

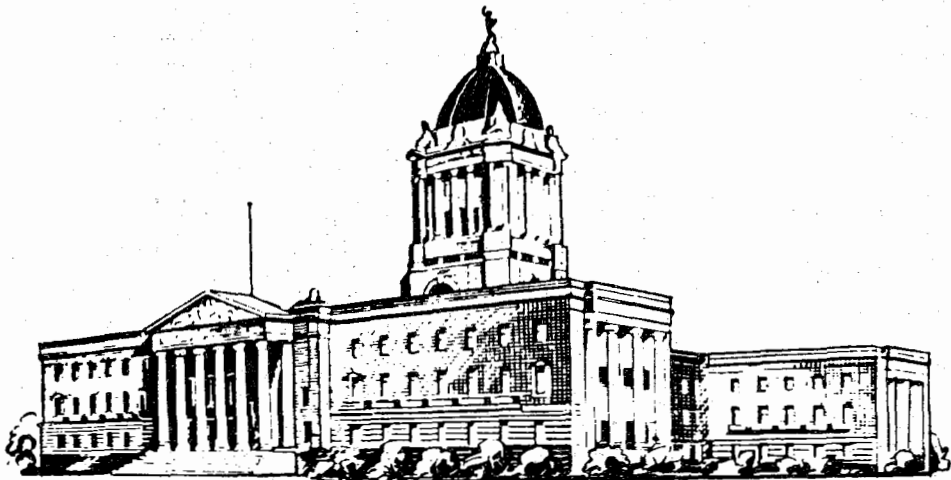


Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS

Speaker

The Honourable Peter Fox



Vol. XVIII No. 27 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 4th, 1971. Third Session, 29th Legislature.

ELECTORAL DIVISION	NAME	ADDRESS
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BURROWS	Hon. Ben Hanuschak	Legislative Building, Winnipeg 1
CHARLESWOOD	Arthur Moug	29 Willow Ridge Rd., Winnipeg 20
CHURCHILL	Gordon Wilbert Beard	148 Riverside Drive, Thompson, Man.
CRESCENTWOOD	Cy Gonick	115 Kingsway, Winnipeg 9
DAUPHIN	Hon. Peter Burtniak	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ELMWOOD	Hon. Russell J. Doern	Legislative Building, Winnipeg 1
EMERSON	Gabriel Girard	25 Lomond Blvd., St. Boniface 6
FLIN FLON	Thomas Barrow	Cranberry Portage, Manitoba
FORT GARRY	L. R. (Bud) Sherman	86 Niagara St., Winnipeg 9
FORT ROUGE	Mrs. Inez Trueman	179 Oxford St., Winnipeg 9
GIMLI	John C. Gottfried	44 - 3rd Ave., Gimli, Man.
GLADSTONE	James Robert Ferguson	Gladstone, Manitoba
INKSTER	Hon. Sidney Green, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
KILDONAN	Hon. Peter Fox	627 Prince Rupert Ave., Winnipeg 15
LAC DU BONNET	Hon. Sam Uskiw	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
LAKESIDE	Harry J. Enns	Woodlands, Manitoba
LA VERENDRYE	Leonard A. Barkman	Box 130, Steinbach, Man.
LOGAN	William Jenkins	1287 Alexander Ave., Winnipeg 3
MINNEDOSA	Walter Weir	Room 250, Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
MORRIS	Warner H. Jorgenson	Box 185, Morris, Man.
OSBORNE	Ian Turnbull	284 Wildwood Park, Winnipeg 19
PEMBINA	George Henderson	Manitou, Manitoba
POINT DOUGLAS	Donald Malinowski	361 Burrows Ave., Winnipeg 4
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Gordon E. Johnston	Room 248, Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
RADISSON	Harry Shafransky	4 Maplehurst Rd., St. Boniface 6
RHINELAND	Jacob M. Froese	Box 40, Winkler, Manitoba
RIEL	Donald W. Craik	2 River Lane, Winnipeg 8
RIVER HEIGHTS	Sidney Spivak, Q.C.	1516 Mathers Bay, West, Winnipeg 9
ROBLIN	J. Wally McKenzie	Inglis, Manitoba
ROCK LAKE	Henry J. Einarson	Glenboro, Manitoba
ROSSMERE	Hon. Ed. Schreyer	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
RUPERTSLAND	Jean Allard	602 - 245 Provencher Ave., St. Boniface 6
ST. BONIFACE	Laurent L. Desjardins	357 Des Meurons St., St. Boniface 6
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ST. JAMES	Hon. A. H. Mackling, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ST. JOHNS	Hon. Saul Cherniack, Q.C.	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
ST. MATTHEWS	Wally Johansson	23 - 500 Burnell St., Winnipeg 10
ST. VITAL	D. J. Walding	31 Lochinvar Ave., Winnipeg 6
STE. ROSE	A. R. (Pete) Adam	Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba
SELKIRK	Hon. Howard Pawley	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
SEVEN OAKS	Hon. Saul A. Miller	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
SOURIS-KILLARNEY	Earl McKellar	Nesbitt, Manitoba
SPRINGFIELD	Hon. Rene E. Toupin	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
STURGEON CREEK	Frank Johnston	310 Overdale St., Winnipeg 12
SWAN RIVER	James H. Bilton	Swan River, Manitoba
THE PAS	Ron McBryde	Box 1295, The Pas, Manitoba
THOMPSON	Hon. Joseph P. Borowski	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
TRANSCONA	Hon. Russell Paulley	Legislative Bldg., Winnipeg 1
VIRDEN	Morris McGregor	Kenton, Manitoba
WELLINGTON	Philip M. Petursson	681 Banning St., Winnipeg 10
WINNIPEG CENTRE	J. R. (Bud) Boyce	777 Winnipeg Ave., Winnipeg 3
WOLSELEY	Leonard H. Claydon	116½ Sherbrook St., Winnipeg 1

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
8:00 o'clock, Tuesday, May 4, 1971

MR. SPEAKER: Adjourned debates on second reading of Public Bills. On the proposed motion of the Honourable Member for Brandon West. The Honourable Member for Radisson. The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Speaker, will you call Bill No. 9, please?

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. SPEAKER: Bill No. 9. On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The Honourable Member for Emerson.

MR. GABRIEL GIRARD (Emerson): Mr. Speaker, much has been said about Bill No. 9 and I don't intend to deal with it at length. However, there are a few comments I'd very much like to make to the Honourable Minister.

First of all, the purpose of Bill No. 9, whether said, implied or meant, is simply that the Minister feels that it is necessary for him to have complete fiscal control of the municipalities within Greater Winnipeg and including Metro. He feels that at this time it's imperative that the Minister not only scrutinize but has the power to control the fiscal measures of the city governments.

The bill provides that over-expenditures, even if they are authorized by the Minister, have to be recovered if so directed, and if so directed, even if the Uni-city bill (if we can refer to that) went through, it still empowers him to levy on that bill, Mr. Speaker. If I'm wrong I'd be delighted to be corrected at the right time.

The bill, Mr. Speaker, shows to me that the Minister does not have confidence in the present city administration. What he is actually doing is telling those city governments that he does not trust the way they are going to be managing their fiscal affairs this year and he feels that by this bill it has become necessary that he directs them and controls them.

I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that in 1966 the same kind of legislation was passed throughout Manitoba creating school divisions, and school divisions were authorized to become unitary, and by doing so, Mr. Speaker, they were replacing by one school board a good number of school boards that existed previously in those school divisions, and yet the government of the time did not deem it necessary that fiscal measures be tightly controlled by some central authority because we didn't trust those school boards. In fact, Mr. Speaker, those school boards were trusted and lived up to the expectations of the administrators of the time. I suggest that this kind of bill is an insult to the cities now existing and shows a lack of confidence that the Minister now has in those civic governments.

I don't particularly like, Mr. Speaker, the measure that provides authority for the Minister to prepare in his office the kind of enumeration or the setting up of the mechanism for enumeration that the bill grants him. I see no real alternative to this kind of measure. However, it would seem to me as though it might be giving the Minister a little more authority than might well be reasonable.

