

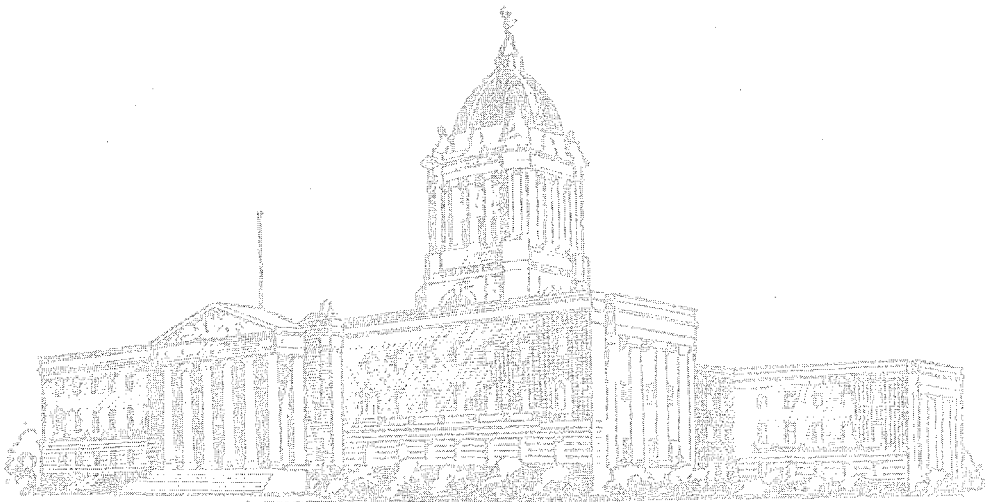


Legislative Assembly Of Manitoba

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable A. W. Harrison



Vol. VII No.9 2:30 p.m. Monday, February 26, 1962. 5th Session, 26th Legislature

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

2:30 o'clock, Monday, February 26th, 1962.

Recording Failure - approximately first 45 minutes:

Opening Prayer by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting petitions.

MR. H. P. SHEWMAN, (Morris) (For MR. R. O. LISSAMAN, Brandon) presented the petition of the Brandon Golf and Country Club, Praying for the passing of An Act to amend An Act to incorporate Brandon Golf and Country Club.

MR. STAN ROBERTS, (La Verendrye) (For MR. LAURENT DESJARDINS, St. Boniface) presented the petition of Ferdinand Beaudry and Others, Praying for the passing of An Act to incorporate The St. Boniface Club.

MR. SPEAKER: Reading and Receiving Petitions.

MR. CLERK: The petition of The Western Savings and Loan Association, Praying for the passing of An Act to amend An Act to incorporate The Western Savings and Loan Association.

The petition of Joseph Parker Vinet, and Others, Praying for the passing of An Act to incorporate Assiniboine Golf Club.

MR. SPEAKER: Presenting reports by Standing and Special Committees.

Notice of Motion.

Introduction of Bills.

HON. STERLING R. LYON, Q. C. (Fort Garry) introduced Bill No. 4, An Act to amend The Summary Convictions Act; and Bill No. 17, An Act respecting Survivorship.

MR. ROBERTS introduced Bill No. 32, An Act respecting the Ste. Agathe Bridge over the Red River in Manitoba.

MR. FRED GROVES (St. Vital) introduced Bill No. 33, An Act to provide a Charter for The City of St. Vital.

On Motion of Mr. ROBLIN, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following Proposed Resolutions:

Mr. ROBLIN: RESOLVED that it is expedient to bring in a measure respecting The Department of Public Utilities providing, among other matters, for the employment of staff and payment of their remuneration.

Mr. WITNEY: RESOLVED that it is expedient to bring in a measure to amend The Mining Royalty and Tax Act providing a new definition of "mining claim" upon which the mining claim tax is based.

WHEREUPON Mr. ROBLIN informed the House that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, having been informed of the subject-matter of the Proposed Resolutions, recommends them to the House.

IN THE COMMITTEE The above Resolutions were adopted.

Resolutions to be reported.

The above Resolutions were reported, read a Second Time, and concurred in.

By leave of the House, the following Bills were then respectively introduced, read a First Time, and ordered for Second Reading on Wednesday next:

No. 3 - An Act respecting The Department of Public Utilities. (Hon. Mr. ROBLIN)

No. 30 - An Act to amend The Mining Royalty and Tax Act. (Hon. Mr. WITNEY)

Mr. CARROLL, a member of the Executive Council, presented:

Report of the Department of Labour for the calendar year ending December 31st, 1961.

(Sessional Paper No. 22)

Mr. HUTTON, a member of the Executive Council, presented:

Annual Report of the Co-operative Promotion Board for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1961.

(Sessional Paper No. 23)

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd.) also

Annual Report of The Milk Control Board of Manitoba for the year ended 30th September, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 24)

Also,

The Annual Report of The Manitoba Agricultural Credit Corporation for the year ended 31st March, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 25)

Also,

Annual Report of The Crop Insurance Agency for the year ended March 31, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 26)

Annual Report of Water Powers Branch for the year ended March 31st, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 27)

Mr. WITNEY, a member of the Executive Council, presented:

The Annual Report of the Department of Mines and Natural Resources for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 28)

Also,

Report of the Board of The Manitoba Farm Loans Association for the period ending March 31st, 1961. (Sessional Paper No. 29)

Mr. LYON moved that Bill No. 5, An Act to provide for the Repeal of The Orderly Payment of Debts Act, be now read a Second Time.

Recording failure remedied -- Balance of Mr. Lyon's explanation of Bill No. 5:

MR. LYON: In the meantime, in Manitoba there was a judgment delivered by His Honour Judge Roth in the County Court of Flin Flon in the matter of James H. Peterson and James Symes, Respondent, and pursuant to The Orderly Payment of Debts Act, by which judgment, which was delivered on May 15th of last year 1961, the judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada was affirmed in Manitoba; and one of our own judges then declared this Act to be ultra vires the powers of this Legislature insofar as Manitoba was concerned. Following upon this judgment by one of our own courts, the Department of the Attorney-General then instructed all of the County Court clerks of this province, I may say regretfully, but we went ahead and instructed them not to accept any more new applications pursuant to The Orderly Payment of Debts Act by reason of the judgment of His Honour Judge Roth. This, therefore, left the courts in the position of having a number of unfinished pieces of business pursuant to The Orderly Payment of Debts Act. While it was not absolutely necessary to repeal the Act immediately, even though the effect of it had been suspended by virtue of instructions to the clerks, it was necessary to clean up those trust monies which the clerks held at that time and hold to this day, pursuant to payment then by debtors under The Orderly Payment of Debts Act.

And so, Mr. Speaker, honourable members will see when they come to the perusal of this bill that it contains, in the first part of it, not only a repeal of the Act, but then it carries on through with statements respecting monies which presently lie in trust in the various County Courts of this province and provides, in effect, that monies being held pursuant to arrangements formerly made under this Act will now become, in effect, arrangements pursuant to The County Courts Act itself. In other words, that these arrangements, or judgments will become in fact judgments of the various County Courts of Manitoba and that the monies may be then disbursed in the way in which it was originally intended that they should be disbursed. I say it is a matter of regret that we have found this very valuable legislation to be ultra vires the powers of the province. I can only assure the House that we are in close contact with the Department of Justice at Ottawa in furthering this scheme which we have suggested to them. I should also mention to the members of the House, Mr. Speaker, that I understand that the Province of Alberta favours the plan which we have forwarded to Ottawa, and is working as well in behalf of this plan in order that this type of legislation may become available as soon as possible again to the people of this province in order that it may provide an expeditious means for the payment of debts by persons who are beset by such problems.

MR. RUSSELL PAULLEY (Leader of the New Democratic Party)(Radisson): Mr. Speaker, in connection with this, I'm glad to hear that the Attorney-General says that the Province of Manitoba have made representations to the Government of Canada in respect of legislation

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd.) respecting this legislation. I agree with him that over a number of years this has been found a piece of legislation that has aided many people who have found themselves over their heads in debt. I want to ask the Honourable the Attorney-General, however--He mentions in fact that the Province of Alberta is also interested in this and made representations apparently to the Government of Canada respecting the same. I would like to hear from the Attorney-General as to whether or not this is another one of those pieces of legislation which at the present time would require an amendment to the BNA Act specifically in order that the Government of Canada may enter into an agreement whereby any individual or group of provinces may be enabled to pass legislation, or whether or not it would be that the Government of Canada could not grant within its own powers at the present time, say to the Province of Manitoba, the authority by a special act of the Dominion House to enact this type of legislation. I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that if it is possible for a simple act to be passed by the Government of Canada granting this authority to the Province of Manitoba, that my friend the Attorney-General make representation to the Government of Canada to see if this cannot be done during the present sitting at Ottawa.

MR. D. L. CAMPBELL (Lakeside): Mr. Speaker, like my honourable friend who has just spoken, I am also interested in the subject of debts. I've had a continuing interest in them for a long time. A person isn't supposed to bring his personal affairs before the Legislature I know, but I have certainly been interested in them also from the standpoint of the province, and I continue to have some concern in that regard. As a matter of fact, for a little while I was just thinking when I looked at the title here what a wonderful thing it would be if we were just able to move an amendment to strike out the words "the orderly repayment of" and then "act", and this would then read: "An Act to Provide for the Repeal of Debts". But I suppose, Mr. Speaker, that you wouldn't accept that motion without a message coming in and I probably wouldn't get His Honour to agree with forwarding it to you. Seriously, however, I would like to say to the Honourable the Attorney-General that I appreciate the lucid explanation that he has given. I think it's due to the House that such an explanation should be given when a bill like this is before us. But he will permit me, I am sure, to have my own opinion on the matter.

