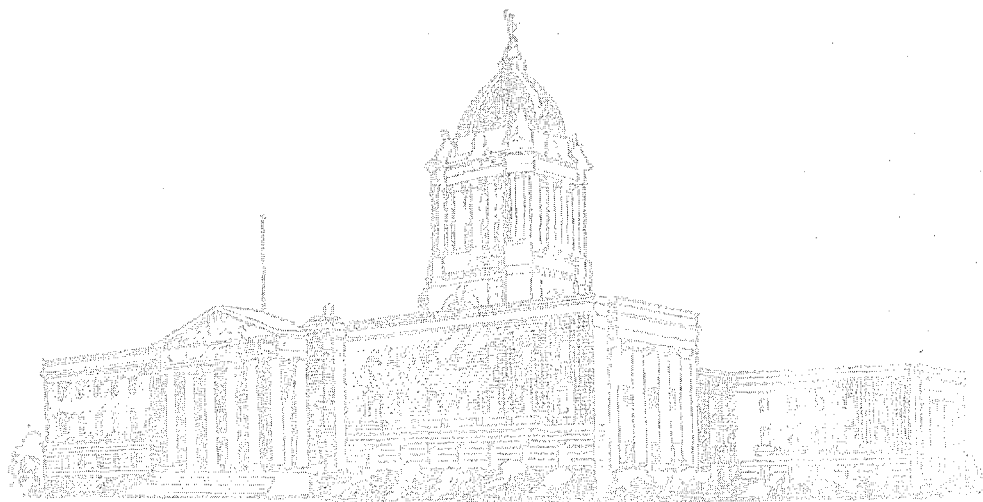


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

8:00 p.m. Monday, March 26th, 1962.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution be adopted?

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, did I understand the First Minister correctly to say that he would be agreeable to leave the resolution sit in Committee until such time as we have the statement that the Minister made this afternoon, then we could have some questions in Committee later on? I think this is what he said this afternoon. We'll be prepared to leave our questioning now and then when we come back to Committee tomorrow, or the day after, and when we have the report, continue at that time and go on to other business.

MR. ROBLIN: It's really not what I said, Mr. Chairman. I was hoping that we would proceed with our questions now and report the bill to the House, then we would have the resolution presented to the House and have the usual debate.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable the First Minister mentioned we would report the bill to the House. May --(interjection)-- yes. Well, Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether or not there should be any further discussion on the content matter of the resolution but I must say and reiterate that I find myself in a rather peculiar position in respect of this matter. We're faced with the problem of this particular resolution coming from this Committee and being adopted by this Committee in the manner which it's presented to us. That, in my opinion, is something we should not agree with. On the other hand, as illustrated by, or mentioned by my colleague the Member for St. John's, the government and ourselves are not too far apart in their general over-all proposition, but we're not going to be in a position as simple as that.

Might I ask my honourable friend the Leader of the House -- is this the resolution that we're going to deal with in the House itself? He has told us that we are not going to have before us a bill calling for the expenditure of money. If this resolution in total was going to be presented to the House, as I mentioned this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, we would have opportunities of amendment which we haven't got here. I don't want a rehash of the arguments that we had here this afternoon, but I feel, I feel as far as my own particular group is concerned that while we haven't got too much differences of opinion with the government, we have some. We can't accept, we can't accept from this Committee the whole proposition as contained in this resolution. I appreciate the fact that the matter can be further debated when a resolution of some description or other -- there's been no indication whether or not this particular resolution as worded here at the present time will be the one that we're going to debate in the House. And quite frankly I find myself, as I mentioned before, Mr. Chairman, in a real predicament. If there was some way in which we could resolve this -- now the Leader of the Liberal Party has posed the question as whether or not we couldn't leave this lay in the Committee of the Whole House until we've had an opportunity of considering the statements of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture in this. Well where do we go from here? This poses to me quite a problem, and frankly, Mr. Chairman, as far as I'm concerned, and I feel sure of all of the members of my group, we're prepared to allow the discussion to cease at this time. We don't think that it's necessary at this particular stage to continue on this particular resolution. But I would like to have an expression of opinion -- or let me say, Mr. Chairman, before I go on from there -- I don't want it to be construed because of the past actions of my group, that by voting against the resolution that we have before us that we are opposed in this Party to the building of the Red River Floodway for instance -- and yet, on the other hand, the only alternative that we have with the resolution that is before this Committee is to support all of the policies of the government in respect of this issue. I wonder whether or not there isn't some way in which this Committee might resolve the predicament -- and I think the Honourable the First Minister would agree with me -- insofar as our thoughts are concerned at least -- this poses a question for us. We don't want to give en blanche approval to the policies of the government. We want to be able to be in a position where we could raise by amendment, or by the usual method of parliamentary debate, alternatives or objections to the resolution. We can't do that in the debate from this committee. So I'm sure, Mr. Chairman, that the Leader of the House and other members of the committee can appreciate the position that we are in. It's true, Mr. Chairman,

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd) that as far as the New Democratic Party representatives are concerned, we could simply abstain from voting, and then of course if we do that we subject ourselves to a criticism of cowardice -- and we don't want to be cowards. If we vote for the resolution we're in the position then that we endorse the policies of the government in this whole matter. If we vote against the resolution then it can be construed in some quarters that we're against the building of the Red River Floodway.

Now I say in all frankness and fairness, Mr. Chairman, that these are the points that I raise as Leader of my group -- this is the predicament that I am in as the Leader of my group. I know full well insofar as the other group in this House is concerned -- the Liberal Party -- that their attitude in the past, and possibly even on this, is at considerable variance to that of my own group, but here, Mr. Chairman, is the predicament that I am in as the Leader of my group -- and ask that consideration be given to this predicament. I don't want leadership or guidance particularly, but I want it clearly understood the problems that are facing this particular group at the present time. I would like to see, as I mentioned before, that the discussions cease at this time. I think the Minister this afternoon drew to the attention of the committee a very good outline of the past history, the present and the future, but the point, Mr. Chairman, is that we're having to deal with a specific resolution before us and I invite comment either from my honourable friends opposite or my honourable friends to my right -- where do we go from here in respect of this resolution? Is the government going to simply present this resolution in total as it is for further discussion in the House? Is it going to bring in a different resolution as is the normal practice?

I ask the House in fairness to consider the propositions, the proposals and the situation that I happen to be in at the present time as the Leader of my group, that does not want to be on record as disapproving, for instance, the building of the Red River Floodway -- and I think my Honourable friend, the Leader of the House will agree with me, that as far as my own particular group is concerned we have not registered opposition to that. I think that he will agree with me that we have had some reservations with the manner in which the government has pursued its policy. It can be said, Mr. Chairman, as the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture said this afternoon, that we approve the policy of the government in proposing the construction of the Red River Floodway; but I suggest, Mr. Chairman, to you and to members of this committee, that isn't quite sufficient, because we must take under consideration when we are considering the policy in proposing this, that we must take into consideration all of the ramifications and all of the aspects of the resolution before us, and that is the predicament -- and I make this frank confession to this committee -- that is the predicament that I find myself in today with this resolution, as Leader of my group. To recapitulate, I don't want it construed that we're voting against what we've already voted for in the past -- that is, in general, the building of the Red River Floodway -- but I don't want it construed, Mr. Chairman, on the other hand, by the support of this resolution that we agree with all the policies of the government, and that is the situation that we're placed in at this time. I invite, in all fairness, comments on my remarks in respect of this at the present time.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I don't think that the dilemma which my honourable friend seems to discern in this matter is nearly as acute as he would have us believe. I want to tell him that during the supper hour the Clerk of the Assembly took the occasion to check the records, the Votes and Proceedings of the House, and there are one or two occasions in the past in which we have had a similar situation where a resolution was introduced that required a message from His Honour. It went into committee, as this one has done today, and it was reported out of committee and then the resolution itself was dealt with by the House. So I wouldn't like my honourable friend to think that he's being asked to do something that has never been done before in the Chamber, because this has happened before and the Clerk of the House drew my attention to a couple of precedents in this way.

Now regardless of that -- leave that to one side -- I think that there is really no difficulty in proceeding with this matter now, continuing with any questions we have and then those of us who are in favour of the resolution can vote for its passage and the committee can rise and then we can get on with it. Because what happens then, as I am sure my honourable friend recognizes, is that the resolution that we have been considering in committee is then presented to the House just as it stands, and the Minister will introduce it and then we will proceed

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd)with the debate in the usual way. I rather imagine that it will then be adjourned by someone on the other side until such time as they have a chance to read Hansard, which is one of the purposes of the discussion in committee. As far as we are concerned, we have no interest in proceeding with the bill at once. It can be adjourned and a reasonable time allowed for members to digest the import of what was said in committee.

Now as to the dilemma as to whether you should vote yes or no; those who are opposed to the resolution in definite terms will have no difficulty, they'll simply vote no; but it is not impossible for others to vote yes with reservations, because on many occasions in this House, we have dealt with matters of principle, for example in the second reading of a bill, and members have stood up and said: "I'm really not in favour of everything in this bill; I've got certain reservations about it," and they name the reservations -- then they say: "but on the whole I think I'm more for it than I'm against it" -- so they justify an affirmative vote in that way. Now I tried to say this afternoon that I'm sure that members position would be well understood if they adopted a similar tactic in the committee tonight. But the point I want to emphasize is that we have done this kind of thing before and it has been possible to deal with it in the way we're dealing with it now, so I think we should proceed. I would imagine that my honourable friend, the Leader of the NDP could say before the vote is taken, whether or not he's more for it or more against it, and if he finds he is more for it but that he doesn't approve of it all, I think it would be quite proper for him to say that "I vote for it with these reservations" similarly to what might be done on the second reading of a bill where similar circumstance arises. I am quite sure that by doing that he could then preserve complete liberty and freedom of action when the bill is dealt with in the House with the Speaker in the Chair, and he would then have an opportunity of introducing those amendments which seem to him desirable, to give expression to those points where he differs from the policy that the government is attempting to follow. I believe that if we were to do that there would be a clear understanding of the position taken by members in the House and no one would be able at a later date to make any references on the way in which the vote was taken because members would have made their stand quite clear.

I imagine that when the bill is in the House at that stage people who have strong views will be asking for recorded votes, and no doubt we'll find out at that stage what the differences of opinion are and have a chance to record them in a permanent fashion which of course we don't in the committee.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the remarks of my honourable friend the Leader of the House. I wonder if for my own edification -- he mentioned the fact that he has been in consultation with the Clerk of the House dealing with resolutions of this nature that have been before the Committee of the Whole House before -- I wonder if he would be kind enough to inform me as to what they were, and when they were, for my information?

MR. FROESE: Can we have further questions in the meantime? I did put some questions to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture before. I did get some answers; I didn't get all of them though. Further to that I have some more questions. I would also like to ask the Minister when is the federal government's share of the grant or the contribution that they are making, when is it going to be paid? Is it going to be paid at the time of the construction? Then I'd like to have the answer to my former question which was whether the City of Winnipeg is going to make any contribution towards the upkeep or operation of this floodway once it's been built?

