



**Fourth Session — Thirty-First Legislature**  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**  
**DEBATES**  
and  
**PROCEEDINGS**

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29 Elizabeth II

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, 17 April, 1980

Time: 2:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER by Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell):

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. SPEAKER, Hon. Harry E. Graham (Birtle-Russell): The Honourable Member for St. Matthews.

MR. LEN DOMINO: Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the Petition of Victoria General Hospital praying for the passing of An Act to amend An Act respecting Victoria General Hospital.

MR. SPEAKER: Reading and Receiving Petitions . . . Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees . . .

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS AND TABLING OF REPORTS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

HON. DONALD W. CRAIK (Riel): Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to table a public statement that was made earlier today with regard to the Western Power Grid and I do table it as Chairman of the Study Committee in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Health.

HON. L. R. (Bud) SHERMAN (Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the Report of the Children's Dental Health Program Review Committee under Dr. A.T. Storey. There are copies for the government caucuses and the Liberal member of the Legislature. I also wish to table the report for 1979 of the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Attorney-General.

HON. GERALD W. J. MERCIER (Osborne): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the 1979 Annual Report of the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of Motion . . . Introduction of Bills . . .

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. HOWARD PAWLEY (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister, who I would welcome upon his return to Manitoba, after his visit to Ottawa and the statements he's made in Ottawa. Secondly, I would like to commend the Premier on his change of heart subsequent to a statement on February 22nd that he did not intend to enter into the discussions pertaining to the debate on the sovereignty association in the province of Quebec and ask the Premier whether now he would be prepared to welcome a debate within this

Chamber dealing with matters pertaining to the Constitution, the issues presently being debated in Quebec and elsewhere, as such debates have taken place in both the Alberta and Saskatchewan Legislatures.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HON. STERLING R. LYON (Charleswood): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his word of welcome to me on resuming my seat in the Chamber at the latter part of this week. I tell him that the remarks that I made in Ottawa to fulfill a speaking engagement of some standing there are not new in the sense that this was a reiteration, Mr. Speaker, of remarks that the four western Premiers have been making with respect to sovereignty association and its incompatibility and unacceptability as a negotiable item. In the ongoing discussions and deliberations that will take with respect to the constitution at the appropriate time when the Prime Minister convenes the First Ministers for that purpose. Thirdly, I can advise my honourable friend that upcoming, of course, will be the debate on the budget which will be brought down by my colleague, the Minister of Finance, before too long which will afford all members an opportunity to speak broadly and widely on any topic of their concern. So if my honourable friend is looking for an opportunity to debate that topic, there is every opportunity available on the Orders of the Day for that purpose. I say to him, however, that one needs to be prudently careful, I think, in these times with respect to statements that are being made, whether by the First Minister of a province or Leader of the Opposition or other distinguished members of this House with respect to this matter. Because, of course, the sovereignty association debate is going on in Quebec and is being watched very carefully by, first of all, of course, the people of Quebec and, secondly, by people outside of our boundaries who perhaps do not understand all of the nuances and the details of that debate. But suffice to say, I thank my honourable friend for his concern, for his I think words of commendation and tell him that, of course, we would welcome at any time any contribution to that debate that he would like to make at the appropriate time when the budget debate is on.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, further to the First Minister's response, then to the Minister of Finance, can the Minister of Finance advise us whether or not the budget will be introduced, handed down well in advance of the May 20th date?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Finance.

MR. CRAIK: Mr. Speaker, I think it's quite safe to give that undertaking.

MR. PAWLEY: Mr. Speaker, in the First Minister's remarks and I address this question to the First Minister, by way of request, the First Minister for clarification and I assume I will be receiving as other members will be, a receipt of his remarks made at the National Press

Club in Ottawa. But we note that the First Minister indicated that, Manitoba will not limit its own development to suit that of Ontario. I wonder if the Minister could assure us that the same time as he makes that statement, that Manitoba has no intention to suit its development to that of the development of the western oil-producing provinces, particularly that of Alberta.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, in response to the first part of my honourable friend's question, I was speaking from some notes which I will try to reassemble, if possible, because not all of them were used. The time for speaking was limited. I'll try to reassemble those notes for his benefit. I'm always flattered when the Leader of the Opposition asks me for a copy of my speeches, Mr. Speaker. He will see that in that context I was saying what I'm sure he and all westerners would subscribe to, namely, that there is a change in the pendulum of economic development swinging to western Canada; and that for too long in the eyes of many of us in the west, and I'm sure in the eyes of the Leader of the Opposition, there has been a tendency to perceive national policies being developed primarily for the benefit of central Canada, in particular Ontario, with the result that we in the west have had to pay higher tariffs, higher imposts of various sorts to support industry in Ontario. I was merely rehearsing the argument that I'm sure is familiar to every westerner that, without in any way wishing Ontario any ill luck or any prejudice to their economic system, that fact of life had to be kept in mind in the economic developments as they are occurring in Canada today.

I can assure my honourable friend that I was not aligning myself against Ontario; I was not aligning the province with Alberta; I was trying to speak in what I conceive to be the best long-term interests of all of the people of Manitoba.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, then in further supplement to the First Minister, can the First Minister then assure us, in addition to the concerns that he expressed in respect to Ontario tariffs, etc., that the First Minister might be able to assure us that when he utilizes the words self-sufficiency in oil, he does not mean by that way of definition that Manitoba supports the increase in the price of oil to levels at 85 percent of the world price, a policy which would extract millions of dollars from the province of Manitoba to the coffers of Alberta; to the multinational oil companies; to the Alberta Heritage Fund; and that in fact the First Minister might, in view of the concern which he expressed vis-a-vis Ontario, express the same concern re the development of a policy in Manitoba that would reflect the need for stronger central government so that the wealth of Canada can be more fairly distributed from east to west.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, at the risk of repeating myself for the third time I believe in this session, I refer my honourable friend to a copy of the opening statement that I made to the Energy Conference last November 12, 1979. I tried to ensure that a copy of that was delivered to my honourable friend so that he could read those words of wisdom and satisfy himself that the statement we made was in the best interests of Manitoba. If my honourable friend is looking for a short

definition of self-sufficiency, he will find it in that statement.

But very briefly, Mr. Speaker, it is a price which is not tied necessarily to the world price, but a price at which the undeveloped resources, that is oil-producing tar sands and heavy oil sources in Alberta, can be developed within Canada for the benefit of all Canadians. Because, Mr. Speaker, our problem, if I may say so with respect to my honourable friend, our problem is not so much one of pricing, Mr. Speaker, our problem is one of guaranteeing the continuation of the supply of fossil fuel to the people of Canada. And while too often we get hung up on the arguments that are taking place between Alberta and Ontario and the federal government with respect to pricing, may I suggest, Sir, with the greatest of respect, that is a secondary item. The important problem in Canada today is to develop a guaranteed supply of oil and gas for our agricultural industry, for all of the fundamental industries in this country that need it, and price is only one factor in guaranteeing that supply. That's what we mean by self-sufficiency.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, the First Minister has made reference to a policy pertaining to self-sufficiency. Is the First Minister, at this stage, prepared to examine other formulas which had been advanced beyond that of Peter Loughheed in Alberta? Policies that would reflect a blended formula; policies that would ensure that there would be less moneys utilized by oil companies for non-oil producing purposes; policies that would ensure that there would be less rip-off insofar as oil revenues by either the province of Alberta or by the multinational oil companies?

**MR. LYON:** Well, Mr. Speaker, my honourable friend I know is the prisoner to some extent of some of his mythologies about the private sector and the development of oil in Canada and such extraneous matters, if I may say so, Mr. Speaker, as to the ownership of oil supplies and so on. I think of much more fundamental concern, Sir, is whether or not, when our farmers in Manitoba phone up the bulk dealers a year, two years, three years down the road and ask for supplies to run their tractors or to run their farm equipment, that that oil and that fuel be available for them. That is the fundamental point.

Mr. Speaker, I don't pretend any more than my honourable friend to have any easy or quick answer as to how that pricing formula will be arrived at, between Ottawa and the major producing provinces, which means Alberta and to an extent -- a much lesser extent -- Saskatchewan; and any positive contribution that we can make to those discussions, we will be happy to make on behalf of the people of Manitoba. But I stress again that the pricing of the commodity is a secondary matter and what we have to be guaranteeing is that we have the commodity in the first place in Canada, and that we are not dependent, as we are at the present time, for at least 20 percent of our national supply, on off-shore supplies coming from various parts of the world where there is instability.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order. Order please. I tend to hear a debate developing rather than a question period. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition with another question.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I would trust that you wouldn't interpret the remarks by either the First Minister or myself as suggesting a debate. We are attempting to clarify each other's positions.

Mr. Speaker, it's interesting to note in the First Minister's response that he is prepared to continue a policy of reliance upon captivity to the private sector; interesting and consistent with his party's position pertaining to the future development and expansion of PetroCan. And all that the First Minister has indicated, and I asked the First Minister for his comments, that indeed what he has indicated is a continued captivity to the private sector is what is bringing about the present shortages which are presently prevalent in Canada, and what is really required is an expanded road to PetroCan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order. Order please. Order please. It seems that my hearing was correct after all.  
The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. RUSSELL DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a couple of questions to the Minister of Community Services concerning a meeting of people in support of day care held last night, attended by myself and the Member for Fort Rouge. I'd like to ask him why he didn't attend, why he didn't send a representative of caucus if he couldn't attend, and whether he will attend a mass demonstration in support of day care to be held here for his convenience on May 6th?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

**HON. GEORGE MINAKER (St. James):** Mr. Speaker, firstly, I did not receive the correspondence from the coalition for day care until approximately less than a week before the meeting, unfortunately, because of the Good Friday and the Easter Monday holidays that the staff in this building enjoy. So that I had already made a previous commitment for that evening, last night, so I was not able to attend. I would like to advise the honourable member that I so advised them by letter, and in the letter I have indicated to them that I would like to meet with their executive in my office whenever it is convenient to them. Also, I chose not to send a representative.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a couple of questions that were of concern to people at the meeting last night. I would ask him whether he can comment on the allegation made by a citizen from Pine Falls, that rural spaces in the day care program are in danger, there is a danger of further cutbacks, and that these spaces are being transferred to the larger urban centres. I wonder if the Minister has any information in regard to that matter, or whether he has information concerning cutbacks and deterioration of service in the rural area and in the urban areas.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order please. May I suggest to the honourable member that if he is referring to statements or allegations of a party outside this Chamber, it is his responsibility to ascertain whether or not those allegations are in fact, fact, before he brings them into the House.

The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I believe that these statements are true and I certainly accept responsibility for them. I now convey them to the Minister and ask him whether he can comment on them.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, the statements are not true. I can advise the House that I believe in the last year or two years there have been no cutbacks in spaces in any day care centre. I would presume he is referring to the maintenance grant, and even though spaces that may not be occupied for short lengths of time or even almost a complete year are not cut off, they still receive the \$500 per child or per space, even though the space may not be occupied. With regard to cutbacks, I would like to advise the House again, and obviously my honourable friend has not read the statement I made in the House, that we have increased the number of day care spaces by 10 percent up to a total of 105 spaces, and also 150 spaces in the Home Care Program, which deals primarily with infant care. Those spaces will be distributed through the province and I would like to advise the honourable members that about 55 percent of the spaces, some 3,000 are in the city of Winnipeg, the remaining 2,600 spaces are distributed throughout Manitoba. So that I can assure the honourable member that we have increased the spaces by 260 roughly this year and it is our intention to maintain that.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Elmwood with a final supplementary.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Minister whether he has any concern about the level of salaries in the industry, that the educational training for day care workers is fairly extensive and some of them feel that they are only being paid at the bare minimum of just a custodial care level, or a babysitting level. Does he feel that salaries are adequate or does he have any intention of making them a little better?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member knows that the salaries of the day care workers are set by the non-profit corporations that run the day care centres. Naturally, we're concerned about salaries of anybody whether they be day care workers or other individuals. With that in mind, that is why we offered the 10 percent increase in space to the existing facilities who could make the most efficient use of them, which would give them an additional \$500 a year per space grant towards the salaries. We also changed the regulation dealing with the number of members of the board, that they would now have to have a minimum of five and only 20 percent could be a salaried employee, so that the mothers and fathers of the children who are occupying the space would have that input into the system and recognize the fact that some of the salaried employees may need additional funding. So all of these things gave consideration to the interest that the honourable member has with regard to the salaries of day care people.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Inkster.

**MR. SIDNEY GREEN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Honourable Attorney-General with reference to the kiss and tell legislation that yesterday went through at second reading. Can I ask the Honourable Attorney-General whether he has had any representations written or oral from the Manitoba Bar Association or any committee thereof?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Attorney-General.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, with respect to this matter of divorces with which the Member for Inkster advises he has lots of experience, I can advise him that, yes, I have received a recommendation from the Manitoba Bar Association and a subsection thereof on Family Law recommending the legislation.

**MR. GREEN:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister to confirm that the legislation is not with regard to divorce, it was with regard to adultery, which hitherto I could not be asked a question about, nor could my honourable friends, so we can't say who is an expert. Does he, Mr. Speaker, having received a recommendation from the Family Law section which is one which is quite selective, could the Minister get in touch with the Manitoba Bar Association to see whether this rule, which relates to evidence and not to Family Law, is one which they would care to make representations upon when the bill is at committee?

**MR. MERCIER:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the legislation was not only recommended by the Family Law subsection but the Law Reform Commission, by the Uniformity Law Conference. It is my practice to ensure that bills are sent to the Manitoba Bar Association as soon as they are introduced in the Legislature so that they have notice of the bill. I would certainly be prepared to specifically write to them and ask them if they wish to make representations at Law Amendments Committee.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

**MR. LAURENT L. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the First Minister. In view of the First Minister's statement that he is not interested in negotiating sovereignty association, could he clarify his position and that of his government. Is it the intention to co-operate with other levels of government, other governments, to work toward a renewed renegotiated confederation that could be quite interesting or quite beneficial to keeping the country together and to all the provinces and especially the West.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. LYON:** Mr. Speaker, I thank my honourable friend for his courtesy in giving me advance notice of his intention to ask a question along these lines. Apparently in some of the news reports there was an indication that that second portion of the proposition that I was stating perhaps did not emerge as clearly as it should have. Because what I was repeating, Mr. Speaker, was in effect the wording of the statement by the four Western Premiers first enunciated under my predecessor in this office, in 1977 with his then colleagues, the Premiers of Western Canada and reiterated by the four Premiers at Prince George, B.C. a year ago and

subsequently, and it is a two-part statement; (1) that the four Western governments will not negotiate sovereignty association; but (2) and equally importantly, that we understand that the status quo is not acceptable and that we collectively, certainly in the case of this Government of Manitoba, are prepared to enter in co-operatively to discussions for a renewed Confederation in which the Province of Quebec and the people of Quebec could feel very very much at home and all of the people of Canada could feel very very much at home. So I welcome the opportunity to make that clarification for my honourable friend.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Rossmere.

**MR. VIC SCHROEDER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. I would like to ask him to confirm whether as a result of reductions in numbers of bed, cutbacks or other restraints or any other causes, patients who are currently in city hospitals are not being transferred to the Health Sciences Centre for operations such as brain and/or heart surgery and I am wondering whether he is monitoring this situation.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, I can't confirm the contention contained in the honourable member's question but I will certainly check it. I can assure him that we are monitoring the situation with all hospitals in Winnipeg on a virtual daily basis at the present time.

**MR. SCHROEDER:** A further question to the Minister of Health. Could he also check to see whether patients are being discharged from city hospitals, sent home and being told to then contact an ambulance in order to get to the Health Sciences Centre.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, all I can do is take that question as notice. I have no knowledge or information of that. I would say to the Honourable Member for Rossmere that I expect we will be going into the estimates of my department within a half hour or so and perhaps rather than attempting to deal with it in question period we should deal with it in that format.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Rossmere with a final supplementary.

**MR. SCHROEDER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the Minister up on that and ask the Minister of Education what, if anything, he or his department is doing in order to solve the current dispute at Thompson School Division?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**HON. KEITH A. COSENS (Gimli):** Mr. Speaker, the dispute referred to by the honourable member is between the local teachers association and the school board of Thompson. It is a local matter and is not one that we will be interfering in.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wolseley.

**MR. ROBERT G. WILSON:** I have a question for the minister in charge of MHRC. Can the government con-

firm that the former socialist government left a large unoccupied building at the corner of Lenore and Wolseley that has become a billboard for the Marxist-Leninists and can I assure the residents of the Laura Secord community, Wolseley community, that the structure will be torn down?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

**HON. J. FRANK JOHNSTON (Sturgeon Creek):** Mr. Speaker, that has been brought before the Board of the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation and they recommended the demolition of the building and tenders are being called for the demolition of the building. I might add that after all of the reviews it would have cost us something like \$36,000 an apartment to fix it and we could build a new one for approximately \$27,500.00.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Labour.

**HON. KEN MacMASTER (Thompson):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to answer a question addressed to myself by the Member from Churchill. I'm not sure whether the specific question asked how many claims had been filed with the Compensation Board as related to asbestos or how many had been established so I could cover both eventualities I have found out that in 1979, which was the year in question, three claims were filed with the Compensation Board that were alleged to be asbestos related; one was established, one is to be further reviewed and one was denied by the Compensation Board.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. LEONARD S. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and ask the Minister whether he is knowledgeable about a particular move that has been reported recently. A large garment manufacturer apparently is looking for a rural Manitoba location and is seeking certain tax concessions from municipalities. I am wondering whether the Honourable Minister is looking into this particular matter?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**HON. DOUG GOURLAY (Swan River):** Yes, I just recently received correspondence on that and it is under review at the present time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Brandon East.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary then. An official of the company involved has stated that existing legislation which prohibits municipalities from cancelling any taxes to encourage a company to locate or expand a business -- this is the view of this particular official of that company -- I'm asking the Minister whether he agrees that this legislation can be circumvented.

**MR. GOURLAY:** This is part and parcel of the area that we are looking at right now.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Brandon East with a final supplementary.

**MR. EVANS:** Can the Minister assure the House, Mr. Speaker, that the spirit of this legislation will be maintained in order to avoid unnecessary additional tax burdens on Manitoba municipalities?

**MR. GOURLAY:** The short answer to that is yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for St. Vital.

**MR. D. JAMES WALDING:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. I would like to ask him whether he has received any complaints from municipal secretary treasurers concerning the printing of local tax bills?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**MR. GOURLAY:** No, I haven't.

**MR. WALDING:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the same Minister whether some municipalities had already printed their local tax bills before the government made its change in the amount of the Property Tax Credit Plan?

**MR. GOURLAY:** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I'd be pleased to take that question as notice.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wellington.

**MR. BRIAN CORRIN:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Honourable Minister of Community Services. I would like to know, Mr. Speaker. I am sure all members of the House would like to know what action the government will be taking with respect to the recent statement made by the President of the Canadian Indian Lawyers Association indicating that too many native children in our province are being removed from their families and their reserve communities. I would like to ask whether or not the Minister can give us a statement in this regard today?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Community Services.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, I can advise the House that there is a subcommittee of the tripartite committee that is dealing with Child Welfare. Also they are, I understand, reporting to the tripartite committee in the coming week or two and we'll be looking forward to their recommendations on some of this that the honourable member is now raising the question on.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Wellington.

**MR. CORRIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, can the Honourable Minister indicate whether or not he will rebut and refute the statement made by the same lady to the effect that the Minister's Department and Director of Child Welfare is only servicing treaty Indian reserves in the province of Manitoba on a life and death and not a preventative social service basis? Will the Minister express a rebuttal or will he elucidate in any regard

with respect to the allegation made in that particular statement?

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, I can advise the House that there is a general understanding which has been going on for, I think, the past seven years that in the northern regions where there is no Children's Aid Society operating that our social workers only go into the reserves when there is a complaint, and usually that complaint might come through from a doctor or from someone within the reserve. I can tell the honourable member that our department has had some discussions with some of the tribal councils on this subject and are looking into it, but at the present time the general instruction which has been in existence for seven years is that we only go into the reserves when there is a complaint received.