I do not intend to be trained in the law and certainly I would not be so presumptuous as to challenge the opinions of the courts that have dealt with this matter. When this was taken into account years ago, a great deal of time was devoted to it by the Legislative Counsel of the day, and by expert advice, and this particular act like some others, and I know that the Attorney-General can tell us that in Alberta, at least, that The Debt Adjustment Act which is very close to being on all fours with our own has also been declared ultra vires, I think it's pretty significant that although The Debt Adjustment Act in Alberta, almost identical with ours, has been declared ultra vires, that The Debt Adjustment Act in Manitoba has never been challenged. I wonder if it isn't a case here that if this Act had been--if we had defended the action at that time, and I didn't notice whether the Honourable the Attorney-General covered that point or not as to whether we had acted in defense of our own Act, I wonder if there couldn't have been a better case made out than was made at that time. Quite frankly, I don't like seeing our Act declared ultra vires largely on the representations that are made in another province and before other courts, and I would think that a better way would have been for us to have defended our own Act in our own courts here. However, as the Honourable the Attorney-General has mentioned, one of the judges whose court has jurisdiction in this matter has recently taken action to declare ours ultra vires and so I have no doubt that this legislation is necessary.

So the one question that I would like to ask the Attorney-General is this. He has told us that it has been declared ultra vires because of the fact that it was held to infringe upon the authority of the Federal Government with regard to bankruptcy. Well, could he point out to us the particular part of this Act that does that? Is that contained in the judgment? Is it not true that there is a saving clause in that Act that even if one part is held to be ultra vires, that some of the remainder may be salvaged to the benefit of the Province of Manitoba during the interval before the Government of Canada acts? If that is not possible, then I would suggest that the measures that the Honourable Attorney-General is taking to try and get the Department of Justice to occupy this field as quickly as possible is all to the good.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

MR. LYON: Mr. Speaker, if no one wishes to raise any points in connection with this

(Mr. Lyon, cont'd.) bill, I would like to make a reply to, first of all, the Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party. I would say to him in response to his first question as to whether or not any federal legislation would require an amendment to the British North America Act, the answer to that would be "no", if they follow the very good advice that they are getting from the Province of Manitoba, because they can enact this legislation as federal legislation according to what we tell them and according to what our legal advisors advise us; have it on the books as federal legislation but make it applicable in each province only upon petition of the province in question. Under the scheme that we envision, which is to all intents and purposes the same as the provisions with respect to The Juvenile Delinquents Act, it would only require a Federal Order-in-Council to bring this into effect in Manitoba. It would not require, under the particular scheme that we advance, an amendment to the British North America Act. Now the second part of his question was whether or not the Government of Canada could vest this authority or grant this authority to Manitoba by federal legislation. Of course as my honourable friend well knows, what he is getting into there is the question of delegation of powers which again unfortunately have been held to be ultra vires the powers of the Federal Government, in one of the marketing board cases in the Maritimes about 1951. I think we will get into this separate problem a little later when we come to deal with The Constitutional Amendment Act in which delegation plays some considerable part. So, briefly, the answer to the second portion of the question would be, no I do not believe that they could grant this as a delegated power to us as the British North America Act presently stands. If we are successful in getting The BNA Amendment Act approved by this Legislature and all of the Legislatures of Canada and by the Federal Government, then that happy day may come about when the Federal Government may then delegate certain specified powers under a federal heading, under 91, to each of the provinces.

With respect to the questions put by the Honourable Member from Lakeside, the point he raised was with respect to The Debt Judgment Act, and certainly a valid one. He of course answers his own question by saying that our Act has not been challenged. Even so, there are only, I think, two or at most three provisions of it which the law officers of the Crown now advise me are applicable in Manitoba, notwithstanding the effect of these judgments from the Province of Alberta. On the other hand, The Orderly Payment of Debts Act was challenged in our Courts in Manitoba and it was--as a matter of fact we bided our time until such time as the act was challenged and our court then was forced to make a decision on the challenge, and of course it held that, being bound as it was by the Judgment of the Supreme Court, it held as we expected they would hold. With respect to pointing out the parts of the Act, I have the judgment in front of me. It's a fairly long one and I wouldn't want to take up the time of the House by reading it all. If the honourable member wishes, I would be quite happy to let him have a copy of it to look at it, but I really don't think, on the basis of the advice that I have had that that section, good as it was, could be applicable in these circumstances.

MR. SPEAKER put the question and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. LYON presented Bill No. 6, an Act respecting Legitimacy, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. LYON presented Bill No. 7, an Act to amend the Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, for second reading.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and following a voice vote declared the motion carried.

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debate on the motion of the Honourable Member from Osborne and the Amendment of the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition. The Honourable Member for Churchill.

MR. J. E. INGEBRIGTSON (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I was rather interested in the Opposition's belated concern about Churchill. This is the first time they have voiced some sentiments about our northern seaport.

A brief summary may be in order so that we can better understand the problems that face Churchill. Plan 602, Churchill townsite, was established in 1931 and lots were made available on a lease basis. It wasn't until 1949 that we could purchase these lots from the Lands Branch. I believe one of the lease conditions was that the owner would move his dwelling on twenty-four hours' notice. Now where he could move to, I would not know or even hazard a guess. The Town Planning Act was passed for Churchill and began to operate in 1954.

(Mr. Ingebrigtsen, cont'd.) The minimum specification for housing were 360 square feet. This concept of Town Planning Act was commendable, but in my opinion it was too little and too late. Churchill was already becoming a town with minimum housing standards, and it was very difficult to enforce the Act. It is of course this lack of housing standards and town planning which has made our total assessment so low. Due to the high cost of services in such an area, it has become extremely difficult for the Local Government District to finance even a minimum of services. Perhaps the feeling on borrowing under The Municipal Act could be increased. The first health report came from Churchill in 1947, but conditions remained extremely critical. We had epidemics and the highest infant mortality rate in Manitoba and Canada. During this period, repeated efforts were made by the unincorporated urban district committee for some assistance, but very little help was given to Churchill.

I would like to remind the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that it was the unincorporated urban district that brought to the attention of the Provincial Government the serious situation which might develop if some other than the present site could not be made available for the normal expansion of Manitoba's seaport. Our government responded to our request and meetings were convened in September, 1959 by the Provincial Government, together with all Federal Government Departments who had an interest in Churchill. From this and subsequent meetings, it was agreed that an engineering study should be conducted. This study was to be conducted in two parts. The first part was completed in 1960 in the form of a report entitled "Report on Existing Housing Conditions and Associated Services in the Port of Churchill, Manitoba". The interim report, which is presently under negotiation with the Federal Government, was completed in the fall of 1961. To my mind, two years is not a very long time for such an important engineering study. It must be remembered, Sir, that Churchill and Manitoba is becoming increasingly important to all the Maritime and trading nations of the world. Ships under all flags sail to Churchill and are quite impressed with the modern up-to-date harbour and grain holding facilities. Therefore, to my mind, it is very important that any planning we do in the social and community environment sphere, be a credit to Manitoba and Canada.

I would like to remind the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that I was Chairman of the unincorporated Urban District Committee of Churchill for the past 4 years and the Committee was at all times kept informed as to what the Provincial Government had done and intended to do on all matters of concern to the town. In July of 1961, our Minister of Industry and Commerce, his Deputy Minister, the Minister of Labour, and Mr. Simpson, the MP for Churchill, called a meeting and everyone was brought up-to-date on all matters pertaining to the first part of this study. The first part of this study proved that it would be uneconomical to provide services in the old townsite due mainly to the boulders and permafrost conditions, poor drainage and very little room for future expansion of the town. Today there are many lots privately owned which can be built on, but must, of course, be purchased from the owner at a much higher price than these lots were originally obtained for from the Lands Branch.

I would like to point out that Churchill is basically a Federal Government town. Most of the people are in Churchill because of federal installations in the area. In the meantime, the Provincial Government has taken every measure to protect the health of the people pending an agreement with the Federal Government. Mr. Speaker, I have lived in Churchill for 30 years and I can honestly say that the Provincial Government has shown more concern and done more for Churchill in the past three years than in the previous thirty years. The Federal Government has almost completed the water-line from Mosquito Point Rapids on the Churchill River to the Reservoir, and expanded both Port and Airport facilities at Churchill. In his speech the other day the Honourable Leader of the Opposition criticized us for going too fast on the Floodway negotiations and not making a proper deal with our friends in Ottawa. Now he has the audacity to tell us we are going too slow on Churchill because we are negotiating with the Federal Government and endeavouring to make a better deal for the people of Churchill. This, to me, is most confusing, and it must be so to the people of Churchill. I would like to respectfully suggest to the Honourable Leader of the Opposition that sooner or later he has got to make up his mind and decide whether he wants to "Hunt with the Hounds or run with the Hares".