It seems strange, Mr. Speaker, that a Minister as meticulous as the Minister of Finance, and who is as careful and as glib and as capable, saw it necessary to put in the bill, just in case he should forget some little measure that he could not have thought of controlling, a measure in the bill that says: Just in case I've forgotten something, by Order-in-Council we will pass a law or we will pass an Order-in-Council that will have the force of the law within three given measures, just in case we've forgotten something that we want to control; because we do, you know, insist on controlling the cities that now exist.

I find it strange, Mr. Speaker, that this kind of bill, which must reveal the attitude of the Minister, actually forecloses on the cities that exist and freezes their reserves in a way that they are not able to use it without the authorization of the Minister. It seems strange that he almost tells us ahead of time that if you have a reserve that is sizable in your city, don't think of using it because it's already been reserved for other matters, namely Uni-city.

The bill provides, as I suggested, complete fiscal control by the Minister, and this bill is repealed automatically provided that the Uni-city bill does not go through or provided that a reorganization of the present system of government in Winnipeg does not occur. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that however sliced, the reorganization that takes place, however sliced, this bill becomes law and remains law, and even if the Uni-city bill were defeated, if there is a slight reorganization, it might well accomplish some of the desires of the Minister in that he

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) . . . would have complete control of the fiscal matter and even the electoral matter of the city. This is how I interpret the bill, Mr. Speaker. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, for all time. And might I explain that? Because the bill simply says that if there is a reorganization of the City of Winnipeg, if there is a reorganization it doesn't say that the Uni-city bill has to go through. It simply says "if there is a reorganization of the present city government," the present system of government in Winnipeg, then this bill remains in force. And if that is so, Mr. Speaker, the Minister might well achieve his purpose. Yes I have read it, Sir; in fact, it might be to your surprise. However, maybe all is not lost. I wish not to refer to specific items in the bill but I'd like simply to suggest there's at least one good clause in the bill, and that's the last one that says there is still hope that it will be repealed.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Before I take the question, I'd like to inform the House that we have members from the External Affairs Diplomatic Corps in my Gallery. On behalf of the honourable members of the Assembly, I'd like to welcome you here tonight.

Also, we have 20 members of the First Kirkfield Iroquois Scout Troup under the direction of Mr. Walter Kasmar, Bill Hiebert and Kenneth Brand. This troupe is located in the constituency of the Member for Assiniboia. On behalf of the honourable members, I should like to welcome you too.

Are you ready for the question? The Honourable Member for Gladstone.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

MR. J. R. FERGUSON (Gladstone): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Charleswood, the debate be adjourned.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: Could you call Bill No. 15 please, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable the Attorney-General. The Honourable Member for Fort Garry. The Honourable Member for Brandon West.

MR. EDWARD MCGILL (Brandon West): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Honourable Member from Fort Garry, may we have this matter stand? (Agreed)

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable House Leader.

MR. GREEN: . . . call the motion of the Honourable the Minister of Labour standing in the name of the Honourable the Member for Rhineland.

MR. SPEAKER: On the proposed motion of the Honourable Minister of Labour. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Mr. Speaker, this is the third time that I am called on to speak today so I'll try and not be too lengthy at all.

The report we're discussing is a report from the Special Committee on the Rules of the House. During the previous session, not this last one, we had a similar committee sitting dealing with the rules as well, and I attended a number of their meetings. However, this last year it seemed that when I got notice, or at least when I tried to find out when the meetings were, it seemed to me that it never worked out so that I could attend, although I was not a member of the committee, and therefore I don't know how the discussions really went, how much discussion there was. I find that they went through the report of the previous committee and made a few references in connection with the report brought out by the previous committee.

In going over some of the points that are made in the report, I find there are references to other speakers in other provinces, in the House of Commons, and I am not quite sure what they are speaking of. On the first one it says "Appendix as the rulings of Ontario Speaker," I think the Appendix that they're referring to - and what does it mean? Without having the material we can't consider it in the light that the committee did. And I think where we have references of this type that we as members should get the necessary material so that we can inform ourselves.

There are other items such as ministerial statements and tabling of reports. Here, too, I feel quite strongly that up until this year members on this side of the House have been able to respond to statements made by Ministers on the other side. I've had the privilege of doing so all these years. Now all of a sudden we find that this privilege is taken away from us without any change of rules, and when the Speaker got up the other day he referred to Beauchesne and rested his case on Beauchesne's ruling. Mr. Speaker, I think if we're going to do that, that

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) if our rules don't provide for a certain situation that we have to immediately refer to other rulings, then I think we should also cover some of the ground that you are closing your eyes to and allow to happen.

We have no ruling in connection with pairing, yet this goes on time and again and I feel that if they're going to allow these things then I think we should allow members to respond to ministerial statements. I feel that this is an important item, that we should be able to respond to statements made. Some of these are quite important. We had one on mining. The government certainly prided itself being able to make such an announcement. Yet we were unable to respond to the statement. On some occasions it wouldn't be critical; I think we would be able to commend them, but what do we find? No. Certain people on the other side will not have it that way.

I checked back on the journals of the previous years on that report and compared it with what the new report says. Apparently the committee went over those items brought in last year so I do not want to discuss those items at length because I've already made reference to that last year when the report was brought in. But I think we're trying to copy too much of the Federal Government's rules, and I do not necessarily agree with what rules the Federal Government has and bring about changes in our House for that sake. Certainly we all know that Trudeau tried to muzzle the federal Parliament in different ways, the members of the Opposition in different ways, and I don't see, and I certainly don't want to see that happen here in Manitoba any more than is necessary and I don't think it is necessary.

I, for one, certainly do not go along with having Private Members' business conducted the last hour of the day every day. I feel by that time many members are not up to par as they would be earlier in the day. This means that a lot of the debate that we can expect is second rate. We also know that one hour is not sufficient time, especially if you have a matter coming up where a number of members want to respond to so that you have a lively debate.

Another matter I notice is that the time will be shortened for members to speak on these occasions, cutting it down, and I don't know why and I can't understand how the Official Opposition here and the members representing the Opposition party on this committee would go for this. Certainly this is the thin edge of the wedge, and once you have the 20-minute restriction in this case you'll find it soon when we move over to the other debates and we will be cut down in the time that we can speak on a given matter.

I would like to make mention of one or two other things in connection with the Rule 26 - and I think this was in last year's report - that you change the leave of the House to proceed, to support of the House. I objected to it last year and I object to it at this time as well, because the onus will then be on the members to support rather than object, and this requires active participation on behalf of the members rather than to just agree. Certainly when we discuss or . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order. The Honourable House Leader has a point of order?

MR. GREEN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I wonder if the honourable member is aware, and may I point out with respect to yourself, Your Honour, that these matters will be open for debate when this report comes to the Committee of the Whole House as suggested in the recommendation.

MR. SPEAKER. Order, please. Your point of order is not really a matter of order. The honourable gentleman does have the time to debate the question now; the report is before us. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, because I'm not sure whether the honourable member's point is valid. Last year we had a report and concurrence was never moved. We have no assurance that it will happen this year, although we hope it will.

The 20-minute speeches are again enumerated in another section of the report and I certainly am amazed that the Opposition members will agree to this request, or to this statement if it's a statement.

There are other matters that are of interest to us, especially when we speak in terms of assistance to members in the way of secretarial help. I'm sure that all members on this side could make use of assistance of this type, and I certainly hope that when it does come about that it will not only be given to recognized parties but that all members will receive assistance.

I couldn't hear what the honourable member had to say. -- (Interjection) -- It mentions that provisions are to be made to all the other members and recognized parties, but we don't know whether this means the same service or not. I would have liked to see it spelled out much better than it does in the report and I do hope, when assistance will be provided, that all

(MR. FROESE cont'd.) members will be treated equally.