**MR. CORRIN:** Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for his candid response and I would ask him, in view of the fact that his department is responsive to complaints, what action he will be taking with respect to the complaint lodged with his department by Judge Graeme Garson, Provincial Judge Garson. It was lodged in the case of Director of Child Welfare for the province of Manitoba versus one Ellen Baptiste in the Provincial Judges Court on July 27, 1979 and I quote, Mr. Speaker, Judge Garson, in directing his remarks to members opposite and the Honourable Minister indicates that the present law in Manitoba makes it obligatory that the province provide the same social and child care services under The Child Welfare Act to treaty Indians resident in Manitoba as other residents of the province receive. I would ask him in that respect, Mr. Speaker, whether his department will only answer need, will only address itself to need in this regard when a complaint is lodged by any other citizen, for instance, citizens, resident Brandon, Thompson or Winnipeg. Or do they in fact, as Judge Garson has found, provide differing services, differential services, to those citizens and native citizens within our provincial boundaries?

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier to the honourable member, we are reviewing that particular subject at the present time and I might inform the honourable member that I believe it was one of the first things our government did was to set up the tripartite committee to look into the whole question of Indian welfare and the general services provided to reserves in Manitoba. As I indicated earlier, the subcommittee for Indian Child Welfare is reporting in the next week or two and once we get this information, then we will sit down and try and resolve the situation.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Emerson.

**MR. ALBERT DRIEDGER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister responsible for Fitness and Amateur Sport. Could the Minister confirm that he met with the sale of McKenzie Seeds Committee today?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport.

**HON. ROBERT (Bob) BANMAN (La Verendrye):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I had a good meeting with a group of six people from Brandon today, at which time I guess the thing that happened that best expresses the whole

meeting was that one of the members of the committee said, It looks like the government's bent on the same intentions and directions that the committee is, namely to save the company for Brandon. That's what the whole exercise is all about, Mr. Speaker, and we will continue to follow that course that action.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Winnipeg Centre.

**MR. J.R. (Bud) BOYCE:** Mr. Speaker, prompted by the question of the Member for Wolseley, I would ask if the Minister responsible for MHRC would take as notice a question relative to the property which is owned by MHRC, from Preston Avenue to Westminster and from between Lenore and Evanson. Briefly, Mr. Speaker, MHRC became the owner of this particular property or each specific piece of property within that, relative to the negotiations which went back to 1962. MHRC, as the agent of the Crown, owns that property because it was a resolution of a difficult question where the new Grace Hospital should be built and many other things. But people in the area are concerned about what the plans of the government are for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of that particular question. I would ask the Minister to take as notice the question, and to see if he could advise the House as to what the intention of the government or MHRC is relative to that property.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

**MR. JOHNSTON:** Mr. Speaker, I just assume that the member is referring to the individual houses that were bought down the way from the old Grace Hospital location. I will have that put together. Is that what he's looking for?

**MR. BOYCE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. In negotiations with the Salvation Army from 1962 to 1967, the Salvation Army in co-operation with the government acquired that property, and then when they built the new hospital out in St. James, rather than redevelop that particular property, it ended up with MHRC as an agency of the Crown.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

**MR. A.R. (Pete) ADAM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Natural Resources. I want to ask the Minister, in view of the extremely low water table levels this year, which appears to be five or six feet below last year's tables, could he advise if the Mossy River Dam is closed at the present time, and the Fairford Dam as well?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Natural Resources.

**HON. BRIAN RANSOM (Souris-Killarney):** I'll take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to direct a question to the Minister of Natural Resources to ask him whether he has any current information on the surviving polar

bear. Apparently, this animal has suffered a relapse and hovers on the brink of death. Can he confirm it?

**MR. RANSOM:** No, Mr. Speaker, I can't confirm that. I just arrived back in the city at noon today and I haven't had a recent report.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Speaker, I would now ask the Minister whether he is prepared to admit that the experiment was a total failure and should never again be repeated in any way.

**MR. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, I believe that we discussed this issue rather extensively during the recent review of my estimates and that it has in hindsight become rather obvious as to the impact of the experiments and the tragic results as far as the bears are concerned. I, of course, Mr. Speaker, have given the assurance that there would be no further experiments of that nature, but I think that we have outlined for the honourable member the background involved, the involvement of the federal government in financing the experiment, and all of the scientific organizations that were backing the experiment at the time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Elmwood with a final supplementary.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Minister if he can report any practical ramifications of the experiment. For example, is the government, federal or provincial, prepared to airlift animals out of an area where there is an oil spill, or set up fencing, or what practical knowledge has been gained from this experiment other than bears get sick and may die from ingesting oil.

**MR. RANSOM:** Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to contact the federal government department that financed the experiment and when an assessment has been made by that department, I would be happy to forward it to the Honourable Member for Elmwood.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Flin Flon.

**MR. THOMAS BARROW:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I direct my question also to the same Minister on the polar bear situation. Does the Minister agree with the writer who wrote in the Free Press the suggestion that instead of using polar bears in these experiments, use politicians?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order please. Questions of agreement with someone else are hardly parliamentary in this Chamber.  
The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. WILSON PARASIUK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development, who is also the Minister responsible for Housing. Can he confirm that Ensign Homes, major middle-sized builder, has been put into receivership and is now bankrupt?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Economic Development.

**MR. JOHNSTON:** No, I can't confirm it, Mr. Speaker, it hasn't been communicated to me whether they have or not.

**MR. PARASIUK:** As a supplementary to the Minister of Economic Development, who is also Minister responsible for Housing, is he aware of other house building firms that are on the verge of bankruptcy because of the terrible economic situation in Manitoba?

**MR. JOHNSTON:** Mr. Speaker, there is no question that we're overbuilt on housing in the province of Manitoba -- I have said so many times -- apartment blocks, office buildings, and retail floor space. And if the Housing people are having problems, it's because they don't want to build houses because there are too many on the market right now; it's the same situation pretty well all the way across Canada, and I am sure when my estimates are up, Mr. Speaker, that the honourable members opposite will be pleading with me not to build any more public housing because they must know that there's a very serious situation in the market. -- (Interjection)--

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order please. Time for Question Period having expired, proceed with Orders of the Day.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

**ORDER FOR RETURN:** On the Motion of Mr. Evans,

THAT an Order of the House do issue for a Return of the following information:

a)Number of staff at the Brandon Mental Health Centre shown by:

- (1) Program personnel by team and department,
- (2) Resource personnel by department,
- (3) Program staff to patient ratio by team and by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979 and February 10, 1980.

There was a typographical error in the original statement, Mr. Speaker, and I would like that corrected if I could, so that last one should read February 10, 1980.

b)Number of staff positions at the Brandon Mental Health Centre shown by:

- (1) Program personnel by team and by department,
- (2) Resource personnel by department,
- (3) Program staff to patient ratio by team and by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979; and February 10, 1980.

MOTION presented.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, that Order for Return is acceptable to the government.

MOTION carried.

**ORDER FOR RETURN:** On the Motion of Mr. Evans,

THAT an Order of the House do issue for a Return of the following information:

a)Number of staff at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre shown by:

- (1) Program personnel by department,



(2) Resource personnel by department,  
(3) Program staff to patient ratio by team and by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979; and March 31, 1980.

b) Number of staff positions at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre shown by:

(1) Program personnel by department,  
(2) Resource personnel by department,  
(3) Program staff to patient ratio by team and by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979; and March 31, 1980.

MOTION presented.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Speaker, that Order for Return is acceptable to the government.

MOTION carried.

ORDER FOR RETURN : On the Motion of Mr. Evans, THAT an Order of the House do issue for a Return of the following information:

a) Number of staff at the Manitoba School for Retardation at Portage la Prairie shown by:

(1) Program personnel by department,  
(2) Resource personnel by department,  
(3) Program staff to patient ratio by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979; and March 31, 1980.

b) Number of staff positions at the Manitoba School for Retardation at Portage la Prairie shown by:

(1) Program personnel by team and by department,  
(2) Resource personnel by department,  
(3) Program staff to patient ratio by team and by department, as of March 31, 1977; March 31, 1978; March 31, 1979; and March 31, 1980.

MOTION presented.

**MR. MINAKER:** Mr. Speaker, that Order for Return is acceptable to the government.

MOTION carried.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, first I would like to confirm that the committee on Economic Development will meet next Tuesday, not next Thursday, but in the week after we will meet on Tuesday and Thursday until their business is completed. And I'd also wish to confirm agreement with Opposition House Leader that following the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department of Consumer Affairs will follow Cultural Affairs and Urban Affairs will then follow Consumer Affairs.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

**MR. PETER FOX:** On a point of order in respect to procedure. Can the Honourable House Leader indicate what section will be discussed first on Tuesday in the Economic Development Committee.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I will consult with the Ministers involved and advise the Honourable House Leader.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

**MR. PETER FOX:** Yes, on a point of order in respect to procedures. Can the Honourable House Leader indicate what section will be discussed first on Tuesday in the Economic Development Committee?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I'll consult with the Ministers involved and advise the Opposition House Leader later today.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Health 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.

MOTION presented and carried and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with the Honourable Member for Radisson in the Chair for the Department of Health; and the Member for Virden in the Chair for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources.

## CONCURRENT COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY

### SUPPLY -- CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Morris McGregor (Virden):** I call the committee to order. We are in the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources and I'll call on Item 1. The Honourable Minister.

**HON. NORMA L. PRICE (Assiniboia):** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to begin, Mr. Chairman, by saying that it is with great enthusiasm that I speak today to introduce the first estimates of the newly constituted Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources. Indeed I should think that all members present would share this enthusiasm inasmuch as the creation of the department affirms my government's belief in the importance of culture and heritage.

The creation of a department exclusively dedicated to cultural affairs and historical resources can be seen as a shift in the organization of government which mirrors the results of a fundamental change in society's attitudes towards work and play; a change which has been accelerating in step with the increases in leisure time that accompanies succeeding waves of technological innovation. The department's creation is a significant initiation because it acknowledges that economic and physical well-being cannot be separated from the spiritual well-being of a healthy society.

The creation of the department may also be seen as a shift in the organization of government which signals the advent of a new decade; a decade during which it may be expected that as more and more leisure time becomes available to citizens they will become more and more interested in cultural activity both as consumers and participants. Thus the department's creation is a particularly timely initiative because it anticipates that fresh new approaches will be needed

in the management of culture and heritage of the province and of the nation. It recognizes that swift action will be required to prevent the aggravation of persistent problems and to take advantage of emerging opportunities.

In discharging this mandate my department intends to encourage and foster the development of the province's cultural assets and heritage. This means that while giving broad policy leadership government intends to support, rather than direct, cultural evolution. The government believes that people in all corners of this province feel a need to express themselves through their creativity. The department's role will be to create a positive environment within which creative activity may flourish. The department realizes that this objective goes beyond direct financial assistance. A creative approach of supplying organizational and consultative help may also be an effective form of support.

I should like to take a few moments to mention the highlights of the department's accomplishments as well as its plans for the coming year. The department has been pursuing active liaison with the federal ministry of the Secretary of State and the other provinces. I should like to report that following the Conference of Ministers of Cultural Affairs held in New Brunswick last fall a committee of four Deputy Ministers was established to hold regular meetings for the purpose of developing better mechanisms for federal/provincial co-operation. I am most pleased to note that my Deputy Minister, Mr. Rene Prefontaine represents the western provinces on this committee. Already there is visible improvement in relations between Ottawa and the provinces.

Thanks to the very positive climate of co-operation, the Secretary of State has already provided invaluable services to us in meeting the obligations of Section 23 of The Manitoba Act. In that respect it has seconded to us two individuals to translate the Speech from the Throne and is currently translating for us other documents which will appear in the House during the current session. The Province of Quebec has also been most generous in its assistance having seconded three legal translators to us.

The Department's priority, however, will continue to be to maintain and develop an intimate relationship with the people of Manitoba and their cultural organizations. I should like to underscore the value of such exchange by reference to the government-appointed Cultural Policy Review Committee which submitted its final report in December last year. During the course of its deliberations the committee received almost 100 submissions from groups and individuals living in every part of the province, 25 communities in all.

The work of this dedicated group of citizen volunteers has met with general approval from the cultural community of our province and indeed the nation. A column written by Dr. Arnold Edinborough, President of the Council for Business and the Arts in Canada appearing in The Financial Post of March 15 stated: The Manitoba Review Committee document is a marvel of conciseness, of prudent recommendations and of understanding about the situation to which the committee addressed itself.

As I have stated on other occasions, the government is in general agreement with the recommendations of the report and has initiated an active implementation strategy. Among the committee's most important suggestions is an increase in the overall support from the

government of Manitoba to cultural activity. I am very pleased to state that my department's spending estimates are in line with the committee's guidelines. The department's plans for the coming year call for the expenditure of nearly \$9.5 million. This includes \$7,445,000 for cultural programs and historic resources. With the half million advance payments to public libraries for 1980 this represents an increase of 16 percent over last year.

The major reasons for the increase in expenditures are as follows: With respect to cultural grants, the estimates provide for the increased support to the major cultural institutions -- including the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature and the Winnipeg Art Gallery, as well as the Manitoba Arts Council -- the Manitoba Arts Council is, of course, responsible for supporting the major performing arts organizations. As government support to the Arts Council has levelled funding of the performing arts group has fallen behind in real terms. As a result, some of the groups have encountered severe financial problems. I should like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that these groups are not alone in their difficulties as evidenced by the results of the annual survey of the performing arts organizations, conducted by the Council for Business and the Arts in Canada. The results show that 66 of the 94 largest performing arts organizations in Canada reported deficits for the fiscal year 1978-79. Thirty-four of these organizations reported deficits in excess of \$100,000.00. The Manitoba major performing arts organizations in this province are, by and large, well supported by the community. It is my belief that they are deserving of increased support from all sectors. As a result my department has substantially increased the Legislative appropriation for the Manitoba Arts Council. The Council's growing reliance on lottery revenues as a source of income to finance the ongoing operations of the major groups was highlighted by the Cultural Policy Review Committee as a matter of some concern.

In accordance with the recommendations of the committee, we are attempting to reverse this trend, thereby reducing reliance on these ongoing commitments on lotteries, by increasing support from the tax base. This is why my department's estimates for the 1980-81 fiscal year include a grant of \$604,000 to the Manitoba Arts Council, an increase of 44 percent over the previous year. All indications point to the fact that lottery revenues will not produce any increase for the Council in the coming fiscal year. We are hopeful that this increase will enable the Council to raise its grants to our many worthwhile cultural groups.

It is important to note that the proposed funding formula for the major groups will require a substantial effort on their part to help themselves through a more aggressive approach for funds from the corporate community and individual citizens. This is not an impossible task. We are delighted to offer the Royal Winnipeg Ballet as an example of the success of this approach. In two short years they have eliminated a deficit and balanced their budget.

As you know, I have taken the initiative in discussing a deficit reduction plan for the financially troubled Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. It is my belief that with a concerted effort from the Symphony itself, along with the three levels of government, we will be able to redirect the orchestra's fortunes.

In the matter of the Provincial Archives, as I have indicated previously, the department will require an in-

crease principally and staff, in order that it may honour the terms of the agreement signed in July of 1973, by the government of the day and the Hudson's Bay Company. I should like to point out that interest in the Hudson's Bay's Company Archives, is considerably greater than was anticipated at the time of the signing of the agreement. In 1979, researchers made more than 2,000 visits to consult the Hudson's Bay Archives. By contrast in 1973, Beaver House in England received less than 300 such visits. The estimates accordingly make provision for the satisfaction of increased demands over and beyond the level occurring in 1973.

In the area of Public Library Services, as I announced earlier, the department has adopted a new funding formula on the basis of which support to the public libraries will be increased. Following intensive review, it was concluded that governmental support of public libraries was lagging behind that provided by municipalities. Accordingly, we have instituted a new funding formula which provides for more equitable sharing with municipalities of the costs of providing library services. In passing I should point out, Mr. Chairman, that there has been some misinterpretation by the media as to the department's intent in the area of library support. I should like to advise that, subsequent to the new funding formula being approved, the department made advance payment of library grants for 1980 in the amount of \$500,000.00. This was but a partial payment towards the 1980 grants to libraries but it was made during our 1979-80 fiscal year. As members are aware, libraries, like municipalities, operate on the basis of the calendar year. With the additional provision of \$1,400,000 for library grants for 1980, the estimates provide for an increase of roughly \$250,000.00.

Regarding Historic Resources, my department is currently researching a series of options which will lead to a fresh approach. As Manitobans, we may be justly proud of our rich heritage and tradition. I consider it a priority to determine effective ways to create an awareness of our history by raising the profile of our historic resources. Within the next several months I hope to announce exciting developments in this field. In the matter of translation services, in spite of the very welcome assistance that we have received from the governments of Canada and Quebec, as you know the department will require a major increase in the staff and services in order to meet the requirements of the Supreme Court decision. The estimates provide for an increase of nearly \$500,000 of which \$300,000 is for the staff and administration and the balance for the payments to freelance translators and interpreters who need not be brought on staff permanently.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, let me reiterate my department's commitment to the continuing vibrance of our province's cultural life. As citizens, we are all enriched by the presence of the performing arts, museums, libraries, individual creative people and their relationships with the public. We shudder at the thought of living without them. When our society is judged by the historians of the future, they will talk about our contribution to the unbroken evolution of the human spirit. It is my pledge, Mr. Chairman, to ensure that the people of Manitoba may feel proud of their government's commitment to this noble goal.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** As the committee knows, we will be returning on Resolution No. 43, to 1.(a) and 1.(b) at the

end of the estimates, so 1.(c)(1) -- the Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I want to make a general response to what the Minister said. I want to begin by explaining that most of my colleagues are in the House listening to the first opening salvos of the month-long debate on the Department of Health, and the remainder are in the caucus room listening to one of Wagner's operas.

The point that I would like to make is that I think that the Minister knows that I, too, am a strong supporter of the arts and that there are undoubtedly some nuances and some differences of opinion between us, but that the goal is the same, namely, to attempt to provide greater financial support, some general encouragement and some new directions for the major cultural corporations and organizations in the province of Manitoba. I happen to believe that the thing that makes Winnipeg unique in the province of Manitoba and that differentiates it from some of the other cities -- and I know, Mr. Chairman, that only in a few hours you are going to be standing up in the Chamber and extolling the virtues of Saskatchewan and Alberta, bringing them fraternal birthday greetings. I still believe that we in Manitoba are fortunate in having a whole series of cultural organizations which have a long and proud track record, starting I guess with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, the Manitoba Theatre Centre, our whole ethnic range of organizations. Some outstanding Ukrainian organizations, Folklorama, and on and on and on and on. To me this is what makes it worth living in Winnipeg since I happen to be a Winnipegger. Also, of course, I believe that people throughout the province when they come here go to these facilities; some of our organizations tour the province. That is one area that I would ask the Minister to make some general remarks on because I believe that in order to get support from the province as a whole it's essential that the various cultural groups, many of which or most of which, are located in Winnipeg must get out of their buildings and must travel the province. I know that for years, for example, the Winnipeg Ballet has jumped into a bus and rattled around North Dakota, Minnesota, etc., certainly not in very luxurious modes of travel or accommodation. I have the impression, possibly mistaken impression, that they don't do as much now as they used to in the way of travel and I recall bumping into the company one time in Flin Flon. I was up in Flin Flon in 1959 and I noticed that they, too, were there and I went to see their performance. When it comes to some of the other organizations, the Symphony, I don't know how much touring they do in Manitoba but I believe they should do a fair amount. The Art Gallery, through its extension program, I believe should do a fair amount and on and on. Some of these things are not as portable; I mean, you can't take the Planetarium on a truck and move it around, but you can take the personnel of the Planetarium and have them visit the province and so on. So this, I think, achieves a number of things; one is that it, first of all, gains support in the broad sense of political support, a small 'p' for these organizations; it also I think advances culture in the province and it also raises the level of intelligence, and intellectual and cultural stimulation throughout the province. I realize that there are small museums and that there are acting

companies and that there are libraries and so on throughout Manitoba, and that this isn't a case of breaking new ground. In many cases there is a fertile ground there that I think has to be cultivated.

I also want to say, and I do so with some hesitation, that I am not too pleased with the statements of some city councillors, including some members of the New Democratic Party, who take what I regard as deplorable red-neck positions on the arts and on culture. I certainly blush every time I read something in the paper that comes from a member of my own party who happens to be a city councillor. When it's from another party I become angry. So in both cases I turn red, but one from embarrassment and the other one from a cultural and intellectual repulsion. So I would say, Mr. Chairman, that although the Minister and I probably share some of the same goals I intend to a large extent underline some of what I would call errors and omissions during the Minister's term.