MR. NELSON SHOEMAKER (Gladstone): Mr. Speaker, I would like to follow the practice of the previous speakers and congratulate you, Sir, upon your retention to the highest office within the gift of this Assembly, and upon your usual fine appearance today. I would like

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) to also congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address in Reply. I thought they made an excellent job. I think it is too bad that the backbenchers in the Government's side do not speak more frequently, because it is a fact that, on occasions, we do receive additional information. I must congratulate, too, the two new ministers. I have written them both immediately after their appointment and congratulated them then on that occasion, and I would like to do so again today. I think that their addition to the Cabinet will strengthen the Cabinet in fact by their appointment.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before I get into the meat of the Throne Speech, I would like to refer to a press report that appeared in the Free Press on at least two different occasions--the first one on Friday, February 23rd, the morning edition, an article headed: "Withering Attack Made By Premier--Liberal Needling Ignites Conservative Chieftain". Well that is a fact, but the content of the article is far from the fact and I think perhaps for the record I should quote the Hansard rather than the Press. On Page 119 of Hansard, No. 7, the Honourable the First Minister is speaking and he says: "Mr. Speaker, we are accused of failing to provide the incentives in economic planning necessary to stimulate the Province in agriculture and industrial lines. Where was the Leader of the Opposition when we were trying to promote the Industrial Development Fund in this Province? I'll tell you where he was. Sitting in his seat in this House and voting against it"--and so on, and he named at least three things that he says that we voted against. Now I thought it rather odd when I listened to this remark, so I did a little research over the week-end and I find that that just isn't so. --(interjection)--At what time, Mr. Speaker?--(interjection)--Well the Hansard certainly does not suggest about any other time but than the time that we were accused of voting against these things. The paper says that we voted against them all and it just isn't so, as you know, Mr. Speaker. I have checked the journals and find out that we voted for each and every one of these items, for each and every one of them, and the press--I may be accused of not having both ears opened, but certainly the press picked it up and suggested that we voted against these various items, and it just is not so. If the Honourable the First Minister intended it to be, or if he was referring to the time that he was sitting on this side of the House and the government of the day sitting over there, then he should have said so, because it is rather misleading, I am sure.

In my research over the week-end I checked up on another couple of points here, and I find that our honourable friends across the way voted against some resolutions that we attempted to introduce, that makes rather interesting reading too. The one that I introduced here a year or so ago, to attempt to hasten up the procedure and the process of applications for farm credit, they turned it down on the grounds that it--I don't know what the grounds were, but they turned that one down. They turned down the one on Nursing Homes where I proposed that the Manitoba Hospital Insurance Plan be broadened to take care of the cost of care in nursing homes. They voted against that one. The one on the Whitemud River, you remember that one, Mr. Speaker, quite well, because the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture at that time spoke last on the resolution that I had, and I suppose that he thought he had more or less closed the debate on it. My honourable friend from Ste. Rose adjourned the debate and then there was a motion that: "Do we now adjourn the debate on that". You remember, Mr. Speaker, and you voted with us. It was a tie vote, 23 each way. You voted with us and saved the day, and then the next day the government agreed to the resolution, and I think I should read the resolution or the active part of it: "Therefore be it resolved that the government give consideration to the desirability of taking immediate action in appointing a commission under the Act and the incorporation of the Riding Mountain Whitemud Water Shed". According to the journals it was agreed to, but there hasn't been much action since that time. Despite the fact that the Minister of Agriculture has the authority under the Act to create the watershed, we've had little action from him on that one.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member for Roblin the other day, I think he commenced and ended his remarks by reading from the Annual Farmers' Union Brief. He was very careful to pick out only those sections that were commending the government, but he didn't go beyond Page 3 I don't think, and it's Page 6 of that same brief that is the interesting one. When the Manitoba Farm Union delegation met with us the other day, in addition to having the figures that are presently in the brief, they had the figures for 1961. We jotted those down and it's much worse than the other. It shows that the farm income, the gross farm income was up slightly over the previous year, but it shows the net income as being less than

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) half of the previous year; so it does appear that, according to this brief that was left with us, that the cost-price squeeze is getting gradually worse every year under this administration. The Honourable the Minister of Agriculture the other day did not attempt to define parity, in fact he denied anyone in this House to define it, but surely his friend the Prime Minister in Ottawa should be able to define it because it was him that promised it on so many occasions prior to the last two federal elections. Perhaps we should, Mr. Speaker, write to him for a definition of it.

On crop insurance, we have not yet received the annual report. I don't know whether it was laid on the table today or not, but I just want to reiterate what I said last year, and that is that the administration costs seem to me to be completely out of line and will probably remain so as long as the Federal Government continues to pay 50% of the cost of administration rather than 50% of the cost of the premiums. I think, too, that the 60% of the long-term average that is used is altogether unrealistic under the present day and age. I still maintain that it could have been possible to amend PFAA or tailor it to meet the needs of the western farmer and thereby avoid the duplication. The Minister last year told us as regards the rates for the crop insurance that they were actuarially sound. I am not going to argue with him on that point, but it is a fact that the farmers, if they are actuarially sound, will have to pay back all of the losses, including the very tremendous loss that they had this year. I have wondered too, Mr. Speaker, because of my experience in hail adjusting and because of the fact that if you sign up for crop insurance you do not qualify nor are you expected to make contributions to the PFAA. Is it possible that certain farmers are done out of both payments? That is, under PFAA I understand that the minimum number of sections that can qualify would be 12 sections. Well supposing a township in a test area--we'll say 80% of the farmers had signed up, leaving two or three farmers in the middle of the area who had made their contributions to PFAA, but because of the fact that their total acres was less than the minimum under PFAA regulations, how could you pay them?--(interjection)--They may do.

I have not got, Mr. Speaker, the new report for the Farm Credit Corporation here, but in the annual brief that was presented to us by the Manitoba Farmers' Union, it appears to me that the number of loans and certainly the amount of loans slowed up considerably in 1961. According to their figures, there was about \$6 million paid out the first year, \$4 million the next year, or \$4 million in 1961, so that it seems to me that it is slowing up. I don't know what the reason is for this. I had a farmer in to see me since the first of the year. He had made a special trip over to Brandon to their office there to make application for a loan, and they told him that it would be August of this year before they could even get around to assess his property. Now that seems to me to be altogether too slow, and perhaps it's time that they reconsidered that resolution that I had on the Order Paper a year or two ago.

It was interesting today, Mr. Speaker, to notice the Honourable Minister of Agriculture hedging on that question that I've asked him twice about now, and that is, is he in accord with the statement that was made by Dr. Nesbitt to the Dairy Convention last week? I hope that before we rise in the next month or so that he will give me an answer to that one, because if we are to retain the family farm, then my guess is that he is not in accord with what Dr. Nesbitt has said.

As regard to PFRA, I think it is time that we had an amendment to that. The Throne Speech indicates that there might be an amendment to the Water Supply or Water--I don't know just how it's worded here--but I understand that presently PFRA will make a contribution to a farm dugout on about a 60-40 basis. That is, if you want to put in a \$400 dug-out you can get federal assistance to the tune of about \$250, leaving you about \$150 to pay. There is nothing wrong with that, Mr. Speaker, and I understand that if you want a half a dozen dug-outs on one quarter-section, if they are necessary you can get that many, but when it comes to digging a well, they won't give you any assistance, I understand, unless it is a community well that serves a number of farmers, and I think it's high time that the Act was amended to make provision for that.

I am not going to comment, Mr. Speaker on the Winnipeg Floodway or the Portage diversion, but I think that it is understandable to everybody that there might be some dissension on this side of the House in view of the fact that the Federal Member for the Portage-Neepawa constituency certainly is at opposite ends to the government on this one. I have been asked on many

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) occasions since this rift: "Who do you think is right?" I must admit that I have not given it too much thought, Mr. Speaker, but in summing it up it appears to me that we do have about 25 dry years or normal years, you can call them what you like, to every flood year. It does appear to me, too, Mr. Speaker, that the Holland Dam would be a conservation measure and serve us more years by far than would a dry ditch. Now I must admit that I have not given it serious consideration, but I'm inclined at the moment to agree with Dr. Fairfield. As regards the Riding Mountain Whitemud River Watershed authority which has not been established yet, Mr. Speaker, as you know, regardless of the fact that the government did agree to this resolution, the reason that the municipalities are so reluctant to accept it is because they are afraid that it will increase their taxes. Taxes, as you know if you have any property, have already gone up considerably in the last three or four years and the people, by and large, are inclined to vote against anything that will increase their taxes despite the benefits that might result from it. The present act, I understand, has a limit of five mills that can be raised by the authority. I notice by the last three or four issues of the Neepawa Press that the Neepawa Town Council have now agreed to go for the program providing the maximum amount of money that can be levied for this purpose is three mills. The RM of Rosedale has passed a similar resolution limiting it to two mills. Langford Municipality has done exactly the same thing. That is, they have said, in effect, we are prepared to enter this program of conservation provided that the maximum levy will be two mills and no more. Now whether or not this is sufficient money to do a worthwhile program within the watershed is something that must be considered.

I don't want to say too much, Mr. Speaker, on education at this time because we certainly will have an opportunity at a later date to do that. I think we all agree that the new diversion plans are working out reasonably well. They are costing more money, no doubt. I think the Honourable the Minister of Education agrees that the new diversion plan is not quite as good as the larger areas, because it is a fact that the area that he represents is included in the Dauphin-Ochre larger area, and it is a better plan even though it was brought in some 15 or 16 years ago, by reason of the fact that it does embrace elementary education. While I was in the library the other day looking for some material, I found laying on the desk a very interesting little two-page effort. It was printed in 1908 and it is headed: "Holland Consolidated School". It was printed, I believe, two years after they consolidated. The interesting part of it I thought was this, that it talks about the means of transportation, and I quote: "Vans on wheels cost \$150 each, \$600 in all, towards which expense the department gave a grant of \$500. That was back in 1906. The Department of Education of that day gave a grant of \$500 towards a total expenditure of \$600 for vans. Now it seems to me that the grant structure today is no better than that, in fact I doubt if it's as good. They point out, and I quote: "There is another view of the question of relative expense. In 1904 the average attendance at Dawson School was 22 and the cost of operating the school was \$639.80, or about \$29 per pupil. In 1905, the last year of the district's existence, the average attendance was 27 and the operating cost was \$707.95 or \$26 a pupil". I quote again: "One of the strongest features of this consolidation undoubtedly is that an ideal condition exists; namely, the farmers' children are given all the advantages of an education in a fully equipped graded school and at the same time live at home in the country under the eyes of the parents and free from the temptations and allurements of town life". What they're trying to point out in this little pamphlet is the many advantages of consolidation and an equal opportunity for every child in the province. That was in 1906 and '07.