I would also like to indicate that I'm in full support of the government's conservation program. I think they're doing a good job in getting the various dams and reservoirs erected. They not only serve as flood checks but also provide a source of water supply for the various communities that they serve. However, I believe in doing first things first and I would like to see that this be continued, that we go on with the project of water conservation and building reservoirs and so on and leave the floodway. That brings me to the other point which is the resolution itself. While I go along with some of the "whereas's" that are contained in the resolution, I think some of them are good, but I oppose the "resolve" part. After all what protection is the farmer getting here just south of the city up to the boundary? The farmer is not getting the consideration that the city people get and I feel he deserves protection as well. On the matter of irrigation, I think our people back home would welcome irrigation; they would welcome this supply of water so that they could use that water for special crops. I'm sure there would be no

(Mr. Froese, cont'd) organized resistance such as was displayed in Saskatchewan when they built the big dam out there and people organized themselves opposing irrigation. I'm sure this would not happen in our area. --(Interjection)-- I don't think Our area would be in full support of any program of that type.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I can answer some of the points that my honourable friend raised in connection with the financing, and say that no consideration has been given at the present time to asking any municipality to contribute to any of these waterworks in connection with these rivers. I may say also that in connection with the federal share it is anticipated that progress payments will be made as the work is carried out.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, if I may in all deference to the Honourable the First Minister. He informs us that he undertook to consider with the Clerk of this Assembly the question and the rule of order that I proposed this afternoon, and also it's related to the matters that I raised this evening. May I respectfully suggest, Mr. Chairman, that there is no comparison whatsoever between the two illustrations that the Clerk so kindly drew to my attention here this evening in retrospect to past action, with the proposition that we have before us today. Because in these two instances, Mr. Chairman, we were dealing with the question of committees to consider a proposition; we were not dealing with policy. One of the illustrations, if I may Mr. Chairman, dealt with the setting up or the continuation of a committee on industrial relations. And let me just for the information of all of the members of the House read what this says, and I refer to the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba 1956 -- and of course, my honourable friends to my right at that time were the government of the day -- and here was the resolution. It was made by the then Minister of Labour, the Honourable Mr. Greenlay; "On motion of the Honourable Mr. Greenlay, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following proposed resolution: Whereas the Industrial Relation Commission was established by Order-in-Council" and so on. "And whereas by virtue of the Order-in-Council" and so on; "And whereas it is deemed advisable that the Select Standing Committee on Industrial Relations shall undertake and carry on the aims and objects and duties of the Commission and make definite recommendations in regard to all phases of industrial relations and legislation in that regard. Therefor be it resolved that the Select Standing Committee on Industrial Relations appointed at this session consisting of" -- and then it goes on to list the members of the committee -- "Shall undertake and carry on the aims, objects and duties of the commission and make definite recommendation regarding all phases of industrial relations and legislation affecting them. And be it further resolved that the said committee may exercise all the powers, etcetera, of the Evidence Act and that the Provincial Treasurer may be authorized to pay out of the Consolidated Fund such expenses as may be incurred by the committee. Whereupon the Honourable Mr. Greenlay informed the House that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having been informed of the subject matter of the proposed resolution recommends it to the House."

Then the other illustration that has been drawn to my attention deals with the Journals of the year 1961 which deals with the setting up of a committee dealing with a committee on statutory regulations and orders. And the resolve in this particular was to the effect that the Provincial Treasurer be authorized to pay out of the Consolidated Fund to members of the committee, amounts of such expenses incurred by members in attending the sittings of said committee during recess as may be deemed necessary, from the Comptroller-General.

I suggest this, Mr. Chairman, that there is no parallel whatsoever between the illustrations that have been presented to me and the question that we're dealing with in this resolution here today. In these two instances that have been used by my honourable friend the Leader of the House as precedents of what has happened before, it merely dealt with the question of committees continuing their activities in between sessions and making a report to this House. I suggest that that is what is contemplated in the resolution which follows on the Order Paper, which will be proposed by the Honourable the Attorney-General -- the setting up of a committee. Neither of these resolutions that my honourable friend the Leader of the House has suggested as being parallel to the resolution that we have before us indicated any policy; it only indicated that from the Committee of the Whole House that committees would be set up to consider matters and bring in a recommendation. And following, of course Mr. Chairman, as we're well aware -- recommendation, then comes a resolution. So I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that I cannot

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd) accept the illustrations as being past precedents that the Honourable the First Minister has drawn to our attention. And I say Mr. Chairman, again, and I emphasize it, that never since the time that I have had the honour of being a member of this Legislature -- and I admit that it's not too long, and I frankly confess that it may not be much longer -- but I say this that never in those period of years, from the year 1953 until now, have I been asked on a resolution before the Committee of the Whole, to endorse the policy of government in the manner in which we are being asked to endorse it this evening. And I suggest Mr. Chairman, again, that the illustrations that the Honourable the First Minister has presented to me by these two journals does not parallel the situation that we're confronted with tonight.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree that the two previous examples given to us are not of the same type as the resolutions that are before us here now. I am sure the First Minister himself will agree that while they are both resolutions of a fairly general nature, they certainly don't encompass anywhere near the type of problem that we're discussing tonight or approach it at all in importance, and I don't think they can be used as precedents here in the House.

I would suggest Mr. Chairman, that we go back to the suggestion that the First Minister himself made this afternoon and that he simply ask the Committee to rise and report without making a decision on this particular issue at this time and that we think this one over during the course of the remainder of the evening and tomorrow, and when we come back in the House tomorrow be prepared to see if we can't settle this in a manner which he indicated this afternoon he wanted to do in any case, that he was not seeking to put anyone in a position now where they voted for something and later when it came at the next stage we'll be voting against it or vice versa. So this was, I understood, the suggestion he himself made this afternoon and certainly when I asked him about the questions he indicated then that he would be prepared to let it sit in Committee until such time as we saw the statement of the Minister. I think if we proceeded with this now that we could resolve this thing with satisfaction to everyone and make whatever changes are required either in the resolution at this moment or in our procedure and simply carry on then and get it into the second stage of the regular resolution. The other thing that we would want to know, and I think the Minister said this, but I want this verified, that the resolution will appear in the House in exactly the same wording as it appears here.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to answer the comments of the honourable gentleman opposite because I am afraid that I agree with the Clerk of the House that there is a parallel between these resolutions, and if you ask me what the parallel is I say quite simply it is the fact that they call for the expenditure of funds, if it were not for that fact we wouldn't have to bother with the Committee stage and we wouldn't be in the argument that we're in tonight. But they definitely call for the expenditure of public funds and therefore is required to be introduced by a resolution from His Honour, by a message from His Honour.

Now I took occasion to check with the Legislative Counsel as to the procedure that had been followed and he confirms my own opinion that we have done the right thing. I want to say that again -- I have conferred with the Legislative Counsel and he tells me that we have quite clearly done the right thing in introducing this by way of a message from His Honour. So I feel reassured in that particular respect. And with respect to the precedents that have been offered, let me offer this observation, that when dealing with the one that was mentioned for example with respect to setting up the Industrial Relations Committee, surely that indicates the policy of the administration at that time in dealing with a certain problem. The policy is that they're to set up a committee and -- (interjection) -- Never mind that's what it says in the resolution and the questions of policy are implicit in the resolutions there just as they may be in some respect implicit in the resolution here. So it seems to me that as far as the argument is concerned about whether or not it is proper to do it in this way, I feel reassured from my discussions since the matter first arose, that it is proper to do it in this way and that there's nothing wrong with bringing it in in this respect.

I do not understand the Leader of the Opposition's reference to leaving the matter in Committee because I am sure I never intended to give that impression. What I tried to say previously was that after the Minister had spoken we would then have the usual discussions that we have on the statement, an opportunity for questions to be asked, answered back and forth, and we would then deal with the matter in the usual way and the Committee would rise and report,

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd)because until it does that we cannot get the resolution before the House. It must be quite clear that until it has been dealt with in the Committee of the Whole and the message of His Honour acted upon in one way or another, we can't get it before the House; therefore it is absolutely essential to deal with it in the committee and then the resolution will be placed before the House where the normal rules of debate in that connection apply.

In response to a question may I say that the form of the resolution before the House will be just the same as the resolution is that members have seen on the Order Paper so far. If they will look at the two precedents mentioned they will find that those resolutions were repeated verbatim in the House stage of the debate and was open for debate at that time.

So my opinion, Mr. Chairman, is that we should continue with questions and then you could put the question as to whether this resolution is agreed to or not, then the committee could rise, and then the Minister would move the resolution in full exactly as it stands now -- I imagine that he wouldn't make a very lengthy statement on it tonight -- it could then be adjourned and we'd proceed with the usual procedure which enables members to bring in whatever amendments they like to express their own points of view on the matter in general.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I don't want to pursue this point, and I'm not going to raise any further argument. I just want to point out to my honourable friend I think that he's talking with his tongue in his cheek because of the fact that I'm sure that in all deference to the advice that he has received from the Legislative Counsel and the Clerk of the House -- two gentlemen whom I hold in the highest of esteem -- I think that the advice is erroneous, because of this fact -- and I think that this is very, very important -- that in the two illustrations that have been raised as precedents of what has happened before, there was no reference to government policy itself at all. It was a setting up of committees and those committees had the authority to consider what government policy was. Now, Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to argue any further. I'm sure that this might be appreciated on the other side of the House, but I do sincerely believe, Mr. Chairman, the points that I have raised are valid. I repeat, that I have nothing but the highest regard for the Legislative Counsel and the Clerk of this House, but I think that the advice that they have given to the First Minister as these two points of the Journals of 1956 and 1961 are not parallel with the proposition that we have to face in this committee this evening.

I say again, Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to pursue this any further. When you call for the vote on this reservation I will make a statement as to our position. But I appeal once again, I appeal once again to the Honourable the First Minister, that I think that in all fairness that in addition to a consultation with the Legislative Counsel and the Clerk of this Assembly, that he should invite in consultation with these two honourable gentlemen -- and I repeat that they are honourable gentlemen -- in addition to a consultation with them, that he should invite myself or representatives of my group, the Leader of the Opposition and representatives of his group, to a full informal discussion on this whole question of procedure that is before us here this evening. Again I say, Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to pursue any further. I think that I have raised legitimate reasons why we should not conduct the business of the Assembly of the Province of Manitoba on the basis that we're doing at the present time, and I say in all fairness that to ask us in opposition to give en blanche approval to resolutions of this type, that we are establishing a precedent in this House that will undermine the process of democratic procedure in the Province of Manitoba and that it is very regrettable that this should be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution be adopted?

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to say a word on the point of order before this is finished with. I agree wholeheartedly with the two leaders who have spoken that I think there is no similarity between the precedents quoted and the one that they're considering now, except the fact that they are both resolutions in Committee of the Whole, and they both deal with expressed or implied expenditure. I would think that as far as the Clerk of the House and the Legislative Counsel are concerned, I'd agree with what the Leader of the New Democratic Party has just said; but I, holding the high regard that I do for both of those gentlemen, would certainly expect that they would both say that so far as matters dealing with expenditure in general, must come in by way of resolution from His Honour, that's the advice I'd expect them to give. But I would be equally certain that if they were asked about the question of putting in a resolution in Committee of the Whole asking the House to approve of the policy of the

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd) government and endorse the commencement of excavation, and further endorse the commencement of field engineering studies in the resolution in the Committee of the Whole, that they would be just as sure that that did not come within the rules as they would that the other part did. I cannot but agree with the Leader of the New Democratic Party that this is a retrograde step if we proceed in this way. As far as I'm concerned it's not because of any unfairness or embarrassment because I'll have no embarrassment whatever in stating the reservations that I have in this connection. I have reservations; I'll be glad to state them, and as far as I'm concerned, that places me on record and there's no embarrassment about it whatever; but I think the procedure is wrong -- definitely wrong -- and that it should be corrected.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to state before this is past that I also agree with the Leader of the New Democratic Party and the Member for Lakeside to the hilt. I believe that we are starting into something new. I have never heard in 27 years anything like that. It is wrong, absolutely wrong. And what brings it forcefully to my mind is the suggestion that was made by the First Minister that we should get up and state whether we are more for it or more against it. Something like that, when the vote comes. Now is that sensible, Mr. Chairman, that we should express the opinion whether we are more for it or more against it. How can we be reported when the vote comes in this committee? I think we are placed into an impossible position. I think it's wrong; we're starting something definitely new. I read one of the examples that was shown us and I do not think at all it is similar with the present proposition, and I for one anyway, I just see my way clear to support the motion when it is made, and for what it's going to be worth, I'm going to get up and say I'm more against it than for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: here as was pointed out by the First Minister that it cannot get before the House where there's expense of public monies until it has passed the committee, and all that this will do is to get it before the House and whatever reservations there are, and whatever someone has to say for or against there will be full opportunity to do it when it is properly presented to the House. This is the procedure to get it before the House. That is why we are asking for you to get --

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a brief statement before the vote is taken on this resolution. As I have stated, I have no objection to the arguments ceasing at the present time. I suggest to the Honourable the First Minister that no vote be taken on the resolution before us. I say this because of the fact that I have reservations in connection with the resolution. I feel this way, that I do not want to vote on the understanding of the Honourable the First Minister and the government on this particular resolution. I am prepared to allow the resolution now to go before the House, with reservations. As I have pointed out, first of all when I raised the point of order, and secondly again this evening, Mr. Chairman, I have pointed out what I consider some unfairness-- and I'm not suggesting that this was deliberate either, and I join with the Honourable Member for Lakeside in this -- but I'm prepared, considering the basic precept of parliamentary procedure, that a resolution must proceed, a resolution dealing with the expenditures of money, to allow with reservations, this resolution to pass so that it can become properly before the House. I respectfully suggest to the Honourable the Minister -- and I'm not pleading with him -- that there be no division in this committee but a firm understanding that this resolution is only passing with the reservations that my group has to bring in amendments when the resolution is properly before the House, at which time we can bring in proper amendments and deal with the matter in the normal manner. So with those reservations, Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to allow the resolution to pass this committee, but I want to say this -- and I don't suggest this by any way of threat -- that I feel that I would have to take a different attitude if it were going to be construed that with the adoption of the resolution that we're faced with here today, that we could not hold, or have our reservations. So on that understanding, Mr. Chairman -- and I hope I've made myself clear -- I'm prepared to allow the discussion to cease on the resolution, to allow the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and the Government to propose this resolution to the House for its consideration, at which time we will have the opportunity to make our reservations known, not by expounding our reservations, as we have to in the Committee of the Whole, but by way of amendments to the resolution itself.