I also want to say on a personal basis that I was pleased and delighted that one of my cousins was appointed by the Minister. I don't know if she knows who that is and I don't intend to tell her, but that one of her new cultural correspondents is a cousin of mine and I think somebody who's highly qualified in that area, not of the same political persuasion, and therefore regarded by my side of the family as one of the black sheep. But, anyway, I want you to know that there are Doerns on both sides of the political spectrum but on the same side of the cultural spectrum. So I just wonder if the Minister could perhaps make some general comment about the present policies of the major cultural organizations in Manitoba -- I'm thinking, in particular, about the major ones that are based in Winnipeg -- as to what their present policy and programs are in terms of touring Manitoba. I'm very interested in what support they can achieve from the government and also about perhaps further enrichment or new directions in this area. I have to say here again, Mr. Chairman, that when I was teaching, which is now some 10 to 15 years ago, I saw on a number of occasions representatives from the Winnipeg Ballet in Winnipeg High Schools, and from the Manitoba Theatre Centre, and I would say that the response was just absolutely staggering. I think they made an overwhelmingly favourable impression on students and in so doing cultivated a potential audience. So I would ask the Minister if she could enlighten us as to what is being done now and whether she has any new directions and new funding and new encouragement to get the major cultural organizations out of their buildings and into the various centres throughout the province of Manitoba.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MRS. PRICE:** The Member for Elmwood will be pleased to know that there's quite an extensive concert tour being arranged and has already been initiated by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. They had a very triumphant tour to Thompson and Steinbach. Right now they are negotiating to perform six concerts in Brandon. As you know the bulk of the touring and the concerts, the professional touring, is set up largely through the Manitoba Arts Council. And as I mentioned in my opening remarks, we have increased the Manitoba Arts Council's grant for the coming year. Last year they provided assistance to the professional groups. The Manitoba Arts Council had about \$70,000 that they contributed

to this area; and our department had given them some \$40,000.00.

With regard to the Art Gallery, the Art Gallery does provide exhibits to schools and communities and art centres throughout the province through their extension services. They also have a close liaison with the different museums in an educational process in helping them, giving them advice on it. They have their mobile museum and then they have their rolling stock, the train that travels throughout northern Manitoba.

We also provide travel assistance to amateur performing groups, ethnic included, to tour Manitoba. We gave some \$25,000 in that direction last year. And the concerts in the north, as you know, are very highly successful. There was some \$52,000 spent on that, and there were many groups that visited and performed throughout the north in approximately 30 remote communities, and there were about 10,000 people that enjoyed this particular grouping of people.

With regard to your cousin being in my department, I'm very happy to hear it. If your cousin is as interested in the arts as the Member for Elmwood, I'd say a very welcome addition to our department.

**MR. DOERN:** Cecil, should we tell him? Cousin Cecil?

**MRS. PRICE:** It doesn't matter. Cousin Cecil.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** 1. (c)(1) -- the Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, there are a number of other issues that I would like to discuss. It's hard to determine where and maybe some will depend on the preference of the Minister. One question that could be discussed right now, or towards the end, is on her involvement in the church. Is it at St. Pierre? I don't know if the Minister would care to comment on that now. If so, I would like to ask her some questions about her policy there or make some comments.

**MRS. PRICE:** All right.

**MR. DOERN:** Well, I guess maybe what I would prefer is to ask the Minister to make a statement about why she became involved and when she became involved. Perhaps we could start there.

**MRS. PRICE:** I became involved just a couple of days ago. The reason I became involved is because Historical Resources comes under my portfolio, inasmuch as we have the final say as to whether a building will be designated or not, and I initiated a meeting with the Archbishop of St. Boniface and we had a very fruitful meeting the other day. I suggested to him that as long as there's just two dissenting sectors of people in the community that are saying the building should be torn, the building shouldn't be torn down, until there was an expert brought in and determine the condition of the structure of the building, that the problem would never be solved. So I suggested to him, and with his concurrence, he is going to the Board of Trustees in the community to suggest that I asked him to have a joint study -- by joint I mean financially joint -- study of the condition of the building. On speaking to him, the last study of the building was in 1964. There was a study recently by my department but it was more for the aesthetic value of it and the history behind it, but not of the actual condition of the church.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I'd also ask the Minister if she could inform us -- I gather that the building was condemned as being unsafe, structurally, and from what I read in the papers this apparently was a decision of a provincial department, and I wonder if she could tell us whether this is so, that it was in fact deemed to be unsafe by provincial civil servants, and when that was.

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes. Last October, I believe it was, the Department of Labour inspectors made a study of the church and said it was unsafe for the public to be in that building, and they didn't say it would have to be tomorrow, but they viewed it as unsafe. Then when the Historical Sites Board came up and recommended that the building be designated, that's when my involvement became eminent.

**MR. DOERN:** Is the Minister saying that this isn't something that she read about in the papers like I did, but that it was being examined all along by the Historic Sites Board? And that the recommendation came maybe a number of months ago?

**MRS. PRICE:** The Board started the study in January, I believe it was, and they came forth with their report a couple of weeks ago.

**MR. DOERN:** And could the Minister indicate what recommendations there are or whether she can give us any idea of what would be involved in restoration. For example, I know something about structural repairs and that can be quite costly and any other form of renovation. Could she tell us what is being requested or what is required in terms of saving that church?

**MRS. PRICE:** Well, until there is a study by some structural engineering firm, I think they're just guesstimating on both sides, and we won't know whether it is something that should be torn down and a new building built, or whether it should be restored. And in this study that we hope to initiate shortly, we would also find out what it would cost to restore it, which could play a major role in that.

**MR. DOERN:** Does the Minister envision a cost-sharing? Let us assume that it will cost several hundred thousand dollars to repair the church, maybe a hundred thousand, maybe more. Let's assume it would be over \$100,000.00. Is the Minister suggesting or indicating, either to this committee or to the people of the congregation, that this would be at provincial expense? Or does she have some kind of formula in mind whereby it might be on a matching dollar basis with the congregation?

**MRS. PRICE:** Are you asking me about the restoration costs or the study costs?

**MR. DOERN:** Well, I assume the study is a provincial responsibility. I'm saying, if out of the study it is stated that it will cost \$100,000 to \$200,000 to make the church structurally sound and to, say, make some renovation costs, meet certain higher standards than exist, and I'm saying if there is a recommendation of X thousands of dollars, does the Minister have a formula in mind by which the province would provide funding? Or

is she thinking of providing 100 percent funding, or what does she have in mind?

**MRS. PRICE:** No funding at all, Mr. Chairman. My involvement in it, my suggestion was that we share the costs of a study and that would be initiated after we did some shopping around for prices; we wouldn't just be taking the first price that came to us. As far as paying any funds towards the restoration, no, the department would not be entertaining that thought.

**MR. DOERN:** Then I gather that the study will be cost-shared, and if the study suggests that there has to be money spent on structural repairs or any other renovations, that the provincial government will not share in those costs.

**MRS. PRICE:** That is correct.

**MR. DOERN:** I see. My own impression then was different, namely that from reading newspapers, my impression was that the Minister was going to step in and throw a bag of money on the table as a contribution to some capital improvements and the Minister is saying that is not the case, that it is not likely that she will make financial contribution.

**MRS. PRICE:** Not towards any restoration, no.

**MR. DOERN:** I have to then ask the Minister what is the value of what she is doing; what is the value? For example, one value might be that you will flush out the costs, which will be of value. Another value might be that you are going to delay the demolition, which has some merit in itself, but I'm just wondering whether the Minister isn't going to get in a little deeper than she thinks, in that an impression has been created maybe that the province is going to come up with some dollars in restoration costs. And I just asked her of what value there is then, in what she is doing.

**MRS. PRICE:** I have not made any statement that the department would be contributing to any restoration costs and I do think that a study is of utmost necessity, at this point, to determine once and for all the condition of the building. As I mentioned earlier, the study was done in 1964 and there hasn't been any improvements done on the church since that time. I feel that the two dissenting groups of people out there are really flogging at something that they're not quite sure about, whether it's in a condition to be restored, or whether the condition is that it should be raised.

**MR. DOERN:** Again, on this 1964 study, which I am not familiar with, is the Minister indicating that 16 years ago the provincial government, through the Department of Cultural Affairs, made a study of that building for possible historical preservation?

**MRS. PRICE:** No. The study was done by Crosier, Greenberg for the church.

**MR. DOERN:** For the church. Would the people of St. Pierre qualify for any federal funding for restoration purposes?

**MRS. PRICE:** I'm afraid I can't answer that question. I don't know; I'm not sure about it.

**MR. DOERN:** Is the Minister suggesting that the people of St. Pierre -- there is no provincial program where they could access funding. You see, there's two points here, Mr. Chairman. The Minister may not have offered any money and I don't know whether she should or she shouldn't offer money, but she says she hasn't, but I ask her whether there is any provincial program that the people of St. Pierre might come to her on and say, well, surely because of the historic nature of this building and because of certain programs or precedents, we would like to apply for a grant. To the best of her knowledge, is there a program under which moneys could be given to the church?

**MRS. PRICE:** As it stands now, we don't have any provision for grants of that nature; we are going to be looking into our historical resources, as I mentioned in my opening remarks. The only place that there is a possibility at this particular time is in the Federal Works Program and, as I say, we haven't had any dialogue with them or, I don't know whether the people from St. Pierre have either.

**MR. DOERN:** So the Minister is sort of being cautious here, which I think is a good idea, she's not jumping into the middle of a dispute between a parish and an Archbishop. I must say that, to a certain extent, is the impression, that the Minister maybe was jumping into a very hot situation and might get hurt in the process. I gather that she's telling us that she is really following through on some earlier studies and so on, and that she's not trying to mediate this conflict but trying to provide information which might help in terms of a decision.

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes, the reason that I suggested to the Archbishop that we have this study is because the Historical Sites Board, who are a professional group and this is what they have been elected to the Board for, to determine sites, they have recommended that the building be designated and until we know the true condition of the building we can't make any educated decisions.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to ask one short question here of the Minister on another topic and that is that one of the brighter lights on the cultural scene was Secretary of State, David MacDonald, but unfortunately, the light went out. MacDonald seemed to be a young man bursting with good ideas. He went around the country and generated debate on the arts, which seems to be hard to do and then not only did the Clark administration get defeated but he got defeated, which I hope doesn't tell us anything about the fate of people who speak out for the arts. I don't think it does, but since this man had a lot of good ideas and was one of the few members of parliament who seemed to have a feel for the arts -- not the only one but one of a small number -- I was just wondering whether the Minister had occasion to meet with him and exchange ideas and whether she had given thought to maybe bringing him to Manitoba in some capacity, either for a specific purpose or on contract, or as a member of the department?

**MRS. PRICE:** I, too, like the Member for Elmwood, share his concern and sorrow that we don't have the former Honourable David MacDonald. Yes, I did have

occasion, two or three times, to have dialogue with him and when I was at the Cultural Affairs Conference in Edmonton a year last February the common concern of all the provinces, the have and the have-not provinces, was that we had no dialogue with the federal government and they would institute federal programs in different little places, such as, little museums and such throughout the province; give them some starting up grants and then, without any warning, pull the rug from under them and they were left in dire straits. So last September, I went to New Brunswick for the second Cultural Affairs Conference, and David MacDonald was there and we brought the concern forward, and not only did he agree with us that this neglect with the federal government had been ongoing but he promised to do something about. He had made a tour across the provinces talking to us, so I tell the Member for Elmwood that I, too, am very sorry to see that he is no longer there because he was definitely an interested man in the arts world.

**MR. DOERN:** I would also ask the Minister if she could comment on Mary Liz Bayer. Mary Liz was, I guess if there is a Mr. Culture she was Miss Culture in Manitoba for many years, the golden girl of culture. I have no problems with that concept, incidentally, Mr. Chairman. So I wonder, in her case, whether you have had discussions with her prior to her leaving, or since her departure, in terms of specific assignments that she might undertake. I don't know what she's doing, I don't know whether she's employed, or whether she's going to take a long-deserved rest, whether she's writing a book, whether she's freelancing. First of all, I wonder if you could indicate what she is doing, and secondly whether you intend to access her abilities on a short term contract basis?

**MRS. PRICE:** Last year I was away with Miss Bayer for a weekend when we went to the Symphony in New York, and at that time she was telling me that her ambition in life was to be able to retire earlier and write children's stories, which she has a great flair for, and to be able to freelance. Before she left, the Deputy and I were speaking to her about her chairing the committee that we're going to have for the Year of the Arts and she agreed that she would like to discuss it with us, so we are going to be instituting some dialogue about May 1st in this regard, so we hope to have her on our team.

**MR. DOERN:** Then I would ask the Minister for a short report on the Year of the Arts. I would also ask her in that relation, I don't know how the United Nations fully operates; for example, the UN had the Year of the Child and I think the Year of the Women, or Women, whatever they described it as, and I just wondered if the UN has any plans along these lines or whether this is not their type of program. So I'd like to know if she could comment on the United Nations in that regard, and if she could also tell us something about the Year of the Arts, because she made a major address about that somewhere in the past year.

**MRS. PRICE:** It was myself that initiated the thought a year last February when we were in Edmonton at the first Cultural Affairs Conference and it was met with great enthusiasm by all of the provinces. I think it was in June, the following June, a year coming up now, that we had a planning committee here and had represen-

tatives from all the provinces here. Right now they are in the process of sending in their plans for what they are going to advocate for their provinces, and I think it's going to be a wonderful year. We'll have people from coast-to-coast and border-to-border being able to express themselves with their talents that they haven't had an opportunity to do so, and I think that we can make something big of it for Canada.

**MR. DOERN:** Could the Minister give us some practical examples. This is 1981, I assume we're talking about? 1981?

**MRS. PRICE:** 1984.

**MR. DOERN:** Sorry, 1984. A bad year for books, Mr. Chairman. I ask, what will I see? In other words, are there going to be days set aside, are there going to be festivals of the arts, can we have a few practical examples of what this means other than the year as so designated?

**MRS. PRICE:** It will be continuous and ongoing performances by artists throughout the year, there will be exchanges of artists from province to province. As I say, the provinces have all responded with great enthusiasm, and they are coming forth next month with their plans for their individual provinces. The reason 1984 was selected was because that's the year that George Orwell suggested that we were all going to just disintegrate into oblivion.

**MR. DOERN:** I'm not sure whether the Minister is being facetious there, or whether she deliberately took that year to counter this Orwellian prophesy.

**MRS. PRICE:** We took it deliberately.

**MR. DOERN:** Good. The other thing I wanted to ask, and this is related again to the soon-to-be discussed resolution of the Chairman. Given the birthday celebrations of our neighbouring provinces, and given the great, I think, skill exhibited in Manitoba in 1967 and in 1970 for Canadian Centennial celebrations and provincial, I was just wondering out of curiosity whether the province of Saskatchewan or Alberta had any contact with our department in the sense of advice, asked for materials, asked to meet with representatives in the sense of to sort of see what structure we had set up and some of the ideas and some of the innovative programs that we had, because they certainly could have benefitted from doing that. The question is, did they do that?

**MRS. PRICE:** Saskatchewan has invited us to participate in their program.

**MR. DOERN:** I wasn't thinking about participating. Did they come to you and say, can you advise us of what you did and who did it, and so on and so forth.

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes, they have done that.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I think the other major area I'd like to explore here is the Cultural Policy Review Committee Report, which was released in December, and I wanted to read some of the press comment in regard to that report and to hear from the Minister and to make some remarks as well. For example, the first

headline that I remember came in the Free Press and it was very dramatic, as headlines are, and it said, in effect, Cut Deficit or Fold Arts Report Concludes. And then it went on to say that the government should allow arts organizations suffering from habitual financial problems to fold unless they accept new restrictions. I think some people in the community would probably say, Amen to that, in the sense that they would say yes, there's too much of this crisis management going on. And it also sounds like the government is taking a very tough line and I don't believe that's the case either. I was just wondering if we could start on that point, and I would like to say as well that I think a lot of people, including strong supporters of the arts, are getting fed up with these chronic deficits and what I think must be considered among other things as chronic mismanagement of some of these organizations. I think that for too long, for example, we've had boards appointed that have sat around and looked good. They've had their names put up. Various people in the community, some of considerable prominence, like the look of their name on the annual report or on the program that is handed out at concerts or plays, and yet they haven't done anything. I ask the Minister if she could comment on the tone of certain news reports concerning the review which said that the recommendation was tough, namely sink or swim.

**MRS. PRICE:** I think that the Member for Elmwood will agree that the headline was a misinterpretation and it is only in deficit reductions that this situation should be applied, in a more stricter sense, and to ensure the accountability for the public funds. We have taken a much tougher stand in the past year. I think we can tell you that the boards -- we have very capable boards that are made up of sound business people as well as people in the artistic sense that are running their businesses more like a business and we're finding that the results are great. A case in point is the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. I think you'll admit that after over a \$200,000 deficit to come back and be about that much in the black is certainly worthy of accolades to them for their work and this what we are hoping to do with the symphony too. We find the Manitoba Theatre Centre running a real good ship and, one by one, we hope that this is how we'll get all the arts people.

**MR. DOERN:** Concerning the boards, there are a number of them, I guess all the major cultural organizations have boards and all of them receive grants. Can the Minister indicate whether each board has government appointed representatives or whether none of them or whether some combination, some do and some don't? Can she advise us of the policy of the government?

**MRS. PRICE:** None of the performing arts groups have government representations on their boards and I might add at this time that we are just in the process, my department, of setting up guidelines to be given to the board members of the various performing groups.

**MR. DOERN:** Now I'm not exactly sure how you define it. Let's go through them then. The ballet you say doesn't have government representatives and the symphony doesn't. Does the Museum?

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes, the Museum does. The Museum has three I think, half and half.

**MR. DOERN:** And I don't know if I've named the Art Gallery.

**MRS. PRICE:** The Art Gallery doesn't have any, I don't think, no.

**MR. DOERN:** And then there is somebody we left out, the Theatre Centre, no. And the opera?

**MRS. PRICE:** No.

**MR. DOERN:** I'm just wondering again on what basis then do we have appointees on some boards and not on others?

**MRS. PRICE:** Well the reason that we have it for the Art Gallery, I believe, we give them substantial amounts of moneys and they set up a five year plan whereby they were having to, with a liason committee between government and the board, whereby they had to set up their projected programs for five years and I think -- what are they on, their third year now I believe, the first year of the projected, that they have given us their projected budgets and it seems to be working well.

**MR. DOERN:** I have to say to the Minister that although there must be some reluctance on the part of some organizations, the government is continually bailing out arts organizations and continually providing crisis funding and I'm asking her what check she has on them. Is it the Manitoba Arts Council? Do they have sufficient clout in this regard? Because the symphony, as an example, has been just -- there is some bungling going on in regard to the symphony. I don't know what their problem is and I don't know what the solution is. But I feel that my information is that when it comes to fund raising that some of the boards are not doing any fund raising or anything that really amounts to very much. I guess it was the ballet that had the day at the races and they have some pretty powerful women fund raisers in that organization and they were able to turn that around pretty fast. But some of the other organizations just seem to sort of go along merrily and then throw themselves on the doorstep of the government and the city council and really not do much more than report crises as opposed to raise funds or resolve these crises. And I am just saying to the Minister, would it be a good policy to have one or two appointees on these boards, some of which are very large, maybe too cumbersome, or does she feel that the Arts Council or her own department have enough strength and enough clout to influence them?

Nobody wants to influence or direct any of these organizations that's not the intention. However, if they are going to be chronically bankrupt and chronically in trouble, then some people in the community have a right to say what is being done. The public grows tired of front page headlines about musicians not receiving their cheques, and that the doors of such-and-such will close very shortly. So I am asking her what she sees as a solution vis-a-vis the involvement of her department in relation to these cultural groups?

**MRS. PRICE:** As the Member for Elmwood mentioned earlier, that he was disappointed in some of the city

councillors, had they approved the \$90,000 grant that was owing to the city, that wouldn't have happened. It wouldn't have been in the paper, and they would have been able to meet their payrolls. Further to that, the board members on the Winnipeg Symphony have realized the dilemma they are in and we have had numerous meetings with them, very fruitful ones, I must say, and they are having a real working group on their boards and they are working hard to get a good fund raising program going and I think they are. I feel quite confident that they are going to come out of it the same way that the ballet did.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I also note that one of the recommendations of the Cultural Policy Review Committee was that there should be greater accountability to the Department of Cultural Affairs and that these organizations should submit quarterly reports and annually update three to five year program projections. It sounds like a good idea, and I want to ask her what the present practice has been in terms of submitting annual reports, quarterly reports, semi-annual reports, one to five year projections, etc. What has been the policy or is the policy?