On the matter of research as well, I welcome that part of the report that will provide for assistance of this type. I find that, under the new provisions, the new suggestions that the committee came out with seem to be very restricting. For one, it mentioned all briefs to be in writing, the briefs that are being made to the committee. I'm just wondering whether this is necessary at all times. We've had some very good verbal reports or verbal presentations to the various standing committees when we met. Some of them were excellent briefs, and I'm not sure whether it is really necessary that we restrict outside representation to written briefs. I don't know just what the reasoning was behind this in making this stipulation or this requirement. Is it just to shorten the time of the presentations? Is it the idea behind it that presentations will not be heard, that they will just be gathered and provided to the committee to read for themselves - is that the thought behind it, behind this restriction? Certainly I think at some time sooner or later, when the government member who brought in the report discusses it, that we will get the necessary answers.

The motions for orders will not be debatable if the recommendations go through. Why? Because we're doing this on Private Members' Days. We're doing it right now on Tuesdays and on Fridays, the time that is allotted to private members. Why should the government restrict us from debating these when we're doing it at our time. -- (Interjection) -- If it was done at the government's time it would make sense, but when it's done at the Private Members'

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. I think the gentleman is straying a little far from the motion. The motion before us is to adopt the report. I can allow certain latitude to give reasons why -- (Interjection) -- Order, please. If the Honourable Member for Lakeside wants to say something, let him get up.

MR. ENNS: . . . me, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. I'm asking for order. I'm on my feet; I expect the courtesy. As I said, the Honourable Member for Rhineland is straying a little too much into depth of the question that's before us. He is discussing the report in detail. I would suggest that I can allow the latitude that some reference has to be made what is in the report, but the question before the House, I state, is the adoption of the report and sending it on to another committee. Thank you. The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'm trying to point out my objections to adopting the report as such, and I'm raising objections to adopting this report. I find also the matter of examination outside the Chamber of the bills that will come to the various committees will henceforth not be permitted, and that we will only be able to examine them, clause by clause, in the Chamber and in Committee of the Whole, so that here is another step of elimination of legislation that will be proposed from time to time by the government, and private members, which will not receive the same amount of attention as it has been receiving heretofore. Certainly it has happened a number of times where we met in one of the standing committees first and then later on the bill was discussed in Committee of the Whole, and that certain flaws were detected and as a result corrected in Committee of the Whole. Now if we are just going to deal with it once over, I am sure that there will be more kinks left in the various legislation that will be passed by this House. So -- (Interjection) -- So am I.

These are some of my objections and also some of the conclusions I've reached in connection with this report, and there is another section of the report dealing with indemnities. I am not going to discuss that at this time. I think I'll leave it up to the time when -- if and when action is taken on that particular point of the report, and discuss it at that time. -- (Interjection) -- That's a good idea? Fine. I'll accept your advice this time on that point.

There is one matter that I would like to raise, though, and this is not listed in the report, but I think something that the committee should have considered is the matter of advising all members of the House of committee meetings. I feel that on a number of occasions I would have liked to attend certain committee meetings, which I have not received notice. I have gone to the Office of the Clerk and, whenever I have done so, he has always been friendly to me and provided me with the meeting dates; I have no complaint about that. But I think this should be automatic that we are advised and that we know of meetings taking place, because a certain meeting can be of particular interest to certain members and I feel that these meetings are open to all members of the House and are able to participate in the debate of the committees, therefore I think they should also have the knowledge when these meetings do take place and that the notice is automatic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. SAUL CHERNIACK, Q. C. (Minister of Finance) (St. John's): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Labour, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

MR. SPEAKER presented the motion and after a voice vote declared the motion carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution 61. (a)--passed; (b)--passed? The Member for Emerson.

MR. PATRICK: . . . I was, but I believe I was talking on industrial safety or partial industrial safety and noise pollution. I was talking about people in industry -- (Interjection) -- Chicago-Montreal? No, I was outside talking to some boy scouts that were here from Kirkfield so that's where I was.

Mr. Minister, I was concerned about people in industry who are subjected to conditions which decrease their effectiveness with increasing frequency as we advance technically. For instance, what are the long-term effects of loud noise, abnormal lights, loud motors or strong electric magnetic fields on human beings; and I asked the Minister if he has a research department to do this type of work for industry. I'm not sure. I would like to see the Minister endeavour to assess the effects of various industrial environments on different people.

I believe the community would benefit through greater industrial efficiency of our labour force in the form of savings. I don't think one can measure the benefits of saving a human life and health. I think that industries would find that profit would accrue from energetic safety programs once inertia has been overcome. Employee relations benefit when workers are made aware that their personnel and the management is concerned about the health of their employees. I think the cost of Workmen's Compensation, which is ultimately borne by the industry and the consumer and the taxpayer, which is a completely unproductive cost, this expense would also be saved. So I hope that the Minister would endeavour to try and secure some of this information for the members of the House, and if he hasn't got a research department or research staff within his department, I think this is an area that we have to start looking into.

The other point that I wish to draw to his attention: There has been reference made to some form of guaranteed income, or income supplement for the employees. I don't know what he called it but I know there was reference made, and I was actually disappointed and surprised that the Minister of Labour never even made any reference to it. Was this just a window dressing in the Throne Speech or was the government really serious when they had that in the Throne Speech? I know that an official minimum income would have to be established. If the government proceeds with payments to individuals or families, a figure would have to be established and naturally the deficiency would have to be made up by the government to what this minimum income has to be. I know that this has been established by the Canada Science Council, I believe, and some other organizations, but I would like to see the Minister give us some information in this area and I don't feel that he would be doing justice to his department if he would just ignore this area completely. And -- (Interjection) -- I'm getting some coaching here. The citizens of Manitoba, I think he has the responsibility to them. I think he has the responsibility to the workers of this province, to the employees, and I wish that he would tell us something about if this was strictly window dressing or if the government had some plans in respect to some form of income level for people.

The other point I would like to ask at this time, in respect to Canadian unions. I wonder where the Minister stands on this issue. Would he encourage the growth of Canadian unions? I see an article that I have here from a press. Even some of the leaders -- "George Meanie, President of A. F. L. and C. I. O., has encouraged separation of Canadian unions or suggests it best route to self rule." I have an article from the Toronto Telegram where it says ". . . six to eight million profit for U.S. union. 'I don't know how accurate this statement is but American unions made a \$68 million profit over a six-year period with money taken out of Canada,' the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Council of Unions charged Saturday. Using figures American unions have to provide under the Corporate Labour Relations Act of 1962, he

(MR. PATRICK cont'd.) said the first year U.S. based unions had Canadian income of \$22 million and an expenditure of just \$12 million."

So I would like to know what -- I know that the present government, the present government is to some extent against foreign investment in the province, or some of the members of the government they're against foreign control, and they would say -- (Interjection) -- Did they? Mr. Chairman, some members of the government, they believe in nationalization of industry. I know that I wouldn't go as far -- I think that there is reason to believe that we require foreign capital and we require good corporate citizens, and I would agree that it's not right for a foreign subsidiary to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I think the member should be allowed to continue to make his contribution without interruption.

MR. PATRICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I tried to make my point and I would agree that perhaps there is a point to be made that when we have subsidiaries in Canada, and if these subsidiaries are only limited to manufacture or to produce a certain amount of the article, then we are limited to the export market by the parent company in United States, and I agree that there is something wrong, something has to be done, but this is a different factor than the unions, but as far as the Union is concerned I would like to see the Minister encourage growth of Canadian so that these unions can grow and perhaps they could be fostered by legislation, Canadian unions can be fostered through legislation. So, at least some of the union dues that are paid to the unions, that some of this money, or some of the dues can stay in Canada instead of going across the line to the International Union.

These are some of the points that I -- (Interjection) -- No, I'm not saying that, but I think there has been, I think there's a considerable amount of interest in Canada amongst many members of the Labour unions for self control and I don't see why we shouldn't have this right, and I don't feel that if this is the way they want to go why they shouldn't be encouraged. I don't think this is "Yankee Go Home." Not at all. I think that's probably a better description but at the same time I would not agree with some of the philosophies that are expounded on the other side of the House when they talk about nationalization. I mentioned that a minute ago. I think that we need good corporate citizens in this country, we need investment and so on, but I would like to know the Minister's opinion.

This is about all I have at the present time. I will probably find more to say as we go item by item on the estimates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, I would first of all like to start off by saying how difficult it is for me to criticize such a pleasant Minister, such an able debater.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I would suggest that those members who wish to have private conversations, carry on their private conversations outside the Chamber. The Member for Emerson.