MR. ROBLIN: I think that I see my honourable friend's point and I'm sure we all respect his reservations. I think there will have to be a voice vote on it but we had not intended to call for a recorded vote unless somebody else on the other side wants one.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, in a committee of this nature we cannot have a recorded vote insofar as personnel is concerned. We could have a request for a division, a standing division, and of course then the journals would say -- x number were for it, x number were against it. But I want it clearly understood for the purpose of the record that whether we say Nay or Yea to you calling for the vote, Mr. Chairman, it does not indicate support for the resolution before us.

Mr. Chairman put the question.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I think there are a number of questions here. I'd like to ask the First Minister again. I'm sure if he checks Hansard he'll see that this afternoon he agreed with me when I suggested that the bill be allowed to sit in committee and that we would proceed with the questioning tomorrow. Well, I'm sure Hansard will bear me out.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, that I can't agree with my honourable friend because I think it's quite clear that unless the committee deals with the resolution we'll never get to discuss it in the House.

MR. MOLGAT: obviously it has at some stage -- must leave the committee and go forward, but it is quite within the rules of the committee to report progress and leave it sit and come back tomorrow at the same stage. That's perfectly within the rules and you said this afternoon that you'd be prepared to do that.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, that's not what my understanding of what -- not what I intended to say.

MR. MOLGAT: I'm positive that Hansard will bear me out that that is the case. However, my honourable friend is the majority in the House and if that's the position he takes I can't force him to do that. He has at the moment more people in the House than what we have on this side -- a temporary feature however. I would like in that case to proceed with some questions of the Minister who spoke this afternoon. Coming back to the financial aspects of the proposed works. He stated that on the Shellmouth and the Portage Diversion -- and the resolution states -- "approximately 50%". I wonder if he could give us some more details on that. Why is that approximate? Is there not an agreement signed, and what is the exact situation at the moment?

MR. HUTTON: There's not an agreement signed with respect to the Shellmouth Reservoir and the Portage Diversion. Although the understanding is for a 50-50 split I think it is always wise to indicate that there could be variation one way or another.

MR. MOLGAT: there's no agreement at the moment between the province and Ottawa on these two projects.

MR. HUTTON: There's no signed agreement at the present time.

MR. T.P. HILLHOUSE, Q. C. (Selkirk) Is there a verbal agreement -- a verbal understanding?

MR. HUTTON: Yes -- yes.

MR. MOLGAT: And does the understanding cover all the costs involved in both projects? Does it cover all the costs involved in both projects. With engineering, right-of-way, structures, if there's any movement of road, extra drainage -- all the factors involved?

MR. HUTTON: Correct.

MR. MOLGAT: Coming on to the Winnipeg Floodway then, the understanding there he gave us varied 37 1/2 on part of it -- 37 1/2 additional excavation. Is there a definite agreement signed here.

MR. HUTTON: Would you repeat the question.

MR. MOLGAT: Is there a definite agreement signed on the Winnipeg Floodway section?

MR. HUTTON: No. It's in the process of being drafted but the principles have been agreed upon, and these are the principles upon which the agreement will be signed.

MR. MOLGAT: As I recall it, when this was reported in the newspapers earlier, or I should say, in the fall, late in the last year, the indication was that the federal government had put an upper limit to their contribution. Could the Minister indicate if that is correct?

MR. HUTTON: This is not an established -- this is one of the details, if you like to put

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd) it, that is under negotiation. This has not been established as yet.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, this doesn't seem to me like a detail. This seems to me like a very important aspect of the plan. It's all well and fine to say 37 1/2% but if this stops at a certain figure it's an entirely different thing than 37 1/2% across the board. I would want to have an assurance from the Minister that that is not so. I can only take it from his statement that the federal government presently has put an upper limit and that he's been unable to change their minds in that regard.

MR. HUTTON: When I referred to it as a detail I didn't want to infer that this matter was insignificant in the agreement, but it is a matter of negotiation and a matter still to be resolved as to whether there should be any limit on the part of one party or another.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, in the case of the Shellmouth and the Portage there is no such problem. Is that so -- there's no question of limit to the contribution?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. ROBLIN: these matters have not yet come up in either agreement. We haven't reached that stage.

MR. MOLGAT: These are very much part of the discussion. My honourable friends bring forward a resolution; one of the important aspects in this is a financial one. Now surely the House is entitled to know exactly what's what, and surely by now my honourable friends should have an understanding. Now my understanding is that on the Shellmouth there's been no talk at any time of an upper limit by the federal government but in the case of the Winnipeg Floodway that they have said: "we will not go beyond so many dollars".

MR. ROBLIN: No, Mr. Chairman, the discussions have not reached the stage where any firm statements have been made with respect to that matter. What the resolution tries to indicate to the House -- the House has been asking for all the information that was on a firm basis that we could give to it and that's what we're trying to do -- what the resolution indicates to the House is the principles of the division of costs. Now those principles will be applied to the negotiations which will be worked out with respect to the -- I hesitate to use the word "details" -- but with respect to the application in respect of this particular project that is before us. We have not yet reached the stage where either side is in a position to make a statement with respect to that, so I'm afraid that I can't give my honourable friend a clearer statement on it at the present time.

MR. MOLGAT: Well, is the federal government asking, on their side, to have an upper limit?

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to answer the question because these are negotiations that are taking place between the two parties and I think it would obviously be unwise for me to say what either party has said until such time as negotiations are complete.

MR. MOLGAT: My honourable friend was ready in this House three years ago, Mr. Chairman, to say he'd go it alone and to have his full financial position clearly stated. I don't see why he's so reluctant now to give us at least some of the very important details when we've had three years negotiation.

MR. ROBLIN: It's perfectly true, Mr. Chairman, that we would have been prepared to go it alone if we'd had to. Fortunately that's not the case. Fortunately we have what we think is an acceptable agreement with respect to it in which we do not have to put up the major share of the cost. Now the principles on which the details of the agreement are to be based are extremely important and they're the facts that we are able to place before the House. The question of the negotiations themselves, I think as I said before, I would be unwise to make any statement on at the present time because they are still under consideration by both parties.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I certainly can't agree with the way this has been handled. Last fall at a political meeting, this was in November, the Prime Minister was able to make a great speech on the subject. Here we are now almost six months later and still apparently no decision has been made. We've been negotiating now for three years and the government is still unable to tell the House exactly what its arrangements with Ottawa are. This is entirely unsatisfactory.

MR. ROBLIN: my honourable friend would be pleased, but I must say having taken two and a half years to reach a point where we can say what the agreement is in principle

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd) that I'm quite pleased that we've been able to reach that particular goal. Because as my honourable friend knows he has been trying, and he and his friends have been trying to prod us into making premature statements as to what the basis or the principles would be in respect of this matter and we have at the risk of being called slow pokes -- and in self-defence I must say that it certainly wasn't the ability to make up our minds on our side of the question -- but in spite of the fact of having been the subject of some criticism on the part of honourable gentlemen opposite because for two and a half years we couldn't speak to them about the principles and agreement, I'm not a bit surprised that my honourable friend returns the same tact tonight. But he doesn't worry us in the slightest because those negotiations proved well worthwhile. If I had taken the advice of honourable friends opposite, and to coin a phrase, "shot my mouth off" before the situation was right and proper -- well honourable members can have their own view on that but we like to try and stick to as close a sensible pattern as we can. If we had prematurely tried to deal with this matter as honourable friends opposite were asking us to do, it was quite likely we would not have been able to achieve the agreement in principle that is as favourable to the province as the one that we're dealing with now. Now after the agreement in principle is reached then comes the negotiation with respect to the application of those principles to the projects in question. Now of course, it was perfectly open to us to have said nothing until we had the agreement itself available to present to the House, as one day we expect we will, but it seemed to us in view of the fact that both parties had agreed in principle and that we actually anticipated not only the engineering work would proceed but the actual excavation would take place, that it was incumbent upon us to give the House the best information we could at the present time, and that's what we're doing. But we cannot nor should we give the House further information which is not solid as between the parties to the negotiations. When that information is solid the House may expect to receive it.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, the indications are now that we may be faced with a federal election in a very short time, in fact the current newspaper comment would be June. What happens if this province has not got a signed agreement by that time?

MR. ROBLIN: Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can say is that I've sufficient confidence personally in the outcome of a general election in the federal field to regard the question as academic. But I'll go further than that, and that is that I do not really think that we're placed in any jeopardy regardless of the outcome of the election. Because I have found that governments have a habit of honouring the obligations entered into by their predecessors regardless of what they might think of the detail of it. I know that was the attitude we took and I feel that we'll have an agreement that we can deal with. However, the policy of the government is to obtain that agreement completed in every detail before the federal election is called. Now my honourable friend may look into his crystal ball and tell me when that election date will be, I'm afraid I don't know, but I feel that we have every reason to believe that the full details of the agreement will be completed between the two governments before it is necessary to consider the verdict of the electors in the federal election.

MR. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, in case there is a snap election wouldn't it be advisable for you now to deal with the opposition as well in Ottawa?

MR. ROBLIN: I'd much rather deal with the opposition here, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and Conservation, and it is this: This states that for every dollar that the Manitoba taxpayer pays to the province he will get six in the form of flood benefits. May I ask the Minister what the Manitoba taxpayer, when he pays taxes to the federal government, for every dollar that he pays ask the federal taxpayer how much he will get.

MR. HUTTON: What the resolution says is that for every dollar that comes out of the Consolidated Fund of the province, the return to the province in benefits is \$6.00. It doesn't say anything about taxpayers.

MR. PREFONTAINE: I'm asking you the question then. The Manitoba people are contributing to the federal funds. Now as payers of taxes to Ottawa, what will they get for every dollar that they pay to the federal government? What did they get in return in flood benefits?

MR. HUTTON: Well when one thinks of the arrangements -- the federal-provincial

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd) arrangements, and the fact that substantial amounts of money come to Manitoba which are not a direct payment by the taxpayers of this province, then one must consider that the Province of Manitoba is getting a pretty good deal when it can enjoy \$6.00 benefits for every dollar that will be paid out of the Consolidated Fund. Now it also, I think, illustrates the point that -- recognizes the substantial assistance that the Province of Manitoba is getting in respect to our flood control program from the federal government. It's a straightforward matter. It's going to cost the Province of Manitoba about \$36 million for the three projects, and we're going to get an \$85 million program for \$36 million. If you compare the total program to the total benefits by the calculation, the latest calculation and if we use the 5% interest rate we get a benefit cost ratio -- a favourable benefit cost ratio of 2.64 on the three projects. And if you consider that ratio in terms of the direct cost to the provincial treasury it gives you this kind of a benefit -- \$6.00 for every one that comes out of the Provincial Consolidated Fund. It's as simple as that. I know you don't like it but it's a fact.

MR. PREFONTAINE: crediting the whole benefits to 41% of the money invested in this plan and no benefits at all to the 58% put in the plan. Because if the ratio of 2.64 is correct, means \$2.64 in returns for \$1.00 if it means anything at all. I don't think I'm as dumb as you might want to pretend that I am, but this is what it means to any man who knows anything at all. You've said it, for \$1.00 we're getting 2.64. But you say that for \$1.00 we're getting \$6.00. Isn't it because you're crediting all the benefits to 41% of the money and nothing at all for 58% of the money?

MR. HUTTON: Manitoba gets a \$6.00 return for every dollar that they invest in these projects. And if my honourable friend wouldn't use such a blunt axe to split such fine hairs, we could get along with the business.