**MRS. PRICE:** We have been insisting on audited financial reports and also projected programs, etc. expenditures that they are going to be having. We have been doing that prior to the Policy Review Committee's recommendation. And with regard to them having quarterly reports, that would go to the Manitoba Arts Council because they are the ones that have the global amount that they -- they are the ones that see how their finances are expended. We give them their global amount and it is up to them how they divide it.

**MR. DOERN:** One of the recommendations of the report is to make a substantial increase in funding to the arts from about \$6 million now, to I guess about another 40 percent or so, and I was just wondering whether the Minister thinks that she has sufficient clout in her Cabinet to get additional substantial funding because you have a government that talks a great deal about restraint. I have the impression that cultural affairs has not been a priority of the government, and I ask her whether she thinks she can persuade or cajole her colleagues into a substantial increase in funding?

**MRS. PRICE:** I am very happy to tell the Member for Elmwood, that I don't know if it is my clout, . . .

**MR. DOERN:** Or charm.

**MRS. PRICE:** . . . but I did get the recommended amounts that the Policy Review Committee set. Last year we had a .3626 and this year we have .4095. Working on a three year projected basis, we'll be up to the point .5 of the total provincial budget.

**MR. DOERN:** Now let's take the report. There were some 44 recommendations. Has that report gone to Cabinet? I am sure the department didn't swallow the whole report. I think some of the recommendations are not very significant. Others are very significant and I am just wondering what the fate of these 44 recommendations has been. For example has it been studied in the department and gone to Cabinet as a paper, and



have you had approval or are you planning to take it to Cabinet, or is it not necessary to take it to Cabinet?

**MRS. PRICE:** When the report was completed in December, we had a meeting with the full Cabinet and the five members of the Review Committee, and they went over the report with the Premier and all my colleagues and I can tell you that it was very well received from my Leader down to -- each and every one of my colleagues were very impressed with it. My colleague sitting over there in the back table is nodding, yes. I was really happy about it. With regard to our studying it, I don't like to use the word fate, that sounds very negative, but my Department is studying the recommendations and we are going to be implementing, I would say, the bulk of them in due time.

**MR. DOERN:** I see that back in December that the Canada Council Chairman, Mavor Moore -- I assume he is still the Chairman -- said there was going to be or talked about the possibility of particular funding for the 15 leading orchestras which are all running substantial deficits. I don't even know the name of the present federal Minister in charge of Arts and Culture.

**MRS. PRICE:** It's Francis Fox.

**MR. DOERN:** Francis Fox, right, and I was just wondering whether there are any statements made during the election campaign that the Minister recalls by the Liberal Party concerning new directions in cultural funding, or whether since the election of the government any new funds or programs have been made available that we can access in Manitoba.

**MRS. PRICE:** I wrote a letter to the Honourable Francis Fox a couple of weeks ago requesting a meeting with him, and I'm still awaiting a reply from him. There is a study being done, the Applebaum Study, or has been done, or is in the throes of it, and I haven't heard the outcome of it.

**MR. DOERN:** A couple of other recommendations were made; one was the auditorium in the Archives Building. I assume that's not in a state of readiness at the moment, that there's still a vacant space.

**MRS. PRICE:** It's still a vacant space. We have discussed it at times. It is not a priority of the government at this time, however.

**MR. DOERN:** A number of people have argued that there is a need for a facility of that size, and I know that there is a need to invest in chairs, since the seats were thrown out, and I think that was a good thing, because if they had remained you would have had 50-year-old seats there. There are no seats there, and there would have to be money spent on the stage, etc. I know that I tried, unsuccessfully, to obtain funds to put that auditorium in shape when our government was in power but didn't succeed, and of course there was substantial moneys spent on the Archives Building to put it into the condition that it is, which is, I think, very beautiful. So I'm saying, is the Minister saying that she does not intend to obtain moneys to meet that recommendation of the report, and does she also feel that there is no need for a recital auditorium to alleviate what some people say is a shortage of small theatre space?

**MRS. PRICE:** I'm not saying that there isn't a need for a concert hall of this nature. I would like to tell the honourable member that at this time the Manitoba Arts Council is doing a study of areas in the city to see what there is available to house many of the groups that are in need of larger premises, and they are just in the throes of this study now.

**MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Government Services.**

**HON. HARRY J. ENNS (Lakeside):** Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the Minister always appreciates when a fellow Minister or colleague enters into her debates or into her estimates but I couldn't help but want to comment on the issue that was raised by the Honourable Member for Elmwood with respect to the small auditorium space that is vacant in the Archives Building. I have asked the Department of Government Services to undertake an assessment of the facility in terms of, in a very general way, what is possible, so that the Department of Government of Services can indicate to Cultural Affairs what possibly could be available in that facility. It would then be, of course, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister, up to the Department of Cultural Affairs to determine with their contacts, the different organizations, amateur groups, etc., as to the exact possibilities that that facility has. But I find myself in agreement with the Honourable Member for Elmwood. I have a lot of very fond memories of that particular facility. I believe it is a facility that is . . .

**MR. DOERN:** Did you sing there?

**MR. ENNS:** Well, as a matter of fact, I did, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. DOERN:** German lieder?

**MR. ENNS:** No, the Mikado with the University Glee Club. But it is a facility, and I have also been approached, as I am sure other members have been approached, from time to time, by particularly amateur groups. It is a particular size of a facility that I think has a place for the cultural activities within the city of Winnipeg, and Mr. Neil Osler of the Department of Government Services is, at this time, preparing some information that we would have available to the Department of Cultural Affairs.

But Mr. Chairman, I would encourage and support the Minister of Cultural Affairs for the development of that facility. I believe there is room for that facility within the numerous groups that, from time to time, could avail themselves to that size of facility. If I may be permitted to speak in a more personal way, we have a very active amateur theatre group within the ethnic community that I am involved with, within the Mennonite community, that very often finds itself in difficulty when they are putting on smaller performances that simply don't fit the bill for the larger facilities that we have in the city and were the small auditorium would be ideal.

Madam Minister, I don't wish to create any problems for you, but you can always rely on the support of Government Services to further the development of facilities in the city for the arts and for the amateur theatre groups, and/or for whoever may wish to use that facility. It is a fine facility. There are certain specific problems that in today's world, what with considerably more stringent fire code regulations, have to be looked at,

and it's that kind of information that I'm asking the department to furnish me with at this time so that even before we raise any levels of expectation, we have some idea of what is within the realm of possibility, is there room for reasonable theatrical stage development, or can it only be used for concerts of a different kind that don't involve the theatrical stage.

Mr. Chairman, I would hope that information will be available to Cultural Affairs in the not-too-distant future.

**MRS. PRICE:** I think my colleague wasn't in the room when I mentioned that the Manitoba Arts Council is doing a study of the available spaces in the city, with that included, and they will look in very closely to needs and priorities, too. I would like to tell the Member for Elmwood that this is a sample of the co-operation that I have told you that I get from my colleagues.

**MR. DOERN:** Mr. Chairman, I thank the Minister of Government Services for his support as a man of culture. But my curiosity gets the better of me here when he tells me that he was in the Mikado. I wonder if he could tell me whether he played the part of Pooh Bah or Nanki Pooh?

**MR. ENNS:** As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, because this is of great importance, I was, in effect, a mimic to KoKo, the Lord High Executioner, and I carried the big scissors for him, which was, of course, appropriate, being a tailor rather than the normal axe that an executioner used to carry.

**MRS. PRICE:** And he has remained a cut-up.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, Lloyd G. Hyde (Portage la Prairie):** The Honourable Member for Burrows.

**MR. BEN HANUSCHAK:** Mr. Chairman, as I was coming into the room the name of the department caught my eye and I went to the library to check to see if there was any difference in the meaning of the words historical and historic. I would suggest to the Minister, perhaps her department should be renamed as the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources, rather than Historical. If my understanding of the Oxford dictionary is correct, historical refers to things and events of the past. Those things are historical, but events or things of the present of some significance, which in time may become historical, are historic.

**MRS. PRICE:** Or hysteric.

**MR. HANUSCHAK:** I would suggest to the Minister that she refer this matter to her staff and let them check it out. Perhaps it should be renamed as the Department of Cultural Affairs and Historic Resources, rather than Historical, to include things and events of the past that the department is concerned with and deals with, things and matters and events which might become of historical significance and importance in the future.

**MRS. PRICE:** The Member for Burrows is exactly right, and this is what we had put forth for our changes, and it came back Historical, so I would hope that he would bear with me until I use up my stationery and my cards. Then we'll change it.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** The Member for St. Vital.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, can you confirm that we're still on 1.(c)?

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** 1.(c), yes.

**MR. WALDING:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just had a few questions of the Minister, and both you, Mr. Chairman, and the Minister have been most accommodating to members on this side in enabling us to range rather freely through the department. I missed the Minister's introductory remarks, but I'd like to ask whether she tabled a breakdown of the staff man years for this year as opposed to last year.

**MRS. PRICE:** I have them set up department by department. If the Member for St. Vital would like to know, I can tell him in a few minutes. The Planning and Development, it was four last year and it remains four.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, maybe the Minister could provide us with the information on sort of a line-by-line basis so that we wouldn't have to ask for them at every one.

The Minister spoke to us of plans for 1984, which I suppose does come strictly under this department. I can't resist asking the Minister whether it would be her intention to name . . .

**MRS. PRICE:** George Orwell?

**MR. WALDING:** . . . whether it would be the Minister's intention to name a Golden Big Brother for the year?

Another question I had, could the Minister tell us whether she expects the department to spend the full \$8.105 million dollars for the previous year?

**MRS. PRICE:** Would you please repeat the question?

**MR. WALDING:** Yes. The 1979-80 year that recently came to a close, the committee last year authorized some \$8.1 million for the department. I suppose not all the accounts are in yet, but does the Minister expect to have expended the full \$8.1 million?

**MRS. PRICE:** It will be very close to being spent.

**MR. WALDING:** I would like to ask if there are any special warrants issued under this department in the last year?

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes, the \$500,000 for the libraries.

**MR. WALDING:** Was that the only one?

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes.

**MR. WALDING:** And was that fully expended in the last fiscal year?

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes.

**MR. WALDING:** I'd like to refer now to the reconciliation statement on page 29, and ask if the just over \$3 million transferred to Economic Development and Tourism was entirely attributable to the Department of Tourism?

**MRS. PRICE:** I didn't hear you, to the Member for St. Vital.

**MR. WALDING:** According to the reconciliation statement, Mr. Chairman, there was some \$3.3 million that was transferred to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. I'd like to ask if that \$3.3 million was totally attributable to Tourism.

**MRS. PRICE:** Yes, it was.

**MR. WALDING:** One further question on the section that we're on now, Planning and Development, the Minister has mentioned that there are four SMYs this year as opposed to last year. Can I ask for an accounting of why the amount for salaries has gone up by approximately 33 percent or some \$20,000.00?

**MRS. PRICE:** The general salary and merit increases and the allowance for the staff turnover.

**MR. WALDING:** I am not sure what an allowance for staff turnover means, perhaps the Minister would clarify it?

**MRS. PRICE:** The allowance for the staff turnover is the amount of salary costs that need not actually be paid based on turnover in the past years. It is a very complicated way the Finance Department has of not only expressing it but . . . I think that has been the case. Our department being so small we will have less turnover than the average person and therefore I guess it is more noticeable.

**MR. WALDING:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps I can ask for clarification by asking the Minister how many persons were employed in this department last year and how many persons will be employed in this department this year?

**MRS. PRICE:** There was 101 last year for 1979-80, and there is 118 this year.

**MR. WALDING:** To clarify, Mr. Chairman, I was referring to this Section, Planning and Development.

**MRS. PRICE:** Oh, four. There were four last year and four this year. There were 6.39 before the transfer to the Tourism, but there was actually four in the unit and there remains four.

**MR. WALDING:** Does the \$66,100 approved last year apply only to the four persons employed or to the 6.39 that the Minister mentioned?

**MRS. PRICE:** To the four.

**MR. WALDING:** Can the Minister tell us what those four positions were in the department or what they are?

**MRS. PRICE:** The Director, a senior analyst and two support staff.

**MR. WALDING:** Can the Minister tell us what proportion of the \$19,000 in the salary increase will be due to general salary increases and how much to the other category that she mentioned?

**MRS. PRICE:** 5.7 is to the general increases and 13.6 due to the decreased number of staff.

**MR. WALDING:** Thank you.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** 1.(c)(1) -- pass -- the Member for Elmwood.

**MR. DOERN:** One brief question. The Playhouse Theatre was once going to be generously offered to the province, and I am just wondering what is happening with the Theatre, is it still owned and operated by the city or do we have any involvement, do we contribute any funds, or have we contributed any funds to upgrading of that really very fine Theatre?

**MRS. PRICE:** It is still owned by the city, they have not approached us for any funds.

**MR. DOERN:** I would simply say to the Minister, beware of Greeks bearing gifts because we were once going to be given that facility free, and we thought there might be a catch in terms of \$200,000 or \$300,000 of renovations.

The other thing I would like to ask the Minister is this, and this concerns me a great deal, and it is again the short hours of our major cultural facilities in terms of being open to the public. For example, the Museum of Man and Nature, my information from a couple of months ago was that from Monday to Friday it was open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., no evening hours during the week; on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; -- as I read this I am beginning to sound like the recorded announcement when you phone these numbers -- and on Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m. My point being that during the week there are no evenings in which a citizen who presumably works during the day can go to that facility.

The Planetarium is closed on Mondays, open until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, so that is not bad.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery, I think, is really a disaster area in terms of availability to the public. All of these facilities cost millions of dollars, they are all beautiful, they all function well, they all can attract the public, they all have interesting exhibitions and future plans. The Winnipeg Art Gallery is closed on Mondays, open Tuesday to Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and open Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. Now surely this is totally unsatisfactory. A few years ago, I think, the Art Gallery, as an example, was open about three nights a week or so; now it is not open at all. It is very good if you are retired, it is very good if you are a tourist, it is great if you are a student and your teacher takes you there, but if you are an average citizen and an adult living in Manitoba it means that essentially you can only get to these facilities on the weekend and that if you wanted, either free or inexpensive cultural experiences during the week you really cannot access these facilities.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** The hour of 4:30 having arrived, I am leaving the Chair for Private Members' Hour. I will return at 8:00 p.m.

## SUPPLY -- HEALTH

**MR. CHAIRMAN, Abe Kovnats (Radisson):** This committee will come to order. I would direct the honourable members' attention to page 59 of the Main Estimates, Department of Health. Resolution No. 75, Item 1. Executive Function (a) Ministerial: (1) Minister's Compensation.  
The Honourable Minister of Health.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, I take pride in presenting and discussing my department's plans for this fiscal year. I'd like to take this opportunity to make an opening statement in introducing the Department of Health's Estimates for 1980-81.

At the outset, Mr. Chairman, I want especially to recognize the considerable service to Manitoba, and the support to me, that has been given during the past year by my Acting Deputy Minister, Dr. George Johnson, and by a number of officials in the Department of Health and its related commissions and agencies and their colleagues and subordinates and personnel in my office who have been so supportive, so diligent and so committed to the service of the people of Manitoba and so loyal in their service to the present Minister.

I want to recognize the expertise and high standards of service provided by the staff of the Department of Health, the Manitoba Health Services Commission and the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba throughout this province and the long hours of hard work accomplished by my personal office staff with good humour and competence.

I would, Sir, like to single out some individuals for specific mention notably, as I've said my Acting Deputy Minister, Dr. George Johnson; my Assistant Deputy Minister, Dr. Roy Tavener; Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Don McLean; Mr. Peter Schmidt, the Executive Director of the Administrative Services Division of the Community Services Department, who also functions in very close support and liaison to the Department of Health; Mr. Reg Edwards, the Executive Director of the Manitoba Health Services Commission; and the Chairman, Mr. Gordon Pollack; Mr. David Cruickshank, the Executive Director of the Alcoholism Foundation and the Chairman, Mr. Gary Miles.

And I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge the support and help of the Deputy Minister of the Department of Community Services and Corrections, Mr. Ron D. Johnstone, who was my Deputy Minister for the first two years of my privilege as a member of the Executive Council, and who was enormously helpful to me and did not move to his new position in the newly created, separate Department of Community Services and Corrections until late in the year 1979. So that a great deal of what has been accomplished and is incorporated for 1980-81 in the program of the Department of Health, was done while Mr. Johnstone was Deputy Minister of the combined department. And I want to acknowledge his services along with the services of those to whom I've referred by name and to whom I refer by category and area of service, generally, to the province and to the Minister of Health.

I also want to nod a salute in the direction of the personnel of Community Services and Corrections, with whom it was originally my pleasure and privilege to work, when those two areas of service were combined under the same department title and responsibility, as the Department of Health. I enjoyed very much my association with Community Services and Corrections and their personnel, their distinguished officials and the

colleagues and subordinates of those officials in the approximate two years in which I was Minister of Health and Community Services and Corrections.

I leave my direct association with them with regret, with thanks for their instruction, for their counsel, for their support and help in two difficult years of challenge; I look forward to being able to continue to work with them in the service of the people in the province of Manitoba in the future, notwithstanding the fact that we will not be as closely aligned in the future as in the past as a result of the change in departmental structure. So I thank them for that two years and I wish them well in their new parameters of operation under their new Minister, my colleague the Honourable Minister of Community Services and Corrections, now and in the future.

I also want to acknowledge with gratitude and respect, Sir, the contributions of those who serve the health needs of our citizens, in hospitals, nursing homes, health care institutions, community agencies and organizations. Their conscientiousness, commitment and willingness to work with government to achieve rapport and mutual understanding has assisted us in maintaining and improving Manitoba's tradition of quality health care.

In each decade we witness a changing set of challenges and opportunities. In the health care field the emerging challenges of the 1980s are being shaped by a number of influential trends of the past decade, reflecting new and shifting social economic and medical priorities. Last month, Sir, these challenges were brought into sharp focus during the Winnipeg Hearings of the Nationwide Health Services Review, being conducted under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Emmett Hall. The review was established to examine growing public concern over the financing of health care and the factors influencing the demand for health services, including criticisms of the system's ability to provide adequate accessible health care.

I am gratified to see newspaper and news media reports today carrying the comments, unofficial to be sure, of Mr. Justice Hall, at the conclusion of his eight weeks of hearings into the health care system. Of course, Mr. Justice Hall's report has not been compiled and has not been issued. He doesn't expect to issue it until the end of June, according to a report in today's Globe and Mail. But, sir, he has commented, apparently, to the media on the basis of the conclusion of his eight weeks of hearings, in an informal and unofficial way, and I think that what he has to say is good news for all Health Ministers in Canada, and good news for all who work in the health care system, and especially good news for Canadian citizens generally -- the consumers, all of us, the consumers of health care.

Mr. Justice Hall apparently says, he's reported by the Globe and Mail as saying, that he thinks Canadians believe their medicare system and health care system is very good. I interpret the fact that the public did not come out in crowds to the fact the public as a whole regard health programs as being very good and expect them to continue, Mr. Hall said. In a relaxed interview, after completing two and a half days of hearings in Edmonton and eight weeks of hearings across the country, Mr. Justice Hall said, according to the Globe and Mail, that while there are problems to solve with the system, the public wants to continue with a program that is fully acceptable.

The story goes on to say, that his 11-city round of hearings apparently showed to him, Mr. Justice Hall, that there was no single, big concern about the system. Rather, there are a number of issues that will all have to be dovetailed into his final recommendations, but that essentially, Canadians believe their health care system and their medicare system is very good and on balance, they have no major complaints with it.

I think that is encouraging to all who have a professional, political, or consumer interest in the system that we are talking about because all of us, no matter what political perspective we come from, recognize that health care services and needs are and must continue to be a top priority responsibility of governments and taxpayers and that in that category, in that situation, they require, indeed demand, very very substantial amounts of public revenues, taxpayer revenues, in order that they be maintained in place and improved and expanded.