There is one point on the larger divisions that I'm not completely sold on yet, Mr. Speaker, and that is this. The Royal Commission recommended and recognized the advantage of having these large 12 roomed high schools, and they recommended that there be but one in each division. Well then, why is it necessary to have divisions so large that there is, in fact, two or three 12 roomed high schools? We have had one or two money by-laws in our division and we are going to have another one very shortly, and one of the chief objections that you hear from the taxpayers by and large is this, that the residents at one end of the division do not like to pay for construction at the other end of the division, which all points to me that the divisions are really too large. That is, if the divisions are large enough for one twelve roomed high school, then it would appear to me that that's as large as they would need to be.

Now on the Department of Health and Public Welfare--I guess, Mr. Speaker, there are

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) two departments now but I am referring to both of them now. I would like to congratulate the Minister of Health certainly for the co-operation that I have received from him on more than one occasion. I appreciate that very, very much. I do have a great number of people come into my office to assist them in making applications for Social Allowance and Medicare and so on, and I really appreciate the co-operation that I get from the office in that regard. At the last special session of the Legislature last fall I understood someone to say that the reduction in premiums would benefit about 250,000 residents of this province and 50,000 would find themselves worse off financially. I believe that is the figures that were used. I must say that that just isn't so, either, Mr. Speaker, because we have overlooked this one fact, and it is a fact, that many employers in the province, some of them quite large, as a fringe benefit have paid the hospital premiums for their employees. We do it in our office, for instance. Neepawa's largest industry, the Neepawa Salt Plant, have been doing it ever since the inception of the Manitoba Hospital Services Plan and they are continuing to pay the premiums on behalf of all their employees, so when the premium was reduced it didn't mean anything at all to the employee, but they now find that they are going to be faced with an increase in their income tax. Naturally and certainly you cannot expect that the company are going to pay income tax on behalf of their employees, so that this picture that I have presented to you is a little distorted. That is, there are more people actually worse off, if that's the term to use, than was indicated at the special session last fall. I want to say at this time, and certainly go on record as saying that I am not opposed to the ability to pay principle, even though it is costing me considerably more money. The ability to pay principle was inherent in the plan from the date that it was put on the books of this province, because I understand that presently there are well over 20,000 people in this province that are exempt from paying premiums of any kind.

In the Department of Public Works, Mr. Speaker, and I guess that's my neighbour to the west now, I have a few comments to make to him. I have argued this one before and I will argue it again. I think it is time that the street and road grant formula should be amended. I think that it could be amended considering the following facts: the municipalities vary in size from about six townships to 26; the balanced assessments vary from about one million to 20 million or more; and the population varies from 300 to 20,000. Using those three factors, surely we can come up with a new road or street or road grant formula. Presently I believe it's 10,500 right across the board. Now I know, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister will say: "well, that isn't the end of it all, that he has delegations in every other day to see him requesting further aid," and so on and so forth. That's quite true, but it always strikes me that it's the squeaking wheel that gets the grease and the councils that are reluctant, if there are any, they don't get the same attention as the forward-looking ones do, and I think it's high time that we had a new formula. The Town of Neepawa, for instance, are planning on doing a large paving program this year and I understand there's some doubt that any of the road, or any of the streets or roads that they have recommended will qualify under the present formula because they are to some degree residential streets, and it's certainly going to work to our disadvantage in Neepawa unless this formula is changed.

The Throne Speech, and incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I got the new revised edition of it today from the Ministry of Propaganda, as some refer to it. It's condensed I will admit, but it does refer to the--and I quote: "Provisions for a new Manitoba Savings Bond issue similar to the successful one launched last March, together with legislation to facilitate use of short-term treasury bills as part of the financial structure". Well to me it suggests that the government are getting hard-up again. It was interesting to note that immediately following the Throne Speech the other day both papers carried two stories side-by-side, one reporting that we were going to have a surplus of about \$9 million this year, and the other one saying that we had reached a provincial debt of half a billion dollars. And they're both true stories. But by golly, it must be pretty difficult for the public to figure it out.

Now, Mr. Speaker, you have heard me mention on more than one occasion my concern over the fact that it appears to me that public money is being spent on what we call propaganda here or pre-electioneering with this Information Services Bulletin which goes out. According to the public accounts that we received the other day, we spent \$130,000 on information services, and I subscribe to them at no cost, as you know. That is, there's no subscription price.

(Mr. Shoemaker, cont'd.) We pay for it, of course, through our taxes. But there's a lot of propaganda contained in them and they're not very consistent in a lot of them either. I have two or three here--every Minister gets in on them, I must admit that. November 24th, 1961, this one's headed: "Formal School Openings Keeps the Cabinet Hopping", and they've been hopping all over the province according to this. Honourable Stewart E. McLean, Minister of Education, reports that the equivalent of 770 classrooms have opened for students in 55 schools. One official recently attended four openings in eight days. Another attended three in two days and had two more scheduled for the particular five-day week. Well it just suggests to me, Mr. Speaker, that who's doing the work in the buildings here if they're hopping all over the province about eight times a day opening schools? December 8th, this one was the First Minister speaking on industrial activities in Manitoba. He cited the \$2-1/2 million Simplot Potato Plant at Carberry, a wonderful thing, but then the next day one of the other Ministers goes out and says it's a \$2-3/4 million plant. It went up a quarter of a million dollars in two days. The same happened at Sprague. One of them reports it as being two and three-quarters. The next day, and our honourable friend from Osborne, is it, says it's a \$3 million one. Well it seems to me that it's getting a little confusing, Mr. Speaker, besides being very costly.

On the same theme I have a clipping here from the Free Press of January 5th, 1962, the morning edition, headed: "Alone At Last". It refers to the Cabinet going to Neepawa, and I have nothing against that. We welcomed them out there. I think it is a good thing. I did say in introducing the First Minister when he was out there--I had the pleasure to sit beside him at the head table at a banquet that we tendered to him--I said it should dispell a couple of motions that seem to persist in the minds of most individuals, and I referred to the fact that it seemed to be general knowledge that the government of today completely ignored those constituencies that were represented by members of the opposition, and that just wasn't so because the first place in the province that the Cabinet went to hold a meeting outside of Winnipeg was Neepawa. Then I said that it should certainly tend to dispell the motion that we were not on speaking terms with the government, because I was sitting right next to him at the head table and chatting with him throughout the meal. But the point that I do want to raise here is the day that the Cabinet decided to move to a motel, down on Hargrave Street I think. Now whether they thought they were getting closer to the people that day or not I don't know. I don't really know what the purpose of that one was. I can understand the one to Neepawa, but I do not know the purpose of that one.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I haven't been eyeing the clock but no doubt you have, and perhaps I'm running out of time. I will have the opportunity to speak on numerous other occasions and I will conclude now and thank you very kindly for your attention.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

Mr. E. R. SCHREYER (Brokenhead): Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend the usual courtesies to you, Sir, and to the mover and seconder of the motion in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I would also, as has been done by many others on this side, like to extend timely congratulations to the two new appointees to the Cabinet and join in the general feeling of friendship and extend best wishes to them. One respect in which I find myself in complete agreement with the Member for Roblin is in regard to what he said about you the other day, Mr. Speaker, when he expressed the hope that you would become the first permanent speaker in this province, and I express complete agreement with that sentiment.

Now, of course, Mr. Speaker, the purpose of participating in a Speech from the Throne debate is to try to discuss and air out to the fullest possible extent all those problems and matters that affect the people of the province, and while it is usually more interesting to participate in the earlier part of the debate, nevertheless, someone has to come near the end and I suppose it's fitting and proper that I, as the junior member of our group, speak toward the latter part or the latter stages of the debate. I hope to be able to bring to the attention of this government certain specific items where I feel they can bring some much needed improvement to the legislation and to the people of this province if they act upon it, and I also hope to bring up for discussion here some matters which are of a more general nature, but because of that very fact, are of very great importance in the long run. It is, of course, difficult to be very specific in this debate, Mr. Speaker, because of the nature of the Throne Speech itself, being a very generally worded sort of document. It is difficult to sink one's teeth into it. One could

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd.) detect an air of complacency in that document and in the speeches of the mover and seconder. They seemed to leave the distinct impression that all was well in Manitoba and there wasn't really very much to concern ourselves with. Nothing very much to worry about. I think if we look at the situation in this province analytically we will find that there is still a good deal that should and must be done if we hope to be able to say that we are running the affairs of this province as expeditiously and fairly as possible.

For one thing, and to be specific--dealing with specifics first, Sir, I feel that there is a good deal of criticism that can be levied at this government for the manner in which they have been dealing with the acquisition of property for the floodway. The Floodway as such is one thing, but the manner in which they have gone about acquiring lands for it is another, and they have done a very sloppy sort of job. In the first place, the method which they adopted last year to expropriate seemed to lay open for all sorts of problems, and they have arisen. Instead of buying up the land in an orderly and sequential way, they haven't done it by alphabet, they haven't done it by size. They have hop-scotched from one municipality to the other and from one district to the other. People have found excavation equipment on their property without even knowing whether their property had been bought or not. People have found themselves being offered prices for their property which, when they didn't express satisfaction with it they were given a substantial boost in the offer the next week, despite the fact that they were promised that there would be no horse-trading, and I think that we are entitled to some sort of explanation on that score. It is not so bad if the dickering takes place within a band of \$10 or \$15 or \$20 per acre, but I said last year and I say again with all the more conviction, that the whole of the unfairness as regard to the price of land for the Floodway seems to lie in the actual standard of land value that has been established. I would like the honourable members to know that the land in the path of the Floodway is being bought up at the average price of about \$125 to \$130 an acre average. Just west of the Red River the Federal Government expropriated some properties for a satellite Airport last year. The land is of the same general soil type, and the average going price there was \$250 an acre--exactly twice as much.