MR. GIRARD: Mr. Chairman, in fact, he's such an able debater that only last week when he realized that he was absolutely wrong, he didn't tell us this, but when he realized that he was absolutely wrong on a point of order, he almost aroused this side in debate to justify saying that he might have been right, and I really appreciate the experienced member that shows tact, diplomacy and debating ability.

However, there are a few things, Mr. Chairman, that came up in his speech on estimates which I would like to question him on. First of all, he spoke about some great improvements that are taking place in the department, and he singled out the fact that he's now got a representative of the Workmen's Compensation Board stationed at The Pas. Now that's quite some achievement, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any doubt whatsoever that this kind of thing would have occurred if The Pas had been well represented. In any case, Mr. Chairman, I'm glad to see this kind of development.

However, Mr. Chairman, I can't help but wonder. I can't help but wonder the purpose of the whole exercise. You see, I happen to have had some encounters with the Workmen's Compensation Board in representing some constituents, and I have come to the conclusion, Mr. Chairman, that in my humble opinion that is really a redundant and rather useless kind of organization, and I say this, Mr. Chairman, with all respect to the people in that occupation who are trying to do a job. They are shackled by this government and not able to do this kind of job rightly. I find situations where you find people who have been injured during their course of work, who have applied to the Workmen's Compensation Board for justified revenue, and after a long battle - and I mean long in terms of not only months but years - they find that

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) finally the decision has been reached and we are going to give you the whole sum of about half as much as you can earn on welfare. Now, after a long drawn-out battle and a great number of examinations by a number of medical men, we find that really the whole exercise would have been much more simple if these people would have taken the opportunity given by this government so lightly and accepted the welfare that is made available very readily.

I can cite another case where an individual was injured - he happened to be a carpenter and he was injured in his field of work. He had a hand that is seriously injured which disables him as far as working in his trade in winter. But, you know, the Compensation Board after many examinations and re-examinations, finally decided, you know, "we can pay this man \$20.00 a month because after all, he worked only seasonally and because he worked only seasonally our regulations say that he can only get so much based on his yearly income. Now again, Mr. Chairman, I suggest to you that this same gentleman would have been far better off applying for welfare that is so readily available, saving the province or the people who pay the specialists and the medical people and the administrators of the Workmen's Compensation Board a great deal of effort and money, and I'm suggesting to you in all seriousness that the Workmen's Compensation Board with the present policies of the government has become fruitless, the efforts are fruitless and the Board is redundant, and I'm suggesting that unless there is some re-vamping of that Board it doesn't justify its existence.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I must say that I value the experienced politician in our Minister, who can so suavely calm the people of Manitoba who are concerned over the unemployed. Our labour relations in Manitoba are better than anywhere else in Canada, and you know, he forgets to mention maybe that in terms of labour force Manitoba has less than five percent of the Canadian labour force as far as the statistics are concerned, and so we take great pride in saying, you know, "We have no labour relation problems in Manitoba." The fact of it is, Mr. Chairman, that we have no real labour force to create problems with.

Now I suggest maybe that we could put up with a few more problems if we could somehow administer this province to create a little more work and increase our labour force. Collective bargaining for workers, he suggests, should be free and totally free. No outside force of any kind. It should be non-compulsory but it should be encouraged. And yet as my friend from Lakeside suggested last night, we help them just a little bit by assuring them that if you happen to be on strike, well, you know, we can still provide you with social assistance anyway and we will send ministers down to mediate, voluntarily I am sure, but so what if the Minister suggested before they leave the city that the strike is only going to last as long as the companies are stubborn about it, but yet we are impartial and we are in all good faith going to mediate and encourage some kind of settlement. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that it's a little ironical to hear this kind of statement by the departing Minister. Government intervention, he says, might be necessary but certainly not compulsory.

Then, Mr. Chairman, he spoke also of the Minimum Wage, and that is something that really concerns Manitobans at large. I know that he has information from the organization that is studying this matter. I regret that he has not, to my knowledge, tabled it in the House because I am very curious as to what kind of information he has. I think that it's true to say that people of Manitoba very generally would like to see the labour force earn a good deal of money. I think that we'd all like to see our labour force, you know, get a minimum of \$2.00 per hour, but we are also very concerned about the kind of unemployment we are going to create and the kind of pressures on the other side that this kind of legislation would create. I'm suggesting that I'm all in favour of \$2.00 per hour if the Minister can assure me that it's not going to create unemployment. If it's not going to create the hardship that I think it might, then I'm all in favour, Mr. Speaker, but I'm very skeptical and I'm even skeptical about what kind of information the Minister has before he makes that kind of decision. It's very close to home when I speak of minimum wage because I happen to have in my constituency one significant industry and that is the textile industry. There is a sewing factory in my constituency that employs a hundred people, and in my constituency that's a very considerable number of people to be employed at one plant.

Now, I would regret the day that that kind of plant would be compelled to close because it's more economical to get this kind of work done abroad and transport the raw material and bring back the finished goods instead of doing them right at home in the constituency of Emerson, and I'd be very disappointed, Mr. Chairman, if I knew that we're contemplating \$2.00 an hour as a minimum wage, or \$1.75, or whatever it might be, and at the same time

(MR. GIRARD cont'd.) get some kind of information saying that this will cause my particular plant to close - and not mine personally but mine in my constituency. You can understand, Mr. Chairman, that there is room for concern on both sides of this argument.

Mr. Chairman, I was very amused to hear the suave Minister say, "You know, it's about time that the teachers have a right to strike." I thought for a minute, Mr. Chairman, that he somehow found out that I had something prepared for him and he was going to influence me somehow, but I assure you, Mr. Chairman, that in principle, and as a teacher, I am not in favour of the right to strike. But strangely enough, Mr. Chairman, I find it rather odd that the Minister of Labour says we should give the teachers the right to strike. On one hand he assured, you know, "You fellows deserve the real hammer to really squeeze those school boards into submission and to give you the authority to get this kind of salary that you so well deserve," and I agree that we deserve it; but on the other hand, Mr. Chairman, if we examine the situation correctly, the truth of the matter is that the school board cannot afford to pay on the basis of the present structure and the present educational finances. The Minister of Education says, on the other hand, "You know, we will help you. You don't have to worry. We'll give you \$18.00 per student. Not saying that it's increased \$50.00 this year, we're still going to give you \$18.00 this year," and so with the combination of \$18.00 on one side and the combination of the right to strike on the other, Mr. Chairman, it might be that we are on the right path but I'm suggesting it might be a dangerous one, Mr. Chairman.

I found it a little amusing to hear the suave Minister say, "You know, we have the best record in Manitoba so far as strikes are concerned," And I am convinced, Mr. Chairman, that this is really good politics for the Minister and he is able to do it so well, but the truth of the matter is that it doesn't mean much because, comparatively speaking, you've got less than five percent of the labour force in Manitoba. You are going to have to import a few industries or a few groups -- maybe a few unions to create a few strikes in Manitoba so that we can keep up to the rest of the people.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, I find it very amusing that again our suave Minister says, "Don't worry, gentlemen, don't worry, because in the name of charity, if Hudson's Bay Company should have to fold up in Flin Flon, we'll do our best to take it over. I suggest that in the name of charity, you know, in the name of charity we will do to Flin Flon a little bit, not quite the same, maybe we won't even call the RCMP in, but a little bit like we have done in The Pas." In the name of charity, Mr. Chairman, I hope that Manitoba will need as little as possible of that kind of charity.

Mr. Chairman, in his final touches last night, the Honourable Minister said, "You know, it is not our intention to persecute industry. It's not our intention in the least to persecute industry. We want to be on the good side of industry," and, as a matter of fact, the Premier says on numerous -- well, I've heard him say on numerous occasions, you know, "We are in the good books of industry. Industry looks to this present government with eagerness and they hope that we can stay in power for many, many years," On the other hand, the Labour Minister says, "You know, we're going to do so much for the labour force. We are so kind to the labour unions and the organizations, and even the Teachers Society, but I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that you can't fight both sides of the same battle and we'll have to make up our minds one time or another.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 61 (a)--passed? The Member for Charleswood.