No matter what political perspective we come from, we all recognize that is a major revenue responsibility for taxpayers and for those taxpayers, through their governments. And we can, I think, take heart in the fact that notwithstanding some criticisms, and there will always be some criticisms, that perhaps Canadians do not incessantly and infinitely ask more and more and more, but that they do realize, recognize and appreciate what they've got and what it costs and that they, all of us as Canadians together, are bringing a sense of responsibility to our involvement in, use of and application of our health care system. If that's the case, Mr. Speaker, that represents a positive and healthy attitude that speaks well for our society, our country and our fiscal position in the future.

The review by Mr. Justice Emmett Hall was established to examine growing public concern over the financing of health care and the factors influencing the demand for health services, including criticisms of the system's ability to provide adequate accessible health care. And there are two major factors, sir, identified, certainly to a significant degree during the Hall Commission Hearings and during recent meetings of Health Ministers across this country which I've had the privilege to attend, which continue to hold the public's attention and for which this government, the government of Manitoba, is actively pursuing resolution in co-operation with other provincial and federal jurisdictions.

First, there is concern with developments in some provinces which enable physicians to extra-bill significant numbers of their patients. There is considerable concern that this practice may become more widespread and this, in turn, gives rise to the fear that a two-tiered health system will result, a publicly-funded one for the poor and a superior one for the affluent who can afford extra charges for health services. Our government believes we have a responsibility to acknowledge the legitimate problems physicians have with medicare, namely the bureaucracy it entails, the limitations it places on income-earning opportunities, and a perceived diminution of professional prestige and status, since the establishment of Medicare.

These problems are not exclusive to Manitoba, Mr. Chairman. Discussions with my provincial colleagues have revealed that varying degrees of physician dissatisfaction exist right across this country. Our government also believes it has a responsibility to help improve the professional climate for practising physicians to make it worth their while to continue the tra-

dition of quality service in this province. We are committed to encouraging the valuable contributions and achievements our doctors have accomplished. The skills, creativity and dedication of our physicians constitute the foundation of Manitoba's health system. Standards of medical excellence flow logically from a professional sense of achievement and recognition and we want to acknowledge that for and on the record.

Since we took office in 1977, our government has attempted to be as fair and equitable with our doctors as possible. We are grateful; I am personally grateful, to be able to point to a new, two-year agreement recently concluded with the Manitoba Medical Association which provides not only an improved fee schedule, but a consultation mechanism, to ensure physician input into discussions on major health issues. The fee schedule has been improved to provide for special calls after a doctor's normal working hours and for physicians practising north of the 53rd parallel, in recognition of their additional working costs.

We have also set up a standing committee on medical manpower, to advise government on methods to attract physicians to rural areas of the province and physicians practicing in needed specialty fields.

Manitoba physicians have indicated a desire, as you know, Mr. Chairman, for amended legislation to provide for a more flexible billing process, which would allow for additional charges for certain patients, while at the same time maintaining the physician's right to collect approved payments directly from the government. We have resisted this suggestion, not only because it might undermine the principle of accessibility and cause financial hardship in certain situations, but also because there is no evidence to support the argument often raised, that it would act as a deterrent to patients who overutilize the health system, or who allegedly overutilize the health system.

Only 6.9 percent of physicians registered with the Manitoba Health Services Commission were opted out of the plan as of this past December 31st and only a portion of that 6.9 percent are, in fact, extra billing their patients. It should be pointed out I think, Sir, that in April 1969, the opted out rate was 29 percent, decreasing -- that's April of 1969, when Medicare came into effect, when The Medical Care Act was proclaimed -- 29 percent decreasing in December of 1970 to 8.6 percent, fluctuating from a low of 4.1 percent in December of 1975 to a high of 9 percent in December of 1976. The current opted out rate 6.9 percent is, I believe, eloquent testimony, Sir, to the commitment of our doctors to the founding principles of Medicare.

A second major area of health care debate involved the level of provincial expenditures for health care under The Federal Established Programs Financing Act, EPF, which came into effect on April 1st, 1977. Federal contributions to the EPF arrangements are conditional on the provinces retaining the four essential principles of Medicare, thereby ensuring that the national character of the program is maintained. By providing the provinces with financial flexibility in planning and operating health care systems the federal government is, in effect, out of the mainstream of the day-to-day management of the system; placing major responsibility for determining the configuration of service delivery with and in the provinces. And it is at the provincial level where the real resource crunch occurs and where in fact the real leadership must emerge.

During the past year a number of opinions have been offered about the implication of the EPF arrangements, unfortunately much of the discussion has been marked by misinformation about the arrangements, some caused by legitimate misunderstanding of a very complex funding system, some served by deliberate distortion of the facts. Our government takes the position that in principle block funding is a generally more appropriate mechanism than a rigid system of conditional grants for ensuring that federal fiscal resources are available for provincial programming. After not quite three years under the arrangement we feel it is premature to argue, as some have attempted, that the EPF block funding approach to health financing is inimicable to the accountability, program effectiveness and quality objectives it was intended to promote. In our view more experience with the new arrangement is necessary before an adequate evaluation can be made. In addition an assessment of their implications cannot be made in isolation from an assessment of the impact of changes in other federal-provincial financing arrangements since all of them combine to affect the provinces' abilities to finance programs.

For a variety of technical reasons beyond the direct control of the federal government the growth rate of EPF transfers was higher than initial federal predictions and expectations during the first three years of EPF. It now appears that substantially lower growth rates can be expected for at least the next two years after which payments are forecast to increase approximately in line with earlier forecasts, that is at about the same rate as the gross national product escalator built into the formula. Thus while the growth rate for EPF transfers may have exceeded the rate of growth of health expenditures in most provinces over the last few years, this situation, Mr. Chairman, appears to have been reversed and this new trend could well prevail over the next several years particularly if inflationary pressures increase significantly in the health care field.

In that connection, Sir, it is possible for me to assure you and this committee than in 1980-81, on the basis of the projections now available to us our increase in the total amount budgeted for health expenditures in Manitoba for the coming year, some 72.1 millions over last year or 12.6 percent in increase, that amount will be substantially more than two and a half times the increase in the combined value of the cash and tax transfers due to us this year from Ottawa under the EPF formula.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to turn now to an examination of the general Manitoba health picture, taking the opportunity to describe the challenges and program initiatives planned for this first fiscal year of the 1980s. On November 25th, 1979, the Department of Health and the Department of Community Services and Corrections were created independent of each other under the authority of The Executive Government Organization Act to achieve a balanced level of workload and responsibility at the Ministerial level. The organizational structure of each of these departments is comprised of the programs and services, staff and responsibilities of the former Department of Health and Community Services. The restructuring has been accomplished in accordance with certain guidelines. First the programs and services are maintained and improved during and after the transition process; second, that the regional delivery system for health and social services is retained in tact; third, that no additional need is created

for additional staff and support resources; and fourth, that restructuring does not jeopardize federal cost-sharing arrangements.

It may be helpful to honourable members, Sir, to keep in mind one or two points as we go through the estimates of my department in these next few days, and those of my colleague, the Honourable Minister of Community Services and Corrections. The Department of Health is responsible for large health care institutions, such as, hospitals, personal care homes, and mental health institutions. The single exception is the Manitoba School for Retardates which, with other mental retardation programs, falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Community Services and Corrections. Social services and correctional programs fall under the authority of the Department of Community Services and Corrections. All direct delivery of public health and social services is provided via the integrated regional delivery system within the structure of the Department of Community Services and Corrections. The Department of Health is responsible for health care policy, standards, and program development relative to services provided at the field level throughout Manitoba. The restructuring reflects the government's intention to provide more specific focus in the fields of health and social services and I take this opportunity to congratulate my colleague, the Minister of Community Services and Corrections, who joins me and our other colleagues in the Executive Council, but particularly me, as Minister of Health, in this very important dual social service field in which health and community services co-mingle so fundamentally.

In the coming year, the Department of Health will be placing emphasis on several important areas of initiative. Through the community health directorate of our redesigned department consultation with the medical profession will translate more effectively, we believe, into the provision of better public health. As an example, the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower, representative of the profession, the public, the academic community and government, is looking into the problems of the supply and distribution of physicians in the province and developing recommendations to me for a resolution of these challenges. In addition our public health programs will benefit from increasing medical input and expertise through consultation and more directly through the use of local practitioners as part time medical officers of health.

During recent years, Sir, the Hearing Program in my department has continued to expand from the establishment of the first hearing centres in Thompson and Brandon two years ago, to the establishment of a centre at Dauphin last year, and approval of a fourth centre at The Pas which is in the process right now of being set up and put in operation. We intend to establish a fifth centre in the central region this year and to extend the services of the Mobile Hearing Van to all of Manitoba. We are making a start in the areas of industrial and geriatric hearing screening. Continued emphasis on the improvement of maternal and child health is reflected in the programs of Public Health Nursing, Home Economics, Health Education and Preventive Medical Services, and in our continued support of the Social Planning Council's Task Force on Maternal and Child Health. In addition, expansion of genetic screening and counselling programs is planned in consultation with the Genetics Clinic of the University of Manitoba.

In the field of mental health, we are in the process of establishing a community mental health directorate, which will consist of representatives from the various disciplines active in medical health care. The directorate will be responsible for setting standards and operating guidelines in the mental health field, and for the development of a 25-bed long-term adolescent psychiatric facility for which funds are included in the estimates of the Manitoba Health Services Commission for this fiscal year. A new Director of Psychiatric Services for Children has been appointed to guide the activities of the staff of the Child Guidance Clinic and community-based mental health systems for children. My estimates include provisions for modest staff expansion at the Brandon, Selkirk and Eden Mental Health Centres. The recruitment of an additional forensic psychiatrist has enhanced the capability of the Forensic Services Division to respond to referrals from the courts, probation services and the police. Services available through the Children's Dental Health Program will be expanded to include approximately 5,000 more children born in 1974 within 30 school divisions in a number of rural and northern communities. The Children's Dental Health Program Review Committee recently filed its report on the cost efficiency and accessibility of both the Manitoba Dental Association Program and the Department of Health Program. That report was tabled in the Legislature earlier this afternoon, Sir. The report demonstrates that the dollar costs for both programs under study during the 1978-79 period were fairly comparable with the MDA Program proving the less costly of the two. In addition the MDA Program achieved the higher utilization rate, which indicates that parents have little or not difficulty in gaining access to dental offices for their children enrolled in the MDA Program. To continue the integration of Manitoba dentists in private practice into the program, my estimates contain provision to turn over three more school divisions to the MDA in September. Those divisions would be Pelly Trail, Pine Creek, and the Boundary School Divisions, and a Sprague School District. The Manitoba Home Care Program continues to provide a wide range of service to patients in their own homes. The program has recently been recognized as a model for service delivery in Canada, indeed in North America, facilitating discharges from hospitals and preventing unnecessary or premature placement into personal care homes. The Home Care Program makes it possible for many to maintain or regain their health in the familiar surroundings of their homes and communities. The paneling procedures for placement into personal care homes have been reorganized in Winnipeg, Mr. Chairman, under the initiative of my department, spearheaded in particular by my office and by my Acting Deputy Minister, Dr. Johnson. Those initiatives have been undertaken in consultation with senior geriatricians, hospitals, personal care homes, and the Manitoba Medical Association. The new process provides geriatric treatment service staff in the St. Boniface Hospital, the Health Sciences Centre, and the Municipal Hospitals, with the opportunity for full participation in the paneling process. This system also provides access to geriatric expertise and treatment resources to family physicians assuring the best possible support services in the community and the most appropriate use of institutional care resources.

I might say, Mr. Chairman, that we are very gratified with the response to and the success of the Adult Day Care Program, which was introduced as a major initiative by our department through the Manitoba Health Services Commission in the fiscal year just ended, which provided some 200 adult day care spaces attached to hospitals and personal care homes, which very significantly buttresses and reinforces our capacity to keep elderly Manitobans well and happy, and in their own homes, and in their communities, and enables them to live independent lives longer and to postpone the day when they perhaps ultimately must seek admission to institutions.

On the Manitoba Health Services Commission side of our program and our budget and expenditure area, Mr. Chairman, the new \$32.4 million, 336-bed Seven Oaks General Hospital is scheduled to open on October 1st of this year. A portion of the Administration Wing is already occupied and the Executive Director is currently hiring departmental heads and tendering the out-of-contract loose furnishings and equipment. The key physical plant staff have been hired and are being oriented with building systems.

In June of 1979, in a major, much needed, and I would say long overdue initiative in terms of Manitobans generally and a succession of Manitoba governments, particularly the government that immediately preceded ours, our government approved in principle the total regeneration of the Health Sciences Centre including specific approval for Phase 1 of the redevelopment at a cost of \$75.6 million for ambulatory, diagnostic, psychiatric and support service areas; the Children's Hospital; and materials handling building. Planning is under way in all these areas and it is expected, Sir, that the materials handling building will be tendered this spring at a cost of approximately \$3 million. In addition, approval has been given to proceed with the upgrading of the existing Women's Centre at a cost of between \$2 million and \$3 million. This project will also be tendered this spring for an immediate construction start. In fact, construction at the Health Sciences Centre in this fiscal year will amount, in terms of cash-flow spending or borrowing approval, to approximately \$10 million over and above what was going on there before the redevelopment plan, regeneration plan, was put in place, and that \$10 million is part of that first phase, \$75.6 million expenditure, that has been approved.

The Manitoba Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation, the new Cadham Provincial Laboratory, and a major upgrading of service distribution lines are currently under construction and were under construction before the regeneration plan was approved. That is an additional \$11 million constructions and regeneration program that is nearing completion on the Health Sciences Centre campus.

Approval has been given for interim renovations required to alleviate space problems in numerous departments at the Municipal Hospitals in Winnipeg, and negotiations are continuing between the province, the Royal Canadian Legion and the federal government on the possibility of a transfer of the operation of Deer Lodge Hospital to Manitoba. It is anticipated that, if transferred to provincial control, Deer Lodge would be used to provide extended treatment and personal care beds for the elderly with a number of beds specifically allocated to veterans. It is important to re-emphasize, Mr. Chairman, that these negotiations are not being carried out merely between the provincial government

and the federal government, they involve integrally the Royal Canadian Legion.

Mr. Chairman, the Health Service Commission's 1980-81 Capital Program also calls for an expenditure of \$32.5 million for major capital replacement and renovations for Manitoba Hospitals and the two big projects in that program area are the regenerated and expanded Dauphin General Hospital and the new General Hospital at Selkirk. Both Dauphin and Selkirk are recognizably, Sir, major regional health centres in this province and those two hospital projects are items which have been major priority items for me and my department in recent months. I am gratified and proud of the fact that they are major components in our Capital Program this year that totals \$50 million in all, and that was recently announced in the House during the Throne Speech Debate when the current Session got under way.

That program over and above \$32.5 million for major capital replacement and renovations for Manitoba Hospitals and some \$2 millions for fire safety upgrading of various health facilities and institutions also includes, Sir, \$16.4 million for 255 new non-proprietary personal care beds throughout the province, including 90 in Winnipeg. Proprietary personal care home operators, at the same time, have asked for approval to build 282 additional beds in Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie. Combined with the 164 new beds approved in fiscal 1979-80, these initiatives would add some 700 personal care beds to the province's current total of 7,480.

In these estimates of my department, Mr. Chairman, members will be asked to approve funds for the establishment of new Maternal and Child Health Programs at the Health Sciences Centre and the St. Boniface General Hospital, including high-risk newborn transportation services. Funds are requested for the Hystocompatibility Lab at the Health Sciences Centre and for expansion of the Victoria General Hospital Emergency Department.

Our 1980-81 estimates provide for an appropriation of \$300,000 for Manitoba-based medical research designed to support pilot studies leading to more extensive funding from the Medical Research Council of Canada and developmental and evaluative health research projects eligible for further long-term financial support.

The estimates include funds, Mr. Chairman, for expansion of the Self-Care Dialysis Programs at the Health Sciences Centre and St. Boniface General Hospital, for expansion of the hospital physiotherapy departments, and for further development of the Rheumatology Disease Unit at the Health Sciences Centre to provide for a rheumatology immunology clinical laboratory.

Insured service benefits will be extended, as announced during the Throne Speech, to children suffering from cleft palate and lip disorders. Details of this program are currently under discussion with the University of Manitoba Faculty of Dentistry, provincial Dental Services Staff, the Manitoba Dental Association, and the Health Sciences Centre. I look forward to being able to apprise members of the Committee of those details and the ingredients of the operation and administration of that program very shortly.

Twenty-three adult day care programs currently exist in the province. I made reference to the adult day care initiative a few moments ago, Mr. Chairman, and it is one that can stand as an accomplishment offering a source of pride to Manitobans and all who contribute

to and participate in our health care system. These programs are attached to personal care homes and/or hospitals and a comprehensive review of the service now is being carried out. That review is aimed at identifying the effect of the adult day care program on the delivery of home care services, the effect of the program on personal care home waiting lists, and its effect on the utilization of other insured health services.

Criteria for respite care accommodation in personal care homes was announced in January and since that time five facilities in the province have arranged to provide for respite admission. Discussions are currently in progress with other personal care homes to implement further respite services.

This past year, Mr. Chairman, was a particularly active one for the Board, the Executive, and all the divisions of the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba. It was highlighted by several changes in membership of the Board and the hiring of a new Executive Director. New approaches to treatment have led to the implementation of several new programs, including non-residential treatment, which results in minimal disruption to the client's personal life as well as increasing AFM treatment capability by as much as 50 percent.

New programs include a new program at Headingly Jail, which is proving very effective, and a new non-residential day treatment program for women at the River House, River Avenue facility of the AFM, which is also proving to fill a much needed void and vacuum in the alcohol service and treatment spectrum in this city and in this province. Thus far it's immensely successful.

A redirection of staff has enabled the AFM to develop and provide those treatment programs that I've just referred to, such as the program for inmates at Headingly. The introduction of a community mobilization project will provide community groups in Manitoba with drug awareness information and training. A redeployment of staff positions has allowed for expansion of AFM facilities and services in a number of communities, including Dauphin, Flin Flon, Wabowden and Nelson House. Improved relationships have been developed, Sir, with private agencies in the field of alcoholism treatment. The past year's efforts have produced closer co-operation with native alcohol treatment organizations, and increased involvement with the professional community. The Foundation is continuing and expanding its efforts in the field of employee assistance programs.

An education advisory committee has been established comprised of external, professional and lay people in the community to assist Foundation staff in program development, as well as to undertake a complete review of existing programs. In short, Mr. Chairman, under its new leadership, the Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba is laying a solid base for innovative programming for the 1980s that will enable us, I am sure, to make significant headway in the battle against alcoholism and its heavy social costs.

At the request of my office, Mr. Chairman, consultation has been held with Winnipeg Hospital Administrators and Directors of Nursing to develop initiatives aimed at meeting and minimizing a projected shortage of registered nurses in this province as a part of a projected shortage of registered nurses in many and wide parts of Canada and the United States, foreseen on the near to immediate horizon. Hospitals have been asked to forward both short and long term suggestions to coun-



teract the developing shortage, and we're studying the establishment of an ongoing provincial nursing manpower committee to aid in the development and recruitment of nursing professionals. That committee would function as the counterpart on the nursing side of the Standing Committee on Medical Manpower and its responsibilities on the physician supply side.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, in March we took an initiative designed to help recast the lifestyles of Manitobans to accommodate the changing age demographics of our time with the step of which, again we are very proud, namely the appointment of the Manitoba Council on Aging. Our government took this step to solicit the assistance of our older fellow citizens in identifying and addressing the challenges and realities of the aging process, and to help us prepare and shape our institutions to better serve, not only our current elderly, but our society of the immediate future which will contain a higher proportion of elderly citizens than ever before. The council represents our continuing intention to involve Manitobans in policy formulation and program development.

This June, Mr. Chairman, Manitoba will have the honour to host the 1980 World Congress of Rehabilitation International. Delegates from all over the world will be gathering in Winnipeg to address the pressing issues associated with disability and rehabilitation of the handicapped. This, I believe, is a follow-up to an initiative taken by my predecessor, the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, when he was Minister of Health, in which he took the lead in inviting delegates and members of the World Congress to come to Winnipeg for the 1980 International Congress, and we look forward to that. I trust my friend, the Honourable Member for St. Boniface will be attending sessions of the Congress, along with his colleagues and mine, and all of our colleagues in the Legislature, insofar as it's possible for us to attend some of those meetings.