Now I am not an appraiser and I don't know which of the two is the more likely and more fair type of offer, but I do know that it is obvious that either the province or the Federal Government is way out of line, and that's where the injustice comes in. I think that the Minister should be able to justify to us the going rate that they are paying, in the light of the federal standard that was paid to the people in St. Andrews. Still we have heard nothing definite nor concrete about what this government intends to do to compensate those municipalities that will be losing productive lands because of the Floodway. I asked the Honourable Minister the other day what they intend to do, and try as he did, he could not escape equivocating a little bit. I want to know, as do the people out there, just what the government has in mind with regard to compensation for tax loss and to say that we have to await the report of the Advisory Commission is not answering the question. This is not one of those problems that has to be dealt with by the Advisory Commission. Give us an answer that comes from the Cabinet--that's where it has to come from. So there is certainly no room for complacency by this government as regards its general record in the acquisition of property for the Floodway.

There are a few more small specific matters, relatively speaking, that I would like to bring to the attention of the Cabinet and members opposite. For example, what happened last year--the forest fire situation. I realize it was an abnormally bad year in that regard, but you would think that this province, having so many hundreds of thousands of acres of forest, would have realized by now that they should have stand-by equipment, ready for eventuality of mass forest fires; but yet as dry as the air was, there was no preparation, therefore, small fires were allowed to get out of hand before the government got in touch with other areas of the country in order to get a couple of Canso aircraft to water bomb. If we could have had one here perhaps some of these fires could have been stopped in the bud so to say, but instead they were allowed to get out of hand and then water bombing took place. It was like spitting in the ocean, to quote one of my friends who was working last summer fighting fires.

Well what about the matter of, and there was some equivocation there again, attempting to help Metro in regard to its rather huge problem of sewage disposal. You all know the difficulty and the complete crime of it, the way the people along the Red River north of Winnipeg had to put up with that horrible stench for five and six months--practically all of spring,

(Mr Schreyer, cont'd.) summer and autumn. People actually became sick day after day, and finally it seems that there is going to be action on the part of the Metropolitan area, but I think here was a situation where the province could have offered the utmost in assistance. I still don't understand why the Minister of Agriculture had to be in such a hurry to issue a press release that this government would absolutely not hear of it as regards to the building of a channel from Lake Manitoba to the Assiniboine, sort of a subsidiary way of combating this problem of sewage and pollution of the Red River. The overall problem of pollution is one which this government has not really delved into. Pollution of streams--we have not really heard very much as to what is contemplated and I think that more discussion on that field of endeavour and concern is needed.

I don't want at all times to be critical, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Minister of Agriculture for his attitude generally to the matter of marketing boards. If ever the day comes when we get needed amendments to The Natural Product Marketing Board Act, I think we can all join in commending him for it, at least I would. Another thing, Mr. Speaker, the Minister deserves credit for his meritorious action in initiating discussion this year as regards research work on the part of farm organizations and farm groups.

Having offered this commendation to the Minister, I think though that I should proceed with more criticism which seems to be very much in order as far as this government is concerned, because of the complacency which seemed to permeate and be all-pervasive in the minds of members opposite. We speak in general terms of a buoyant economy. Well this has already been dealt with, but it bears repeating. How bouyant is an economy when you have the Province of Manitoba losing by unemployment approximately \$60 million a year? A rough estimate, but pretty accurate I would say. Not very bouyant, Mr. Speaker.

Now what about the farm income situation? Purchasing power on the farms this year, I am told, is \$1,400 a year less than it was last year. And even if this is a temporary apparition because of the drought, it doesn't mean that if it weren't for the drought things would be where they should be on the farm, because of the general problem that's been with the farmer for the last ten years; namely, one of an inadequate pricing system and price levels. And even though the Minister of Agriculture's heart is in the right place, how much can we really expect when he is opposed to the concept, when he is completely opposed to the concept of price stabilization at an adequate level? I found out a very surprising thing just a week or two ago, Mr. Speaker, namely, that The Price Stabilization Act that was passed by the Federal Government in 1958, despite the naming of it "Stabilization Act", that it is not the intention of that legislation or the government in office to stabilize farm prices. These are the words of the senior administrator of that so-called stabilization program: "It's not the purpose to stabilize, but rather to prevent disaster"--and so a lot of hope the farmers of Manitoba can have in that type of legislation, in that type of Federal Government--and unless the Provincial Minister of Agriculture comes around to seeing the need for adequate price supports, the farmers in Manitoba have no cause to have confidence in him either, and this is the root of the whole problem.

Of course it is all very well to talk about the need for improving efficiency; the need for more research into efficiency. It's all very well to say that there is only room for so and so many people on the farms, the others must move off eventually. But where are they to go? Are they supposed to go into the industrial labour market at a time when there is already employment that amounts to a social economic crime? Are they supposed to swell that unemployment more? And in the next eight or ten years, how possibly can they be absorbed into the labour market when the rate of growth of the labour force is going to itself increase by 66%? In the last five or eight years our labour force has been growing--of North American economy--has been growing at the rate of 6% per year. It's going to, in the next few years, increase to a rate of growth of about 9.6. Employment by itself, all of the things being equal, will get that much more work; and yet we have some so-called experts and I am not blaming the Minister of Agriculture because I have never heard him say so precisely in those words, but we have some experts say that the exodus from the farm must be continued, it must even be increased; these people must be absorbed into the labour market. Ridiculous! Ridiculous point of view in terms of analysis of the over-all economy. What is needed instead is a program and belief in a program of adequate price supports based on a certain amount of production per farm unit so that the family farm can be maintained; so that those who are content to stay on the farm

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd) . . . and eke out a living even if their unit is sub-marginal can do so; and so that those who do become dissatisfied can eventually leave; but this will be allowed so that he can leave and still not have to leave because of force of starvation. Gradualness is what is needed; but, in order to have gradualness you have to have a start. We haven't really had a kind of start, Mr. Speaker, because the Stabilization Act, as I said about six times now, has been a farce as of the date it was enacted into law.

Now we have heard all sorts of arguments from members to my right about what it takes to be a Liberal, and I suppose there is room for discussion there. But I want to say to my honourable friends, without being vindictive, that if they are so concerned about the worth of the individual which is really -- and I admit, the intellectual foundation of liberalism -- then it would follow that they must be willing and eager to follow such policies, economic policies, that will enable the individual to live the kind of life in which freedom and liberty is meaningful. Nineteenth Century liberalism spoke in terms of the absence of restraint, and this was fine. Governments enacted guarantees against infringement of fundamental freedom, and that was fine, and is fine. But since the advent of industrial urban society and the complexities of life therein, if anyone wants to be sincere about personal worth, individual freedom, he must, in the words of Judge L. Hand be willing to espouse those sorts of policies which give the individual the economic means with which liberty becomes meaningful. Now what sort of economic means, Mr. Speaker? Certainly that doesn't mean a less laissez-faire economy. In fact it means the kind of legislation which some people, sometimes irreverently refer to as the welfare state. This is the kind of legislation that is needed, and which every true twentieth century liberal should have to subscribe to, but we don't hear that aspect of human and personal worth being discussed very much by these gentlemen. We need the welfare state, Mr. Speaker, and it's not because the people have all sorts of illusions and hallucinations about it. We had the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre getting up the other day and saying if the welfare state of Sweden were so good why is it that people commit suicide. There are people like that, Mr. Speaker. You mention the word welfare state, which means several things which I'll get to. Immediately they conjure up visions of hundreds of people jumping out of windows, gorging themselves on poisoned smorgasbord, drinking themselves stiff on vodka and Bloody Mary's. Why? Because they are afraid. That are they afraid of? They are afraid of low-cost housing, slum clearance, adequate welfare. Sell the worth of the individual so that they don't have to eat bread and jam three times a day and live in dirty stinky rooms like the Member for Inkster said. This is what people are afraid of. They're afraid of low-cost housing, medical care, comprehensive nature. And they are afraid of full employment, or so it would seem. But these are the very things which must be made available to people; made available to people through government -- and government is supposed to be a bad thing -- through government as a social instrument of the people so that they can truly enjoy the fundamental freedoms of which the nineteenth century liberals spoke and of which we are so proud today. Is it that we in the old CCF or the New Democratic Party pose some sort of threat to fundamental freedoms, civil rights? We were the first to have enacted in any jurisdiction in which we were in control of the administration, a Bill of Rights. We were the first to advocate it at the Federal level. Some threat we were.

Now we have had in the last year some discussions going on about the proposed methods of amending the British North America Act, and Manitoba has made I believe a conference was held in Ottawa. It also appears from newspaper reports that a lot of progress was made towards a method of amendment which would be successful in repatriating the Constitution of Canada. Well, I don't know how successful we are going to be, but I want to tell the Honourable the Attorney-General that if the end result of all this negotiation means that we are going to bring the Constitution home at the expense of supporting a procedure of amendment that's going to put it in a straight jacket, then forget it. Now what should be entrenched in a Constitution? Obviously fundamental civil rights. These should be entrenched. Matters of language, race and things that impinge on language, race and religion should be entrenched, and so we say so. But if there is going to be any attempt to entrench, in other words requiring unanimous consent, those sections which have to do strictly with economics of government, then I say what for? We are now entering in a phase of society where in order to distribute the costs of services equitably, we are going to have to be prepared to enter into a spirit of co-operative federalism and have the Federal Government take over certain responsibilities, which they have not taken up to now. If we're

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd) . . . going to put the constitutional amendment procedures in a straight jacket we're never going to be able to do it with sufficient ease, so be careful. Unanimity should only be necessary in terms of civil rights and matters impinging on race, religion and language.