MR. ARTHUR MOUG (Charleswood): Mr. Chairman, just a few comments on labour because I think the Minister thought I should get up tonight after what I said the other day. I want to compliment the Member for Assiniboia on his comments tonight. He always comes out on lots of good points defending the labour force. His remarks always demand high respect of other members. Too bad that the Minister of Labour didn't have some of his qualities, maybe we wouldn't have the problems we have in the Province of Manitoba with labour today.

The Minister questioned the other day after I spoke on the Order for Return as to whether or not I would like to see the minimum wage lowered. I say "no" but there's areas where it should be abolished because the problem still exists that I spoke on the other day, those that are handicapped in one way or another and there's not a place to put them today. They fall back on their families and they become a problem, not necessarily to society but to their own families. They had jobs at one time, a few years ago when the minimum wage was 75 cents, they had a job. As it came up and as it hit \$1.50 they no longer can fit into today's society. The warehouses have disposed of them, the several restaurants, grocery

(MR. MOUG cont'd.) stores and other areas. I think if the Minister of Labour wants to look it squarely in the face, and as he corrected me the other day on the \$1.60 I was mentioning, I was taking that \$1.60 as a promise he had previously made that it was coming up in October, or his anticipated October, by the labour force. But if you take a 44-hour week, Mr. Chairman, at a dollar and a half is \$66.00 and this doesn't make any person in today's society independent. They are dependent on somebody, they're living off their family, their mothers, their fathers, their sisters or brothers, they're not paying their bills. They're getting themselves in trouble, they're on the way down the ladder and there's no way out for them. There's welfare, as my good friend the Member from Fort Rouge mentions, but this is not the answer, because I think if the Minister of Health and Social Development was to stand up and tell us what he knows now he would say there was a \$30 million deficit last year in welfare. He's never denied it yet. We've suggested it, he hasn't denied it. -- (Interjection) -- We're pretty close, we're pretty close. We're pretty close. I think that these people should have the opportunity to look after or part way support themselves. A dollar fifty doesn't do it. You take two people at \$1.50, give them \$3.00 an hour, \$66.00 a week each, \$132.00, you're going to bring them in the area where they're going to -- young married couple they go out and rent a home, and to be real modest \$125.00 a month for the home, 96 percent of the automobiles on the street today, with the exception of the Borowski transportation automobiles, have finance on them, so if you give them a figure of \$75.00 a car on that, take the clothing and groceries and you show me what they've got left out of that \$488.00 to \$500.00 a month that they're going to earn. If that young wife becomes in the family way and the wages are cut in half there's no way that those people can survive.

I think it's time that the Minister brought himself into the twentieth century. He was the man that sat on this side of the House, the oldest member in the Legislature, he sat on this side of the House. "I am a labour man, I am a labour man. Put me on that side of the House and I will show you how to take the poor people off the streets of the City of Winnipeg and the Province of Manitoba." He's over there. He's over there. He's over there. He didn't take them off the streets of the City of Winnipeg or the Province of Manitoba, he took them out of the factories and some of the warehouses and put them on to the street and they're there now, and there's more going there. You shake your head. Don't shake your head up and down; shake it to the side. I say to you if you want to be real do what you promised the people over the years when you were sitting on this side, fifteen years of them. Go to two dollars and twenty-five cents, bring that bill in here, bring that Order in from the Lieutenant-Governor and I'll stand up and vote for it. It'll make it real -- (Interjection) -- You haven't been listening see? There's your problem. You've had that same problem for 17 years, you've had that same problem for 17 years. When I stood up here last Tuesday I told you your \$1.50 was putting people on the street, the mentally and physically handicapped.

Another thing I suggest to you, when the Minister from Assiniboia is standing up speaking, you listen to him. And if you've got room in your department for him -- he's not from Saskatchewan, he's from Manitoba -- but take him into your department as a deputy minister. You can use that man. He'll do a lot, the Member for Assiniboia. That's not Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, so you may not want him. But I say to you if you can use him take him in because he could do your department and the people of Manitoba a lot of good.

To get back, Mr. Chairman, to something that this man may be able to help the workers of the province with. -- (Interjection) -- Well this may be a fluke, I don't know, but I have one or two people in my constituency that have had a problem while working, to get into an accident -- (Interjection) -- Yes, they're representative in the Department of Labour, yes, you're right. And they had a problem, they're unfortunate people with an artificial limb and they had it damaged while they were at work and they were refused the rights, or the indemnities possibly, that should come from the Workmen's Compensation Board, I think it's something that should be looked into. In this case it was an artificial leg this man was wearing and he had it damaged on two occasions. Another person with just a hook type thing on their arm apparatus was damaged as well while they were working and they are looking forward to some sort of compensation for this and if your department could consider it, certainly we would appreciate it in our area because we have the two instances.

There's a few other things, Sir, before you got me confused with getting riled and speaking . . . There was another thing I wanted to bring up -- Mr. Chairman, through you, does the Department of Labour at any time give more consideration in their departments and

(MR. MOUG cont'd.) offices as far as handicapped people are concerned or are they classed along with others? That's all I have to say at this time, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON (Swan River): Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention to take up too much of your time but I'm sure the Honourable the Minister of Labour would be disappointed if I didn't rise at this time. There's been some mention made of the Compensation Board and I must say to the Minister in all sincerity that it is a problem when you're far removed from the city and a man sits across the desk and tells you that he's not getting one way or the other, and I have a feeling sometimes, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister of Labour is so city-oriented and so union-oriented that he forgets about the people in rural Manitoba that have to make a living. Some of those good people are not unionized and I sometimes wonder as to whether or not the bureaucrats really realize what the average man has to put up with to come within the orbit of what it takes to get what's coming to him in comparison with those that are close to the fountainhead. I would ask the Minister in all sincerity to remember that there are people beyond the city that meet with injuries from time to time, and I don't think I have to tell him what some of the people have to go through before they come to the ultimate conclusion that they get in what is coming to them.

I feel that the people in rural Manitoba insofar as the Department of Labour is concerned and insofar as the Workmen's Compensation is concerned are people that are out in the wilderness just because they are not unionized, and I say to this government that regardless of their efforts and regardless of their intentions in the days and the months and the years that are to come, that there will be those free thinkers that will stay outside of unionism because they are free thinkers and will continue their -- (Interjection) -- Not freeloaders. I would suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, the remark that was made a moment ago insofar as freeloaders are concerned that if ever there was a time that we have developed an era of freeloaders, we're developing it now through many of the schemes of welfare that are being developed.

The Minister told us yesterday and I was appalled that he of all people -- and I have the greatest respect for him -- he of all people told us that he was going to bring forward legislation that ultimately would develop, the teachers of this province would be unionized, that the police forces would be unionized, that the firemen would be unionized, but for God's sake leave them alone. Don't do any more than has already been done because they are servants of the public, they are being paid by the public, they have a responsibility to the public and don't do anything, don't do anything that will deter their responsibility to the people in taking care of their health and their welfare. Whatever you do, don't move in any further to jeopardize the situation as it is now. And insofar as the teachers of the Province of Manitoba are concerned -- and I have the greatest respect for the teachers of Manitoba and I have the greatest respect for my colleague who suggested tonight that they should not be unionized -- if ever you bring that into effect -- and you've got lots of teachers over there that's going to see to it no doubt that it's going to take place -- the children of this province are more important than the unionization of the teachers of this province and they must always remember that. The children of this province must be the first concern of the teachers of this province. The dollars and cents I suggest to you, Mr. Minister, matter not. They don't matter a damn as far as I'm concerned. The children must come first. And you must also remember that regardless of what they think so long as they are paid out of the public purse they are still the servants of the people of Manitoba. It's not asking too much and I have a lot of friends in the teaching profession but let's not do -- let's not do anything -- (Interjection) -- Well if I must go into that and I haven't got a worry in the world. The teachers of the Swan River Valley made up their minds that they were going to vote against Bilton but he won anyway. -- (Interjection) -- Temporarily? Thank you for the challenge, Mr. Minister, because I'll be back again don't you worry, in spite of them. But I'm saying to them in all sincerity, it's a pity we ever lost the little red schoolhouse because it did something for this province. Listen to them. They never had it so good. They never had it so good. But the people are getting a little tired of this challenging the public purse year after year after year. Why don't we call a honeymoon or call it over in order that the people in Manitoba can have a little relief from this challenge from the teachers year after year after year for increases; and you, Mr. Minister, are suggesting that they shall strike to get more. I defy you, Sir; it's got to stop, it's got to stop. We're paying them enough now, let them settle down like the rest of us.