Manitoba will be presenting, at the Congress, Sir, a detailed account of the polio epidemic of the 1950s, and our province's unique and successful response to it. I would hope that all honourable members would attempt to attend portions of the Congress. The topics under discussion will have great relevance to changing considerations for services to the handicapped.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, discussion of my department's estimates will cover wide-ranging topics of concern to all Manitobans. I wish to thank members for permitting me to make this opening statement and I look forward to a productive debate. And before I sit down, Sir, I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Honourable Member for Transcona who, since the last time we met in examining and evaluating and approving the estimates of the Department of Health, has been appointed official health critic for the opposition. I have enjoyed my past associations with the former health critic, the Honourable Member for St. Boniface, who is now the official critic for Community Services and Corrections but who, no doubt, will be continuing to take an active interest in the estimates of the Department of Health. I look forward to constructive competition with the new critic, the Honourable Member for Transcona, and welcome him to his task and to the floor.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Item (2) Salaries--pass -- the Honourable Member for St. Boniface.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Mr. Chairman, I'm not rising to comment on the Minister's remarks; this will be done by the Member for Transcona. I just would like to ask two short questions of the Minister. The first one is that we were surprised to hear that the report on the Dental Program has been tabled today, and disappointed that we have not received a copy. I wonder if the Minister could maybe, when he comes back tonight, see if he has extra copies. I imagine there's only one for the party.

I'd like to ask a question of the Minister, as I say I don't want to make the opening comment for our party, but why does the Minister keep on repeating that the day care for the elderly at Tache Hospital, or the adult day care is something new? Because I can assure him that it isn't. I don't know where he got this information. I corrected him last year and he made the same statement today. I know that this is not correct, I know for a fact it isn't correct, and I wish the Minister would rectify that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Before I acknowledge the Honourable Minister, this is the time period that's usually allocated to response to the Minister's opening remarks, and if it won't take too long I will allow the Honourable Minister to answer the question, and then we will -- (Interjection)-- a statement, fair enough.  
The Honourable Minister.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, on the report of the Children's Dental Health Program Review Committee, I did table it in the House this afternoon, and a copy was made available to the Opposition Whip. The opposition health critic has asked me if I can get some additional copies and I will. I only had five copies and I distributed to them to various officers of the Assembly and I will be having additional copies made.

On the other point, I'm not referring to the Tache Adult Day Care Program, Mr. Chairman, I'm referring to the new broad wide-spectrum adult day care program that we introduced last year with 200 spaces attached to some two dozen personal care homes throughout the province.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. WILSON PARASIUK:** Thank you. I welcome looking at this particular department. It is obviously a very important one, one of the most important departments of provincial concern. It constitutes some 30 percent of the provincial estimates, or if you take other definitions like fitness and some of the community services aspects, we're really talking about at least one-third of the provincial government expenditures which relate to the whole area of health. It's a critical area, it's one that a province has direct influence on, and it's one that a province can, in fact, do something to really improve or influence the quality of life of Manitobans or provincial citizens.

I also want to commend the Minister for passing on information to us at the outset of the estimates process. A couple of days ago he gave me information relating to the number of staff man years and that was appreciated, and today he tabled the report of the Children's Dental Program. I think that if we, in fact, can get that information coming to us like this, then we, in fact, won't spend near as much time asking the questions

about staff man years and then getting those answers, that I'm sure, Mr. Chairperson, you hear all the time in every departmental estimates. We would like to devote more of the time of the estimates review to policy discussion, program thrust discussion, and less time to the trivial detail, and I think we can get away from discussing a lot of the detail if, in fact, we get the information coming to us so that we can look at it with sufficient advance time and then come back and discuss the principles behind the program. Because I think we're at a stage in the life of this particular government where in fact we can start talking about thrusts, determining what they are trying to do, and frankly, at this particular stage, we indeed want to be putting forward our particular policy alternatives that we think are legitimate and worthy of consideration by the Minister opposite and by the public generally.

In dealing, as I said, with this area of importance and tremendous magnitude, we will spend time on the management. We do have some concern about the management of the department and of the split which the Minister referred to. We, on this side of the House, believe that medical services and social services go very closely together. We are somewhat concerned that the split in the department, between health and the department of community services, has left a great deal of confusion within both departments relating to lines of authority, lines of responsibility; and as we get into the administrative aspects of this estimates review we will point that out further. We do believe there could have been a more logical split if there was going to be a split, possibly a split out of Income Security from Health and Social Services: but we do believe that if you are going to talk about prevention, if you're going to talk about health in the broader sense, in terms of better treatment, ultimately you're going to have to talk about that close relationship between social aspects and medical aspects. And we believe that by splitting off the department in the way that the government has they have created confusion. One practical and simple illustration being that we had a situation that just arose recently, where there was this death in the Brandon Mental Centre where the administrator of that facility was also the administrator, on an acting basis, of another facility some 70 miles away. That is not good management. I'm not saying that circumstance led to the irregularities in reporting, but it certainly is an example of the bad management that exists when you start splitting things out that way. We'll get into others when we talk about home care panelling in one department, and the administration of the program in another; and that creates problems.

So I am serving notice that we do feel that there is confusion, there is confusion right now as to the role of the Health Services Commission. I wonder right now who is the Deputy. The Minister has said, I have an Acting Deputy, but in the paper he has also said that Reg Edwards basically is acting as the Deputy Minister of Health.

And really, we think that the Health Department should be planning health in a more global sense and we're wondering right now whether in fact that's being done by the Deputy Minister of Community Services, who has a big role to play with respect to regional delivery; we're wondering if that's being done by an Acting Deputy Minister who is uncertain of his particular role, or we're wondering if that's being done by the Executive Director of the Health Services Commission, who really

does have a more limited role. I've read the annual reports of these entities to know that right now there is confusion as to who is undertaking that overall planning process with respect to health and who, in fact, is insuring that there is a smooth delivery.

Of course we will spend time on the whole issue of funding. We think that it is possible, and we in fact have done that, to prove that the Conservative government have, in fact, diverted federal cost-sharing moneys and tax room from health care. They've either done that directly or indirectly by freeing up provincial funds which they have spent elsewhere. The Minister makes the point, well, we got extra money that we didn't expect. Well, if in fact the provincial government got extra money over the last three years, why did they freeze hospital construction? Why did the provincial government freeze personal care home construction? Why did they put a freeze on home care staff? Why did they put these freezes on? Why did they up the deterrent to the user fees for pharmacare or for nursing home care? Why were these things done, Mr. Chairperson, if the province was getting this extra money from the federal government for health? Why did these things happen? I mean if you are getting extra money surely you shouldn't be cutting back services at the same time or freezing services at the same time that were indeed announced before. I think the people of Manitoba deserve an explanation from this government as to why they've had to pay extra in user fees; as to why many of them are still on waiting lists for nursing homes; as to why their elective surgery has been postponed over and over again; because this government says now that it got extra money for health. That's not what it was saying three years ago, two years ago, up until about two months ago. It was saying we have to put dollars before need.

Mr. Chairperson, what we are finding out is that the federal government was providing the dollars and that the provincial government wasn't putting in their dollars to make sure that the needs that were bona fide and legitimate at that time, were met. And I think the Minister has to explain the cutbacks and he has to explain why, in this period of abundance of health funds, the provincial government froze those things and therefore diverted money elsewhere. And by diverting money, Mr. Chairperson, and diverting it substantially, because we have had over the last three years a drop in funding by the provincial government where it used to pick up somewhere just below 60 percent of the overall health care costs in Manitoba, to a point now where it is picking up closer to 50 percent. And that is a very substantial decrease in provincial commitment that took place, and it took place during a period of cutback and it took place during a period where costs were shifted from the public onto individual users for bookkeeping purposes, because society still had to pay that money for health care. Society still had to pay it. The people of Manitoba didn't get away with anything. They, in fact, had costs imposed on them and imposed on them in a regressive way, because those people who need that care are those people who can afford it least.

That is part of what I would call the privatization of health care. When you start switching payments over from the public or the collectivity of society to individuals, that is a form of privatization, and it is taking place under this government. I think we are in fact getting another form of privatization of health care taking place by this government, there is an emphasis on private

delivery. There is an emphasis on promotion of user fees. And there is some concern on our part that despite our efforts to stop this, and I think we've played a role on this side of the House in stopping or slowing down, not stopping it because there are these elements that exist, but slowing down this trend, more so than that which has taken place in other Conservative provinces like New Brunswick, where they have a \$10 outpatient fee, every time you go to a hospital; where they have very high Medicare premiums in Conservative Ontario; where you have many doctors opting out there, where if you look at the situation of the public health care system in Alberta, where the opposition there isn't that strong, and isn't a very direct viable alternative that we as a Party are in this province; that those governments have in fact run rough-shod over the health care system. They have not been able to run rough-shod over it here. It is somewhat weakened and we are fighting very hard to maintain it and to make sure that we keep that base so that we can improve on it in the next year or so when we in fact form a government again.

We believe that what we had in 1975-76, was generally acknowledged to be the best health care system in Canada. It was the most progressive; it was the most accessible; it was universal; it was premium-free; it was generally acknowledged to be the best. Now we have a mediocre system of health care, certainly not the worst. But it is our intention on this side of the House to indeed make health care a number one priority and to make Manitoba health care the best. We do not believe in a standard of health care for the rich and a standard of health care for the poor, but every time you start upping the user fees; every time you start denying accessibility; every time you start doing things or condoning certain things in other provinces when it comes to sort of a *carte blanche* on block funding, then you do injure the principal affordability.

I think that the health care system in Manitoba is indeed part of a Canadian health care system and we indeed desire the same quality of health care for Canadians as we have for ourselves. In fact the way things are in Manitoba right now where so many of our relatives, friends, and neighbours end up going to other provinces because they are driven out because of economic circumstances, I certainly hope that they have a good quality of health care. I don't think we can just remove ourselves from the overall Canadian health care debate and say it is a provincial responsibility. Sure it's a provincial responsibility, but at the same time we have to ensure that those four general principles, first elucidated by the Hall Commission in 1964, are indeed upheld and promoted.

I want to discuss the specifics a bit further, if not in my introductory remarks, as we proceed through the debate on estimates, but I do want to just take a second to in a sense get back to basics. I listened carefully for the Minister in his opening statement to say what this government thought health was. I mean when you get talking about philosophy, and I hope we can do that, we can talk about policy because policy is related to philosophy, you have to ask that question, well what do you mean by the term. I still don't know what this government considers to be health. It threw out a number of little bits and pieces and if I look at the Department of Health, or if I look at the specifics of the Department of Fitness, or if I look at the specifics of the Department of Community Services, I can ask the

question, is that health? Is it not health? I think it is important for a government to do that so you can see whether in fact what it's doing is coming close to what it believes in, in terms of health. I would hope that somewhere along the line the Minister will in fact provide us with a bit of a philosophical definition of what he believes health to be.

He talked about more or less health, or desires on the part of Manitobans for more or less health. Well, you don't have more or less health as something which is sort of to be determined by dollars solely. It is something that reflects your attitude. He talked only about doctors in a sense providing health, and he commended the doctors. Health is much more global. We feel that so many people are involved in delivering health, promoting health. The doctors -- you know people's first contact in hospitals and their best contact and their most direct contact is with nurses -- never any mention of nurses. If you ask someone after their stay in the hospital what was it like. Their first comment usually is the talk about whether in fact the nurses were relating to them or not; the orderlies, those people who provide that day-to-day personal contact. And the personal contact of health care is really important.

I think if you define health we should look at the World Health Organization definition. It talks about health as a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of a disease or an infirmity. Because it is possible to, in a sense, have an infirmity and still be in a state of mental well-being. You are able to exist and cope in society with an infirmity, be it infirmities of old age; be it the infirmities of the physically handicapped; be it the infirmities of people who are very poor and feel very alienated in society. And that is why we on this side of the House believe that health is something that is just not Darwinist, it just doesn't mean survival of the fittest, it means everyone existing with society with some means of treatment and with some means of coping with their particular condition. And that's why we in fact see health in a very comprehensive way.

The Minister indicated that the Hall Commission had been in Manitoba earlier and it just wasn't looking at financing of medicare. In fact, if you look at the Hall Commission's terms of reference, it was asked to see, to determine whether in fact the objectives of the Health Charter put forward in 1964 Hall Commission are being promoted or pursued, and the extent to which they are so being pursued. The Health Charter of 1964 was very visionary. It called for a comprehensive, universal, accessible, portable health care system in Canada.

If you look at the book on health insurance and Canadian public policy prepared by Malcolm Taylor, the research assistant to the Hall Commission, you will see the history of health care development in Canada. They point out very specifically that what Hall proposed at that time was a very comprehensive program, one that has not been achieved yet by merely hospitalization insurance and medical insurance. Indeed in that respect in terms of promotion of a comprehensive health program, I think that the record of the New Democratic Party government between 1969 and 1977, and that of the Conservative government between 1977 and today, provides a graphic contrast in the attitude toward a comprehensive program, because I think that there is a philosophical difference between the two, and it reflects the different views of society.

We believe in a comprehensive universal accessible program that indeed is one which reflects a more egalitarian society. There are many people who don't believe in a more egalitarian society, who believe that poor people get in the way of a good health care system, and who indeed would like to see two health care systems at work. And that's what we have generally to the south of us in the United States, and that is a classical conservative position with respect to society, and that is a classical conservative position with respect to health care. And that position was reflected prior to 1969, when the Conservative governments generally in Canada, opposed the introduction of Medicare and opposed this further development of the comprehensive health delivery program, a program put forward by Hall in 1964 in the first place. It was a national government spurred on by the developments in Saskatchewan in the early 1960's, that actually in a sense forced medicare upon provincial governments, and since that time different governments have gone different ways with respect to the development of a health care system.

In Manitoba from 1969 to 1977 you had a strong definite expansion of the health care programs. Premiums were reduced and then eliminated. Government provided home care and nursing home care for the aged -- tremendous advancements. And the chronically ill -- the government developed the Pharmacare Program, the beginnings of a childrens' dental care program which was under way, provincial support for ambulance service, air ambulance for people in remote communities, geriatric services in certain hospitals. These are some examples of what I call the New Democratic Party approach and high priority given to health care. And as a result the provincial share of that funding did go up, because we put our money where our mouth was with respect to health care being a high priority. What happened when the Conservative government came to power in 1977 is illustrated by that graphic statistic, provincial share of health care funding, down to around 50 percent from a high of about 58, 58.5 percent. This cutback was brought about by freezes and especially the freeze in the personal care home construction program, which was really quite tragic. The worst thing to postpone when you have an aging population is your social investment in personal care homes. We, as a society, with this government specifically as a government, have a great deal of explaining to do as to why you would hold back that type of facility for people in their eighties, who have, in some instances, a short, but very definite need for that facility. Because of that cut-back program, we have a situation right now, which was in fact, predicted. It's no accident that we have a nursing shortage today in Manitoba and it's no accident that we have bed closures and bed shortages; these are the logical and the predictable outcomes of that ill-advised, and I would call it incompetent, Conservative cut-back program in health.

Now the Minister is saying we're at the edge of a big nursing shortage; we're in a nursing shortage right now. The Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses did an incomplete survey, I think they surveyed 161 out of 250, or 240 institutions that require nurses in January and they found that we had something like 261 vacancies at that time, with an incomplete survey. They're doing another one now and I would expect that if it's more complete we will find that we have nursing vacancies in the order of 500 or 600 people.

Why did we have these cut-backs? We had them because the government was trying, to do quite a bit of cosmetic bookkeeping. And the people of Manitoba have fought this approach; we on this side of the House have fought this approach. I think this government has been slapped in the face on two successive federal elections; one in May of 79, the other in February of 1980, and health care definitely was a major issue in both elections. You can look at specific ridings, where the outcome was determined because of the public's disfavour of this government's health care policy programs.

Now, I think, is a consequence of that the government is trying to give the impression of relaxing purse strings on health care funding and in some respects they are and in some respects they're going ahead with programs, which through the course of the Estimates, we will in fact, say yes, they are good things. But we say that cut-back period of three years created a lot of tremendous problems in the delivery of health care in Manitoba, nursing shortages being one of them, but there are many others. And then what the Conservatives are doing right now is playing catch-up, but catch-up primarily using a set of programs devised and announced, in a large part, in 1976 by the previous administration. We think that program of catch-up in health care is too little; we think it's too late and we especially object to the attempt to force-feed the private sector and the profit motive into the health care system.

We also think that what's being promoted right now is not quite sufficient to deal with the challenges of the 1980s that the Minister talked about. We think that health care delivery which is not private-oriented is being held back by this government and we have particular examples: Personal care home construction; which ones get the go-ahead, which ones don't? The private and profit-making personal care homes get a green light from this government even though they haven't built the nursing homes that the Minister promised and indicated in his opening statement of last year, when he said that we would have a number of personal care homes beds being built; they haven't been built because the private sector hasn't produced; even though we have a number of non-profit nursing homes waiting in the wings, with land, ready to go with nursing homes, not being able to do it. Why? Because they're non-profit and because this government has a philosophical bias in favour of the private profit-making nursing homes. We think that bias is wrong. We have a different particular philosophy on that and we believe that non-profit nursing homes should be given the first preference to providing for the nursing home needs of Manitoba citizens.

There is a very clear, distinct difference between us and the Conservative party. We believe that non-profit nursing homes do it because of their love of humanity, not because of their love of the buck. We believe that they, in fact, can martial volunteer effort, far, far better than any little group in there as part of some investment game. We will deal with this further and I think we will be able to indicate that the Minister's logic for private nursing homes doesn't wash.

If, in fact, the Minister is so disposed to private nursing homes then you ask the next question, which I've asked and the Minister's never fully clarified and answered, why not private hospitals? We don't believe in private hospitals. We wonder what the government's position

on this is because all the arguments that he puts forward in favour of private nursing homes can be applied as equally to private hospitals. We believe that there is no place for the profit motive and the delivery of those types of necessary health care.

When we come to the Childrens' Dental Care Program and we want to look over this report carefully, we find that if other things are equal the Minister's bias is for the private sector, excluding the process of utilizing the schools. And we ask that question; why we want to see if other things are equal first? But even taking the Minister's report at face value at this particular stage, why do you take away something that is operating well on the public sector and three school divisions and shift them over to the private sector? Again, we find that we have little explanation for that.

I note that the Minister never once mentioned community health centres. We've had eight established. They provide a very valid alternative, in fact, one, which the other day, the Toronto Star, in its editorial said that Ontario should push forward with. It indicated that a couple of studies showed that the Sioux Ste. Marie District Group Health Association, in the Glaser Medical Centre in Oshawa, in fact, did a much better job than solo practitioners. We say that in this period, where people are concerned so much about health costs, that alternatives like community health centres have to be looked at very seriously and not just excluded because of some rigid, ideological bias against them.

I've just come back from a visit, today, to Mount Carmel Clinic and I know that the Minister's been at Mount Carmel Clinic and I know he understands how cramped and how crowded those facilities are and he must know that there was a government commitment by the previous government to provide funding for that facility and he must know, but he hasn't told us, that this government has cut out that funding commitment and has left in limbo whether in fact Mount Carmel Clinic will get funding for a facility which it desperately needs and for services which it legitimately and validly provides. We will debate that difference as well.