MR. CAMPBELL: In order to get along with the business and to get this down on the record concretely might I ask the Minister or the Honourable the First Minister is it a fact then that we are -- the government is proposing in asking this legislature to endorse proceeding with this program without a written undertaking in any form; without an agreement or without even a letter?

MR. ROBLIN: No, Sir, that's not a fact. The government have written correspondence with the Government at Ottawa with respect to the principles that are enunciated in this resolution. Based on those principles, negotiations are under way for the agreeing on a final contract, you might say, in respect of it. But we have a clear definite written undertaking as to the principles of the cost-sharing that we're embarking on.

MR. CAMPBELL: Have those principles been told to the committee?

MR. ROBLIN: They're in the resolution.

MR. CAMPBELL: Can I change that then and say that the government is stating that it has a definite undertaking as to the proportion of the money that it will get from the federal government?

MR. ROBLIN: The proportions for the cost-sharing on the projects are as indicated in the terms of the resolution and that is a clear and well understood agreement between the province and the federal government.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, does that incorporation of the principles -- does that deal with the question of a ceiling on the cost, and if it goes beyond that ceiling who pays the extra?

MR. ROBLIN: There's nothing I can say on that, Mr. Chairman, because that will be part of our agreement. There may be no ceilings in it as far as I know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution be adopted?

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, in dealing with principles now I notice that we have set down in the resolution the percentage contributions of the federal government -- excavation, all other costs -- and another whereas or paragraph saying that the federal contribution shall be 58.2%, and inasmuch as we're told that the overall cost is \$64 million -- we were told that -- and then we were also told by the Minister that this does not include the cost of amortization which can run into a few million. Does this mean that the 58.2% contribution by the federal government includes or covers the cost of amortization in addition to the \$64 million.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, if I can answer that question, the figures the Minister has given is the actual cost of doing the work. Each party to the agreement will be

(Mr. Roblin, cont'd) responsible for financing its share. We finance 25 and they finance 75 in respect of the excavation, 37 1/2 and whatever the other fraction is in respect to the other.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution be adopted?

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, the Minister said earlier in this discussion that the cost to the province amortized over 50 years would be in excess of \$4 million. Did I understand him to say that? Would he clarify that one?

MR. HUTTON: I said that if you, on the basis of cost of money at 4% and excepting the -- no, I think the figure I gave was for 5%, no 4% -- 4%, and on the basis of paying the interest that accrues during construction, paying it as it accrues, rather than capitalizing it, which will be the case, then the annual cost will be \$4,228,779, and this is on the basis of the revised cost figures for the projects. That is the taking into account the increased cost of the floodway due to the fact that we are protecting St. Norbert and the increased cost of the Portage Diversion due to the fact that we are using the Fort la Reine Diversion. Even taking these factors into account, these increased costs, the annual cost to the province for the next 50 years -- oh this is for both parties, pardon me -- is \$4,228,779.00. This includes the cost for the federal government and the provincial government.

MR. GUTTORMSON: What is the provincial cost then that amortizes each year? You have given me the total cost between the federal and provincial governments, but what is the cost to the Province of Manitoba on an annual basis?

MR. HUTTON: 41.8% of that.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman. I think that point should be cleared up. I'd like clarification of one other. I wasn't quite sure whether the First Minister said that he had a firm commitment from the federal government or that he did not have a firm commitment from the federal government insofar as the initial cost exceeding the \$64 million is concerned. Is the federal government prepared to contribute 58.2% on all the cost of the floodway immaterial of what the amount will be, or only up to \$64 million.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, the arrangement is that we will share the cost, the total cost of the floodway as shown. Now that is the principle on which we're working. I must tell the honourable members quite frankly that we are in the midst of negotiating the details-- I hate to use that word but it seems appropriate -- the way in which we will apply that principle to the actual job to be done. Now no understanding has been reached with respect to whether or not there's a ceiling on either party. Naturally each party wants to get a ceiling for themselves, but it's being negotiated and we have not yet reached the point where I can say what the result will be.

Now I want to make another point here in connection with the question of the annual cost. Let me point out to the committee that the annual cost of some 4 million 2 or whatever it is, is the total annual cost which is shared on a 41 to 58% -- whatever it is -- between the two parties of the agreement and it includes amortization in that event, in that case, and it is after the amortization is included, including the amortization and interest, that the cost or the benefit cost ratios are worked out. I want to leave no doubt in anyone's mind but that the cost of interest amortization is included before one calculates the benefit cost ratio. It's important to know that and that there shouldn't be any misunderstanding on that point.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman, then it appears to me that this is still the old policy of going it alone, and the First Minister is asking us to approve a resolution when he can't tell us whether the federal government is going to make this contribution for the total cost of the floodway or only for a portion of it. I don't think that it is fair to ask the Legislature at this stage for a blanket commitment especially from the Opposition.

MR. ROBLIN: That's why the resolution is going to be presented to the House in the form that it is so that you can express your opinion on it.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister must have given some wrong information a moment ago when he gave the figure as \$4,228,279 annual cost -- is that correct? for the total of the project -- over 50 years? In other words some \$200 million. That's for the three projects -- correct? Well now, -- (interjection) -- Yes. When my honourable friend asked him the provincial share of this, he said 41.8 but that can't be correct --

MR. HUTTON: That only applies to the floodway --

MR. MOLGAT: That's right. So what is the correct figure?

MR. HUTTON: I haven't got that figure. You'd have to make some calculations to get the provincial share of the 4 million 2. It would be something more than 41.8, because we have a 50-50 arrangement on the other two projects, but you must remember that they are relatively small projects. The provincial share is \$9 million-odd on the two projects combined, and the provincial share is -- what was the figure that I gave you this afternoon -- 20 -- well let's put it the other way around. The federal share of the Red River Diversion is \$37.3 million and \$9.5 million with respect to the Portage Diversion and the Shellmouth Dam or a total of \$46 million. Is that correct? \$47 million almost -- \$46.8 million for the federal people and the balance is the responsibility of the Province of Manitoba.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it would be asking too much to ask the Minister that when we have this resolution before us in the House rather than in Committee, that at that time he table for us an actuarial table of just what it is going to cost the province for its share of the cost of building the floodway based on the time-length period that they intend to amortize it over. We talk of 20 years, 50 years. I don't think it's asking for too much that he table this information worked out by actuarial maths so that we know just how much it will be, or reasonably close to it. This way I wouldn't doubt but that some members here would be out by millions of dollars. Someone speaks of \$4 million a year annual cost to amortize it over 50 years. I have someone else here, a municipal man work it out very roughly, that it will cost a total of \$47 million to this province to finance a project, this project, which has an initial cost of \$27 million. In other words the amortization costs are \$20 million over and above the 27. Would it be asking too much then to have this information tabled when we get into the next stage.

MR. HUTTON: Well, Mr. Chairman, it's just a matter of making some calculations. I expect I can get someone to do it, to calculate the provincial share, the annual cost of the three projects to the Province of Manitoba, but I expect that the Honourable Member for Brokehead could do it if he would take 15 minutes.

MR. MOLGAT: I was going to ask the same question, Mr. Chairman. The Minister gave us the total annual cost, but the part that's of primary interest to the Province of Manitoba naturally, and to us as members, is what's it costing the Province of Manitoba. If he could give us that breakdown -- I'll admit it probably won't be too far off 41.8 -- but it will be somewhat off that figure because the other sharing is not the same, so we would like to know exactly what that would come to. Going on, Mr. Chairman, to some of the other aspects that the Minister brought up this afternoon, and he was speaking about many other things then apart completely from the three main projects. He spoke for example, and I think he had the Minister of Welfare at that time showing us on the map some of the other projects. Did I understand correctly that he was going to take water from the Assiniboine into the Morris River?

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MR. HUTTON: What I was trying to point out was what we are doing at the present time: provide for the water supply in the northern Pembina Triangle, and I pointed out that you could build a gravity channel from the diversion structure itself in a line southeast through Sperling to Morris, and from this gravity channel you could distribute water eastward in that whole area, which is a problem area especially with respect to ground water supply. I pointed out that the Stephenfield Dam will be built -- under construction this coming year. When the Stephenfield Dam can no longer meet the water requirements of the Carman district, a pumping station can be built at a point north of Rathwell on the Assiniboine and water can be pumped into the Boyne which will firm up the water supplies in the Stephenfield Dam. But I also pointed out that no one knows at what date these increased supplies of water will be needed in the Carman area and nobody can foretell at this junction the extent or the volume of flow that will be required. If, in fact, there is a general response to the availability of water, and supposing that we had sudden interest and demand for water for irrigation, then the channel and the pumping facilities that you installed at Rathwell and south would have to be quite extensive. If, however, there isn't a general response, it may be determined in years ahead that a smaller volume of water is required. What I did try to point out was that nothing that we are doing on the Assiniboine in any way prejudices the future development of our water resource. They complement one another very well. The Stephenfield Dam will be extremely useful. If you didn't have the Stephenfield Dam it would mean that you would have to have a constant flow of water from the Assiniboine into the Boyne. Because you have the Stephenfield Reservoir you won't require this -- all you will need is to firm up your Stephenfield supplies periodically to carry you over the period of heavy utilization of water, so it is very difficult at this time to prophesy or forecast the size and the type of work that will be required in the future, but the waters that we will conserve on the Assiniboine with these projects are adequate to serve our needs in the area where they can be reached from the Assiniboine until at least the year 2000.

MR. MOLGAT: I would take it then, Mr. Chairman, that these really have no immediate bearing on the situation at all.

MR. HUTTON: consideration in your long term planning. For instance, we might -- you could undertake water control and flood control projects which could jeopardize, or be of little value in the future when you reach the next stage in the development of your water resource, and this is something that you want to guard against, as I pointed out this afternoon. We could go out and build the Holland Reservoir on the Assiniboine. The waters won't be required until 40 years from now. Forty years from now some tremendous changes can take place in the Province of Manitoba and it could be, with our limited ability to look into the future, it could be that we might have a great demand for water above the Holland Reservoir; then you might be sorry that you put it there. It may be that 40 years from now we would want to rather go for the diversion from the Saskatchewan through the Qu'Appelle Valley into the Assiniboine which would provide water supplies over the major part of the Assiniboine River basin, and so it is these matters of future water needs are given a great deal of study in coming to a decision as to the projects we should proceed with.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, the water in both these cases, however, would not be affected by the works that he's doing -- I presume he's taking the water in both cases directly out of the river, is he? Not out of storage basins or anything? If these projects are proceeded with at some later date, the transfer of water from the Assiniboine River into the Morris or the Boyne River and the pumping station at Rathwell -- he spoke about putting water into the Pembina -- both these will take their water directly from the river, not from either the diversion in the case of Portage obviously, or from the Holland Dam, which he doesn't intend to build -- it would be directly from the river.

MR. HUTTON: Yes -- no matter what you do on the Assiniboine, in order to get water into that section of the Pembina Triangle you must have a pumping station at Rathwell to carry the water over the divide. However, in the case of the Portage Diversion, the diversion structure, which will serve to divert the water northward into Lake Manitoba, serves the dual purpose of diverting the water south by means of this channel, into this water-short area.

MR. MOLGAT: So long as there's no target date, however, for either of these, these will wait until we see what develops.

MR. HUTTON: There can't be any demand where there is no water. We've got to get

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) some water before we can divert it into the area.

MR. MOLGAT: There is water in the Assiniboine now, of course, and he could pump it out of Rathwell if he so felt

MR. HUTTON: Not dependable flows that you can count on.

MR. MOLGAT: This afternoon, Mr. Chairman, the Minister also, in discussing the Lake Manitoba situation, gave us some of the flows in the Assiniboine at certain selected dates and so on. I wonder if he could give us the yearly flows down the Assiniboine to begin with, at various times during the course of the year. I presume he'll have that information available -- I don't mean to give it to us tonight but maybe supply it, if it's ready, tomorrow -- the yearly flows down the Assiniboine -- the yearly flows into Lake Manitoba from Lake Winnipegosis, which is its main source of water, and then the yearly flows out of Lake Manitoba through the Fairford, which is the main outflow. I think these are all important figures to us when discussing the use of the Diversion and the possibility of using Lake Manitoba as a storage reservoir.

MR. HUTTON: You want a record of these flows? And for how many years back?