Mr. Minister, in all sincerity I say to you in the interests of health in this province, are you going to allow the employees, the employees that are going to be responsible for the

(MR. BILTON cont'd.) life, limb and health of the people of this province to strike because of wages? Never. Never let that happen. Never let the people of this province be in jeopardy healthwise because of a dollar. If you ever do it you'll go down in history as the worst Minister of Labour of this province and I don't believe that'll happen to you. You're a more dedicated person than that and use your discretion at all times, Mr. Minister, in police, in health and in the welfare of this province at all times. Never, never let the dollar bill at any time come between the people of this province and labour. Never let it happen. -- (Interjection) -- Saul, a question from you at any time is welcome. It wasn't when I was there though. Just a moment, I haven't given you permission. I have some idea of what you're going to say Saul. I read you, I read you like a book. But you know what I'm trying to say in the best interests of the people of Manitoba and don't you for one moment take any advantage of the little boy from the log cabin that's trying to do his best. I'm telling you I'll answer your question to the best of my ability if you want to ask it, but don't make it too technical.

MR. CHERNIACK: Mr. Chairman, the question I only wanted to ask was: In the area of transportation, the area of the railways and the buses, the communication media of the province, what is the member's attitude on the ability or the right to strike in that area?

MR. BILTON: In the matter of transportation? The same applies, because you know if you allow, if you allow strikes in transportation the same thing applies to health. You may be denying somebody the help that they require in the way of health. Does that answer your question or have you got another? Mr. Minister, all I'm trying to say in my own way is never allow this province to come to a standstill because of those things that are important to our people should be called to a halt. If you do, if you do - I'll be around to see you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Virden.

MR. MORRIS MCGREGOR (Virden): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to read back onto the record what I said in speaking to the Throne Speech. The Minister of Labour was not in his chair that afternoon or morning. -- (Interjection) -- page 165, my boy, and I'm -- (Interjection) -- Yes, I recognize, Sir, you're the pro around here and I'm your humble servant, but please listen - sometimes we have ideas that are reasonable and fair.

I'll repeat what Hansard, and I must say it's reasonably correct to what I was thinking: "We've seen our hourly work week change. In one area it seemed to be coming to us as members that the service industries such as garages, service stations, and I believe in speaking to us say they have not got a member on the Manitoba Labour Board, and maybe this is why this sort of went overboard. They are very much opposed to what is going on now, and this is not coming from management or the garage owners alone, it is personnel that are working there who would like to work their particular hours." And later on, "Surely these industries do rate a man on the Labour Management Board or the particular board who investigates changes in this particular field." And the matter in question is the change to the 44-hour work week. Many of these service industries would like to work 88 hours in two weeks, the men would like to know that they had every Saturday off rather than work to every Saturday at noon and I think especially in the summer months when we do look forward and encourage tourist trade, and just for my own case, to go home to my constituency Saturday morning there is nowhere I can get anything done to my car other than filled up with gas, and surely, while the Minister has principles, and code of ethics and reasonings, when both ends of the stick, the management and the labour - and I have talked to the labour - they would very much like to work 88 hours in two weeks, in other words, work full one Saturday and have one Saturday off, that they could plan their weekend. Their income would be no different. I know the Minister will say, well you pay overtime, but many of these smaller concerns cannot afford to pay that overtime and generally they all today in my constituency close at Saturday noon. I don't think this is good for the whole - when both sides want something surely higher levels of government haven't the right to interfere and disrupt their thinking.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 61 (a) The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have listened with a great deal of interest to members opposite discussing the problems of labour as it may affect the individuals in their constituencies, and I am pleased to note that at long last, that members, particularly of the Conservative Party, do recognize that there is such a group in the Province of Manitoba of those who toil for a living. Because having been in this House for some 17 or 18 years today and yesterday I find the first interest exhibited by the Conservative Party in the interests of Labour. I find that almost without exception the members of the Conservative Party who have taken part in this debate have almost been through the process of a reincarnation. For so many years, so many years, I sat opposite and listened to a successive number of ministers of labour, particularly the last ten years, before moving over here; of the Honourable Jack Carroll from The Pas, the Honourable Obie Baizley from down to the south end of Winnipeg and Buck Witney from The Pas, reject — (Interjection) -- oh I'll be coming to you my honourable friend in just a moment, and you won't like it. And I listened to Buck Witney from The Pas and I did not hear during those years from the ordinary member of the Conservative Party, I did not hear them exhibiting any interest, any interest in the plight of labour, and my honourable friend from Lakeside who is cackling now was more properly informed this afternoon when he was talking about rustling. He at least knows a little bit about cattle rustling. He exhibited in his demonstration last night in this House that he is absolutely ignorant of the problems of Labour in the Province of Manitoba and has no knowledgeability at all of the problems that we are confronted with. -- (Interjection) -- Yes my honourable friend is wont to run out, that having spoken and criticized my honourable friend has exhibited in this House that he has a reticence of being criticized himself, and like the arab, he folds his tent and silently steals away. But, Mr. Chairman, I make a prediction, I make a prediction that he will be back in a moment or two and he will not be quite as silent as he was as he went out of the Chamber.

Now I want to say a word to my honourable friend, the Member for Virden in respect of the hours of work, because I know that he has a problem in his community, but I want to say to my honourable friend, I want to say to my honourable friend that if memory serves me correctly, he sat in his chair last year when amendments were made to the Employment Standards Act calling for the 44-hour week and voted for it, and if my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, did not know what he was voting for, it may be typical of the knowledgeability of labour law in the Province of Manitoba. -- (Interjection) -- I'm being fair and the records prove it, and I've looked them up. And my honourable friend from Swan River, just desist for a moment or two because I have a few complimentary words to utter to you, that I'm sure will take back the whole nation of human relations and industrial relations back to the dark ages from whence you come. That is what I'll be doing to you my honourable friends in a moment or two, so just keep quiet until I reach your comments. -- (Interjection) -- Oh, I wouldn't be talking to heaven if I was talking to you in any other place.

I want to say to my honourable friend the Member for Virden, I saw ads that were placed in the paper at Virden and they were incorrect. They were erroneous, they intimated that this government and this legislature made a dictate that garages had to close on Saturdays and we did not do it. All we said in this Legislature was that the hours of work for the male should be equal to that of the female before punitive overtime came into effect namely 44 hours. And talking about the equality of the sexes in labour legislation, I'm appalled to find out that the Member for Fort Rouge who is the champion of the female sex in this House has not raised any question about the status of women in labour legislation in the Province of Manitoba. -- (Interjection) -- Time? - she's got lots of time. She's got lots of time and I invite my honourable friend, the most charming member of this House, to make her contribution on behalf of the women of Manitoba. But I want to tell her, I want to tell her before she talks that we are ahead of her, because we are going to introduce legislation to protect the rights of women without utterances from my honourable friend from Fort Rouge.