We think that the public has this overall umbrella role to play with respect to the provision of a comprehensive health care system, because by taking this overall position and not sort of taking only that position which the private sector refuses, or finds not sufficiently profitable to take, can you really get at the tremendous task of trying to bring about a system of health care in Manitoba and in Canada, which does stress prevention and practices prevention, as well as preaches it. Because it's easy for us all to get up and talk about prevention . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order, please. The honourable member's time is up. --(Interjection)-- To the honourable member, when I call to order you're not being recorded. I would like it to be recorded, not that I want to limit any of the debate. So, if you've got any comments other than what you had said before I brought you to order, I would recognize the Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** I just want to say, I welcome the opportunity to participate in this debate because I think as we go through the specifics, the differences between ourselves and the Conservative government opposite will become very apparent.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Item (2)--pass; (3)--pass. Clause 2. Operational and Support Services, Resolution No. 76, Item (a) Administration (I) Salaries. The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** This is the Deputy's Salary, I believe, and again, I want to point out at this particular stage that I think the Minister has to give us a bit of an explanation, I didn't want to get into detail that much but an explanation as to how the department is operating and we can't help but overlap into the other one. For example, which community health programs report to the Associate Deputy Minister?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface, on a point of order.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** Yes sir, I believe that I heard the Member for Transcona say that this was the Deputy Minister and actually it's the Assistant Deputy Minister. Going back, Mr. Chairman, on (1), I think that we passed the remarks that are usually made by the Minister and then the official critic for the party, but I don't think that we went, or I was going to get up at this time and we didn't talk anything about the other Salaries and so on, and I wonder if we could --(Interjection)-- The whole thing, or is it the intention of taking the Minister's Salary? I thought it was only 1.(a)(1) that we would keep till the end and I that my friend wants to speak on the Deputy Minister on (2). Just to straighten this thing out immediately, I wonder if it would be possible to revert back to (2), with the understanding that (1) is . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the honourable members, I've already passed Items (2) and (3), leaving (1). the Minister's Salary open. I haven't closed off Resolution 75, which isn't my right until (1) is passed and we are on Item 2, Operational and Support Services. The Honourable Member for Transcona on a point of order.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Yes, I was trying to listen to you quite closely on that; I thought you said 1.(a)(1)--pass; when I heard 2, I got up. My understanding was that we were on 1.(a)(2), because I did want to raise these particular questions, relating to the departmental restructuring.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** To the Honourable Member for Transcona, I can't pass 1.(a); it is the Minister's Salary and it's the last item to be discussed. After the opening remarks of the Minister and the response from the critic, I moved on to the next item which was (2), then the next item which was (3), and we passed those items but I couldn't pass the complete of the Clause 1, so we moved on to Clause 2, which was Operational and Support Services and I did read it out. The Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** On the point of order, I think I was trying to listen clearly to what you were saying, I might have misunderstood what you said and if, we in fact, have passed it, I would ask if it's possible to reopen 1.(a)(2), in that surely we wanted to discuss that type of restructuring without getting into a long, involved statement on opening statements. We just had one person responding to the Minister on that, because we did want to get into the restructuring aspects. And I'm wondering if the Minister would agree with that; if the

House would agree with that. Otherwise I'd like to have a copy of Hansard, because I was trying to listen clearly to ensure that we didn't get into the Assistant Deputy Minister's Salary so quickly without discussing restructuring.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Member for St. Boniface on a point of order.

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I think there's an honest misunderstanding here. If you look at this very closely, 1.(a)(1), we know this is held to the end and when you called 2, I thought you were calling 2 on there and I looked behind and my colleague was standing up. Now, we can argue all day, but we're a master of our own destiny here and I would suggest that the Minister . . . I can't speak for him, but it seems to me that he was agreeable, that he understood what we were doing and that we would revert back to (2), with the consent of the members of the committee, of course, and the Minister, Mr. Chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The honourable members, I think that what is being suggested, that the item under discussion should be 1.(a)(2) Salaries. I don't have the authority to revert back by following the rules, but by unanimous consent, I'm sure that . . .

**MR. DESJARDINS:** I would ask for unanimous consent. If I can catch the Minister's eye, I was saying that we can argue this all day, that we would like to revert back to 1.(a)(2) to cover that at this time.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Do I have the unanimous consent to revert back to 1.(a)(2)? (Agreed). Item under discussion is 1. Executive Function (a)(2) Salaries--pass -- the Honourable Member for Transcona.

**MR. PARASIUK:** Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I did want to get a clearer explanation from the Minister on the departmental shift, especially relating to lines of responsibility and lines of authority. For example, do people who are dealing with mental health in Community Services report to the Associate Deputy Minister of Health, who I assume is Dr. Tavener who is in the Department of Health' even though they are situated for administrative purposes in the Department of Community Services. Is that the way in fact the reporting lines are established, because if you look at both of the departments, Community Services and Health, you will find that there are many areas that seem to overlap, and some of these areas are quite technical in the Community Services side; and I'm wondering if, in fact you are in this situation where people from one department are then reporting to an Associate Deputy Minister in another department. That's one particular question I have.

I have another one relating to the role of the Health Services Commission. What is the role of the Health Services Commission? The Minister is publicly quoted elsewhere as stating that Reg Edwards is basically acting as a Deputy Minister. Does he not concede that there is a greater function relating to health care planning in the province than that which is being performed by the Health Services Commission, which is primarily a payout agency? We have some confusion as to how the department is being run. We have not had a Deputy Minister appointed in the department, we don't have

a Deputy Minister. We have an Acting Deputy Minister, who I don't see in here right now, maybe that's an administrative oversight, maybe it's a deliberate action on the part of the Deputy, but it's rather unusual, frankly, to be here talking about the Department of Health and not to have the Deputy Minister of Health here. I don't know, I can't see if he's up there or not, he may be, and I get some confirmation that he is. I find that astounding and I think that it does reflect some difficulty. I don't know whether it's a lack of confidence; I know that Deputy Minister appointments are made by the Premier; I know that occasionally there can be some friction between the Premier and his Minister as to who would be the best appointment. I don't like getting into this particular aspect, but the point is that it does have tremendous repercussions for morale down the line.

I must say that I have, in fact, received calls from people who have expressed concern about this, who have said, in fact that the administration of both departments is in some chaos because there is uncertainty as to who really administratively, is in charge. And that's a very very direct criticism and it's very valid, and it has tremendous implications for the way in which all of these things are delivered. I'm not alone in raising these concerns. I know that a few weeks ago the Member for Fort Rouge was laughed at when she raised these points in the Legislature. In fact, the Minister, at that time, said, well I'm going to be having supper with this individual tonight. Well, the point is, if the Minister can have supper with him, why can't he bring him in as his Chief Executive Officer into the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly as we proceed with estimates.

This may, in fact, be just a minor oversight. If it is, fine, it's just that it does seem to corroborate other evidence which I have received, which I know the Member for Fort Rouge has received from people, saying that there is a management problem within the Department of Health and within the Department of Community Services and Corrections, not to mention the difficulty that we'll get into when we get into the next department about the relationship between the Deputy Minister of that department, Community Services and Corrections, where we have this wierd thing called the Commissioner of Corrections as well. But I do believe that there are these administrative and management problems which are real and which are very profound, and which I think are sapping morale, which I believe are leading to a situation where a number of somewhat senior people have not been appointed, where a number of people are acting in positions. I think that after two and a half years of government there is no excuse for so many senior people in the department holding positions on an acting basis. It does create confusion. It creates a lot of scurrying around within those Byzantine corridors which are the bureaucracy.

I would suggest to the Minister that he should make a definite appointment as to the Deputy Minister of Health, and that if he wishes, he could appoint Reg Edwards both Deputy Minister of Health and Executive Director, or if he wants he can appoint someone else, but it should be done to clarify that situation.

Secondly, that we should then proceed, or the government should proceed, to make a number of other appointments on a permanent basis. I believe that it's not happening, and I think that the Minister will have an opportunity to clarify that particular point.

Furthermore, I wonder why we didn't split out something like Income Security from the department to form the other department. There has been some attempt to do institutions, or the large institutions in the Community Services. But you do have Income Security as well, which is a very definite separate entity. That quite easily could have been hived off. Then you have the logic of whether in fact you would go with relating many of your social services, or your delivery of social services, to your medical services, which was one approach of doing it. You could have more of your people relating to some of your community health centres up north, which I think has been the case to date; you could have more of your social services people relating to some of your clinics which exist in the city. Again, I've come from Mount Carmel Clinic, they in fact do that with some effect, I would suggest. And I think that there are other parts of the city where that could be done.

I don't know to the extent to which there has been any combination of social services with medical services provided at some place like the Health Sciences Centre. So it strikes us that would provide probably a far better logic in terms of departmental organization than the one we have right now which, I think, is cumbersome and I think creates some difficulties in management which are manifest right now.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Honourable Minister.

**MR. SHERMAN:** Mr. Chairman, in the moment or two left at my disposal, let me just disabuse the Honourable Member for Transcona of any concerns or anxieties he may have with respect to confidence in the Acting Deputy Minister. I want to assure him and all members of the committee that the Premier and my colleagues in Executive Council and I have the utmost confidence in Dr. Johnson as Acting Deputy Minister. He is, in fact, in the House, in the Chamber at the present time. He is not on the floor, as the Member for Transcona pointed out, but he is in the gallery and he certainly will be serving in an advisory and consultative capacity on the floor during the course of consideration of my estimates.

The reasons why my Assistant Deputy Minister, Dr. Tavener and the Executive Director of Administrative Services, Mr. Peter Schmidt, are on the floor at this present time is because their positions relate to the particular appropriations that we are proceeding on in priority order, as laid out in the estimates, and the questions being asked pertain essentially to their areas.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Order please. The hour being 4:30, I am interrupting the proceedings for Private Members' Hour, and will return to the Chair at 8:00 o'clock this evening.

## IN SESSION

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. We are now under Private Members' Hour. Thursday afternoon the first order of business, Public Bills. We have one public bill.

### ADJOURNED DEBATE ON SECOND READING -- PUBLIC BILL

### BILL NO. 14 -- AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW SOCIETY ACT

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Logan.

**MR. WILLIAM JENKINS:** I adjourned this debate on behalf of my leader, the Honourable Member for Selkirk.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

**MR. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to simply voice a few concerns pertaining to the bill before us for the Attorney-General's consideration prior to committee stage, and knowing the Attorney-General's particular interest in this matter, I'm sure he will pursue same with a conscientiousness that we would anticipate from him.

First, Mr. Speaker, I would question the reference as to how standards are being arrived at pertaining to competency. Certainly the Law Society has a real responsibility in order to ensure that there are appropriate levels of competency practised by all members of the profession. I would hope, however, Mr. Speaker, that rather than the principle being left as it appears to be on a very vague sort of basis, a subjective type of basis, that there could, in fact be developed more specific, more precise references so that we would know what is meant by competency, what type of objective standards will be applied. I believe that the comments which were uttered only the other day are comments which are quite justified as to concern as to the criteria that is used by one group to define competency insofar as others are concerned within a profession.

The fact that the Law Society is a self-governing body is, of course, one that, I think, imposes upon us when we undertake amendments of this nature, even greater concern as to the tests, the standards that will be applied. Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that it may be necessary, in fact, that there be, from time to time, occasions in which the Law Society should be required to recertify members insofar as their certificates are concerned. I believe it is necessary, Mr. Speaker, to consider, on the part of the Law Society, and certainly I believe that we, as representatives of the provincial community, have the responsibility to indicate that if particular members of the Law Society are the subject of repeated complaints and grievances being filed with the society itself, it may be necessary that that member be called in for tests in order to ensure that member is keeping pace with recent changes pertaining to law within the provincial and federal jurisdictions; and at the same time that member has at least sufficient level of competency in order to permit him to continue in the profession of law.

But I believe that sort of calling in should be on the basis of a precise form of measurement. If there are X number of complaints that have been filed with the Law Society over a given period of time, by clients of that particular member of the bar, then that is an objective standard that can be applied, an objective standard which ought to anticipate the member being called in, just as one that is called in for review and re-examination pertaining to one's driver's licence. If one accumulates a certain number of demerit points, convictions, then the Motor Vehicles Branch demands that

motorist, indeed, attend at the Motor Vehicles Branch in order to satisfy the Motor Vehicles Branch that motorist is fit to continue to operate on the highways of the province. I think in the same way it is not unreasonable to suggest that a member of the Law Society, upon a certain amount of complaints being filed over a given period of time, ought to expect that they would be the subject of retesting and possibly refresher courses that the Law Society would provide to that given member, prior to that given member being able to continue on in the particular field of law in which the complaints related to. The Law Society has a very great responsibility when they permit a member of its Society to appeal to members of the public for business on matters that often can be close to life and death, that are fundamental or important insofar as Manitobans are concerned.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about the generality, the vagueness of the amendments before us. I would like to see more precise, more objective standards applied rather than subjective standards.

Mr. Speaker, I have another concern which I would like to deal with by way of a specific case. I would want some assurance that the Law Society would demonstrate a greater capacity to protect innocent third parties than has been demonstrated in the past. I wish the Member for Minnedosa was present, because he knows well of what I am about to discuss. Mr. Speaker, the matter, for the information of the Attorney-General, is not before the courts; a judgement was obtained against the lawyer in question in the neighborhood of some \$63,000, so that prior to any intervention on the matter on the basis that it is sub judice, I point that out to you, Mr. Speaker, the matter if no longer before the courts.

A case involving a middle-aged lady, who had worked hard all her life in health centres in this province, being involved in a serious automobile accident; having had serious injuries inflicted upon her as a result of that accident, injuries which will result in her having permanent injuries -- a limp for the balance of her life; depending upon a lawyer of this province to issue a Statement of Claim within the given two-year period required under The Statute of Limitation period; the lawyer failing to issue the Statement of Claim within that two-year period, and not only failing to issue the Statement of Claim, but then failing, as is required under the lawyer's contract with the insurer for the Law Society failing to advise the Law Society and/or the insurer promptly, as required under that policy, for a further one and one-half year period. First, the breach insofar as Statute of Limitation period is concerned; secondly, a further one and one-half year delay on the part of the lawyer in advising the Law Society that a claim might be registered against the insurance fund -- two omissions within a three and one-half year period.

In 1978 a bill was presented to this Legislature, and the case is the Hawes case, in an effort to re-open the Statute of Limitation period in order to permit the lady in question to make her claim so that she could collect from the auto insurance company, if successful, the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation. The House in its wisdom said no, when the Member for Minnedosa introduced the Bill -- I am glad to see the Member for Minnedosa is present because he knows of what I speak -- said no to the Member for Minnedosa, that

lady ought to sue the lawyer, it is the lawyer's negligence that brought about the injuries involved.

Since 1978 the lady in fact has sued. The lady successfully obtained a judgement in the neighbourhood of \$63,000 against the lawyer in question. Subsequent to the receipt of the judgement the lawyer was examined as to assets and further efforts were made to collect upon the judgement against the lawyer in question, but those efforts were futile. The lawyer had inadequate insufficient assets to permit him to pay the lady in question. Certain other circumstances had occurred affecting that lawyer as well, making it even more difficult for him to attempt to pay the \$63,000 in question.

A claim was filed with the Law Society, Mr. Speaker, and the Law Society, by way of a meeting of its benchers and upon recommendation from the solicitor for the Law Society, determined that in fact no payment should be made to the lady in question because of the failure on the part of the lawyer after missing the two-year limitation period, of in addition failing to advise the Law Society promptly when he ought to have been aware or was aware of the negligence on his part.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I find it rather incredible that the Law Society should hide behind this technicality in its insurance policy pertaining to self-insurance. It was the Law Society that permitted this lawyer to operate in the Province of Manitoba. Obviously the Law Society had confidence in the competency of the lawyer, otherwise that particular lawyer's certificate would have been withdrawn. They provided insurance to that lawyer and I understand, Mr. Speaker, that there had in fact been complaints that had been filed over the years pertaining to the particular lawyer in question, so the Law Society had notice that in fact there had been, on some other occasions, complaints that were filed relating to the competency level of the lawyer in question.

Mr. Speaker, what I find abhorrent now is that we have a situation involving an innocent lady, the most innocent of all, a \$63,000 judgement which she cannot recover upon. This Legislature refused the right for her to continue her suit insofar as it would have permitted her to have collected from the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation. She has obtained her judgement against the lawyer in question; she is unable to recover from the lawyer because the lawyer's level of worth is so low that there is no way that she can recover on a \$63,000 judgement; and the Law Society states we are not going to pay because the lawyer failed to advise us promptly after the breach on the lawyer's part to sue within the two-year period.

Mr. Speaker, this lady, if the provincial community does not attempt to assist her in this situation, will be without any recovery and will have permanent injury, and there will be no recovery from any quarter in order to assist her for the balance of her lifetime.

I would first, Mr. Speaker, hope that we could find ways and means of insuring that the members of the public will be protected, third parties will be protected, in the event of members of the Law Society committing a negligent act and then repeating that negligent act by failing to advise the Law Society, and the Law Society then using technicalities to avoid its responsibility to an innocent member of the provincial community.

Mr. Speaker, then we must, I believe, in dealing with this legislation I certainly intend to pursue this at Committee stage -- find ways of protecting third parties, which may mean additional policing of our professional legislation on the books, so that we can protect inno-



cent third parties. Also, Mr. Speaker, I believe in this particular case, and I think the Attorney-General would agree with me, that some action should be taken in order to insure that the -- because it was this Legislature that told this lady two years ago, told the Member for Minnedosa, this lady ought to sue the lawyer; that was the reason that we refused to grant assistance two years ago -- that at this stage, Mr. Speaker, we should acknowledge the fact that circumstances have changed and the lady in question, I believe, has a right of recovery against the Law Society of the province of Manitoba. The Law Society ought not to be permitted to hide behind a technicality insofar as its policy is concerned with the lawyers of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to join in this debate for this very reason, that a matter such as this ought to be dealt with. I don't know how many other such cases occur in the province. I know while I was Attorney-General, from time to time complaints were filed. This to me is the worst such case that I have come in contact with, and yet we seem to have been without means of remedying that situation. I would certainly propose at some point during this Session to undertake efforts to try to remedy what I feel has been an injustice to the lady in question.

Those are my remarks, Mr. Speaker, pertaining to the bill itself; I believe there is a lack of objective standards being applied which are necessary and appropriate. The wording of the amendments, I believe, are too vague, too general. We would look forward to opportunity during the Committee stage to further explore the amendments in question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does the Honourable Member for Minnedosa have a question?

**MR. DAVID BLAKE:** Mr. Speaker, yes, I am at somewhat of a quandry because I started to speak on this particular bill the other day and it was considered that I was sub judice because the matter was before the courts. We have since established that the matter was solved and their judgement had been handed down and therefore it wasn't before the courts, and I suppose the fact that I have spoken already rules me out from speaking again. If I have leave of the House, Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief, I want to . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Order please. It is very unusual to allow a member to break the rules, but the House by its very nature can establish its own rules in any particular case.

The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, the reason the Member for Minnedosa did not proceed with his remarks on the subject matter that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition has just spoken on was that he was advised that the matter was before the courts and he therefore terminated his remarks in this area. I would suggest that perhaps, with leave, he could be allowed to continue his remarks on this one particular subject.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Has the honourable member leave? (Agreed)

The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to add one or two comments to the remarks that I was

making the other day. I can speak on Third Reading, I suppose, if I want to speak at any length to it, but I want to commend the Leader of the Opposition for the remarks that he has made, because the particular case is close to both of us. We know the people involved on a very personal basis and my whole reason for bringing the bill in two years ago was that there had been a grave injustice done to this particular lady. She was not receiving justice through no fault of her own, and that was the reason that we brought the bill in. When it was pointed out that she should go through the process of suing the lawyer; my stand at that time was that who really wins when you get one lawyer suing another one, that lady is still not going to receive justice. It is obvious from the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition that even though a judgement has been handed down she is still not going to receive compensation for her injuries, which has resulted in some permanent disability. The people in the Insurance Corporation admitted at the time that they had a substantial claim and they were prepared to accept it, but the fact that due to technicalities the claim wasn't proceeded with and therefore they have taken their grounds on a technical basis that they have no further interest in the claim until some other vehicle is brought to bear on them such as a private members' bill. I just wanted to inform the House, Mr. Speaker, as I did when the bill was voted down, that they would be hearing more on this particular case because the woman is entitled to receive justice and I, for one, am going to see that she does receive justice and we will be proceeding to prepare another similar bill praying for the relief of the victim in an accident and it will be coming before the House at this Session. So I just wanted to alert the members to that and if there is some other course of action that we should take we are prepared to take it. I agree with the Leader of the Opposition and I think the Law Society, in this particular case, should be shouldering a great deal of the responsibility and if that's what this bill before us today is designed to prevent I can certainly support it, but I don't know whether it is going to prevent things of this nature or not. If I have any more comments to make, Mr. Speaker, I thank the House for giving me leave to add one or two comments at this particular time and to indicate that we will be proceeding with another private members' bill. If there are further remarks that I wish to make I'll make them on third reading.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Kildonan.

**MR. FOX:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose that debate be adjourned.

MOTION presented and carried.

**PRIVATE BILL -- BILL NO. 17 -- AN ACT  
TO AMEND AN ACT RESPECTING THE  
AGRICULTURAL AND COMMUNITY  
DISTRICT OF NEWDALE**

**MR. SPEAKER:** On Bill No. 17 -- An Act to amend an Act respecting the Agricultural and Community District of Newdale, the Honourable Member for Logan.