MR. MOLGAT: As many years as they are available. I think on Lake Manitoba they are available for some 40 years, if I remember correctly. I remember when we were discussing the Fairford Channel this was, of course, one of the factors, and I think these are important to us. Those of us who are particularly concerned with Lake Manitoba have always been concerned about maintaining a steady level on that lake and that was the purpose, of course, of the Fairford Channel that was built. It wasn't to drain the lake; it was simply to attempt to stabilize its level. Because of its height of shore line, the wind effect, and the fact that it has very few rivers flowing into it, it was constantly a problem insofar as levels, and I think before we can proceed to determine the value of the Diversion these figures would be necessary.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that the Minister this afternoon placed quite a few statements from the Red River Basin Investigation and the Royal Commission on record, I would just like to make a statement and put the statement on record. The statement is -- first statement -- it's in the type of a small note and it's with respect to the estimate of the flood losses -- Table 21 in the Greater Winnipeg summary by type of loss for major floods. Now with respect to the 1950 flood, it is estimated that a flood like the 1950 one would come every 36 years and that it would cause damages totalling \$114,200,000, but it has a note which reads like this: "Note - 1950 flood losses are based on the assumption that flooding is general behind the main diking system." This intimates that it was estimated that these dikes would be no good, would not hold out, and that everything would be flooded behind, and I would tie that in with the statement on page 40 with respect to the City of St. Boniface. This is the Manning Commission: "Our estimate of the damages that would be caused in Greater Winnipeg if a flood of the 1950 magnitude were to recur today, is much higher than the total amount of damages paid by the Red River Valley Board and the Manitoba Flood Relief Fund" -- in fact the members know that the total costs were about 21 million in 1950, and it goes on: "In very considerable measure this is due to the fact that the major part of St. Boniface was protected by the Lyndale Dike in 1950, whereas our estimates are for the damages that would occur if flooding became general behind the main diking system." Further -- "Almost one-third of our estimated damages and other losses for a 1950 flood are those that would occur in the City of St. Boniface."

Mr. Chairman, this statement by such a Commission amazes me. The members will remember that in 1950, without any dikes at all previously constructed, St. Boniface was able to protect itself with the help, of course, of others -- the City of Winnipeg and others -- was able to protect itself without any previous good dike at all -- nothing on the Seine -- against these damages, damages one-third of 114 million dollars, or 38 million dollars. Now, the Commission argues that if we had another flood St. Boniface would be completely flooded, in spite of the fact that they were able to protect themselves in 1950 without any dikes and the fact that now they have good dikes all over. Now it seems to me ridiculous that these men would consider that St. Boniface could not be protected now against a flood of the 1950 level. It seems to me that there is here only in St. Boniface \$38 million that should not have been included when considering the cost-benefit ratio, because certainly nobody would argue now that if we had another 1950 flood St. Boniface could not be protected. It could be protected.

(Mr. Prefontaine, cont'd.) Everybody knows it, and I say that this puts their figures out to quite an extent, and I think the same applies in Greater Winnipeg. Now we have good dikes -- they have cost six millions. Who says they're no good? Who says they'll be washed out? Who says that with the people there we could not now protect the City with these dikes that we have, Mr. Chairman? I would like to ask the Minister whether he believes that St. Boniface could not be protected against a 1950 flood with the dikes that we have at the present time.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for Carillon is going to be utterly amazed at the answer that I'm going to give him. You're going to be utterly amazed at the answer that I'm going to give you. -- (Interjection) -- Give me time. I'm going to agree with you. I'm going to agree with you that if this is all that we are trying to do is protect the City of Winnipeg against a 1950 flood we could end the whole argument here and all go home as far as this project is concerned. -- (Interjection) -- This doesn't prove anything. The statement says that if the dikes were overtopped these losses would occur if you had a flood the size of the 1950 flood, and I agree -- I agree, Mr. Chairman, with the honourable member completely. If all we're concerned about here is protecting Greater Winnipeg against a 1950 flood we're all wasting our time. If we want to protect the City from a 1950 flood we'll follow the advice of the honourable members across the way and will rely on the dikes, which will give us 80,000 c. f. s. protection -- of protection against a flow of 80,000 c. f. s. We might utilize the perimeter highway to some extent. We could go along with all these ideas that we get, particularly from the Member for Carillon, but the whole thing is this that we are protecting the Greater Winnipeg area against much larger floods. One of the most important things that the Royal Commission did was to determine the necessary level of protection -- the necessary level of protection. And on the information that was available and the records of floods in the past, they found that it was in the interests of the people of Manitoba and -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Chairman, may I finish my statement?

MR. PREFONTAINE: Well you are completely away from the point I made before . . .

MR. HUTTON: The Royal Commission found that it was necessary, if you were going to give practical protection to Greater Winnipeg, you had to protect this city against a flow of 169,000 cubic feet per second. Now, the Honourable Member for Carillon seems to think that the money that has been spent on dikes is wasted, but it isn't. It isn't wasted. The money, the \$6 million that was spent on the dikes, the \$6 million that was spent on diking will become an integral part of the flood protection because it enables us to route 80,000 cubic feet per second down the old channel if you have a maximum flood, and the diversion permits you to route 60,000 cubic feet per second through there, and the Assiniboine Diversion to Manitoba enables you to route 25,000 there, if you happen to get a coincidence of peak flows on both rivers, and the Shellmouth Reservoir will take off another 4,000. That gives you 169,000 cubic feet, or protection against flows of 169,000 cubic feet. And so there is no argument about this. We're trying to protect Greater Winnipeg from a potential flood of 169,000 cubic feet per second, and in order to do this we need the dikes; we need the diversion around Greater Winnipeg; we need the Portage Diversion and we need the Shellmouth Reservoir. I agree completely with the Honourable Member for Carillon when he says for a 1950 flood with the dikes that we have, and if we're prepared to put on hip waders and fight and live the way people lived in 1950, we can get by; but you know, I would be very chary about recommending to the people of Greater Winnipeg that they should entertain the idea that the order of the day, the uniform of the day, in springtime in Greater Winnipeg should be hip waders from now on, and I would also suggest that there isn't a smitch of evidence to justify the stand that we're not going to have to fight anything more than a 1950 flood. All the evidence is to the contrary. We had four floods, four floods, four major floods--many minor, but four major floods, and three of them were substantially larger. One was twice as large as the '50 flood, and it's against this type of flood that we are designing these works.

MR. PREFONTAINE: Mr. Chairman, he said I suggested that the order of the day in Winnipeg might be, every spring, to have hip waders, but I would remind the Honourable Minister that it is 100 years now, and during that 100 years--1861 to 1962--we've had one 1950 flood. That's one year in 101 years. With respect to the other floods, you know how they were arrived at. By hearsay, by reading books, and the Minister knows very well that all these old

(Mr. Prefontaine, cont'd.) stories mention huge ice jams. they couldn't fight in those days. Are we sure, are we not sure, just estimate the levels? We haven't got good records. The man who established the levels of these floods is a man, Sir Stanford Fleming, who came here in 1879, and both the Commissions quote Sir Stanford Fleming, and he says that he established these by discussing with old-timers who showed him certain marks some place--doesn't know where--and he tried to establish a record, but these people in 1826 were here in Winnipeg without roads, without bridges, without anything. Just swamps around them--low spots, and they didn't want to be caught. They had to move. But who, even now, can tell how high the water went in 1950? Some are not too sure. There are all kinds of stories, and I say that in the estimates cost benefit ratio, there is \$114 million there against fighting a 1914 flood--a 1950 flood, and the Minister agrees with me that we can protect ourselves surely without spending \$114 million. I say this amount is much too high, because it includes \$38 million to protect St. Boniface against a 1950 flood when St. Boniface protected itself in 1950 without any dike or anything, so I say this figure of \$114 million to me is much too large a figure. In fact they have in certain places, it gives--the dykes are not exceeded--the cost instead of \$114 million would be some \$20 million, and I say that that estimate of cost of another 1950 flood might be much closer to the cost of a 1950 flood than this estimate of \$114 million. And we have an estimate for the '61 flood of \$266 million--1852 flood of 593; and another one 1826 of 852 million--astronomical figure based on a survey made by a man 53 years after the fact through his questioning certain old-timers. And that's about all we have. We know that these are ice jams, according to the old-timers called a flood because the water was coming 6 feet deep, was coming in a rush in those days. Now the situation now is not the same. We can fight ice jams, and I say that the estimated cost is much too high. The cost benefit ratio, I think, is not what it really should be if we didn't have at least one figure that we know is not the one that it will cost--\$114 million. It's no use arguing, I'm sure, against the Honourable the Minister. He's sold to the whole plan. I wonder if he has analyzed it critically, but it seems to me that any person who reads this full--reads all the reports--will come to the conclusion that conditions have changed since, and it's these three historic floods that come into the picture all the time and seems to me that they are not established at the point where we should spend the amount of money that we are willing to spend now, \$114 million, to fight floods that might have taken place in the past and we know, though, that there is only one flood of the 1950 level that has occurred in this part of the country for 101 years, and I'm not suggesting that the mode should be hip waders around here every spring at all, even if I take the stand I'm taking.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to say a few more words in respect of this, because the Honourable Member for Carillon is a former Minister of the Crown who sat on this side of the House, and it's just inconceivable to me that any man who has held a responsible position in the government could stand up in the House and argue and argue he's never heard of a transit, he's never heard of a level, he's never heard of an engineer's rule, who would intimate that the people who carried out this study went about the country and asked people how high the water was. There's another very easy, much easier method of determining what the level of water would be if you had certain flows. You know the elevations of the land; you know the capacity of the river valleys; you know how wide. Given those capacities of the river valley and a volume of water the engineers can determine how high the water would be, and it's on this basis, it's on this basis that they determine the extent of damage, and knowing the real property values that stands in the way of such a flood, they can determine easily if such waters are flowing down the valley. They can easily determine what the damages will be when they know the value of real property in the past of such a flood flow. And you know it's not a bad engineering principle. It's one that's recognized not only in Manitoba but in Canada and in the United States that you don't build projects of this nature to meet catastrophes that have happened in your lifetime. I recently visited Sioux City, Iowa, and you know they have a little river down there called the Floyd River, and it's just about the size of Sturgeon Creek. A few years ago they got a flow of 74,000 c. f. s. in that little river and I saw there was a little bit of water in the bottom that looked mighty harmless, and if you had told me that as much water came down that Floyd River as would fill the diked Red River channel top to top, I'm quite sure that the Honourable Member for Carillon wouldn't believe it. But it

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) happened, and it drowned 13 people, and they're building a diversion, oddly enough. I know that these things are frowned on in Canada by some people, but they're building a diversion, and they're building it right through the city because Sioux City sits in a bowl and there's no way to get around, but they have to provide for this water getting through. But they're not building a diversion that will carry 74,000 c. f. s. They're building a diversion that will carry 90-odd c. f. s. —I think it's 96,000 c. f. s. --substantially larger, 30% larger--or almost 30% larger--than the largest flow on record.

I visited those big reservoirs on the Missouri and it was amazing to see the spillways that they provide for a once-in-a-hundred-years flood. The one at Garrison will carry 850,000 cubic feet per second. They measure the concrete of the spillway in acres and it's there for once in a hundred years. I visited the Oahe Reservoir. They had to build a spillway there. And we talk about a reservoir. These reservoirs contain 22 and 23 million acres--acre feet of water. They stretch for hundreds of miles but they provide flood protection. At the Oahe Reservoir in order to provide for the spillway for this once-in-a-hundred-year flood, they had to excavate 30 million yards in three miles. And you know I was amazed -- that's a mighty big hole in the ground. But I was quite amazed that it didn't really appear that big when you saw it, and yet it was close to 150 feet deep, but such were its proportions that it dwarfed itself. These principles that are recommended in the Royal Commission and by the engineers aren't something that are peculiar to Manitoba. They are recognized the world over. And the Honourable Member for Carillon would have us ignore them and go our own way -- a mighty peculiar way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: being discussed in the last hour, I presume the subject will come up again when it comes before the House and I'm hoping that we can expedite matters to get the resolution through and get on with the business.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry I must disagree completely with your statement. The Minister this afternoon covered the ground. He started off by talking about water supply for towns all over the province; he carried on; he talked then about the Portage Diversion and some factors there. He covered the whole waterworks of every town. We had a map shown to us and I think we're perfectly entitled to go through the full details, Mr. Chairman, and I insist that we do. I don't think there's any waste of time here. The time that we're spending at this particular stage will not obviously be spent again on the Minister's estimates, and my honourable friend is the one who proposed the resolution. He had no need to bring the resolution in. He did so. He wants to get an opinion of the House, he says. It's perfectly unnecessary; he has done it for political reasons. That's fine, but let's have a good discussion then. We want to know exactly what my honourable friend intends to do and we have lots of questions to ask him.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, this afternoon in discussing the diversion of the Assiniboine River into Lake Manitoba; could he tell us what is the maximum level that the government will allow Lake Manitoba to get to? People along the Lake are rather concerned; they don't know just what the plans are and they'd like to know just how high they'll allow Lake Manitoba to get.