But I do now want, Mr. Speaker, to refer to a few remarks of my honourable friend, the former Speaker of this House who happens to come from Swan River, a community that there is hope despite its representative in this House. My honourable friend accused me as the Minister of Labour of being city and union oriented, and by his remarks, he intimated that I had no concern for - yes city and union oriented - and by his remarks intimated that I had no concern for areas outside of the city, and I presume he meant the Greater Winnipeg area and unions. -- (Interjection) -- Oh, I'll be having a word for you in a minute. I want to say that for the first time in the history of Manitoba, respecting Workmen's Compensation, that this

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) government has through the cooperation of the Workmen's Compensation Board, established a representative of the Workmen's Compensation Board in The Pas, which is far closer to Swan River than the City of Winnipeg. -- (Interjection) -- What do you mean? - I mean that we have established a representative of the Workmen's Compensation Board in The Pas to look after the troubles that you speak of and you're so ignorant of what is happening in Manitoba in respect of Workmen's Compensation that you should be ashamed of yourself.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please. I have allowed a certain amount of levity, because that seemed to be the mood of the House. Order please. That seemed to have been the mood of the House. I would ask the Minister to direct his remarks to the chair. The Minister of Labour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of order? The Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: I'm disappointed in the Minister. He's misrepresented my remarks if I may say so and that is my reason for rising.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. It's not a point of order. The Minister of Labour.

MR. BILTON: I beg your pardon, Mr. Chairman, I have a point of order and I feel the Minister . . . be reprimanded. . . because it isn't what I said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please. The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: I will discuss that with my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, because I wrote down exactly what he said. I would suggest to my honourable friend, I would suggest to my honourable friend, who once was the presiding officer of this Assembly, that he read Hansard tomorrow or the day after and reflect on his remarks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member for Swan River.

MR. BILTON: My position as the Speaker of this House, the Minister is in the habit of bringing it forward from time to time to ridicule me, and I object to it intensely. What I did as Speaker of this House is a closed book for the moment and I don't think the Minister should use that privilege to take advantage of my position and your favour, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, all I was trying to do was to compliment my honourable friend. If he can't see it that way, well then will you kindly, Mr. Chairman, extend to my honourable friend my apologies for attempting to compliment him for the efficient job that he did when he was the Speaker of this House, and if he wants me to retract my compliments I'm prepared to do so on his instructions.

But my honourable friend the Member for Swan River, Mr. Chairman, when he was speaking, made a statement to the effect that the people in the rural areas were people in the wilderness insofar as Workmen's Compensation is concerned -- and my honourable friend is nodding his head and I can hear it from here, in assent -- and I want to tell my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, that with the reorganization taking place within the Workmen's Compensation Board in Manitoba, that more service and better service is being provided to all areas of Manitoba than ever was before, and I want to say to my honourable friend that if he has any complaint at all of the functioning of the Workmen's Compensation Board, or if he has any specific cases in respect to Workmen's Compensation that he desires to bring to my attention, to the attention of my Executive Assistant, Mr. Art Wright, or to the Compensation Board, we would welcome them, because generally speaking, better service is provided at the present time by an efficient Workmen's Compensation Board than has ever been so in the history of this province. My honourable friend the Member for Charleswood agrees with me.

Now I want to say another word or two about my honourable friend from Swan River. -- (Interjection) -- Well, rather than me being through with you, I would suggest that you are through as a result of your utterances in this House, this Chamber tonight, because if we, Mr. Chairman, adopted the proposition suggested by my honourable friend the Member for Swan River, we would truly go back to the dark ages. While he was talking about the question to me indicating that the teachers should not be allowed to join unions, I endeavoured -- (Interjection) -- oh I know what you said and you know what you said, now let's have no provocation about that. I suggested, Mr. Chairman, that there were and there was in effect a union of teachers, and my honourable friend from Swan River pointing his finger at me said -- (Interjection) -- God forgive me. The Honourable Member for Emerson shook his head in opposition to my friend from Swan River because he recognizes that no matter what you call a rose it smells the same, that the Teachers Society is in effect a union, and my honourable friend as knowledgeable as he

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) may presume to be, talking of the matter of strike or the right of unions to strike, surely hasn't taken the opportunity of studying how come today the Teachers Society forewent the strike provision back in 1956 and I was a member of this Assembly when representations were made at that time, and I was one of the few, there were only five of us of the old CCF in the House at that time, and I was one of the few that said to the Teachers' Association at that time that they would rue the day that they forewent this right to strike and -- (Interjection) -- I beg your pardon? No, they didn't. No. It's taken me from 1956 to 1971 to educate them and I'm happy, I'm happy to know that by resolution this year the Teachers' Society of Manitoba by a majority vote said that we were wrong in '56 and in effect we said that the present Minister of Labour was right and application I understand will be forthcoming to give them the equal rights of any other segment in the Province of Manitoba and they deserve it. And as far as I'm concerned on request they will get it -- (Interjection) -- At the expense of the people, and this is a point that I want to raise to my honourable friend. And this, Mr. Chairman, is why I say to my honourable friend the Member for Swan River with his archaic mind would take us all back into the dark dark days of history when our school teachers were menials and everybody else were menials, the public servants were menials and that's -- (Interjection) -- Mr. Chairman, I predicted a little while ago that my friend who silently left would come back very vociferous and my prediction has proven to be correct. -- (Interjection) -- Well may I, Mr. Chairman, in all due respect suggest to my honourable friend he should continue his quiet cup of coffee because he's more effective, my honourable friend is more effective in the coffee room than he is in this Assembly. -- (Interjection) -- No. No, I realize, Mr. Chairman, that my honourable friend from Swan River is not leaving us as of now but he will be leaving us at the next general election. My honourable friend went on to say -- (Interjection) -- That's right. In union there is strength and this has been my philosophy for years and I say to my honourable friend and I say to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all Manitobans, that they better become organized in order to protect their rights and if the philosophy of my honourable friends were to be adopted in this province as he has advocated God help Manitobans because they would go back to the days when they were thrown over the abyss by the Spartans and the likes of that because they were handicapped. -- (Interjection) -- Yes, I've had it.

Now I want to say a word or two to my friend from Charleswood. He tried tonight to reverse completely the position that he took on April 27th in respect of minimum wages. And what does he say tonight? He says in effect that there shouldn't be an increase in minimum wages in some respects because a person happened to be handicapped, that he should have no protection at all by virtue of having a reasonable minimum wage -- (Interjection) -- That's right. Unemployed. He is the type of a character, Mr. Chairman, who would say because a person has a physical disability we should persecute him by not giving him a reasonable minimum wage and yet by the same token my honourable friend, by the same token, Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend says he would support a minimum wage of \$2.00 an hour. What hypocrisy! What did my honourable friend do or his colleagues do on the 25th of April last year to a proposition, an amendment to a resolution of minimum wages, an amendment proposed by my colleague the Honourable Minister of Transportation, then the Member for Thompson, -- (Interjection) -- no, it's two years ago, yes, that's right, two years ago. All right, thanks for the correction. But the principle and the policy still stands true, that on April 25th, 1969, those on that side of the House that are crying crocodile tears tonight in respect of minimum wages voted down on April 25th of 1969 a proposition for a minimum wage of \$1.50. Where stand you now? My honourable friend the Member for Charleswood on the 27th said this: "I have this to say to you. The reason the minimum wage going up to \$1.60 creates a lot of unemployment, it takes the physically and mentally handicapped and puts them in a position where they cannot get these jobs around warehouses, etcetera, etcetera." Does this not infer, Mr. Chairman, that my honourable friend from Charleswood agrees that because a person is handicapped physically or mentally that he should receive less than a reasonable minimum wage? Is this what you said then? Read Hansard of April 27th and don't pull your crocodile tears on me during the Department of Labour estimates. You voted against \$1.50 for a minimum wage on April 25th of 1969 and when this government took office that fall we increased it from a miserly \$1.25 to a miserly and meagerly \$1.35. But this man who is now the official Leader of the Opposition, had no qualms of conscience at that particular time, because who voted against it? I'll name them, I have them here.

MR. MOUG: Would you permit a question? Would the member permit a question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will the Minister permit a question?

MR. PAULLEY: Surely I will.

MR. MOUG: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if he could explain the meaning of miserly to the members of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: It doesn't deserve an answer. Who voted against it? The names: Baizley, Minister of Labour, Conservative; Bjornson, Lac du Bonnet; Jack Carroll, The Pas, former Minister of Labour; Cowan, Jim Cowan of Winnipeg Centre; Don Craik, the Member for Riel; Einarson; Enns; Evans; Forbes; Hamilton; Johnston; Jorgenson, now another champion of the poor downtrodden worker; Klym; Lissaman; McGregor, my friend who is worried about a 44-hour week for males on equal terms with women; McKenzie; Mazniuk; Morrison, and, Mr. Chairman, I hate to use this name because he has now become a champion of labour as exhibited during the by-elections in Ste. Rose and St. Vital, the Leader of the Opposition, a chap by the name of Spivak; Stanes; Steen; Watt; Weir; Witney, a former Minister of Labour. That is the record of the Conservative Party in connection with minimum wages and we listen tonight to the exhortations of my friends opposite and their crocodile tears, their interest, new found interest in the labour movement of Manitoba.