**MR. JENKINS:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, we perused this bill and we're prepared to have this bill proceed to committee.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is it the pleasure of the House then to . . . The Honourable Member for Minnedosa.

**MR. BLAKE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I thank the members for allowing this bill to proceed. I had spoken with some of them that had expressed some interest in just what the bill represented and I can assure them that it is a housekeeping measure required by the municipal people to allow for an additional levy on the tax rolls to provide for the upkeep of a community hall that is shared by, I think, four municipalities and the town. If there is some desire for further information on behalf of the members of the House, if they would let me know I will have the legal authorities or the people involved in the community in question appear before Law Amendments Committee to answer their questions.

QUESTION put, MOTION carried.

**MR. SPEAKER:** On Bill No. 24 -- An Act to amend The Manitoba Club, the Honourable Member for Logan. (Stand.)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Proceed with Proposed Resolutions.

### PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Resolution No. 21, the Honourable Member for Virden.

**MR. MORRIS MCGREGOR:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Roblin:

WHEREAS the Prairie Region has long been recognized as a significant geographical entity; and

WHEREAS it was first recognized as a political region within Rupert's Land which was granted by Royal Charter in 1670 to the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay; and

WHEREAS Manitoba was the first province to join in Confederation with the four original founding provinces of Canada in 1870; and

WHEREAS Manitoba shares common interests, goals, hopes and joys with its two sister provinces to the west; and

WHEREAS in the spirit of interprovincial friendship and co-operation that typifies Manitoba's relations with other provinces in the nation; and

WHEREAS Alberta and Saskatchewan are celebrating their 75th Anniversaries as provinces;  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Premier of the Province transmit to the Premiers of Alberta and Saskatchewan a message of greeting and congratulations from the Legislature and People of Manitoba to the Legislatures and People of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

MOTION presented.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Virden. Order please. The Honourable Member for Radisson on a point of order.

**MR. KOVNATS:** Mr. Speaker, I was just wondering whether this resolution should be talked at this time or whether in fact the matter is before the courts. I was

reading in the paper where the massage parlours in Winnipeg were under investigation at this time and it says anniversary messages to Alberta and Saskatchewan. I would hope that you would give me ruling on it, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. I believe there has always been a problem with the pronunciation in the English language. We do have a problem with some words in the English language but I believe the intent of the resolution is the important one, and I would have to rule the resolution in order as to intent. The Honourable Member for Virden.

**MR. MCGREGOR:** Mr. Speaker, there is always a right way and a wrong way to start out and we will have to see which way it works.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to give my full support to this resolution. It's the 75th Anniversary of our sister provinces to the west but more significantly it is a time for reflection. It is a time for Manitobans and all Canadians to look at our past, to evaluate our progress, take pride in our accomplishments and seriously consider the path which we follow in the future. The common bonds which tie Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta together are so numerous that it makes it difficult to know where to begin. Our most recognizable feature is our common geographical regions, and I who was born and live in the shadow of Saskatchewan -- I was really pleased, Mr. Speaker, to have the mover, an honourable member that was born in Saskatchewan -- as I looked into some of my towns -- I can go to Rivers and I see the potash from Saskatchewan in the trainloads coming into Manitoba; if I go to the other side I see the oil to the pipelines through my constituency from Alberta to Manitoba. It is a hope that in the future Manitoba will be pouring that same kind of energy and electric and hydro power to both Saskatchewan and Alberta and maybe in the future, Manitoba will have a Heritage Fund set up to this.

As we look at other phases, our grain handling companies -- be it Saskatchewan Pool, Alberta Pool, Manitoba Pool, United Grain Growers, we're all in the same; our interprovincial co-ops, Palliser Wheat Growers Association that I have attended for the last couple of years on behalf of my Minister of Agriculture -- one year it was in Regina, one year it was in Alberta, and certainly I went with a group from Manitoba. Our problems are the same. The grain glut affects us all, transportation problems affect us all; and whether it is Alberta or Manitoba, as agriculture goes, so goes the basic condition of our province economically.

I can think of many companies that I belong to, one of which is Pioneer Life and Trust that started in a very humble little company in Regina, it came into Manitoba and they expanded and went into Alberta. It is known now as the Pioneer Life and Trust and it's a big corporation. It takes our money but spends here. It has been so customary over many years, companies coming in and it's going to Toronto or New York; this money if it is in the trust, you can go into my town or yours and you can see a Chimo building in Virden; you can go into Portage and you will see another mortgage and that's all western money and that's the kind of things that I think all these three provinces work closely together.

You only have to think of our racing programs, our fair programs. They co-operate and one is trying to make

the other one work as successfully as possible without any flack. I certainly attended the Legislature in Regina while it was in Session, as well as last fall, Mr. Speaker, when you and I and the Member for Roblin and the Member for Winnipeg Centre attended the Alberta one. As you sit in these Legislatures while we look at one province thinking they are of great wealth and they have no problems -- they all have some problems not too dissimilar. If we think when Manitoba and our grandparents and our ancestors homesteaded this, we had an advantage because most of that land was homesteaded and they kept the mineral rights as we progressed west. Today, originally it was about 85 percent of the land, the people owned the mineral rights and the Crown 15. You go to Saskatchewan and Alberta and it's almost the reverse.

In the south we share the fertile agricultural lands of the great plains; to the north the mineral bearing vastness of the Canadian Shield. For centuries before the coming of the white man the only inhabitants were the hunters of the plains and the trappers of the Shield country. The arrival of the Europeans with their different customs, different technology, different view of life; their curiosity and ambition to open up new frontiers significantly altered the lifestyle of the native people and transformed the prairie landscape.

The written history of our prairie region begins with the search for the western sea, the famous voyages of Henry Hudson in the early 1600s; with the landing of Sir Thomas Button at the mouth of the Nelson River in 1612 to become the first European to set foot on Manitoba's soil. From that same area many of the great explorers that mapped our prairie regions set out. Many of the expeditions were launched from York Factory, the Hudson's Bay Company Post which was established in 1680. Henry Kelsey, the first European to reach the prairies and to see the vast herds of buffalo, started out from York Factory.

Four decades later the great family of explorers from New France, the Laverendryes penetrated into the prairies from a southern approach but it was not until the middle of the 18th century that Anthony Henday became the first white man to cross the prairies and gaze upon the Rocky Mountains. The late 18th and early 19th Centuries witnessed a variable explosion of exploration and mapping by fur traders of the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Company, as well as scientific expeditions sponsored by the British government. Perhaps the greatest of these dedicated men was David Thompson, referred to by his biographer as the greatest land geographer that ever lived.

The explorers and the map makers of that early era provides the prairie provinces with a common history of which I am justifiably proud, and I believe everyone in this House would voice the same sentiment. The explorers were only a part of the multifaceted development of our region. They played an integral role in the establishment of our first stable economy, the fur trade. The history of that great free enterprise company, the Hudson's Bay Company, is familiar to us all. The Hudson's Bay Company along with its great rival the Northwest Company, pushed across the prairie regions, across the Rockies, to the Pacific Ocean, and down the McKenzie to the Arctic Ocean.

During its first 200 years as the Administrator of Rupertsland, the first political entity in the history of western Canada, the Hudson's Bay Company established our first solid economic base as well as our first judicial

and political bodies. Its experimental farms in the Red River Colony in the 1830's were the predecessors of our sophisticated, scientific, experimental farms, and established the agriculture base which succeeded the fur trade as our major economic activity.

In parallel with the economic development there were significant developments in transportation by the Hudson's Bay Company. Manitoba became the first western province to join Confederation in 1870. Transportation on the water routes of the prairie region had progressed from canoe to the York boat to the steamboat. Red River carts still squeaked across the prairies, but by 1885 the Canadian Pacific Railroad was completed from coast to coast. Prior to the completion of the railroad, settlement of the prairies had remained an embryonic stage. The earliest arrivals were the fur traders from eastern Canada and from the British Isles, followed by the first agricultural colonists, the Red River settlers. After the creation of Manitoba, larger numbers of settlers began to arrive. Pioneers from Ontario and the United States were joined by large groups of Europeans, the Mennonites and the Icelanders. But the major period of immigration did not come until the turn of the century, when many thousands of immigrants from all over Europe flooded into the prairies.

Since Alberta and Saskatchewan became provinces in 1905, the prairie provinces have developed along similar lines, building on strength, on their agricultural base while developing their natural resources and broadening their industrial base. Politically, there has been a wide spectrum of activity, ranging from the founding of the Social Credit Party and the CCF to the coalition of the Conservatives and the Progressive parties to form today's Progressive Conservative Party.

The people of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Alberta can be justifiably proud of this common heritage. We have worked together in the past and we will continue to do so in the future. As a member of this House and a Manitoban, I ask you to join me in supporting this resolution as an example of the spirit of interprovincial friendship and co-operation that has typified Manitoba's relations, not only with our sister provinces, but also with the nation as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose.

**MR. ADAM:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise and support the resolution before us. I think the Member for Virden should be commended for his resolution. It certainly is a timely one because our two sister provinces to the west of us are going to celebrating their 75th anniversary and some may gloss over this resolution as maybe a not too important a resolution; I think it's a very important resolution and I certainly am pleased to stand up and make a few contributions to this resolution.

Now it just happens that the province of Saskatchewan, at least the first province to the west, happens to be my native province, because that's where I was born. I'm not going to tell you the date I was born, Mr. Speaker, but I just want to say that I was born a few years ago in a town of Radville, Saskatchewan. --(Interjections)-- Weyburn happens to be about 40 miles, a suburb, Radville --(Interjection)-- No, I'm sorry, the Member, my colleague from Churchill, would like to know what year it was. I can tell him that my father

moved from Manitoba to Saskatchewan and started a business operation in Radville, Saskatchewan. --(Interjection)-- Oh, he went down there in 1911, I can tell you that. --(Interjection)-- Yes, Mr. Speaker, times were tough in those days, as you know. I believe that my father --(Interjection)-- Well it's not so tough today in Saskatchewan because they have a very, very good government there that's managing the affairs very prudently in the province of Saskatchewan. I intend to go into that a little more fully.

It's unfortunate that when we were creating provinces throughout Canada that we created a disaster with the lives of the people who inhabited this land before we came here. That is the unfortunate problem and we are still having to address ourselves with those problems in 1980, Mr. Speaker, of what we did when we established our land and the people migrated to the west. By the way, the migration that the Member for Virden mentions to populate the western provinces, we can thank, in large extent, to the Crow rate. The next resolution coming up will be the Crow rate, but Mr. Speaker, one of the things that was instrumental in bringing immigrants to western was the Crow rate, whereby the immigrants, along with their equipment and their families were brought at a special rate through the CPR. I'm sure that I will a lot of support for my resolution when it's brought forth, because of this very fact, Mr. Speaker, that it was instrumental in bringing all these people into the west and this great province now has developed to a point where it's now a major factor in the economy of Canada.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture, on a point of order.

HON. JAMES E. DOWNEY: Yes Mr. Speaker, I understand the next resolution is the one that we'll be discussing Crow rate on, is that not correct?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. The Honourable Member for Ste. Rose can continue.

**MR. ADAM:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Agriculture did in fact, have a point of order or not. I was referring on this very good piece of legislation that was introduced by the federal government of the day that would enable all these people to come out west and populate the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta and so I, just in passing, wanted to comment on that. Unfortunately we still have a lot of problems to face, in the fact that we have not addressed ourselves to the people who were here before we came and that is, the native people who populated these provinces and these lands before we arrived here.

I do not know too much about the province of Alberta but I have some knowledge and information about what is happening in our sister province. I know that the province of Alberta has been doing quite well over the past few years with the discovery of oil resources in Alberta and we certainly are pleased that the province is doing well. We would hope that every province in Canada could do as well. We would hope that every province would be able to develop in such a way and have those resources available to them, that our two sister provinces to the west are in doubt with.

It was, I believe, in 1882, Mr. Speaker, when a little band of Ontario people -- they were temperance families by the way and moved out to -- they fled westward

from Ontario to get away from the lifestyle of the day. I suppose they were fleeing from John Barleycorn to find a place for themselves where they could raise their families in peace and free from the ills of Ontario, or the east, at that time. They settled on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River, where they established a temperance colony which grew, eventually, into the city of Saskatoon. And the temperance colony leader was a tough old bird; his name was Reverend Smith and they have called him . . . I don't know what the nickname stands for, Mr. Speaker, but he fled Ontario to try and get away from . . . They were a temperance colony and he thought, by coming up and moving into Saskatchewan, that they would be free from the onslaught of what liquor did to the people. So I'm sure that Saskatchewan has done well. He was nicknamed pinwheel Smith and I'm sure that if he could be alive today and see what a change is taking place in the province of Saskatchewan he would be, I'm sure, very impressed with what he started. Because that's probably where Saskatchewan got it's beginning, when this little colony established themselves along the South Saskatchewan River, which is now known as the city of Saskatoon, which is probably one of the most booming towns in Canada today, unlike Alberta, whose oil affluence has heralded a series of town criers. Saskatchewan has padded from poverty to plenty, and they have done this very silently; they haven't been doing too much bragging about it, Mr. Speaker, but, you know, Saskatchewan is now becoming known as the Kuwait of Canada; it's the second largest producer of oil, I guess, in Canada today. But most people outside of Saskatchewan still regard that province as a hinterland. Hardly anyone has ever as yet marked . . . They still think it's the frontier, but that is not so. That's where most of our grain is grown, in the province of Saskatchewan and farmers are still plowing their lands and growing grain to feed the world.

But where once agriculture was all that they had, it is now a bustling base for an economy that is diversified and it has plunged into potash, heavy oil and uranium and in all the province is probably on a more solid footing than Saskatchewan has ever known. While Saskatchewan's sister to the west brags about the good time that they're having and that they can strut and posture, Saskatchewan is doing it in a more subtle way. They are progressing steadily and it is now starting to show, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan rides on its winning streak with the quiet composure of a budding understudy and it's lead by an ND Premier, Allan Blakeney. Now, he's a very plain individual. Allan Blakeney is a very plain individual and he hails from the east somewhere, New Brunswick, I believe, and he is instrumental, along with the province of Alberta, to shifting the power base in Canada to the west. So it is thanks to the people like Allan Blakeney that things are happening in the west

Mr. Speaker, what they have been addressing themselves to is to provide services, social programs, Mr. Speaker, second to none in Canada. --(Interjection)-- The member said let's talk about Peter. I presume he's talking about Premier Lougheed. I do not know too much about the province of Alberta, although they are doing fairly well and they have the finest social programs in Canada, and Mr. Speaker, this sits well with the population of Canada.

It's unfortunate that Saskatchewan is the only socialist province now in Canada but that's going to change,

Mr. Speaker, that's not for long; that is going to change before very long. We're going to start in Manitoba and then go over to British Columbia, so there will be two or three socialist provinces in Western Canada. Also, Saskatchewan has another name, they call it Little Sweden. --(Interjection)-- Yes, Little Sweden. I guess the members didn't know that. You see, they call it Little Sweden not because there is a lot of Scandinavians out there, but they call it Little Sweden because Medicare premiums are free. --(Interjection)-- Oh well, you have to go to Ontario, that is where the taxes are high, in Tory Ontario. They have to pay \$480 a year for a family to have Medicare there. Even in oil filthy rich Alberta, where they have oil coming out of their ears, you know they have to pay, I think, \$169 . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. The honourable member has five minutes.

**MR. ADAM:** . . . they have to pay \$169 or more, \$189 a year for Medicare in oil rich Alberta, this is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker. You know, the children have dental care provided and most drugs cost a nominal flat fee of \$2.50, \$2.80, and hospitals forego any deterrent fees, Mr. Speaker. All this is happening under the guidance, astute guidance, of people like Allan Blakeney and his colleagues.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that we certainly congratulate Saskatchewan on what they have achieved and, of course, we congratulate Alberta as well for their successes. It makes it a little easier when you are sitting on a big puddle of oil, but by comparison, Mr. Speaker, the progress in social justice and social programs, that is where the government of Alberta does not stand up to the record of Saskatchewan, not at all. They lag far behind in social programs, programs to help people, and again I want to congratulate Saskatchewan, and I will generous and say that Alberta is not doing too bad, but Saskatchewan, in my opinion, is going to be the province of the future, because in ten years' time when all the oil that they have found as well in northwest Saskatchewan, ten years from now that will be gone, and even when the potash is gone they will still have that golden wheat, which will be there to feed us in Canada and the rest of the world.

Thank you very much.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Roblin.

**MR. J. WALLY MCKENZIE:** Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. I'll leave my political jacket on the chair in this speech. I don't think that politics should be brought into these kind of resolutions. I think this is where we bring a unanimous voice, leave our political stripes to the side, and deal with the resolution that is before us. I, first of all, would like to congratulate the honourable member for bringing forth this resolution. I think there are what? Five members of this Chamber that have constituencies that border the sister province of Saskatchewan, so it is very important for that reason. It is also important, I think, that we should take time in this House and pause for a few moments occasionally to bring congratulations of this nature to any province in Canada, to try and make our provincial brothers and sisters, or however you want to describe them, recognize their special dates and special holidays and help to cement and make Canada a greater country and a stronger federal state, so resolutions of this nature are

very important and very timely and I congratulate the Honourable Member for Virden. Like the former speaker I have a lot of deep roots in Saskatchewan, being born and raised there, and I likely would have been still there if I hadn't joined the Air Force, that is when I left. Alberta, I played on the ball fields in Alberta and I played in the hockey rinks. In fact, in the Dirty Thirties when we were riding freight trains across this country trying to find work, I did work in Alberta, at New Norway, I fired a steam engine there in 1932, and in the year of 1933 I fired a steam engine at Camrose, Alberta. I got there riding the rails, riding the rods on a freight, that is how I arrived in Alberta, I have been back many times.

With those few remarks, I congratulate the honourable member and wish him well and I hope that he will continue to bring resolutions of this nature more often to this House so we can recognize our sister provinces on occasions such as this and others.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

**MR. DOWNEY:** I, too, Mr. Speaker, would like to compliment the Member for Virden on bringing this resolution to the floor of the Assembly. I, like the Member for Roblin, and he who has introduced the resolution, represent a constituency of the province of Manitoba that in fact borders not only the province of Saskatchewan but the United States of America, in the southwest corner of the province as many of you are aware. Plus the fact I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that I am sure, as many members of this Assembly have, we have families not only in Saskatchewan but Alberta. I have a sister that lives in the province of Saskatchewan; I have my in-laws that live in the province of Alberta; and as, I am sure, many Canadians we feel pretty much at home whether we are in any one of those provinces, whether it be in Saskatchewan, Alberta or in any other province of Canada.

I, too, support this resolution that we do extend best wishes to the the Saskatchewan and Alberta governments, to the people of those provinces. I am sure that it is a matter of supreme pride that I do so. As a Canadian I think that it is a country that we have to continue to work to keep together. I think that the strength that we have in the nation is something that cannot be accomplished in any other way than to be unified, and with those comments I want to again say that I support the resolution and want to wish them continued years of future participation in a unified Canada as we have so many things in common.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable Member for Swan River, the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**MR. GOURLAY:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to congratulate the Member for Virden for introducing this resolution and one that I can support wholeheartedly.

I would just like to briefly say that my father had moved from Ontario at an early age, back in 1902, to take up a homestead in Siemen, Saskatchewan, but later saw fit to move to Manitoba. However, I now serve the Swan River constituency and, of course, you know that borders Saskatchewan on the western boundary. I would like to mention that we do have a large segment of the

Saskatchewan area to the west of Swan River that use Swan River as their trading area. It is their grain shipping point, it is their shopping area, and they support the Swan Valley community wholeheartedly.

For those reasons I am really quite happy to support this resolution. Like the Honourable Member for Ste. Rose I have not had much connection with the province of Alberta, however, I know that the province of Alberta has contributed greatly to the Western Canadian society, as has the province of Saskatchewan. Further to my residency in the community of Swan River . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order please. Order please. The hour being 5:30, when this subject next comes up the Honourable Minister will have 18 minutes.  
The Honourable Government House Leader.

**MR. MERCIER:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister for Government Services that this House do now adjourn and resume in Committee of Supply at 8:00 o'clock.

MOTION presented and carried and the House is accordingly adjourned and stands adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning (Friday).