MR. HUTTON: Well, we endeavour to regulate the level of water in Lake Manitoba so that it will never get higher than 813 or go lower than 811. In order to do this, you can't let it go to 813--you can't attempt to hold it right at 813 because you must have a little bit of margin to work on. On the other hand, you can't let it drop down too low because we know that as occurred in this past summer, you can lose an awful lot of water off Lake Manitoba through evaporation. So you hold it some place over 812. This allows for evaporation and under average conditions permits you to keep a minimum of 811. On the other hand, it allows you a margin so that if the inflows are substantially increased into Lake Manitoba, you have an opportunity to offset them by regulating the control structure at Fairford. But we always try to maintain the level some place between 813 and 811.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, the Minister must be aware that if the level is allowed to go to 813, it will flood all the farms or the majority of farms on both sides of the lake. None of the farm people want it to go to 813, but I believe that what the Fairford Dam--when it was constructed it was agreed by the engineers that they could control it between that

(Mr. Guttormson, cont'd.) level, that was the maximum of 813 and a minimum of 811. Is that not correct? Well what they're concerned is how high will the government let that level go to before they will start allowing water to go in or before they let water go out. Will the government let the water go to 813, to a maximum of 813, or the 812.6? That's what they want to know.

MR. HUTTON: Well, the Water Control and Conservation Branch is operating the structure carefully, will endeavour to do it in such a manner that the levels will never go beyond 813. On the other hand, they don't want them to go below 811. So they strike a happy medium some place in there, depending upon the--for instance, it could be the water supply on Winnipegosis and the rate of flow into the lake. If they see that the rate of flow is increasing they'll open up the Fairford control structure and let more water out. If the rate of flow into the lake is decreasing, they might put some more logs in, anticipating that the lake is going to lose through evaporation combined with low inflows; it's not a simple procedure. They have to take into consideration the supplies of water coming into the lake, the level of the lake, the anticipated runoff in the watershed, and so forth. But they endeavour to operate the structure in such a manner that the level will not go beyond 813 and yet will not go below 811. It would be a very easy thing to ensure that they never went above 812, if you drop them down and just held them at 811 but, then on the other hand, your lake could well fall to 810 or 809-1/2 if you were to get a dry year and not have held the water in the lake--held a minimum amount of water in the lake.

MR. GUTTORMSON: But if the plans are to make Lake Manitoba a reservoir of any consequence, aren't you going to have to raise it to a certain level so that you'll have enough water to utilize it at a later date? And if you're talking about making it a reservoir, surely you must have to raise it to a certain level or using the lake for a potential reservoir is of no value at all.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, Lake Manitoba covers 1.1 million acres and every inch of water on that lake represents about 85 million acre feet of water so that six inches would give you half a million acre feet. Now if you turn your water from the Assiniboine, or if you have water available from the Assiniboine in the years of low inflow--and this is what we're worried about. When you talk about the value of a reservoir, you talk about its value in the years of very low flows. It has no value to you when you have enough water coming down through natural precipitation; there's no value at all. But where its real value shows up is in those years of minimum flow. And so if we are able to route the water to the Assiniboine through Lake Manitoba in the dry years, in the years of low levels on the lake and low flows on the rivers, we can get very useful storage in Lake Manitoba. And at the same time, we can do the interests around Lake Manitoba a lot of good.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Could the Minister tell me what consideration has been given to Lake St. Martin. Right at the moment Lake St. Martin is virtually destroyed as a fishing lake because while the Fairford works were being put in and because of the drought all the logs are in and there's no flow. And right now Lake St. Martin--there's no water in it at all, that is to speak of; fishing as an industry is just about destroyed completely. Has any consideration been given to this lake at all in the over-all plan?

MR. HUTTON: Well I heard at one stage that there was too much water going down the Fairford channel and this was causing trouble downstream in the Lake St. Martin area, and now I'm told that the lack of flow is hurting Lake St. Martin. My honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition has suggested that I brought this resolution into the House for political purposes and I resent that insinuation very much. I would suggest that a great deal can be done with our water resource in this province if people will stop using it as a political football. You know, we've got lots of water; it's a question of management. So many people in the Province of Manitoba are interested in the water resource for different reasons. There is, at times, a conflict of interest amongst the various users and much can be done with Lake Manitoba. But in order that we can do it, we've got to have the confidence of the people who are interested and there are those who object if we take any water out of the lake; there are those who object if we put any water into the lake; there are those who object if we hold the levels high enough so that we might have a little water to put into Lake St. Martin; and there's those who object when it gets too low. Now I'm not going to try and answer the question of Lake St. Martin tonight. I wasn't aware that the levels had dropped so drastically since last fall in that lake that they had ruined it. We have been trying to maintain the level in Lake Manitoba because it is

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) lower than we like to see it. There are a great many interests around the lake--recreation, wild life, fishing--even though the Honourable Member for St. George seems to feel that that is ruined--there are agricultural interests, and all of them have to be looked after. Now you have to weigh off the values in retaining your level, as high a level as you can on the lake in the time of low inflow against what could be accomplished by letting some of this water down to Lake St. Martin, but we feel that when we get the Portage Diversion constructed, that we will have taken another major step forward in controlling Lake Manitoba. Fairford was a big step forward but it helps us control the top level and it doesn't do anything for us in firming up the low levels in the lake.

MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS (St. Boniface): The Honourable Minister deplores the way in which the people had to live during the flood of 1950, and we certainly agree with him, although I don't think that it was quite that bad. It had some good points also and I think it got the people together a little more. We certainly don't advocate that we should go back to that, but you can buy an awful lot of rubber boots for 200 million dollars. Now the Honourable Minister also agreed this evening with the Member from Carillon. He tried to make him look bad and ignorant while doing it, but I remember two or three years ago on a TV program that he did not agree. He denied that because the Honourable Member from Carillon did say that the perimeter and the dikes could protect us from a flood such as the 1950, and the Honourable Minister at the time denied it, so it took him a little while to find out. Now it's all right, also, to go back and tell us all about those grandiose ideas that they had in the United States--that's fine. We'd like to have all those things here but I think that's a very poor comparison. They also have quite a few dollars for foreign aid and for protection--I think we have to pretty well rely on them for protection in case of attack--and there's an awful lot of money that they spend with the population, and the money that they have--that's fine, but the important thing is how much are we going to spend to protect the people of greater Winnipeg and for what protection? Now politically it's safe to spend as much money because you'll never be able to prove any different. I mean we have to be careful here. All right, the members of the government maybe have knowledge from experienced people and so on, but it's the same thing as in the building game. How many people will come in and give you--let's say, in the air conditioning system--I've heard that not too long ago. They will ask for 30 ton, for 50 ton, when a 5 ton unit would do the work. Now that was recommended to me not too long ago and the people from the air conditioning unit told me that these engineers were crazy. They just want to protect themselves. They don't care because you'll never know any different. You can ask for 50 ton--he told me that just a small building on a certain street here in greater Winnipeg had a unit there that could take care of Hudson's Bay and Eaton's together, but you'll never be able to prove otherwise. You might as well make sure and they're not spending the money. I don't say that this is the case but this might be the case.

Now I think that another thing that should be considered--we've talked about the States and the Honourable Minister told us of all the terrific, and I imagine that they are--those programs they have there--but we haven't heard much about negotiation or talking things over with the States. Some of this water comes from the States. Now we've had--between these two countries it's certainly a friendly relationship--we've had the St. Lawrence Seaway and different things like that. Now how is it that the federal government, and the Province of Manitoba, have not negotiated more with the States? Apparently there's a committee functioning now to protect the people of Minnesota, North and South Dakota. Now I'm not saying that nothing has been done, but we haven't heard anything about it at all. We're left in the dark and we're supposed to give carte blanche to anything that the government wants to do, and then we're told that this is a political football that we're waving around. We just want to know--I think we're entitled to know. You don't spend this kind of money and call it--I want to be fair--you explain that it wasn't only details, but I mean if that was the best word you can find--I think that if this is so important to present in front of the House, this thing of a resolution of three or four pages, that we're entitled to know a little more about that. Can we find out what has been done with the States? Have we been negotiating? Have we been talking? Have we been learning from the work that has been done in North and South Dakota and Minnesota? Maybe this has been done but we've never been informed, and I think that it certainly has bearing on this. Are we going to just build a monument? Is that what we want to do? Is that what this government wants to

(Mr. Desjardins, cont'd.) do; the people of Manitoba will spend? We'll never be able to prove otherwise. We know you're going to build this thing. How are we going to prove that it wasn't needed? At least let's be careful with these things and let's try to get all the angles possible to protect this water. That's fine. We all have the same thing in mind--to protect the people of Manitoba, but are we going to do it and just for an election or something spend the money the way we are? I mean, that's a very, very terrifying decision to make, and let's not do like these engineers that say, "All right, let's have a 30-ton unit," when a 5-ton unit can do the work, just to make sure. We have not the money and the resources that the people of the United States have, and we haven't got the population that the United States have. There's a lot of other things we can do. You can laugh about the way, or deplore the way that the people were living in 1950, but some of them are living like that all the time--in slum clearances and a lot of other projects that we could bring in. Now we're not in a position to say--we haven't got engineers working for us and so on. We're trying to be careful; we want a firm commitment from the Dominion of Canada; we want you to be careful on this and we want you to do the right thing. This is the decision that has to be made, and we won't be in a position in five years or so, and say you didn't need this, because you can always say it could have happened once in one year, but I think that this is exaggerated; if this is going to happen once in a hundred years--and we probably could save it anyway--that we haven't got the right to spend this money. We are not building a monument to the Conservative Party--we're trying to protect the people of Manitoba.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to answer the question that was raised by the Honourable Member for St. Boniface. I think that he was in the House this afternoon when I--(interjection)--oh--well then he can't be blamed for the fact that he doesn't know about this matter, but I think he was unfair to say that we hadn't laid the facts before the House when he wasn't even in the House to listen to them, because I quoted from the Red River Basin Investigation in respect to the International Joint Commission Engineering Board. We have a board that operates internationally between Manitoba and the state concerned, and it was their opinion, after their investigation, that there could be no flood protection in the lower reaches of the Red River as a result of action taken by US authorities in respect of this problem, and I'm only too happy--I've been in some trouble here today because I've been trying to give this information to you. I have not been trying to withhold anything or to fool anyone, and these matters have been looked into. The question of what can be done south of the border has been investigated and, as a result of those investigations, we have determined that anything that is done south of the border will have--negligible is the term that is used--will have negligible effect upon flood flows at the international boundary.

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Chairman, I must apologize to the Minister if I was absent this afternoon. I was referring mostly to questions that I have asked--I think it was earlier this session, and I know last session, about this and we were never given any answer, but if the answer was given today I'll certainly read Hansard and I'm sorry for that statement that I made.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of questions that I'd like to check with the Minister. One of them is the one already raised by the Honourable Member for Carillon and at least partially answered by the Minister, because he agreed with some of the things that the Honourable Member for Carillon said, and that's a fairly rare occurrence in this debate I would think. What I'm reading from now is page 38 of the report--the Manning Report--the same one that the Honourable Member for Carillon quoted. I'll ask the Minister to listen to this. This is the quote: "Even a flood of the 1950 magnitude would impose a loss of \$114 million on the City if the temporary diking failed entirely and flooding was general behind the main diking system." Now I pause in the quotation to say, why should the Commission make such an assumption as that? If it failed entirely. My honourable friend has agreed with the Member for Carillon that the present system of dikes, plus what could be built on them, plus the perimeter road, would take care of a 1950 flood, and I certainly agree with that too, and yet we have this statement predicted on the fact "if the temporary diking failed entirely and flooding was general behind the main diking system." Just within the last few days we've had a statement--at least there's a press report which credits the Winnipeg City Engineer, a very capable man who is entirely familiar with this whole problem, with saying something the same thing, that he feels that as far as a 1950 flood is concerned, that the situation is already taken care of. Well, there we have some

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) pretty hefty experts--the Honourable Member for Carillon, the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and the City Engineer. Three great authorities agreeing on this matter.