There has been some incessant talk about our disregard for civil rights over the past many years, and yet I would like to take a minute or two to lay before this House something for them to consider. Oh, it's sort of an abstract right now, but I think it's worth considering, and that is it has to do with administrative law. No one will deny that in the twentieth century administration government has been getting larger and larger -- larger in size and scope. Executive, the job of government and its cabinet is growing and growing. Powers of administration are growing with it, and this affects the rights and liberties of people in no small way, no large way, but in no small way either, because when it comes to freedom nothing is really small. So I propose that we give some thought to a system of dealing with the individual and protecting him from injustices of administrative decisions, if injustices occur, by a system of having a legislative officer -- not a cabinet or executive officer -- but a legislative officer who would deal with complaints that come in to him. At the present time it -- I don't think it can be argued that our courts are too slow and cumbersome a means of dealing with injustices of administrative decision, and we have to do something about it. They have been talking about it in Great Britain for about three or four years now. They have implemented it in Scandinavia, in Denmark for five years, Norway for five years and in Sweden for about 100 years. I don't know if I'm making myself clear, but it would seem not unreasonable for this government and all members to think in terms of this legislature setting up a legislative officer, giving him what title you will, whose duty it would be to receive complaints, have full powers of investigation -- much the same powers as any auditor-general has in any treasury department -- having full powers of investigation, and whose duty it would be to explain to confused people their rights, why they were refused particular requests of some department of government; and if they were refused a particular request unjustly because of some error of administration, to move with all speed toward rectifying this, thus protecting civil rights, human dignity, and so on. Now, of course, I can foresee all sorts of objections to this sort of legislation or enactment, but on balance it would be one of the best things that we could do towards doing something tangible as far as protecting human rights are concerned. Don't worry about mushrooming staff, because I feel that in a jurisdiction of this size it could be handled by one or two people, and if you're convinced it couldn't be, then I say that's no reason to oppose this sort of a scheme, because if you are on that ground you would be standing logic on its head. Just because there's a great need for it, that's all the more reason why we should implement some scheme such as this. But in any case I don't feel it would require more than one competent respected universally -- or at least universally acceptable in this building -- sort of person. It all depends, of course, on whether or not we are advanced enough in our thinking to be able to accept the idea of giving such a man full investigatory powers within our government offices -- just as the Comptroller-General has in Britain, and I believe in our Federal form of Government.

I raise this matter, Mr. Speaker, with some apology, because of its abstract vagueness, but the sooner it's raised and thought about perhaps the better it will be. I don't think we should feel complacent about protecting people's rights. I don't think we can feel complacent about so many things, Mr. Speaker, because there is still so much to do. I know that there are some who will say there is nothing to do, nothing much more left to do. But I say there is nothing to do when we still have people disabled -- in its fullest sense of the word, disabled -- and yet because of the stringent type of interpretation of our Disability Allowances Act they're forced to exist on municipal relief. Is there nothing to do when we have widows over the age of sixty -- not old enough for our old age assistance, but certainly too old to try and get gainful employment -- and they have to live on the charity of their friends or the municipalities? Is there really nothing to do when we still have in this province no respectable co-ordinated program for retarded children; insufficient grants, no grants for transportation for those units that are working with the children in rural areas; no executive secretary to co-ordinate the work of these agencies that are working with retarded children in this province. The municipalities aren't even allowed to give grants to these organizations because it's against the law. There's been no indication from this government that they're prepared to step up their grants. They're not even prepared

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd) . . . to let municipalities do so; just let it ride. Is there really nothing to do when on Workmen's Compensation allowance there are people found to be seventy-five percent disabled twenty years ago or thereabouts -- they were compensated on the basis of seventy-five percent of their wages at the time -- today, twenty years later, the cost of living having risen three or four times, wages having risen about three or four times, still just as disabled as before, still getting, however, a compensation allowance which hardly buys them a tin of snuff? Is there really nothing left to do when in terms of medical care in this province we have an administration that submits a brief to the hearing that is neither fish nor fowl? It's supposed to have the interests of people requiring medical care, assistance, supposed to have it at heart. Well perhaps in a limited sense they did have the interests of these people at heart, but what sort of scheme can you fairly and equitably work out on the basis of private plans supplemented by government payment, which in the final analysis is not comprehensive nor fair, nor equitable. We suggest to you, and I know that you will not agree, we suggest that in order for a medical care plan to be fair it must be comprehensive and it must be universal, because health, like education, is one of the two basic social services that are required by people. What happens if we accept a plan like the First Minister advocated at the hearing? There are a great many people who under private plans couldn't belong to them because of premiums, because they're over age, because they have some congenital illness and this would bar them. These are the very people who need medical care most. Well they're not getting it now. Under the Premier's sort of plan these people would be helped out considerably and that must be admitted. But what about others? People would have to pass means tests. There would be a fantastic amount of red tape. More than is necessary at least --(interjection) Well I think that any reasonable man would admit there would be more red tape with a means test than if there isn't one. Isn't that right? A means test furthermore costs money to administer, and worst of all there's humiliation to it. If you really believe in the worth of the human personality would you deliberately support a program which would almost set out to humiliate? I doubt that. The sort of plan as I understand it that the First Minister advocates, it would be in essence as far as the majority of people are concerned still a private plan, and there would be a flat charge per family. No matter what the family makes -- if they make two thousand a year they pay a flat premium; if they make fifty thousand a year they pay a flat premium. Is this very fair? Is it as fair as it could be under a scheme of a comprehensive nature? Just ask yourself that question. It could be more fair if it were comprehensive because then the payments would be made from the consolidated fund, or nevertheless it would be channelled from a central collection bureau, and it would be collected on the basis of the ability-to-pay. I hear everybody here supports the ability-to-pay principle today, including the Member for Neepawa. Well, if it's right in respect of hospital insurance, let's bring it into play here in the matter of medical care. And yet there are still other things that are wrong with the sort of plan advocated by the First Minister.

We advocate a plan that will be comprehensive--I said that already. It won't matter if you earn fifty thousand a year or one thousand a year; whether you have a full time job or unemployed. It won't matter, because it shouldn't matter -- health care should be available to all. The plan we suggest should be administered by provinces in conjunction with the Federal Government, with the Federal Government paying a just and equitable share. And that's why we're concerned, Mr. Speaker, in the event of a Liberal Government coming to power in Ottawa, because it wasn't the Liberal Government that brought in hospital insurance. I know they advocated it for a long time. They always kept a joker in that plan so that it never really came about. It wasn't until the Conservatives were elected federally that we had hospital insurance in Canada that meant anything. Now I can foresee a Liberal Government in Ottawa procrastinating on it for yet as long as they have up to now. They promised it in 1919; they bring it out in 1962; they dust it off this platform plank, and they're using it again. Well they should, it's a good plank. It's just like new; it hasn't been used for 42 years. And this is what they would do again. I think that we must with urgency ask the Federal Government to implement a scheme of sharing with the provinces.

One last thing in this respect, Mr. Speaker. There is no danger to just because you have a comprehensive medical care plan it means that government will interfere with the rights of those of the medical profession. The job of the medical profession is to minister to the ill, to the

(Mr. Schreyer, cont'd) ...sick. There's no interference there. No one's interested in telling doctors how to practice. All we're saying is that it is government's responsibility to try and raise the money in as fair and judicious a manner as possible. There has been all sorts of gross distortions of truth and all sorts of misrepresentations of fact by those who are interested in blocking the advent of a comprehensive medical care plan for the people of Manitoba and Canada. It is not new; it has been in effect in many countries in the world for many years. All I can say is that we hope sincerely that the Conservatives in Manitoba are progressive enough to see it in this light. I don't know how much time I have left.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already exceeded your time.

MR. SCHREYER: Well, inasmuch as you were good enough not to stop me I will try and close as briefly as possible. There were so many things raised in the Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker, among which was the matter of the ECM, which is a very interesting and grasping sort of topic to speak about these days. It's not exactly a matter of provincial jurisdiction, nor direct concern, but concern there is, or should be by Manitobans, nevertheless. There isn't really that much we know today, or yet, about the impact of the ECM or Britain's entry into therein; there isn't really enough data nor educated projections to make it worthwhile discussing at length here. Let it suffice to say that the events that are taking place there are taking place because of political destiny, there is not very much that we can do here to try and stop it, so we have to make the best of it. I should say that we should encourage the Canadian Government to send negotiators to Brussels to sit in and listen to the negotiations and to make suggestions to the British team of negotiators. And this hasn't been done. I think we should have a representative from Western Canada, some farm representative sent to Brussels to sit in, or at least to listen to the negotiations so that we have first hand information. In a matter of of major impact like that this should be done. What else can you say about the ECM? It seems obvious now that in the short run it will be of a disadvantage to western agriculture; but in the long run it appears that it could very well be of immense advantage. So much depends on detailed negotiation that there is really not much point to discussing it further here.

I would like to say that we support the amendment, I find it relatively easy to support the amendment because in all the major challenges that this government has been beset with it has not come up with anything fundamentally new nor imaginative, and has failed to meet the challenge of our times.

..... Continued next page

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I expect Mr. Speaker, that there will be those on the other side of the House who will say, "well didn't I tell you, this man can't take criticism." The other night I thought I was giving a nice friendly little bit of advice here in the House, and my goodness me, a couple, the Leader of the Opposition and his good assistant to his right, the member for Carillon certainly came off the nest like a couple of wet hens, which to me indicated and the tone of their debate indicated that they could take criticism a good deal less than I could. I don't mind criticism Mr. Speaker, in fact I think a little criticism is good for everybody and I think that the business of government thrives on criticism. But I think that we ought to keep the facts fair in mind when we're debating government matters in this House. With all due respect to the last member who spoke, I think his acquaintanceship with the facts is of the nodding variety. He made some statements about, although I notice that he is careful to say that he isn't opposed to our water control and conservation program in Manitoba, he doesn't like the way we carry it out. I am not going to suggest Mr. Speaker, that we've got a perfect administration by any means, but I would also say Mr. Speaker that it couldn't possibly be as bad as the Honourable Member for Brokenhead has suggested that it is. He says that it's sloppy and he says that it's hop-scotch method of acquiring land. I don't know what he's intimating when he makes a remark like that. I expect I could make a pretty good guess.....