Now I want to say a word or two of some of the other contributions, Mr. Chairman, if you can call them contributions, made by this inept opposition. When the lead-off spokesman, and I use that term in its broadest sense, of the Conservative Party, the Honourable Member for Lakeside, chastised me on the introduction of my estimates last night, chastised me because I complimented the staff of the Department of Labour and he said to me, Mr. Chairman, who hired them? Who hired them? And I frankly confess, Mr. Chairman, that they were by and large hired by the previous administration. But if my honourable friend, the Member for Lakeside, had of been about partially fair -- I may be taking him out of context when I say "partially fair" -- if he had been but partially fair he would have recalled that when I was the Leader of the New Democratic Party opposite I complimented the staff of practically speaking every department and I was fair to them because they worked with me even in opposition. But my honourable friend the Member for Lakeside, the lead-off spokesman in the field of labour, suggested that because I paid a compliment to the staff that it was because of the Conservative administration previously. But I want to say to my honourable friend -- and he's not here, he's out having silent coffee -- I want to say to his Leader that that is the way that I operated. The big difference, however, the big difference as far as the staff of the Department of Labour is concerned with now with what it was before is that it's getting some sensible and sane direction and they're following them through.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, on point of order, I wonder what this has to do with the estimates before us? I wonder if the Minister has not strayed away from the business at hand. Could we get on with the business?

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, I well imagine the admonition of my friend, I can well admit to my honourable friend that he hates rebuttals to the utterances and the asinine utterances of members of his particular party on the matter of the Labour estimates of the Province of Manitoba

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, is it your intention to allow the insults to be thrown across the floor in this manner or are we going to have the business of the province dealt with in its proper manner? Are you going to allow these political speeches to go on infinitum?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. We might be well advised to direct your attention to the problems before us. Resolution 61. The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do, and I have not uttered any words, to my knowledge, that are in violation. As a matter of fact, just by my choice of words I've been more than complimentary to my honourable friend, and if it was possible for me to really say in this House what I would like to say in respect of my honourable friend and his colleagues then I might be out of order, but I'm really being complimentary in my choice of language.

My honourable friend the Member for Lakeside raised the question of welfare for strikers. And here again it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that the psychology of the Conservative Party is coming to the fore because my honourable friend the Member for Swan River in effect tonight suggested that the public servants, the police, the firemen and the teacher are mere menials and my honourable friend

MR. BILTON: I did not. I did not.

MR. PAULLEY: The Honourable Member for Lakeside last night in criticizing some help through welfare to strikers intimated, intimated by inference that they should darn well

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd) starve to death because of the fact that they went out on strike.

MR. BILTON: Mr. Chairman, I appeal to you in all sincerity that the

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please. If the members are quite through, Resolution 61. The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: So I say, Mr. Chairman, by inference my honourable friend the Member for Lakeside, who has now left his silent coffee and I trust he will be silent until I'm finished my remarks, intimidated by his reference to the strikers at Flin Flon last night that because they chose their democratic right to go on strike that they should not be allowed through welfare or other means to have contributions for their physical well-being. How archaic. I agree with my honourable friend that the decision was made, and properly so under legislation for the right to strike, but surely to goodness my honourable friend the Member for Lakeside should realize that there are different aspects as well, that under normal circumstances in a strike it does not go on for three or four months as this particular strike has been. My honourable friend mentioned about changes in boundaries in order to come under provincial law, that is the jurisdiction of the strike. Mr. Chairman, I agree with my honourable friend if what he meant was that had it been under provincial labour jurisdiction with an understanding Minister of Labour the strike would have been resolved long ago. Why prejudice, why prejudice the individuals concerned because of some technicality. I say to my honourable friend I would be glad, I would be glad to indoctrinate my friend and to add to his limited knowledge of the fact of life regarding labour relations and law if he would take the time out after the session is over to come over to my red carpeted office, I'm sure that we would both gain in knowledge as a result of an association.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I want to touch on a point raised by my honourable friend the for Assiniboia. I'm not going to be able this evening as I glance at the clock to go into all of the points raised by my honourable friend but I do want to say to him as spokesman for the Liberal group in this House that he had a more realistic approach to the problems of labour than that multitude, if one can call them a multitude, because they are so insignificant a group in the House and I want to, I want to

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order please.

MR. BILTON: he's talking now for forty minutes about nothing at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour.

MR. PAULLEY: Mr. Chairman, may I make a suggestion to my honourable friend from Swan River, that he may

MR. BILTON: not make any suggestion to me that I'll accept so he may as well sit down.

MR. PAULLEY: All I would suggest to my honourable friend, Mr. Chairman, is that he join the Member of Lakeside and go out and have a quiet cup of coffee.

MR. BILTON: I don't intend to. I'll stay here until ten o'clock. -- (Interjection) -- You'd be surprised.

MR. PAULLEY: I do want, Mr. Chairman -- my honourable friend doesn't disturb me at all. I appreciate his interjections and I can understand why he is making them. But anyway, Mr. Chairman, I do want to re-emphasize what I said in connection with the Honourable Member for Assiniboia. I appreciate very much his contributions and his criticisms; I welcome them and I agree with him. I agree with him that some of the steps that this administration are taking in respect of labour legislation are small teeny, weeny baby steps and I recall I used that phrase when I was there, but I'm sure that my honourable friend the Member for Assiniboia would agree with one of the statements that was made by the Manitoba Federation of Labour, and if my friend hasn't a copy of the document I would be glad to send it to him. It's titled "Legislative Achievements 1970". It was issued by the Manitoba Federation of Labour.

Whether or not, Mr. Chairman, my honourable friend agrees with the Manitoba Federation of Labour or not, that's for his decision, but I would like to read the opening remarks of the Federation's documentation regarding this administration as it affects, in their opinion, the labour movement. And I quote - dealing with 1970, Mr. Chairman. "This year's legislative sittings under the Schreyer government has without question been the most productive as far as changes which the labour movement has sought over the years. This has been achieved by amendments to present legislation and by the introduction of completely new legislation in a number of fields. The result will definitely be to the benefit of the common working people of the province" and then it goes on to summarize those achievements.

(MR. PAULLEY cont'd.)

I say, Mr. Chairman, as a member of Cabinet and in particular, the Minister of Labour, I did not solicit such a comment from the Manitoba Federation of Labour, and I'm sure my honourable friend, the Member for Assiniboia, would agree with the comment made. And my honourable friend from Rhineland, what was that comment?

MR. FROESE: When I speak, I'll read you a different one.

MR. PAULLEY: That's fine. And I do hope, Mr. Chairman, that my honourable friend from Rhineland will take part in this debate because I have missed his terse comments in this. He is so wont to speak on every cotton pickin' resolution that ever comes before this House and I appreciate his participation and I will welcome it when we get down into labour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member for Rhineland.

MR. FROESE: Do all the resolutions on the Order Paper deal with cotton picking?

MR. PAULLEY: No, mainly, Sir, they deal with agriculture. But my honourable friend the member -- (Interjection) -- will you go out and finish that silent coffee? My honourable friend the Member for Assiniboia made reference to Canadian unions versus United States unions. It so happens, Mr. Chairman, that I'm a member of an International Union, and have been since about 1928. I doubt if my honourable friend from Lakeside was even born then and by an exhibition of his contribution I don't think he's developed if he was born at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

MR. GREEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that Committee rise.

IN SESSION

MR. J. R. (BUD) BOYCE (Winnipeg Centre): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Member for Flin Flon, that the report of the committee be received.

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

MR. SPEAKER: It now being ten o'clock, the House is adjourned until 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.