MR. HUTTON: hip waders is the accepted garment--

MR. CAMPBELL: But this isn't a case of hip waders that the Honourable Member for Carillon and the Honourable the Minister have agreed on. It's that the system, as presently arranged, will take care of a 1950 flood. Now if hip waders have been added to that there's a qualification--OK--but I didn't think that the other two experts, the member for Carillon and the City Engineer put that in, so I ask again: why should the Commission make such a statement? But I carry on with their quotation: "Though these figures are very large they are based on a very thorough analysis, and we are convinced that they represent a fair and honest evaluation of the flood losses that would occur." Would occur. "Indeed if they err in any respect it is that they are too low, since, as will be pointed out below, they deliberately omit a variety of damages that either proved difficult to evaluate accurately or were omitted because they were of secondary importance, and they make no direct allowance for many intangible considerations such as the possible loss of life, the disruption, anxiety and heartbreak caused by major flood." Then to go on to the part that the Honourable the Minister mentioned, and I shan't take the time to read it. They amplify that by saying that they've included St. Boniface, on the assumption that the dikes would not hold there, and I agree with what the member for Carillon said. And then they say that a third of their figure, approximately, is made up by putting the St. Boniface damages in, and a third of that figure is \$38 million. Now I ask the Minister, is it not a fact that in making the computations of the benefit cost ratio that he's talking about, that these St. Boniface figures have been included, that they have been included, and consequently the benefit cost ratio would have to be altered if he and the Honourable Member for Carillon and the City Engineer are correct. Shouldn't they be altered to take that into account?

Then I have one other question while I'm on this particular matter. On page 3, I believe it is, 3 of the same report, we have a recommendation re maintenance by the proper authority of the channel of the Assiniboine River at not less than its present capacity in the area between Portage la Prairie and Headingley. "In this region"--and I'm reading from the report now-- "In this region, silt carried down from further upstream has been gradually filling in the river channel and the removal by dredging of any obstacles to the free flow of the river is necessary." I want to ask the Minister if any work has been undertaken or is projected in that regard.

MR. HUTTON: Well I'll answer the last question first. I think that the Honourable Member for Lakeside knows that the maintenance of the dike channel capacity of the Assiniboine River between Portage and Headingley is implicit in the considerations for flood control on the Assiniboine River. There is no consideration being given to abandon the channel because the dikes on that Assiniboine represent protection even if you have the Portage Diversion--protection against the ultimate floods that we are protecting ourselves against so that, if I may answer it from that way--if he'll allow me to answer it from that way--the intention or the program is for the continued maintenance of a channel that will carry 20,000 c.f.s. in addition to the Portage Diversion which will handle 25,000.

I'd like to just say a word in respect to the matter that the honourable member raised insofar as the handling of the 1950 flood is concerned. There is one thing that is ignored here and that is the fact that dikes are far from permanent protection. They can be undermined very quickly by flows such as the 1950 flood. There is another grave danger in respect of dikes and that is where the people place too much confidence upon them and it can be deadly. Dikes are not a permanent answer--dikes of the nature that we had are not a permanent answer to even a 1950 flood. It'll do, but it still calls for constant vigilance on the part of the people if they're going to live with this, and it still calls for hip waders and the recruiting of people to maintain them, because we would still have to fight with sandbags and it's, at best, it's a second-best effort and not entirely dependable. But that isn't the important thing. The important thing is that we are not here to consider protection against a flood which occurred in 1950. We're here to consider protecting ourselves against the kind of a flood that can happen just as easily as the 1950 flood. The 1950 flood--well in 1956, the engineers tell us--I think that this report refers to it--that if we had gotten unfavourable conditions in the runoff period we could have had a substantially larger flood than occurred in 1950, and there's just no use arguing. This

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) government is prepared to protect the City of Winnipeg and all the surrounding municipalities against floods up to 169,000 cubic feet per second. This is what we are prepared to do. This is the recommendation of the Commission, so the argument that some of their statements don't hold water aren't really relative to the question at hand, and they have reason for saying that if the dikes failed engineering experience and knowledge told them that the dikes could fail, that they weren't sure protection, and taking into consideration the false security that you create in the minds of the people you could have a far worse disaster than happened in 1950, and it isn't the business of government to lull the people to sleep with respect to this matter. So, I think that's enough said.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I was quite aware, quite aware of my honourable friend's argument that they were building for something more than a 1950 flood. I wasn't needing to be further informed on that question, but the point I was asking him was that if he and my honourable friend from Carillon and the Winnipeg City Engineer agree that the present diking system plus the perimeter road, etcetera, will take care of a 1950 flood, is not then the \$38 million in there something that should have been subtracted from his benefit cost ratio? That's the question I was asking him.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, I don't think that is a valid statement because the Royal Commission in considering this matter qualified that statement. They said "if the dikes failed," and there is a possibility that the dikes will fail. They are not absolutely secure protection against the flood. Supposing that you had a flood at a prolonged crest; suppose that you had a lot of ice. It is very possible that such protective measures could fail, and in that case, as I said, the results would be worse.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I have to subtract my honourable friend from the triumvirate that I mentioned a moment ago. He does not agree with my honourable friend from Carillon and the Winnipeg City Engineer.

MR. HUTTON: He me in this respect that if all we're worried about is a 1950 flood, there's no use carrying on the debate because the measures that we have introduced would not be practical if this was all the protection that you want. We could build a smaller diversion for one thing. You want 100,000, roughly 100,000 c.f.s.--protection against a flow of roughly 100,000 c.f.s. You have, without using sandbags, a capacity in the channel now with the dikes of 80,000, so if you build a diversion channel of 25,000 or 30,000, you would have ample, or you could consider that you couldn't justify some of the projects on the Assiniboine River, or you could look at the--maybe in a little different light--at the proposition of the diversion of the eastern tributaries to the Red, but when the Royal Commission made their study they first established the extent of the flood hazard, the extent of the necessary protection, and then they looked at the alternatives that would give them that. Now if you change the whole premise, that you only want to protect against the 100,000, you destroy the whole argument.

MR. HRYHORCZUK: Mr. Chairman, after listening to the Minister I'm convinced that if we should ever have a flood of the proportions of 169,000 that Winnipeg, it will be flooded just as well as it would be if we had an 80,000 and no floodway. He tells us--we'll come to that--he tells us that the 80,000 flood, the present works would hold it, but it's only second best assurance because the banks are not something that you can depend upon; that they're liable to be undercut by the flow of water; they fall down and then you get the flooding. Well, Mr. Chairman, wouldn't the same thing happen if we had a flood of 169,000? The river would have to carry the 80,000 because that's the way the thing is laid out. And with that 80,000 flow in the river, you would endanger Winnipeg just the same as you would with a 1950 flood without a floodway.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution be adopted?

MR. MOLGAT: Sorry, Mr. Chairman, I have a diversion here.--(interjection)--I'm glad to see that the discussion has achieved some useful purposes, Mr. Chairman. We have a convinced individual who has decided that we are on the side of the right, which we have always claimed. I think this discussion, Mr. Chairman, about the floodway itself--I have some other questions on other subjects but we're back on that one--what I want to find out is exactly what is going to happen now if we have a flood. Let' assume that the diversion is built, that the Shellmouth Dam is built, the Portage is built, and we have a flood of 1950 proportions, let us say. What happens in the City of Winnipeg?

MR. HUTTON: An aspect of the floodway which I have not dealt with so far is that it gives us over the long term some answer to the problem of river bank erosion and slippage. Further too, if we had a flow of 80,000 or 100,000 c.f.s., we kept her all within the river channel and fought it as we did in 1950, not only do you have the immediate damages to repair but you have the long term effects of those high flows on the river on the stability of the river bank. Now we have in the Province of Manitoba and in greater Winnipeg, we have a rivers and streams authority, and it is their responsibility to exercise control over building construction along the river bank. They came to me last summer and expressed grave concern over the increased and continued building of structures which they felt were in danger due to their proximity to the river on river banks which everyone knows are quite unstable. So they came to me and requested that Dr. Casagrande, the soils mechanic expert, who was employed to do an analysis on the soils that we have to work in with the floodway, and asked if the province would make him available to do a study on the problem of river banks slippage through greater Winnipeg. And we accommodated the authority with the result that Dr. Casagrande gave them a report on his opinions in respect to this problem. And he stated in his report that he thought that over the long run, the Red River Diversion would have a very beneficial effect on this question of river bank slippage. The reason for the slippage was the fluctuation and especially high flows on the Red River. And so with that background, let me say what would happen. If we got a flow on the Red River of, say, 90,000 c.f.s., the minute the flow on the Red River got above 30,000 we would route some of that water down the floodway. If the flows on the Red were to, say, reach 90,000, we would probably put half of it down the floodway and half of it down the channel. If we had substantial flows on the Assiniboine--suppose we had 20,000 coming down the Assiniboine--we could, if we wanted, cut off all but 400 or 500 c.f.s. and direct it through the Portage Diversion into Lake Manitoba and thence through Fairford into Lake Winnipeg. We could contain some waters in the reservoir at Shellmouth--that's 100,000 c.f.s. But let's take the ultimate flood flow that we are trying to protect ourselves against. In that case we would route 80,000 down the channel. We wouldn't need sandbagging; we could take 80,000 down there the way it is. And there's a difference between putting 80,000 between those dikes without any sandbagging and putting them down there with a big load of sandbags on top of them. It affects the stability of those banks--quite a difference. We would put 60,000 down the floodway. We could divert 25,000. And this is, of course, anticipating the ultimate flood where you have a coincidence of maximum flows on both rivers. You can route 25,000 into Lake Manitoba and you can, by holding in the reservoir at Shellmouth, you can hold back enough water to reduce the flows in this area by about 4,000 c.f.s. So you have water to reduce the flows in this area by about 4,000 c.f.s. So you have 80 and 60 are 140, and 25--165 and 4 is 169. If you get flows higher than that, you can still dike again. But here the Royal Commission thought that to go beyond this level of protection you would get less back than you would be putting into it.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, that would mean, let's say in a flood like 1950, that any of the areas outside the main diking system--the one, say, in the secondary diking area--would be flooded. When my honourable friend speaks about the diking system, he means the main dikes. Is that correct?

MR. HUTTON: Right. Any buildings that are in between the river and the dike have no protection at the present time at all. They would have protection if you had the floodway. You could protect them against--I forget now what the flow of the actual channel is, the capacity of the Red River is without the dikes--something like 60,000. You could get flows of 120,000 depending upon where they originated. You could probably get flows of 120,000 and still give these people protection, that are between the dike and the river, but I think that the decision was made a long time ago that those people who were between the dike and the river were pretty well out of luck and it just isn't feasible to try and protect them, because you've no stability, no place to work, no place to build.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, this actually means then that the protection will still remain only for those who are behind the main system of dikes?

MR. HUTTON: No, it doesn't. Because you've got an ultimate--something over 120,000 c.f.s., the flow on the Red River, you could protect these people inside the dike because there would be an attempt made at all times to keep the flow down in the main channel of the river and to utilize the floodway when you've got flows of this kind. If for no other reason

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) to try and keep some stability in the river banks on the main channel.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, in addition to these dwellings that are outside of the dikes or inside of the dikes, according to whichever terminology you use, there are also the so-called secondary dikes that are not as high as the primary diking system. They, too, would be flooded with anything beyond 60,000 cubic feet per second or thereabouts in the main channel, would they not?

MR. HUTTON: No, I think that you're referring to the section of the dikes that are raised at any time that we are faced with a flood threat at the present time. There are sections of the main dikes that, I understand, for convenience sake are not at the 26-1/2 foot level. And these sections when we are anticipating high waters on the Red, would be built up to the 26-1/2 foot level.

MR. CAMPBELL: For instance, the Kingston Crescent area--Kingston Row. The Elm Point in general--they haven't a primary dike--

MR. HUTTON: I can't see, Mr. Chairman, why they would fail to gain from this type of program that we have mapped out that we are proposing to proceed with, because for all but the ultimate of flood or very high floods, we could give them protection, and I expect with some diking that they can have a great deal more protection than they have today. There's no doubt about that.