MR. SCHREYER: I hope the Minister hasn't got the impression I intimate dishonesty, I didn't ... (Interjection)

MR. HUTTON: I think the Minister has come to the conclusion that you were intimating that we're by these methods trying to get the best possible deals at the expense of individual citizens of Manitoba. (Interjection) Horse-trading, yes. He made the statement, quite a flat statement, a matter of fact statement, that the average price we're paying for the land for the Red River Floodway was \$125 to \$135 an acre. Mr. Speaker I am happy if he has this information -- it is more than the Minister himself has. I could not tell this House what the average price of land is that is being purchased at this state. I know that there are an awful lot of factors. It may be in a certain district that the basic price for land runs \$125 to \$135 an acre -- this may be true in certain sections. I know that it isn't true for the whole Floodway. I know that the price, even the basic price for the land varies, depending upon the location and the development and value of the land in question. I know also that there are a great many more factors that come into the final settlement with the people in question, than the basic price of the land itself -- there is severance, there is allowance for forceful taking, there is cost of relocation. And I can say this, that although I can't tell this Assembly what the average price would be per acre, I can tell them that I know of cases, I have seen cases, where the total price would be in excess of \$400 an acre. That is taking into consideration all the factors that are paid for.

Now he drew attention to the fact that the Federal Government evidently has paid \$250 an acre in the acquisition of land for a Satellite Airport, but he doesn't tell us any of the other factors that might be involved, whether this was the final settlement or what the consideration was given to these people in respect of relocation and severance and so forth. He doesn't tell us, but he just says that the average price on the Floodway is \$125 to \$135, and here we have the Federal Government paying \$250 an acre and isn't this an infringement upon the rights of good Manitoban citizens that they are forced to sell their land for this price. Well they haven't been forced to sell their land for any price. As a matter of fact, of all the negotiations if you like, or dealings with these people, that have been carried on -- and there are some 408 files -- I believe that there are two at the present time that have elected to go to arbitration, two out of all these many agreements that have to be arrived at. And I think that's a pretty good record.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Honourable Minister would permit a question?

MR. HUTTON: Yes.

MR. PAULLEY: How many have been settled?

MR. HUTTON: How many have been settled? There are 89 settlements at the present time, and there are a good many more under negotiation -- well, if I say negotiation they'll say we're horse-trading -- but under discussion at the present time.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, if I may, for the purpose of clarification, that's 89 out of 400 and what?

MR. HUTTON: 408 files.

MR. PAULLEY: Thank you.

MR. HUTTON: There are 89 that have been completely settled and compensation paid. There are 13 settlements that have been agreed but the money has not been paid over as yet. There are 177 settlements that are in process of negotiation and there are 40 cases that are at a standstill in negotiation. Forty, forty where we can't get anywhere, we're deadlocked. But we haven't forced these people to take our point of view, and we are not dealing high-handed, and the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party knows it, because he knows that the Premier of this Province went out and met with the representatives of these people and he said, "we want you to feel that you are getting a square deal, and we are prepared to see that you get an independent appraisal, independent of the Government's Committee that has been set up." (Interjection) Oh it hasn't. Well we have completed three appraisals. (Interjection) They have completed three appraisals. (Interjection) And you tell us, you tell us, why, you tell us why, more people didn't want to have an independent appraisal. We made the offer, we made the offer. (Interjection) I know Mr. Speaker, that once the Premier of Manitoba went out and made this offer there were some people who were tremendously enthusiastic in making trouble, who lost their enthusiasm immediately, that an offer was made to iron out these difficulties. (Interjection)

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the Minister asked me a question.

MR. HUTTON: I am speaking

MR. SCHREYER: Well, you asked me a question; do you want me to answer it?

MR. HUTTON: I will when I am through.

MR. SCHREYER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. HUTTON: I know that there was a great deal of the enthusiasm and interest that was prevalent prior to the First Minister visiting in the area, that became obvious by its disappearance during the past few months. And

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. Are you imputing that following the meeting at Oakbank that some of us on this side of the House did not carry on the actions that we were prior to that because of the remarks at Oakbank? Because if he is Mr. Speaker I suggest that that is a breach of this House.

MR. HUTTON: I suggest that there was a great flurry, there was a great flurry back there a few months ago, and it's all quietened down.

MR. PAULLEY: May I assure my honourable friend, the Minister of Agriculture, it has not quietened down, but if he continues to pursue the way he is it will be uproarious.

MR. HUTTON: I will be very happy Mr. Speaker, to deal with it further at estimate time. I would like to just review the fact that we set up a committee because we anticipated that there might be this kind of trouble, if permanent government employees went out and attempted to purchase such a large block of lands as these in the traditional manner, and so we went outside of the immediate government service and we acquired the services of people whom we felt had a stature in the community and the experience and the confidence of the people that they could go out and buy these properties at prices that were fair to the owners, and also fair to the taxpayers of the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Speaker, I can make this charge in this House because everyone of us are aware of the big flurry that was caused in this House by members charging that we were being unfair with citizens of the Province of Manitoba. It may be a very attractive and profitable thing for the moment, to capitalize on a very difficult procedure, that of purchasing land for public works, and especially in the case of a large purchase of this kind, but there's a great deal at stake here, because long after we are gone from the scene, the policies that are established during our tenure of office in this legislature will determine policy in the future. The advantages of the moment--(Interjection)-- are not to be weighed against the long term interest of the Province of Manitoba, and the charges that men of the calibre who were hired by the Province of Manitoba to purchase these properties for the people of Manitoba is just unsubstantiated and there is no grounds for the kind of charges that they have horse-traded; that they have been sloppy; that they have been incompetent. And this is what the charges amount to that the opposition have brought against the --(Interjection)--

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege please

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Honourable Minister would permit

(Mr. Paulley, cont'd) ... a question?

MR. HUTTON: I'll wait. I can wait on your question. (Interjections) Now this is what it amounts to.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a point of privilege. I did not charge that the men who were responsible for administering the program of acquisition were dishonest, nor sloppy. It's the kind of program and policy that they had to work with. It's not the men.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I'm quite happy if he's satisfied with that excuse for his present attack. (Interjections) I'm quite willing to take my responsibility in this regard. I think that the job that has been done by these men in the field is a good job in relation to the magnitude of the job that they have undertaken to do for us. It is a fact that wherever you go on the North American continent, wherever the government is put in a position where they must acquire large amounts of land, the St. Lawrence Seaway, or some of these big reservoirs, you find difficulty; you find dissatisfaction. But I am saying that this is unfair criticism when you suggest that there has been horse-trading; that there has been a hop-scotch program of land acquisition. I feel that it is not in the best interests of Manitoba and the people of Manitoba at large to continuously ride this issue. It only makes it more difficult to arrive at agreeable and satisfactory solutions in these individual problems. Surely it isn't in the interests, Mr. Speaker, to create the impression -- and as Members of the Legislature they must create that impression amongst people who are affected -- that they are not getting a square deal, and have these matters taken to court, more of them than need to go to arbitration. This is what results from it. Surely we can agree that matters of this kind must be dealt with judiciously by the members themselves as well as by the people who are actually carrying out this work in the field. It does stir up a hornet's nest. I make an appeal to this House to help us in a big job, and if when it comes to acquiring land for the Shellmouth Reservoir, surely, I hope, that the members in this House are not going to raise this bogey again. I know it may get you a few votes out on the hustings. It may get you a few votes

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I must object to the statement of the Honourable the Minister when he is imputing that the actions that I have taken and my colleague the Honourable Member for Brokenhead has been purely for the question of getting a few votes. I thought that the Minister of Agriculture had enough common sense to know that that was not our motives at all. And if he hasn't got it, he surely should have.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I'm now aware that I walk with angels.

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, and we're not afraid to tread. I would like the Minister to retract that statement Mr. Speaker.

MR. HUTTON: I think I've said enough on that subject.

MR. PAULLEY: I'm asking, Mr. Speaker, your opinion of the statement of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Agriculture was referring to political parties not to members of the legislature.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to you that the whole tenure of his speech in regard to this question of property has been directed, and indeed, Sir, he named me as an individual being the Leader of the New Democratic Party in respect of this, and has simply continued along the same vein. So I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that he is speaking of one individual at least. And I resent his remarks.

MR. HUTTON: Well you know, Mr. Speaker, they say that innocence is its own defence. If the honourable members across the way would sit still and say nothing I would feel that my arrows had missed the mark completely. I haven't ...

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, that is simply not sufficient for my honourable friend as much as he may be able to waltz around the point that I raised, he hasn't done it to my satisfaction. I think that he hasn't done it to the satisfaction of this House and he should do -- retract the statement and the imputation that he made.

MR. HUTTON: Well, I think there are a lot of statements that are made that might well be retracted. (Interjection)

MR. PAULLEY: I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I couldn't hear you for the Honourable Member for Morris.

MR. SPEAKER: I would suggest that the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture

(Mr. Speaker cont'd).... assure the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party that he was not referring personally to any member of his group.

MR. SHEWMAN: On a point of order Mr. Speaker, did the Honourable Minister think it?

MR. HUTTON: I can say this to the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party that he is one, he is one of the members who have been most co-operative of all those who I might like to include in the remarks that I made.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, may I again say I thank the Honourable Minister for his last remark but he has not withdrawn his remarks of imputation against me.

MR. HUTTON: I haven't? Well I did.

MR. EDMOND PREFONTAINE (Carillon): On a point of order I'd like to say I've been in this House a long time and I never seen any member of this House impute motives more directly than they were imputed now -- that this was done for the purpose of getting a few votes. It's not our group who made these suggestions with respect to the purchase of property. It is a group, they're two men, they have been singled out by the minister and I think they are entitled to retraction from the Honourable Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Order.

MR. HUTTON: I think I've said enough, Mr. Speaker, on this subject of the floodway; if I may be able to continue on something else.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully suggest a retraction of the imputation.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I have told the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party that of all the people on the other side of the House he has been most constructive of anyone, but he hasn't entirely made it easy for me as Minister for this Government, or for my department, to carry out their responsibilities in acquiring the property, and I can't say that he has, because I would be an awful liar if I said otherwise.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, I again appreciate the words of my honourable friend but he hasn't done what I think that he should do. I respectfully appeal to you, Mr. Speaker, to either decide that I am right in requesting this, or the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture was correct in making such imputations against myself. And this is your duty, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I would suggest that the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture assure the House that he was not referring personally to any member of the legislature; or if he was to withdraw the remarks.

MR. HUTTON: I think that I can do that. I am not objecting. I'm not objecting... What I said, Mr. Speaker, was this, that because this has been made an issue in this House, and has been plastered across the front pages of the newspapers, and blared over the radio, that this has made a tough job more difficult

MR. PAULLEY: On a point of privilege, on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I want simply this, the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, imputed, because of the fact that I have raised this point in this Legislative Assembly, that I have done so for the purpose of simply getting votes, and that was an imputation that I desire my honourable friend to withdraw.

MR. HUTTON: I agree, Mr. Speaker, that the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party never does anything to get votes.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Speaker, again on the point of privilege -- and I'm not going to allow this matter to rest until at least we have some semblance of parliamentary procedure in this House. My honourable friend mentioned a moment ago about matters being splashed over the headlines in the newspapers because of our action. May I suggest to you, Sir, that his attitude and his actions here this afternoon will certainly give the press ample opportunity to splash headlines over the front pages of the press because of the manner in which he is conducting himself in this Assembly. Now, Sir, you asked him if I understood you correctly, to withdraw his reference to me, and the imputation, and the Minister just skirts around as to whether or not it should be done. I think, Mr. Speaker, that all that is required is a straight withdrawal from the Minister of any imputation in respect of my actions in regard to the Red River Floodway and the question of expropriation. You have not given it to me in a manner which you should. (Interjection).

MR. SPEAKER: the Honourable the Leader of the New Democratic Party that you were not referring personally to

MR. PAULLEY: He made, at the time he was speaking, and that was when I rose on my point of privilege. He did make the statement.

MR. HUTTON: I never, I never referred to the

MR. PAULLEY: You did.

MR. HUTTON: the Honourable Leader of the New Democratic Party, because I like him and I really mean it when I

MR. PAULLEY: I like you too.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I mean it when I say he has been one of the most constructive members in this legislature in the opposition and helpful to us. How could I mean that?

MR. PAULLEY: I know you love me but take it back.

MR. HUTTON: If I said it, Mr. Speaker, I am sorry.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege. All this exchange between the Minister and my Leader is fine, but where does that leave me? Mr. Speaker may I

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Agriculture has the floor.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, I can't say the same things to the Member from Brokenhead because he started all this today when he said, and I quote: "Sloppy, kop-scotch acquisition, under-payment, not purchasing the land on the growing basis, unfair, horse-trading". He said it; I didn't --(Interjection)

MR. SCHREYER: I don't object to that Mr. Speaker. What I do object to is his ...

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. SCHREYER: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, what I object to is the Minister's reference or implication there that I was exploiting this out in the constituency for political motives. (Interjection) I want to tell the Honourable Minister that he wrote me a letter which he will recall

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

MR. SCHREYER: I want him to withdraw that statement. A point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of privilege?

MR. SCHREYER: My point of privilege is that he imputed motives to me, just as he did to my Leader. He withdrew them in that regard; he should do so in my regard.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not recall him referring to you personally; he referred to the party.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker may I continue? I didn't say anything that I need to apologize to the gentleman. I didn't say a thing that I need to apologize. I said that the

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. HUTTON: I said that the -- well I'm not going to go over that again. I think I made my point, I think I made my point, Mr. Speaker, and I think that the very fact that there has been such an outcry -- (Interjection) -- we have gotten down to the nub of the thing. Another statement that was made here was in respect of the government's compacency about the state of agriculture and the state of the economy -- the statement that we have a buoyant economy. The Honourable Member for Brokenhead took it upon himself to state that I was opposed to price stabilization at a reasonable level, and he -- I could -- (Interjection)-- yes, the suggestion has been made Mr. Speaker, by one of my helpers that I ask him to withdraw this statement. Well he can make those statements, Mr. Speaker, but they are not true; they are not true. Mr. Speaker, I said here the other evening and I got taken over the coals by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition. I made a statement here about parity. I want a square deal for the farmers. Parity -- when you talk about parity, it can mean an awful lot of things. The Honourable Member for Brokenhead likes to talk about helping the farmer, but let's have a look at the ways and means that he would use. Let's look at butter, with 200 million pounds of it in Canada today. I don't mind people talking about parity and about high prices for agriculture. And let's talk about the other side of the issue, when the Honourable Member for Brokenhead is prepared to get up in this House and say: "I know that in order for farmers to get decent prices that they'd have to accept restricted production but I'm prepared to vote in favour of that and I'm going out and tell everybody this". (Interjection) No. When I've seen

(Mr. Hutton, cont'd) Mr. Speaker, that he's prepared to take the core of the apple with the rest of it then I'll listen to him; but as long as the New Democratic Party runs around the country and suggests to the farmers that they can have high prices without paying the price that goes along with it. (Interjection) Love and marriage go together.

MR. SCHREYER: self accepted.

MR. HUTTON: . . . and so do production controls and high prices unless you are going to have bedlam. It's on this point, it's on this point that I object to the New Democratic Party attempting to sell to the farmers of Manitoba and other places in Canada the idea that if they were elected into office, they would immediately legislate heaven and earth. (Interjection) Oh yes. A fair price, a fair price. Parity prices. Prices in relation, prices in relation to the things that you have to buy, and I agree it would be a wonderful thing.

MR. G. MOLGAT (Leader of the Opposition) (St. Rose): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister permit a question?

MR. HUTTON: No. This same philosophy, Mr. Speaker, has gotten them into trouble with their closest friends, and now partners, so they tell us, later. Because in spite of themselves and in spite of their avowed humanitarian goals, they keep pushing the prices up and they introduce a selectivity, a selectivity that eliminates the less fortunate in our society. (Interjection) Oh yes, it's true. Mr. Speaker, it's true. As an employer, as he has to pay higher wages, he's going to demand more in returns, productivity returns from those men, and as wages go up in price the less fortunate, those whom God didn't give as many brains, or as much ambition, or the same skills, these people are eliminated, and so this party of the common man -- (Interjection) -- this party of the common man, is thrown into the odd position of eliminating the less poor, the less fortunate rather, in our society. And what would they do with our farmers? I'll tell you what would happen, Mr. Speaker, in Manitoba if the prices of farm goods went up 20% tomorrow. The price of farm land would jump immediately, and the rich would get richer and the poor would get poorer. And where would all your philosophy go then? What would you do when the rest of your philosophy introduced a greater measure of tenant farming that we've ever had before? You laugh at this. It's no laughing matter. It's no laughing matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Order.

MR. HUTTON: Mr. Speaker, what I'm saying I think, is rather important, even though the honourable members in the opposition think it's a laughing matter. This is very important for our farmers. The question of prices and production control is a very important thing for our farmers. It is one of the most important things that they are going to face in the next 20 years and maybe less. You know I don't like agreeing with my Liberal opponents at times, but I don't think that they are so foolish as to disagree with me on this one. (Interjection) Price and production go together, and you can't separate them as you're trying to do. We all want a good square deal for the farmers, but you're not going to get it by simply advocating high prices. (Interjection) Mr. Speaker, may I have a few minutes when we return tonight?

MR. SPEAKER: Order. I call it 5:30. I leave the Chair until 8:00 o'clock this evening.

Speech in French - Friday, February 23rd, 1962.

MR. DESJARDINS: Monsiur l'orateur il me fait plaisir de vous voir prêt a faire face aux exigences de votre tâche, tâche si ingrate souvent. Je vous en félicite. Aujourd'hui pendant quelques minutes vous étiez bilingue, je vous en félicite encore. J'aimerais pendre cette occasion pour féliciter le premier ministre et aussie le ministre de l'industrie et du commerce qui, je crois entre autres, font un effort pour reconnaitre les deux langues aussi souvent qu'ils en ont la chance. J'aimerais aussi féliciter celui qui a proposé et celue qui a secondé le discours du Trône. Celui qui l'a proposé non pour sa lecture du dépliant mais plutôt pour l'honneur qu'il a eu d'être choisi. Aussi un de nos ministres qui parait se sentir mieux. Je suis bien content de voir ici le ministre des affaires provinciales, je dirais, et je le félicite aussi.

English translation of above:

MR. DESJARDINS: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to see you ready to meet the exacting demands of your office, a task which is often unrewarding. I congratulate you. Today for a few moments you were bilingual and I congratulate you again. At this time I also want to congratulate the Premier and the Minister of Industry and Commerce who, I believe among others, make an effort to recognize both languages at every opportunity. I would also like to congratulate those who proposed and seconded the motion in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The member who proposed it not for his reading of the pamphlet but for the honour of having been chosen. Also, one of our Ministers seems to be feeling better. I am very pleased to see here the Minister of Provincial Affairs, I would say, and I congratulate him also.