MR. GUTTORMSON: Mr. Chairman, what capacity of flow can the Fairford channel handle? What is the top capacity of flow of the Fairford channel? What flow can the Fairford River channel hold? You were talking of possibly diverting 25,000 cubic feet per second into Lake Manitoba now--

MR. HUTTON: If my memory serves me correctly, it's about 11,000 at 812 feet. I think that is correct. I stand to be corrected. I do know this, that as the lake levels rise, the capacity of the channel becomes much greater. It has sort of a geometric progression. I'd like to point out that the flows on the Assiniboine, even a large flow of 25,000 cubic feet per second don't continue that long that they couldn't be coped with in terms of the capacity of the large area of Lake Manitoba plus the capacity of the Fairford works.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, coming back then to the Floodway itself. The combination of the projects would take us, and include floods up to the 1852 level. Once we reached anywhere near that, of course, there would have to be some extensive sandbagging as the Minister indicated. But a flood at the 1826 level we cannot contain with any of the projects planned. Is that correct?

MR. HUTTON: No, you could fight a flood of that nature by resorting to the kind of tactics that we would have to do at the present time if we got a 1950 flood--it isn't sure protection but you could get up around 190,000 if you resorted to sandbagging; but it wouldn't be the sure protection that you would have at 169.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman for any of these floods the project will do nothing for the area above St. Norbert on the Red River. Is that correct?

MR. HUTTON: There are some flood benefits from the Pembina River development but as I've indicated they are slight, but there will be some flood control benefits from the development of that river. I indicated the extent of them--three inches on the 1950 flows.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Mr. Chairman, I wish to direct this question to the Minister--assuming that this work is completed according to plan, can the Minister give me his assurance that this will cure the pollution existing on the Red River at Lockport?

MR. HUTTON: Well, you know, Mr. Chairman, I thought that the Honourable Member for Selkirk was going to ask me what effect this would have on Selkirk, but he's probably read in the report that when these works are completed, and in the case of an ultimate flood, say of 169,000 cubic feet per second, the levels at Selkirk would be lower than if we hadn't done anything at all.--(interjection)--Yes. Well I would suggest that when we get the Shellmouth Reservoir built that the people at Lockport won't have it nearly as bad as they had it this summer, because it could hardly be worse. But we had very low flows in the Assiniboine this past summer--they got down to 92 cubic feet per second at Headingley--and when the Shellmouth Reservoir is completed we will be able to maintain a minimum flow of 470 cubic feet, and that's almost five times better and it would have some real effect on the--what do you call it--the most obvious effects of the past summer. And too it will, once the Portage Diversion is completed we

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) can look forward to utilizing some of these excess flows on the Assiniboine by routing them through Lake Manitoba if the experts tell us that it is economical to do so and in the interests of the community to use this approach.

MR. HILLHOUSE: How long will that take, Mr. Minister--about three years?

MR. HUTTON: From when?

MR. HILLHOUSE: From the time you start. I just want to be able to tell my people down there how long they'll have to hold their noses, that's all.

MR. HUTTON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I hope that the level of water--the flows on the Red and the Assiniboine are sufficient this spring to really give them a real flushing down there and to cleanse the atmosphere. I certainly hope, not only for the people of Lockport but I hope for all the people of Manitoba, that the amount of precipitation that we get this coming summer is substantially greater than what we enjoyed this past year, and if this is the case I am sure that conditions will be greatly improved.

MR. HILLHOUSE: Well I hope on our side.

MR. MOLGAT: Mr. Chairman, the target date at this time for the three projects. What are the proposed target dates for completion of each of the three projects?

MR. HUTTON: A person can get entailed when they say when these things are going to be completed, but we are hoping that we will be able to complete them about 1967.

MR. MOLGAT: Three years?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. GUTTORMSON: If I understood the Minister correctly, he said the Floodway would be completed in five years. Will this Floodway afford any flood protection at all before it is completed? So therefore in--we'll say in four and a half years it still would not afford protection. Is that correct?

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, I've been listening to the Minister all through the afternoon and evening using the term "when the Portage la Prairie Diversion is completed," and I suppose that he's been expecting me at some time to place myself on record as thinking that there's a better scheme than the Portage la Prairie Diversion. I would like to hear him tell us--I have heard him at public meetings give his version before of why the--apart even from the difference in cost--why the Portage Diversion is, in his opinion, a better flood control and better conservation than the Holland Dam. Certainly the difference in cost is something that should be taken into account, but leaving that aside I have understood the Minister in public meetings to say that even apart from the question of cost, that the Diversion is much better as far as flood control is concerned, that the Holland Dam, and that it is also better from a conservation angle--that's as I understood it from what he said. If I'm not quoting him correctly he'll speak for himself I'm sure.

What I find difficult to believe, in spite of having heard the Honourable the Minister give his interpretation of it on more than one occasion, I still find it difficult to believe that it is beyond the capacity of the engineering experts to devise a system by which they can have these reservoirs largely emptied if the flood forecasting experts suggest that there's going to be flood danger. And if they can be emptied--my honourable friend from Carillon was mentioning this in connection with a much smaller work this afternoon--if they are emptied then is it not a fact that with the acre feet capacity of the Shellmouth and the Holland Dam taken together, that they would be able to control the flood threat on the Assiniboine, not only as far as Portage la Prairie, but for the area between Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg, because it seems to me that the acre feet that are mentioned in the two of those put together would hold the total flow of that river for something in the neighbourhood of three weeks. I would think that after that time there would be no problem. It also seems to me that they are more of a conservation measure than putting that water out in Lake Manitoba. Now I respect the amount of work that my honourable friend has done on this matter and I certainly respect his opinion and I realize that his opinion is reinforced by consulting with people who are experts in this field, but I ask him once again--is it not possible to do even with these big reservoirs the thing that the Honourable Member for Carillon was talking about this afternoon--to anticipate the time that you'll need to have them empty--or nearly empty--and thereby make use of their storage capacity--almost full storage capacity up to spillway level, for flood control purposes and not lose anything on conservation?

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, you know I've got enough faith in the Honourable Member for Lakeside and his good judgment and the fact that he isn't going to advocate something that there isn't dollar value in--I've got a sneaking suspicion that before this is all over he'll probably agree, on the basis of good judgment, that the Portage Diversion is the thing to build at this time. I may have to do a little talking yet but I'm convinced, I have great faith in his good judgment.

Now to answer his question on the Holland Reservoir. If it is built now it will be built for flood control and if it is built for flood control it must be empty--pretty well empty in the fall. Now if you don't get runoff this means that it's only got a 50,000 acre foot pool in the bottom. Now one inch on Lake Manitoba gives you 90,000 acre feet. Now I'm not talking against the Holland Dam when the day comes when we need these waters, but I pointed out that the Shellmouth gives us all the water we're going to need for the next forty years, and if you want to build a project for flood control you can get greater protection from the Portage Diversion than you can from the Holland Dam, and it costs \$6 million less. I never said that the Portage Diversion was a better conservation project than the Holland Dam. What I did say was that if you built these projects for flood control, you only had 50,000 acre feet in the conservation pool behind the dam at Holland, but one inch on Lake Manitoba would give you something close to 90,000 acre feet.

Now if you don't need that water for 40 years there is not much point in investing \$6 million more today, because when you do need that water, and if circumstances dictate that the Holland Dam be built 40 years from now, you will need the Portage Diversion then for flood protection because the idea with water conservation is to save it. And look how you can be fooled--last fall it was so dry. If conditions had continued to be bad this spring we might have needed quite a bit of space behind that reservoir to hold water back but we wouldn't dare have let it out last fall after such a dry summer, so you are left with that small pool. If you take that project as a flood control project, you only have 50,000 acre feet that you can really count on in the dry years, but with the Portage Diversion, even an inch on that lake, you're conserving 90,000 acre feet of water, and the Portage Diversion is sure cheaper flood protection, and as I pointed out earlier today, it's flood protection that justifies the building of any of these projects at the present time. It's what makes it possible for us to justify the building of the Shellmouth which is going to give us this water; it's a thing that justifies the building of the Portage Diversion or the Holland Reservoir at this time. We can use that \$6 million. We can take that and build reservoirs in other places, on the Pembina, on the Souris, and put water where it really is needed, and not put it in duplicate and put more water in an area that already has more than it will need for 40 years.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend says that that water is not needed. Surely even though the Shellmouth Dam, according to the figures that he gives us, will supply a very good flow of water, surely more water would be very welcome down the Assiniboine River during the time that it could be released, and surely it would be welcome through Winnipeg. 600 cubic feet per second is a sizeable flow compared to what we've had, but surely, under the conditions that exist right now, it would be mighty good to have some water from the Holland Dam coming down in addition to the Shellmouth to help with this pollution problem.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Chairman, just let me point out that even if you had the Holland Reservoir and you had the whole thing allocated for water conservation, it would only raise the minimum flow on the river to 700. From 470 to 700. If you want to spend \$6 million to put a lot of water in the lower Assiniboine, if you're willing to spend two-thirds for that amount of water, you can put lots of water in the lower Assiniboine. You haven't touched Lake Winnipegosis. Lake Winnipegosis harnessed and developed would deliver for more than the Holland Reservoir in the lower Assiniboine, so it's a pretty complicated subject.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, it's very complicated when my honourable friend says that you can get a dependable flow of 600 cubic feet per second from the Shellmouth Dam that--(interjection)--Oh, I thought it was 600 that was quoted. All right, 470 from the Shellmouth Dam and you can only get 100 from the Holland which is bigger--(interjection)--Oh, I'm sorry, when I--

MR. HUTTON: 470. You could increase that to 720.

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, that's right. When I was saying 100, I was thinking of 600. But

(Mr. Campbell, cont'd.) that you would still get much less from the Holland than you would from the Shellmouth?

MR. HUTTON: That's correct. I know it's difficult to believe but it's true.

MR. CAMPBELL: It's difficult for me to believe, and if my honourable friend still has hopes of convincing me he'll have to do some work on it yet.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that you report to Mr. Speaker. The hour of 11:00 o'clock is our normal sitting time. It is now past that. May I respectfully suggest to you that you report to Mr. Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Committee rise and report. Put the question--not the resolution be adopted. Those in favour kindly say "aye." Opposed--

MR. MOLGAT: further questions, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest to you that in accordance with our rules, we do not have to conclude the debate. The rules are quite specific that at the hour of 11:00 o'clock, which is our normal closing time until we've exhausted the 65 hour sitting in Committee of Supply, that at the hour of 11:00 o'clock if the House is in Committee at that time, the Chairman of the Committee shall leave the Chair and report to Mr. Speaker. Now I know my honourable friend, the Leader of the House is going to refer to Rule 26 of our rules--(interjection)--However, Mr. Chairman, I'll leave that--I'll leave that, and I won't anticipate what my honourable friend is going to do. I merely point out to you, Mr. Chairman, that it is your duty, in accordance with the rules of the House, to report to Mr. Speaker at 11:00 o'clock.

MR. ROBLIN: Mr. Chairman, I have no objection to that course, whatsoever. In fact if there are other questions that members want to ask, we're more than happy to do this because this meets with the purpose we had in mind when we chose this form of introducing the resolution. As a matter of fact, the regulations give us no choice. But it indicates the wisdom of the course we followed because of the extensive questioning that we've had and if members have not exhausted their category of questions we will be very pleased to deal with them tomorrow or whenever we can. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I agree that you should rise and report progress to Mr. Speaker and we'll have all the questions we like tomorrow. This is going very well.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Call in the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Committee of the Whole has directed me to report progress and ask leave to sit again.

MR. W. G. MARTIN (St. Matthews): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Swan River, the report of the Committee be received.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. ROBLIN: nothing arising on the Orders of the Day. I am prepared to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Conservation--

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I respectfully suggest that the Honourable the First Minister, in accordance with our rules, he cannot make the motion to adjourn, but the obligation is on you, Sir, to declare the House adjourned and leave your Chair until the next sitting of the House.

MR. ROBLIN: Well regardless of that, I'm prepared to move the motion, Mr. Speaker, which I moved seconded by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Conservation--

MR. PAULLEY: May I respectfully suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable the First Minister is out of order in accordance with our rules. You, Mr. Speaker, are the only one that can cause the adjournment. No motion to adjourn the House is in order because of the fact that we haven't entered into the Orders of the Day. I think the procedure is, Mr. Chairman, that you simply declare that the House is adjourned and leave your Chair.

MR. DESJARDINS: Let's do it both ways and get out of here.

MR. SPEAKER: In making progress, I might say that there's been a lot of water run under the bridge. I declare it 11:00 o'clock, and I leave the Chair until 2:30 Tuesday afternoon.